

## TOP TENS OF '08

movies | CDs | books

PAGES 16 & 17



CAN THEY  
REBOUND FROM  
A 15-GAME  
LOSING STREAK?

PAGE 20



**ARAMARK'S ISSUE:**  
The high price per swipe

PAGES 12 & 13



# THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2009 | VOLUME 35, EDITION 1

[www.elon.edu/pendulum](http://www.elon.edu/pendulum)

## Fire breaks out on Atkinson Avenue



The first and second story units in the apartment building on Atkinson Avenue have extensive smoke damage.



PHOTOS BY LAURA SMITH | Photographer

## Fire source still undetermined, says Elon Fire Chief

Margeaux Corby and Laura Wainman  
News Editor and Senior Reporter

On Saturday, flames licked the first and second floors of the apartments on Atkinson Avenue, behind the Town of Elon post office. The Elon Fire Department received the call at 3:30 p.m. Saturday and took an hour and a half to search the building, locate the source of the fire and extricate the smoke.

"When we arrived, there was smoke coming out of the second story windows," said Eddie King, town of Elon fire chief. "We started our fire attack and did a primary search for victims and located the fire on the first floor bedroom."

None of the building's occupants were home during the fire and no one was injured. The cause of the fire is still undetermined, but some household items may be the cause, including a pipe that was found in the bedroom. King said the one thing that is certain, is the fire was accidental.

King said that "basic combustibles" suffered the most damage and there wasn't much involved in putting out the fire.

"The first floor apartment sustained fire, heat and smoke damage, and the adjoining apartments just likely sustained smoke damage," King said.

"My room was completely ashes," said Kevin Murray who lived in the room where the fire originated. "I lost all my clothes, my books, my laptop, everything. It was all just gone."

### LATEST UPDATES

Look for continuous coverage, photos and video of the fire on The Pendulum Web site, [www.elon.edu/pendulum](http://www.elon.edu/pendulum).

See FIRE | Page 6

## New provost found in-House

Emily Silva  
Senior Reporter



Steven House

Elon has recently selected Steven House, the dean of Elon College, the College of Arts and Sciences, to succeed Gerry Francis as the new provost.

Francis will move to the vice president position.

"I'm filling pretty big shoes with Dr. Francis," House said. He said he hopes to continue the positive energy Francis brought to the Elon community during his time as provost.

In his most recent position as dean, House worked with more than 326 faculty and staff members.

"The job of a dean of arts and sciences is to model the arts and sciences," House said. He said he believes that faculty members should be three things: teachers, scholars and mentors for their students.

House has had many years of experience working at the college level. Before he arrived at Elon, he served as associate dean and the director of health professions at Seton Hall University in New Jersey.

House noticed "tremendous momentum" at Elon and he joined the staff in 2001 as the founding dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, later re-named Elon College. House held that position until 2006.

House also teaches an Elon 101 class and is responsible for the Elon College Fellows learning community.

"My major joy is to work with the faculty," House said. "To help them create an environment that

See HOUSE | Page 6

## Copy freely, iTunes users

Keegan Calligar  
Senior Reporter

Elon iTunes users will soon notice changes in the program's music store, as Apple announced last week that it will begin to offer songs at a variety of prices and remove anti-copying restrictions from all song files.

When iTunes was launched five years ago, Apple and the four large music labels EMI, Sony Music Entertainment, Universal Music Group and Warner Music Group agreed Apple would sell songs with digital rights management software. D.R.M. limits with whom a user can share music and restricts users from using iTunes songs on music software created by any company besides Apple.

In recent years, Apple executives have publicly spoken out against D.R.M., which they view as too restrictive. According to a recent article in the New York Times, music companies have only allowed iTunes to sell their songs with D.R.M., but have not required other online music stores, such as Amazon, to do the same.

This is because the companies tried to limit the amount of power iTunes, which sold approximately 2.4 billion songs in 2008, held in online music selling, the article stated.

See APPLE | Page 6



# National recycling drive kicks off

The collegiate 10-week event begins Jan. 18 across the nation, with Elon actively participating in the challenge



Olivia Hubert-Allen  
Senior Reporter

Paper, glass, plastic and aluminum are just a few of the products that may be receiving special attention during the next few months as Elon takes part in its third year of Recyclemania, a nationwide recycling program.

On Jan. 18, the 10-week event begins and challenges colleges from across the nation to compete against one another in a number of categories including collecting the largest amount of recyclables per capita, the largest amount of total recyclables, the least amount of trash per capita and having the highest recycling rate.

Elon furthers the challenge by holding a smaller on-campus competition among the different residence areas. The area that recycles the most takes the trophy and wins a cookout.

Elon began participating in Recyclemania three years ago. At first, organizers were unsure about how students would react to the program. But once the program began, they saw the poundage of recycling increase.

Organizers were pleased with the progress, but were anxious to see if the recycling habits would continue once the 10-week competition ended.

"When the program ended, the numbers didn't drop. In fact, the recycling got better during several weeks after Recyclemania ended," said Dave Worden, director of environmental services.

Since that first year in the program, Elon has increased the number of pounds of material that it sent to be recycled each year. In 2007, 94,318 pounds were recycled. Then, 107,833 pounds were recycled in 2008.

Though he admits last year's recycling poundage will be tough to top, Worden says they aim to do even better this year.

Other local colleges participating in Recyclemania include Duke University, UNC-Chapel Hill, Appalachian State University and Davidson College.

Past surveys have found that 80 percent of participating schools see a noticeable increase in recycling collection during the competition.

Last year Elon placed 89th out of 200 colleges and universities and was the top school in the Southern Conference.

Though the competition with other schools has an appeal, Worden says the true competition should

be Elon competing against itself.

This year Recyclemania organizers have recruited the art guild on campus to design several pieces of art that incorporate recycled materials. One of these sculptures will be chosen as the Recyclemania trophy that will be given to the residence area that recycles the most.

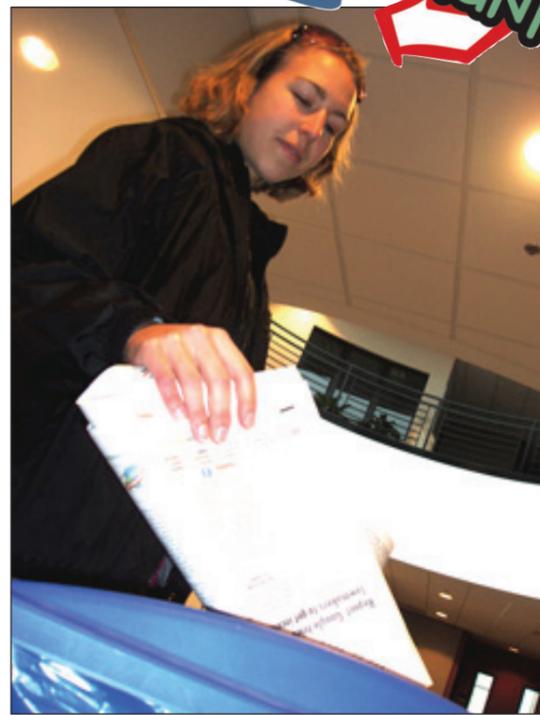
Beyond the fun and competition, Recyclemania aims to instill lifelong habits in the students and community members who are involved on campus.

"We're recycling all year round here but this gives us the opportunity to talk about it more and let students know where to recycle certain things," said Elaine Durr, sustainability coordinator. "It also fits into the overarching goal here at Elon in being more sustainable."

Worden says recycling is also an important issue to many off-campus students who have concerns about how they can recycle their waste. He says Elon allows off-campus students to drop off recyclables at the physical plant building or at one of the outdoor recycling bins located at The Oaks and Danieley Center.

The weekly results from the competition will be posted each week at Elon's Recyclemania Web site, <http://org.elon.edu/recyclemania>. West Area has taken the crown for the past two years.

A formal Recyclemania kickoff will be held Feb. 10 at College Coffee. It is delayed from the actual start date so that students studying abroad or not taking a Winter Term course will be aware of the program.



FILE PHOTO  
A student drops used copy paper into one of the many blue paper recycling bins located around Elon's campus. Last year the school recycled more than 50 tons of material.

## WHAT CAN I RECYCLE?

Dave Worden, director of environmental services, said many students are confused about what they can or cannot recycle. Elon contracts its recycling out to a company that sorts through all the recyclables and throws out anything that cannot be recycled. So if you don't know what to do, toss it in a bin that's green or blue.

- All kinds of plastic
- All kinds of glass
- All aluminum
- Paper products (which includes colored paper, post-it notes, phone directories, newspapers, notebook paper, cardboard and more)

# Elon On Demand: Off-campus viewers can now get Elon channel

Laura Smith  
News Editor

About 1.2 million subscribers of Time Warner Cable in North and South Carolina will now have the opportunity to see videos produced by Elon students and staff whenever they want.

Thanks to video on demand technology, viewers of Channel 1234 can use their remotes to watch Elon videos, pause and rewind them. Programs available through the service include "Elon Phoenix Weekly," "Win Stuff," "One-on-One," "Phoenix 14 News" and "Elon in L.A."

Also featured are several staff and student collaborative productions, including two

narrative films and four Elon-produced HIV/AIDS documentaries.

The project began this fall when Dr. Connie Book, associate dean of the school of communications, approached J. McMerty, coordinator of video projects, with the idea.

"It's a great resource," Book said. "People can watch from the convenience of their couch rather than the computer where we're streaming it."

The project is a public service and extends Elon programming from Channel 14 such as "Win Stuff" and "Phoenix 14 News."

"We saw that other schools like UNC-Charlotte and UNC-Wilmington had spots [with Time Warner]," McMerty said. "We think our programming is pretty

good compared to other schools. We wanted to get our stuff out there."

McMerty makes the programs available to Time Warner by uploading them to the service.

"It is another thing we can do to help students to get out there," McMerty said. "It's another way to get in homes regionally, which is important as well."

The system also has the ability to give statistics that show how many people are watching the channel so McMerty can judge how effective it is.

This service is available to digital subscribers in the Charlotte, Raleigh/Durham/Fayetteville, Greensboro/Winston-Salem/High Point and Wilmington/Newport television markets and in South Carolina, where Time Warner Cable operates.

**Let your GPA make you money!**

*The Acorn Residence Inn*

**Bring us your GPA and receive a discount on an annual lease agreement!**

**If you have a 4.0**

**For Example: - Receive a \$400 discount, with a 3.5 - \$350!**

Log onto [www.AcornInnElon.com](http://www.AcornInnElon.com) to have a look and set up a tour time. or Call (336) 261-0220

**Crenshaw Hyundai Service**

*First Anniversary Special!*

**HYUNDAI**  
Genuine Parts & Service

Offer good any day of the week including Saturday. Hyundai vehicles only, exp. 2-28-09

**Crenshaw**  
**HYUNDAI**

330 Huffman Mill Rd, Burlington, NC  
(Across from Burlington Square Mall)

Call for appointment **584-1144** **"We Put You First"**

Service hours: Monday - Friday 7:30 am to 6:00 pm; Saturday - 8:00 am to noon

**Bring in this coupon & receive:**

- OIL & FILTER CHANGE
- TIRE ROTATION
- COMPLETE MULTIPOINT INSPECTION

**\$22** plus tax

# Opposing perspectives obscure facts about Gaza conflict

## As violence continues, Americans struggle over who is to blame for Middle East crisis

Margeaux Corby  
News Editor

Twenty days. More than 900 Gazans and 13 Israelis. That is the length of the conflict in Gaza and the number of deaths estimated by Palestinian medics and Israeli officials. Israeli offensive and Hamas missile-launching began immediately after the tenuous six-month truce between the neighboring nations ended.

The Israeli-led Operation Cast Lead has been studiously covered by the media but since Israel's recent prevention of journalists from entering Gaza, the casualties suffered by both sides cannot be confirmed.

Accusations between sides fly almost as frequently as the bombs and rockets. Israel denies claims that it fired white phosphorous shells in civilian areas. Meanwhile, accusations that Hamas leaders fired rockets into Israel during the last days of the six-month cease fire have not been satisfactorily addressed by the Palestinian government.

Watching the continued bombings and killings, with both Hamas and Israel rejecting U.N.-proposed resolutions, many Elon students feel disappointed.

"I'm not real proud Americans are supplying Israeli forces," junior Andrew Hawkey said. "I understand why Israel is acting this way but I don't approve. Israel had a choice about what to do and it is unfortunate this is what they chose."

In the midst of such bloody violence, divisive ideals and relentless blaming of sides, it is hard for Americans to sort through bias and partiality to make an objective judgment of the conflict.

According to The Australian, Israel has sought peace for 60 years and has attempted to participate in civilized negotiations with the flanking Palestine, who the paper claims is run by an internationally recognized terrorist nation attempting to spread its form of extreme Islam.

Meanwhile, the New York Times reported that journalists have been denied admission into Gaza by Israeli officials and kept them from "direct contact with any fighting or Palestinian suffering" but "full access to Israeli political and military commentators."

Political science professor Rudy Zarzar believes it is this kind of media spin that inappropriately influences students' perception regarding the conflict.

"I would venture to guess that if you ask students how they feel about the conflict, they will echo what the press tells them and what it tells them is that Israeli is defending itself," Zarzar said. "In my experience, the Palestinian side is not heard in this



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM

Gazans face constant violence in the continuing struggle between Israeli and Palestinian forces. It has only been 20 days, but there have already been more than 900 casualties. This number cannot be verified since international journalists have been denied any access.

country. The media establishes the Israeli perspective and they never say anything about the Palestinian perspective."

Any attempt to sort through the history of the conflict is riddled with preconceptions and prejudice, which makes getting the facts about the long years of aggression nearly impossible to reconcile.

"There are basically two

perspectives: the pro-Israeli-American perspective where Israel can do no wrong and is always in the right, and the international perspective that seeks a just settlement of the conflict, one that is based on the United Nations Resolution and on International Law," Zarzar said.

With the conflict beginning in 1987 with the first Palestinian uprising and the constant changing of power between leaders, violence seems the

only constant in the Gaza Strip. Many believe resolution can only be reached with the aid of foreign countries and international intervention.

"The key to that settlement is the United States. The only way we're going to solve this is for the Israelis to do what the U.N. has been saying all along and agree to a permanent binding and stable peace between the parties," Zarzar said. "In the absence of that, there will be violence."

## PETA's New Year's resolution: Pledge to stick to a vegetarian diet

Alyse Knorr  
Senior Reporter

For some, 2009 represents the chance to make New Year's resolutions that save animals.

PETA, the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, is sponsoring

the "Pledge to Be Veg," a 30-day pledge to adhere to a vegetarian diet.

PETA has pledged to make a donation to a program to plant fruit trees for every person who signs the "Pledge to Be Veg." The donation will be used to plant trees in poor villages with malnourished people.

A blog for the community of people taking the challenge has been established at [www.experienceproject.com](http://www.experienceproject.com). So far, 225 people have registered to participate in the challenge on the Web site.

### Tips for becoming a vegetarian

- Don't forget your protein. Eating non-meat sources such as beans, nuts, peas and soy products such as tofu and veggie burgers can be good ways to get enough protein.
- Keep your eye out for healthy breakfast cereals. Some breakfast cereals come fortified with zinc, calcium and iron, all of which are important for veggie diets.
- Try meat substitutes. Tofu, falafel, soy bean and Portobello meat substitutes carry as much flavor as actual meat.

### Healthy vegetarian snacks

- Microwave popcorn
- Nuts
- Baked chips and bean dip
- Celery or apple slices with peanut butter
- Pita bread and hummus
- Yogurt with granola

# NEW DEANS AND DIRECTORS...

## Search for new law school dean continues: Original candidates dismissed, new applications received

Laura Smith  
News Editor

In December, Elon Provost Gerry Francis announced to the faculty and staff that he did not recommend either of the original Elon School of Law dean candidates for the position.

Francis is the chair of the search committee and said he is hoping to find a new dean soon.

The search began in the fall after Leary Davis, the founding dean for the law school, resigned early in the summer for health reasons.

Since then, interim Dean George Johnson has been serving the role.

This fall, the committee interviewed six different candidates and brought two to campus right before the holiday break. No decision was made at that time.

Then, during the break, Francis made the announcement that he had not recommended the two candidates, but had received an application from Johnson.

Johnson will be interviewed for the position this week.

"Hopefully a decision will be made soon," Francis said. "We would love to have a person with law school administrative experience and faculty experience, a person who has the abilities to see the further development of the law school."

He wants to find a person who will continue to help the school grow from its current infancy stage, he said.

"We're looking for an individual who has the vision to develop and create an excellent law school, one that prepares students to be successful lawyers and bring leadership," Francis said.

Francis said he hopes to finish the search by February at the latest.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Elon's law school has been searching for a new dean since the fall, after Leary Davis resigned for health reasons. Elon Provost Gerry Francis, chair of the search committee, announced in December that neither of the original candidates had been recommended for the position.

## Elon faculty members take on new positions

Former Elon education department faculty member steps up as new director of Elon's Teaching Fellows, current director returns to teaching

Laura Smith  
News Editor

After 18 years of working at Elon in the education department as coordinator for middle grades and former department chair and director of Masters of the Education program, Dr. Glenda Crawford has been named the new director of the North Carolina Teaching Fellows program at Elon.

"This is a great opportunity," Crawford said. "The teaching fellows have been very receptive. I'm looking forward to it."

Crawford says she is hoping to bring some new ideas related to student undergraduate research as well as service projects.

"I was impressed by the program's ability to attract some of the brightest teachers," she said. "I saw it as a wonderful opportunity to work with a group of young people who are very bright and motivated."

Crawford has an undergraduate degree from UNC Greensboro in English education as well as a master's degree in gifted education. Her doctorate is in education leadership.

The current director, Janice Richardson, will be returning to teaching full time after seven years as the director.

Interim Dean for the School of Education Judith Howard is anticipating Crawford's new role.

"We hope she will bring considerable leadership skills and vision for the teaching fellows," she said. "I think she will bring an academic focus, a scholarly focus."

As the director, Crawford will have a full-time administrative assistant, attend cultural events, mentor and monitor the students and supervise travel experiences, among many other responsibilities.

"I feel Dr. Crawford has a lot to offer," said Sam Jennings, class of 2011 Teaching Fellows chair. "She has the experience in education and in the

"I think [Crawford] brings a new view and idea to the development of our program."

-Sam Jennings

classroom that is needed to run the Teaching Fellows program. Also, given that her background is in middle school education, it will help develop the middle school aspect of the Teaching Fellows program."

"I think she brings a new view and idea to the development of our program," he added. "We pride ourselves as being the best and most unique in the state. I feel she can add to this concept."

Crawford is eager to begin her new position and see what will come out of it.

"This program has an excitement for professionalism. It has excellent teachers graduating from it," Crawford said.

Crawford begins her new position June 1, 2009.

## Reflecting on the journey to choose Elon's next provost

Laura Smith  
News Editor

The search for a new provost is a timely, complex, and detailed process.

For Elon University, the search to name Dr. Steven House as Elon's next provost took four months.

It began back in August when the president's office announced the promotion of current provost Gerry Francis to the position of Executive Vice President.

From there, a search committee was set up with Tom Henricks, professor of sociology, and Paul Parsons, dean of the School of Communications, as co-chairs.

Aside from Henricks and Parsons, members of the search committee included seven professors,

an associate dean and an interim dean. Gerald Whittington, vice president for business, finance and technology, also served on the committee, as well as Kate Hickey, dean and university librarian, and Breanna Detwiler, an Elon senior. Professors on the search committee came from departments ranging from biology to education to art.

In the beginning of September, the search committee hosted three faculty/staff forums in order to develop a better understanding of the expectations of the new provost.

Elon also hired the executive search agency Witt/Kieffer to advertise the position and check credentials.

In November, Elon narrowed the list down from 110 applicants to eight.

House met with a panel of student leaders on Nov. 4 as part of the interview process.

In the beginning of December, two candidates were chosen to visit campus to make public presentations to faculty and staff. These candidates were House and Elizabeth Paul, vice provost at The College of New Jersey.

Later that month, House was named the new provost and vice president for academic affairs for Elon University.

The provost's duties include overseeing academic affairs, admissions and financial planning, student life, intercollegiate athletics, institutional research, sponsored programs and cultural affairs. The provost acts in the absence of the president and gives leadership for long-range planning.

The provost also serves as the assistant secretary and assistant treasurer of the Board of Trustees.

# NEW DEANS AND DIRECTORS...

## Pelton to step in as new dean of international studies

**Andie Diemer**  
Editor-in-Chief

After years spent working in the Peace Corps for the United Nations and practicing international trade, immigration and antitrust law, Woody Pelton said he has one major job cut out for him now: to learn more about Elon.

Pelton, who is currently the Director of the International Center at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, S.C., will transfer to Elon at the end of May to step in as dean of international programs and director of the Isabella Cannon Centre.

He will replace current Dean and Director Larry Basirico, who will return as a full time sociology professor in the fall for the first time since 2004.

Pelton said he has known about Elon since he graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill with a BA in psychology and an MA in student personnel services.

"In the area of international education, Elon is well-known, so I was familiar with the programs and I knew that you were very active in internationalizing the campus and that was exciting to me," Pelton said.

Pelton believes he fits the position since he's been involved in international education for several years on two different campuses where he felt he was able to expand their international footprint.

But before he jumps into Elon's campus, he needs to familiarize himself more with the community, he said.

"I feel that before I can really determine what will be the next best steps for Elon I will have to know more about Elon," he said. "The thing that I know least about now is Elon."

But that doesn't mean he doesn't have ideas.

Expanding programs to bring more faculty from overseas to teach for a semester, better integrating inbound international students with outbound study abroad students, increasing the amount of service learning outside the country and linking with non-profit organizations are just a few of the ideas he is already considering implementing.

"I'm looking at ways to expand on the good

things that Elon is already doing that combine your strong service learning tradition with your strong study abroad tradition," Pelton said. "The general picture I think is to build for all students the ability to develop global competency before they graduate and a good amount of that is accomplished through study abroad."

But, he added, not everyone studies abroad.

He said one goal of his will be to determine what it really means to become "globally competent" and what the best way to achieve that is, including studying abroad and everything else on Elon's campus.

"I'm excited to work with the very talented people that are in the Isabella Cannon Centre and the people that I have not yet met in the Elon community," he said. "I'm just excited to be part of what seems to be a dynamic atmosphere in Elon in general. Everyone is looking for different and better ways to produce, among other things, globally competent graduates."

Basirico said Pelton's duties will remain the same as his, but that he expects the role of dean to evolve over the years.

"I believe that over the last four or five years we've made great advances in enhancing the academic challenge of all of our study abroad programs," Basirico said. "I hope and expect that he'll continue that path and he displayed evidence he was on board with our thinking about that."

Basirico said Pelton stood out from the applicant pool because of his background in law, since it will be "extraordinarily useful" when it comes to thinking about potential liabilities and making decisions in a legal aspect.

He also credits Pelton's travel and administrative experience, as well as his good communication skills, for landing the job.

Under Basirico's leadership, Elon increased the number of students studying abroad as well as the addition of two more international centres in Costa Rica and Italy. Elon was also one of four institutions to receive the prestigious Paul Simon Award in 2007 for campus internationalization.

### GET TO KNOW

## Woody



**Woody Pelton**

- Married with two sons
- Plays tennis
- Favorite places visited include Oman and Turkey
- Taught at a high school in

Morocco while in the Peace Corps from 1978 to 1980

- Current director of the International Center of Winthrop University
- Acted as special assistant to the president for international programs at Saginaw Valley State University
- Earned his JD from George Washington University

## Celebrating the formers, welcoming the newcomers...

### A year of changes for deans, directors and vice presidents in 2008

#### Something old...



**Laurence Basirico**

#### **LAURENCE BASIRICO,** DEAN OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Laurence Basirico was at Elon for 25 years when he accepted the dean position in March 2005. Basirico had several accomplishments as dean including increasing Elon students studying abroad from 63 percent to more than 70 percent and overseeing the creation of Elon study abroad programs in Costa Rica and Italy. In 2007, Elon was one of four schools to receive NAFSA's Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization in 2007 under Basirico's leadership. Basirico said what he liked most about being a dean was the ability to help shape new programs and create study abroad opportunities for faculty, but that the middle of the night phone calls mid-January would not be missed.

#### **NAN PERKINS,** VICE PRESIDENT OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

In April 2008 President Leo Lambert announced the retirement of Nan Perkins after her 32 years at Elon. Perkins became vice president of institutional advancement in 2000 and oversaw the conclusion of the Elon Vision campaign, which resulted in a 150 percent increase in annual unrestricted and restricted giving. Perkins also presided over the launch of the current Ever Elon campaign.



**Nan Perkins**



**Leary Davis**

#### **LEARY DAVIS,** DEAN OF LAW SCHOOL

Leary Davis, founding dean and professor at the Elon University School of Law, announced his resignation in July 2008 for health reasons. He presided over the new school's provisional approval by the American Bar Association and graduated its charter class in Spring 2009. Davis helped found the Campbell University School of Law in 1975 and served as dean until 1986. Davis was also the president and founder of the National Institute to Enhance Leadership and Law Practice, and received the American Bar Association's E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Award in 2003.

#### Something new...



**Leon Williams**

#### **LEON WILLIAMS,** DIRECTOR OF MULTICULTURAL CENTER

Leon Williams was appointed as the new director of the multicultural center in October with a focus on integration and strengthening diversity and cultural awareness on Elon's campus. Williams moved to Elon from Storm Lake, Iowa, where he was the director of intercultural programs and has had experience as a collegiate assistant football coach.

#### **JAMES PIATT JR.,** UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT VICE PRESIDENT

James Piatt Jr. took the position of vice president for university advancement when Nan Perkins retired after 32 years of service. He assisted Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio, to build a \$144 million endowment and was the former director of development at Sanford University Law School. Piatt started at Elon in September 2008.



**James Piatt**



**Elaine Durr**

#### **ELAINE DURR,** SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR

Elaine Durr became Elon's inaugural sustainability coordinator in May 2008. Durr earned her master's degree in Earth and environmental resources management at the University of South Carolina School of the Environment. She worked as a sustainability consultant at Energy Ace Inc. and served as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) consultant on various projects. During her time at Elon she has supervised the creation of Elon's sustainability Web site in September and Elon was recognized by the National Wildlife Federation's 2008 Report Card on Sustainability in Higher Education.



LAURA SMITH | Photographer

Student property was charred in the fire; Assistant Vice President for Student Life Jana Lynn Patterson said the administration is looking for vacancies within the area to help students find housing while they recover.

### FIRE from page 1

## Apartment fire leaves Elon University tenants temporarily homeless

King was unable to predict when residents would be able to return. "Being that there was extensive damage to the apartment on the first floor, all the electrical wiring will have to be checked to make sure none were compromised," he said.

Student Development and Residence Life is working with displaced residents of the apartments to try to find them temporary or permanent on-campus housing.

"We are looking where all our vacancies are," said Jana Lynn Patterson, assistant vice president for student life. "We've gotten a broad range of initial interest whether students might want to move on campus either for Winter Term or for the spring."

"For now I am staying in Partner's Place with friends," said Brad Franks, who also lived in the apartment where the fire started. "My [soccer] teammates have been more than gracious letting me stay with them. I don't think the reality of everything has set in yet, because right now it just feels like I am hanging out with old roommates," sPatterson said that there have been no decisions made concerning funding of temporary housing for displaced students.

"In the immediate future, we are going to do the right thing," she said. "They might be living there a week or two weeks, we just don't know and we don't want to create another undue financial burden for them."

Patterson stressed the most important thing is to have affected students return to a sense of normalcy.

"We want them to be able to get back to the business of being a student and an athlete, and we want them to be able to transition as soon as they can," Patterson said. "We would do that for any student who had this kind of disruption."

"The university has been very helpful in regards to finding us a place to live in the spring. It has been a lot easier to deal with the situation thanks to their help," Murray said.

### APPLE from page 1

## Apple changes iTunes policy

Apple previously reached an agreement with EMI to sell the label's songs free of the software and, as part of a new agreement, will now sell the other three labels' songs without D.R.M. as well.

Apple will also change its pricing model. Since iTunes began, Apple has offered all independently downloaded songs at 99 cents. Record companies have disliked this, as they believe a varied pricing model would increase revenues from popular songs and stimulate listeners' interest in older, less known—and cheaper—music.

Offering a constant price is easier for users, Apple has said, but the company agreed to now offer older, less popular music for 69 cents per song. Some songs will remain at 99 cents, and new and popular songs will cost users \$1.29.

Elon junior Andrew Cushman uses iTunes to download music and does not think that the new pricing model will change his buying habits much.

"If I really wanted to buy a new song, paying 30 cents more [\$1.29 instead of 99 cents] wouldn't change much," he said.

Cushman said that the new pricing model might change how he purchases large quantities of music. "The only thing it could possibly change is [how I buy] a lot of songs [at one time]," he said. "If more songs changed to 69 cents, I'd be more inclined to buy them."

Customers can have D.R.M. removed from their previously purchased songs for 30 cents per song. If one wishes to have an entire album converted, Apple will charge 30 percent of the album's cost.

Though the reason for the new agreement was not announced, the previously mentioned Times article speculates that the poor economy and rapidly shrinking CD sales provided incentive for changes in online music sales.

## iTUNES 411

### WHAT ARE THE NEW CHANGES?

Apple will now offer songs at three different prices: 69 cents (for songs that are older or less known), 99 cents and \$1.29 (for new, popular songs). Apple will also remove digital rights management software (D.R.M.) from its iTunes songs.

### WHAT IS D.R.M.?

D.R.M., is added to songs to limit with whom the customer shares his or her songs. It also prevents iTunes songs from being used on any music player that is not made by Apple.

### WHEN WILL THE CHANGES TAKE AFFECT?

Apple has previously offered D.R.M.-free songs made by EMI artists after entering an agreement with the music label. The newest agreement is with the three other large music companies, Sony Music Entertainment, Warner Music Group and Universal Music Group, and iTunes will begin offering their music without D.R.M. this week.

### WHAT ABOUT MY OLD MUSIC THAT ALREADY HAS D.R.M.?

Customers who have previously purchased iTunes music can pay 30 cents per song to have it removed of D.R.M., or, if he or she purchased an album, Apple will remove the software for 30 percent of the album's price.

# Let's get down to business



## The Master of Science in Accountancy at UNC Wilmington

It's a fact. An MSA helps you get ahead in today's business world. Our streamlined, 32-hour curriculum can be completed in 10 months. Make the MSA part of your business plan today.

[www.uncw.edu/mba](http://www.uncw.edu/mba)



**CAMERON SCHOOL of BUSINESS**  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA WILMINGTON

601 S. COLLEGE ROAD • WILMINGTON, NC 28403-5680 • 910.962.3903

EEO/AA Institution



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Steven House was recently named Elon's new provost after serving as the dean of Elon College of Arts and Sciences.

### HOUSE from page 1

## House calls provost position 'home'

really provide a student learning-centered environment."

His love for people is what House said he believes earned him the job as provost. He enjoys working with Elon's "bright students" and faculty in order to make Elon a better educational facility for everyone involved. As provost, he will be overseeing more than 740 faculty and staff members.

"I want to be a good listener and empower and respect people," House said of his upcoming role as provost. "If I don't, give me a good, swift kick because that's what I'll need."

For the future of Elon, House predicts more "slow growth." As provost, he hopes to maintain students' close relationships with the faculty members, despite his slightly more removed position from the students themselves.

"One of the things I will miss is that the provost takes me one step away from the students," House said. With his new job, he will be unable to teach a section of Elon 101.

As provost, House hopes to "enhance the scholarship capabilities of the faculty."

"In order to be a really good teacher and engage and challenge the students," he said, teachers "need to be good scholars."

House said he believes Elon students are "challenged academically" and are "willing to be engaged" in their studies. He said he wants "to inspire the faculty to unleash their incredible potential."

Elon is in the process of selecting an interim dean for Elon College to fill House's position. "The interim dean, with the assistance of the associate deans: Dr. Nancy Harris, Dr. Tim Peebles, and Dr. Maurice Levesque, will lead Elon College during the 2009-10 academic year," House said.

In the fall, Elon will conduct a national search for the following academic year.

# State water pollution plan poses a high price

Alyse Knorr  
Senior Reporter

A state-mandated water cleanup plan with an \$850 million price tag is sparking debate in local governments across Alamance County, the Town of Elon among them.

At Monday night's Board of Aldermen agenda session, board members discussed the possible long-term ramifications of the Jordan Lake Rules, established by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources. This was in response to federal regulations requiring the reduction of nutrients (primarily phosphorous and nitrogen) in rivers and basins across the country.

Dula said the rules have been going through three years of staging, but are now in final stages and will be in legislature this winter and spring.

For the Town of Elon, the ordinances will attempt to mandate practices to reduce nutrient loads in stormwater before it reaches Jordan Lake.

Dula said the rules require retrofitting certain streets and neighborhoods and call for an 8 percent reduction in nutrients beginning five years from now.

Dula said the cost of implementing these changes is estimated at \$850 million, with the Town of Elon paying \$30 million.

"We can't do that," Dula said.

Dula said \$30 million is the equivalent of four years of the town's entire budget.

"It's enormous," Montgomery said.

The costliness and effectiveness of these regulations have been points of discussion in many Alamance County local governments, Dula said, and support for the effort varies.

"All the local governments in this county are talking about this," Dula said.

Board members also reviewed the first meeting of the Library Building Committee, which was held on Dec. 18. Dula, an ex-officio member of the committee, reported that the staff will present a draft architectural request for proposal at the next meeting. Once approved, this document will be sent to architectural firms around the area and used to attract architects to make bids to build the library. Dula said presentations from competing architects will probably begin this summer.

The next Library Building Committee meeting will take place at 10 a.m. on Jan. 14. Subsequent meetings will take place as needed at 10 a.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

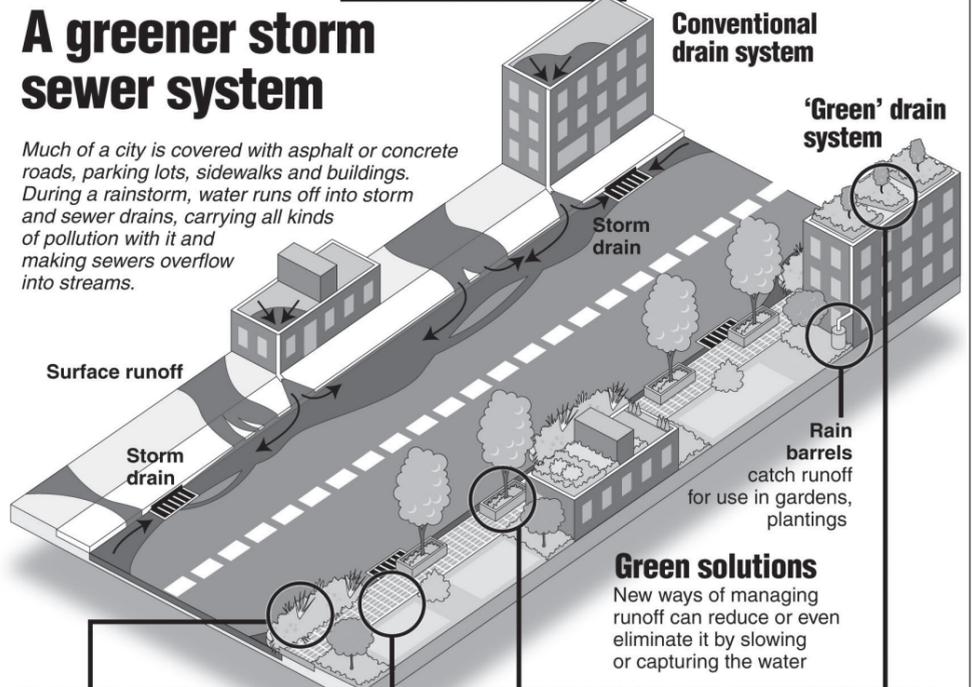
Finally, board members discussed the possibility of increased property taxes based on the most recent property re-evaluation. Dula said that Town of Elon residential properties have increased by an estimated 15 percent, meaning that the town property tax could be raised by a few cents, if at all. Dula said the decision should be announced by the end of January.

Next week, the board will vote on the re-appointment of Monti Allison to the planning board.

## Science Matters

### A greener storm sewer system

Much of a city is covered with asphalt or concrete roads, parking lots, sidewalks and buildings. During a rainstorm, water runs off into storm and sewer drains, carrying all kinds of pollution with it and making sewers overflow into streams.



Surface runoff

Storm drain

Conventional drain system

'Green' drain system

Rain barrels catch runoff for use in gardens, plantings

Green solutions

New ways of managing runoff can reduce or even eliminate it by slowing or capturing the water



Rain garden

Basins filled with water-loving plants capture and slow runoff; plants help filter water, and bacteria break down pollutants



Porous sidewalks

Made of concrete blocks rather than solid concrete; holes in blocks and seams between them let water soak into ground



Tree boxes

Planters built around street-side trees catch rain water; some of it evaporates and some is used by the plants and trees in box



Rooftop plants

Gardens slow the drainage of water to street; evaporating water cools building and its surroundings

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Graphic: Dave Eames and Karen Dillon, The Kansas City Star

© 2008 MCT

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM

ATTENTION ELON STUDENTS!  
WE ACCEPT PHOENIX CASH!

**SurfCo**  
SURF & SKATE

TEL: 336-585-1786  
2948 South Church Street, Burlington, NC.

## Human remains mistaken for missing Elon alumnus

Emily Silva  
Senior Reporter

Human remains found near Charlotte Douglas International Airport on Christmas Eve were initially thought to be those of Kyle Fleischmann, a 2006 Elon graduate who has been missing since Nov. 9, 2007. But after further study, police said that the remains were of another murder victim, not Fleischmann.

A construction worker discovered a human skull, and police units later found additional bones in the surrounding area. The victim has not yet been identified, but police have said it was a homicide case. A medical examiner determined that the remains are from a male aged 18 to 30 who was killed sometime between 2002 and 2007. The Charlotte police say they have about 30 cases that could match the description of the remains.

"They just started walking down a game trail, like a deer trail, and they just stumbled across the bones," Officer Bob Fey with the Charlotte-

Mecklenburg Police Department told WCNC News Station in Charlotte.

Fleischmann was last seen leaving Buckhead Saloon in Charlotte at 2:20 a.m. on Nov. 9. The evening of Nov. 8 started with Fleischmann attending a stand-up comedy act by Dane Cook at Bobcats' Stadium in Charlotte.

Fleischmann, along with friends and family, went to Buckhead Saloon afterward. Security cameras showed Fleischmann leaving around 2:20 a.m.

Recently, a witness from Fuel Pizza in Charlotte said Fleischmann went to the restaurant after leaving the bar around 2:25 a.m. The witness said Fleischmann entered alone and no one saw him leave because the restaurant was crowded.

Fleischmann was originally from Charlotte, N.C., and was a business administration major at Elon. He was vice president of Kappa Alpha Order and enjoyed volunteer work with the Special Olympics and the Boys and Girls Club. He had been working at Maximum Health Care Services in Charlotte around the time he disappeared.



FILE PHOTO

Fleischmann's fraternity brothers held a ceremony for him at Elon's 2008 Homecoming.

## NCAA athletes clustered into certain majors

Margeaux Corby  
News Editor

A recent USA Today study found that athletes tend to cluster in certain majors that are inconsistent with the trends of the student body. Juniors and seniors in five prominent sports at 142 of the NCAA's top-level schools reflect this troubling tendency.

There have been claims by several coaches that this clustering of athletes is a result of the NCAA's adoption of higher standards for collegiate athletes.

Paul Hewitt, Georgia Tech's men's basketball coach, told USA Today that the NCAA is forcing coaches to encourage players to take "the easiest place to eligibility" under the stricter guidelines.

These new academic guidelines were put in place in an effort to destroy stereotypes about athletes having weak academic performances.

"The so-called 'dumb jock' myth is just that—a myth," NCAA President Myles Brand said in a press release. Brand's statement was in response to the most recent data that showed the average graduation success rate for student-athletes entering college in 2001 was up one percentage point from 2007.

Last summer, 218 teams and 123 colleges in Division I were penalized because they fell short of the NCAA's minimum academic eligibility standards for the 2006-2007 school year. This list included North Carolina State University men's wrestling, which was penalized with a scholarship reduction, and East Carolina University men's basketball, which received a public notice.

The USA Today study claims that NCAA's strengthening of its academic policies could create an environment where student athletes are pushed into majors that are less academically challenging.

The report cited that 83 percent of the schools surveyed had at least one team in which at least 25 percent of the juniors and seniors



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

At Georgia Tech, 82 percent of football players majored in management while only about 11 percent of all Georgia Tech juniors and seniors held the major.

majored in the same thing.

At Georgia Tech, 83 percent of students on the baseball team and 82 percent of those on the football team majored in management while only about 11 percent of all juniors and seniors held the major.

Educators claim that clustering can lead to problems such as academic dishonesty, and coaches and academic advisers unduly pushing students to decide on certain majors.

Cayce Crenshaw, director of academic support for athletes, states that such clustering does not occur at Elon but that it has been known to happen at bigger and higher profile colleges. Crenshaw said Elon student-athletes participate in 36 different majors and the choice of major among athletes follows the general trend set by the majority of the student body.

She said when teams do have a large amount of certain majors it is often the result of mentoring and examples set by fellow team

members.

"Student-athletes are around upperclassmen from the very beginning," Crenshaw said. "An idea is planted since people they look up to are in a certain major and they decide to give it a try."

She also stressed that when students are still playing at such a competitive level in college they often are attracted to majors that are related to sports.

"We would have a higher percentage of leisure sports management and exercise sports science majors since that is a natural interest of student-athletes," Crenshaw said.

Crenshaw emphasized that athletic academic advisers are not meant to influence students to choose certain majors.

"We are responsible for increased monitoring of student-athletes because of additional NCAA rules of eligibility," Crenshaw said. "We are support to make sure students are balancing athletics and academics."

## Government proposes database of college students' and employees' personal information

Margeaux Corby  
News Editor

University officials and students alike are concerned about a recent proposal made by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Inspector General to collect a mass of student information, including sensitive materials such as social security numbers and birthdates, in a central government controlled database.

"It's a hacker's dream," said Chris Fulkerson, assistant vice president for technology. "It's the goldmine of hacking in one place."

This new system of records, the Office of Inspector General Data Analytics System, would "store individually identifying information from a variety of individuals who have applied for or received grants, contracts, loans or payments" from the Department of Education.

The inspector general's office is responsible for identifying and preventing fraudulent claims and uses of the Department of Education's funds. According to the OIG, by having such a massive data source, patterns could be analyzed and the Department of Education would be able to improve its modeling system to "predict anomalies indicating fraudulent activities."

The OIG would pull information from nine existing databases including the Federal Student Aid Application File and Title IV Program Files. Individuals whose information will be part of such a system include students who have loans for federal student financial assistance, Pell



GRAPHIC BY CAROLINE FOX

Grant recipients and borrowers of William D. Ford Federal loans or Federal Perkins loans.

The database is not just limited to students, as employees of the Department of Education and any consultant or grantees who have received funds from the Department of Education for "performing services" are also eligible for inclusion in the database.

"I worry about entrusting the government with that much information centralized," Fulkerson said. "It smacks of 'Big Brother.'"

The Department of Education would also amend the Privacy Act of 1974 so that the new ODAS database would be exempt from many of the act's provisions. The act prevents disclosure of personally identifiable information to other government agencies without consent of the individual to whom the record refers.

With such rules waived for the OIG's new database, the inspector general has the ability

to share information with other federal agencies and even foreign governments that claim they need such information—without informing the individual.

"I'd rather not have that," said freshman Patrick Reynolds. "It just seems like one more thing they control."

Fulkerson argues that it is way too much information controlled centrally and says the government has not shown good stewardship of such information in the past.

Elon itself does not contain student information all in one centralized system but has three databases in which student information is kept — one for tax information, another for medical and health records and the largest containing Datatel materials.

"Datatel is in a server that is secure physically and electronically," Fulkerson said. "Only a handful of people can get to the server and from there they are limited to what they can see."

Fulkerson said that Elon fields several attempts hourly by hackers attempting to infiltrate the system for identity theft but the network has too many defenses and alerts that prevent successful hacking.

The last significant breach was a couple of years ago when a hacker was able to gain access to Blackboard and share files.

"We had a breach in Blackboard but it was a breach to serve up porn," Fulkerson said. "Somebody found a weakness in the operating system, gained access to the server and put video on it. It is just one example of somebody using our resources for their purposes."

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Panel discussion on Obama presidency to occur Friday

The Obama Presidency Panel Discussion will be held Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The panel is an opportunity for students to continue the high amount of interest stimulated by the 2008 elections. The event is sponsored by the Multicultural Center, Phi Beta Kappa, the Council on Civic Engagement and the Office of Civic Engagement and will be an opportunity for questions and discussion between panel and audience members.

#### N.C. civic leader speaks at Elon today in honor of MLK

Former Charlotte mayor Harvey B. Gantt will speak today at noon in Whitley Auditorium in commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr. day.

The winner of Elon University's 2009 Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Essay Contest will also be announced. Gantt was the first black student to attend Clemson University in 1963 and co-founded Gantt Huberman Architects in Charlotte after he received his master's degree from MIT.

#### N.C. Bar Association president visits Elon School of Law today

President of the North Carolina Bar Association Charles Becton will be coming to Elon School of Law today for a program commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. day.

The program, "Believing in the Dream: Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King's Legacy," will be held in room 207 from 6 to 8 p.m. and is sponsored by the Black Law Students Association. Becton served on the N.C. Court of Appeals, where he was named N.C. Appellate Judge of the Year in 1985.

#### Lesley Stahl shares advice with Elon students

On Jan. 6, eight selected Elon Communications students met with veteran CBS news "60 Minutes" correspondent Lesley Stahl to speak with her about journalism and advice for starting a career in communications.

Stahl came to campus to conduct an interview for an upcoming "60 Minutes" report on the problems with eyewitness identification for criminal prosecution.

Stahl's story is scheduled to air in March and focuses on Elon alumna Jennifer Thompson-Cannino and Ronald Cotton, a former local resident who was wrongly convicted of raping Thompson-Cannino in 1984.

#### Professional Discovery Week recognizes importance of etiquette

In celebration of Professional Discovery Week 2009, Ellen Baker, founder of Culture2Culture will provide an etiquette session with valuable information on the rules of dining with proper etiquette, using formal table settings appropriately and conducting oneself professionally in a range of business settings.

The session will take place Thursday, Feb. 12 from 5 to 7 p.m. in McKinnon Hall. The cost is \$30, which covers the etiquette dinner and program materials. Registration deadline is Feb. 6.

#### Public comment period on Burlington transportation to go on this week

This week, the Burlington Metropolitan Planning Organization will be holding a public comment period on its long-range transportation plan. The deadline is Friday, Jan. 16 at 5 p.m. The plan has information on public transit, park-and-ride, bikes, sidewalks, etc. To send comments or download the plan, visit [www.mpo.burlington.nc.us/](http://www.mpo.burlington.nc.us/).

# THE PENDULUM

www.elon.edu/pendulum

## Can't imagine living without The Pendulum?



**ELON MYTHBUSTERS**

Elon means "oak" [UNSOLVED]

If you get hit by a car on the crosswalk, you automatically get free tuition [CONFIRMED]

If a brick is taken from a walkway, it will be replaced within the hour [CONFIRMED]

Elon West art building used to be a supermarket [CONFIRMED]

Elon sprays the grass [BUSTED]

There's a ghost on the third floor of West dorm [UNSOLVED]

Everyone has a squirrel story [UNSOLVED]

It is a \$70 fine per amp if you enter a fountain on Elon's campus [BUSTED]

Students must wait 15 minutes before leaving class if a professor does not show up [BUSTED]

Elon puts blue dye in the ponds on campus [CONFIRMED]

If something happens to your roommate, you get straight A's [BUSTED]

**What's all the BUZZ about?**

The bee's knees

Birds Bees buzzing with conservation efforts

Threats to bee hives and the mystery of Colony Collapse Disorder

Exploring the mystery of disappearing honeybees

How your mouse can save the bees

What you can do to save the bees

## Now, you don't have to!

### ✂️ ..... Pendulum Subscriptions

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 Year Subscription ~ \$40.00
- 2 Year Subscription ~ \$70.00

Please send check or money order to: The Pendulum, Campus Box 7012, Elon, NC 27244 | For More Information Call 336-278-7247

# Editorial

The Pendulum seeks to inspire, entertain and inform the Elon community by providing a voice for students and faculty as well as a forum for the meaningful exchange of ideas.

## N.C. test-driving new taxation programs

### Numerous new measures needed to maintain motorways

Reclining in the driver's seat, windows down, wind whipping through hair and over sunglasses while speeding down a highway is a classically romantic American image. Imagining a bureaucrat sitting in the back seat, jotting down the mileage in a notepad and doling out bills puts a damper on such a daydream.

Budgets across the country are spread thin and North Carolina is no different. The Department of Transportation is finding the times particularly tough. In a report from early last year, the American Society of Civil Engineers gave North Carolina airports a D-plus, bridges a C-minus, railways a B-plus and roads a D. The 21st Century Transportation Committee immediately set out to improve the overall score from a C- to a B, but several obstacles litter their path.

The strain placed on North Carolina roads is predicted to skyrocket with vehicle miles traveled expected to double by 2030 and overall population charted to jump 50 percent by 2030. The cost of construction supplies leapt 80 percent since 2002, a trend that's expected to continue.

Unlike most states, the state government of North Carolina controls a majority of the roads, with only Texas containing more state road mileage. Most troubling to the committee is that funding for renovations and operational costs is slowing down.

Revenue from the state fuel tax has decreased 12 percent during the past year.

Most recently, the committee met on Nov. 5 and said that it would take \$1 billion a year for the next 10 years, through highway tolls, local governments shouldering more of the costs and a number of new revenue schemes to meet the upcoming challenges.

State Sen. Richard Stevens, a member of the committee since its creation, cited the huge budget deficit in the upcoming year. He predicted that few, if any, new spending measures would be put into place by the state legislature.

This is where the pencil-pushing stowaway comes back into play. One of the options recommended by the committee is the Vehicle Miles Traveled tax. Oregon is in the process of replacing its fuel tax, which hasn't increased since 1991, with a VMT tax.

As proposed by the committee, drivers would be charged between one-quarter and one-half cent per mile, with the first 2,000 miles exempt from taxation. Mileage would be counted at each annual vehicle inspection, and the estimated revenues run from \$165 to \$330 million per year.

Combine the VMT tax with other proposals from the committee, like an increase of \$30 in vehicle registration fees during the next three years, allowing the cap on the fuel tax, which cost North Carolina approximately \$430 million last year, to expire and a

\$10 vehicle tag fee, and North Carolina residents are faced with a possible deluge of new taxation.

As unappealing as such taxes may sound, North Carolina has few remaining options. Already at a disadvantage with the state shouldering almost the entire bill on transportation expenses and the Department of Transportation receiving slightly more than \$4 million from property taxes (in comparison to South Carolina's \$26 million), the money has to come from somewhere.

The importance of infrastructure can't be underestimated, and maximizing said potential is of greater priority given the economic climate. Seattle enjoys a \$12.20 benefit on every \$1 invested into its system operations, but getting to that single dollar requires time and money invested into technology and refined management strategy.

With a multitude of matters swirling around the legislature, the proposed measures may not even move past the theoretical stage, as practical as they may be.

"Frankly, given the economy we might not see many of them pushed through," Sen. Stevens said, a statement that signifies just how important it is for these new policies to see the light of day. It may seem unattractive, but so is riding with sunglasses and the windows down while thrashing about on a broken road.

## Federal stimulus package tempts Burlington, N.C.

The incoming administration of President-elect Barack Obama means a great many things to a multitude of people. To some, he represents a return to classical liberalism. To others he brings a new look and a breath of fresh air. To cities and counties across North Carolina, he symbolizes a chance for much-needed government hand-outs.

Stimulus wishlists, evoking images of meticulously written letters to Santa Claus, have been sent to Governor-elect Bev Perdue. Each sender is crossing his fingers and hoping for a massive federal stimulus package. How much the package will be worth, how it will work, to whom the control will be granted and even its existence are complete unknowns.

Burlington City Manager Harold Owen can't answer with significant confidence whether any federal funding will come down to Burlington.

"The priorities are unknown, as is how far it would get down to our level," Owen said of the possible stimulus package.

His hypothesis is that Washington will allocate a certain amount of funds to state government and whatever is left over will go to cities and municipalities.

Burlington's list, which includes 20 items totaling an estimated \$21 million dollars, includes several integral projects. Owen highlighted two wastewater treatment center renovations, one in East Burlington worth \$6 million and the other in South Burlington worth \$5 million, as the most essential.

Regardless of the stimulus package, Owen said, Burlington will

have to complete both projects in four to five years.

More important to the Obama administration, it seems, is the amount of jobs that the projects would create. With each proposal, the percentage of total costs allocated to labor expenses is required.

Both of the water treatment center renovations have 50 percent of their preliminary budgets allocated to labor costs. Sixteen out of the 20 proposals have over 50 percent of their budgets going toward labor.

While a major goal of any economic stimulus package should be to create jobs in stagnant areas, President-elect Obama and Congress will have to keep the stimulus package neutral if the full impact of federal dollars is to be felt. Construction, which makes up nearly all of the proposed projects, usually just provides for temporary employment.

If Owen's prediction about the stimulus plan's structure comes true, smaller cities like Burlington won't have the funds to engage in pro-active, continuous construction and renovation projects.

The fight for the funds on the city level will be fierce as well. Greensboro's wishlist has 62 items and is worth \$309 million, dwarfing Burlington's.

With unemployment soaring across the state and federal credit looking increasingly shaky, no matter the priorities of the stimulus plan and the manner in which it's implemented, every little bit counts.

"Fairness is important," Owen said, "but you take what you can get."

## Letters to the Editor

### To The Editor,

Diversity, transparency, disclosure and public involvement are crucial factors in maintaining healthy, local government. Some of these will likely be sacrificed if the Alamance County commissioners vote to extend the term limits for a few planning board members with expired terms who have requested that their terms be extended indefinitely.

Term limits under the current county ordinance give members of the public an opportunity to serve as volunteer advisers to county commissioners for two consecutive three-year terms. Now this rule is being challenged with a proposed amendment to the current ordinance that, if approved, would give planning board members an indefinite term.

In response, Commissioner Tim Sutton has also proposed that "at-large" positions on the board be created. There are concerns that this may be a way to circumvent the process in giving special privileges to certain planning board members with expired terms to remain on the board.

Alamance County residents have an opportunity to vote whether they think this sets a good precedent - or not - by attending the next commissioners' meeting Tuesday, Jan. 20 at 7 p.m., in the Commissioners Meeting Room located on the second floor of the County Office Building, 124 W. Elm St., Graham, NC.

"No man is good enough to govern another man without that other's consent." -Abraham Lincoln.

**Sue Dayton**  
Saxapahaw, N.C.

### To The Editor,

The incoming administration and congress are developing an economic stimulus plan of about \$800 billion, which is supposed to create approximately three million jobs. The jobs will evolve from projects designed to rebuild and replace our roadways, bridges, dams and possibly runways. Schools will be upgraded. There could be substantial funding of energy projects, which will hopefully reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

We need quick turnaround projects ready to be implemented within 90 days of funding.

Unfortunately, about \$300 billion of the \$800 billion economic plan will go to tax cuts for individuals (\$200 billion) and businesses (\$100 billion), and not create jobs. The tax rebates parceled out in the spring of 2008 did not stimulate the economy because \$66 billion of the \$78 billion in rebates went into savings accounts or used to pay down debts. Businesses might use the tax cuts to pay down debt and buy back stock.

The incoming administration should not put the \$300 billion into tax cuts, but should use the entire \$800 billion to create good paying U.S. jobs, while improving our infrastructure, upgrading school resources, promoting alternative energy programs, increasing domestic oil production and reducing the importation of foreign oil.

**Donald A. Moskowitz**  
Londonderry, N.H.

## THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

The Pendulum is published each Wednesday of the academic year. The advertising and editorial copy deadline is 5 p.m. the Friday before publication. Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be typed and e-mailed with a telephone number for verification. Submissions are accepted as Word documents. The Pendulum reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters or columns may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned. You can reach The Pendulum by e-mail at [pendulum@elon.edu](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu). If you have questions or concerns about an article contact a section editor. Please do not respond to reporters directly.

### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Andie Diemer

### ADVISER

Colin Donohue

### SECTION EDITORS

Margeaux Corby, *News*  
Laura Smith, *News*  
Morgan Little, *Opinions*  
Amanda Kennison, *A&E*  
Pam Richter, *Sports*  
Samantha Calvert, *Asst. Sports*

### ONLINE

Ashley Barnas, *Editor-in-Chief*  
Michelle Longo, *Programs Director*  
Camille DeMere, *Multimedia Editor*  
Derek Noble, *Multimedia Editor*  
Alex Trice, *Multimedia Contributor*

### COPY

Christina Edwards, *Copy Editor*  
Rebecca Wetherbee, *Copy Editor*  
Victoria Doose, *Copy Intern*  
Elizabeth Roberts, *Copy Intern*  
Michelle Wilco, *Copy Intern*

### PHOTO DESK

Angie Lovelace

### DESIGN

Caroline Matthews, *Design Chief*  
Ahmed Hassan, *Design Editor*  
Miriam Williamson, *Design Editor*  
Maggie Castor, *Design Intern*  
Emily Berger, *Design Intern*

### BUSINESS

Chelsea O'Hanlon, *Asst. Business*

# Opinions

## Where in the world is Barack Obama?

*President-elect noticeably absent from international debate*



**Amanda Duberman**  
Columnist

Apparently still roaming the Earth somewhere, but we wouldn't know it. President-elect Barack Obama has become decidedly mute since shortly after the election, with his team affirming that because there is only 'one president at a time,' Obama has to stay relatively quiet.

The concept would hold up in ordinary times, but these are extraordinary times. Tradition can be forsaken in times like these while maintaining some degree of mutual respect between the ingoing and outgoing president. However, Obama and his team refuse to get involved in the discussion of domestic and geopolitical catastrophe.

President-elect Obama, we thought you were different from the others. What happened? Here at night and gone in the morning while we're left with a headache and a high-tax hangover, the only consolation being that there is "only one president at a time."

To that end, do we really even have a president? Only in the symbolic sense.

With an approval rating seldom reaching 30 percent, it's safe to assume that President

George W. Bush's positions and speeches carry little weight at this point. With a confidence rating of 70 percent, much higher than that of president's Bush and Clinton during their transition periods, Obama has the extraordinary ability to get things done immediately upon inauguration, if not sooner.

The simple fact that the big inauguration bash is still in the planning phases should not preclude Obama's participation in the weightiest financial and international negotiations in decades. The circumstances of the present should allow for a departure from what would otherwise be the 'one president at a time' rule. Very few pending presidents have had license to do what Obama can. Why isn't he taking it?

The less visible Obama is, the more his sweeping mandate wanes. His confidence rating, while remaining high, has dropped 10 percent since election night.

The Obama team uses the 'one president at a time' mantra selectively, having a heavy hand in some financial planning but withholding guidance in terms of international and national security issues, seemingly in an attempt to postpone involvement in complex and sensitive international matters.

Furthermore, the president-elect was also noticeably absent from the last session of Congress, vindicating those during the campaign who railed him for voting present so often.

Obama should not be obliged to give credit where it isn't due. The president has failed, and Obama should take a cue from the

Straight Talk Express and start talking about how to fix it.

The lapse in leadership is of particular consequence at present, with the crisis in Gaza necessitating firm and confident guidance. President Bush and Secretary Condoleezza Rice promised marked progress toward peace in Israel and Palestine by the end of last year. Obviously, that means nothing now. What is needed now is a renewed perspective. Unfortunately, Obama has not stepped up.

Where does that leave Gazans? Their future hangs in the balance while Obama is silent. At the very least, the incoming administration could give them a hint of their fate, given that the United States wields enormous influence over the actions of Israel.

Secretary of State-designate Hillary Clinton has deep and expansive knowledge of the key details and the broader contours of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict. With dozens if not hundreds of Gazans dying on a daily basis and Israelis similarly fearful, asking Obama's team of foreign advisers to keep quiet is asking far too much.

The Obama transition team is speaking out of both sides of its mouth, sometimes decreeing 'one president at a time,' alleging that commenting on sensitive issues would be 'premature' while also promising to 'hit the ground running' come inauguration. Can we have it both ways? Probably, but when America's most public figure, having demanded our undivided attention for nearly two years, suddenly disappears, it's a bit troubling.

## Gaza powder keg erupts again

Better understanding needed to make this conflict the last



**Brooke Kassner**  
Columnist

For those of you who have had limited introduction or exposure to the ongoing situation between Israel and Palestine, I would greatly encourage you to all look into it. A border dispute, ongoing since UN General Assembly Resolution 181 in 1947, has since erupted into a cultural and religious dispute, of which many refuse to let go. I have long since been biased in my opinions toward this ongoing dilemma. I have, for years on end, been in support of Palestine.

This may shock many at this university and I have recently begun shifting my opinion to a more neutral stance. I have my fair share of reasons for this opinion that I have described to many by pointing out historic occurrences dating back to the 1960s.

I have felt for many years that the American government has dictated public opinion on this situation largely due to the governmental support of Israel. I am indeed sympathetic toward both parties involved in this horrible situation and am in no way hostile toward Israel. The governmental actions of the Israelis and the Palestinians are among the main recipients of the blame as well as the role of the U.S. government.

Jewish settlers began moving into the Palestinian territory after the end of WWII so they could have a land of their own. This was understandable, after all. The Jewish community was one of the few religious groups to not have a "homeland." This action soon grew out of hand on the account of both parties.

The Palestinians' homeland was threatened and the Israelis were being attacked. Now here we are, at present day, proposed with a question as to how in the world it is possible to divide this land which has been put through so much chaos and destruction.

Israel has recently begun an assault on Gaza mainly in response to the actions of Hamas (disputes are still occurring as to its nature — terrorist or not).

Once Hamas began a new volley of rocket attacks on the Israeli territory, the Israelis fought back. Hamas claimed that these attacks were made so that they would be able to travel in and out of Gaza without the Israeli restrictions.

Newspapers such as The Wall Street Journal have made comments that if Hamas is brought down and attacks on Gaza persist, that President-elect Barack Obama may finally be able to instill peace in the Middle East. Now, in no way do I condone the actions that have been carried out by the Hamas organization, but my question is this: Peace in the Middle East for whom?

Greed stretches to every corner of the globe. Both the Palestinians and the Israelis have equal rights to the land, but there is a point where pushing borders goes too far.

I wish it was as easy as drawing a line down the middle, however it has turned out to be far more than that. Perhaps we should reinstate the borders back to the way they were in 1967 prior to the Six Day War.

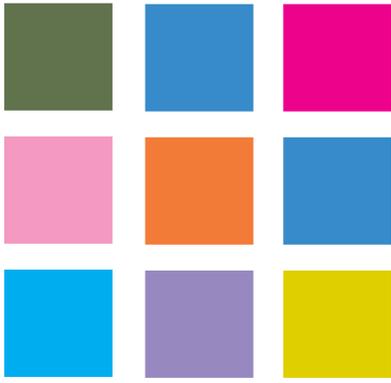
The important message is to get out there and do some research. Merely listening to the way traditional American networks broadcast the situation in no way gives both sides complete justice.

### ILLUSTRATING THE ISSUES:

CARTOON BY MORGAN LITTLE

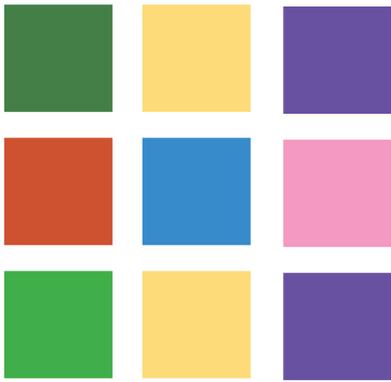


**GET YOUR VOICE HEARD** !!!!!!  
contact us and start writing  
[pendulum@elon.edu](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu)



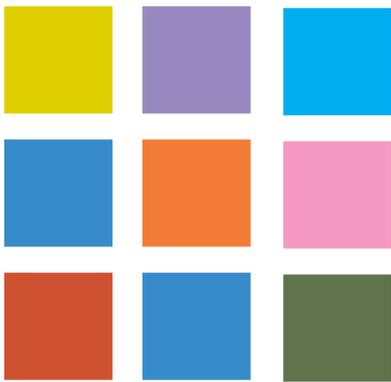
# YOU WANT IT?

Story by Hannah Williams  
Special Projects Editor  
Photos by Angie Lovelace  
Photographer

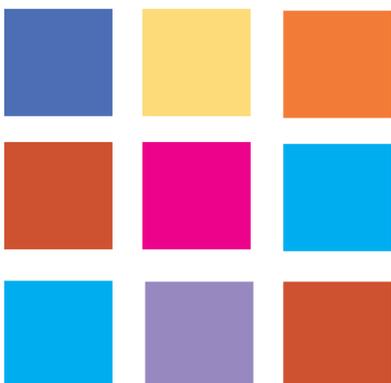


# YOU GOT IT!

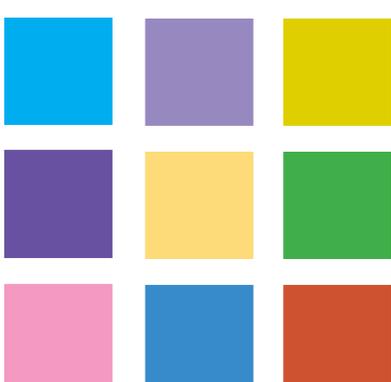
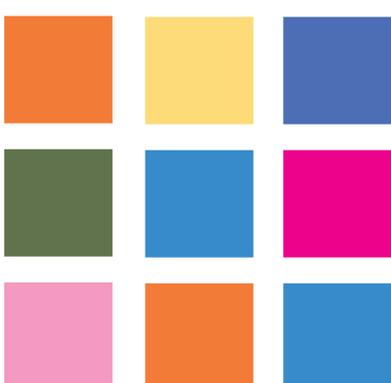
As long as you're willing to cough up the dough, ARAMARK offers Elon students choice for a price.



ARAMARK is the only food source offered by on-campus dining locations. The company pays for the food, employees, liability insurance and all associated costs, while Elon owns and maintains the facilities and pays ARAMARK per meal swipe. Each swipe can cost up to a hefty \$9.80. Comparing that to other universities, Elon pays a little more than a dollar extra per meal. With the falling economy, these expenses are starting to hit students hard.



**THE BREAKDOWN:  
\$9.80 AVERAGE  
MEAL PLAN**



Elon University sets lofty expectations for its dining services. And ARAMARK, its food service provider, fires back with higher prices to cover the costs of operating Elon's top-of-the-line campus dining and catering program.

ARAMARK serves up more than 200 million meals annually at more than 500 higher education institutions nationwide.

Elon has been contracting with dining services to ARAMARK since 1960. The two share an exclusive contract that is renegotiated each year, according to Vickie Somers, Elon's director of auxiliary services.

"You need to have that [exclusivity] to have a successful contract," Somers said, citing peer institutions where dining services have crumbled when multiple providers were allowed to compete. "As long as ARAMARK's satisfied, [the administration is] satisfied and the students are satisfied, then [Elon's administration and ARAMARK] just sort of sit down and talk about what we want to do for the next year," Somers said.

In fall 2008, about 75 percent of Elon's 4,992 undergraduates purchased meal plans from ARAMARK, far more than those required to do so by the university because of their on-campus residency.

**ALL SWIPES ARE NOT EQUAL**

Although an all-you-can-eat dinner in a traditional dining hall at Elon is advertised at \$7.25, a meal plan swipe in a retail location is only worth \$2.50.

"The \$2.50 represents what it would have cost us in food to feed you in one of the three dining halls," said Jeff Gazda, resident district manager for ARAMARK. "If you don't eat in that dining hall, I save around \$2.50 in food costs, but I don't save labor costs. I don't save direct expenses. Unless everyone left and people could go home, certain costs are fixed."

"On average, a third of what you pay, Elon uses to maintain the facility," Gazda said. "The remaining two-thirds is what we have to pay for the employees, the food, the dishes, the cleaning and the cooking."

ARAMARK also figures in additional funds for administrative costs and other business needs, as well as profit.

Students at Wake Forest get \$4.23 in exchange for a meal plan swipe in their retail locations on campus, including an ARAMARK-operated Starbucks and Subway.

**PRICE PER MEAL IS ONLY PART OF THE PICTURE**

Elon's meal plan swipes may be pricey, but by purchasing a meal plan, a student is investing in the comprehensive dining services of the university.

At Elon, ARAMARK operates 14 dining locations in eight buildings, offering its students various choices including three all-you-can-eat facilities; whereas, Winston Salem State and Wake Forest have just one traditional dining hall each.

Elon students indicated their desire for sustainable products to decrease their carbon footprint in ARAMARK's annual dining-services surveys.

"Since we're a tuition-dependent school, the students ultimately will pay the cost," Somers said.

**STUDENTS FORGO MEAL PLANS TO CUT COSTS**

"I actually like being able to use my Phoenix Cash on and off campus, and not having to calculate a weekly balance of meal plans is really nice," said Amy Reitnouer, an Elon senior who lives off

campus and decided she's better off without a meal plan.

The cost of a 9-meal plan for the academic year is \$3,747. Reitnouer's parents agreed that instead of paying ARAMARK, they would deposit \$200 per month into her Phoenix Cash account, totaling \$1,600 for the eight months she will be at Elon this year.

While she still frequents Acorn, Brown & Co., Varsity and downstairs McEwen, Reitnouer uses most of her monthly \$200 to grocery shop off campus and cook many of her meals at home.

"I don't miss the plan at all," Reitnouer said. "I'm saving more than \$2,000 a year."

**ARAMARK CAPITALIZES ON REQUIRED RESIDENCY**

Not all Elon students are able to opt out: Students are required to live on campus for their first two years at Elon, and all students living in residence halls must purchase a meal plan.

The required meal plan is an Elon policy, Somers said, and it's in place as much for parents' peace of mind as it is for the students' well-being.

Freshmen are required to have at least the 11-meal plan regardless of their housing assignment. Sophomores must buy at least the 9-meal plan, unless they reside in university-owned apartments and can then purchase the 5-meal plan.

If students choose to live on campus during their junior and senior years, similar rules apply: Traditional hall residents minimally require the 9-meal plan, those in specialty housing select from the 5-meal plan or higher and university apartment-dwellers are encouraged, but not required, to purchase a plan.

**CATERING TO CONVENIENCE**

ARAMARK's exclusive presence on Elon's campus gives it a monopoly over student dollars, but Somers said an exclusive contract is the only solution to achieve Elon's caliber of dining services.

"I think it's a matter of economies of scale," Somers said. "If [food service providers] know they're going to have a certain amount of business, then they can plan for that. They're set up and ready to provide for that. They've got the labor here. It works better."

At Elon, ARAMARK can plan on all meal plan business and all catering orders for on-campus events.

"It's highly recommended that we use ARAMARK for our events," said Student Union Board President Jenn Montrose, who coordinates a host of student events on campus. "Just because Elon does have a contract with ARAMARK, it doesn't look good if you're ordering out. We try to use ARAMARK as much as possible."

Somers said it's permissible for students to solicit food from off-campus vendors for informal events with Gazda's permission. Usually, if the vendor is willing to donate the food, that's OK. Otherwise, ARAMARK has an opportunity to match the price.

**UNIVERSITIES OUTSOURCE FOR EFFICIENCY**

A recent study of food service outsourcing on U.S. college campuses published in the International Journal of Education Management suggested most universities outsource because it provides higher quality, better service and lower costs in most cases.

ARAMARK is a \$12.4 billion corporation that provides food service, facility maintenance and uniforms to hundreds of schools, prisons, health care facilities and entertainment complexes in the United States and around the world. "Any of the companies that you

would have operating your food service are probably going to be the same, in terms that they're large and they're international," said Somers, citing these qualities as advantages for bringing new perspectives to campus dining.

A 2002 survey by the National Association of College and University Business Officers showed that 9 percent of responding schools didn't outsource any services and 65 percent of respondents were outsourcing between two and five.

Somers listed ARAMARK and Sodexo, the two largest food service providers in higher education, and a third company, Chartwells, as the main alternatives to self-operating campus dining, which at Elon, just isn't feasible.

In 1960 when the in-house dining services manager retired, Elon turned to then-Slater, now-ARAMARK, to run campus dining.

**ARAMARK: ONE BRAND AMONG MANY AT ELON**

In addition to ARAMARK, Elon also has contracts with Barnes and Noble to run the bookstore, Coca-Cola to operate campus vending, Macgray to manage the laundry system and LRG to handle trademarks. Somers said these outside vendors help rid Elon of extra responsibilities.

"We'd have to buy all the washers and dryers, service the washers and dryers," she explained, referring to Macgray's contractual duties, "and collect the money for the people who still use money and not their Phoenix Cards."

"There's a lot of liability in the foodservice area: the equipment you're using, the preparation of the food," Somers said. "You really want somebody who knows what they're doing."

**ELON BUILDS TRUST RELATIONSHIP WITH ARAMARK**

"I think Elon is a great example of a really true collaborative partnership," Gazda said. "We customize things to the university. Our goal is to be solution-providers for Elon. In essence, do everything we can to help Elon succeed in achieving its mission and goals."

Gazda cited ARAMARK's purchase and renovation of Brown & Co. as a trust-based venture that enables an easier collaboration. "We would not probably have done this at a lot of campuses, but because of the tenure here and our partnership we were approved," he said.

"It helps if you want to do something new and innovative," Somers said of the extended partnership with ARAMARK. "You're a little bit more willing to take risks, if you've had that partnership for a while. There's that trust factor there."

**ARAMARK AIMS FOR TRANSPARENT FUTURE**

As ARAMARK is a for-profit corporation, it maximizes earnings by minimizing costs.

"I don't want to beat my budget. I want to be right on my budget," Gazda said. "I don't want to be below my budget, because I have no reason to do that. I don't want to be behind my budget, because I like my job. If I have to be behind my budget, I will take care of you guys."

Gazda said there's a lot of confusion about where meal plan money is going.

"What I want to do next year is full transparency," he said. "Maybe even have a whole page on the Web site that says, 'Where do my funds go on the meal plan?'"

Until then, students can use the "leave a comment" function on the campus dining web page or stop by Gazda's office in the Colonnades to inquire further about ARAMARK at Elon.

**COST CLIMB COMPONENTS**

When pricing meal plans, Somers said Elon factors in food, labor and facilities maintenance costs, and looks at other universities' prices to stay competitive.

Somers explained that ARAMARK pays for the food, employees, liability insurance, and all associated costs, while Elon owns and maintains the facilities and pays ARAMARK per meal swipe.

**EMPLOYEES**

Staffing Elon's numerous facilities is expensive. Gazda said ARAMARK employs more than 300 people on Elon's campus, paying all waged, non-student employees \$10 per hour.

**MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR**

Elon has a zero-deferred maintenance policy, meaning that anything needing fixing will be fixed.

"For instance, the ice cream machine in upstairs McEwen is on its last leg," Somers said. "So, I'm putting in a request for that ice cream machine to the tune of \$14,000."

**GREEN ADDITIONS**

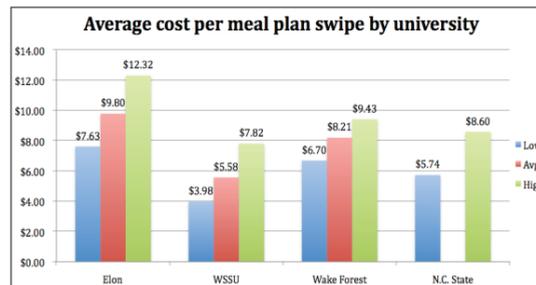
This fall, ARAMARK distributed reusable aluminum water bottles to all resident students, installed filtered water dispensers to minimize the amount of plastic bottles used at Elon and introduced composting at all its dining facilities to dispose of waste more responsibly.

**ORGANIC OPTIONS**

Organic and locally-grown fare comprise 60 percent of the groceries for sale at Fountain Market, the ARAMARK convenience store located on the first floor of the recently constructed \$6.7 million dining facility, Colonnades. Sustainable products mean higher costs.

**COLLABORATION WITH ELON**

At times, ARAMARK helps fund collaborative ventures, like the construction of Colonnades dining hall and the renovation of Brown & Co., leaving the university indebted to the food service provider. If Elon elected to work with another company, it would have to buy ARAMARK out for a fee proportional to the recency of the development.



The average costs per swipe were calculated by taking the annual meal plan cost, subtracting any declining balance dollars and dividing it by the number of meals allotted per week based on a 14-week semester, plus a 4-week winter term at Elon University only.

# Style

## Performing for a cause

### Elon students showcase their musical talent in 4th annual benefit concert

Amanda Kennison  
A&E Editor

On Saturday, Jan. 17, Elon will host its fourth annual Broadway Cares/Equity Fight AIDS benefit concert. For two shows, at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m., students from Elon's performing arts department will use their artistic talents to raise money for a good cause.

For about two hours, a number of students will perform a medley of ballads, up-tempo numbers and solo and group pieces. While each piece may resonate with the audience in different ways, they all express the message of awareness that BC/EFA stresses.

BC/EFA is a national organization whose two parent companies merged in 1992. Since then, through various fundraisers and events like Elon's concert, the group has raised more than \$86 million for AIDS research, awareness and other projects that support eradicating the disease.

"This is an important show for Elon to host because it not only showcases the progress and accomplishments of our performing arts majors, but it really demonstrates the quote of 'Think Globally, Act Locally,'" said sophomore John Yi, co-director of Elon's Broadway Cares concert.

Yi became involved with Elon's effort the summer before his freshman year after receiving an e-mail from fellow performing arts student Matthew Masten. Masten, a current senior, is one of the original organizers and director of Elon's BC/EFA effort.

"I first organized this concert my freshman year after my global studies professor suggested that each student choose a charity or non-profit organization to work with for the semester," Masten said.

The first year, the concert was a small gathering with only 20 to 25 people in attendance. Three hundred dollars were raised that first year. Since then, the concert has raised more than \$5,000 in donations.

That is an impressive outcome considering that students direct, produce and provide the majority of entertainment for the concert.

Planning for this year's concert began in early fall. More than 60 students auditioned in December for the chance to perform, and the concert will showcase about 40 of them. These do not include the many student volunteers that provide the behind-the-scene support for the show.

While the concert offers the students a great opportunity to demonstrate their performing skills, it is important to remember the serious message behind the concert.

"[The concert] is art for a cause," Yi said. "It typically lasts about two hours, but every moment of it is filled with a passionate conviction to pay homage to AIDS victims and support those who are affected by the illness."

Masten adds that this concert is a way for the local Elon community to actively become involved and provide support for a serious global issue.

"This is an opportunity for Elon to give back," Masten said. "Until there is a cure for AIDS, people around the world will continue to need our help."

The BC/EFA concert promises to be an entertaining and moving event. A mixture of fun with a serious message, everyone is urged to go out and catch a show. For more information about the national BC/EFA organization, visit its Web site: <http://www.bcefa.org/>.

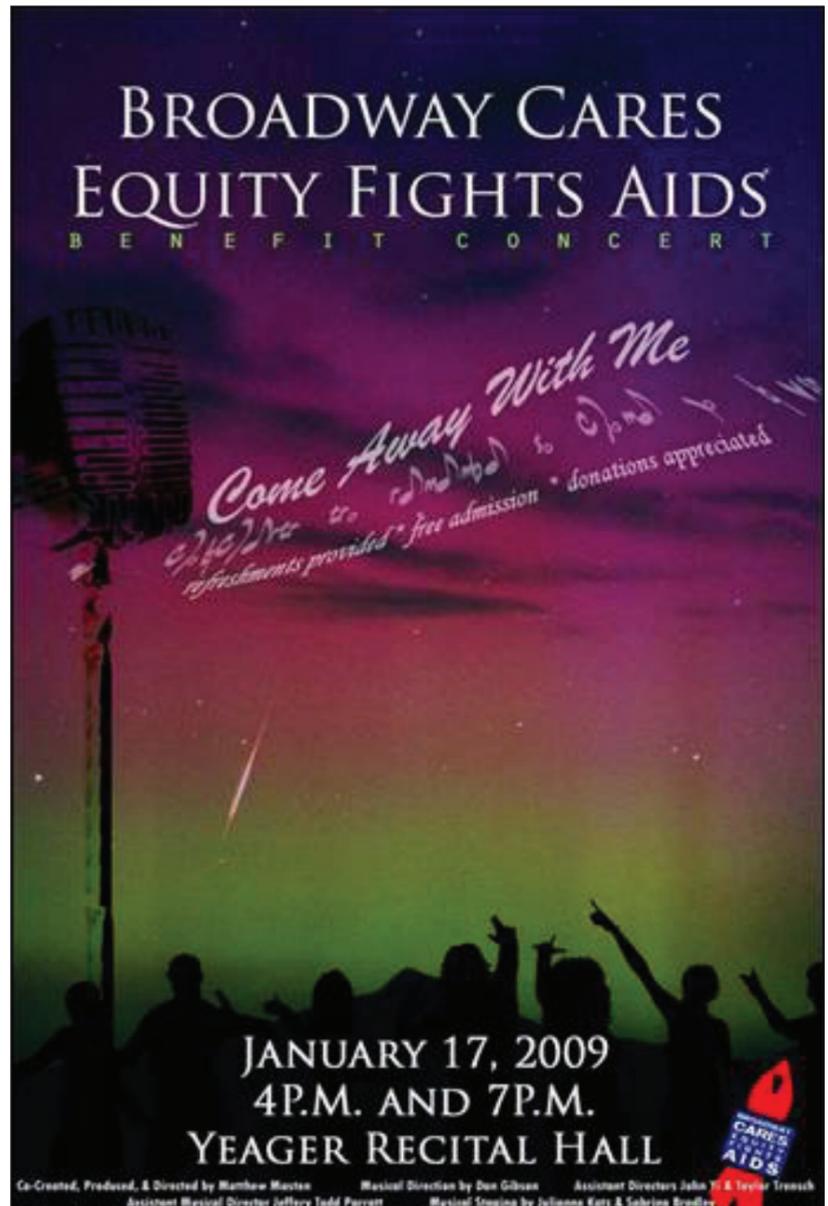


PHOTO COURTESY OF E-NET

On Jan. 17, Elon performing arts students will provide musical entertainment to raise money and awareness for the fight against AIDS. There will be refreshments and admission is free, but donations are appreciated.

## DORM COOKING:

### Egging you on to the perfect new bikini (or swim trunk) body



CAROLINE FOX | Graphics

The breakfast-maker, which can be purchased at stores like Target and Wal-Mart, is inexpensive, and provides an easy means for in-dorm cooking. One egg contains numerous essential nutrients but only 75 calories.

Chelsea Bozone  
Reporter

One of the most popular New Year's resolutions is to lose weight and eat healthier. On a college campus, reality soon hits. College students are faced with unhealthy food choices with every grumble of the stomach. French fries, burgers, sodas and desserts are available at every meal, and it all adds up.

But what if there was a way to combat this problem? To actually make that resolution a reality?

Of course, this does require some work and planning. But what if by this summer that bathing suit that is shoved into the dark depths of a closet can see the light again? Or that favorite pair of jeans that once made you feel like a supermodel could revitalize you? What if a quick trip to the store and an uncommon ingredient could help you get on the bandwagon? What if?

Nearby, convenient all-purpose stores provide everything you need for a healthy, delicious and simple meal that could take you one step closer to that perfect bathing suit body.

First step — grab a wagon and hit the aisles.

A stop to the microwave aisle would be the fist on the long list. This aisle is worth exploring for future meals, but for the time being, focus on the breakfast-maker. It is yellow and white and with a place to cook two eggs and some meat. This machine typically costs around \$6 to \$10 and is a great investment toward a long, happy, and most importantly, healthy dorm room cooking career.

Next, turn your attention on what to put

in that newly purchased life-saver. Eggs are definitely the first ingredient. You can choose from real eggs that you crack or the egg-in-the-carton deal. Both are solid, healthy choices. If you wish, you can add vegetables to the eggs, like green peppers, onions and tomatoes.

If you are using the breakfast-maker and wish to include meat, there are also options for that route. Bacon lovers, try Canadian bacon for a healthier alternative. Sausage lovers, try to choose sausage that is low in sodium.

A solid breakfast egg sandwich is made possible with good bread. Try whole wheat or multigrain bread for a healthy alternative to white bread. Another smart option to top off your sandwich is cheese. Pick your favorite and enjoy (in moderation). Light variations are available for most kinds of your favorite daily product.

Now it is time to look at your creation and smile at your newly-found desire to eat healthier.

Eggs are a great source of protein and contain 13 essential nutrients that your body needs. One egg contains a mere 75 calories. Bread will provide you with a multitude of health benefits and will leave you fuller longer.

If you decided to include cheese, congratulations because you are helping your bones become stronger.

This is just one of many simple, delicious and healthy dorm room cooking options. You are only limited by your imagination, so try something new today.

By combining healthy eating options with some daily exercise, you can say goodbye to the bulge and hello to the bathing suit.

# Gold stars all around: Recapping the 66th Annual Golden Globe Awards

Amanda Kennison  
A&E Editor

It's not often that the brightest stars of television and film gather together to congratulate one other on jobs well done. Yet this past Sunday, countless actors and actresses convened to do just that, while millions of fans tuned in to

see which lucky few received the prestigious Golden Globes.

The 66th Annual Golden Globe Awards proved an interesting night of underdog triumphs, particularly well-deserved wins and a few unexpected comebacks. Whether you're still reeling over the inevitable upsets or thrilled that your favorite actor, actress,

movie or television show pulled off a win, you may be at the point where a complete recap of "who won what" would be useful.

Keep in mind that in award season, anything goes. But, this list could prove a close predictor for the results of another big award show just a few weeks away—the Oscars.

## FILM



**Cecil B. DeMille Award**  
·Steven Spielberg

**Best Motion Picture—Drama**  
·Slumdog Millionaire

**Best Performance by an Actress in a Motion Picture—Drama**  
·Kate Winslet—Revolutionary Road

**Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture—Drama**  
·Mickey Rourke—The Wrestler

**Best Motion Picture—Musical or Comedy**  
·Vicky Cristina Barcelona

**Best Performance by an Actress in a Motion Picture—Musical or Comedy**  
·Sally Hawkins—Happy-Go-Lucky

**Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture—Musical or Comedy**  
·Colin Farrell—In Bruges

**Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role in a Motion Picture**  
·Kate Winslet—The Reader



**Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in a Motion Picture**  
·Heath Ledger—The Dark Knight

**Best Animated Feature Film**  
·WALL-E

**Best Foreign Language Film**  
·Waltz with Bashir (Israel)

**Best Director—Motion Picture**  
·Danny Boyle—Slumdog Millionaire

**Best Screenplay—Motion Picture**  
·Slumdog Millionaire—written by Simon Beaufoy

**Best Original Score—Motion Picture**  
·Slumdog Millionaire—composed by A.R. Rahman



**Best Original Song—Motion Picture**  
·"The Wrestler"—The Wrestler, music and lyrics by Bruce Springsteen



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM

## TELEVISION

**Best Television Series—Drama**  
·Mad Men (AMC)

**Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series—Drama**  
·Anna Paquin—True Blood (HBO)



**Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series—Drama**  
·Gabriel Byrne—In Treatment (HBO)

**Best Television Series—Musical or Comedy**  
·30 Rock (NBC)

**Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series—Musical or Comedy**  
·Tina Fey—30 Rock (NBC)

**Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series—Musical or Comedy**  
·Alec Baldwin—30 Rock (NBC)



**Best Mini-Series or Motion Picture Made for Television**  
·John Adams (HBO)

**Best Performance by an Actress in a Mini-Series or Motion Picture Made for Television**  
·Laura Linney—John Adams (HBO)



**Best Performance by an Actor in a Mini-Series or Motion Picture Made for Television**  
·Paul Giamatti—John Adams (HBO)

**Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role in a Series, Mini-Series or Motion Picture**  
·Laura Dern—Recount (HBO)

**Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in a Series, Mini-Series or Motion Picture**  
·Tom Wilkinson—John Adams (HBO)



# TOP 10 Movies of 2008

Alexa Milan  
Managing Editor

Last year proved full of exciting highs and unnerving lows. A lackluster economy and industry disputes couldn't stop the churning-out of some high-quality entertainment. In all aspects of entertainment, industries succeeded in capturing the varied range of emotions and interests pervading the population.

## #10 Iron Man

This movie, which was released in May, blazed the trail for one of the most successful movie summers in more than a decade. "Iron Man's" Robert Downey Jr. had one of the greatest acting comebacks with an amazing performance alongside Gwyneth Paltrow and Terrence Howard.

## #9 Tropic Thunder

What may come off to some as nothing more than an offensive farce truly stands out as 2008's wittiest and smartest comedy. Ben Stiller's brilliant satire of the entertainment industry elaborately points out Hollywood's absurdities in a way the general public can still appreciate. Robert Downey Jr. is the real star among the cast with his hilarious portrayal of an intense method actor who will even change the color of his skin if it means a chance for an award.



IMAGE COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM

## #8 Doubt

John Patrick Shanley's adaptation of his Pulitzer Prize-winning play features one of the strongest ensemble casts of the year. Meryl Streep, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Amy Adams and Viola Davis all give powerhouse performances in this hard-hitting story of the conflicting power of doubt and certainty set against the backdrop of molestation in the Catholic church.

## #7 Frost/Nixon

Ron Howard's dramatization of British talk show host David Frost's pivotal interviews with Richard Nixon manages to be a suspenseful tale—even though the audience likely knows the story's outcome. Frank Langella and Michael Sheen do brilliant work as Nixon and Frost respectively. The film manages to do for Nixon's admission of wrongdoing what "Good Night and Good Luck" did for the downfall of Joseph McCarthy.

## #6 The Curious Case of Benjamin Button



IMAGE COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM

David Fincher's direction reigns supreme in this fantastical adaptation of the F. Scott Fitzgerald short story about a peculiar man who ages in reverse. Taraji P. Henson will likely land an Oscar nod for her role as Benjamin's surrogate mother, and the riveting story doesn't have a low point in the film's entire two hours and 45 minutes.

## #5 Rachel Getting Married

Anne Hathaway proves her versatility as she portrays a recovering alcoholic who returns home for her sister's wedding. This independent film from a screenplay by Jenny Lumet provides an intimate look at one family's relentless dysfunction and unconditional love. The film also features standout supporting turns from Rosemarie DeWitt and Bill Irwin.

## #4 Milk

Gus Van Sant's inspiring biopic tells the story of Harvey Milk, the first openly gay official elected in California. Sean Penn nails his role as the title character. James Franco, Emile Hirsch and Josh Brolin provide solid supporting performances. Van Sant's retelling of Milk's life is one that will undoubtedly move audiences to tears.

## #3 WALL-E

Pixar's latest film is its best since "Toy Story," and it is the first animated movie since "Beauty and the Beast" with a real shot at being nominated for a best picture Oscar. This film is visually stunning and conveys a huge amount of emotion in very few words. WALL-E and his robot love EVE are a more dynamic couple than many of their live-action counterparts.



IMAGE COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM

## #2 Slumdog Millionaire

This compelling story of an Indian "slumdog" is really a work of art. Director Danny Boyle, star Dev Patel and the film as a whole all deserve Oscars. Visually breathtaking and emotionally captivating, the film combines tragedy and sorrow with the persistent hope for a new beginning. "Slumdog Millionaire" is perhaps the most touching story of the year.



IMAGE COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM

## #1 The Dark Knight



This gritty sequel to "Batman Begins" is more reminiscent of film noir than a typical summer blockbuster. It broke the trends of event films getting critically panned and Oscar bait having sub-par box office performance by earning both rave reviews and nearly \$1 billion worldwide. With a strong cast led by Christian Bale and the phenomenal Heath Ledger, Christopher and Jonathan Nolan's complex story and Chris's impeccable direction make "The Dark Knight" cinematic gold. Heath Ledger won a Golden Globe for best supporting actor for the film which grossed more than \$530 million worldwide, making it one of the highest grossing movies to date. The Batman and the Joker were two "normal" human beings locked in a battle of epic proportions. The year 2009 will still have the daunting chore of overcoming this superhero giant.



IMAGES COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM

# TOP 10 CDs & Books of 2008



## Top 10 CD Albums

### 1 Dear Science TV on the Radio

Everyone's favorite Brooklyn art-rockers return on "Dear Science," their third album and second straight masterpiece. Filled with danceable guitar riffs and bouncing percussion, this is a far cry from 2005's "Return to Cookie Mountain." Everything comes together in what seems like a magical, euphoric sound, but these guys have it down to a "Science."

### 2 Evil Urges My Morning Jacket

For years, these long-haired Kentucky boys have been pigeonholed as a Southern Rock revival band. With "Evil Urges," it sounds like they're sick of it. Mixing in their patented Southern Rock with soul, electronic, funk and prog, this is an album filled with left turns. But you're willing to take each turn just to see where it's all going.

### 3 Viva La Vida Coldplay

These crooning Brit-rockers finally deliver their magnum opus. Their most experimental album also happens to be their best. Chris Martin and company take global influences, from the Latin dance beat of "Lovers in Japan" to the sweet Afro-pop sound of "Strawberry Swing." Never has this band sounded better or more eclectic.

### 4 Chinese Democracy Guns N' Roses

This album deserves to be on this list solely because it actually came out. Nearly 15 years in the making, Axl Rose finally delivered his masterpiece. And while it may not be as good as "Appetite for Destruction," it is one of the most ambitious, bombastic rock albums made in the last decade. Amen.

### 5 Feed the Animals Girl Talk

Greg Gillis may just be a genius. Or insane. "Feed the Animals" is a schizophrenic mash-up of every genre imaginable (Wanna throw Kelly Clarkson's voice over the thrash from Metallica? Go ahead.) Without a doubt, it's one of the best club records of the year and one of the most creative sounds you're bound to hear from 2008.

### 6 Stay Positive Hold Steady

With their fourth album, the Hold Steady are now four for four. "Stay Positive" is another set of hyper-literate bar rock. Frontman Craig Finn is one of the best lyricists in rock, filling his tales with Biblical allusions, sly one-liners and tales of drunken debauchery. The Hold Steady makes bar rock for the Kerouac crowd.

### 7 Narrow Stairs Death Cab For Cutie

After 2005's "Plans" went awry, this band went back to the drawing board. The result is "Narrow Stairs," an album filled with modulated bass lines, distorted guitars and singer Ben Gibbard's tales of the lonely. The change suited them - never have they sounded so fresh and so vital.

### 8 Fleet Foxes Fleet Foxes

These bearded folkies from Seattle made the best debut of the year. A throwback to the days of Crosby, Stills and Nash, "Fleet Foxes" features delicate acoustic guitar, light percussion and some of the most beautiful harmonies recorded in 2008. Their hushed, lush, gorgeous sound is a breath of fresh mountain air in the ultra-produced pop landscape.

### 9 Modern Guilt Beck

On paper, mixing Beck with Danger Mouse sounds like a great idea. It sounds even better on record. Danger Mouse's brilliant production shines and allows for Beck to make some of his freshest music in years. These two great minds have made the perfect, psychedelic album for the modern age.

### 10 Accelerate R.E.M.

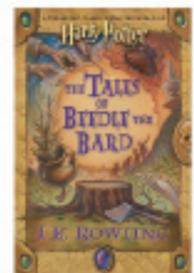
When's the last time R.E.M. has been relevant? Since the mid '90s this band has been sliding, but with "Accelerate" they step on the gas and sound revived. Peter Buck's guitar is loud, Mike Mills' bass is rocking and Michael Stipe is angry once again. Welcome back.



## Top 10 Books

### 1. Tales of Beedle the Bard **J.K. Rowling**

Why? Because J.K. Rowling is amazing. Seriously though, this book is an excellent companion to the series. Rumor has it that WB is looking into turning this book into a movie as well.



### 2. The Host **Stephenie Meyer**

As much as I love the "Twilight" series, this book has an even better storyline and more compelling writing. Essentially, this book does for sci-fi what "Twilight" does for vampires in that it opens up the genre to readers who usually wouldn't go for it.

### 3. Evernight **Claudia Gray**

No one can deny that 2008 was the year of the vampire, and you're probably wondering why I'm ranking this book that you've never heard of above "Breaking Dawn." "Evernight" is similar to Meyer's series in that it involves a star-crossed vampire/human pairing, but beyond that it really doesn't follow in the same vein as most vampire books. The author is a master of plot twists, and I'm pleased to note that "Evernight" is the first book in a series (the sequel, "Stargazer," is due out in March.)



### 4. Breaking Dawn **Stephenie Meyer**

The final book of the "Twilight" Saga was released to mixed reviews, but overall it is a satisfying close to the series. Don't despair though: if you peruse the author's Web site, you'll learn that there may be more books to come in the Twilight universe.

### 5. Duma Key **Stephen King**

Mr. King strikes me as an author who's going to be plugging out books until he dies, and fortunately for his readers, his writing continues to be superb. Any year King publishes a new book (which is generally every year), it deserves to be on the top 10 list.

### 6. Graceling **Kristin Cashore**

This is a book that would fall into the category of soft-core high fantasy, set in another world. It's filled with swords, kings and magic. In "Graceling," some people are born with special abilities called 'Graces,' and these abilities range everywhere from being a musical genius to being able to climb trees particularly well. The heroine of the story, Katsa, happens to be Graced with the ability to kill.

### 7. The Hunger Games **Suzanne Collins**

This book has received excellent reviews and has been recommended by other authors on this list, including Stephenie Meyer and Stephen King. The story is set in a dystopian future. Considering that the book includes monster wasps, mutant werewolves and gladiator fights (where the unspoken rule is that you can't eat your opponent), why King likes this book is pretty obvious.

### 8. The Irregulars: Roald Dahl and the British Spy Ring in Wartime Washington

**Jennet Conant**

Who would have thought that the author of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" was once an international spy? Sent by the British to America, Roald Dahl's job was to spread propaganda to encourage America to take a more active part in the European theatre of WWII. If any of the book sounds familiar that's because the creator of James Bond was in the same spy circle as Dahl. Yeah, he was that awesome.

### 9. The Last Lecture

**Randy Pausch**

The Last Lecture tells the inspiring story about a dying professor's last lecture. This is truly a must-read for all college students.

### 10. Little Brother **Cory Doctorow**

Remember "Big Brother" from 1984? Well, meet Little Brother. Marcus (aka "w1n5t0n"), a 17-year-old geek, takes on the Department of Homeland Security. The legacy of George Orwell lives on.



# Colorful Expression

## Japanese artist showcases her work in Arts West

Amanda Kennison  
A&E Editor

Elon's art department continues to grow in size and reputation. Earlier this week, the department further expanded its activities and national recognition. On Jan. 12, Arts West hosted its inaugural "Small Works Invitational."

Artists from across the country submitted work for the invitational. A mixture of pieces ranging widely in style and theme can be found hanging in Elon's Arts West gallery. Whether traditional or contemporary, inspired by nature or technology, all works do share a common denominator: They are all small.

It was this caveat of the show that drew one artist, Mieko Anekawa, to apply for Elon's invitational.

"The show is small artwork and I've always loved to paint small artworks," Anekawa said. "I love to lay out paintings for the wall with lots of beautiful designs."

Anekawa is originally from Japan. Encouragement from a teacher motivated her to attend Kyoto University, which houses some of the most reputable art programs in the country. In 2004, Anekawa decided to move to New York to be amid one of the most creative environments in the world.

"I always wanted to do creative work and New York is the best place," Anekawa said. "The personality of New York really fits with me because it's open-minded and really creative."

After working for a design studio for three years, Anekawa decided that it was time to put more focus on her painting. During the past couple years, Anekawa's art has been displayed in a variety of shows in the Manhattan and Brooklyn areas. Recently, she has searched throughout the country for opportunities to share her art, which is how she came across the invitational at Elon.

Anekawa submitted three works. All three pieces follow an animal theme: one of which features a hippo, another a cow and the last a flamingo. All her pieces are brightly colored and expressive. Each of her animals is boldly outlined, set against a checkered backdrop.

Most of Anekawa's work follows a similar pattern. Two major themes she said she enjoys working with are animals and nature. A wide use of color is another trademark of Anekawa's work.

"I try to use color themes in the background that will fit around the



ASHLEY BARNAS | Web Editor-in-Chief

Mieko Anekawa is currently showcasing her work at Elon's Arts West as part of the "Small Works Invitational." Anekawa submitted three works with an animal theme. The animals are brightly colored and set against a checkered background.

animals," Anekawa said. "They have very unique body shapes and color. It's really fun to paint them."

Compared to much of the contemporary and even more traditional pieces, Anekawa's work stands out. Her vision and style grab a viewer's attention in an impressive way.

"I think her work is very unique because it's very colorful and very bright," said Anekawa's manager Ken Vitale. "When you look at her art it's so different. It's very vibrant and very energetic. She has this very interesting balance of colors. I think that comes from her Japanese background. I think there's a lot of color and interesting ways they use it. She brings that into her work."

Anekawa continues to build her portfolio. In the next year, a number of new pieces will be featured in shows in New York and New Jersey. Particularly, she will be showcasing a new series that represents the fusion of female hair and nature.

For more information or updates about Anekawa and her work, visit her Web site at [www.miekomieko.com](http://www.miekomieko.com).

## Holiday album brings together students, faculty, community

Laura Wainman  
Senior Reporter

This fall, in addition to handling the demands of Elon's rigorous academic load, a handful of students were given the opportunity to contribute their musical talents to the production of a Christian music CD called "Patchwork: Elon and Alamance County Sewn Together with Spirituality." The CD, whose profits are donated to Catholic Campus Ministries, was released Nov. 21 and combines the musical stylings of Elon students, faculty, staff and members of Alamance County.

Gerry Waterman, Catholic campus minister, spearheaded the project after talking with Barth Strempek, associate professor of entrepreneurship, about his experience making a CD with past entrepreneurial students. Strempek agreed to assist in the project by overseeing four students in his entrepreneurship class who created a business plan for the marketing and production of "Patchwork."

"I knew this would be a good learning experience for my students and the purpose behind this CD is truly special," Strempek said. "It was a privilege to be a part of helping young musicians get their careers started. That was the best part for me."

A hitch in the project came when the estimated budget for the CD production exceeded the allocated \$5,000. The solution arrived when former Provost Gerry Francis agreed to pre-buy \$3,000 worth of CDs, creating a potential \$8,000 budget. The final costs totaled around \$6,000.

Robin Riggins, the coordinator of the Welcome Center, said she felt "Patchwork" was a unique project since it incorporated a lot of Elon voices along with members of the Alamance community. Riggins contributed two songs to the CD.

"Though we may not have all come from exactly the same spiritual background, you could definitely feel a common thread tying us together," Riggins said. "We all had the pleasure of seeing each other enjoying our passion. Each song was a different flavor and style, but through the CD you discovered the stories of each individual involved."

After the months of hard work that went into producing "Patchwork," the cast celebrated their success at the release party for the CD held in Koury Business Center.

"It is always a chore bringing all the pieces of a project like this together, so when it is all over it feels great to say 'we did it,'" Strempek said. "The release party was the perfect opportunity for all those involved to do just that."

Junior Sunny Smith also said the release party was her favorite memory of the experience.

"It was the first time that I got to hear a lot of the participants perform in person and it was an awesome night," Smith said. "I feel honored and blessed that I was given the opportunity to share what I had to give."

Todd Coleman, a member of the Alamance community, contributed a song that he composed when he was 18. He said he enjoyed the opportunity to support efforts on campus that help students maintain the religious traditions with which they were raised.

Riggins also agreed that it was rewarding to know that she was helping to spread the message of God's word to her audience.

"Music for me is about the ministry," Riggins said. "If someone hears me sing and they tell me I have a good voice, it is nice to hear. But when someone tells me they were touched by the message I was singing about, that is when I feel truly successful."

Copies can be purchased through the Truitt Center.



### MOVIE REVIEW ★★

## 'Gran Torino' edges between action and emotion

Adam Constantine  
Film Critic

One of the most known actors of our time takes to the screen once again with his highest grossing opening weekend ever. Clint Eastwood stars in "Gran Torino" as Korean War veteran Walt Kowalski, who, to say the least, has a bad mouth and bigoted point of view toward those of Asian descent.

With the passing of his wife, he is now the sole occupant of his modest home in one of the rougher neighborhoods in Michigan.

The neighborhood's occupants are mostly Hmong, which are people from Thailand, Vietnam and Laos. He isn't exactly fond of the neighbors, and he mostly keeps to himself. When he catches one of his neighbors, Thao Vhan Lor, trying to steal his 1972 Gran Torino he decides to teach him a lesson.

In his quest to be the tough old man next door, he becomes quite attached to Thao (Bee Vang) and his sister Sue (Ahney Her), who give him something to live for while he is alone. When a Hmong gang starts causing trouble around the Lor household, Walt realizes that Thao and Sue will never be safe unless something is done.

Walt must wrestle with the inner conflict of his military spirit and his obedience of the law. With the help of a young priest (Christopher Carley) he must find a way to keep them safe without jeopardizing the whole neighborhood.

At first glance of the trailer, it looks as if "Gran Torino" is all action and no substance. Quite the contrary. It tells the story of a man who has disconnected himself from most of the world and how he reconnects to people he stereotyped and hated with a passion.

Clint Eastwood provides a very strong performance of a war vet firmly grounded in his beliefs. He delivers a powerful picture of vengeance, but also has a healthy balance of comic relief. The mixture goes surprisingly



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM

Clint Eastwood, as Walt Kowalski, plays an unconventional neighborhood hero.

well with the contrast of the timid character of Thao. The relationship between the two has a natural and seamless flow as it progresses throughout the movie.

Bee Vang delivers a solid performance in his American movie debut. At times, it seems as if the language is a problem to the point where it seems he is just trying to get the words out instead of responding to what is being said to him.

One of the biggest negatives that this movie carries is that it uses a lot of racial slurs, although they are used in a playful manner. As long as they are taken within context, it works well with the movie.

You can catch a showing of Gran Torino at Carousel at Alamance Crossing.



**SPORTS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF JAN. 14**

Elon  
Phoenix  
VS...

**TODAY 1/14:**

Men's basketball @ Davidson, 7 p.m.

**THURSDAY 1/15:**

Women's basketball @ Highpoint, 7 p.m.

**FRIDAY 1/16:**

Women's tennis @ North Carolina State

Men's tennis at the Duke Invitational

**SATURDAY 1/17:**

Men's tennis @ the Duke Invitational

Men's basketball vs. UNCG, 7 p.m.

**SUNDAY 1/18:**

Men's tennis @ the Duke Invitational

**MONDAY 1/19:**

Women's basketball vs. Western Carolina, 7 p.m.



FILE PHOTO

Amber Wall hits a shot against M.I. Express earlier this season.



FILE PHOTO

Urysla Cotton, Julie Taylor and Tiffany Davis huddle before a foul shot.

# Season of transformation for women's basketball team

**Sam Calvert**  
Assistant Sports Editor

On Monday evening the Elon women's basketball game suffered another heartbreaking loss to Furman 78-76. The team dropped to 1-15 overall and 0-9 in the conference, but the team is making small improvements.

For a young team, success can be measured by small victories. One of these is improvement in attendance. The Elon women's basketball team is in the top five in the conference for attendance, up from last place just one year ago.

"I credit our fans and the community," Elon Head coach Karen Barefoot said. "Their support has kept us close in games. We thrive on that."

Monday's loss was the team's seventh loss of the season by less than 10 points. On Saturday against Wofford, the team lost by two points as well.

Urysla Cotton, Tiffany Davis, Tiara Gause and Amber Wall all scored double-digit points in the Wofford game, and Wall finished the game with nine rebounds.

The Phoenix has had a tough schedule this season, with nine of its 15 games on the road. Elon has played Pittsburgh, which is ranked No. 15 in the country, as well as Davidson and Samford, the top two teams in the conference, on the road.

This season has also been one of change. This is Barefoot's first year as head coach, and the assistants are also new.

The team also lost several significant players from last year, leaving it with

no seniors. Elon is one of the youngest teams in the conference, with seven freshmen. All of this results in a season of transformation.

"It's a process that we're going through. Whenever you lose 75 percent of your offense, you have to go through a process of learning and rebuilding," Barefoot said. "They are playing hard and getting better, and I'm thankful for that."

Winning and losing are not the ultimate determinations for the success of the team.

"We want to be the best we can be. We want to go out there and know we played the best we could," Barefoot said. "I didn't feel like we lost. I felt like we learned."

This is the attitude with which the ladies are transitioning into the second half of the season. The team is relying on its positive outlook and its drive to learn to improve its game. This combination will hopefully lead to a few wins to finish out the year well.

Leadership is also a determining factor in the way the rest of the season plays out. Half a roster full of freshmen sometimes leads to an absence of guidance in the locker room and on the court.

Their coach said that a turnaround in this could be the key to their success in the coming games.

"Our girls are young and inexperienced, so we lacked leadership," Barefoot said.

**Recent Scores**

12/28/08	Austin Peay @ Elon	Loss, 81-53
1/3/09	Elon @ Davidson	Loss, 72-58
1/6/09	Appalachian St. @ Elon	Loss, 63-59
1/10/09	Elon @ Wofford	Loss, 63-61
1/12/09	Elon @ Furman	Loss, 78-76

**Team Leaders:**

Points: Urysla Cotton, 144  
3-point Field Goals Made: Julie Taylor, 19  
Rebounds: Urysla Cotton and Amber Wall, 117  
Assists: Tiffany Davis, 39

"Some of them are now stepping up, and we are looking to that leadership to take us to the next level."

Even though its record may not show it, the Phoenix does have a few successes to brag about. For example, Tiara Gause is the leading freshman scorer in the Southern Conference with 122 points so far for the year.

While these might be small victories at the moment, they point to signs of greater victories in the near future. Eventually, the coaching staff sees the team becoming championship caliber. For now, they are content with improving every day.

"We are just staying positive and trying to make a name for ourselves," Barefoot said.

The Phoenix continues its road trip for a nonconference game against High Point (6-9) on Thursday night.

## SEASON RECAPS WITH ONE ON ONE



**Joey Accordino & Andy Harris**  
Sports Commentators

**Joey Accordino:** Andy, we had a great first semester making predictions for The Pendulum. We had some good ones (Florida winning the national championship), and some bad ones (Indianapolis beating Dallas in the Super Bowl). But one thing that is apparent to everyone is how exciting the last few months have been in the world of sports. What are some of your best, most surprising memories from the sports year so far?

**MLB**  
**Andy Harris:** This has been a great year for baseball franchises with a strong history of losing. The franchise with the most losses in professional sports, the

Philadelphia Phillies, ended a 25-year championship drought in Philadelphia by winning their second World Series in 126 years. The Tampa Bay Rays — the AL East's perennial doormat — posted its first winning season ever en route to their first ever World Series berth. The Chicago Cubs dominated the NL for six months, right before they let their fans down in October once again.

**Accordino:** While there are certainly plenty of storylines from this past season, one that sticks out to me is the continued struggle of the New York Yankees. They haven't won the World Series since 2000, and with their payroll, that's embarrassing. They did just make some big off-season moves in hopes of turning it around next year. But when was the last time that worked?

**NBA**  
**Accordino:** While the NBA season isn't halfway done, there is already plenty to talk about. To me, the most intriguing storyline has to be the Boston Celtics starting out 27-2 but going 3-7 since, putting their title defense

in jeopardy.  
**Harris:** You're right, Joey, and before Boston's swoon, it looked like they were destined for a rematch in the NBA finals with the Lakers. But between their struggles and a red-hot run by the Cleveland Cavaliers, that barely seems possible anymore.

**NFL**  
**Harris:** Joey, the NFL's 2008 season has had more storylines than you can count: Tennessee establishing itself as the class of the AFC, the New York Giants proving their Super Bowl victory was no fluke, the Patriots' loss of their all-world quarterback Tom Brady, the endless Dallas soap opera, Detroit achieving infamy as the first 0-16 team and the trials and tribulations of the San Diego Chargers who, after all their injuries and heart-wrenching losses, still managed to sneak into the playoffs.

**Accordino:** Obviously, the next few weeks are going to color how we look at the NFL year. Regardless of the final results, the Tennessee Titans and Arizona Cardinals have had mind-boggling seasons. Led by aging QBs Kerry Collins and

Kurt Warner, respectively, these teams have drastically exceeded preseason expectations.

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL**  
**Accordino:** First of all, I'm thrilled that I actually made a correct prediction this season in calling Florida to win it all. I think people are starting to appreciate Tim Tebow as one of the great college football players of all time. He has two national championships, one Heisman Trophy (and nearly a second this year) and is one of the best emotional team leaders in recent history. He is truly a credit to the sport and collegiate athletics.  
**Harris:** Joey, congrats on your only correct prediction this year. I suppose it makes up for your botched Super Bowl picks. For my part, my predictions weren't much better. Elon didn't make the playoffs and Ohio State didn't get dismantled in the National Championship game for the third year in a row.

**Accordino:** Andy, as great as the last few months have been with the Super Bowl, with NBA playoffs and March Madness coming up, the next few have the potential to be even better.

# Fitness center sees increase in attendance

**Pam Richter**  
Sports Editor

With the change of the calendar year, many people are beginning their New Year's resolutions.

One of the most common resolutions is to work out more and get in better shape.

Many more people have begun to work out at the fitness center this year with the goal of losing weight and living a healthier lifestyle.

"This always happens the first couple of months and probably will slow down near the end of February," said Tricia Bull, a senior facilities manager at Campus Rec.

The combination of New Year's resolutions and people having more free time during Winter Term has made for a crowded facility.

"Not only is it really busy in here, but it also gets really hot," said Hayley Knicely, a freshman who works in the fitness center.

Some students who come to the gym regularly, not just at the start of the new year, are frustrated with the spike in the number of people in the facility.

"I feel everyone's New Year's resolution is to get in shape. I can't wait until February when it's less crowded," junior Leann Madtes said.

The busiest times in the facility are in between classes, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Bull said she's noticed that people become frustrated and will leave the facility if it is too crowded to work out.

"My friend told me that he came yesterday and it was too crowded and he walked out," Bull said. "One



ANGIE LOVELACE | PHOTOGRAPHER  
Many students are flooding the fitness center in hopes of staying healthy and following their New Year's resolutions.

person was waiting for a machine for a half hour. People just don't want to wait."

Elon Campus Rec is not the only gym seeing an increase this month. Sam Miller, a sophomore, works at Gold's Gym in Burlington and said he noticed an influx at that facility as well.

"If you are truly about improving yourself as a person, then you should try to make improvements year round, not just a resolution at the beginning of the year," Miller said.

Katie Reetz, an employee with University Relations, usually comes to

the gym about four days a week during her lunch break. She has noticed the change as well.

"Everyone, in a really positive way, has the desire to get in shape to start the new year," Reetz said.

Reetz said she tries to think of a few different routines she can do when anticipating a crowd.

The attendance at the gym will probably drop off in February after the new year rush, but it is expected to spike again before spring break.

## Gym courtesy rules:

- Use cardio equipment for only 30 minutes
- Be sure to wipe down all machines after use
- Do not use cell phones in the gym
- Show up early for Group X classes
- Keep the boxes tidy when you drop off your purse or backpack
- Don't sing along to your iPod
- Watch where you're walking and don't trip over people on mats



Have your voice be heard...

# SGA

Student Government Association  
*Service. Leadership. Excellence.*

Senate meetings are every Thursday at 7:30 pm - ALL are welcome

# Successful Elon alumnus named general manager of St. Louis Rams

Ashley Barnas  
Online Editor-in-Chief

Christmas Eve brought Billy Devaney, a 1978 Elon graduate, a present that only 31 other people can claim. Less than one year after Devaney started working for the St. Louis Rams, he was hired as general manager.

Devaney started as executive vice president of player personnel with the team less than a year ago.

But more than being excited for himself, Devaney was thinking of all the people who helped him along the way. "So I felt satisfaction for them more than anything."



PHOTO COURTESY OF BILL STOVER OF THE ST. LOUIS RAMS  
Elon alumnus Billy Devaney was named general manager of the St. Louis Rams.

## Early influences

Halfway through his freshman year at Biscayne College in Miami, Devaney met NFL legend Don Shula at church.

It was 1973 and Devaney was playing baseball but wanted to play football. Shula told him to call Bobby Beathard. Devaney went to introduce himself and said he had seen "this beautiful college" called Elon. Beathard made a call and sent in a film of Devaney. He transferred to Elon.

"Don't forget to go to church," Devaney said. "You never know what's going to happen."

Devaney was captain of Elon's football team for the 1977 conference win, the year the team went 9 and 2, ending up sixth in the country.

"Billy was the smartest football player we ever had at Elon," said Jerry Tolley, head coach of the team that year. Devaney was a tremendous leader of a ferocious defense. He had everyone's respect and it was like having a coach on the field.

Tolley says Devaney was small but fierce. Standing at 5-foot-9-inches,

this for a living?"

Devaney said he never knew the NFL or scouting were in the cards for him, but Beathard stepped in and hired him full-time as a scout for the Redskins, a team he stayed with for seven years.

"It's like when Bobby Kennedy was named attorney general...You work, you study, you pay your dues and then your best friend becomes the general manager at the Redskins and hires you."

## Pulling the Rams out of the dark ages

The general manager is a "decision maker on everything that goes on," Devaney said.

Right now, he is faced with the decision of selecting a new head coach. This week, he is in Los Angeles interviewing the four or five finalists he selected among countless preliminary interviews. The owners now get to sit in on the final interviews, but at the end of the day, they will turn to Devaney to make the call. He plans to make his decision this weekend.

Although he didn't have final say while he was with the Atlanta Falcons, he was involved with the coach selection process and interviews. Having that experience with the Falcons has helped him tremendously with the Rams.

"Many of the names that we're considering, I was in on the interviews last year," he said, so he's very familiar with the candidates.

Devaney is looking for common themes in the head coach candidates, production and experience among them.

"I've got 11 traits that I'm looking for, but at the top, it's leadership," Devaney said. "The guy has to be a tremendous leader."

The head coach should also have a certain level of passion and drive, and he should also be a fit to Devaney's personality because they have to work side by side to bring the Rams to success. Devaney provides the players and the coach leads them, so philosophically they have to be on the same page, he said.

His main goal for the Rams this year is to get going in the right direction.

"We've just been floundering, not going forward, mostly going

backwards," he said. "We haven't won very many games."

Devaney plans to update the scouting department, which excites him because it has been "in the dark ages."

He will also update the personnel.

"I have an image of a team that I want built that's not here. A big, physical, tougher team, like teams that are playing in the playoffs right now," and finding a head coach who shares those views will be key.

"Basically, we've been given a blank slate to put this thing together," Devaney said. "That's what's exciting. And I keep saying 'we' because I really believe that. It's not one person. We as a whole, we can build this thing the way we want."

Despite all his new responsibilities, Devaney said he cannot sacrifice his morning runs and workout sessions. He's determined to not let the job drive him crazy.

## Wild dreams do come true

When someone first starts in player personnel, it's everybody's goal "to lead a team and mould it the way you want," Devaney said. "But as you get older, you focus more on the big picture stuff like being in the right situation, having a chance to win and going to the playoffs."

Hopefully that time will arrive in a person's career, but Devaney said he hasn't woken up every morning for the past 10 or 15 years thinking, "Gosh, what do I have to do today to be a general manager?" Nothing like that. Just, if it happens, it happens. If it's meant to be, it will happen."

Devaney said he was in the right place at the right time.

"I just feel incredibly fortunate," he said. "It hasn't even been a year and never in my wildest dreams did I think we would have these kinds of changes. And I could have stayed in Atlanta, and kind of taken the safe route and continue on working there, but this had the potential to be a pretty good place. And again, a year ago, I never envisioned to be in this position."

So true to the humble and hard-working character he has maintained throughout his time with the NFL, Devaney said he is indebted to the Rams ownership group for trusting him in this position. He is surrounded by good people and gets to be part of the organization and process, and that's what will help him achieve his goals for the Rams.

"It's never about one person. It's surrounding yourself with good people, just working for a common goal, and that's what we have here. There's a lot of good people here, so that's what makes me feel good."



## Devaney's NFL career highlights:

- 1983-90: Washington Redskins
- 1990-2000: San Diego Chargers
- 2001-03: San Francisco 49ers
- 2004-05: CBS NFL pregame show with Dan Marino
- 2006-07: Atlanta Falcons
- 2008: St. Louis Rams

he once took down a player who was 6-foot-5.

Probably the biggest thing Tolley taught Devaney was that "talent and good players can overcome mediocre coaching," Devaney says, tongue-in-cheek.

He played baseball for two years at Elon, but for him it was just something to do. He says he was probably better at it than football, but the longer he played the more bored he got. He lettered in baseball one year and football for three.

Devaney was a history major at Elon, "for whatever reason," he said. "It was only thing I was ever any good at."

After Elon, he did a little bit of everything. He got his teaching certificate and after setting foot in the classroom, he asked, "What in the world made me think I wanted to do

## Coaching changes in store for football team

Pam Richter  
Sports Editor

After an impressive 8-4 2008 season, several changes are in store for the Phoenix football program. Head football coach Pete Lembo announced the promotion of offensive line coach Rich Skrosky from run game coordinator to offensive coordinator, replacing Mike McCarty after one season in the position.

Lembo also announced the addition of assistant coaches Scott Sallach and Keith Gaither. Sallach will be the pass game coordinator and the quarterbacks coach. Gaither will become the wide receiver coach.

The team will bring back nine offensive starters from last season. The offense finished second in the SoCon and 23rd in the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision in passing offense with 244.5 yards per game in the 2008 season.

The Phoenix also finished third in the Southern Conference and 29th in the nation in total offense with 388.9 net yards per game.

The 2009 season will mark Skrosky's 26th year as football coach and 22nd year at the college level. It will be his fourth season as the Phoenix offensive line coach and has been a member of Lembo's staff since the head coach's first season in 2006.

Sallach coached as an assistant at Princeton University last season. He brings 15 years of experience to the Phoenix program.

An Elon alumnus, Gaither returns to the Phoenix program with seven years of experience as an assistant football coach. At Elon he was a free safety and a four-year starter and a two-time NCAA Division II All-South Region defensive back.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Elon baseball players earn preseason honors

Two Elon University seniors, Bennett Davis and Cory Harrilchak, were named to the second team of the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association Pro-Line Athletic Preseason All-American team. Davis and Harrilchak were among six Southern Conference players chosen to the team.

The duo also received preseason honors for the Ping!Baseball 2009 preseason All-America baseball team and from Collegiate Baseball.

Davis, a third baseman, had 18 home runs and drove in a school record 82 runs in the 2008 season. He finished his junior season with a .350 batting average.

After last year's impressive season, Davis was named to the Second Team All-Southern Conference. He also was named to the SoCon All-Tournament team after helping to lead the Phoenix to the 2008 Southern Conference title.

Harrilchak, an outfielder, finished the 2008 season with a .410 batting average, which was 27th in the nation. He became the first Elon baseball player since 1988 to finish the season with a .400 plus batting average.

Harrilchak was named the 2008 SoCon Tournament Most Outstanding Player after hitting .591 with three homers, 11 RBIs and 13 runs scored in the tournament. He finished the tournament with a 1-0 record on the mound.

He also was a First Team All-SoCon selection and finished his junior season with 11 home runs, 12 doubles, five triples, 71 runs, 46 RBIs and converted 24 of 25 stolen base attempts.

The six players selected from the Southern Conference were the third-most from any conference in the nation. The ACC and SEC led the nation with nine players selected.

### Hudgins, Wilcox receive postseason honors

Senior kicker Andrew Wilcox and junior wide receiver Terrell Hudgins were named to The Associated Press All-America team for the Football Championship Subdivision.

Wilcox was chosen to the first team, while Hudgins was selected for the second team.

The two were also picked as second-team selections to The Sports Network 2008 All-America squad and they received NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision All-America recognition from the Walter Camp Football Foundation.

In his senior season, Wilcox made 22 of 27 field-goal attempts. He was ranked first nationally in field goals in the FCS. In a game versus Georgia Southern on Sept. 20, Wilcox kicked a career-high five field goals, including a game-winner with six seconds left.

Wilcox finished his Elon career as the school's all-time leader in field goals and point-after kicks.

Hudgins had 10 touchdown receptions on the season. He also caught 86 passes for 1,116 yards on the season. This year, he became the Southern Conference's all-time leader in receptions, receiving yards and touchdowns.

This selection marks the third consecutive season Hudgins appeared on either the first or second team.



Visit [www.elon.edu/pendulum](http://www.elon.edu/pendulum) for more on the story.

# Tennis duo hit their way to the top of the rankings

**Pam Richter**  
Sports Editor

When his collegiate career is over, senior Damon Gooch could be the most decorated player in Elon men's tennis history. Recently, he added another accomplishment to his already impressive resume.

Gooch was recently ranked No. 6 among the NCAA's top Division I men's tennis players in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's 2009 Mideast Region singles rankings. This is the highest ranking ever by a Phoenix tennis player. Gooch held the previous record by a Phoenix player with a No. 13 ranking in December of 2007.

Michael Shabaz from Virginia tops the rankings at No. 1. His teammate, Dominic Inglot, is ranked third on the list. Gooch's ranking lands him ahead of the top players from the strong programs of Clemson, Duke and University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.

"It was a big breakthrough," Gooch said. "I had a weak spring, so I was happy to bounce back like that in the fall."

Throughout his Elon career, Gooch has received a number of honors. He is a two-year captain, a two-time team MVP and a three-time First Team All-Southern Conference singles and doubles player. These are just highlights of the many awards he has received.

"He's a good leader," head coach Michael Leonard said. "He's got a great work ethic and is a great competitor. He expects so much of himself and that rubs off on other guys."

Gooch and sophomore Philip Nemecek were also ranked for their doubles play. They are ranked No. 14 regionally and No. 49 nationally.

When the rankings were released, Gooch wasn't the only Elon player that appeared on the list. Sophomore Oscar Podlewski was ranked No. 121. It was the first time he appeared on the national singles rankings.

For a young player like Podlewski, these rankings act as a confidence boost, Leonard said.

"[Podlewski] had several good wins [in the fall]. This shows him that he can play with those players," Leonard said.

Podlewski beat two ranked players from William and Mary and University of Southern Carolina in the fall season to help his ranking.

"This fall hopefully I'll play well and get my ranking higher," Podlewski said.

Both Gooch and Podlewski are working on their leg strength and the mental aspects of the game. They hope these improvements will help them have a strong spring season.

"I think we have a really strong team this season," Podlewski said. "Everyone's really improved their game."

This weekend, the Phoenix is playing in the Duke

Invitational. They will face Duke, UNC and East Tennessee State.

This is the first tournament the team will have before dual matches begin. Since it is tournament play, the entire team will be able to travel, not just the top players.

"It's a great experience because we are playing such quality opponents," Leonard said. "We get to see where we are against the best. I'm looking forward to see where we are early on in the year."



FILE PHOTO

Senior Damon Gooch was recently ranked No. 6 in the Mideast Regional among the NCAA's top Division I men's tennis athletes by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association. This is the highest rank in Elon men's tennis history.



FILE PHOTO

Sophomore Oscar Podlewski hits his way to a ranking.

## Long-time Elon coach appointed to USA Baseball staff

**Andy Harris**  
Reporter

Mike Kennedy, the head coach of Elon University's baseball team, was named as a member of Team USA's collegiate coaching staff. Kennedy will assume the role as the team's pitching coach.

His new position with USA Baseball is a familiar one—he spent four years as Elon's pitching coach before his promotion to head coach in 1997.

Kennedy is the most successful baseball coach in Elon's history, racking up more wins than any other coach during his 13-year tenure. He credits Elon's program for his success and the present and future players who made it so strong. He said that this opportunity with USA Baseball was a reflection of the program's strength.

"I am very excited about this opportunity with USA Baseball," Kennedy said in an E-net article.



**Mike Kennedy**

awesome feeling to be a part of an organization that represents your nation. It's an honor," he said.

Team USA's head coach Rick Jones from Tulane University appointed Kennedy to his staff position. The two have a long history together.

Jones was Elon's head coach from

1985 to 1989, and during that time Kennedy was the team's catcher. Kennedy coached Elon to the Southern Conference regular season and tournament titles. The team finished third at the Baseball Championships Cary, N.C. Regional.

"It's an awesome feeling to be a part of an organization that represents your nation. It's an honor," he said.

1985 to 1989, and during that time Kennedy was the team's catcher. Kennedy identified Jones as one of the most influential instructors he's ever had.

"He was a great mentor," Kennedy said. "What I learned about college baseball I learned from him."

During his time as Elon's skipper, Jones achieved a winning percentage of .743, accrued four NAIA District 26 titles and earned three trips to the NAIA World Series. Now the two join forces again in an effort to bring the United States an international title.

"I am grateful to the staff at USA Baseball and especially to Coach Rick Jones for entrusting me with this position," Kennedy said. "I have always wanted to work alongside of Coach Jones, and to do so on this stage is a dream come true."

Team USA will compete in the USA vs. Japan Collegiate Championship Series in Japan. Then the team will head to Prince George, British Columbia to compete in the World Baseball Challenge in July.

Many consider Team USA to be the favorite in this competition. The team went undefeated this past summer and took the gold at the FISU World University Baseball Championships in July.

"We are certainly shooting for the same goal [in the World Baseball Challenge]," Kennedy said. "It's phenomenal what they accomplished. It's going to be a lot of fun."

Kennedy and Jones are joined by assistant coaches Rob Cooper from Wright State and Dan McDonnell from Louisville.

# Sports

## HOW ELON FARED LAST SEASON AGAINST UPCOMING OPPONENTS

### DAVIDSON:

1/9/08:  
Davidson 59,  
Elon 57

2/6/08:  
Davidson 74,  
Elon 64

3/10/08:  
Davidson 65,  
Elon 49  
Southern  
Conference  
championship  
game

### UNC GREENSBORO:

1/19/08:  
UNCG 61,  
Elon 57

2/2/08:  
UNCG 89,  
Elon 60

### CHATTANOOGA:

12/18/07:  
Chattanooga 58,  
Elon 45

3/1/08:  
Chattanooga 57,  
Elon 56

## ELON STRUGGLES DURING BREAK TO FACE TOUGHEST OPPONENT YET



**TOP:** Monty Sanders backs a Maryland defender down.  
**ABOVE:** Chris Long looks to drive on a Maryland defender.  
**RIGHT:** Devan Carter plays tough defense against Maryland's Sean Mosley.

PHOTOS BY DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

**Michelle Longo**  
Online Programs Editor

Instead of mom's home-cooked fried chicken and mashed potatoes, Elon's men's basketball team had something different on the menu for winter break.

The Phoenix played four games during the winter recess, three at home and one away. The men picked up two wins before breaking for the holidays for a few days before a Dec. 30 meeting at the University of Maryland.

"[Staying at Elon] lets you focus solely on basketball and our team," junior forward Adam Constantine said. "It is just us; we don't have any choice but to hang out with each other. There are less distractions. It really is enjoyable."

During the break, the men had a crowd of locals and remaining faculty and staff of about 500, compared to the usual Saturday night crowd of more than 1,000. Members of the team and head coach Ernie Nestor agreed keeping up the tempo of the game sans

crowd was the most difficult element.

"We knew we had to make our own noise," senior guard Brett James said. "Our biggest challenge was playing for ourselves. Instead of hoping the fans would get us energized, we had to do it all ourselves."

Just before the new year, Elon lost to Atlantic Coast Conference opponent, Maryland 76-50 at the Comcast Center.

Junior forward T.J. Douglas tallied 14 points, while James added 11 to boost his career-total to 1,050, ranking him 25 on the all-time scoring chart. Elon made just eight field goals in the opening 20 minutes, equaling its season low in the first half of play for the season.

"[Maryland's] athleticism definitely forced problems for our team," Nestor said. "We had gone 10 days since playing. Things like that can affect your confidence. We struggled to make shots, which right now is a problem for us, no matter who we are playing."

The who may in fact be the biggest problem for Elon as it is slated to play

only Southern Conference teams for the remainder of the season. Already in the hole 1-3 conference-wise, perhaps the strongest team in the SoCon, Davidson College, is up next for Elon, 7 p.m. Saturday night at The Nest.

"We gave away two games with [Davidson] last year," James said. "We had them twice and let them go."

Davidson yields the nation's leading scorer, Stephen Curry, who averages 29.4 points-per-game. Curry and his Wildcats gained national publicity last season after winning the SoCon Tournament and advancing to the Elite-8 before falling to University of Kansas.

"We are going to tailor our defense to counteract him," Constantine said. "On any team we know the leading scorers and their tendencies. The difference with him is he is much more publicized. It's the same thing- we get down, we guard, we cut off his help. He is a scorer, but the point is for our team to score more than his team."

The Phoenix is on a 4-game

losing streak with the heart of the SoCon schedule rapidly approaching. Saturday night against Western Carolina, Nestor tried a different approach to the game, mixing up the starting five. Instead of the usual veterans like James and Constantine, freshmen Daniel Watts, Josh Bonney and Drew Spradlin along with sophomores Douglas and Chris Long started off the fourth conference match-up of the season. Nestor said he was just trying to get the team going, but the line-up will probably return to normal in the next game.

"You address what the causes [of the loss] are," Nestor said. "One of the things is we are not shooting right. The bigger cause is we are not doing things we need to, like defense and boxing out. We need to step up and make some shots and that will come. We have to get away from missed fouls shots and turnovers. You can't be successful with those things no matter who you play."