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THE PENDULUM

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Bike ride honors life of Elon professor



ALL PHOTOS BY COREY GROOM | Staff Photographer

J& L Bicycle Co., along with the Alamance Bicycle Club, hosted the second memorial bike ride in honor of Elon University professor Eugene Gooch Friday. Gooch was killed in April 2009 while biking on University Drive.

Participants rode through Burlington beginning from the bike shop, which Gooch frequented, and passed through Elon's campus.

In addition to serving as a memorial, storeowner Tara Jones-Legros said the ride was

a chance to educate riders and drivers about how to share the road.

"We're using this to honor him because he has so many friends, especially on campus, but also because he was a safe rider," Jones-Legros said.

Before starting the ride, she gave a brief safety talk to remind everyone of the rules of the road, as well as distribute red ribbons to wear during the ride.

Riders tied the red ribbons to their helmets and bikes in honor of Gooch.

New on-campus housing to break ground in summer

Alexa Johnson
Senior Reporter

By fall 2011, housing options at Elon University will offer new places for students to live. Housing will be the first change under the Elon strategic plan, according to school officials.

The construction of Colonnades buildings C, D and E, as well as five additional Greek houses, will be completed by fall 2011, said Jodean Schmiederer, the assistant dean of students.

In the next decade, Elon plans to change its look with new buildings and programs through the strategic plan, The Elon Commitment.

Buildings to be added to Colonnades

The Colonnades, a relatively new housing area located next to the Koury Business Center, includes a number of amenities, including a maid service as well as fully furnished and carpeted rooms.

Construction of the additional Colonnades buildings will complete the second and final stage of the original building plan. The new structures will look identical to

the old buildings on the outside, but the inside plan will be slightly altered.

"The school asked current residents about their likes and dislikes about the buildings," Schmiederer said. "Due to survey feedback, we changed the layout of the interior."

Neil Bromilow, director of construction management, said the housing would look different from the original Colonnades buildings.

"Unlike Colonnades A and B, which were designed more like hotels, the new buildings are more like residence halls," he said.

According to Bromilow, there will still be a lounge on each floor, but the room will now be more open and located in the middle of the building. A kitchen and private studying rooms will be attached. Rooms will also have different layouts, similar to suite styles instead of hotels.

Once buildings C, D and E are completed, the renovation of the campus's North Area will take place, said Schmiederer. Although the specifics and designs for the

See HOUSING | PAGE 3

Construction on bypass will add final piece to University Drive in the fall

Jack Dodson
News Editor

Changes set to begin in the fall on the University Drive bypass will be the final step in a construction project that began more than 10 years ago.

Cook Road, the segment of University Drive that travels adjacent to Beth Schmidt Park until N.C. Highway 100, will be the site of construction.

The project is a widening of the road, according to Town of Elon Mayor Pro Tempore Ron Klepcyk, making it a four-lane road with a small median. The project also hopes to add a bridge over the railroad where Cook Road meets N.C. Highway 100.

Construction will occur on the Cook Road segment of University Drive alongside Beth

Schmidt Park.

The most important aspect of the project to members of the Elon Board of Aldermen, though, is it represents the end to a decade-long project of adding a bypass that diverts heavy traffic from going through downtown Elon.

"One of the purposes of the bypass was to take some of the truck traffic off Williamson," Klepcyk said. "That's, I think, one of the major things we hoped could happen, and I think that has happened."

According to Chuck Edwards, the local district engineer for the North Carolina Department of Transportation, the project began as a state project in the late 1990s with the northern end of the road, which goes around Elon University.

Another subsequent

See BYPASS | PAGE 7

Students registered to vote in Alamance County run into trouble at polling stations

Jack Dodson
News Editor

Molly Frank, a junior at Elon University, cannot vote in Alamance county's primaries in May unless she re-registers to vote because she changed addresses since last voting.

She said while this makes sense, many students do not realize that when they change residences on campus, they have to update their voting registration.

Frank, a Massachusetts native, said she changed her registration so that she could vote in the 2008 presidential election in North Carolina.

"I knew that it was going to be more of a close race here than in Massachusetts," Frank said.

After a close election year that prompted some Elon students to register to vote in Alamance County, some students are realizing when they go back to vote in 2010, they are unable to because they have changed housing assignments on campus.

Daniel Harwell, president of Elon's chapter National Campaign for Student Political and Civic Engagement, said when he was preparing to advertise the various primaries this year, he and public administration and political science professor George Taylor found students who had moved housing assignments on campus were no longer able to vote. Early voting, which ends May 1, is the last chance for students to re-register who want to vote in the primary.

He said this is because the address students use when they vote is no longer up to date if they have moved on campus. Elon's campus is also dissected down Haggard Avenue into two voting districts, he said.

Frank said she would have liked to be reminded by the school that she had to update her registration.

"I think it makes sense," she said, "I just didn't think about it."

According to Harwell, many of the students who changed their registration to vote in Alamance County do not realize they have to update it every year.



Workers for the election board in Alamance County sign-in registered voters April 16 at Graham Public Library during early voting.

Harwell said his organization has been trying to get the word out about the issue to make sure students know before they go to vote.

"We at least wanted to make people aware going into it so they aren't surprised," Harwell said. "I think the biggest thing is students just being more aware of it."

This is the first year his organization has noticed the problem, he said, so it is the first year they have tried to address it.

"Unfortunately, it's one of those things that we've kind of realized too late," Harwell said.

He said his group's efforts would mostly consist of trying to get the word out that students need to re-register to vote during early voting.



Early voting started last week for Alamance County at the Graham Public Library. Students who are registered to vote in the county, but who have changed housing in the last year have to re-register to vote to participate in May's primary election.



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Greek Life looks to add three more organizations

Jack Rodenfels
Senior Reporter

Greek Life at Elon University will grow with the addition of three organizations in the upcoming year. Currently, 43 percent of women and 25 percent of men are involved in Greek Life on the campus.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council, the coordinating body for historically black fraternities and sororities, will recognize Omega Psi Phi as an active chapter on campus in upcoming months.

Additionally, the Inter-Fraternity Council and Pan-Hellenic Council will add a fraternity and sorority to campus in the upcoming year, said Shana Plasters, director of Greek Life.

"These additions will elevate the entire Greek community as a whole," Plasters said. "It will bring positive attention to Greek Life and can bring a renewed interest in Greek Life on campus."

The decision to add a fraternity to campus stems from a high rate of men who expressed interest in joining a fraternity and signed up for recruitment, but failed to find the right fit, Plasters said.

According to Plasters, 44 percent of men who registered for recruitment didn't receive a bid. She said the addition of a fraternity will provide more men with lasting fraternity experiences.

Eighteen IFC organizations have come to Elon in the past year in hopes of being selected as the next fraternity.

A selection committee consisting of both faculty and students has reviewed each fraternity's bid and has selected three fraternities — Delta Tau Delta, Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI) and Delta Upsilon — as finalists to become the newest IFC fraternity on campus.

The selection committee chose the three finalists based on a number of factors — the size of the national organization, alumni support and new member development programs — and each of the

three fraternities will help bolster Elon's Greek community, Plasters said.

"They all have very strong national offices," she said. "They all have a presence in North Carolina, and we felt the support would be there on all three accounts."

Representatives from Delta Tau Delta and FIJI visited campus and presented at open forums to Elon's community to give both faculty and students the opportunity to learn more about each prospective national fraternity.

Delta Upsilon will visit campus April 28. Afterward, the selection committee will reconvene and discuss all three prospective fraternities, with the hope of extending an invitation to one fraternity by the end of the year, Plasters said.

"We hope to make a recommendation to the university by the end of the semesters," Plasters said. "We're looking to extend an invitation and know of the newest fraternity on Elon's campus by graduation."

The newest PHC sorority will be decided upon in the fall, according to Plasters.

The decision to welcome an additional sorority stems from the current size of PHC sororities, with average chapter size close to 145 members, she said.

"It's hard to manage such a big organization on a campus our size," Plasters said. "It's hard to really know everyone in such a large organization, and the additional sorority will curb such large chapter sizes."

Elon's Greek Life office has sent out invitations to a number of national sororities, which will apply throughout the summer to be the next sorority on Elon's campus. An extension committee in the fall will decide the finalists, and the new PHC sorority will begin its recruitment process in the spring of 2011, Plasters said.

"As an institution, we are growing and will continue to grow," Plasters said. "To keep up, additional organizations are needed to serve the student body."

Elon will charge for credit card payments on tuition

Jack Dodson
News Editor

Using credit cards in Elon University's Bursar's office after June 1 could end up costing students nearly \$900 a year, according to Assistant Vice President for business and finance Ken Mullen.

Students and parents at Elon University who pay tuition by credit card will be paying more than if they use another method of payment, according to university officials.

Mullen said the university will be saving \$1.1 million a year with this new system, an amount that previously went to credit card companies in fees. The money will go toward initiatives for the school's strategic plan, The Elon Commitment.

He said it's a decision that was reached during the school's budget meeting last year and it has been talked about before.

"We've been watching this for a number of years," Mullen said. "We've had discussions on this before. This didn't just pop up on our radar this year."

University officials think the money could be better used if it was put toward the strategic plan, Mullen said.

"We believe that money would be much better spent supporting our educational mission," said Dean of Student life Smith Jackson in an e-mail to students April 12.

Mullen said with the new plan if a student is paying \$30,000 for a full year of tuition and they use a credit card, then they will pay \$825

on top of their tuition for the credit card fees.

"Finally it became large enough where we felt we needed to take some action," Mullen said.

According to the university's bursar, Jay Harper, the total amount of transactions on credit cards last year was about 11,000. He said that number is inclusive of all four academic sessions, including Winter Term and summer. The number is also inclusive of graduate students.

He said he expects the number to go down.

"I would hope that families go for the option of online check," Harper said.

He said other options besides credit cards include check, cash, online check and pay by wire, which he said he expects to be most popular for international students.

Until now, he said, he has heard little feedback on the decision.

"We've actually gotten very little response one way or the other," he said.

Junior Kendra Cirillo, a business marketing major, said she thought the decision was a good one because it puts the money to better use. She said she also thought it was fine because it wouldn't be any extra charge to the students.

Cirillo said she is in favor because while losing the convenience of a credit card, students and parents are saving money.

She said she thought the decision could have been made years ago.

Construction to take place in Loy Center, Colonnades

HOUSING from Page 1

improved area are not yet certain, the order of renovations has been determined.

First, Chandler, Maynard and Colclough residence halls will be torn down. After these structures are completed, Staley, Moffitt and Harden will be demolished.

Schmiederer also said freshman in North Area will be relocated to the new Colonnades until their buildings are finished.

Five houses to be added to Loy Center

Greek organizations are also receiving an addition with five new houses being built in the Loy Center.

Currently, a number of Greek chapters do not have houses, said Schmiederer, and four organizations are housed in Maynard suites, which will be torn down in the near future. The school also plans to bring in a new fraternity and an extension process for a new sorority is set to take place in the fall.

Schmiederer said four of the new houses are full, housing up to 13 students, and one of the houses is a split structure.

These houses will be slightly bigger than the current buildings with a few more design differences, like a stairwell and slightly larger common area. There are also no triples in the new houses and the bathrooms are more private, suite style.

"The intention was to build them to feel more like home instead of an apartment building," she said.

Three of the houses will be built between the Moseley parking lot and the health center, she said. The other two will be located along Phoenix Drive, facing inwards.

Every three years Greek organizations reapply for housing and are evaluated. Those that do well on the review can decide if they can to keep their current housing situation or chose a new location, said Schmiederer.

The next housing application process will take place when the new houses are completed.

She said even with the construction, not every organization will have housing.

"Some chapters can't have housing for certain periods of time or they don't have enough people," Schmiederer said. "But most of the larger organizations will be housed."

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President Lambert provides SGA with strategic plan details

Alexa Johnson
Senior Reporter

President Leo Lambert addressed the Student Government Association April 15 to discuss current hopes and plans for the school and to begin Elon University's new strategic plan, The Elon Commitment.

During the meeting, Lambert said the school is committed to developing the university-dominated downtown area. He said the school has spread the word to local business owners and alumni that the university would like to remove university-owned businesses. He said the school will allow small business owners and private enterprises the opportunity to develop the area.

Lambert said the building on the corner of Williamson Avenue, which is currently used by the fine arts department, is one of the buildings the school wants to develop.

"At night that building is dark, and we want to fill it with things students would like to see there, like a pizzeria or an ice cream shop," he said.

The school is also considering demolishing a number of university-owned buildings and rebuilding new ones with more than one story. It is also possible, he said, that some space might be held for student development.

A number of construction projects will begin as students leave for the summer months, Lambert said. Construction will begin shortly on Colonnades buildings C, D and E, as well as five new Greek houses. All of these projects are scheduled to be finished in time to welcome the class of 2015.

North Area will be torn down soon.

The new Convocation Center outlined in the strategic plan has been put on hold for a number of years, Lambert said, so the administration has decided to add another priority to the strategic plan. Now the school plans on updating Alumni Gym, which will also take place over the summer.

Renovations will include opening the south entrance to the gym, which has been closed for decades and creating a student entrance and plaza, Lambert said. The bleachers would also be removed and seating re-arranged, although capacity would stay the same.

Furthermore, the balcony might be extended toward the court to create a nest for additional student seating or room for the band.

"We have already received a gift for this project," Lambert said. "The basketball court will be renamed in honor of the donors."

A number of sports administration offices, including baseball, soccer and track, will move to Alumni Field House next January.

Finally, Elon also plans to add a multi-faith center, Lambert said, in hopes that the center will promote a robust dialogue among faiths and allow students of all religions to explore differences and similarities.

"It's an important statement if you want to be a community that welcomes people of diverse faiths," Lambert said. "We want to be able to show them that we have buildings and faculty to support them ... we want to be a welcoming place."

Elon holds ceremony to dedicate Lindner Hall



JACK DODSON | Photographer

Martha S. (above) and Carl H. Lindner III Hall was officially dedicated at Elon University April 16 by school officials. President Leo Lambert, as well as Carl Lindner, who the building is named for, spoke at the event. The campus's greenest building, Lindner received a LEED-Gold certification in November. A chief operating officer for the United States Green Building Council, Christopher Smith, spoke at the event, as well.

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Elon celebrates annual Convocation for Honors, welcomes Phi Beta Kappa

Anna Johnson
Managing Editor

April 13 was a day of firsts and age-old traditions as the annual Convocation for Honors ceremony brought together students, faculty and guests. The event celebrated students' hard-earned academic achievements and included a speech from New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof and the installation of the Eta chapter of Phi Beta Kappa at Elon University.

The 47 charter members were inducted later the same evening.

After the organ played and the flags of nations entered Alumni Gym, the installation of the oldest and most prestigious academic society commenced, making Elon's chapter the 279th across the nation.

"Phi Beta Kappa represents excellence and the enduring relevance of the liberal arts and sciences, a solid foundation for our future," President Leo Lambert said. "Let us savor this day and then get back to the important work of building an excellent university that takes great pride in preparing its students as global citizens, for lives of meaningful work and service."

English professor Russell Gill was nominated as the Eta chapter president, while Lambert and Provost Steven House were nominated as founding members. Fifty-seven Elon faculty members are Phi Beta Kappa members and were asked to ratify the new chapter.

Kristof, a Phi Beta Kappa member, concluded the ceremony with his speech titled, "A Call to Action: Encouraging Young People to Join the 'World's Fight' and Take on a Cause Larger than Themselves."

He urged students to step outside of their normal circle of friends and surroundings to find a cause that fights for social justice and pulls at the heartstrings.

Kristof said the current generation strived to work with individuals and

isolated areas instead of trying to tackle entire issues.

"Your generation is particularly good at this," Kristof said. "To work — maybe not to solve the problem but to chip away at it."

He said students can find a cause by traveling the world and volunteering with different humanitarian organizations. He said those who have the ability should travel and see the world so they can find their higher cause and make a difference in the lives of others.

"We are all in a similar situations," he said. "In this room, we have all won the lottery of life, and the question is about how we go about discharging this responsibility. Whatever cause larger than yourself gives extra meaning to you, gives you perspective, gives you a little extra measure of happiness. Together, in increments, we can change the world."

Later in the evening, students, family members and guests gathered in McKinnon Hall for the formal induction of the inaugural members of Elon's Phi Beta Kappa chapter.

Don Wyatt, senator for Phi Beta Kappa, said Elon was chosen for a chapter not only for its current work but also for what it continues to do.

"This is a community that was never convinced there were new levels of achievement that couldn't be attained," he said. "Elon persists in setting ever-new goals and trying to realize them." Kristof spoke during the induction, asking students to use their knowledge when pursuing their goals and individual causes.

Fred Cate, Phi Beta Kappa's national president, challenged students to leave with Kristof's message at heart: to match idealism with rigor to help change the world.

Jack Dodson and Caitlin O'Donnell both contributed to this report. For full coverage of the events on April 13, visit [The Pendulum Online](#).

Liberal arts devalued, losing support at universities nationwide

Caitlin O'Donnell
News Editor

Try to envision Elon University's campus without sculptures lining the road to Arts West and student-produced plays lighting up McCrary Theatre. This may seem impossible for most, but for students at campuses across the nation, this is becoming reality.

As budgets tighten, many universities are forced to make cuts to the programs they offer, often programs in the arts and humanities, according to a recent report from Insider Higher Ed.

Drew Perry, associate professor of English, said this derives from a general devaluing of the liberal arts around the country and threatens the foundation of what universities stand for.

According to a recent poll conducted by the Orange County Register in California, 42 percent of respondents said the loss of students in the liberal arts would badly damage the curriculum. Thirty-five percent argued the liberal arts are overrated.

Perry said there is a problem when a university assumes they have to deliver a "product."

"Some students and parents might feel somehow that so-called practical classes and majors are a better use of time and money than others," he said.

If the university places emphasis only on what the students and parents think they want, rather than a complete education, there is no need for any requirements. In this case, Perry said, the university becomes more like a trade school.

Perry said the idea that some majors are more practical than others is an idea he can't comprehend.

"Any school removing liberal arts from its curriculum is announcing to the world that it's basically uninterested in being a school," Perry said. "I hope in the course of suggesting that art history is a viable major, I don't suggest that communications is not."

Perry said while some consider majors in the liberal arts to be useless, he thinks that an education does not always necessarily equate to a job.

"Whether it's coursework in accounting or dance or political science or English, an education should first and foremost provide a person with new ways of seeing and understanding the world," he said. "English does

ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER POLL: *"what impact will cutting liberal arts class sections have?"*

203 said: it will badly damage the curriculum
83 said: it will moderately damage the curriculum
33 said: it will have no impact
171 said: the liberal arts are overrated

Source: Orange County Register

SARAH BETH COSTELLO | Graphics Editor

that, if it's done right, and accounting does that if it's done right, too."

Though he majored in advertising, Perry has used his love for liberal arts, specifically English, to begin a career as an author.

This year, he published a book titled "This is Just Exactly Like You," and he credits his ability to write to the time he spent in school.

Kevin Boyle, professor of English, said the study of liberal arts is the place to go for those interested in thinking and learning about other cultures and the deep recesses of the heart.

"What you're actually learning is important — communication, writing, speaking well, developing teamwork strategies," he said. "I think any major has that component, but maybe the liberal arts even more so."

Jess Kildow, a senior creative writing major, said the beauty of a degree in the liberal arts is that it doesn't mean the same thing to everyone.

While Kildow said her parents consider her degree intangible and essentially worthless when it comes to finding a job, Boyle said a degree in the humanities

gives students the opportunity to work in a variety of fields.

According to a 2001 poll conducted by the Humanities Indicators Project, liberal arts graduates went on to work an array of jobs, including education, engineering and architecture, writing, editing, engineering and medicine, among others.

While Perry said he thinks universities should certainly respond to their constituencies, he said they should also act as a university, meaning they value the liberal arts as much as any other course of study.

Boyle said that he doubts Elon would ever cut liberal arts program from the curriculum.

"We're a liberal arts college that combines some professional programs," he said. "The College of Arts and Sciences is definitely a key player at the university."

Perry said that, no matter what, students should be pursuing their dreams and passions above all else.

"A college education is voluntary. You're there of your own volition to make yourself a better person," he said. "If one's passions align themselves with the liberal arts, then that's where they belong."

Universities ban professors from collecting royalties, not Elon

Marlena Chertock
Reporter

When Connie Book, associate dean of the School of Communications at Elon University, was choosing textbooks for her class, she found that there were none focusing on exactly what she needed. As a result, she wrote her own book on digital television to better meet the purposes of her class.

Professors assigning their own books to classes have prompted discussions on ethics at universities around the country. Officials at George Mason University have discussed instating a ban on professors collecting royalties off the books they write and assign for classes. According to Elon officials, a similar ban will not be established at Elon anytime soon.

Professors write many books often to ensure tenure, Book said. These books are often assigned to their own classes or others within the school.

At universities around the country, there are new rules to keep professors from profiting off their students.

The University of Kansas is requiring professors to donate royalties made off their own books assigned to their students to departments, schools, scholarship funds or other nonprofit groups, according to a USA Today article.

Communications professor David Copeland, who has published numerous textbooks that are used around the communications school, said the royalties that professors receive from individual textbook sales are minimal. He said authors make only a few dollars on books sold to a class the size of Elon's.

"If you were teaching in a program with classes of 300 to 500, which does happen at many state universities, then the royalty issue might be different," he said. "But you'd still only be talking about a couple of hundred dollars probably."

Book said if professors assign their own textbooks to students it could inherently be a conflict of interest if there are other books on the subject available. She said professors should focus on providing textbooks that

are best suited to the course and offer a good resource for students. If there are other textbooks available, those should be considered.

Joel Karty, professor of chemistry, said there is more conflict of interest at larger institutions, such as the University of Texas or Austin. He said it should be looked into at these universities, where the money awarded could be large enough to affect the faculty's decision.

Karty said the most important aspect of deciding what textbooks to assign is the benefit of the students rather than the money.

"From my own experience, the reason to write a textbook is you think you can do a better job than what's out there," he said. "If you end up producing something that is indeed a better product and then all of a sudden because of the money issue you can't use it, it's not for the benefit of the students."

Karty said he would give up the money if he was barred from using his book in class because of royalties gained.

"The money would be the thing to go," he said. "But I don't think there's a mechanism by which textbook companies would legally not give royalties."

Book said the bans on professors collecting royalties are policies anticipating a problem rather than solving an existing one.

"It's not like this is some widespread problem," she said. "A lot of the times I find in the U.S. we write policies anticipating problems."

She said faculty members are not in the business of writing textbooks to make money. It is not a profit venture, she said.

What could prove a bigger problem is consulting collaborations, according to Book. She said she often does consulting during the summer when she is off her contract.

"A lot of times faculty are asked to work together on projects," she said. "Say I work for a company and it asks me to research (a certain topic). I could have my class doing the research. Now that's a real conflict of interest because that money could be thousands of dollars."

Acorn to build addition



JACK DODSON | Photographer

Anna Johnson
Managing Editor

Construction of an Acorn Coffee Shop storage room and walk-in refrigerator began Monday. The construction is expected to last four weeks and will close several parking lots behind the building.

Max Akhlaghi, Acorn's manager, said Brown and Company and Acorn shared storage and refrigerator space because they were both operated by ARAMARK. Now that ownership of the Brown and Company building has moved to a private owner, Akhlaghi said Acorn is in need of its own storage and refrigerator space.

Laddie Griffin, operations manager of Building Trades, said all the spaces along the chain link fence behind Acorn will be closed because of the construction.

Shelters, centers provide options for Burlington's homeless

Amanda Bender
Senior Reporter

Last year, 29,000 meals were served to the homeless in Alamance County through Allied Churches. On average, about 65 people in Burlington spend the night at either Allied Churches or Alamance Rescue Mission. Since 1982, Allied Churches and Alamance Rescue Mission have been serving the homeless and less fortunate communities of Burlington.

"There is a significant homeless population in Burlington," said Greg Seel, the assistant chief of the Burlington Police Department. "Every year, the state is required to do a point in time count for the number of homeless."

The Allied Churches and the Alamance Mission Rescue are among some of those that provide service to

the homeless.

Allied Churches is a nonprofit organization that offers various services to those in need. The facility houses the Emergency Night Shelter, the Good Shepherd Community Kitchen and the Christian Assistance Network.

"The reason our shelter opened to begin with is because a homeless man froze to death here in Burlington," said Michelle Embry, a staff member at Allied Churches. "So that is how our shelter started, it was the first thing to begin here in our building."

The Emergency Night Shelter has beds for up to 66 people to be able to stay the night. According to Embry, the shelter averages 35 people a night. It also provides showers and an evening meal. They can offer people a place to stay for maximum 90 nights, said Seel.

"We have some that are veterans and they have just had trouble getting back

to work or finding jobs, maybe they have disabilities. Many others are older and they have disabilities," Embry said. "Many of them just don't have jobs, and they don't have anywhere to live."

Various local churches provide the evening meals for those staying in the shelter. The homeless and those struggling financially are provided meals at lunchtime from the Good Shepherd Community Kitchen.

"The lunch program, the base of it is shelter guests, but we also have people from the community. This is a poor area," Embry said. "They will come in and have a nice hot lunch, and then they can go home, and that kind of stretches their food pantry dollars a little bit."

Another option for those who are homeless is the Alamance Rescue Mission. The mission only serves men, but it provides a more long-term place for them to stay.

Garner described the organization as more of a place for rehabilitation than a place of shelter. For the first 30 days of a man's stay, he is required to remain on the campus and can only leave for authorized appointments. The men attend services, Bible studies and are given the option to work on their GED.

"After the 30 days, they are expected to go out looking for a job each morning and be back here to be available to work here in the afternoon, until they get a job," Garner said.

Staying at the mission is not always free. Traditionally, the first 30 days are free, unless the man has a source of income. After the men find jobs, they are expected to pay \$55 a week for their stay.

"We encourage them to get employment and not just stay here for nothing," Garner said.

Development of Elon public library stalls from lack of funding

Eliot Sasaki
Senior Reporter

After nearly 14 years of shifting between talks and efforts to bring the first public library to the Town of Elon, construction plans have reached a standstill with no indication of when they might resume, according to town officials.

Since the Alamance County Board of Commissioners approved funding of future operating costs in August 2007, the library project was put on hold by the Town of Elon because there is not enough money in the town to fund the project.

"At this point, the town has said that they don't have the resources to build the library and have made no progress towards doing that," said Jo Grimley, a former Elon alderwoman.

Grimley attributed the lack of progress to a decrease in revenues and sales tax.

"Money they gained on re-evaluation of property has offset sales tax," she said.

Mike Dula, the town manager for Elon, said the project has reached a standstill.

"Right now, we don't think that's a prudent thing to

do," Dula said. "It's sort of on-hold at the moment."

According to Dula, one or two more years is the earliest possible time that building efforts and negotiations can be re-launched. For this to happen, the town will have to come up with money it doesn't have.

"It will cost about \$3 million," Dula said. "We've spent a quarter of a million dollars on architectural, planning, et cetera."

Grimley said she and supporters of the library are keeping an eye out for other fundraising options.

"Unless we can figure out a way to start fundraising and basically get it done financially without money coming from the Town of Elon, I don't know when it will start," she said. "We need to be allowed by the Town of Elon or the county to start the fundraising for the project."

One proposed option to defray the costs to build the library is borrowing money. This idea has been continually shot down in the Board of Aldermen meetings during the past several months. The reason is because borrowing results in a large tax increase.

"The state treasurer's office has to approve any borrowing you do," Dula said. "They said if we borrowed money, we would have to raise taxes. We would be looking at about a seven-percent increase on a 37 cent-per-hundred-dollar evaluation."

The financial obstacles have caused some community members to balk at the idea of a public library in Elon, while others are adamant that shelves flow with books.

Junior Kelli Ganz said she wasn't aware of the town's plan to build a library in Beth Schmidt Park, but she said she didn't think it is a good idea.

"The Elon public library is a bad idea because we can expand something we already have — open up Burlington or this library," Ganz said.

Dula and Grimley said the library is a top priority.

There are public libraries in Mebane,



PHOTO SUBMITTED
An architectural rendering from HMA2 Architects and Jenkins-Peer Associates was given to the Town of Elon at the November 30 meeting, showing what the inside will look like.



MOLLY CAREY | Staff Photographer
Beth Schmidt Park in Elon is the approved location for the Elon public library. Plans for the library have reached a standstill.

Graham, Burlington and North Park in the community center, but there's not one west of May Memorial Library — the original county library.

Grimley said the public library would be of great use to local middle and high school students, those who are homeschooled and families.

"A lot of people who are coming to the university for faculty positions have children," she said. "A lot of mothers were really excited to take their kid to the park to play and read a book."

For Dula, he said the library offers an opportunity for an important aspect of the town.

"Libraries are a well-faceted part of the community," Dula said. "A lot of things happen there."

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Perdue introduces plan to benefit small businesses

Proposal includes tax reductions and incentives, offset by federal recovery funds

Pam Richter
Editor-in-Chief

Jeff Mackenzie, the owner of the Fat Frogg Bar and Grill in Elon, opened his business in August 2009. Since Mackenzie's business has not been open for long, he has not yet seen the impacts the economy has had on his business as his peers have.

For the Fat Frogg and other small businesses within the state of North Carolina, Gov. Bev Perdue called on the state's General Assembly to approve a legislative package that would help small businesses through tax incentives and grants, according to the Charlotte Business Journal.

"Any type of benefit or tax credit would always be a help, whether it is given federally or by the state," Mackenzie said.

The plan totals to \$17 million, and \$10 million of the package includes tax relief for these businesses.

Jim Barbour, associate professor of economics at Elon University, said the plan is not done as a payment to small businesses but comes in the reduction of taxes.

"A fair portion of this is being off-set by federal recovery money," Barbour said.

On Feb. 17, 2009 President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which totaled to \$789.5 billion. According to NCRcovery.gov, \$225 billion of this total was awarded to states, with North Carolina receiving \$6.3 billion.

"Billions of dollars have come into North Carolina from the federal government," Barbour said. "\$17 million is only a small piece."

In addition, small businesses in the state, which are on equal playing field with those outside the state, would be given preferences, Barbour said. For example, if two businesses are the same, but from different states, the one in North Carolina would be given preference.

"If you are sitting in North Carolina there's no downside, but in Virginia (there's an) obvious downside," Barbour said. "Of course that assumes that businesses are equally competent. From the perspective of North Carolinians this is a win-win situation. The only real downside is as soon as you give tax relief to an organization, you have to make up revenue."

According to the Charlotte Business Journal, the plan would include a small-business health insurance credit of \$250 per employee for businesses that provide health insurance to employees making less than \$45,000. The credit applies to businesses with fewer than 25 employees.

Mackenzie said his company has 12 workers including part-time and full-time employees.

"I definitely think that if it makes sense," he said. "It's hard for any business now. Everyone knows the escalating cost of health care."

This bill will not only impact small business but also extends to the state's community colleges.

This plan includes restoring funding to the statewide Small Business Assistance Network in the state's 58 community colleges.

Milele Archibald, the director of the Small Business Center at Alamance Community College, said her program was hurt last year because of budget cuts within the government.

"We'll be able to do things we weren't able to this past year," Archibald said. "We were given certain money for experts, on workshops, and we had to cut back on workshops (because) we didn't have money."

Small Business Centers exist at every community college small business center in the state. Archibald said the mission is to help the growth of small businesses.

BREAKING down the BILL

If passed, the bill will include:

- Tax relief and tax incentives
- Small-business tax relief to encourage investment in innovative small companies
- A small-business health-insurance credit of \$250 per employee for businesses
- A business-venture tax credit that raises the cap to \$10 million from \$7.5 million
- A state tax break for equipment purchases by small businesses
- A proposal to restore funding to the statewide Small Business Assistance Network within the state's 58 community colleges.
- InSource NC, a program that helps state businesses find the goods and services they need from other N.C. companies through Web-based buyer-supplier networks.
- A plan to match state grants
- Expanded grants

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/charlotte/stories/2010/04/05/daily51.html>

SARAH COSTELLO | Graphics Editor



The Cook Road segment of University Drive will be the site of construction starting in the fall that will widen the road and add a bridge over the railroad tracks.

JACK DODSON | Photographer

University Drive construction project raises safety concerns in town

BYPASS from Page 1

piece of the project occurred in 2004 and 2005 when the state added the southern end of the road, which intersects Interstate 85.

On a road where just over a year ago an Elon professor, Eugene Gooch was killed, and in 2007, a major accident claimed the lives of five people, safety concerns are being raised about the section where construction is set to occur.

While both of these incidents were cases where vehicles ran off the road, Town of Elon Police Chief LaVell Lovette said she doesn't think pedestrian traffic or bicycles should be on the road.

"There's really no place for pedestrians and bicycles and that kind of stuff on University Drive and I constantly see people out there walking on the edge of the road, running, bicycles, in fact the other day there was a couple pushing a baby carriage," Lovette said.

University Drive, she said, may be a safer place to walk and bike on once there is a separate portion built specifically for pedestrians that goes along the entire road. Right now there is a section of the road on the southern end, according to Edwards

The construction project raises other issues, though, in the town. The widening of Cook Road will bring it closer to Beth Schmidt Park, said Klepcyk.

"We've been very cognizant in the town for a long time (of that issue)," Klepcyk said, "because that's really the one piece of the bypass that goes through what are traditional neighborhoods."

He said that because the widening of the road will be happening on the side of the road closer to the university, it will be bringing the road closer to the park.

But for some, safety concerns are being raised about the widening project.

"We have a lot of concern about that," said Davis Montgomery, a member of the town's board of alderman. "People are out enjoying the park, and then you've got a high traffic area that will have tractor trailers and (cars) going 45 miles per hour."

He said the North Carolina Department of Transportation has allowed for the Town of Elon to have control over what the speed limit will be, and Montgomery said he hopes it will be 35 miles per hour.

Lovette said she thinks lowering the speed limit along the Cook Road section of the University Drive bypass is a good idea. Klepcyk said the change in the speed limit hasn't been voted on yet, but he expects the speed limit to be lowered along that area.

"THERE'S REALLY NO PLACE FOR PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLES AND THAT KIND OF STUFF ON UNIVERSITY DRIVE, AND I CONSTANTLY SEE PEOPLE OUT THERE WALKING ON THE EDGE OF THE ROAD, RUNNING, BICYCLES. IN FACT, THE OTHER DAY THERE WAS A COUPLE PUSHING A BABY CARRIAGE."

- LAVELL LOVETTE
TOWN OF ELON POLICE CHIEF

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Graduates rely on experiences skills learned at Elon to secure jobs

Lindsay Kimble
Copy Editor

Gina DeCaro will graduate from Elon University in May with a job lined up.

While DeCaro said she can attribute much of her success to Elon, she said it was her personal hard work and motivation that landed her a position as a technician in a physical therapy office in Baltimore.

"Elon provided me with a great set of skills in order for me to be successful not only in marketing myself to employers, but also to perform to the best of my abilities in my new position," DeCaro said.

She said she got her job through an internship and wouldn't expect Elon to secure that.

"Searching for jobs can be daunting, don't get me wrong, but it is in no way Elon's fault if a student doesn't get a job right out of school," DeCaro said.

Across the country, though, some graduates place full responsibility on their college for any setbacks in the job search.

Lansing Community College in Michigan recently created a policy offering students a money-back guarantee if they do not receive a full-time job offer in state within a year of completing one of its four programs. A woman in New York is suing the college

where she earned her bachelor's degree because she cannot find work.

Colleges across the country are now expected by many to be ultimately responsible for their students' success in the work force.

Through Lansing Community College, participants take one of six weeklong Get a Skill, Get a Job training programs and sign a contract agreeing to full attendance and completion of all assigned work. Students must show a "good-faith effort." Those who show the effort to find a job, but fail will get a refund after one year.

"There are many who are discouraged about finding a job," LCC President Brent Knight said in a USA Today article. "This program is designed to reach those people... We know there are occupations that offer good-paying jobs to those with the required skills."

The program stems from fears regarding high unemployment rates across the nation.

"I do not think that students can blame their school for their lack of job opportunities after college," Elon senior Patrick McCabe said. "College is about providing students with opportunities to prepare themselves for the real world but is not a guarantee that he or she will be successful."

Trina Thompson filed a lawsuit for \$70,000 against Monroe College in Bronx, N.Y. The amount is what she spent on tuition.

Thompson claimed Monroe's Office of Career Advancement has done nothing to equip her with the career leads and advice it promises.

The argument doesn't hold up for DeCaro, though.

"An individual is in charge of their own success," DeCaro said. "This woman should not be getting away with suing her college for her lack of a job ... This student should have all these facts before she starts blaming other people for her own shortcomings."

Currently, Elon has no program guaranteeing money-back after graduation. Students have access to Elon's Career Services including a Career and Job Network and counselors.

"While we do pay a considerable amount for a college education, we cannot expect our university to provide us with a career," McCabe said. "At Elon, we are provided with resources like career counselors and internships to help us understand the fields we want to work in but these are simply resources."

McCabe said it is the student's responsibility to put forth an effort and create his or her own job opportunities.

Distinguished Scholar argues importance of understanding political messages in post-Cold War era

Melissa Kansky
Multimedia Editor

The dividing wall was pulled aside as a diverse stream of students, faculty and Alamance County residents pulsed through the McKinnon doors to hear lecturer Laura Roselle, this year's recipient of the Distinguished Scholar Award.

Roselle's lecture, titled "Constructing a New World Order: Strategic Narratives and International Communication in the Post-Cold War Era" discussed the significance of understanding political messages in their context.

"If you think about it there are really so many ways to look at the world," Roselle said. "We can look at it from outer space as a spinning planet or at a map with very neatly arranged political boundaries."

Roselle showed the audience an up-side down map to further demonstrate possible perspectives.

"Our international system or world system is what we know," she said. "It forms the core of international relations today and we tend to look at it a particular way."

Roselle said during the Cold War, the United States' citizens understood their nation's position as a world power, but after the Cold War, politicians and civilians needed to reevaluate the country's interests.

Roselle referenced a statement by former President George H. W. Bush. He said the end of the Soviet Union signified a change in the international political system. The Cold War justified certain political policies, but those interests were no longer pertinent when the war ended, he said.

"Interests are not static, but rather structural and relational," Roselle said.

Roselle defined a nation's identity according to its perception of its role in the world. She said the transforming international political climate challenges each nation's identity and contributes to the narratives used to explain history and warn against future happenings.

In her book "Media and the Politics of Failure," Roselle writes about the parallels between the

United State's explanation for withdrawing from Vietnam and the Soviet Union's justification for leaving Afghanistan in the 1980s.

Both nations' leaders argued that they did not lose, the allies were not abandoned and honor was still intact.

She used the words of Dwight Chapin, deputy assistant to President Nixon, to explain the motives behind the super powers' narratives of the war.

"What we should have for people is a story of the war that they can understand and live with," Chapin said.

While she said political interests and goals motivate world leaders' messages, new technology influences the public's understanding of international relations.

"The nature of the media matter in communication," Roselle said.

Within a year, social network users have increased from 244.2 million users to 314.5 million users. Roselle attributed the increase in technology to various nations' contradicting interpretations of a same event.

She described the consequences when a video featured the death of an Iraqi girl. Western nations used the video to highlight human rights issues in Iraq, while Iraqi Muslims used the video to instigate retaliation against non-Muslims, which resulted in more than 400 deaths.

"More than anything this means we must learn to understand media messages across a range of platforms," Roselle said. "I argue that we should all care how leaders craft strategic messages because they shape how we understand our world and our place in it."

She said she believes the change in international communication highlights the need for universities to learn how societies function and how to look at different angles.

"Dr. Roselle is brilliant and shows depth and quality of research and understanding of two decades of complex research," said Smith Jackson, vice president and dean of student life.

Laura Roselle is a professor of political science and international relations at Elon.



ANNA JOHNSON | Photographer
Laura Roselle, recipient of the Distinguished Scholar Award, addressed a packed McKinnon Hall Monday night about the importance of understanding political messages in their context.

NEWS BRIEFS

iMedia students to showcase work

Thursday Elon University will host the first Master of Arts, Interactive Media Showcase at the Carl Woods Center at Rhodes Stadium. At 4:15 p.m., Connie Book, associate dean of the School of Communications will moderate a panel addressing "The Culture of the Digital Workplace." At 5:30 p.m., there will be a reception and a portfolio fair.

Activist to visit Elon to discuss environmental lifestyles

Annie Leonard will visit Elon University at 7:30 p.m. April 22 in McKinnon Hall to discuss how economic policies have instigated a trend of consumption mania.

She recently created the short film "The Story of Stuff" and is the author of the book "The Story of Stuff: How Our Obsession with Stuff is Trashing the Planet, Our Communities, and Our Health - and a Vision for Change."

She has more than 20 years experience working with sustainability issues around the world.

Spring service day to highlight community service in Burlington

Elon Volunteers will host its annual community service event from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. April 24. Participants will have the opportunity to work in the Burlington community doing various service activities. The day will begin with a breakfast at Harden Clubhouse before the work begins. Lunch and drinks will also be provided.

Williamson Avenue crosswalk to change this summer

Elon University and the Town of Elon will change the V-shaped crosswalk to a traditional square at the Williamson Avenue and College Avenue intersection. The change will take place this upcoming summer and cost \$60,000. Two Elon students were struck by cars at the crosswalk within the last academic year.

CORRECTIONS

In the Spring Step show, the fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha was incorrectly identified as Alpha Phi Omega. Also, Hayley Kniceley was identified as a senior. Kniceley is a sophomore.

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PENDULUM PODCASTS

Reel Talk with the A-Team:

<http://www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=3716>
Alexa Milan reviews "Kick-Ass," the latest ultra-violent comic adaptation, and Caitlin O'Donnell and Gabriela Szewcow report back on their "Date Night."

Sports Jam:

<http://www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=3717>
Conor and Sam are talking 'bout playoffs. The hockey and NBA seasons are coming to a close. Who's No. 1?

Opinions Podcast:

<http://www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=3718>
You can't take it with you. Ashley Jobe breaks down the effects of material possessions on happiness.

THIS WEEK ONLINE

BLOGS

REEL TALK

Alexa Milan reviews "Date Night" and discusses movies in which actors make or break the film.

pendulumreeltalk.wordpress.com

SNAP-CRACKLE-POP CULTURE

Secret future technology, the action-filled "Kick-Ass" and revenge of the celebrities.

pendulumpop.wordpress.com

SWING FASHION

Fashion books are highly interesting and inspiring, especially when they are biographies about famous designers like Chanel or the history of Vogue.

swingpendulum.wordpress.com

PENDULUM SPORTS

See Conor O'Neill's mock-up of Thursday night's NFL draft. Who might be in the top-10?

pendulumsports.wordpress.com

THIS WEEK IN VIDEO

Watch a timelapse of Elonthon

<http://www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=3>

Pan Area Carnival serves up food, fun and friendship

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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.

Does poverty teach positivity?

Examining link between consumption and fulfillment reveal much about the effects of wealth on human nature

A sorrowful woman sits in her therapist's chair—she radiates wealth in a blouse emblazoned in gold and in jewelry that scintillates. She can afford the hourly rate for the therapy but doesn't know why she needs it. Halfway across the world, or perhaps right down the freeway, a teenager sits on concrete, strumming a guitar with his eyes closed and a smile on his face. He is content.

The juxtaposition of these scenarios demonstrates the difference between worth and wealth, happiness and sorrow. More often than not, it seems as though those with the least end up the richest, in the most unquantifiable ways. How do you measure soul satisfaction?

Statistics that affect the poor can be found on GlobalIssues.org. Most are startling. How do these people survive? They delight in the small things. Their bodies are malnourished and their shelters are unstable, but they find ways to ensure they focus on the important things, the things that cannot be bought, sold or traded.

In the last 35 years, U.S. homes have increased in size, as have the number of cars in the garages. Our food consumption has risen exponentially (and so have our waistlines), and our per-capita income has increased by more than \$10,000. Shouldn't all the fat padding our bodies and all that cash lining our wallets be indicators of unbounded, heart-imploding happiness?

We have the opportunity to be tourists in foreign vacation destinations, and the opportunity to line our children's closets with fashionable clothing they don't need. The mentality of "keeping up with the Joneses" is one that is dominant in our culture and poses a significant detriment to the workings of our society. Perhaps it is that the cost benefit we have created in our minds is not relative or even similar to the one that is actually associated with the object at hand.

According to a piece written last month in the New Yorker entitled 'Everybody

Have Fun', "people who are destitute are more likely to describe themselves as happy." The results of one of the studies conducted revealed even those who won the lottery found their lives to be as mundane, if not more than, as before they made significantly more earnings.

Derek Bok, the author of the book "The Politics of Happiness: What Government Can Learn from the New Research on Well-Being" has much to say about the future of American society. When addressing the issue of the cyclical process of gain and heightened expectation, he asks, "What is the point of working such long hours and risking environmental disaster in order to keep on doubling and redoubling our gross domestic product?"

The vast metropolises that exist around our country and the cultures that allow for flexible concepts of satisfactory living conditions are sure to demonstrate that not everyone in the United States thrives off capitalist methods of satisfaction. The idea of living sparsely and within the means of a budget is familiar to many people. Additionally, the aforementioned piece showed that "Americans who described themselves as either 'very happy' or 'pretty happy' has remained virtually unchanged." Years have passed by, paychecks have grown larger and so has the cost of living. But the technological advancements that have made consumption easier and more accessible have not improved the quality of life for most Americans or their perception of it in a positive light.

Furthermore, because Americans impose their thoughtless consumption upon the rest of the world, we should reconsider the boundaries between our wants and the needs of others. The world's richest people, who make up 20 percent of the population, consume 76.6 percent of its resources. For people who subsist on much more than the national average, we continue to take above and beyond what should be necessary for the

continuation of our culture. What's more, it is interesting that Americans involved in agriculture or who live off very little, stress less and need less to survive.

The World Values survey sought to categorize happiness in the international sphere in 2005. Their findings showed the 14 unhappiest countries are all in Europe, which serves as a reminder there is a stark slant toward developed countries existing with the most prime resources and the least benefits from them. The top-two happiest countries were Venezuela and Nigeria, two developing countries whose people continue to see their fair share of hardship.

The correlation between happiness and consumption does not just exist outside of university boundaries. The privilege associated with being able to procure a college education is not equivalent to the expected sentiment of accomplishment associated with graduation. Students are not necessarily happier on a college campus, nor are they overly unhappy.

It serves as an important point to realize that the Princeton review rates Princeton, Brown and Stanford in the top five colleges and universities that are the happiest. This could serve as an example that the age of students attending these schools makes for different desires in external surroundings. Also, the excessive endowments available to Ivy League and affluent schools allow for funding to experience alternative ways of living and exposure to cultures other than our own.

The rich are progressive in their exploits of external accolades, but seem to be increasingly lacking in the internal sense of fulfillment that stems from enjoyment fostered when experiencing something emotional. The intangible things go without measure, and those qualitative occurrences are the one we should all strive for.

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. If you have questions or concerns about an article, contact a section editor. Please do not respond to reporters directly.

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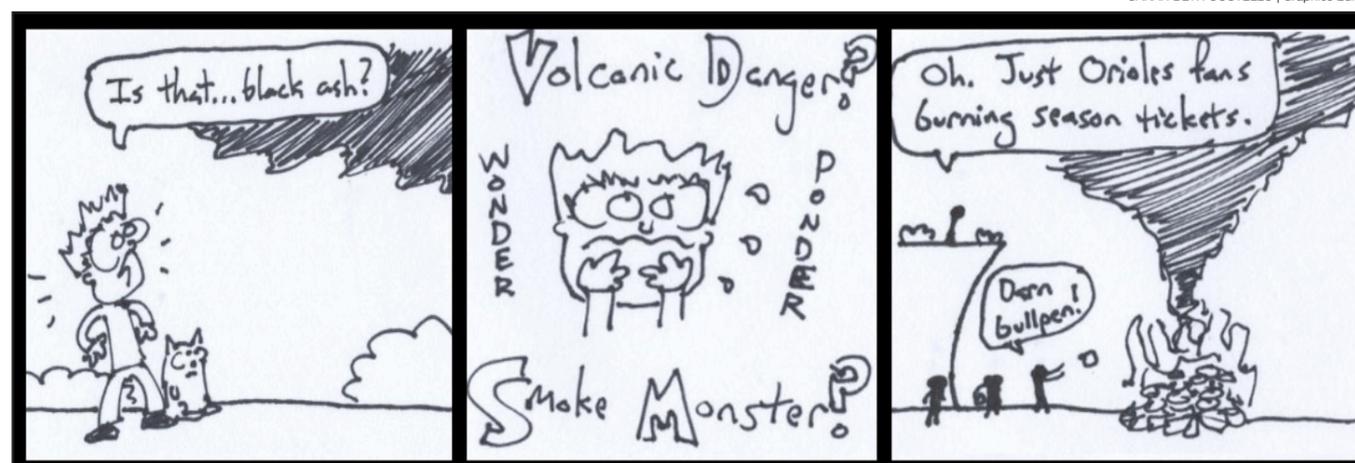
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Opinions

Tumultuous tabloids: Friend or foe?

Tabloids inform, entertain, expose wrongdoing, but perform journalistic duties in unorthodox fashion



Liv Dubendorf
Columnist

The more outrageous something is, the more I love it. Reality TV, tattoos, the color orange and awkward situations top my list of favorites. Despite this, it seems impossible for me to convince anyone that tabloids are worth reading.

Tabloids are trash. No matter how we try and justify reading them, there is always something more productive to be done.

When occasionally reading these magazines, I feel guilt that produces feelings of wasting my life reading gossip instead of being a productive member of society.

But no matter how outrageous tabloids are, and no matter how much they are driven by gossip, there is still a place for them within the media.

For instance, Britney Spears' latest bout of psychosis, Hilary Duff's fast-approaching marriage and Chase Crawford's latest haircut are flung on the front pages of tabloid magazines, assigning importance to the events akin to an announcement by a Supreme Court Justice on the cover of Time.

Personally, I learn a lot about how not to live my life from the mistakes of celebrities. One look at Lindsay Lohan is enough for me to never want to be famous.

But on a more serious note, tabloids do have something going for them. Although they may not have the most constant commitment to truth, they do have a history of breaking some important news, like Tiger Wood's infidelity, or John Edwards' sex scandal.

The free advertisement for celebrities certainly doesn't hurt the industry, either. If you're in the press, be it tabloids, hard news, soft news, etc., you're on the public's mind. And if you're on everyone's mind, whether for positive or negative reasons, you're going to be a more popular brand, selling more and getting more attention.

The saying goes, "any press is good press," which explains why Countess LuAnne from "The Real Housewives of New York City" was able to record the song "Elegance is Love" and wrote a horribly organized and highly conceited book titled, "Class with the Countess."

Increases in merchandising and popularity come with tabloid coverage. The only exception to this is if one's career is based upon being a role model for younger generations — think about what Lindsay Lohan's partying and rehab stint did for her movie career. But assuming that you don't have a reputation to live up to, tabloids can do little damage to your popularity and can only increase it.

After her Oscar win, there was only sympathy for Sandra Bullock when the scandal with Jesse James broke. Even though he was the bad guy in the situation, Google searches for Jesse James spiked

in mid-March, when the news of his cheating was exposed.

In addition to a burst in popularity, tabloids also make the public feel more personally connected to celebrities. People look to celebrities for guidance and inspiration, and some choose to live vicariously through them. It's quite possible learning about the latest scandal can make people feel better about their boring lives.

Tabloids give us a dose of reality and make celebrities that we know and love more human. Sometimes it's necessary that we understand that no one is the picture of perfection and that everyone has their own set of problems that they deal with.

It is important to recognize the importance of balancing this information, though. More frequently than not, tabloids are blown out of proportion. If we take in the information but realize that what we're reading is gossip, there's nothing wrong with enjoying it sometimes.

Tabloids do give something back to society. They advertise important products making money for those featured in them. They make people feel connected to the celebrities they see on the big screen, motivating them to go back and see a film based solely upon who's in the cast.

Tabloids aren't good examples of literature or news, but they aren't meant to be. They are written purely for entertainment, and doing that, they live up to their purpose.



TABLOIDS

a newspaper concentrating on sensational and lurid news, usually heavily illustrated.

Online tabloids: Perez Hilton, TMZ

Television tabloids: Chelsea Lately, The Soup, TMZ.

Printed tabloids: The National Enquirer, National Examiner, Star, People

Source: www.dictionary.com

SARAH BETH COSTELLO | Graphics Editor

Tabloids offer respite from the commonplace, but misinform public



Ashley Fahey
Columnist

Despite their bad reputations, tabloid magazines are being distributed and read across the United States. People simply cannot resist the outrageous claims about their favorite stars that emblazon the front covers of the National Enquirer or Star Magazine.

That publicity has caused the tabloid magazine industry to thrive to this day. Even though tabloid magazines report on far-fetched, preposterous and frequently inaccurate stories, they are still successfully grabbing Americans attention.

But have they recently become a more legitimate news source? The National Enquirer was recognized for its work in covering the John Edwards sex scandal by being nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, the highest journalistic honor. Does this signal a change in tabloid magazines as we know it?

The answer is no. Tabloid magazines will likely forever hold their infamous reputation for "dishing the dirt" on celebrities and other prominent figures. Their attempts at catching audiences' attention are certainly successful, but they are also cheap and oftentimes fabricated or highly exaggerated.

Examining how tabloids are perceived and treated in contemporary American society reveals a great deal about our culture as a whole. Arguably, they have altered our culture. The subscription rate of tabloids and their convenient availability at every grocery store checkout counter pique the interest of many American citizens. It gives all an opportunity to find out about Britney Spears' or Lindsay Lohan's latest tribulations, drug habits or faltering family lives. But these are not positive indicators of our societal values. Shouldn't we look at the front pages of these magazines and scoff at them? The prying, insensitive methods of those who investigate the lives of celebrities say much about our culture.

Of course, tabloid magazines have also made America a more skeptical society, as tabloids have a negative reputation for reporting inaccurate and far-fetched pieces of worthless gossip. Many Americans avoid tabloid magazines and settle for more legitimate magazines or avoid the gossip reporting scene altogether. Tabloids are sometimes mocked and degraded because of their notoriety and cheap attempts to dazzle a naïve audience into purchasing a tabloid magazine.

The future of tabloids will have to undergo a revolution to make them more credible in order to stay afloat. Perhaps the latest reporting of the Enquirer's Edwards coverage is a starting point toward the more reputable face of tabloid magazines, but until they digress from making up stories about scandal-ridden Hollywood stars, the tabloids will forever reside on the lower rung of the media circuit.

Extreme salaries present issues in professional sports



Dan Enders
Guest Columnist

Salary caps in sports have been one of the most discussed and debated topics in sports during the past few years. I can't see how there is any debate at all about enforcing them. There

should be a strict salary cap in all professional sports in the United States. End of story. The only people that seem to oppose a salary cap are the fans of the teams that are suffering from the lack of one.

One prime example of this is the New York Yankees. Without a salary

cap, the Yankees has made its name by simply outspending all of the other teams in Major League Baseball. This year, the Yankees' payroll is more than \$40 million — greater than any other team in the MLB. The excessive payroll is one of the primary reasons the Yankees won 17 more Major League Baseball championships than any other team in the league.

Although the MLB is the only one of the four major U.S. professional sports officially without a salary cap, the NFL is entering its first uncapped season, and the NBA operates under a soft cap. A soft cap is a salary cap that has various exceptions that allow teams to violate the cap in certain situations without penalty.

Am I the only one who thinks that both the NBA and the NFL are moving in the wrong direction? Shouldn't the

NBA be making a stricter salary cap and shouldn't the NFL be lowering the limit for its salary cap?

Until this season, the NFL was implementing its salary cap efficiently and continues to keep the league even and competitive.

Since the start of the NFL, there have only been eight instances in which the Superbowl champions have repeated the next year. In the history of the NFL, there is only one team that has never made the playoffs (Houston Texans), and only four teams that have never made the Superbowl. Obviously, the league has been very competitive when the only team to never make the playoffs is the last team to be added to the league.

On the other hand, the NBA's soft cap policy makes it very easy for teams

to exceed the limit without penalty. Essentially, the salary cap has made the NBA the most uncompetitive of the four major professional sports. It seems every year the Los Angeles Lakers win the championship, or at least make it to the championship series. Not only have the Lakers been mostly dominant, but seven of the 30 teams in the NBA have never made it to an NBA championship series.

On the other side of the spectrum, the NHL is the most competitive league with all 30 teams making the Stanley Cup playoffs in at least one season. Coincidentally, the NHL is the only one of the four main professional U.S. sports that has kept and maintained a strict salary cap. Other professional sports teams should follow that example.

Don't hesitate ... check out the opinions blog!

www.pendulumopinions.wordpress.com





Gerry and Laine Francis take wedding pictures in front of Fonville Fountain after a ceremony in Whitley Auditorium.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

say

A bride prepares in the back rooms of Whitley Auditorium for her big day. A groomsman waits anxiously in Holt Chapel for a glimpse of his future wife. Wedding ceremonies may not seem like events one would expect to see on the campus grounds of Elon University, but according to Associate Chaplain Phil Smith, they happen about two or three times in a year.

During his four years at Elon, Smith has officiated three weddings in Holt Chapel.

"Some people have a minister they will invite to do the wedding, but if they don't, then it falls to our office," Smith said. "I usually meet with them to get to know them and work with them on those plans and on their life together."

Most weddings at Elon take place at either Holt Chapel or Whitley Auditorium. According to Smith, both locations serve as the perfect choice for couples seeking the comfort of a quiet ceremony.

"Most of the weddings at Elon have been more family oriented, as opposed to grand," he said. "They're more intimate and dignified."

Gerry and Laine Francis

Married: Aug. 10, 2002

Location: Whitley Auditorium

Reception: McKinnon Hall

Fun Fact: Senior Vice President for Business, Finance and Technology Gerald Whittington sang at their wedding.

Executive Vice President Gerry Francis met his wife through a mutual friend. "I have a good friend who used to work at this institution by the name of Joanne Soliday," Gerry said. "She was always having me over for dinner to meet someone. So it just so happened she had me over for a Friday dinner and that's when I met my wife. The interesting part of that is Joanne Soliday married us. She's an ordained minister also. She ended up marrying us and my daughter was my best man."

Gerry and Laine decided to get married at Elon because of the many friends they had in the area.

"We had a nice ceremony, short and sweet, with lots of friends on both sides who never thought either one of us would ever get married," Gerry said. "It was kind of funny because after the minister pronounced us man and wife, the gentleman at the organ played 'Hallelujah.'"

DJ and Nicole Cummings

Married: Oct. 6, 2007

Location: Holt Chapel

Reception: Basement of Holt Chapel

Fun Fact: Because of technical difficulties, there was no music played at their reception.

The Cummings have a long-standing connection with Elon University. DJ grew up in the Town of Elon, attended Elon College for one semester in 1993 and later worked for the campus as a police officer. Nicole's mother, Kathy Whitt, works on campus as a faculty mail clerk.

"On our very first date, we went out to dinner and after our date, we went and walked around the campus," Nicole said. "It was beautiful that night with the pond, the swans, the ducks. We sat beside the pond and talked for hours. When DJ proposed to me, he took me back there, to the same exact spot where we talked for hours."

Since it was a second marriage for both of them, they knew they wanted their wedding to be a modest affair with just close family and friends.

"Being in the area as long as I had, I'd always noticed Holt Chapel there," DJ said. "I just thought it was a nice, quaint, beautiful place to get married for a small wedding and thought it would be the perfect spot."



DJ and Nicole Cummings exit Holt Chapel after their wedding ceremony as close family



The Francis' wedding in Whitley in 2002 inspired the university to build steps that would give future couples easier access to the stage.

Use and reservation policy for weddings held in Holt Chapel

Rene Summers, the secretary for the Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life, is the scheduler for this space. She can be reached at 336 278 7729 and will schedule the wedding, rehearsal and/or reception, as well as assist the person planning the wedding in making necessary logistical arrangements with other university departments (i.e. setup of tables, chairs, etc.).

Rice/Balloons: Do not throw rice in the sanctuary or any other part of the building. No confetti. Birdseed may be thrown outside of the building. Releasing balloons is discouraged for environmental reasons.

Fees for use of Holt Chapel for Weddings:
\$300 for Elon students, alumni, faculty-staff and their children, trustees and their children, and alumni of Elon Homes for Children.
\$500 for friends of Elon and children of alumni (fees include housekeeping, facility rental and services of a facility manager).



ing 'I do' at Elon

Couples tie the knot and celebrate on campus

Alex Trice
Online Editor-in-Chief



PHOTO SUBMITTED

and friends blow bubbles to send them on their way. Associate Chaplain Phil Smith officiated their wedding.

Bryan and Dana Baker

Married: June 7, 2003

Location: Whitley Auditorium

Reception: McKinnon Hall

Fun fact: It rained four inches on their wedding day.

Long before she became his wife, Dana was Bryan's classmate in geometry.

"We met in high school and dated a couple years," Bryan said. "Then I went away to college in Tennessee and she stayed here. Nine years later, after I had moved back here from Tennessee, we met up again, dated for a couple years and got married."

When the Francis' wed in 2002, Bryan managed the live sound feed at their wedding in Whitley Auditorium. The quality of sound in the room attracted Bryan to have his own wedding there. During the Bakers' actual ceremony, though, Whitley's distinct echoing sound provided

a moment of amusement.

"My grandfather did the whole ring part of the ceremony, and he was talking about it, and then he dropped the ring," Bryan said. "Whitley's a really quiet room, so the ring went 'ding ding ding' and rolled off the stage. My wife's dad had to get the ring and give it back to us onstage."



High school sweethearts Bryan and Dana Baker were married June 7, 2003. Bryan is senior audio producer at Elon.

Register of deeds for Alamance County:

Obtaining a marriage license

Marriage licenses may be obtained between **8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday**. The license is valid for 60 days from the date of issuance and may be used in any county in the state.

Both parties to a marriage must appear to obtain the license.

Applicants **18 years of age and older** must provide their Social Security card and photo I.D. The following will be accepted in lieu of a Social Security card:

- Numi sheet from the Social Security Office
- Tax Return or W-2
- Pay Stub with complete Social Security number on it

If applicants do not have a Social Security number, they may present a sworn statement. Accepted ID:

- Driver's license (current)
- State-issued I.D. card (current)
- Military I.D. (current)



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Style

24 HOURS OF ELONTHON!



FOR THE KIDS



Avery Lucas
Reporter

A typical college student stays up for long stretches of time anyway, but rarely for 24 hours straight. Rarer still is a student staying up 24 hours on their feet, dancing the night and day away to support medical research for children. At Elon University more than a thousand students were willing to stand and dance for 24 hours for the cause.

Elonthon is an annual fundraiser where people dance for 24 hours to raise money and awareness for Duke Children's Hospital. Since 2003 Elonthon has been the largest student-run, money-raising philanthropic endeavor on campus with many students working on the event. Morale team, where students cheer on the other student dancers, is one way students can become more involved.

"I signed up for Morale team for two reasons," sophomore Alli Brewer said. "First, the message of Elonthon is an amazing and inspiring one. Second of all, who doesn't want to make everyone smile at an event like a 24-hour dance marathon?"

This year's Elonthon had a total of 1,200 dancers. The dance ran from 6 p.m. April 16 to 6 p.m. April 17. Elonthon had many activities and performers providing entertainment for its dancers, including Sweet Signatures, Twisted Measure and Elon's Finest.

"I chose to do the full 24 hours because I could experience the pain that these kids go through on a daily basis," said Stephanie Lindeman, a first-time 24-hour dancer. "During this time I had to rely on my close

friends to help me pull through, but I can only imagine that it is nothing compared to what these kids go through every day of their lives."

Stories of miracle children from Duke Children's Hospital were told to make the students aware of why they were dancing for such an important cause. During each shift, a parent would stand on stage and talk about their child's illness, how Duke Children's Hospital helped them and how important and helpful Elonthon is to the children who go to the hospital every day.

Since Elonthon is "for the kids," it was only appropriate that many of this year's Miracle Children showed up and even stayed awake for the full 24 hours. Many organizations including the Student Union Board, Intervarsity and Greek organizations sponsored a child, and had a huge banner in his or her honor hanging from the second story of Alumni Gym. Many of the Miracle Children came to Elonthon. A set of twins were celebrating their fifth birthday, and a child cancer survivor performed "Sweet Home Alabama" for the crowd.

At the last shift of Elonthon, members of the event's executive committee announced that there was one final way for the dancers to show support for the kids. Dancers could donate 10 inches of their hair to Locks of Love, an organization that makes real hair wigs for cancer patients. This year, two women took the chance to show their support for the kids and gave away 10 inches of their hair to be made into a wig.

The dedicated committee members, contributors and dancers who came to the event know it's because of one reason only: for the kids.



ALL PHOTOS BY HEATHER CASSANO | Staff Photographer

Top: Dancers participate in a workout session led by Campus Recreation. Left: Josh, a survivor of a rare metabolic disorder, entertains the audience. Above: Elonthon executives open the event with the original Elonthon dance. Right: The Elonthon morale committee pumps up the crowd.

Phone Applications: Made by students

Computing class programs applications for new technology

Marlena Chertock
Design Intern

Don't forget lunch at noon. At 1 p.m. there's a meeting with your adviser and at 3 p.m. a snack with your rugby team. Is your agenda overfilled and are you over stretched? Soon, there may be an app for that.

iTouch, iPhone, iPad and Android applications offer ease of accessibility and information in a portable device. Students in Elon University's mobile computing class are creating new apps for group projects.

Senior James Albinson's app will allow users to organize events. He said it is an extension of Facebook events.

"Meets is going to be an app which allows you to set a meeting place and time," Albinson said. "Hit(ing) a button can give the Google Maps location. You can invite other users to meetings."

Brainstorming creative ideas can be the hardest part, computing science professor Joel Hollingsworth said. Albinson said he gets his ideas from two main areas.

"Kind of a mix of what you think people would need and trying to incorporate all the new technologies that are coming out," he said. "Something that's user-friendly as well as something that's useful or fun."

Students learn Java language for the Android instead of the Mac language.

"We use Java here because it's an introductory base language," Hollingsworth said. "As you move through computer science you use other languages. (Java) is a fairly nice language to work with."

Albinson said the Android format offers a template.

"They give you a lot of widgets, which you can modify yourself or you can create your own widget entirely," Albinson said. "You're allowed to take what they've already made and extend it."

Both Apple and Google offer developing kits for creating apps, according to Hollingsworth. Google provides developer kits for the Android.

The marketplace for apps is different for each operating system.

"For Apple you actually have to go through their approval process," Albinson said. "They don't like anything that's vulgar. It's kind of annoying to a lot of developers because they don't want to be censored. It filters apps out but stifles creativity."

But Apple has an edge because it has the marketing down to a science, Albinson said.

most popular **FREE** iPhone apps



Kindle for iPhone

In 2009, a new iPhone app was released enabling the iPhone users to download and read books, replacing most consumers' needs to purchase actual Amazon Kindles.

RunKeeper

This app is a GPS that tracks running, walking and biking.

Email n' Walk

Walking while e-mailing is now possible with this app, which replaces the screen with live video footage of the user's walking path using the iPhone's camera.

Skype for iPhone

One of the most popular apps, Skype for the iPhone works just like regular Skype, enabling users to communicate via live video feed.

Source: <http://lifehacker.com/5432314/most-popular-free-iphone-apps-and-posts-of-2009>
Image courtesy of MCT Campus

SARAH BETH COSTELLO | GRAPHICS EDITOR

Hollingsworth said for the Android market you have to pay \$25 to become a developer and then you can upload apps. If they fit with what Google wants to do, it will put them in the marketplace, he said. Albinson said this lets through a lot of apps that do not work, since it is easier to put them up.

Albinson said the Android market is useful for new developers.

"It's about getting your name out there early on," he said.

Apps have become extremely popular, especially among the college crowd. Many students have iPhones, Androids or other smartphones.

New technology and portability are reasons Albinson cites for the popularity of apps.

"It's nice to have everything you need right in your pocket," he said.

Hollingsworth echoes these reasons. He said the expense is not high, with most apps costing \$1.99 and some being free.

"I think people do buy off a whim," Hollingsworth

said. "Impulse buying."

Hollingsworth said there is a possibility for students to put their apps on the market. But for now students create apps and then use them on their own phones.

He said if students can show the apps they made on their phones during a job interview, that will make them stand out.

"(Students can) pull (their) phone out and say, 'Here, I wrote this,'" he said. "We're starting to get employers who are interested in mobile (programming)."

Lack of time and resources keep students from entering their apps in the market, according to Hollingsworth. Professional projects have multiple developers and artists working together.

"If they were able to get a fully-functional program and have time, which they probably won't this semester, and make sure everything works perfectly and looks pretty, they can put it on the Android market," he said. "You can write the best program and if it looks horrible, nobody's going to buy it."

Elon strives above economy's influence on graduate school

Jasmine Gregory
Reporter

Nationwide, seniors graduating college are deciding what to do after they cross the stage and receive their diploma. Although this time is exciting for some, it proves to be stressful for others who are faced with whether they can attend graduate school. A majority of surveyed Elon University's students looking to pursue a graduate degree directly after completing their undergraduate degree are in a position to do so.

With the economy in a fragile, restructuring state, many seniors have found themselves unable to immediately pursue their graduate educations. At Elon, both students and graduate admissions have been fortunate enough to stay on the up side of things.

Senior Caroline Denning is planning to attend law school directly

after graduation. After strategically completing her undergraduate education in three years, it is to her benefit to continue her plans to attend law school.

"With the economy being in the condition it is currently, it is more economical to stay in school, especially since my loan payments will kick in six months after I graduate," she said.

Elon's graduate programs have more than 600 students and are fully prepared for its next wave. Fortunately, Elon's graduate school haven't seen many changes in their numbers given the state of the economy. With five programs, Art Fadde, director of Graduate Admissions described Elon's full-time programs as in the best shape, with the others holding relatively steady.

Two other programs, the Masters in Business Administration and the Masters in Education program, have faced challenges caused by the

economy.

"We're certainly weathering the storm," Fadde said. "Elon has a really good brand and although we tend to be a little more higher priced than state schools, medium enrollment goals can still be met."

Incentives to receive a M.Ed. degree are disappearing because school districts are imposing budget cuts and removing incentives for teachers to seek advanced degrees. Previously, teachers with a M.Ed. could receive up to a 10 percent pay increase simply for holding the degree.

Elon is also about to graduate its first class receiving a master's in Interactive Media. This program began last year, and it has provided students the chance to broaden their skill set for maximized success in the mass media.

"Graduate school in general is so viable because we don't know what the hot jobs are going to be in 10 years," Fadde added. "Interactive media could

be an undergraduate degree in no time and then it'll be whatever's next in about in five or 10 years' time."

Senior Rich Ryan, a political science major planning to attend graduate school in New York for broadcasting, thinks most students leaving Elon are already prepared for a career.

"Elon graduates can grow very strong skill sets in just four years, and many are ready to work immediately," he said. "I think I need more training in TV/radio before I enter the workforce. Thankfully, I'm very blessed and my family is financially sound."

Fadde isn't worried about the future of Elon's graduate studies, as graduate degrees will continue to hold significance in society as stepping stones into the modern workforce.

"There's only so much you can fit into the undergraduate experience," he said. "You may only get a touchstone experience, unlike what a master's program can provide."

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Pan Area Carnival serves up food and fun



Students and resident advisors, as well as members of the community, made crafts and bounced on inflatables at the Pan Area Carnival. Last week West Area held a similar community gathering with a carnival. JULIA SAYERS | Photographer

Julia Sayers
Reporter

Students had fun jumping in a bounce house, painting cups and enjoying free food at the Pan Area Carnival outside Moseley April 18. Other activities included splatter painting, a gladiator joust and a dunk booth. There were free sodas and water bottles, and Wing Zone provided a variety of chicken wings. The first students to arrive were able to get free PAC T-shirts and sunglasses.

"RSA is all about 'loving where you live' and encouraging Elon students to get the full Elon experience through community building," said Anston Kovalcik, governor of East Area Council and Resident Student Association member.

At the cup painting station, students could choose from four different colored cups and were

provided with paint pens and stencils to decorate them. For those who wanted something a little more challenging, darts were available to throw at paint-filled balloons to make some abstract paintings. Students battled each other on the gladiator joust, where opponents were given toy lances to try to knock each other off their pedestals. The bounce house was a combo unit with slides and obstacles inside it. Various resident assistant's signed up to be the "dunkees" at the dunk booth, a good way for students to get some frustration out.

The event was the third annual carnival and RSA's biggest event. RSA representatives said they hoped the carnival would encourage fun and friendship.

RSA has been planning the carnival since February with all of the Area Councils, East, West, North, Colonnades, Danieleley and the Oaks.

"All the councils have put so much time and effort into this because we really want everyone to enjoy it," Kovalcik said.

During the planning process, RSA had to find a place to have the carnival and then make sure it wasn't going to be breaking any codes. Kovalcik made all the calls for the inflatables and the dunk tank and made sure everything was ordered on time. She also had to call Physical Plant for tables and chairs.

PAC was advertised on E-net and fliers all around campus. Some of the councils chalked on the campus pathways to advertise it. RSA even made a Pac-Man suit and ghost costumes that RSA members wore around campus to promote PAC.

The event went from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and drew a large group of students and even some adults and children from the greater Elon and Burlington area.

Senior dance thesis concert series showcases contemporary, inspirational performances

Kristen Wrenn
Reporter

The choreography of "Abandon All Hope" — a senior dance thesis performance — was strong and animalistic. Conceived by senior Elizabeth McBride during a semester in Paris, the dance was inspired by the movement captured in Rodin's bronze sculptures.

Emerging in a ravaged red dress, sophomore Jessica Duffy danced as the devil.

"I chose (Rodin's) 'The Gates of Hell' because of the abundance of figures on the statue," McBride said. "This gave me a wide range of poses to begin creating the movement."

McBride said that as a choreographer, having a story line was essential.

"It helped me to see where I'm going so that all I have to do is create the movement to depict the story," she said. "Creating narrative dance lets me have fun with the movement without getting too worried about what's being communicated."

McBride's performance was one of nine showcased during this semester's senior thesis dance concert, held April 11-13. Made up of mostly contemporary pieces, they were choreographed by seniors but danced by students from all classes.

This past fall, McBride held auditions for her thesis piece. In addition to Duffy, she cast sophomore Kassi Mattered and freshmen Alison Merrill, Leah Palmer and Lauren Renck.

Dancing alongside Duffy, Merrill, Palmer and Renck represented the devil's minions. Together they welcomed the newly-dead Mattered to the depths of hell.

McBride deconstructed movements from the poses of the sculpture to create the choreography and establish characters. The ever-evolving concept took on a defined shape over the past year.

"When I began this year, I wanted my dance to follow a Dante's 'Inferno'-type storyline where my 'Virgil' character would lead Kassi (as Dante) through hell," she said.

After losing a performer, McBride's story transformed

into a broader idea of hell.

The sweeping, clutching movements throughout the dance stemmed from McBride's need to give a reason for Mattered to be in hell. These actions represented the character's greediness.

"Though it may not have been blatantly obvious to the audience, having this movement and the thoughts behind it was crucial for both me and the dancers to understand her character," McBride said. "As with acting, the dancer has to know who she is in the piece in order to embody it well."

"AS WITH ACTING, THE DANCER HAS TO KNOW WHO SHE IS IN THE PIECE IN ORDER TO EMBODY IT WELL."

—ELIZABETH MCBRIDE
SENIOR

McBride didn't dance in any of the evening's performances, but senior Rachel Perlman pulled double duty, both choreographing and dancing.

Perlman choreographed the piece titled "the sounds from the thoughts and the thoughts from the light."

When explaining her influences for the performance, Perlman said that she found inspiration in Elon's historic motto "Numen Lumen" — Latin for "intellectual light" — and the concept of knowledge as light.

Perlman added a level of multimedia to her piece, which is a new element that hasn't been seen in previous Black Box performances.

As the performance developed, a video projected onto the backdrop played against the tone of the music and lyrics of Regina Spektor's song, "Consequence of Sound." Perlman incorporated the use of small electric candles, adding yet another sensory experience to her piece. To the audience, they appeared as small balls of light.

"I always wanted to do something with fire," Perlman said. The obvious fire hazard kept her from working with real flames, but she found a way to work with the push-button candles.

Throughout the performance, the dancers tossed and passed the small balls of light, an effect achieved with a second set of hand choreography. It added a level of difficulty to the piece, but the outcome was illuminating.

VIDEO GAME REVIEW ★★★★★

Splinter Cell: Conviction



Jon Moore
Video Game Columnist

The gaming universe is filling with sequels that toss aside the conventions of their progenitors to deliver a fresh experience that rejuvenates its audiences. With only a few months

since their last blockbuster sequel "Assassin's Creed II", Ubisoft Montreal has released "Splinter Cell: Conviction", the latest entry into Tom Clancy's military fiction franchise. The title stands to sell well, as it falls in a slow month for game releases and already has a solid fan base. But, it has risked its popularity by deviating from the design that made the name "Splinter Cell" famous in the first place. Luckily for the gaming community, the developer's energy has gone in the right direction, becoming more user-friendly, introducing design innovation and improving the pacing.

"Splinter Cell" made its name as one of the best stealth-focused series of the previous console generations. Players assume the role of Sam Fisher, an agent with the fictitious government intelligence group Third Echelon. The main directive of the games is to accomplish tasks while avoiding detection and most enemy contact. Recent iterations of the series had taken a complicated turn, employing all manners of scales and bars, which had to be monitored at all times in order to maintain a stealthy approach, but "Conviction" has wisely gone back to the basics, reducing the clutter while keeping the challenge alive.

In keeping with the philosophy of an uncluttered screen, most information is communicated within the environment itself. While there's a heads-up on how much ammo is left and a clear alert if an enemy discovers you, that's the only thing that requires a glance away from gameplay. With how great this game looks, the developers should be thanked.

Instead of light level bars, the environment will drain of color when the character is safely hidden in the shadows, invisible to enemies unless they turn a flashlight on you. Also, monitoring the sound level visually is no longer a concern because targets will audibly confirm whether or not the character is moving quietly enough with a "What was that?" or a "Who's there?" and then come searching.

If Fisher is discovered, a white silhouette will appear at the last known position, which is where enemies will think he is until they've done a thorough search. Even game objectives are in the environment, projected like a slideshow on buildings and set-pieces as the mission progresses, ensuring that no one wanders around confused.

Keeping focused is essential to the pacing, as the days of slow methodical movement through memorized AI paths are over. Fisher no longer avoids the enemy so much as he stalks them, always moving through the ranks in order to set up the perfect shot or vanishing in the middle of a firefight. "Conviction" has struck the perfect balance between action and stealth, finally achieving the former without sacrificing any of the latter.

The only drawback to the game is the short single-player campaign. Players will be so focused on the great artistic design and blockbuster story that the short six hours seem to pass quickly. Luckily, "Conviction" comes complete with a co-op mode with its own story at about the same length.

With 12 hours of story, re-playable with any number of strategies, in addition to the multi-player modes, both co-op and competitive, there should be enough content to keep most players actively interested enough to justify the cost.

Music theatre major's journey prepares him for showbiz career

Kara Frasca
Reporter

In every family, there's always one child who competes for the spotlight. In the Gustin household in Norfolk, Va., that family member was Grant.

"I used to put on full-length plays and movies in my living room," he said. "I was the kid who wore a Superman costume everywhere. I was actually kind of crazy."

Gustin's mother saw her son's self-proclaimed "craziness" as an opportunity.

"My mom knew I was different," he said. "She put me into theater as a creative outlet for myself."

Little did he know that this outlet would become a life-long passion.

"My mom put me into tap dancing classes," Gustin said. "I was forced into it. But I just clicked with it and have loved it ever since."

Gustin is a sophomore music theatre major at Elon University. Since those tap classes in his early years, he has starred in professional shows and has completed professional voice-over work. He got his first major role at age 10 as part of the tornado in the musical "The Wiz."

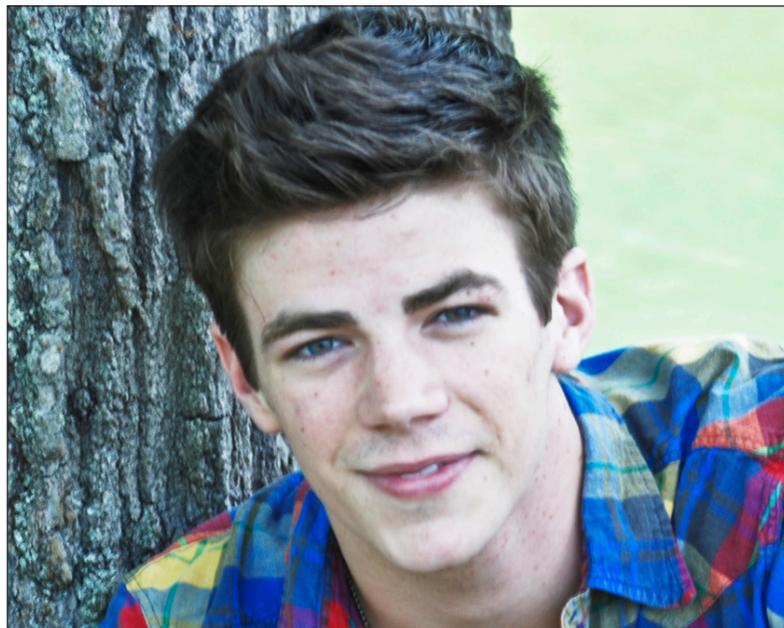
But it wasn't until Gustin's second performance that he realized it wasn't just an after-school hobby.

"My second show was 'Willy Wonka,'" he said. "I played Charlie Bucket and I was very nervous. That performance really fueled my interest into theater and I realized that was what I wanted to do."

But no matter how many times he's been on stage, the nerves always come back.

"I think it's healthy to feel nervous," he said. "If you're not nervous before a show, I think something's wrong. No matter how many times you do it, you feel something, even if it's excitement. It's a natural high. It's great."

Gustin got involved with voice-over work when he was 13 years old. His father's friend worked at a radio station and told Gustin that he had a "radio



Sophomore Grant Gustin is a music theatre major who does professional voice-over work. He recently starred in the student film "Waldo and the Absolutely Amazing Afternoon."

voice."

"He wanted to make a demo for me," Gustin said. "We made a demo reel of random scripts I read. We sent it to Studio Center, an agency, and they added me to their demo. About once or twice a week they would call me for an audition or job. It was easy work and good money."

Gustin has been doing voice-over work with Studio Center ever since. His biggest break was doing the voice-over work for a cartoon by Fischer Price titled "Planet Heroes." His voice can be heard on the character's action figures and interactive video games.

"I did the voice for Ace," he said. "He was kind of like the Buzz Lightyear. There were different characters from different planets and my character was Earth."

Gustin's favorite performance was Elon's production of "110 in the Shade." He credits professor Linda Sabo as the reason for the show's

success.

"The rehearsals were incredible, the cast was great and the whole process was enjoyable," he said. "Linda Sabo really made it an incredible experience for all of us."

Gustin recently starred in the student-produced and directed short film "Waldo and the Absolutely Amazing Afternoon." He got involved through his friend senior acting major Edward Schmidt, who produced the short film. Gustin claims he got the role because he looks like Waldo.

After graduation, Gustin said he hopes to find a balance between working in theater and film.

"I would love to be based out of New York and be able to do film, TV shows and theater," he said. "I want to find a way to do it."

Luckily, Gustin has two more years at Elon to hone his talents even further and students have two years to see his talent in action.

Words, songs and dances of praise: Affinity's open-mic night draws talent from the faithful

Lauren Ramsdell
A&E Editor

A lone podium and a chair lit by a portable soft light, throwing shadows on a hefty keyboard and what looks to be an old-fashioned broadcast microphone. Welcome to Affinity's first open-mic night.

Affinity is a Christian Bible study and prayer group formed this academic year after almost three years of work. Founding members saw a need for the multicultural, and specifically black community, to have a worship group of its own.

Junior Ryan Elliott is the group's president and one of the founding members. Beginning as a prayer group with friends, Affinity saw the need at Elon University for a new kind of group.

"No other group is trying to target (multicultural students)," he said. "We felt there was a demographic not being reached."

Affinity's adviser, Leslie Garvin, is the associate director of North Carolina Campus Contact, a group that encourages student volunteerism. She sees Affinity events as a way for different Christian groups on campus to join together.

The open-mic night April 17 was only the first of what the group hopes to become an annual event. The open-mic format was the brainchild of sophomore Kemi Olagbegi.

"People always come up to listen," she said, referencing the recently popular spoken-word poetry format. "It's just with a twist, about Christianity."

Fourteen acts were lined up for the evening. Ranging from a cappella singing to violin playing, to spoken-word and step dancing, all performers were visibly touched by the message they were trying to communicate.

The newly minted step group Order my Steps, which formed April 11, performed an original dance crying, "We use our voice, our hands and our feet" and "J-E-S-U-S" instead of the usual braggadocio style of fraternity and sorority stepping. Junior Brittany Cadwallader shared a personal story of family loss and eventual recovery and sang a praiseful song with clear emotions of relief and joy on her face.

Perhaps the performance that was most profound was sophomore Chelsea Yarborough's poem describing her best friend's testimony. The poem rattled off in a fast-paced



New Christian step group Order my Steps performed a step routine in praise at Affinity's open-mic night.

spoken-word style, even with breaks in Yarborough's voice as she told the painful story.

"It hit me hard," Yarborough said of her friend's revelation.

Faced with a lifetime of low self-esteem and self-hatred, Yarborough's friend tried to commit suicide twice.

Yarborough said she was honored that her friend asked her to write a poem and share the story with others.

"What it did for me was allow me to step into someone else's shoes," Yarborough said. "It was like seeing the road someone else took to get to where I am now."

Affinity has other events planned for the rest of the semester, including its weekly Bible studies every Friday from 5-7 p.m. Each week they read the Bible, discuss current issues or do a service project. The next major event is the Day of Prayer, where Affinity will join with other Christian groups May 12.

Across the pond: Preparing to study abroad



Alexandra Johnston
Fashion Columnist

At Elon University, it is popular to break out of the bubble and take chances in a foreign country for a semester. But it can sometimes be daunting to think about how to dress for a whole semester out of a few suitcases. While each location is different, these basic rules will help provide a guideline for what to bring.

Basics Abound: While there might be temptation to bring everything in the closet, space is limited both in suitcases and closets when studying abroad. The best way to get the most out of each outfit is to rely on some great basics. V-neck T-shirts are great because they can be worn with jeans alone or with a colorful scarf or sweater when it gets colder. Another great basic is the black blazer. It can be dressy, it can be casual, but most of all, it is universal style. Make sure to look for one that has a great fit over jeans, but also over dresses or skirts. In addition, accessories are a great way to get different looks without taking up a lot of room.

Fancy Footwear: Probably the most important style tip for study abroad is to pack comfortable shoes. In many countries there are cobblestone roads and uneven terrain as well as a lot of walking. Heels or other constricting shoes are not the best for these kinds of conditions, so limit to one or two pairs with low, comfortable heels.

Also look for a well-structured ballet flat or riding boot for dressier outfits, and a pair of canvas skimmers or slip-ons for everyday wear. Also keep in mind that in larger cities, tennis shoes are rarely worn or appropriate and will cause locals to recognize an outsider immediately.

Familiar Territory: Before leaving to go abroad there will surely be shopping involved, looking for new clothes or shoes for the journey. But be sure to test drive the purchases before packing them. There is nothing worse than getting to another country and realizing the shoes that were supposed to be comfortable are too tight or cause blisters. In addition to any new purchases make sure to look for favorite outfits, ones that really evoke confidence, and pack those. Having clothing that really inspires and fits well will allow for easier and more stress-free adaptation to life abroad.

Adaption: Part of the joy of visiting another country is being able to be immersed into another culture. A great way to feel at home in another country is by adapting its way of dress. Before leaving, try looking at style blogs from the country or photos of friends who have studied there to get a better idea of what people wear. After arrival it is great to hit the outdoor markets or local shops to pick up some pieces that will help bring looks together.

Fair Weather: Each country is different, but everyone will experience some sort of climate change during the course of four months. Be sure to look ahead at the forecasts for the semester and plan accordingly. A great way to deal with this is to bring lots of items that can be easily layered when the weather gets colder.

Study abroad is a once in a lifetime experience. Don't get left out by fashion, and plan ahead to look fabulous wherever the road goes.

CD REVIEW



Hype and hope for Hypernova



Iranian band, Hypernova, faced legal action in their home country before moving to the United States to rock.

Kit Arbuckle
Reviewer

Hypernova hails from Tehran, Iran, where playing Western music is punishable by lashing with whips. Despite their country's laws, the four original band members auditioned for the South by Southwest music festival in 2007. They got in, but their visas were denied the first time they applied and they missed the festival.

The next time they submitted their applications — along with a letter from a New York Sen. Charles Schumer — they were accepted, and Hypernova leapt at the chance to come to the United States. Now with a fifth, American member added to the band, Hypernova has just released a CD for its U.S. debut, "Through the Chaos."

Overall, the CD tends to underline two things: Hypernova's talent and utter inexperience. All 12 songs resonate with the same haunting chord progression, making them sound too similar despite the changes in rhythm and tempo. There are a few exceptions to the rule, such as the up-tempo rebellion that is "Viva La Resistance," but the CD as a whole sounds monotonous. And, while it's impossible to deny Hypernova has found a sound that showcases its abilities, the listener can't help but wonder if it has anything else in its arsenal.

The sound the band found is indie-rock, with just the slightest hint of techno. Lead singer Raam's voice rings unexpectedly deep and clear and mixes with interesting harmonies and counterpoints.

The messages in the lyrics range from lonely love ballads to anthems about living in the moment, to disparaging comments on Iranian and American society alike.

These messages take on a more profound tone when one realizes all these young men have risked and suffered for their art. They spent seven years practicing their music in basements under the shadow of a government opposed to all they were working for. Three band members were recently held at the United States-Canada border just because they carried Iranian passports.

Despite Hypernova's shortcomings, the band possesses real talent and potential. The gems in its collection include "Universal," "Viva La Resistance," "Here and Now," "With You" and "Fairy Tales." The guitarists in particular prove their mettle over and over, through ripping openings and little solos interspersed among the songs. The one song that almost outweighs those triumphs is the 10-minute-long "Hidden Track" that can only be acquired by buying the entire album. It begins with a repetitive guitar pattern against the sound of ocean waves, which sound suspiciously Hawaiian, and ends with a special effects attack, that makes any music player sound like it's having a seizure. There are no vocals.

"Through the Chaos" is available for purchase on iTunes. Some of Hypernova's earlier songs can be found on the NPR Web site. At the end of the day, this Iranian take on Western rock is definitely worth checking out. It'll be interesting to see what becomes of these promising young rockers.

Elon Camerata a modern medieval musical force

Lauren Ramsdell
A&E Editor

Forty-five minutes of chamber choral music isn't how most college students anticipate spending the waning hours of their Sunday afternoons. But the Elon University Camerata held a "short and sweet spring concert" April 11 in Whitley Auditorium.

With the theme "The Birds and the Bees," the Camerata sang a cappella love songs and madrigals from the 13th through 15th centuries. Sounds sweet, until the lyrics are translated from the original Italian, French or Spanish.

"I'll let you re-read the Canterbury Tales," said director Steven Futrell, associate professor of music.

Whereas the lyric "come away, sweet love, and play," from the 1604 madrigal "Come Away, Sweet Love" by Thomas Greaves may sound tame compared to lines from Lady Gaga's "Love Game," those medieval lines likely had as shocking of an effect as those of modern artists do today.

The Camerata, which does not always perform medieval choral pieces or in an a cappella style, performed admirably under Futrell's direction. With a single reference note at the beginning of each song, the 28-member Camerata sang centuries-old music in four different languages and hardly missed a beat. Unlike the better-known groups on campus SweetSignatures, TwistedMeasure, or Rip_Chord the Camerata did not have any soloists at this recital, allowing the soprano, alto, tenor and bass voices to blend into a single sound.

The pieces ranged from upbeat to somber and even some that ran the gamut within a single song. The first arrangement, "El Grillo" by Josquin des Prez, was the peppy and perhaps even danceable song of the love-lorn cricket, followed immediately by solemn tones in "Il Bianco e Dolce Cigno," a song of a dying swan.

Other songs such as "Je le Vous Dirai!" by Pierre Ceron and "Cucu, Cucu!" by Juan del Encina told the story of cuckolds, married men with adulterous wives, and ensuing scandal. "Je le Dous Dirai!" even translates to "Do I Dare Not Say It!" referencing its gossipy subject.

As an audition group, the Camerata attracts and keeps motivated and talented students, and tours both the immediate area around Elon and farther around the country. The Camerata hosts an annual a cappella holiday concert in the winter, and they along with the university orchestra and chorale will join together for a concert on April 29.

But the group performed well on its own and made what could have been stale chants from the era of Shakespeare relevant and even cool for today's college culture. The best part of the Camerata? According to Futrell, the selection of music is whatever he thinks of at the time. So a Camerata concert will always be different and new.

APRIL IS ...

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

Sexual assault in the United States:

- It is estimated that the percentage of complete or attempted rape victimization among women in higher educational institutions may be between 20% and 25% over the course of a college career. (Fisher, Cullen, & Turner, 2000)
- Males can also be victims of sexual violence and may be even less likely to report (Hart & Rennison, 2003)
- Almost 12.8% of completed rapes, 35% of attempted rapes, and 22.9% of threatened rapes happened during a date (Fisher, Cullen & Turner, 2000)
- Rape is far more extensive than reported in official statistics, and the large majority of rapists are never apprehended (Carr & VanDeusen, 2004)
- Between 10 and 20 percent of mental health care expenditures in the U.S. may be attributable to crime victims who seek treatment as a result of their victimization. Total costs per incident of non-fatal rape and sexual assault are estimated at \$87,000, including \$2,200 in productivity losses, \$500 for medical care expenses, \$2,200 for mental health care, and \$81,400 associated with reduced quality of life (NIJ, 1996)

Sexual Assault on Elon's Campus:

36 students have sought resources from the Office of Personal Health Programs and Community Well-Being around an incident of sexual or relationship violence this academic school year alone.

BROUGHT TO ELON BY SPARKS

What's Going on in April?

- > Come to Sexversations on April 22nd in Linder 102 @ 7:00
- > Contribute to the Clothesline Project! Stop by the SPARKS table at College Coffee on April 22nd to decorate a t-shirt for our West Area Lawn Display. Your artwork will be displayed for all to see throughout the week of the 26th!

Renovations set for Alumni Gym



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Jeanne Robertson, an Elon University trustee, and her husband Jerry have gifted Elon Athletics with funding to begin renovations on Alumni Gym. Renovations include changes to seating, lighting, sound and video boards, offices and locker rooms. There will also be a new south entrance and an outdoor plaza.

This is not the first gift the Robertsons have given Elon. They have made donations in honor of former Director of Athletics Alan White and his wife, Norma, which allowed the field in Belk Track Complex to be named Dr. Alan and Norma White Field and the North Athletics Complex to include Alan J. White Bell Tower.

The image above shows an artist's rendition of what Alumni Gym will look like after renovations, which are set to take place throughout the next two summers.

Elon Outdoors provides recreation, students take to the mountains for weekend getaway

Jordan Scahill
Reporter

Ten students decided to change up the scenery and face the outdoors this past weekend, attending a Hike and Bike overnight trip through Elon Outdoors.

"The 8-mile hike on Saturday was really rewarding," junior Rachel Kerner said. "We got to see a lot of different landscapes, walked by wild ponies and climbed the tallest mountain in Virginia."

The group, led by team leader Kerner, left at 9 a.m. April 17 to travel to Grayson Highlands State Park in Virginia. Once they arrived, they set up camp and ate lunch. The rest of the day included a day hike on the Appalachian Trail and dinner before a fun night of camping.

On Sunday, the group got an early start and left at 8:30 a.m. for Damascus, Va. They spent the day biking before returning to Elon around 4 p.m.

The Hike and Bike overnight trip cost \$15 to participate. The fee included all meals, bike rental and shuttle, camping gear and transportation.

"Elon Outdoors gives students the opportunity to get off campus and meet new students," Kerner said. "Participants get to experience a local place they could always visit again, and

really see what the surrounding area has to offer."

As a part of Campus Recreation, Elon Outdoors offers students the opportunity to sign up for trips at any point in the year.

"There is an average of 10 to 24 students who normally attend the weekend trips," Kerner said. "Whoever is interested and wants to come is welcome to sign up at the Campus Recreation front desk."

Besides the Hike and Bike Trip, Elon Outdoors also hosts trips for canoeing, kayaking, white-water rafting, skiing, snowboarding, snowtubing, backpacking, horseback riding and indoor climbing.

S'mores with Outdoors is a weekly program that provides students with a chance to spend time outside on Elon's campus behind Beck Pool.

Camping equipment is also available for weekend rental.

The next Elon Outdoors trip will be this weekend from Friday to Saturday. Participants will learn sea kayaking through Hook, Line and Paddle in Wrightsville Beach, N.C.

The following weekend will be a whitewater rafting trip to the U.S. National Whitewater Center in Charlotte. Interest meetings are held the previous Monday and Tuesday to the trip at 6 p.m. in Koury Commons.

ELON ATHLETICS THIS WEEK

APRIL 21 - APRIL 27

Wednesday 4/21

Baseball vs. High Point - 7 p.m.

Thursday 4/22

Softball vs. Charlotte - 4 p.m.
Softball vs. Charlotte - 6 p.m.

Friday 4/23

Track and Field (SoCon Championship) - All day
Baseball @ College of Charleston - 6 p.m.

Saturday 4/24

Track and Field (SoCon Championship) - All day
Men's Tennis @ College of Charleston - 8:30 a.m.
Baseball @ College of Charleston - 1 p.m.
Softball vs. Samford - 1 p.m.
Softball vs. Samford - 3 p.m.

Sunday 4/25

Men's Tennis @ SoCon Tournament - TBD
Track and Field (SoCon Championship) - All day
Baseball @ College of Charleston - 1 p.m.
Softball vs. Samford - 1 p.m.

Tuesday 4/27

Baseball vs. Liberty - 7 p.m.

ATHLETIC RESULTS

APRIL 14 - APRIL 19

Baseball
April 14
Elon 9
Wake Forest 8

April 14
Elon 5
Campbell 2

April 16
Western
Carolina 0
Elon 3

April 17
Elon 3
Chattanooga 2

April 17
Western
Carolina 14
Elon 8

April 17
Elon 7
Chattanooga 6

April 18
Western
Carolina 10
Elon 12

April 18
Elon 0
Chattanooga 6

Softball
April 14
Elon 8
Campbell 6

Men's Tennis
April 17
East Carolina 2
Elon 5

Women's Tennis
April 17
Gardner-Webb 1
Elon 6



ONE ON ONE

Conor O'Neill and Tom Waterman
Sports Commentators

Conor O'Neill:

For overrated players, look no further than University of Southern California safety Taylor Mays. Everybody can get excited about how physical he was in college and rave about his big hits, but NFL safeties need more than that. The position requires discipline, something Mays showed little of in college. I'll be laughing when the Oakland Raiders draft him eighth overall because I know that's another pick that owner Al Davis will regret.

Another player who is vastly overrated is Joe Haden. The cornerback from Florida is projected by some to be a top-10 pick. If that happens, that team will greatly overpay for a hyped player. Haden ran a 4.62 40-yard dash at the combine, which isn't exactly top-end speed, especially when most receivers in the league run in the 4.40 area.

Tom Waterman:

Conor, you definitely have the right idea about

the Raiders reaching and drafting someone way too early. But I see them drafting combine-star and Maryland offensive tackle Bruce Campbell. Campbell wowed scouts at the combine with his incredible measurables, including his 4.85-second 40-yard dash and 32-inch vertical leap to go along with his 6-foot-6-inch, 314-pound frame. Unfortunately for them, Campbell's game film doesn't project him anywhere near where some team will ultimately draft him.

Conor:

Yes, the Raiders will surprise us with whomever they take. As for underrated, I'm looking for Clemson University's C.J. Spiller to be a game changer in the NFL. I know he's been jumping up draft boards recently, but I think he deserves to be a top-5 pick. This is a player who I see being able to come in as an instant impact for a team and be just like Percy Harvin was for the Minnesota Vikings last season. Spiller is the ACC's version of Reggie Bush, but I see him being more effective in the NFL.

The other player I see as having a large impact

would be Texas Christian University's Jerry Hughes. Even though he may not have played against top-level competition, we've seen talent come from the Mountain West Conference before.

Tom:

I definitely see the Spiller argument. His numbers in college were incredible, and I think he will make a major impact in the NFL next year. I think the most underrated player is University of Notre Dame wide receiver Golden Tate. Tate is coming off a season in which he had nearly 1,500 receiving yards and 15 touchdowns at Notre Dame. His play-making ability, combined with his superb route-running and hands, reminds me of 2009 first-round pick Hakeem Nicks, now of the Giants.

Another player that stands out to me as being underrated is Dorin Dickerson out of University of Pittsburgh. The hybrid tight end/wide receiver, at 6 feet and 2 inches and 230 pounds, ran a 4.4 second 40-yard dash at the combine and will be a steal for a team in the late second or early third round.

It's time for the NFL draft

Thursday night, for the first time on prime time television, is the NFL Draft. This year's draft class is not short of story lines, from consensus first overall pick Sam Bradford's injury history to Tim Tebow's work in becoming a traditional quarterback. So who are this year's overrated and underrated stars?

Men's tennis ends season with win, looks ahead to SoCon tournament



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer

Junior Alberto Rojas finishes his stroke in his April 17 match against East Carolina University. Rojas won his singles match 7-5, 6-2 at the No. 3 spot. This is Rojas' eighth singles win of the season.

Sam Calvert
Sports Editor

On a sunny Saturday afternoon, all six singles lines of the Elon University men's tennis team took the courts for a match against East Carolina University. As play progressed and the competition heated up, shouts could be heard coming from the courts.

The No. 1 could be heard yelling to the No. 4 player, who could be heard yelling to the No. 6 player. Words of encouragement flew between courts, filling up the Jimmy Powell tennis facility.

"When it gets tough, you need everyone to pull everyone through," junior Alberto Rojas said.

Rojas said the team has been trying to encourage each other and be more vocal. It could be heard throughout the entirety of the East Carolina University match April 17.

The team saw a 5-2 victory against the Pirates on April 17, which began with the No. 1 and 2 doubles teams winning 8-4 and 8-2, respectively, to capture the doubles point.

In singles, juniors Chase Helpingstine and Cody Stauffer-MacDowell were the first off the courts. Helpingstine won at No. 2, 6-2 and 6-3, and MacDowell followed suit with a 6-2, 6-2 victory.

"Chase (Helpingstine) and Cody (Stauffer-MacDowell) set the tempo today," head coach Michael Leonard said.

Rojas clinched the match at No. 3 with a 6-5, 6-2 win, and junior Philip Nemeč claimed Elon's fifth point at No. 1, 2-6, 7-6 (7-4), 6-3.

This was the last regular season match for the Phoenix, who will extend its play this weekend in the Southern Conference tournament.

"They're really excited," Leonard

said. "They've seen every team (at the tournament) and they're not afraid of anybody."

Elon is the No. 4 seed going into the tournament, behind No. 3 University of North Carolina Greensboro, No. 2 Furman University and No. 1 College of Charleston.

The team fell to Furman April 10, 1-6. Earlier in the season, Elon also lost to UNCG and then-60th-ranked College of Charleston 3-4.

"We have to play to our potential," Leonard said. "We have to work on trusting ourselves and be ready to compete."

Leonard said the team is feeling good about itself, though earlier in the season it wasn't so sure.

"We're playing our best tennis now," Leonard said.

He said that one of the biggest things the Phoenix must do at the tournament is win the doubles point. With that momentum, he said the team has a good chance to come out on top.

Rojas added that the team will also need a mental toughness to compete in the SoCon tournament.

In the first round, Elon will face No. 75 College of Charleston, who is undefeated in SoCon play.

"We match up well against (College of Charleston)," Rojas said. "It's going to come down to who can compete harder."

Leonard said the Cougars are favored to win the SoCon and everyone sees them as the team to beat.

Although the Phoenix lost to the College of Charleston, along with Furman and UNCG, earlier in the season, Leonard said Elon has the potential to compete with all of them.

"On any given day, we can beat any team up there," Leonard said. "We just have to play to our potential."

Phoenix wins series against Western Carolina, gathers momentum to take on High Point

Conor O'Neill
Assistant Sports Editor

After winning two of its three games last weekend against Western Carolina University, the Elon University baseball team hopes it can sustain the level of energy the team exhibited during the series, head coach Mike Kennedy said.

In particular, he said, the Phoenix plans to build off Sunday's emotional 12-10 victory in the rubber match of the series.

In the fifth inning of Sunday's game, three of the first four Elon batters to step to the plate hit home runs against Catamount pitcher junior Brandon Johnson.

Johnson then hit junior infielder Seth Canipe, drawing warnings for both benches. On his way to first base, Canipe and Johnson exchanged words, at which point both benches cleared.

No punches were thrown and play resumed shortly after. When Johnson returned to the mound, he hit senior outfielder Harry Austin in the back with his next pitch. Johnson was immediately thrown out of the game, as was his head coach Bobby Moranda.

The display of emotion for Elon was a good sign, according to senior catcher Mike Melillo.

"Baseball's not like football, you can't just go out there and run around and hit somebody," Melillo said. "Every once in a while it's good to have something like that, especially on a Sunday."

Kennedy also said he sees Sunday's win as a spark for his team.

"We haven't played with a lot of energy this year," Kennedy said. "So I thought we played with energy (Sunday), but that's where it's got to end. The jawing and trash-talking doesn't get us where we want to go. But the energy that we played with is what we've been missing."

The Phoenix will host High Point University in a 7 p.m. game on Wednesday, April 21 at Latham Park.

Earlier this season, Feb. 23, the team traveled to High Point and secured an 8-3 victory.

On the season, the Phoenix has an overall record of 25-13, with an 11-7 mark in Southern Conference play. The team currently sits at fifth in the SoCon.

While last season the team held a 12-1 record at home in conference play, this season is a different



MOLLY CAREY | Staff Photographer

Senior first baseman Ryan Adams had one hit in five at bats on the way to a 12-10 win against Western Carolina University on April 18.

story. The Phoenix has won just three of its nine conference games at Latham Park this season.

"We haven't been playing well at home," Melillo said. "Friday nights we seem to win, but we haven't been able to do our job later on."

Upon being asked how it felt to win a conference series at home last weekend, senior outfielder Justin Hilt had a one-word response.

"Weird," Hilt said jokingly. "It's been a long time."

Hilt has struggled in his senior season, as he entered the weekend with a batting average of .260. In his previous three seasons with the team, Hilt had a batting average of .326. But after recording hits in four of eight at-bats last weekend, including two home runs on Sunday, Hilt said he feels he has time to turn his season around.

"We have five weeks left in the season, and I needed

something to get me going," Hilt said.

Melillo and Kennedy both said the Phoenix must improve upon its base running in order to finish its season near the top of the SoCon standings.

"It's the worst base running team I've ever coached," Kennedy said. "It's not like we don't talk about it and don't work on it."

Sixteen times this season a Phoenix base runner has been picked off of a base.

But base running isn't the only thing that needs improvement, Melillo said.

"Every aspect of our game has to improve," Melillo said. "We can be a real streaky team, so we need to find a little more consistency. Offensively, we need to put more pressure on people early in games."

Wednesday, the team will aim to carry momentum into its contest against High Point.

Wide receiver looks to continue his career in NFL

Sam Calvert
Sports Editor

On Nov. 28, 2009, with less than 30 seconds left in the playoff game against University of Richmond, Elon University senior wide receiver Terrell Hudgins made an 8-yard catch that would be his last for the Phoenix.

The last-minute effort to tie the game wouldn't be enough to keep Elon's season alive, and the team ended the season on a 16-13 loss to the Spiders.

"It all hit me," Hudgins said. "I thought, 'This is your last game. This is your last time playing with these guys, your last time being coached by these coaches.' That was probably the toughest part. It took a while until I got over that."

Hudgins said he didn't begin thinking about the NFL draft until Christmas, when he spent two to three weeks interviewing agents to represent him.

After he chose one, he returned to Elon for an internship opportunity and he began training four days a week. He worked a lot on his speed for his pro day on March 16.

On that day, Hudgins, along with defensive linemen Andre Campbell and Eric Ludwig, offensive lineman David Harrison and defensive back Nolan Ward, participated in the workouts.

"They had me go first in everything, so everyone else got to watch me," Hudgins said. "If I messed up, they could correct their stuff."

The group began in the weight room with the broad jump, vertical jump and

bench press. The session then moved outside for the 40-meter dash, along with other footwork tests like the three-cone and shuttle drills.

Scouts from the Carolina Panthers, Denver Broncos and New York Giants were all present for the workouts.

"It was a lot of fun," Hudgins said. "We had three NFL scouts who have seen the best of the best, so it was pretty interesting."

Since then, Hudgins has continued to train and wait for the NFL draft.

The draft will begin Thursday, when round one airs live at 7:30 p.m. on both ESPN and the NFL Network. Rounds two and three will be televised at 6 p.m. Friday, followed by rounds four through seven beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday.

"Most people ask me, 'Where do you think you're going to be drafted?'" Hudgins said. "I don't even know. I just want an opportunity. That's all I ask for."

During his four years at Elon, Hudgins amassed 5,220

receiving yards on 394 receptions, with 51 touchdowns.

Hudgins also holds the Football Championship Subdivision record for career receiving yards.

He also broke the NCAA Division I record for career receptions.

"I knew I had to do more than those guys have to do, playing at the big FBS (Football Bowl Subdivision) schools," Hudgins said. "I figured I had to get the most yards, get the most catches, try and get the most touchdowns.

If I was to play in the NFL, then I have to pretty much play great."

Hudgins came to Elon as a quarterback but switched to wide receiver before beginning his collegiate career because he said he had better potential to go further with his career in that position.

After his first year of play, he said he knew that if he kept improving he might have a shot. He said his sophomore year was what cemented that idea in his head.

"Around my sophomore year, I was

really like, 'I can play in the NFL if I give it all I have,'" Hudgins said.

Head coach Pete Lembo also helped encourage the idea, he said, and helped him develop into a professional-quality athlete.

"He told me that I could be a great player, and it was up to me to mature and work hard all the time because a lot of guys are watching me," Hudgins said. "He's part of the reason that I've done some of the things I've done. It may seem like he's coming down on me hard, but now I look back at it, and he was trying to bring out the best in me."

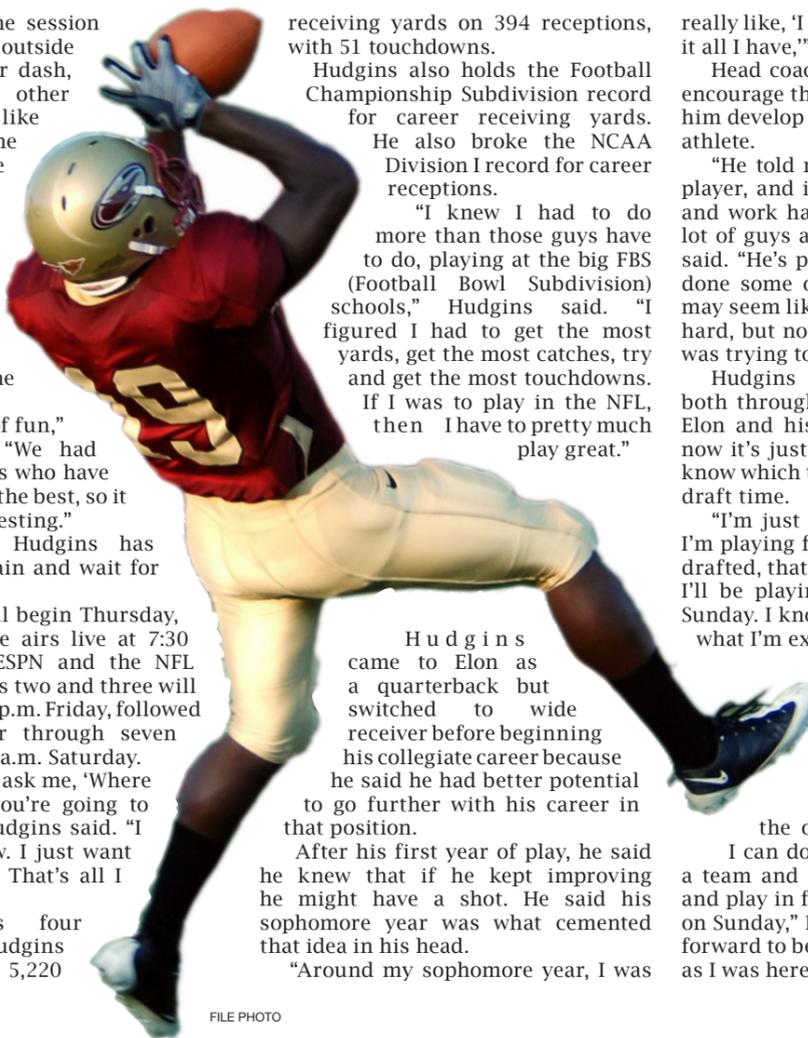
Hudgins said he's been prepared, both through help from the people at Elon and his own hard work, but for now it's just a waiting game. He won't know which team he is playing for until draft time.

"I'm just excited to figure out who I'm playing for," Hudgins said. "If I get drafted, that would be great, but I know I'll be playing with someone by that Sunday. I know I'll be on a team. That's what I'm excited to find out."

Hudgins said he's not too nervous about this weekend, but instead he's anxious about a chance to play football at the next level.

"I'm looking forward to the opportunity to show what

I can do and show how I can help a team and get out there on the field and play in front of family and friends on Sunday," Hudgins said. "I'm looking forward to being the same person there as I was here."



FILE PHOTO

Make your voice count!

Time is running out!



In the next two weeks, Elon Dining Services is conducting iTouch surveys and focus groups around campus in order to better meet YOUR dining needs. Go to www.elon.edu/dining and click on *News and Events* for participation information. Don't miss out on your chance to voice your opinion!





ELON OPENS CAMPUS TO SPRING SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Jasmine Gregory
Reporter

Special Olympics of Alamance County held its annual spring games at Elon University April 16. An estimated 250 athletes participated in activities such as track races, soccer, basketball and tennis ball throws.

The games opened with the athlete oath: "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

After each event, participants were presented with gold, silver and bronze medals for their valiant efforts.

Many students from Elon and surrounding high schools served as volunteers. Elon athletes from the track, football and cheerleading teams also served as volunteers.

Brandon Brant, a freshman football player, decided to help out in conjunction with his teammates.

"Basically I got the sense that the kids just wanted to be treated like everyone else and not necessarily overly catered to," he said. "I feel the significance of the Special Olympics is to allow the kids (to be) out in the open among people similar to themselves and everyone else."

Once registered, each athlete was paired with a student volunteer. The volunteers spent the day with their athletes cheering them on in various events.

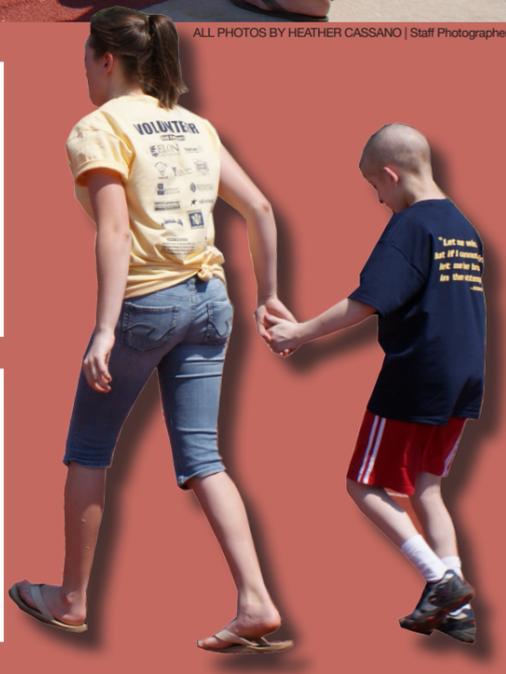
"It was an amazing experience and I plan on volunteering next year, too," said Laura McCabe, a sophomore strategic communications major. "Some of these athletes could kick my butt on the basketball court or on the track. They are serious, training athletes with tremendous talent."



An adult with special needs sings the national anthem.



Volunteers check in at the registration tables.



ALL PHOTOS BY HEATHER CASSANO | Staff Photographer

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

What is the Clothesline Project?

"A visual display that bears witness to the violence against women. During the public display, a clothesline is hung with shirts. Each shirt is decorated to represent a particular woman's experience, by the survivor herself or by someone who cares about her."

- clotheslineproject.org

What do the colors mean?

- White- women who were murdered
- Yellow- women who have been battered or assaulted
- Red- women who have been sexually assaulted
- Blue- women who are survivors of incest or child sexual abuse



Where and When to look for it?

- The T-shirts will be displayed April 26-30 on West Area Lawn.
- Shirts are due to the collection box by April 23 outside the Office of Substance Education in Koury Gym.
- Special thanks to Lauren Martin, Leigh-Anne Royster, S.P.A.R.K.S Peer Educators, the Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life, the Art Guild and Crossroads women's shelter for helping to make this project possible.

MESSAGE BROUGHT TO YOU BY S.P.A.R.K.S.
(STUDENTS, PROMOTING, AWARENESS,
RESPONSIBILITY, KNOWLEDGE, AND SUCCESS)

CELEBRATE! Week

April 25 - May 1, 2010

SURF day presentation. see a play, view student artwork. attend a SURF day presentation. see a play, view student artwork.

SUNDAY
MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY
SATURDAY

to live music, support student projects, watch a dance.
listen to live music, support student projects, watch a dance.

www.elon.edu/e-web/academics/elon_college/celebrate.xhtml

More than Just Getting SURF Day Off

Sports

WOMEN'S TENNIS ENDS WITH A SMILE

Sam Calvert
Sports Editor

As Elon University women's tennis head coach Elizabeth Anderson walked on the tennis court to talk to her team, seniors Paige Kensrue and Laura Graybill had a surprise for her.

The two gripped either side of a water jug as they snuck up behind the coach, eventually pouring ice water down Anderson's back. The team erupted in laughter.

"It's always been Laura's dream to throw a bucket of water on a coach, so it was really her idea," Kensrue said. "(Anderson) has done so much for us. She's been there through thick and thin. We knew she would enjoy it."

This celebration came on the heels of a 6-1 victory over Gardner-Webb University April 17.

Elon only dropped two matches in its final match of the season.

"They fought hard as a team," Anderson said. "I'm really proud of the seniors for going out on a good match."

The win was a cap to a season of improvement for the team, where it saw more victories than Elon has earned in its time playing in Division I athletics.

"This season was really exciting," Anderson said. "We went out and beat people we haven't beat before, or at least haven't beaten in a long time. It's been good for the girls. It's been really fun for them."

The overall record for 2010 was 16-7. In the 2009 season, the Phoenix finished 13-12.

Before this season, Elon's 15 wins in 2008 were the most since it began playing the Division I in 2000.

"We made such big strides," Kensrue said. "Everyone stepped up. I'm so proud of my girls the way they fought. It'll just add fuel to the fire for next year."

Kensrue said the team saw several highlight wins against rival opponents this year, which helped propel the team through its best season of this decade.

Its 4-3 win against University of North Carolina Wilmington and its 5-2 wins against Georgia Southern University and University North Carolina Greensboro were the centerpieces of the season, Kensrue said.

"When you have a season as good as we had, then you're going to have more than one highlight (to the season)."



HEATHER CASSANO | Staff Photographer
Senior Anna Milian and sophomore partner Elisa Simonetti congratulate one another after a point in the 8-3 win against Gardner-Webb April 17. The team won the match 6-1.

The Southern Conference changed the format of the end-of-the-season tournament in both men's and women's tennis this year. In previous years, all 11 teams would make the tournament.

This season, only the top four teams will travel to Mt. Pleasant, S.C. this weekend for the SoCon tournament.

Elon finished fifth in the SoCon, just out of the tournament, but its 6-4 conference record is one

of the best it's had. The team has not seen as many conference wins in a season since 2000.

"This was a tough Southern Conference," Anderson said. "There is a lot for them to be proud of."

For four seniors, the Gardner-Webb match was the end of their final season here at Elon. Anna Milian, Hayley Wahl, Graybill and Kensrue were honored that day for "Senior Day."

"There was such a great atmosphere out here," Kensrue said. "I really just tried to relish every moment."

From the time Milian joined the team in January of 2008, these four women have been together, supporting one another in their times of need. This was no different in their final match.

After an 8-3 doubles win with partner sophomore Elisa Simonetti, Milian dropped her singles match 6-2, 6-3 at the No.1 spot. Immediately, Kensrue hopped up from her spot in the bleachers and ran down to join Milian on the court.

"She means the world to me," Kensrue said. "I know everything she was feeling. I just wanted her to know that no one thought bad of her. We all knew she put her heart out there, and that's all we could ask of her."

This is just one example of the support and leadership Anderson said was so prevalent throughout the seniors on the team. She said their efforts paid off both on and off the court.

"This was a good group of seniors," Anderson said. "They worked so hard. They had good senior leadership, and they really wanted to put in the time it took to be the best they possibly could be."

Next season, the team will add five freshmen to replace the four vacated spots. While Anderson said the seniors won't be able to be replaced, they have done a good job teaching the rest of the team how to succeed without them.

"We're losing good leadership, but I'm looking forward to seeing the team develop," Anderson said. "The returning players have big shoes to fill, but the seniors have been great taking the younger players under their wings."

With the team's performance this season, Kensrue said it set a high standard for the returning players to live up to.

"But don't worry," she said. "I'll come back next year to keep them in line."

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Paige Kensrue

Hometown: Tampa, Fla.
Singles record at Elon: 65-48
Doubles record at Elon: 49-57
Anderson on Kensrue: "She's been wonderful since day one. She's one of the most improved players on the team. I can't say enough good things about her."



Hayley Wahl

Hometown: Gauteng, South Africa
Singles record at Elon: 35-29
Doubles record at Elon: 33-31
Anderson on Wahl: "She's been such a good competitor for us. She gets fired up. She's been a good driving force for the team."



Anna Milian

Hometown: Tortosa, Spain
Singles record at Elon: 60-21
Doubles record at Elon: 54-27
Anderson on Milian: "She's going down in history as one of the best Elon women's tennis players we've had. She's great on the court, and she's been a pleasure to work with."



Laura Graybill

Hometown: Lancaster, Pa.
Singles record at Elon: 43-41
Doubles record at Elon: 38-24
Anderson on Graybill: "She's probably one of the most determined players I've ever worked with. She's been there for me rock solid."