



KATE HOPKINS
crowned
Homecoming Queen

See more from
HOMECOMING 2009
PAGE 13



AS GOOD AS
THE BOOK?!

See how The Pendulum's
reviewer rated the classic book,
"Where the Wild Things Are"
PAGE 16

MORE INSIDE THIS ISSUE AND ONLINE:

**KISS ME
KATE**

The Pendulum
goes behind
the scenes

ONLINE

**ELON V.
CHATTANOOGA**

Elon football
earns a victory in
Rhodes Stadium for
Homecoming

PAGE 23

**HALLOWEEN
HAUNTS**

Where to go for
the area's biggest
scares this
weekend

PAGE 18



THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA | WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2009 | VOLUME 35, EDITION 27

www.elon.edu/pendulum

FIGHTING THE FLU

Local hospital sets new guidelines for visitors

Influenza

Antiviral medications can help people feel better if taken within 48 hours of onset of symptoms

Headache
High fever

Dry cough

Chest pains

Chills

Severe fatigue

Severe aches

NOTE: H1N1 virus also causes some gastrointestinal distress

Cold

Colds are caused by a different virus; symptoms are less severe — and they come on more gradually than flu

Sneezing
Stuffy nose
Hacking cough

Mild sore
throat

Mild fatigue



Nursing student Kelli Emery, left, gets a nasal H1N1 vaccine from Sara Wall, an infection control nurse, at Alamance Regional Hospital's Octoberfest. Octoberfest provides medical services, such as vaccinations, to hospital staff members.

Allee Bennett
Reporter

For those seeking treatment for the flu or visiting friends or loved ones that may be infected, expect some limitations at Alamance Regional Medical Center this fall.

The hospital, which is the county's largest health care provider, is not restricting visitors but is encouraging anyone not seeking treatment to steer clear of facilities.

"If you don't need to come, you shouldn't," said Sara Wall, the infection control nurse at the hospital.

North Carolina is one of

46 states with widespread flu activity, according to the Center of Disease Control. The visitation guidelines were placed in hopes of controlling flu outbreaks in the region. The guidelines placed in May require each visitor and employee to sanitize their hands upon entering the facilities.

"At this point we aren't banning visitors, but we are about to move toward more strict guidelines in the future," Wall said.

Additional guidelines suggest any person with flu-like symptoms, including the H1N1 strain, should not visit patients. Also, individuals should come to the hospital for treatment only.

Senior Jennifer Schafer has had the H1N1 flu since Thursday and has since been quarantined in her apartment.

"I had a really high fever and it's developed into bronchitis," she said. "The most miserable part of it has been that I haven't been able to leave my apartment since Thursday. Otherwise, it's just like the regular flu."

Schafer was told to stay in her room with the door closed as to not infect her roommates. She was also instructed not to visit any public place until 48 hours after her fever broke.

She said she agrees with the

See FLU | PAGE 6

Strep throat

A sore throat, but no stuffy nose, may mean it's a streptococcal bacterial infection — antibiotics can help

High fever

Pus on tonsils
Very sore
throat

Stomach flu

Virus enters via mouth and multiplies in small intestine; symptoms can appear in a few hours, but usually take a day; food poisoning typically is a bacterial infection, such as E. coli

Headache

Vomiting

Fatigue

Diarrhea

GRAPHICS COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

The great marijuana debate draws crowd

Sam King
Assistant News Editor

More than 70 students, some irate and begging to attend, were turned away from an overflowing La Rose theater Monday night, where speakers discussed the hotly debated issue on whether or not marijuana should be legalized during "The Great Marijuana Debate."

Students, faculty and members of the Burlington community may have crowded the room and spilled into the aisles because of the new Obama administration policy that will not press charges against those who use or sell medical marijuana, provided they abide by the state laws and new policy guidelines. That change, which was announced two weeks ago, moves America closer to ending, or at least partially ending, the prohibition against marijuana now than at any other point.

Paul Chabot, an Iraq war veteran and father, offered the

con side of the issue and stressed the moral concerns of legalizing marijuana, while Kris Krane, former representative of Students for Sensible Drug Policy, discussed the positive aspects of legalizing marijuana.

"We're better than them," Chabot said in his opening statement. "We have a responsibility for ourselves, our families and our communities."

Chabot framed his position as the minority and the underdog, saying "pro-drug" advocates outnumber anti-drug supporters at least 100 to one. He said those who want legalization had more money for campaigning and that a majority of Americans want to see marijuana legalized.

While Chabot stressed the moral responsibility every American in the room had to uphold the country's values and beliefs, Krane brought the

See DEBATE | PAGE 5

University compensates for economic downturn

Anna Johnson
Senior Reporter

With \$1,425 an Elon student can buy 203 medium one-topping pizzas, 530 gallons of gas or 843 small cups of coffee. This is also the amount Elon University's tuition increased from last year.

While Elon's tuition increased at a rate of 5.559 percent, higher than the 4.7 percent average increase for other private schools in North Carolina, Elon's tuition cost remained below the national average.

A new report by The College Board states, on average, four-year public schools raised tuition and fees by 6.5 percent last year. At four-year private schools, the costs rose by an average of 4.4 percent.

"Because the public schools are funded by states, when the state's revenue is down they struggle," said Susan Klopman, vice president of admissions and financial planning. "The N.C. system is in trouble and had to cut hundreds of positions. Of course they have got to make up for shortfall (by raising tuition). We've always been independent in that sense. We don't feel quite the same dramatic impact as public schools losing state funding."

The report states "the widespread

perceptions that published college prices are rising more rapidly than the prices of other goods and services." It also says this has been a trend for more than 30 years.

Klopman said no one likes to see tuition go up, but with the cost increase in other areas it was a necessary step. She said the university made several cuts to help save money.

"One example in our department is we stopped printing the academic catalog," Klopman said. "We usually print around 15,000 copies and we printed 900 this year. You have to use it online so it is a way to save a lot of money."

Elon currently estimates the cost for in-state students comes to \$31,875. This is \$3,761 less than the national average for total cost of private schools.

According to Klopman, Elon provided an additional \$250,000 for financial aid than normally allotted for students because of the economic downturn. Klopman said 60 percent of Elon students get some sort of financial aid, either need- or merit-based.

Along with financial aid, an increase in student loans has jumped in recent years. Nancy M. Viggiano, director of communications for

See COSTS | PAGE 6

got hot tub?

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Students to share lessons from studies abroad



Political science professor Betty Morgan speaks at last year's Study Abroad Forum, an event where students can share their study abroad experiences.

Hannah Williams
Senior Reporter

Elon University's second annual Study Abroad Forum, showcasing students' study abroad experiences and learned lessons, will be held in McKinnon Hall from 4-7:30 p.m. Thursday.

Sponsored by the Study Abroad Committee and the Isabella Cannon Center for International Studies, the forum aims to celebrate the academic learning, cultural awareness and personal growth of Elon students and faculty resulting from study abroad.

Students will share advice about strategies they used to capitalize on their study abroad experience, research they've conducted around the world and meaningful personal encounters that impacted their growth.

Dean of International Programs Woody Pelton will open the program, and Kim Jones, assistant professor of anthropology, and Judy Esposito, associate professor of human service studies, will chair sessions one and two, respectively.

The program schedule lists the following student presenters:

Lauren Taylor, a senior pursuing an independent major, will offer her advice to other students hoping to pursue academic research abroad based on her experience studying in Costa Rica for a semester and in South Africa for six weeks. She recommends finding a faculty mentor, planning ahead, making contacts in the host country and preparing for unexpected challenges.

Juniors Elizabeth Leman, Maggie Pahos and Katherine Dirks will discuss and compare their experiences presenting

educational science exhibitions in schools in Kerala, India, and Graham, N.C. They will also present the findings of a survey administered to the student participants to identify which exhibits were the most engaging, what children learned and how they could be improved. They will also compare the American and Indian survey results. Pahos will share artwork she collected from Indian students in an independent presentation, as well.

Mica McCullough and Alison Brooks, members of the 2010 class of Periclean Scholars, will present their analysis of the measures taken by the Kufuor administration (2001-2009) to improve Ghana's national health system, as well as the extent to which an Elon Periclean Scholars class of 2010 community partnership with Kpoeta, Ghana, has supported Ghana's national health care goals.

Charley Costa, a junior who delved into Costa Rica's criminal justice system when he studied there, interviewed two lawyers and visited the country's supreme court to learn more about the system and evaluate its effectiveness.

Senior Alexa Terry, studying communications and theater arts, will discuss the importance of maintaining an ongoing inner-dialogue to better interpret and understand cross-cultural exchange through constant awareness and self-reflection.

Junior Adley Kloth, an International Studies major and German minor, plans to discuss how to create an independent Elon program abroad using her own experience as a summer intern in Germany as an example.

Senior Nate Guerette will discuss the influence of a service learning study abroad experience on a student's critical thinking processes and ability to compare relevant social themes across cultures through video, lecture and discussion.

Elon students, alumni, faculty and staff were invited to submit proposals for presentations, posters, performances and panels by Sept. 20. Submissions were reviewed by the Study Abroad Forum Organizing Committee, chaired by Martin Kamela, associate professor of physics, and presenters were selected.

New diversity tool helps bring awareness to campus

Laura Smith
News Editor

On Tuesday, the Multicultural Center and the Office of Student Life premiered its newest diversity education tool, "Deep Impact," at the Carousel Cinemas at Alamance Crossing.

"Deep Impact" is a short film created by Elon's student film society, Cinelon, to initiate discussions on race, class, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities and religion. There are eight different vignettes included, which discuss these seven types of diversity topics as well as monologues from the Black Box Theater. After each vignette, there is a series of educational exercises that can be completed.

"It's great. It makes you look at a lot of different things," said Kelsey Glover, student coordinator for the Diversity Emerging Education Program. DEEP has been instrumental in publicizing the event on campus.

The film builds upon the total Deep Impact education initiative, which, in its entirety, is a multimedia diversity education tool by the Multicultural Center and the Office of Student Life. In addition to the film, there is an educational curriculum and diversity education training manual which are set to be released sometime at the end of next month.

When complete, the entire tool will consist of a DVD of the film as well as the finished manual for use by all student organizations, classes and departments at Elon.

The tool comes from a grant by the Guilford Green Foundation, which offers funds for community improvement projects. A Deep Impact committee was created after the grant was given. MarQuita Barker, assistant director of residence life, used to work with the Multicultural Center and was on the committee.

"We wanted to use a diversity training tool that anyone could use across campus," she said. "I think it will show real life scenarios that college students actually base on a daily basis."

The curriculum for the initiative was created by Leon Williams, director of the Multicultural Center. Williams has been in diversity education for about 17 years and utilized what he's learned from his experiences for this project, he said.

"It's designed as a conversation starter," Williams said. "This manual and instrument will allow you to start the discussion."

Melissa Jordan, assistant director of Residence Life and the Multicultural

Center, has been helping Williams with the project.

"I think Deep Impact is going to be a wonderful part of our retention climate," Jordan said. "Efforts that will be made will help students have those conversations and a higher level of consciousness."

The film's premiere on Tuesday was the kick-off for the entire initiative.

Senior Ryan Mintz, Cinelon president, was in charge of planning the film from beginning to end.

"Conveniently, the Multicultural Center had a notebook filled with true stories of real people, so we took those ideas with the plan of creating eight vignettes, eight short scripts, each of which was based on a true story dealing with a different branch of diversity," Mintz said.

From there, Mintz formed a creativity team, planned shoots, wrote scripts and cast actors.

"When I started the project, I was aware it was an educational tool in the back of my mind, but the most important part for me was to keep it from being an 'after-school special,'" he said. "We put a lot of effort into telling stories that would hit home and have a sense of realism. People are so desensitized to multicultural issues. This is a good tool because it will offend people and make them think."

Williams is hoping to eventually get a copyright for the Deep Impact tool and sell it to other colleges and universities.

In addition to the curriculum, the Multicultural Center will offer diversity training to Elon faculty and staff. There has already been one training workshop, with the next scheduled to take place next week. The training exercises coincide with the curriculum and will help facilitate discussion on diversity, according to Williams.

"I think it will reshape the campus climate," Williams said. "It will become more integrated and at the same time build advocacy around efforts we're doing in the multicultural center and what teachers are doing in the classroom."

Glover is looking forward to the awareness the tool will bring to campus.

"I don't feel like Elon consciously deals with diversity on an everyday basis, especially outside the classroom," Glover said. "People don't step back and realize how much Elon has to offer. I hope people will have appreciation where there is (diversity) and take it with them into the workplace. It will make them a cut above."

From Belk Library to Club Belk



SAMANTHA KING | Photographer

A gorilla with glowsticks wedged its way through the crowd. Students covered the circulation desk and squeezed themselves into every open space in the surrounding area. Miley Cyrus' "Party in the U.S.A." blared through Belk Library and the scene became Elon's first rave.

From 10:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. Oct. 21, Elon University's Belk Library was transformed. For that half-hour, students raved between the shelves, on the desks and all over the first floor while others observed and filmed the scene from the floor above.

Students began to assemble in front of the library at 10 p.m. before the doors were opened for everyone to rush inside. Free pizza was provided for the Homecoming event that may become annual after the evening's successful turnout.

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'Get REAL' promotes discussion about alcohol on college campuses

Rebecca Smith
Senior Reporter

Responsibility, education, leadership. These are three traits often used to describe Elon students, and they are the goals of a new initiative, launched by Choose Responsibility, called Get REAL. The initiative aims at student body presidents and offers student leaders to carry on alcohol education, promote safe behavior and continue the debate on the legal drinking age.

Last week, Elon's Student Government President Justin Peterson signed the initiative. Peterson's signature on the initiative will not change the day to day life of Elon students, but could eventually lead to more discussions at Elon on lowering the legal drinking age.

Recent statistics from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism reveal the problem of toxic drinking is worsening on campuses nationwide. Between 1998 and 2005, rates of binge drinking and unintentional alcohol-related deaths among the 18-24 aged college population increased.

Another recent study from researchers at the University of Minnesota identified 18 heavy-drinking schools and tracked survey results of alcohol-related problems on those campuses in 1993 and 2005, with little or no improvement during the 12-year period.

Choose Responsibility, which is a nonprofit organization created to initiate discussions about alcohol and young people ages 18-20, contacted student body presidents at the beginning of the fall. The initiative was launched during National College Alcohol Awareness Week, which took place Oct. 17-23.

"We see this movement as similar to the Amethyst Initiative," said Nick DeSantis, a staff assistant for Choose Responsibility. "Our goal with this campaign was to take the next step and involve student body presidents."

According to DeSantis, the intention of the initiative is to get presidents to talk to one another.

"They can talk about which policies work and which won't," he said. "They can get the attention of administration officials and take students into account.

Student presidents occupy a pretty unique place in terms of campus life. The people that voted for them are the ones being affected by rules on campuses. They are pretty powerful voices."

Get REAL charges students to make responsible decisions, to ensure friends who have consumed too much alcohol receive medical attention and to never mix different types of alcohol when drinking. It calls for campus administrators to create a campus environment that is safe for all students, provide alcohol education and prevention programs and engage in dialogue about the legal drinking age and its impact.

The initiative also asks selected officials to recognize the consequences of the legal drinking age and consider alternatives to a legal drinking age of 21 that could create a safer environment on college campuses.

Get REAL signatories are not the first people to demand a discussion about toxic drinking and the drinking age. In August 2008, 135 college and university presidents signed the Amethyst Initiative, a public statement advocating a debate about the intended and unintended consequences of the legal drinking age of 21 on campuses nationwide.

President Leo Lambert did not sign this initiative.

"I thought about the initiative for a while, and the biggest thing was that Elon President Lambert did not sign the Amethyst Initiative," Peterson said. "The thing that made me make up my mind was realizing (my) role is not to represent the administration, but my role is to represent the students. I feel this is what the students want."

The initiative states the legal drinking age of 21 has made college campuses more dangerous because instead of eliminating alcohol use for those younger than 21, drinking has been pushed into secretive settings where there is an increased chance of injury, sexual assault and alcohol poisoning.

"I think that alcohol and how to promote smart behavior and a safe environment should always be discussed," Peterson said. "Elon is doing a lot in order to encourage smart behavior on campus."

Elon School of Law receives grant to create student firm

Jack Dodson
Senior Reporter

The Elon University School of Law opened clinics in Greensboro earlier this month to help local residents deal with will issues and to mediate juvenile justice disputes. The university opened a Clinical Law Center at 210 West Friendly Ave., next to the School of Law's campus as well as a Juvenile Justice Intervention and Mediation Clinic.

Both the wills and the juvenile justice clinics are offered as 3-credit courses for second- and third-year law students.

The wills clinic was approved by the Law School curriculum committee and first offered in the spring of 2009, said professor Margaret Kantlehner, the advisor for the course. Formerly, the clinic was housed in the school's.

"(The wills clinic) is the law school's first live client clinic, serving low income homeowners referred to the clinic by Habitat for Humanity," Kantlehner said.

According to Kantlehner, the clinic operates as a law firm with the primary purpose of education for the law students.

"Students take turns leading the firm meeting each week, reviewing ethics opinions from the North Carolina State Bar, North Carolina law on estate planning and matters of firm management," she said. "Students receive instruction in interviewing techniques, legal research, financing for low income homeowners and end of life planning."

The Juvenile Justice Intervention Clinic seeks to provide a different service in the new center. Dealing specifically with disputes involving juveniles, the students enrolled in the Juvenile Justice course will practice mediating disputes outside of court.

Professor Thomas Noble, who leads the Juvenile Justice course, said the program will have cases referred to

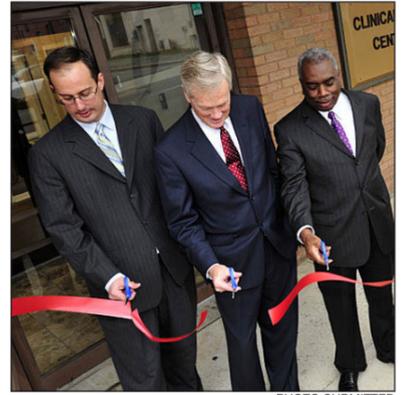


PHOTO SUBMITTED
Tom Noble, professor at Elon School of Law, Gerald Francis, executive vice president of Elon University and George Johnson, dean of the School of Law, cut the ribbon to officially open the law school's Clinical Law Center.

them and will sit down with both parties to figure out whether the case is suitable to settle out of court. The students will then try to mediate a solution between both parties under the supervision of their professor.

"There's a developing philosophy in the criminal justice world called restorative justice," Noble said, which is an approach that attempts to see who has been hurt, what responsibilities come out of that hurt and what can be done to make up for it.

The program comes out of a grant from the United States Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

The grant specifically notes the school works with juveniles, and Noble said he felt there was a particular need for this within the community.

The grant received particular support from Rep. Howard Coble (R-N.C.), the congressman for the Town of Elon and outskirts of Greensboro, not including Elon University School of Law.

The center is open from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Fridays and at other times during the week by appointment.

Check Out What's Happening at Your Favorite Dining Halls in November!

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NON-TRADITIONAL THANKSGIVING DINNER

At Harden on
November 19th

Thanksgiving Dinner

At Colonnades Dining Hall on
November 11th

Carved Turkey Breast, Carved Glazed Ham,
Mashed Potatoes, Traditional Stuffing, Fall
Veggie Salad, Pumpkin Pie, Dutch Apple Pie,
Pumpkin Cheesecake & more!

Donate unused meal plans swipes at these events to support families in need through Christmas Cheer, a local charity organization.

Guest parallels alcohol, marijuana prohibition

DEBATE from PAGE 1

audience back to the 1920's, a time of speak easies and prohibition.

Krane spoke about America's "very noble" and "moral goal" to rid the country of alcohol and all the problems associated with it.

"What the country soon discovered was that prohibition did not make alcohol go away," Krane said. "But it made the problems surrounding alcohol worse."

The problems alcohol created in the 1920s are the same issues America faces regarding marijuana today, Krane said. Illegalizing a substance only creates more crime and unsafe practices.

In the 1930's, after only two minutes of floor debate, marijuana was rendered illegal.

"Marijuana remains illegal today, despite having caused no overdose deaths, and despite being no more harmful than legal and regulated alcohol and tobacco," Krane said.

Chabot, in contrast, said marijuana was rightly outlawed.

"For every dollar that you would make from taxation, you would spend about eight cleaning up the cost," Chabot said.

Chabot said he finds the push for taxing marijuana interesting because those who are pushing for taxation are

very anti-government.

Those who want marijuana to be taxed are simply trying to compromise with the government to get the amendment passed, Chabot said.

Krane, along with other supporters of legalization, said he is not asking for lawless legalization, but for one with rules and regulations. This should be a choice people do in the privacy of their own homes or in restricted public areas, such as a marijuana bars.

Kane said he believes that if marijuana was made legal, with stricter laws surrounding sales and distribution, rules would be enforced. Buyers would be carded, making buying marijuana much harder than it is today, and sellers would be held responsible by the government.

Krane also argued the legalization of marijuana would greatly impact the economy in a positive manner.

"The state of California alone would stand to benefit \$1.4 billion in annual tax revenue," Krane said.

While some of the profits would be allocated for treatment cost, Krane said he feels this is a market the U.S. government could benefit from greatly.

And not just in tax revenue, Krane said, but jobs as well. There would



During "The Great Marijuana Debate" Monday night, Paul Chabot, an Iraq war veteran, asked members of the audience to raise his or her hand if they believe marijuana should be legalized. Out of those people who raised their hands, he then asked them to keep their hand up if they had ever smoked marijuana.

be licensed sellers and distributors, something Krane said he believes should be up to the state to decide how to manage the stores, much like each state is responsible for its own alcohol distribution.

Chabot said the direction which Krane spoke of is exactly where the country should not go. He spoke of responsibility of American citizens saying, "We are better than that."

Chabot said some people will never "grow up" on this issue. Instead, his goal is to educate youth about responsible choices.

"(Los Angeles) is an example of what not to become," Chabot said. "Parks are made for kids, not drug

users."

Chabot, as many anti-marijuana advocates argue, questioned whether or not this would be the beginning of the process to legalize all drugs. He also argued that marijuana is the gateway to other drugs.

"Marijuana is the safest, therapeutically active substance known to man," Krane rebutted. "DEA's words, not mine."

Alex Crockford, a sophomore, found the debate intriguing.

"It's hard for Chabot to prove his point when the majority uses," Crockford said. "In the long run, as people get older, they will use it less as they become role models."

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Bio-sustainable Powell legacy lives strong

Paul Busby
Reporter

The Powell Manor will be a stately sight with its rose garden, its life-size chessboard and the graceful green lawns that spill down to its swan house and pond. But for now, the future inn and wedding venue is still in the muddy stages of construction.

Proprietor Annabelle "Beth" Powell, the youngest daughter of Elon teacher and businessman Thomas E. Powell, has been working hard during the past two years to add to her father's old property. The construction crew is staying busy at the manor to see the project through.

"We don't have an opening date yet," construction contractor Gary Moore said. "But we're trying to work on everything in the backyard at the same time."

The former Powell residence is located at 2400 York Road, a quick right turn off East Haggard Avenue. Inside the house, rolled blueprints are stacked like treasure maps in the various rooms that Beth remembers walking through as a child.

Her plans are to turn the estate into a wedding getaway that has everything a couple could ask for. Wedding tents will be pitched in the new brick pavilion behind the house's east side. Right beside it, a nearly completed kitchen will provide amenities for caterers and across the yard next to the rose garden the oversized, granite chess court will have two elevated umpire chairs so players can calculate their strategies from above.

For Beth, it's an exciting future for a house with a familiar past. Her father built the estate in 1963 on farmland he bought in 1939.

"It was a stroke of luck that he got all this land for so cheap," Beth said. "He collected some of his supplies from the pond out back."

These supplies would become the foundation of the successful entrepreneurship known as the Carolina Biological Supply Company. In Thomas' day, teachers had to find their own biological teaching tools and often he sold his surplus materials to his fellow colleagues.

What started as a side gig while he taught science at Elon College soon turned into a full-blown business. Thomas taught for 17 years, despite several devastating setbacks. The Elon fire struck in 1923, soon to be followed by the Great Depression in the 1930s.

"He persevered right through, but the fire really devastated Elon," Beth said. "I don't know how he coped with all the stress in his life."

Thomas taught for 13 more years before deciding to run the biological company full-time. His management of the company made the Powell Manor possible. The company's still going strong two decades after his departure, even in the face of a new recession.

Daniel James, the current vice president of business development, hardly notices any effects on the private company's business.

"Last year was a record year for the company," James said. "We've been on a growth track for several years."



Powell Manor is currently under construction to become a wedding getaway. PAUL BUSBY | Photographer

Like his former boss, James and the company are riding out another recession. And like her father, Beth is starting her own side business.

Beth taught science at Wellesley College and is now the president of Omni Resources, a local map company that has sold more than a million maps. She is also an original member of Elon's Love School of Business advisory board, which was started in 1985.

"The board has now grown to represent a diverse slice of people," Beth said.

The Powells have three buildings on campus named after family

members. Thomas' son, James B. Powell, dedicated the Jimmy Powell Tennis Center to his son who died of brain cancer. The Jim and Anne Powell foyer is located in the Koury Business Center.

The main Powell building was named after Caroline E. Powell, Thomas' sister, and now houses the president's office and iMedia program. The family's strong presence in Elon's affairs and architecture represents Thomas' devotion to teaching.

"I think my father's main statement was education," Beth said. "His education at Elon was the foundation for both his and our own lives."

New federal medical marijuana policy sparks ethical debate

Alexa Milan
Managing Editor

Some doctors prescribe medications like Zofran and Compazine to help their cancer patients deal with nausea. Others recommend alternative treatments like acupuncture. Now, physicians in some states can offer their patients marijuana without the fear of legal ramifications thanks to a new federal policy.

Last week, the Obama administration announced it would not prosecute users or suppliers of medical marijuana as long as they are in accordance with state laws, a policy that is already sparking some debate about its feasibility.

Mark Edwards, a Durham, N.C., lawyer and lifetime member of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, said he supports the policy change.

"Marijuana prosecution has always seemed to me to be an incredible waste of time," Edwards said. "We need to prioritize."

When the policy was announced, the Obama administration emphasized it is not ignoring all aspects of marijuana use, such as underground growth operations, but it does not feel punishing patients and their caregivers is the best use of prosecutors' time.

Marijuana can relieve pain and nausea and increase appetite in cancer patients and people with other serious illnesses.

Fourteen states allow medical marijuana, but North Carolina isn't one of them. Edwards lost his father to lung cancer a few years ago, and said he wishes medical marijuana had been an option for him.

"He was in a lot of pain. He was having to take pain meds and he lost his appetite and

Medical marijuana states

The Justice Department said it will not pursue patients or their suppliers in states where therapeutic pot smoking is allowed. States with medical marijuana laws:

Source: Marijuana Policy Project



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

he was nauseous quite a bit because of the meds," Edwards said. "I think if he had an option to use marijuana, it may have helped alleviate his pain and at the same time allowed him to eat food and keep his body nourished."

Lauren Martin, Elon's coordinator of substance education, said while allowing the use of medical marijuana has its benefits, the policy also presents some challenges.

Martin said she personally knows someone in California, the first state to allow medical marijuana use, who easily obtained a prescription for marijuana when he didn't need it.

"I think the challenge will be keeping it at a medical use and keeping people who just want to abuse it out of the system," Martin said.

The new policy has many people wondering what other reforms to marijuana laws may follow.

Martin said the next phase marijuana advocates will likely call for is the decriminalization of the drug. But first, she said other states will probably toy with the idea of allowing medical marijuana use, though she doesn't know when or if North Carolina will consider it.

"North Carolina, until

this election year, has been a traditionally conservative state, and that typically means it's pretty hard on drug users and drug laws," Martin said.

Edwards said he thinks the drug is far less dangerous than alcohol and tobacco, and its use, particularly for medical purposes, is something North Carolina should allow.

"I think it's in some ways a 'moral' issue that people have a tough time getting over," Edwards said. "They just don't like the fact that people use any kind of drugs, even if it's not just for recreational use, but for medicinal purposes."

Martin said she thinks more research needs to be conducted about marijuana before any other laws are changed.

Because it is an illegal drug, it has been challenging for researchers to conduct studies about marijuana.

Though she emphasized the drug's benefits for cancer patients, Martin said issues like illegal operations using medical marijuana as a front and the health risks associated with long-term smoke inhalation of any kind need to be addressed.

"I don't think this is as black-and-white as people want it to be," Martin said. "It's just a very complex topic."

H1N1 scare increases local Influenza preparation methods

FLU from PAGE 1

has put into place.

"I think it is fine because I don't want other people getting what I have because it's really miserable," Schafer said.

According to the CDC, adults can infect others a day before getting flu-like symptoms and within five days after contracting the virus. If sick, it is recommended to not visit a hospital or emergency room unless experiencing high-risk complications. Instead, self-isolation is the best option for protecting oneself and others.

"With the flu, you can pass it on even before you know you have it, or you could pick it up in the hospital," Wall said.

The hospital currently has designated waiting areas for patients experiencing flu-like symptoms. When in waiting rooms, visitors should be six feet away from others to provide some level of protection against illness.

"All space helps," Wall said.

Along with proper respiratory etiquette, Wall said she thinks limiting traffic in hospitals is the best way to prevent more outbreaks. If one must visit patient care areas, exercising safe practices when entering facilities is required.

University battles costs

COSTS from PAGE 1

The College Board, said more than half of all undergraduates use student loans and 65 percent of all undergraduates who graduated in 2008-2009 with a bachelor's degree had some sort of student debt, averaging \$20,000. For 24 percent of graduates from private schools, student debt totaled more than \$40,000. For graduates from public schools, only 38 percent had no debt, compared to 4 percent of private school graduates with no debt.

The report said, "if a college education is to become more affordable for more students, institutions will have to find ways to offer high-quality higher education in a more cost-effective manner, and state and federal governments will have to improve their systems for supporting both post-secondary institutions and the students they educate."

Patrick Murphy, Elon's director of financial planning, said it is important for students to understand every dollar of their tuition is being used for the betterment of the school.

"When it comes to our tuition, every bit is going toward paying the bills," Murphy said. "Education, faculty, facilities. Every dollar is very important to the university. There is not money in reserve somewhere not being used. We understand this is a hardship for students."

Klopman seconded this statement.

"We are very conscious of keeping (tuition) as low as we can," she said. "It's Elon's philosophy to keep tuition as low as possible and offer the quality we do. We are serious about it and we want to do it well."

Foursquare competes for social interaction, inside information

Lindsay Kimble
Copy Intern

In an era when Web sites like Facebook and Twitter rule the world of communications, one might question why another social networking site would attempt to enter the competitive playing field. Seven months and nearly 60,000 users later, the source networking site Foursquare is proving "tweets" are not the only way to keep up with friends, family and co-workers.

The Web site is geared toward use through mobile phone devices and functions not only as a networking site but also a bar game in which users compete to win points and badges simply for going out. Based currently in 31 major American cities, Foursquare works somewhat as a city-guide, with opinions and pages posted by users.

In a New York Times article, founder Dennis Crowley said the main idea of the application is to draw off each user's "inside information" about their particular city and make it accessible

to all other Foursquare members. Users report tips and recommendations on places they often go, such as clubs, museums, bars and restaurants.

Once users log onto Foursquare and report being at a certain location, they are notified about what other users suggest doing in that area. Foursquare participants can also see all tips for a specific geographic area, or just the tips friends provide.

Users are given points and "badges" based on which places they visit and how often they go out. If a user frequently visits one bar, for example, he can be given the title of "mayor" for that bar.

Designed for Americans in their 20s and 30s, Foursquare is fairly unpopular on Elon's campus. The closest area featured on the site is Raleigh-Durham, keeping Elon students from connecting with others about nightlife closer to campus.

"I have a Facebook, so I don't really see why I would use Foursquare," freshman Alyssa Dilly said. "If I want to get advice on places to go, I can just text or call my friends to ask. I think that's

much simpler."

Sophomore Kellye Coleman echoed Dilly's feelings.

"The odds of me joining Foursquare are slim," Coleman said. "I am not a fan of change. Facebook is a constant for me and I like that. I still haven't jumped on the Twitter train."

But sophomore Jessica Scales said she feels differently.

"If I lived in a big city like New York, I think it would be nice to be able to see where my friends like to go so I could easily meet up with them in a place we know is fun," Scales said. "It could be somewhat weird, though, if people you don't know are reading your personal opinions on locations. I wouldn't want someone I'm not friends with to show up to a place I like or am going to, looking for me."

Foursquare may still see growth even without Elon student support. According to Crowley, businesses are aiming to sponsor badges. For example, Starbucks may offer a free coffee to any player who has visited numerous Starbucks locations.

With this added support from popular nationwide businesses, Foursquare hopes to double its already blossoming membership.

The influx of sites like Foursquare raises questions as to whether or not such Web sites are truly beneficial or merely addicting sites that are hurting offline and face-to-face relationships.

Elon physics chair Tony Crider is an active member of Facebook and has tried sites including Twitter, Myspace and Loopt. Although he has not yet joined Foursquare, Crider notes the gaming aspect of it might draw an obsessive nature out in some users.

"The various games on sites like Facebook seem to draw in a lot of new users," said Crider. "As in World of Warcraft, the 'quest-points-level' structure of these games is both repetitive and, for some, highly addictive. World of Warcraft is one of the most addictive video games out here, largely from its mix of online socializing, gaming and role-playing."

All these characteristics are also encompassed in Foursquare.

Alamance-Burlington students break national trend on math tests

Caitlin O'Donnell
Reporter

A recent USA Today report indicates fourth graders have shown no improvement in math scores since 2007 tests were administered. But students within the Alamance-Burlington School System do not follow this trend. Rather, they have exhibited improved scores in recent years.

Each year, students in third through eighth grades are required to take End-of-Grade tests in subjects such as math and reading. According to the North Carolina State Board of Education, the EOG tests are "designed to measure student performance on the goals, objectives and grade-level competencies specified in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study."

North Carolina modified the EOG math test in 2006, so comparisons of student pass rates can only be determined based on scores from the past three school years.

"Still, elementary school scores have increased significantly, particularly between the last two years," said Jean Maness, executive director of elementary education for the Alamance-Burlington school system.

In fourth grade alone, scores rose from 69 percent of students passing in 2007-2008 to 82 percent in the 2008-2009 school year.

In fact, all elementary school grades showed an increase in pass rates of 10 percent on average.

In middle school, more students are showing high achievement in math as well.

"It is my job to report student achievement data to the school board, teachers and principals, and to summarize data so it makes sense," said Dain Butler, director of accountability services for the Alamance-Burlington School System. "And I have seen an improvement in student scores across the board."

Still, the school system has yet to reach its foremost goal regarding math performance.

"Our goal is to have a 100 percent pass rate, but we understand this is not realistic," Maness said. "To be in the high 90s is a goal for everyone, but this is a stretch.

It is still not where we are."

In an effort to achieve this objective, a new math program is being implemented in the lower grades. Administrators said they believe it will make a difference because of the way the program is set up.

"It deals with grades on an individual basis and goes beyond just the objective," Maness said.

Jeff Clark, director of the math department at Elon, said he believes standards for student achievement tests in the subject of math are generally fair.

"I believe current standards are pretty much where they should be," Clark said. "Then again, I am part of the process that puts those standards into place, so if I didn't think so I would have tried to change them."

Clark said he understands external factors will always play a role in students' success in school.

"Affluent students have access to better school and tutoring resources, while poorer students lack that access," he said.

Clark said the teacher plays perhaps the most important role in encouraging student achievement in math and other subjects.

"It is the teacher's role to lead the students beyond where they were when they started the class," he said. "Some students benefit from aptitude or additional training and are able to start at a higher level, but that doesn't change the teacher's role."

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Lip gloss now more than just an accessory

Melissa Kansky
Reporter

You are out with your girls and plan to have a fun night, but when handed a drink by a stranger, uncertainty sets in. Don't panic, stay calm and whip out your lip-gloss.

A self-testing drug kit now comes in the disguise of a lip-gloss. 2LoveMyLips, a British cosmetic company, debuted a lip-gloss that contains a test for Gamma Hydroxy

Butyrate (GHB) and Ketamine, two popular date-rape drugs. According to the company's Web site, each cosmetic product comes equipped with two cards that change color when in contact with either drug.

While the public typically finds efforts to promote female safety laudable, some worry this product may send the wrong message.

"I always think it's important that people are looking for ways to prevent sexual violence, so I wouldn't condemn the product," said Leigh-Anne Royster, Elon's coordinator for personal health programs and community well-being.

Royster said the company's focus on the two date-rape drugs ignores the influence of alcohol.

"This product does not promote against drinking wisely," she said. "It is not a comprehensive

look at sexual violence."

Although alcohol is the number one drug used to facilitate sexual violence, females may feel more comfortable consuming an alcoholic beverage if the test strip does not change colors. Royster said she fears the self-testing drug product could create a false sense of security.

Despite the possible false sense of security, sophomore Julia Sayers is confident she would never accept a drink from someone she did not know.

"Normally, I am pretty good with keeping track of my drink and where it came from," Sayers said.

Although Sayers monitors her beverages, the burden of responsibility should not fall solely on the female.

"When we focus on (drug-testing) we focus on the wrong thing," Royster said.

"The message should be, we are a community that doesn't slip drugs without someone's knowledge or encourage someone to drink beyond responsibility. We should shift focus to men not perpetrating sexual violence."

Despite education against sexual assault, it is prevalent on Elon's campus. Statistics from Royster show 34 students, 32 females and two males, sought resources concerning

an incident of sexual or relationship violence during the last academic year. Although Royster does not have factual evidence to support the use of a date rape drug, certain reports arouse suspicion the victim may have consumed a drug.

"The problem with drug-facilitated date-rape is that it is hard to know, in the moment and afterward, if a drug has been used. Some drugs can be out of someone's system in 24 hours," Royster said.

According to Royster, despite the limited knowledge regarding date-rape drugs, the majority of sexual assault reports do not involve such drugs. To increase prevention of sexual assault, Royster encourages people to take responsibility of their own actions.

The cosmetic company acknowledges its faults. Along with the advertisement, the company provides instructions and advice to increase the safety of its consumers.

The 2LoveMyLips Web site indicates the product cannot test for GHB or Ketamine in drinks containing oily liquids, milk or cream. Royster noted the advertisement provides no information regarding an expiration date or the possible number of uses.

Although the average person would not normally ask these questions, Royster said she applauded the public recognition of potential consequences of the drug test.

Instead of assuming a friend wishes to engage in sexual relations with a male, the presence and utilization of this product promotes conversation respecting a friend's intentions and desires.

Still, sophomore Sarah Carideo is hesitant about how she would use the product.

"I would use it if I was at a bar and someone bought me a drink," she said. "If I am at bars, the product is more applicable."

In a study conducted by The Pendulum from Oct. 22- Oct. 23, only two out of 19 students reported they would be more likely to use the product at a bar. The majority of the students polled reported they would be inclined to use the product at parties where they would be among people they did not know.

"I think that any product that attempts to protect women in this manner is a good idea. I think it would be effective and safe if women would choose to use it," senior Caroline York said. "However, women must choose to make use of the product before it can be effective."



A British cosmetic company released their self-testing date-rape drug kit that is concealed in the form of a lip gloss tube. The product works with a color changing card that detects Gamma Hydroxy Butyrate and Ketamine, more commonly known as date-rape drugs.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

EXTENDED BRIEFS:

Triad to see faster Internet options

As of Dec. 21, a number of cities in the Triad can receive Time Warner Cable's newest high-speed Internet service, 4G Mobile Network. Time Warner customers in Charlotte, Raleigh and Greensboro, N.C., who use 4G can expect faster Internet speeds of up to 6 mbps on the network.

The first product expected to launch is Road Runner Mobile. According to a press release by Time Warner, Road Runner will offer faster Internet access on mobile devices for Time Warner Cable Triple Play customers. The service allows mobile Internet for those unable to be at a home or office computer.

Based on the different needs of customers, Time Warner will offer multiple plans at prices ranging from

\$34.95 — \$79.95 per month.

"With Time Warner Cable's 4G Mobile Network, we now offer the fastest mobile service available and extend our reach outside the home," said Carol Hevey, executive vice president of the Carolina Region for Time Warner Cable, in a press release. "Giving our customers the convenience of mobility and the speed of 4G, Road Runner Mobile lets customers take their favorite Internet service wherever they go. This is an important part of our strategy to give our customers any content on any device, anytime, anywhere."

All plans include Road Runner Web mail, Internet security, data storage and access to other Road Runner value-added services at www.rr.com.

Alumni honored for post-Elon achievements

On Homecoming Weekend, six accomplished alumni were honored for their achievements since graduating Elon.

They include: William Herbert '68, Deborah Yow-Bowden '74, Rev. Walstein Snyder '45, Audrey Seagraves '02, Stephanie Newbold '01 and Walter "Cam" Tims '00.

Herbert, chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Virginia Medical Center, was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Award.

Yow-Bowden, athletic director for the University of Maryland, received the Distinguished Alumna of the

Year Award.

Snyder, a former pastor, won the Service to Church and Society Award.

Seagraves, director of programs and marketing at World of Good Development Organization, won the Young Alumna of the Year Award.

Newbold, an assistant professor in the Department of Public Administration and Policy at American University, also won the Young Alumna of the Year Award.

Tims, a past president of the Elon University Young Alumni Council, won the Distinguished Service to Elon Award for his work behind the scenes to continue to improve Elon throughout the years.

N.C. teen pregnancy rates total lowest numbers in 30 years

Sarah Costello
Reporter

Pregnancy centers, schools and various organizations have attempted to combat unplanned teenage pregnancies for years, and while numbers have decreased, the levels are still too high.

A recent press release issued by the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention reported a decrease in pregnancy rates for teenage girls ages 15-19 — a 30-year low for the state. New data shows there were 217 fewer pregnancies among North Carolina teenage girls in 2008 than in 2007.

Many have different speculations for the drop in numbers.

"I think that age group (15-19) has been around people who have had babies out of wedlock and realized that's a big responsibility," said Mimi Every, executive director of Pregnancy Support Services in Durham, N.C. "Single parenting is difficult, especially when you're young."

There are dozens of pregnancy centers in North Carolina that provide services to teen girls in various predicaments, answering questions, providing testing and guiding them through their pregnancies. Pregnancy Support Services provide help to young teen girls who are pregnant or think they are pregnant. The organization offers free STD testing and pregnancy tests for young women, and also lends support for pregnant mothers throughout their pregnancies.

Many counties across the state have also taken

initiatives to decrease teen pregnancy rates. Chatham County established Plain Talk, a program designed to instruct adults on encouraging teenagers in both health and responsibility. Chatham County has experienced a 26.3 percent drop in the teen pregnancy rate.

According to the APP press release, teen pregnancies in North Carolina have continued to decrease since 1991 after a spike in the late 1980s. The controversial practice of abortions has also decreased in North Carolina.

"I think people are becoming more aware that having an abortion is taking a life," Every said. "There's a lot more information out there about abortions and the potential risks."

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services compiled data showing 58.6 of every 1,000 teen girls became pregnant in 2008. Though pregnancy rates have shown an overall decrease in the U.S., the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancies advocates that the levels are still too high.

"North Carolina has been smart to leverage investments from the General Assembly and the Centers for Disease Control to bring proven pregnancy prevention strategies to North Carolina," said Kay Phillips, executive director of Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Campaign of North Carolina, in the press release. "This new data shows that we are headed in the right direction, and that we must keep pressing forward so that more communities can benefit from these tools."

NEWS BRIEFS

Environmental organization fair

The fair will take place from 3 - 5 p.m. Oct. 30 in McKinnon. Students can learn more about environmental groups and find out how to get involved. E-mail jlee2@elon.edu if interested.

"Say Cheese" with Sigma Alpha Omega

Sigma Alpha Omega will host an all-you-can-eat "cheese" meal from 11 p.m. - 2:30 a.m. Thursday at the Parrish House.

Macaroni and cheese, nachos and cheese and grilled cheese will all be served for \$5.

All proceeds will go toward the (Ovarian Cancer National Alliance).

Uncorked senior etiquette

There will be a class for seniors on cocktail and professional etiquette at 7 p.m. Nov. 3 in Johnston Hall Alumni Center.

Experts from the Wine Warehouse of Greensboro will teach seniors how to order and serve wine and prepare for professional networking events and dinners. Must be at least 21-years-old and pay \$10. Contact alumnirelations@elon.edu or call (336) 278-7500 for information and registration.

CORRECTION

In the Oct. 14 story, "Alamance TEA Party," The Pendulum incorrectly reported Jonathan Krohn is 41-years-old. He is 14-years-old, not 41.



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INTERACTIVE GRAPHICS

Halloween Haunts: Where to go for a spook, some treats and pumpkins
www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=2804

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THIS WEEK ONLINE

BLOGS

A&E

Is Spike Jonze's adaptation of "Wild Things" really for kids?

pendulumrealtalk.wordpress.com

SWING FASHION

Movie inspirations: Digs from the big screen to inspire our wardrobes

swingpendulum.wordpress.com

SPORTS

Phillies vs. Yankees World Series analysis

pendulumsports.wordpress.com

SNAP-CRACKLE-POP CULTURE

Falconry, "Wild Things," ghosts and the resurfacing of Amy Winehouse

pendulumpop.wordpress.com

THIS WEEK IN VIDEO

Homecoming 2009: Class of 1959 celebrates Golden Reunion, tailgating
www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=2805

"The Great Marijuana Debate"

www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=2811

Behind the Scenes of "Kiss Me Kate" (coming Thursday)

www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=2806

Gorillas, glowsticks and Miley Cyrus: Rave in Club Belk

www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=2797

PENDULUM PODCASTS

Reel Talk with the A-Team:

www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=2803

Review of "Law Abiding Citizen" and "Where the Wild Things Are," a look at the weekend's box office totals and a preview of what's hitting theaters next week.

Opinions podcast:

www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=2808

Should marijuana be legalized?

8-bit Wonder:

www.elon.edu/pendulum/Story.aspx?id=2807

Weekly video game review.

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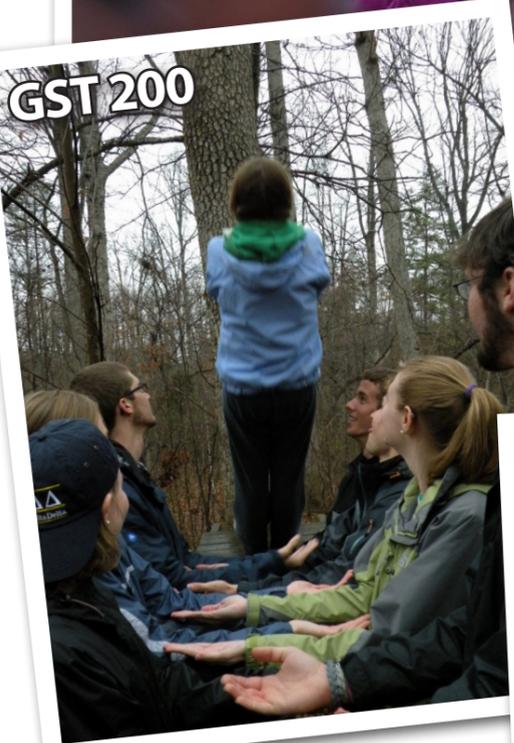
Mary Morrison
Director of the Kernodle
Center for Service Learning
will be the guest speaker!

PUSHING PERSONAL BOUNDARIES DURING WINTER TERM

Laura Wainman
Special Projects Editor

Winter Term can be a time for exploration, and while many of Elon students spend January traversing foreign lands, there is plenty of room for exploration within the walls of Elon. Students can use Winter Term to break out of the comfort zone of the required classes of their major and try their hands at a completely new subject. With registration just around the corner, here is a look at five unique classes available to all students.

GST 200



GST 200 Outdoor Leadership via the Elon Challenge

Professor: Associate Dean of Students Rex Waters

Time: 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

Fulfills: Four credits in civilization or society

This course focuses predominantly on group dynamics, problem-solving and leadership, with particular interest in learning to facilitate discussions using diverse teaching styles. Students will apply what is taught on the Elon Challenge ropes course.

Format of class: Mostly hands-on, as about 60 percent of class time is spent outdoors on the ropes course. "There is a traditional classroom portion of this class that we try to accomplish quickly so that students can spend the majority of Winter Term applying what they learned outdoors," Waters said.

How many hours of homework a night a student expect: "It will really depend on the level at which the student enters," Waters said. "If the material is completely new for the student, he or she will need to dedicate more time in order to successfully master the concepts taught."

What students can expect to gain: "I think that students will leave this class with a greater understanding of who they are and how they interact with others as well as getting an opportunity to practice public presentation and receive feedback from peers," Waters said.

Who would this course will appeal to: Students who do not enjoy challenging outdoor activities or being in the cold should consider other courses.

Student review: "I took Dean Waters' class about a year ago and can honestly say I am shocked at how many times I have used the principles from his class in group settings," junior Rachel Perron said. "As an added bonus, you get pretty close with everyone in the class, which isn't always the case in classes at Elon."

MUS 275 Woodstock, Hippies and Other Enduring Legacies: Music of the '60s and '70s

Professor: Music instructor Jim Roberts

Time: Monday - Friday
8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Fulfills: Four credits of the expression requirements

This course is not just a music class. It would more accurately be described as a sociology music class that looks at influential music of the '60s and '70s that has withstood the test of time as well as what was happening surrounding the music. Students will be studying the question of whether the music influenced the times or

the times influenced the music.

Format of class: The course will combine lectures, watching footage from the times, such as the Woodstock movie, the Beatles anthology and documentaries on music festivals, group activities and listening activities outside of class.

Preview of class project: Last year, students created

GST 234 Elon: Past, Present and Future

Professor: President Emeritus and chemistry professor Earl Danieley

Time: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. Monday - Friday

Fulfills: Four credits in civilization or society

This course explores the major developments that led to the founding of Elon college as well as some of the most significant moments in the school's history. Students will also learn about past leaders of Elon by participating in an extended research project, which will be permanently documented in Belk Library's archives. The Elon Vision and the New Century @Elon strategic plans will also be discussed.

How many hours of homework a night can a student expect? "I would like to expect that students spend at least a couple of hours each day outside of class — some probably get by on less than that," Danieley said.

Preview of research project: "Each student does a research project," Danieley said. "In 2010 we will be looking at names of buildings and learning something about the people for whom they were named. Each student will write a paper on their research and give an oral report in class. The written papers will be filed permanently in the archive in Belk Library."

What could a student gain from this course? "Hopefully a greater appreciation for your chosen alma mater," Danieley said. "Knowing more about your own school is something that will stay with you throughout life and having you in my class will enrich my life."

Student review: "Dr. Danieley's first hand accounts and personal relationships with many individuals you learn about make the class more entertaining and personable," said junior Daniel Watts.

two timelines spanning 20 years, one displaying musical events and the other highlighting the cultural developments that occurred during the same time. The final project was displayed in the library and allowed other students to understand how musical and cultural events of the time period correlated.

What students can expect to gain: "We will be

listening to and studying music from a time period that the students never lived through," Roberts said. "Eventually, the generation who was alive during this musical era will be gone, and I don't want to wait until they are mostly gone to try and get people interested in the subject. I try and make historians out of my students so that the music will always be 'preserved.'"

Student review: "The class was awesome," junior Robert Gardner said. "Everyday we came into a class with 60 and 70's music blasting. If you enjoy the music from this time period, you have to take this class. Jim Roberts is understanding, but wants you to pay attention. He throws in some impossible questions on the quizzes and test, but if you pay attention and do what he asks, it's an easy A."

GST 350



NEW
COURSE

ENG 255 Renaissance Witchcraft on Stage

Professor: English professor Megan Isaac

Time: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. Monday - Friday

Prerequisite: ENG 110

Fulfills: The literature requirement of expression and counts toward the classical studies minor

Readings: "Dr. Faustus", "Macbeth", "The Tempest" and "The Crucible."

This course will focus on detailed readings of three English Renaissance plays and one modern American play to explore what witchcraft was doing on stage and in society with an emphasis placed on the social, political and religious constructs. Students will also study court cases dealing with the prosecution of witchcraft in order to better understand how it was exploited.

Format of class: Combination of lecture, discussion and some performance of the texts.

"Though we will look at some visual representations, we won't be watching films and, sorry to disappoint, but we won't be performing witchcraft," Isaac said.

Necessity of being an English major to take the course: "It is not necessary, but you should not be hostile to the subject," Isaac said.

How many hours of homework a night a student can expect: "I would say to expect a minimum of two hours a night, but it will vary depending on how well you break up the reading and writing assignments and how comfortable the readers are with Renaissance literature as it can be difficult for some students," Isaac said.

What students gain: "I hope students will get a better understanding of how complicated an accusation of witchcraft was during this time, and how it was affected by gender, class and socioeconomic status," Isaac said. "Hopefully, students will also be able to transfer this knowledge to issues we face in our own society."



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

BUS 350 Business of NASCAR

Professor: Operations and Supply Chain Management lecturer Coleman Rich

Time: 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

Fulfills: Experiential Learning Requirement; counts toward the American Studies minor

Motorsports in North Carolina is a \$6 billion industry and this course seeks to explore the industry as more than just racing. Students will study the influence of NASCAR on the North Carolina economy as well as the various marketing models used. Visits will be made to various racetracks, including Daytona, Florida.

Format of class: Professor Rich estimated that 1/3 of the winter term would be spent in a classroom and 2/3 would be spent outside of it.

Special Requirements: \$825 travel fee

How many hours of homework a night can a student expect? "My class is very project based, so it will depend on how well the students manage their time," said Rich. "Students are rewarded for the time and effort they put into their projects and I try to keep the assignments fun."

Preview of main project: "Students will have the opportunity to design their own derby racecar and obtain real sponsorships from members of the community," Rich said. "The donations go to the Victory Junction Gang Camp."

Student review: "I absolutely loved the Business of NASCAR class," said junior Meg Anderson. "Before taking the class I knew nothing about the world of NASCAR, and by the end of January I had learned to love the sport. Not only do you get to travel to Daytona Beach and Orlando, but also to Charlotte and other race tracks around the area. We were able to ride along with a professional driver at Charlotte and in Orlando- going around 150 MPH. Professor Rich made the class an extremely fun and educational experience- one that I am so glad that I had the opportunity to take"

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.

Editorial

Giving the Internet a safety net FCC proposal intensifies net neutrality debate

The structure of the Internet is in ever-constant motion, and this motion has typically been characterized by rapid expansion. China alone boasted 338 million Internet users in June, courtesy of the China Internet Network Information Center, a greater population than that of the United States. The Internet has become so integral to modern culture and economics that any changes, no matter how small, instigate uproar within the affected communities.

With each redesign, Facebook users create groups protesting the alterations, and earlier this year citizens in Greensboro were so dismayed with the bandwidth limits Time Warner Cable was going to test its users with that their protests helped end the venture in the region.

On Thursday, the FCC took a step toward guiding the direction of the Internet's domestic growth. Approving a proposal based heavily around the premise of net neutrality, the commission unanimously approved to continue putting its plan together, with the next several months to be devoted to collecting public comments, after which a finalized proposal will be put together.

Net neutrality would ensure Internet providers would not be able to block or weaken the connections between their users and select sites. This is a direct response to the belief that many Internet providers have innate conflicts of interest, juggling their Internet services with phone and cable counterparts.

"As American consumers make the shift from dial-up to broadband, their choice of providers has narrowed substantially," Julius Genachowski, chairman of the FCC, said in an address to The Brookings Institution in September.

Without a government endorsement of net neutrality, Time Warner Cable, for example, could stifle its subscribers from accessing sites like Hulu to redirect

consumer traffic to its cable offerings. But it's important to differentiate such conduct from the aforementioned limitations placed upon bandwidth.

As opposed to limiting the amount of content a particular consumer can partake of, which the FCC has not taken a stance against, the new proposal would prevent content from being categorically blocked because of certain properties.

This debate has drawn in two major players whose opposition to one another couldn't have been more thematically composed. In one corner is AT&T, a diminished, though still powerful, formerly sanctioned monopoly in telecommunications. In the other sits Google, the young upstart awash in investment, following in line with its "don't be evil" code of conduct and depicting itself as the flag bearer for online entrepreneurs and start-ups.

AT&T is against net neutrality, and Google is a staunch advocate for the FCC proposal. Both are currently lobbying heavily for their respective arguments, doling out letters of endorsement from qualified supporters across Washington.

"Google, to date, has gotten relatively a free pass that they're somehow promoting the public good on net neutrality, as opposed to, what I see, is they're trying to entrench their business model," Robert Quinn, AT&T's senior regulatory lawyer said in an interview with the Wall Street Journal.

Sen. John McCain thrust himself into the heart of the debate on the same day the FCC agreed to move forward with its proposal. Introducing the Internet Freedom Act of 2009, McCain sided with AT&T in preventing government intervention in the markets.

"Keeping businesses free from oppressive regulations is the best stimulus for the current economy," McCain said, though he interestingly left out the possibility of oppressive regulation coming from the private sector, brought to the

American public by Internet providers given free reign over, admittedly, their own networks.

The barbs thrown at Google and McCain's own invocation of Google as an example of why the FCC should do nothing on the issue put the typically idolized company in a new light.

Over the course of its history, Google has acquired 51 companies, including significant prizes such as YouTube, Android and Doubleclick, eating up companies left and right to augment its already-profitable advertising revenues. Google Maps was born when Where 2 Technologies was purchased, and Chrome originated from Google's purchase of GreenBorder, a small Internet security company.

No matter how much of an aversion to evil Google may have, it is, as Quinn alleges, always considering its bottom line. Be that as it may, Google's practices don't invalidate the importance of net neutrality. Far from injecting governmental ineptitude into a thriving private industry, the FCC is taking a step to protect that thriving industry, which is made so by the speed at which small start-ups can be launched into profitability. Innovation is typically met with well-earned returns from the formation of online oligarchies, where geographic regions and Internet providers could determine what users can access.

It's already been made clear that service providers are interested only in the redirection of traffic either to its sister organizations, or in limiting the use of their networks to enhance their profitability. And though Google has the same self-serving desires, its profits are enhanced not by the limitation of Internet access, but by its expansion.

By ensuring this expansion doesn't come in the form of half-hearted, nickel and dimed efforts from service providers, net neutrality can help ensure tomorrow's Internet is just as vibrant as today's.

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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THE NATION'S SMOKING SENTIMENTS

BY THE NUMBERS

- 13** states have legalized medicinal marijuana
- 14** states currently have either pending legislation or ballot initiatives
- 28** percent of Republicans are for legalization
- 44** percent of Americans are in favor of making marijuana use legal
- 54** percent of Democrats are for legalization

SOURCES: WWW.PROCON.ORG AND GALLUP
IMAGE COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS



TO COMMENT...

We appreciate original responses to Pendulum articles. Feedback of 500 words or less can be sent in several ways.

Letters to the editor and columns can be e-mailed to pendulum@elon.edu or sent to 7012 Campus Box, Elon, N.C. 27244. Content will be edited for clarity, length and accuracy. All submissions must include a name and phone number.

A message board also accompanies each article online at www.elon.edu/pendulum where commentary can be quickly posted.

ILLUSTRATING THE ISSUES:



Opinions

No governmental ganja



Eva Hill
Columnist

From an uninformed perspective, legalizing marijuana to give the economy a boost and satisfy public desire sounds like a good idea.

The government would be able to regulate and tax each sale, earning a hefty profit. An estimated calculation of the tax proved California would earn approximately \$1.4 billion in revenue by legalizing the use of marijuana.

But aside from the benefits to state governments and recreational enjoyment, the proven health consequences from the drug make it difficult for the legislation to pass.

According to a recent Gallup poll, public support for the legalization of marijuana is currently at its highest. The government is catering its policies regarding marijuana usage to the increase in demand for legalization.

Last week, Attorney General Eric Holder Jr. instructed federal prosecutors to become more lax when pursuing cases against the use of marijuana for medicinal purposes. Holder encouraged federal prosecutors to focus more on cases that involve significant drug trafficking.

Unfortunately, many people do not obey the law and take the drug anyway without a prescription or medical reasons. Their inability to obey the law (which is set for a reason, as most laws are) often costs users time, money and unpleasant experiences with police officers or court officials.

Claims that legalizing the drug would save the time and money of law enforcement agencies are irrelevant based on the fact that the individual took the time to commit the act while being aware of the law and its consequences.

One of the state government's goals is to protect the health and well-being of citizens and not expose them to unnecessary risks. Even though the additional revenue may benefit the state monetarily, it's not worth sacrificing the health of the public. If states start passing bills to legalize marijuana, children may receive the message that drug use is acceptable and develop more serious addictions later

in life.

According to the Center for Disease Control, marijuana use causes the following health deficiencies: short-term memory loss, slower learning, impaired lung function, impaired immune response and decreased sperm counts.

A research report series on marijuana from the National Institute on Drug Abuse compared 173 cancer patients and 176 healthy individuals and provided evidence that smoking marijuana doubled the likelihood of cancer of the head or neck.

Although these side effects are not necessarily deadly, they affect the user's personality and state of being. By legalizing the drug, the government is giving Americans the thumbs up and allowing them to be legally exposed to these health risks.

The marijuana debate has also included the "gateway theory." This argument suggests by using marijuana, individuals will be more likely to try harder drugs, such as cocaine, ecstasy, heroin and LSD. These are the drugs that are known to ruin lives, tear families apart and destroy user health.

This theory is being effectively demonstrated in inner-city neighborhoods and school settings where marijuana is the easiest drug to access.

There are countless social aspects of human life that could be negatively affected by smoking marijuana. In the same NIDA study, workers who tested positive for marijuana had 55 percent more industrial accidents, 85 percent more injuries and 75 percent of those individuals came to work less often than those who did not use the drug.

Students who smoke marijuana are shown to have significantly lower grades and are less likely to graduate high school than those who do not use the drug.

Despite the recent increase in demand for legalizing marijuana, the government should consider the health risks and social ramifications of legalization.

If widely available, culture and society would drastically change. After using the drug, users are subject to personality, mood and cognitive changes.

Legalizing marijuana would be a poor, selfish decision made by the government that would result in a population further craving altered states of mind.

The Opinions podcast

He said, she said on marijuana legalization.

The year's best non-Halloween related scares.



America's armed addiction



Caroline Matthews
Columnist

In 2006, the House and Senate passed the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, providing the military with \$4.7 billion solely to support the war efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Three-quarters of those funds were targeted for classified programs. The funding was supposed to stop by October 2007, yet various agencies involved with the military, including the Marine Corps and Navy, procured double that

figure, to be used by October 2008.

For a war that began more than five years ago, where's that money really going?

The Vietnam War cost this country \$670 billion, adjusted for inflation, according to Amy Belasco of the Congressional Research Service. President Barack Obama approved \$76 billion more at the end of September to tack onto the accumulative total of an eye-opening \$800 billion spent in Iraq and Afghanistan.

It seems that with the nation's track record on continually increased spending, even in dire economic times, the war will not end because of the spread of democracy and justice to the people of Iraq, but because there will simply be no money left to spend.

The military-industrial complex is a scary thing. The government has sold the necessity of defense since the economy was boosted by war-related industry post WWII, despite recent indications of a rebuke of such policies.

The State Department decided to pull its Blackwater Worldwide contracts for security devices in Iraq. Blackwater, a private military contractor, received \$1.3 billion this decade last from the American government.

Sept. 11, 2001 was the spark that set the Middle East on fire. Our retaliation, while following the Taliban and al-Qaida, has destabilized much of the region, whether directly in Iraq and Afghanistan, or indirectly in Iran and Pakistan.

Clearly, some sort of action was necessary after such a far-reaching act of terror. Removing Saddam Hussein was supposed to transform the Middle East. Government and police forces were supposed to become less corrupt. There were so many objectives on the to-do list, yet so few have been checked off.

A car bombing in Baghdad last Sunday killed at least 155 and injured hundreds more. The Economist classifies this attack as the worst bombing of the past two years. The battle is clearly still waging on with a very unclear end.

This year, Iraq awarded its first foreign oil contracts to British Petroleum and China's CNPC. Russia's LukOil is currently competing with American owned ExxonMobile and ConocoPhillips. Oil tycoon T. Boone Pickens told Congress last week that if the United States isn't given a share of Iraq oil exploration and development contracts, American influence in the industry will be entirely lost when the military withdraws in 2011.

"We leave there with the Chinese getting the oil," he said.

While the economic stimulus package was paid in full to promote American industry and try to begin to solve the economic crisis, what and where did that money really go?

The world must be saved from the greed of war, the weight of its burden and the possible endangerment of the liberties and democratic processes advertised as the "American way." The urgent question is "how?" Now that the fear former president Dwight D. Eisenhower spoke of in his farewell address is a reality, there is a "permanent armaments industry of vast proportion." It's a misplaced power guiding the government's every move, and that power is money.

The government must understand that the perils of the military-industrial complex are bringing down the opportunities of success that have defined America throughout its existence.

The fault in fighting FOX



Ryan Maass
Columnist

By now, it should come as no surprise to critics of President Barack Obama's administration the president has had, and continues to have, radicals and revolutionaries serve under him in various cabinet positions. Whether Obama shares in those radical beliefs remains to be seen. But recent cabinet activity raises great concern about how supportive the administration is of fundamental Constitutional values — namely the freedom of expression.

Anita Dunn is the White House communications director. Her job is to help the president strategize his approach with the media in order to put forth a more positive image for the president and his agenda. Before holding this job, Dunn served as Obama's top adviser during his campaign for the presidency. Recently, pundits and the press alike have criticized her after she refuted Fox News Channel's legitimacy as a news organization during an interview with CNN.

According to Dunn and Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel, Fox News pushes a right-wing perspective, that in Dunn and Emanuel's opinion, disqualifies the channel from joining the ranks of ABC, MSNBC, CNN and others who have been openly supportive of the president's agenda.

In her own words, Dunn has described the Fox News Channel as "widely viewed as a part of the Republican Party: take their talking points and put them on the air, take their opposition research and put it on the air. And that's fine. But let's not pretend they're a news organization like CNN is."

Granted, Fox News is most well-known for its conservative commentators, all of whom have been very critical of the president's policies, and have suggested Obama's drive for a public health

insurance option and increased regulation of the private sector could lead to the United States becoming a socialist state. But, as with every other cable news network, Fox News does have primarily neutral and straightforward reporting programs that are aired for the majority of the day. Regardless, Fox News does not put the administration on a pedestal as many of the other news channels do, and this hasn't made the White House happy.

Dunn's actions did not in any way help Obama. Interestingly enough, Fox News continues to enjoy excellent viewer ratings and the Democratic Congress and White House have, at the same time, seen falling approval ratings. One would think this negative correlation would drive the administration to reach across the aisle and seek some moderate and conservative alliances.

But, the comments made by Dunn portray the administration as weak and unwilling to compromise. Apparently, dissent is only patriotic if it helps the Democrats.

The pundits on the Fox News Channel have been fighting back. Their preferred method of doing this is by showing their viewers a shocking video of a speech Dunn delivered in June of this year, praising Mother Teresa and Chairman Mao Tse Tung — the Chinese tyrant whose policies were responsible for the deaths of an estimated 50 - 70 million of his countrymen. In defense of the Communist leader, Dunn complimented Mao for proclaiming to members of his own party, "you fight your war, and I'll fight mine," in reference to Mao's military takeover of China.

Why is someone who works so closely with the president complimenting a dictator? Why isn't Obama distancing himself from her actions and words, instead of opting to conform in support of Dunn's assault on Fox News? These are questions that no member of the administration seems to be willing to answer.

It's the night of the living blog ...
www.pendulumopinions.wordpress.com



Style



Homecoming '09

Photos by David Wells
Photo Editor

Elon fanatics, alumni and fans braved the bad weather to enjoy Homecoming Weekend. The football team recorded another victory Saturday afternoon as Elon pushed passed Chattanooga 45-10. Senior Alpha Omicron Pi member Kate Hopkins and

senior Pi Kappa Phi member Clay Winkelvoss were voted this year's Homecoming queen and king.

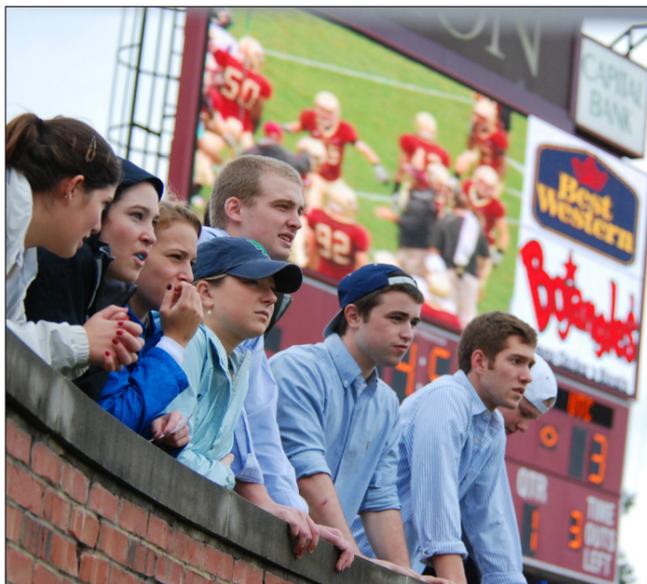
Homecoming Weekend was full of alumni events, including a golf tournament, a luncheon with the class of 1959, a party at The Lighthouse, a time to share advice with Elon students, a step show, awards ceremonies and much more.



A crowd of cheering fraternity brothers, sorority sisters and fans shout for their favorite pairings as the 2009 Homecoming Court walked onto the field during halftime.



A number of Elon alumni were recognized during halftime of the football game, including Audrey Seagraves, right, who was named Young Alumna of the Year.



A group of students watch the action on the football field from the lawn.



Hooded fans try to stay dry with their rain gear as they stand in the rain during Saturday's tailgate.

KATELYN LAZOR | Staff Photographer



Julie Cerick
Reporter

Sounds of bass guitars and drums rattle and zing in the background as people of all ages crowd toward the dingy door covered in fluorescent fliers.

Cat's Cradle draws in diverse crowds four to five times a week, and it shows no signs of slowing down. The popular music venue located in Carrboro, N.C., has been standing since 1969 and has become a popular music destination for Elon students.

"I went this year for the first time to see Ra Ra Riot, and I fell in love with it," senior Shauna Decoteau said. "I can't believe I hadn't been before, but I'm definitely going back. It's a great escape from Elon, and the bands playing are so unique."

The music venue mainly features indie bands, but that has not hindered business. It also offers the chance for local bands to gain exposure.

Owner Frank Heath said while they have been getting more nationally recognized bands, there is nothing like nights featuring local bands.

"When I took over Cat's Cradle (in 1986), my main focus for the club was to do whatever we could do to support local musicians and bands," he said. "And in my opinion, it's still the most fun to be here on a night when we have a local headline act, like Southern Culture On The Skids or The Old Ceremony, playing to a large, appreciative audience, or a newer local act like the Love Language or Bowerbirds getting in front of fans for the first time and impressing them."

With a changing variety of bands and low ticket prices — usually ranging from \$10 to \$20 — Cat's Cradle hasn't had a problem with pulling in music fans.

"I can't believe how inexpensive the tickets are to see some of these more well-known bands," Decoteau said. "I'm tempted to just go to every show because it's so easy and the prices are so reasonable."

So what makes the venue, which is tucked away in a

small strip-mall and looks more like a vinyl shop than a live music venue, so successful?

"I think just being in Chapel Hill has been a huge reason why we've been able to be successful," Heath said. "It's a wonderful town with a lot of music fans and people who know a lot about music, and it's located also in close proximity to Raleigh and Durham, which have lots of music fans."

It could be seen as a blessing that a venue so close to Elon's campus supports such eclectic music. Heath said he believes college students are at an age where music can help define who they are.

"Students — both college and high school — are some of our most loyal customers," Heath said. "I think they are at an age when they can be very intense about music and have it be part of their social and personal lives."

Heath and his employees try to keep the diverse interests of customers in mind when choosing acts. He attempts to pick groups whose music will resonate with audiences and keep up with the current trends.

"We actually try to keep our bookings as diverse as we can while maintaining at least some knowledge about what we're presenting," Heath said.

Since 1986, the venue has moved twice, but expenses and content with revenue have caused it to stay put for now.

"From time to time, when an appropriate space comes available, we do consider what a move would entail," Heath said. "But for the time being, we are happy existing in our hidden

strip mall."

And crowds seem content with continuing to visit the current location, with its low light, all balance atmosphere. For those interested in entering the music business themselves, Heath offers the following advice.

"The best thing to do is start at the bottom and learn as much as you can, and be patient and wait for an opening to move up," Heath said. "It's better to impress people with your knowledge than to bite off more than you can chew."

BEHIND THE MUSIC:

Local music venue CAT'S CRADLE remains strong after 40 years



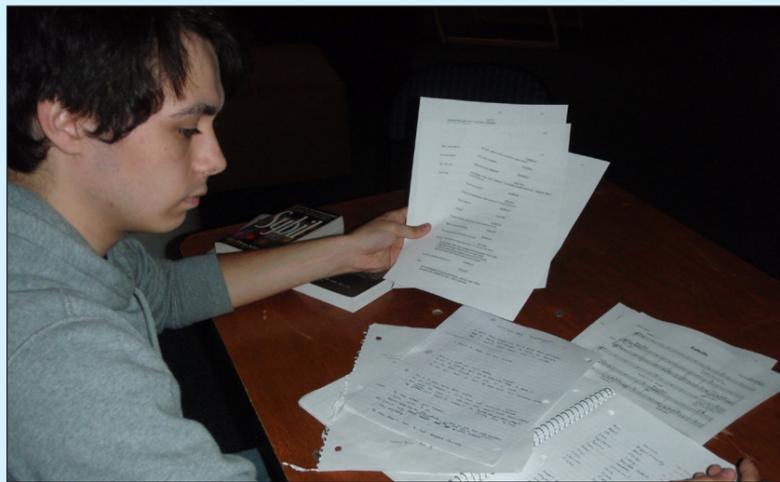
Cat's Cradle typically hosts a variety of musicians and bands four or five times a week. The hole-in-the-wall, intimate venue is located in Carrboro, N.C., near University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.



Tab Benoit recently performed at Cat's Cradle, a venue which shows diverse options. Benoit style is a combination of swamp, soul and Chicago blues.

Chris Staskel

Music theater student transforms research project into full-length musical



Senior music theater major and Lumen Scholar Chris Staskel started working last year on his musical about a young woman with dissociative identity disorder. Staskel is writing the lyrics and book while 2009 alumnus Dan Gibson is composing the music.

Rachel Southmayd
Reporter

When most Elon students think of a Lumen Scholar, they probably think of students researching vaccination programs in Africa or learning about medical practices in remote parts of Asia. This isn't always the case.

Senior Lumen Scholar and Honors Fellow Chris Staskel turned his experience as a musical theater major into a research project titled "Finding id: Developing an Original

Musical within the Workshop Process."

From Charlotte, N.C., Staskel has been involved in musical theater his entire school career. But for his Lumen project, Staskel stepped off the stage and into behind-the-scenes work. In collaboration with 2009 Elon alumnus Dan Gibson, who currently resides in New York City, Staskel created an original musical. Gibson is responsible for composing, while Staskel acts as lyricist and book writer.

"The story is about a young

woman with dissociative identity disorder, formerly referred to as multiple personalities disorder," Staskel said. "She has to confront her past to find a way in the world."

While the plot may seem depressing to some prospective audience members, according to Staskel, "it's ultimately a happy musical."

As a writer and performer, Staskel draws inspiration from musical theater legends Stephen Sondheim ("Sweeney Todd," "West Side Story") and Adam Guettel ("The Light in the Piazza"), as well as his years studying musical theater at Elon.

"I really wanted to write an original work, putting all my studies into one piece of magic," Staskel said.

The "Workshop Process" part of the equation has provided Staskel with the necessary skills to produce the show. Putting together an original piece is a continual learning process, with multiple challenges occurring throughout all phases of preparation.

"The most difficult part was figuring out the story," Staskel said. "The outline has been revised so many times. Writing songs and scenes step-by-step has been a real challenge."

Developing a completely original work has proved to be all about implementing new skills and collaborating with other people.

"You have to be so versatile,"

Staskel said. "You have to be able to put on different hats."

Staskel will put this hat-switching action to the test in the spring when he directs this show. The musical was selected as the performing arts department's New Musical Project. It will be cast in November and performed in the Black Box theater on April 27, 29 and May 1. But between now and then isn't necessarily smooth sailing. Staskel said he anticipates a lot of changes for the project. Whole scenes and songs will probably be cut or rearranged.

The Music Theater department premiered a piece from "Finding id" at September's "Collage" performances. The number, titled "I Turn to You," provided a perfect representation of the culmination of four years together for the senior class, Staskel said.

At the show, Staskel explained how the piece particularly represented his feelings about his final year of undergraduate study, as well as depicted the bond he feels with his fellow music theater majors.

After he graduates in May, Staskel plans to enroll in a two-year theater-writing intensive program at New York University, while living as a working actor. And "Finding id" will go with him.

"I anticipate taking this beyond Elon," he said. "This is only the first step."



LINDSAY FENDT | Staff Photographer

Sophomore and junior dance majors showcased their skills in the annual Choreography Salon, which explored the importance of movement in dance on Oct. 22 and 23.

Dance majors perform, answer questions about their craft

Rachel Southmayd
Reporter

On Oct. 22 and 23, black curtains were drawn over the mirrors of Dance Studio A. Chairs filled the space where the barre and piano normally stand. The lights were dimmed and critical eyes peered over notebooks, frantically writing comments and thrusting their hands into the air. For those who aren't dancers, this certainly isn't the norm. This was the annual Choreography Salon.

Students danced in four performances of "The Choreography Salon I and II: Watching and Talking About Dance." The first night of performances featured five dances apiece from the Choreography I class, which is mostly comprised of sophomores. The two remaining shows on the second night each included six dances from a majority of junior dancers in the Choreography II class.

Each show followed the same format. Student choreographers introduced their piece and posed two questions for audience members to consider while watching, then the dance was performed.

When all pieces had been presented, choreographers reentered the stage area and an open forum discussion was held for each piece. Assistant professor

of dance Lauren Kearns proctored the discussions.

"This is a gift," said Cherie Bower, instructor of the Choreography I and II classes. "It's a chance for the choreographers to show the audience what is happening with their work and to ask the audience, 'What can be helped in my work?'"

The audience did their part by trying to help the choreographers. In addition to addressing each choreographer's questions, audience members offered advice on every aspect of each piece, including costumes, music, themes, staging and movement.

"At this stage, it's very crucial for young artists, as well as older artists, to get feedback," Kearns said.

Artistic respect colored the discussions. None of the feedback was completely critical or completely positive. Some audience members chose to ask questions about the work to broaden their understanding.

"Dance is all metaphorical, like poetry or art," Kearns said. "This is helpful to the audience too, because they're getting an understanding of the process of creative scholarship."

The audience's reasons for attending the Choreography Salon widely differed.

"I'm interested in the student choreography," junior Kimberly

David said. "I think it's a great opportunity to watch and talk about what they're doing."

"While some of the comments made by the audience came from professional dance faculty, the majority came from students — a wide collection of performing arts students and those from other majors.

"I'm personally really passionate about dance," junior Joy Zhou said. "I haven't been able to get involved as a major but I still really want to participate."

Students took audience feedback as constructive criticism. The forum offered honest critiques of their work, which was appreciated.

"The feedback was a wonderful experience for all of us," sophomore Anastasia Windeler said. "We need the comments and it was great so many people came out."

Windeler choreographed a piece called "Ricochet," featuring sophomore dancers Emily Falconer and Kassi Mattera. She also was a dancer in sophomore Lauren Sharp's piece, "Insecta."

Kearns also praised the event. "It went very well," she said.

"(The choreographers) got answers to their questions and much more. It's in the movement. In dance, it's in the movement. It's always in the movement."

'Secret Life of Bees' presentation explores secret power of imagination

Jordan Frederick
Copy Editor

The stage was set for an unusual evening in Whitley Auditorium Thursday evening. There was no curtain to herald the start of the show, no costumes, scenery or stage lighting. One stool was all the set allotted for "The Secret Life of Bees," a special presentation of the best-selling novel by Sue Monk Kidd, courtesy of the American Place Theatre.

"The Secret Life of Bees" came to campus through Elon's Lyceum series, the second this year following Japanese musical ensemble Nagata Shachu in October. Based on the 2002 novel, which came to the big screen last year, and starred Dakota Fanning, Queen Latifah and Jennifer Hudson, "Bees" follows the story of 14-year-old Lily Melissa Owens, whose life in rural South Carolina in the 1960s is far from idyllic. Raised on a peach farm by an abusive father, Lily wants nothing more than to be loved and to find affirmation from the mother she never knew.

When her black housekeeper, Rosaleen, is beaten for trying to register to vote, Lily escapes with her to Tiburon, S.C., following a mysterious picture of a black Madonna bearing the town's name as their guide. They soon fall into company with a family of unconventional black women who waste no time in changing Lily's perspectives on race, family and self-worth.

The performance comprised of an hour-long, one-woman show by actress Denise Wilbanks, preceded and concluded by 15-minute discussion periods. The audience was invited to participate in the show through their reactions to the stage business and to consider the implications of the story, grounded in abusive family life, racial violence and the early Civil Rights Movement.

"Many kids are being raised in single parent families or homes where neglect is an issue," said Shannon Davis, a senior education major. "I believe watching Lily's journey to reconcile her mother's death and come to terms with her father could help students resolve some of their abandonment issues.

Just as Lily learned, it would help them to see that their strength lies within themselves."

Kim Pyne, professor of English with ties to the teacher licensure program, was similarly struck by the emotional depth of the performance and the solidity of the adaptation.

"This is huge for motivating students to find the visual and emotive power of a text," Pyne said. "By keeping close to the original language, it also provides a lens on how books might 'sound' in the mind of a savvy reader. Many adolescent (and younger) reluctant readers fail to realize that words on a page have an emotional heft, a reality that can be lost in the act of simple decoding."

Literature to Life, which "The Secret Life of Bees" is part of, is an outreach program of the American Place Theatre that brings staged versions of American works like Frank McCourt's "Teacher Man," Khaled Hosseini's "The Kite Runner" and Jeanette Walls' "The Glass Castle" to life on stages across the country.

Authors like Sue Monk Kidd "donate" their books to the American Place Theatre free of charge, and the company in turn converts the novels into verbatim adaptations. What started as an educational tool for children now brings accessible literature to classrooms and theaters across the United States.

"I wish I had realized the mission of that theater organization," Pyne said. "I would have made attendance mandatory for my English Teacher Licensure students, who could have truly benefitted from seeing an increasingly common work of school literature turned into a compelling performance. Performance-based strategies for teaching and learning are similar, and it would have been a great talking point."

"The Secret Life of Bees" is just one of nine shows currently touring the United States that encourages its viewers to fight injustice with imagination. For more information on the American Place Theatre and Literature to Life, visit www.americanplacetheatre.org or contact managing director Jennifer Barnette at edu@americanplacetheatre.org.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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Across

- 1 Hide
- 11 Video CD file format
- 15 "Land sakes alive!"
- 16 Hipbone prefix
- 17 Overdid it
- 18 Woodworking groove
- 19 Helpful contacts
- 20 Hares' tails
- 21 Brickell and Falco
- 22 "___ no idea!"
- 23 Cooperative after-dinner offer
- 24 One in a hole
- 27 Does over, as an ascot
- 29 Player's lament
- 30 Voice of Mr. Magoo
- 33 Island off the Tuscany coast
- 34 Artificial movie background
- 35 Old Italian capital
- 36 French capital?

- 38 Jeep in the movie "Cars"
- 39 Department store section
- 40 Fit one within another
- 41 Rapid river thaw
- 43 Lukas of "Witness"
- 44 Score settlers?
- 45 Like a cool fall morning
- 47 Rx amt.
- 50 "High Voltage" rock band
- 51 West Coast racing venue
- 53 Carolers' offering
- 54 Shaq, 15 times
- 55 Shipping deduction
- 56 Like Hail Mary passes

- centuries
- 4 Nevada summer hrs.
- 5 Basketball two-hander
- 6 Green vehicle
- 7 Sun screen?
- 8 Pond floater
- 9 Diamond stats
- 10 Rx specification
- 11 Large group with upper and lower segments
- 12 Many a kilt, essentially
- 13 Down source
- 14 Foolish
- 21 "Popular Fallacies" essayist
- 22 Revival meeting shout
- 23 "Never let ___ said ..."
- 24 Stopped running
- 25 That femme
- 26 Winter Olympics competitor
- 27 Church practices
- 28 9-1-1

- respondents, briefly
- 30 Rolling Stone co-founder Wenner
- 31 Push for
- 32 Nutmeg or sesame
- 34 Bearing
- 37 Unpleasant duty
- 38 Coastal plant with collard-like leaves
- 40 French "gn" sounds, e.g.
- 41 "Out of the question"
- 42 Warming drink
- 43 Try to strike
- 45 Cake with a kick
- 46 Protein-building polymers
- 47 Longtime Yugoslav president
- 48 Laurel in films
- 49 Ranch chum
- 51 NBC show that began its 35th season in Sep. 2009
- 52 Defense advisory gp.

MOVIE REVIEW



ONCE A CLASSIC, ALWAYS A CLASSIC

Spike Jonze's adaptation of Maurice Sendak's "Where the Wild Things Are" is in theaters now. The film offers a more adult spin on the children's tale. PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.NJ.COM

Jonze proves himself again with 'Where the Wild Things Are'

Bonnie Efird
Reviewer

The theory that the book is always better than the movie may have finally been proven wrong with "Where the Wild Things Are," written, directed and produced by Spike Jonze.

Jonze's adaptation of Maurice Sendak's children's book captures the essence of the innards of a young boy's imagination. Plagued by his conflicted childhood, Max, played by child-actor Max Records, is the central character in this poignant and imaginative film. With his adorable freckles and innocent blue eyes, Max speaks few words but conveys a great deal of emotion.

After he decides his mother's new boyfriend has replaced him, his sister doesn't need him and having real friends isn't an option, Max sails off to conquer the imaginative world where the wild things are, in his wolf-onesy, growling, snarling and howling. In this tale of escapism, Max's journey into the uncharted territory of his imagination is symbolic for his coping with the growing pains and changes of life. The journey is meant to fulfill a void caused by his broken family life.

By far, the most impressive part of Jonze's work in this film is the originality he was able to maintain. Although the movie required expansion from the 40-page book, Jonze tenderly expanded the film without over-interpreting the symbolism within. This allows the viewers to watch the movie through their own lenses and to interpret, as they will, the film's natural symbolism.

Perhaps the most touching part of the film is that it maintained its simplicity, symbolic of the inner workings of a child's mind. It is the simple story of a lonely boy searching for companionship and adventure in the depths of his own imagination, far from the harsh reality of the cruel world in which he lives.

The beginning of the film takes viewers back to their own childhood as Max carelessly flings himself down the stairs in the house, chasing the family dog. The audience is automatically captured as the camera jerkily follows Max down the stairs in a disorienting and disruptive way, jolting as if

someone was running down the stairs with camera in hand. This intimate view inside Max's life allows everyone to experience boyhood.

It is perhaps just that which has caused this movie to be loved even more by adults than children. Who doesn't want to experience childhood again? Who wouldn't love to escape from the monotonous day-to-day routine or the world's harsh realities? Jonze does a great job of allowing audiences of all ages to journey back into their own childhoods, remembering the great imagination and adventures they no longer have time for.

The wild things Max encounters on the island are such imaginative creatures it is almost hard to tell what kind of animal each represents. This dreamlike world where Max becomes one of the herd is a beautifully portrayed place. It is exactly what you would imagine it would look like when reading the book. Each creature's personality helps develop the plot, while King Max rules over the forest and those who reside there.

It is in this imaginary world that Max gets the attention he wants and experiences true friendship. For a young actor, it was as though Records was able to create depth within his character and understood the fire burning in King Max's heart. Tearing down each of the creatures' homes, having a dirt clod fight and arguing with the creatures to prove his kingship, Records did a fine job of playing the typical temper-tantrum angry child.

Although Jonze leaves many questions unanswered, this provides some of the beauty of the film, helping symbolize the mystery of childhood. By refusing to interpret the book, Jonze avoids explanation.

Some may think the movie is a bit slow (especially wiggly kids), and it is. The true beauty lies within its simplicity and originality. There is only so much action that can be slammed into a children's movie. But it seems as though this film has been more of a hit with its tried-and-true audience — the adults who were around to read it when it first hit bookstores in 1963.

This long-awaited film does anything but disappoint, and it's sure to become as classic a movie as it is a book.

RESTAURANT REVIEW



LAUREN RAMSDELL | Photographer
Simply Thai offers an authentic Thai and Laotian menu and also includes a full sushi bar.

Simply Thai provides a simply great escape

Lauren Ramsdell
Reviewer

Elon's dining services are great, no question. Not many university students have so many options for dining halls, restaurants and great coffee shops. But a steady diet of Pan Geos and Varsity can get old fast, and local dives like Sandy's and Sidetracks don't really mix up the menu much. Thankfully, Simply Thai has arrived to enliven Elon's tired taste buds.

Simply Thai, located right down West Haggard Avenue, features authentic Thai and Laotian food and stupendous sushi with excellent service and great prices. A meal for two featuring entrées, drinks and a shared appetizer was just less than \$50 — not bad for a high-class eatery.

Main entrees come with an option of beef, chicken, seafood or tofu as a protein, while some are specifically for beef-eaters. Each entrée comes with a house salad — greens covered in a peanut-coconut dressing. Even though one may not be a huge fan of coconut, the dressing is mild enough for most everyone to enjoy.

The entrées themselves were also delicious without being overly sweetened or overly spicy, as some Thai restaurants tend to do. For many dishes, a desired level of spice can be specified, so leaving the restaurant sweating is still an option.

Simply Thai's sushi list proves extensive, taking up an entire foldout section of the menu. Some rolls start under \$5, but others can be pricey, pushing \$15 or \$20. Diners get what they pay for, though, as quality sushi can be hard to find in the Elon area.

Sampled dishes included an appetizer of calamari. The calamari was nothing to write home about, being for the most part plain and bland, but it came with a wasabi/chili dipping sauce that really wowed. The servers constantly came back with drink refills and inquired about the taste and flavor.

Two entrees, pad prik — also known as Thai pepper steak — and lad nar — Thailand's second most popular dish after pad thai, were sampled.

Pad prik is made with chili pepper, garlic, shallots, mint, basil, soy and, of course, the requisite peppers and onions. The flavors melded beautifully in a savory sauce, that brown rice on the side quickly sopped up. A comparable dish might be a Philly cheese steak without the bread or the cheese, and with many more flavors vying for attention. In fact, it's indescribable. Pad prik just needs to be sampled.

Lad nar is a dish of fried noodles in brown soy gravy over broccoli and mushrooms. The flat rice noodles were earthy and rich while the sauce was very light, a flavor profile that blended very well. Other than the noodles, the dish was fairly plain. Be sure to ask for a little extra heat if you want a better flavor.

What redeemed the lack of exciting flavor were the veggies and seafood. One could tell both the vegetables and the seafood were cooked at the very peak of freshness.

The calm ambience, attentive staff, great pricing and delicious, fresh food cannot be found anywhere else near campus. This unique restaurant, while still in the Elon bubble, will take your mind far, far away from homework, tests and professors and across the ocean to Thailand.

Altogether, Simply Thai is worth a repeat visit. The restaurant is open from 11 a.m.-3p.m. for lunch and 5 - 10 p.m. for dinner, Monday through Saturday. It is open Sundays from 4 - 9 p.m.

MOVIE REVIEW



I came, I 'Saw' and was unsurprisingly disappointed

Jeff Weaver
Reviewer

It's Halloween again, which means three things: scantily clad women in costumes, discounted candy at RiteAid and another "Saw" film. This year delivers the sixth installment in a series that has produced a film every year like clockwork for the past six years, even after the death of Jigsaw. It seems as long as the studios can continue to make money off these films, they will keep making them. The "Saw" series is already the highest grossing horror film franchise of all time, and that does not seem to be stopping in the near future.

"Saw VI" follows the story of Detective Hoffman (Costas Mandylor) as he continues Jigsaw's games. Hoffman sets up what seems to be Jigsaw's final game, while also hiding his own trail from the FBI. Like "Saw IV" and "V," the film is riddled with flashbacks which reveal more about the relationship between Jigsaw and Hoffman. "Saw VI" even includes more about the back story of Jigsaw's wife and her involvement.

Hoffman's game tests a man named William (Peter Outerbridge), a successful executive at an insurance company. Through the different tests William is put through, his dark past and connections to Jigsaw become known.

A trademark of the "Saw" films is the intricate tests people are forced to complete in order to survive. But as the films progress, the gadgets become more complex and unrealistic. In the first film, all the games people were placed in could have feasibly been created and assembled by Jigsaw. With this film, the scope of the game William was put through seemed outrageously extravagant. The

setting of much of the film is inside what looks to be an abandoned building of a zoo, and the games that are scattered within this building do not appear to be something that could have been easily conceived or completed.

Another staple of these films are the "lessons" taught by Jigsaw. In previous films, people put into the games were fiends and drug addicts who were hurting themselves severely and not appreciating life. No one put into Jigsaw's traps were innocent. This film changes that. To test William, many innocent people involved in his life are placed in the game with him. One of the justifications to bring a person in was the fact he was a smoker — really, Jigsaw? You could not have just bought this man a pack of Nicorette?

For a movie which includes an antagonist that requires people to follow so many rules, the film breaks so many of them itself.

With all the negatives that can be said about this film, it does seem as if the writers are attempting to include allusions within the traps they create. One of the games includes a subtle reference to Shylock in The Merchant of Venice by requiring a pound of flesh of the victims. But this allusion was probably wasted on the average audience member who saw the film.

Once again, the film ends with a cliffhanger which leaves the viewer asking more questions about what could happen next, rather than what was answered. This film is by no means a good horror movie. It is also the worst in the series with an ending that is unbelievably predictable. If you're searching for a quality horror film to see during Halloween, skip "Saw VI" and see "Paranormal Activity" instead.

FRESH STARTS, HOPEFUL FUTURES

Local college students tutor refugee children in Greensboro

Rachel Cieri
Features Editor

Tucked away on the back roads of suburban Greensboro, Avalon Trace Apartments is only a 30-minute drive from Elon, but it might as well be a different world.

Loitering is a favorite hobby of the residents, many of whom can only find part-time work or have been left unemployed in an unstable economy. A few hang around outside the one-story gray brick buildings, but the real center of this community is where the children go after school.

The apartments set aside for the Avalon Community Center's tutoring program are like caves, mostly windowless and poorly lit. The hodgepodge of furniture has seen better days, but the walls make an effort to be youngster-friendly with brightly-colored artwork.

"The program has about 30 to 35 children," said Jack Tyler, the tutoring center's volunteer coordinator. "It's for anyone who's in school. But all of them don't always come every day."

Tyler, an employee of UNC Greensboro's Center for New North Carolinians, said the tutoring program started in January as a partnership of the Americorp Community Collaborative and the African Services Coalition, groups that assist local immigrant and refugee communities with their adjustment to life in the states.

A Reidsville native, Tyler got involved with Americorp and the CNNC after graduating from UNCG with a degree in international and global studies.

"I've always wanted to help people," he said. "Refugees are Americans, too, and they want to be here like everyone else.

They just need help because they're starting from scratch."

The funding for the program came from a grant to the ACC from the Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and the tutoring center grew out of an existing initiative to help adult refugees find employment and further their education.

According to the CNNC, there are likely more than 15,000 people from Africa living in Guilford County, although there are no official numbers because the census categorizes them as "black" or "African American." About 1,500 of these residents are refugees. The Southeast Asian immigrant population in Greensboro is also sizable, estimated at more than 10,000 people.

Tyler said most of the refugees who come to Avalon hail from the Democratic Republic of Congo or Myanmar, escaping oppressive military regimes and ethnic conflict.

Volunteer Brant Miller, a senior at UNCG, said even in reflection papers for his service learning class, he never used the names of any refugees at Avalon.

"Some of them escaped illegally, so we don't use their names to keep someone from coming after them," he said.

Miller is one of dozens of university student volunteers who go to Avalon every weekday evening to help refugee children, from kindergarten to high school, get through their homework and overcome the language barrier.

Elon students have volunteered at the tutoring center since the spring, alongside students from other colleges like UNCG, Guilford College, North Carolina A&T and Bennett College. This fall, it became an official Elon Volunteers! organization,

headed by senior Grace Helms and sophomore Katie Kenney.

Anyone is welcome to volunteer, but as a French major, Miller has an advantage over some of the other tutors. Many of the children and their parents come from French-speaking nations like Ethiopia, allowing Miller to communicate with them in their native tongue when necessary.

But the language barrier the children have with other tutors and their teachers at school does not prevent them from doing their best.

Guilford College freshman and Avalon volunteer Andrew Glass said he thinks the children at Avalon work harder than the typical student. Glass has been giving up his Friday nights to come to the tutoring center since September.

"I just enjoy being around the kids and building relationships with them," he said.

Some of the volunteers admit to having a "favorite" — a child with whom they share a special bond and come back to see week after week. For Miller, it's 7-year-old Bubba. For first-time volunteer Arthur Wood, it might be Papi, a friendly 5-year-old Congolese child.

"I came because my girlfriend tutors here, but I can't see myself stopping," he said, holding Papi in his arms. He motioned to the boy. "I mean, how could I not?"

Papi hopped down to chase after another child with a soccer ball and joined in the continuous pickup game on the dusty lawn behind the tutoring center. The three apartments that comprise the community center are in constant motion, with children running in and out of the doors and adults lingering to speak with program coordinators.

One room with computers is



Five-year-old Papi takes a ride on a big wheel at the Avalon community.

set aside as a place for residents to fill out job applications and children to type up their school assignments, and it is always in high demand. Here, closing the door is not a sufficient way to say "keep out." Intermittent banging on the apartment doors is considered normal, rather than cause for alarm.

"For me, the best part is when parents stop —" Tyler started. He stopped short when the locked door burst open and three men crossed the threshold, asking for the computer. After sternly sending them away, relocking the door and shooing a few small children back outside, he sat down again to finish.

"The best part is when parents stop coming up to me because it means things are going well," he said. "(The refugees) have had everything



Elon volunteers help some of the Avalon children complete their homework during a tutoring session.

given to them for such a long time, and now they have to start over with no help. When they stop coming to me asking for things, I know they're doing OK."

SHENEЕ HOWARD senior, blog creator/editor



the
COOL NEW CONNECTION
to campus

To get involved or read the BrickStyle blog, visit:
<http://brickstyle.blogspot.com> or contact Shenee Howard at showard@elon.edu.
Follow the BrickStyle blog on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/BrickStyle>.

Gabriela Szewcow
Design Intern

There is so much going on at Elon that it can be hard to keep track of it all. Now, students can stay in the know with BrickStyle, a new blog started by senior Shenee Howard.

Howard describes BrickStyle as "your connection to everything cool around Elon's campus." Written by students whose passions encompass a diverse range, BrickStyle has six sections: street style, photography, design, local flavors, music and movies.

Seven to eight writers contribute to the blog, focusing on their personal interests, which include local events and attractions around Elon.

"Writers and contributors have a lot of freedom to do what they want," Howard said.

Writers have the ability to post their own content to the site, but Howard reads through everything before posting it to the blog. She coded and put together the Web site completely on her own.

"As much as I love it, it's very time-consuming," Howard said. "I want to devote a lot more to it, but I don't have a lot of time. This is why I'm looking for underclassmen to keep BrickStyle going."

After studying abroad in London for a semester and working as a design intern during the summer, Howard wanted to start a street-style blog at Elon.

"It was originally something I thought I would do myself, but then so many other students have gotten involved and it has become bigger than I ever thought it would be," she said.

Because of the blog's success, Howard is always looking for more help, whether through writing or help to promote the blog.

"I am always looking for freelance writers, and I want to feature more photography on the blog," Howard said.

Howard said she also recognizes students are involved in a lot of activities on campus and they may not be able to devote a ton of time to the blog.

"BrickStyle is not about competition," Howard said. "I know we're all busy, so I don't expect people to write every week. If you write when you can, that's fine with me. There's really no pressure."

BrickStyle is not an official campus organization, which has made promoting the blog difficult, and advertising it through e-mails and posters has posed problems for Howard.

"There are just so many hoops to jump through," she said. "And we get so many emails a day that we become desensitized to messages. This makes it hard to get the word out sometimes."

Howard has found that word of mouth has been the most successful way to promote her blog.

brick style
Your
Elon
Connection

Submit Your Artwork
to our Elon Blog

brickstyle.blogspot.com

Accepting alternate ideologies: Elon's atheist organization creates religious discussion for all beliefs

Samantha King
Assistant News Editor

For a huge majority of Americans, Sunday morning does not involve sleeping in. Instead, church bells and scripture readings illuminate their thoughts. They will spend at least an hour praying and singing to an entity which they cannot physically see, basing their beliefs on faith.

For many people, religion is a staple in their lives. It guides them, gives them comfort in a time of need and is an all-access path to heaven. For senior finance major Mike Kleinmann, religion is anything but.

Kleinmann is an atheist. He defines atheism as "thinking there is no good reason we have been shown to believe in God."

One of Kleinmann's friends attends Northwestern University in Chicago and has already started an atheist organization there called SANE. Kleinmann borrowed the acronym and changed the wording to read "Student Atheists and Non-Religious at Elon."

SANE had its first meeting Oct. 14.

"We had 24 people show up," Kleinmann said. "I really wasn't sure how many people would come, so I was impressed."

For Kleinmann and many atheists like him, religion is entirely superstitious. Just as Greek mythology cited lightning coming from Zeus before science proved otherwise, Kleinmann said he believes one day science will have an explanation for everything. We just aren't that far yet.

Perhaps the greatest conflict atheists and believers have is explaining the beginning of the world and creation. Kleinmann, like many atheists, said he believes religion only tailored the origins of the world around humanity because of humans' need to differ from animals and other beings around them.

Kleinmann has never believed in religion.

GOALS OF SANE

Create an environment for open discussion of controversial ideas relating to religion and other belief systems, science, politics and society.

Open the discussion in broader society.

Combat the negativity surrounding atheism.

"My parents are devout Christians and extremely religious. I just have never been religious," he said. "I always thought it was important for people to have open beliefs."

Kleinmann began researching atheism his senior year of high school and freshman year of college, and he began to deepen his beliefs in a godless world.

"It was a shock almost to come here where there is more of an evangelical majority," he said.

Kleinmann began thinking about starting an organization for non-believers his freshman year after he migrated south from New Hampshire and realized there was no organization to cater to those who choose to not believe.

Kleinmann wanted to create a place where religious discussion was accepted and encouraged, rather than thought of as taboo. He also wanted to create a place where discussion could be completely open.

"I just felt that atheists were very underrepresented," Kleinmann said. "There are organizations for every other religion to discuss their views. We needed one too."

His idea for the organization really took off last year when Frank Turek, a Christian guest speaker who spoke on atheism, gave a controversial speech entitled "I don't have enough faith to be an atheist."

A main goal for the organization is to have open and calm discussions about religion and different beliefs. wants the whole community included and hopes to host events to educate the community about atheism.

"Religion here is very political," Kleinmann said, which is why he was initially interested in starting

a group with open discussion. "So many people around here base their political viewpoints on their religion. I feel as if it blinds them."

One of the main reasons Kleinmann wants to stress open discussion for SANE and the Elon community is to promote educational discussion. If everyone conglomerates their ideas, Elon will have a wider perspective with which to make decisions, Kleinmann said.

To start the organization, Kleinmann met with representatives in the Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life and discussed his goals and purpose for the organization. They then had to secure an adviser, and sociology professor Tom Arcarro agreed to head the organization.

SANE is currently at the developmental stage of becoming an organization, but Kleinmann has already identified its goals.

Open discussion in broader society is key for the organization. Kleinmann said he believes that discussing religion should be no different from discussing history or any other subject.

"For some reason people get really offensive when they discuss their beliefs," he said. "I want to promote discussion and eventually create an environment where discussing faith will no longer be taboo."

Kleinmann would also like to combat the negativity surrounding atheism. According to a 2008 Gallup poll, atheism is the least trusted minority in America, behind Muslims, gays and Latinos. Kleinmann said the nation will open up to atheism more as the current generation ages.

When the organization receives full status, Kleinmann said it will have bi-weekly meetings and host events for the entire campus. Some of Kleinmann's ideas include "Ask an Atheist" night, guest speakers and educational movies. One of the events Kleinmann said he is really looking forward to is a speaker from the Center for Inquiry who will discuss the relationship between religion and politics.

Elon's real 'high school musical' star featured in ABC documentary

Lindsay Kimble
Copy Intern

Disney's hit "High School Musical" series wowed audiences with its less-than-realistic depiction of a high school's production of a show. While in reality there's no Troy Bolton, Elon University is the new proud home of another musical star in the making, one who received his big break on the stage of his own high school, sophomore Garrett Henson.

In 2007, ABC's hit program 20/20 aired a special two-part documentary titled "Drama High," chronicling the making of a "real high school musical." Westfield High School in Centreville, Va. was selected out of nearly 100 programs to be the featured high school on the Emmy-nominated program.

The program shows the process a real public high school goes through to put on a show, in particular, "The Wiz." Several students were selected to have "storylines" and cameras chronicled their particular experiences not only at school but at home, showing personal interactions with parents and peers.

Henson was one of these selected students, and he looks back on the experience with fond memories.

Henson, who was originally unaware of his casting as one of the featured students, had never experienced the filming process involved in making such a documentary.

"I had never been trained in how to be and act in front of a camera, so it

was completely new territory for me," Henson said. "But it was so exciting."

Every week, the producers had the featured students interview in front of a green screen. Henson chatted about the progress of the show and his feelings about issues or events of the week.

"They also, quite a few times, followed me home and filmed me in my everyday life, interacting with my friends and family and just living my life. We were even given the opportunity to do personal video diaries," Henson said.

The audition process, which is already a stressful experience, was intensified for Henson by the presence of cameras. Henson, who considered himself fairly involved in high school, felt the stress of another addition to his already full schedule. Although the stress may be attributed to Henson not landing his ideal role, the part of the lion, by the end of the production he felt the director had made the right casting choice.

"I thought the show was done very, very well," Henson said. "Everything that was shown and said was everything that happened."

Henson is now a musical theater major at Elon. He said he feels at home in the program and has truly bonded with his classmates.

"Elon was quite literally the best place for me. The program here is incredible, and up and coming, he said. "It is definitely rated in the top-10 musical theatre programs in the country."

At Elon, Henson has worked as a technician for several shows, including main-stages productions. He also performed in a student-written piece last year. Currently, he is involved in the fall main-stage production, "Kiss Me, Kate."

Henson said he hopes to continue with musical theatre after graduation, whether working professionally or auditioning for shows. Although he has not contemplated his ultimate destination, he has considered moving to Boston, Chicago, New York City or abroad to London. Henson hopes, however, at this point he will be holding down a steady job.

Henson said his main goal is to be able to successfully support himself and his family while doing what he loves — performing.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

To watch the 20/20 special and see special clips of Henson, visit: <http://abcnews.go.com/2020/DramaHigh>.

HAVE A HAUNTED HALLOWEEN

Compiled by Michelle Longo
Copy Editor



Looking for a scare this Halloween weekend? Look no further than Elon's surrounding area. Full of corn mazes and forests, the Piedmont-Triad area boasts a variety of attractions for both the fearless and the easily frightened.

Dark in the Park Halloween Celebration: Burlington City Park

5 - 9 p.m. on Oct. 31

On Halloween night, Burlington's park transforms into an amusement park, including carnival games. A costume contest will be held at 7 p.m., and the annual fireworks show begins at 8 p.m. Admission is free for all. For more information, call (336) 222-5030, or visit www.burlingtonnc.gov/recreation.

Scarowinds' Halloween Haunt: Carowinds Theme Park, Charlotte

7 p.m. - midnight on Oct. 28 and Oct. 30

7 p.m. - 1 a.m. on Oct. 31

Carowinds Theme Park boasts ride attractions in the dark, along with special Halloween additions such as the Haunted Homecoming show, eight mazes and three "scarezones" — the Cemetery, The Feeding Frenzy and the all-new Playground. The theme park is offering special Web discounts including the "gruesome twosome" ticket pack for \$55. Groups of 15 or more also get a reduced rate if purchased online. Learn more at www.scarowinds.com, or call (800) 888-4386.

Haunted Forest Reborn: 153 Darrell Davis Rd., Burlington

7 - 11 p.m. on Oct. 30 & Oct. 31

This old farm forest boasts "the most horrifying night you will ever spend in darkness and mazes." Newly redone, the same horrifying treks through the corn mazes will still be the staple of the forest, but new, scarier tweaks will make it a different experience for all who dare. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 7-years-old.

Pumpkin Chunkin: The Winery at Iron Gate Farm, Mebane

2 - 5 p.m. on Oct. 31

With just a \$20 donation to The Women's Resource Center, the Winery at Iron Gate Farm presents the Pumpkin Chunkin event. Participants load and fire pumpkins from Foster's Custom Steel Pumpkin Chunker to win prizes that include three bottles of wine for hitting the bulls-eye. For more information, call (919) 304-WINE or visit www.irongatevineyards.com.

Scare-ousel 2009: Carousel Luxury Cinemas at Alamance Crossing, Burlington

11 p.m. on Oct. 31

Since the first Saturday in October, Carousel Cinemas in Alamance Crossing has turned into a Halloween movie heaven, screening old-school classic horror films. The last of these films is "Dead Alive," playing Halloween night. The movie is about a son dealing with his mother, who is slowly turning into a flesh-eating zombie. Tickets cost \$3, with \$1.50 beers.

Woods of Terror on Church Street: Greensboro

6 - 11:30 p.m. on Oct. 29 - Nov. 1 and Nov. 6 - Nov 7

Gates open at 6 p.m., ticket booth open from 6:30-11:30 p.m.

Celebrating its 18th year, the Woods of Terror continues to receive national recognition and has once again gained the stamp of approval from America's Best Haunts. Woods of Terror is not only the largest haunt in a three state area, but it is also called the scariest. The Woods has more than 10 haunted attractions and a show at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per guest, with discounts for groups of 15 or more. Visit www.woodsoterror.com for more information.

Castle of Horror: Reidsville

7 p.m. - midnight on Oct. 29 - Oct. 31

About a 20-minute ride from Elon, the Castle of Horror is one of the closest (and scariest) haunted houses in the area. This year, it has a new path through madness and lots of new scenes. It also features Cannibal Creek for the second year in a row. Admission is \$15 for the castle and \$10 for the creek. Guests who go to both pay only \$20.

For those who want to be scared hardcore, visit www.nchaunts.com for a complete listing of the scariest haunted houses in the North Carolina area.

A SHOT AT A

'RelaxZen' business opportunity



JUSTINE SCHULERUD | Staff Photographer
Senior Nick West partnered with his father, Nicholas West Sr., to create a new beverage called RelaxZen.

Senior begins blooming health drink line alongside father

Julie Cerick
Reporter

While many students about to graduate are search frantically to find a job, senior Nick West knows exactly what he'll be doing after he receives his diploma in May.

West, who created a new beverage, launched a sampling of his new product, RelaxZen, Thursday in Moseley Center.

West conceived RelaxZen, an all-natural, non-narcotic product, to help relieve tension and stress. In conjunction with Peaceful Remedies, a well-known beverage company, West and his father, Nicholas West Sr., created a product which would fill the demand for a healthy way to feel less anxiety and more happiness, all without the drowsy aftermath of most energy drinks.

West is still completing class work while also building a product. As a business major, he owes some of his skills and knowledge to classes he has taken at Elon.

"I have learned how to write business plans in my classes, and with my involvement in RelaxZen, it was vital for me to create this essential part of the product's foundation," West said.

The idea sprang to life roughly two years ago when he and his father, now the CEO of RelaxZen, sat down and did some market research.

"Through our extensive research, we found that the energy drink market was doing really well," West Jr. said. "We noticed how stressed out Americans are, and that's where we got the idea for RelaxZen."

This summer, the duo set out for California to work with a beverage startup consultancy to help with

product design and branding. There, West Jr. earned his title of director of university relations in the greater Elon district for their company.

West Sr. describes himself as "a serial entrepreneur."

"I have owned bars and restaurants, real estate development, a large regional mortgage banking firm and now RelaxZen," he said.

He said working with his son has been a unique experience.

"(Working with Nick) is a double bonus. Not only do I have the chance to work with my son, I am working with an extremely hard-working and dedicated partner that represents and understands a tremendous demographic for the product," West Sr. said.

The drink, which is offered in 2.5 oz shots, currently comes in two forms: RelaxZen Day and RelaxZen Night.

"RelaxZen Day is really good for tests and big presentations," West said. "It calms your nerves for any high stress situation. But if you want to sleep better, or you're up doing a lot of homework late at night, RelaxZen Night slowly mellows you down."

West would know, as he himself is a frequent user.

"I don't overtake them because I have to sell them, but I could definitely drink the whole supply over a pretty short period of time," he said. "I take it mainly before fraternity chapter meetings and class presentations because they're pretty unnerveing and hard to conduct."

West is from Little Silver, N.J., which is where much of the product is being sold.

"We actually are not doing a lot of marketing there, and we're doing

really well without it," he said.

"Really well" means 749 people on the Facebook fan page and about 100 followers on RelaxZen's Twitter. He said the only product RelaxZen is not outselling at 7-11 is 5-Hour Energy.

As the product becomes more well-known, West recognizes more sampling will need to be done, including getting a street team in place in New York City within the next few months.

West said he has already seen positive results in consumers at Elon.

"My friends take it because they have anxiety going to the gym and after taking it for a while, they have had no problem going anymore," he said. "It has really gotten rid of any previous stress or anxiety about going."

RelaxZen is different from other products because it is all natural, with more vitamins than fat and carbohydrates. This summer, RelaxZen was distributed at Sickles Market, an organic and natural food market in West's hometown.

West is optimistic about his after-college plans with RelaxZen.

"My ideal situation for the future would be to have the entire country sell RelaxZen and have it in every airport," he said, mentioning that a new RelaxZen Flight, to calm flying nerves, will be released soon. "My father and I are trying to be business partners in this. He has been a great mentor and the most important thing is that we're having fun with it."

West Sr. said he hopes to leave behind an unforgettable product.

"I want this to be both a lesson and a legacy for my family and others to see that if you believe in something, it is worth doing," he said.

Digital textbooks, Amazon Kindle offer alternatives for textbooks

Sarah Costello
Reporter

Dime novels, pocket-sized dictionaries and heavy textbooks are items of the past. Now, students and book lovers can travel anywhere with an assortment of literature and reading materials housed on a single device known as the Amazon Kindle.

Kindles enable consumers to download books and choose from their personal collections without visiting the library or bookstore. The product was released in 2007 as an alternative to e-books and other digital formats.

Rather than downloading digital books onto a laptop, consumers now have the option to purchase Kindles, which are slightly larger than iPod touches and have the memory to store dozens of books. It is a form of "electronic paper" specifically designed to mimic the look of ink on paper by reflecting light rather than backlighting its pixels.

"I saw someone using a (Kindle) last year and I did a little research on them," said sophomore Rebecca Berube, who spent about \$300 on her Kindle. "It seems like a steep cost, but books are a lot cheaper (to purchase) for a Kindle."

Kindles come with different levels of memory and capabilities and can cost between \$300 and \$600 depending on the model. While consumers still pay to purchase books, the costs are generally lower for Kindles, usually topping off at \$15.

"A lot of the classes I'm taking use non-traditional textbooks," Berube said. "A biology book, for instance, would not work for Kindles, but for just text it's workable in a digital format."

Kindles also allow students to highlight and make notes, combining all notes in a single folder. Users can access www.amazon.com for free via their Kindles to purchase books.

"I like to bounce between books," junior Joel Slocum said. "(Kindles) are definitely worth it if you do a lot

of reading, especially if you read a lot of paperbacks."

In addition to the Kindle, other e-paper platforms include the Barnes & Noble Nook, the Sony Reader, the iReX iLiad and the Jinke Hanlin e-Reader.

While a wide variety of literature, fiction and non-fiction can be downloaded directly to Kindles and other e-paper platforms, there are still a few textbooks available. Many book publishers are hesitant to provide cheaper versions to Kindle users.

Students can still save money by downloading e-books to their computers, a format that not only eliminates extra costs to consumers but also enables publishers to produce books at a lower price.

"With e-books, anybody can publish," junior Drew Smith said. "It's another voice for people, and it's cost effective."

Smith said Kindles are "half-way" devices that cut costs and allow consumers to keep all their books together on a piece of technology half the size of a sheet of paper. As more publishers begin to transition to digital formats, many question the future of tangible books, libraries and bookstores.

"I think almost all literature will (eventually) be offered online," Smith said. "But I think the option for print will still be there."

As with all new initiatives, Kindles do have some negative aspects.

"Because you can change the font size on Kindles, it changes the words on each page and the page numbers change. There's no correspondence between the paper and the digital," Berube said, also pointing out that this is a problem when professors require a certain amount of reading for each class.

For people accustomed to reading actual books, adapting to a digital format may be different. But some students advocate transitioning to Kindles who say it is not as challenging as it may seem.

"It's the same quality as books," Smith said. "Maybe photos will be lacking, but it's just text on a background. I'm over hard copies."

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Crenshaw HYUNDAI

Elon, UNCG battle for No. 1 spot in SoCon

Felicia Maffucci
Reporter

The Phoenix's last game of the season has the makings of a thriller. This past weekend set the stage for a key Southern Conference matchup between UNC Greensboro and the Phoenix at 7 p.m. on Thursday in Greensboro.

The games against The Citadel and the College of Charleston last weekend were two of the last three regular season games before the team heads to the SoCon tournament. The last regular season game will come on Thursday against No. 1 UNCG.

The Phoenix tallied a 2-1 win against The Citadel and a 2-0 win against the College of Charleston last weekend to help improve its SoCon standing. The team is now 12-4-2 overall, 7-2-1 in the SoCon and is in second place behind UNCG.

"The Citadel was a physical battle, whereas College of Charleston was a tactical battle," head coach Chris Neal said. "The Citadel was a very athletic and tough team physically."

Senior goalkeeper Sydney Little and senior forward Molly Calpin could not have been happier with how the team played this past weekend.

"The center defense knew when to drop off and how to handle the speed," Little said.

Neal said The Citadel has two of the fastest players in the conference.

"(The Citadel) only had 12 players and they fought hard. They tied it up 1-1 and we fought back," Calpin said.

Even though the team did not have as much possession in The Citadel game as

in comparison to the College of Charleston game, it came out with another win and a big team effort.

This time, Elon switched it up to play a 4-4-2 defense against the College of Charleston and Neal said it confused the opposing team.

"We asked our team to play a different formation ... It confused College of Charleston," Calpin said. "It was the best our team has played all season."

The Phoenix has never beaten the Spartans since the move to the SoCon. After this game, the Phoenix can finish anywhere between first and fifth in the conference.

"We are playing for first place," Calpin said.

Neal said the Phoenix has had the benefit of seeing the Spartans play a few times.

"UNC Greensboro is definitely a beatable team," Calpin said. "Our forwards will combine and play well together."

While Elon needs a win Thursday to be SoCon champions, UNCG needs a tie or a win against the Phoenix. Both the Phoenix and the Spartans have lost to Samford and Davidson in the SoCon this season.

"This is where we all hoped to be," Little said. "There is not anything anyone could do to get us more pumped than we already are."

Only four teams make it into the SoCon tournament. If UNCG loses, they will still qualify for the tournament.

"(UNC) Greensboro has ended our season two out of the past three years," Calpin said. "I'd love nothing more than to beat them my senior year."



Senior forward Molly Calpin has led the Phoenix to a 12-4-2 overall record and 7-2-1 SoCon standing. The Phoenix will play its last conference game on Thursday night against University of North Carolina Greensboro.

FILE PHOTO

ATHLETIC RESULTS OCT. 14 - 26

Football

OCT. 24
CHATTANOOGA 10
ELON 45

Men's Soccer

OCT. 14
ELON 1
WEST VIRGINIA 1

OCT. 18

ELON 0
WOFFORD COLLEGE 2

OCT. 24

ELON 2
FURMAN 3

Women's Soccer

OCT. 14
GREENSBORO COLLEGE 1
ELON 4

OCT. 16

CHATTANOOGA 1
ELON 5

OCT. 18

SAMFORD 1
ELON 0

OCT. 23
ELON 2
THE CITADEL 1

OCT. 25

ELON 2
COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON 0

Volleyball

OCT. 17
GEORGIA SOUTHERN 1
ELON 3

OCT. 18

DAVIDSON 0
ELON 3

OCT. 20

ELON 3
WINSTON-SALEM STATE 0

OCT. 24

ELON 3
THE CITADEL 0

OCT. 25

ELON 2
COLLEGE OF
CHARLESTON 3

ELON SPORTS THIS WEEK

OCT. 29

Women's soccer @ UNC
Greensboro - 7 p.m.

OCT. 30

Men's soccer @ Radford -
7 p.m.

OCT. 31

Football @ Wofford College
- 1:30 p.m.

Men's cross country
(Southern Conference
Championship) - 10 a.m.

Women's cross country
(Southern Conference
Championship) - 10:45 a.m.

Volleyball vs. Samford -
2 p.m.

NOV. 1

Men's and women's cross

country (Pack Invitational) -
8 a.m.

Volleyball vs. Chattanooga
- 1 p.m.

Men's golf (The
Hummingbird
Intercollegiate) - All Day

NOV. 2

Men's basketball vs.
Washington & Lee
(exhibition) - 7 p.m.

Men's golf (The
Hummingbird
Intercollegiate) - All Day

NOV. 3

Men's soccer vs. North
Carolina - 7 p.m.

Men's golf (The
Hummingbird
Intercollegiate) - All Day

SPORTS BRIEFS

Men's soccer loses SoCon game against Furman

The Elon men's soccer team lost to Furman last Saturday 3-2. The Phoenix fall to 6-6-2 overall and 3-2-0 in the Southern Conference.

The Phoenix is now in third place in the conference behind Wofford College and the College of Charleston and will face Radford College at 7 p.m. Friday.

Elon has only one remaining SoCon game before the SoCon tournament begins Nov. 13.

The team will host UNC Greensboro at 7 p.m. on Nov. 7 in the last SoCon game.



ONE ON ONE

Christian Binder and Erik Kendall
Sports Commentators

Big changes and high expectations in the NBA

The NBA season is upon us with plenty of story lines to go with it. There have been many moves made in the off-season among the contenders, yet the Lakers still seem to be the prohibitive favorites. Who, if anyone, can knock Kobe and the Lakers off their throne this season?

ERIK

It's scary. The Lakers had, by far, the best team last year, and although we were denied the dream matchup between Kobe Bryant and LeBron James in the finals, I think it was clear who the champs were last year.

Although they no longer have Trevor Ariza, who was a large contributor last year, especially defensively, they've added maybe

one of the best defenders in the NBA for the last 10 years in Ron Artest. Put a good player in a championship environment, which Artest has never been, and they just seem to get better. It is going to be awfully tough to knock off the champs this season, but in the Eastern Conference there are some teams that will give them a run for their money — first and foremost the Celtics and the Cavaliers.

CHRISTIAN

Looking at the Western Conference, I would like for the San Antonio Spurs to give the Lakers a run for their money. They are competitive every year, and this year they've only gotten better. They drafted DeJuan Blair out of Pittsburg and signed Richard Jefferson, Antonio McDyess and Theo Ratliff, which makes them a very deep team.

As for the Eastern Conference, you're right that it starts with the Cavs and the

Celtics. But let's not forget the Magic, the team that lost to the Lakers in the finals last year. LeBron now has a reliable big man in Shaquille O'Neal, but they also brought in Leon Powe and the versatile Jamarion Moon. The Celtics got even better by bringing in Rasheed Wallace and the Magic acquired Vince Carter, so these three teams could be dog fighting at the end of the season for playoff supremacy.

ERIK

I think the East is the deepest conference, which we haven't been able to say in a while. But, I cannot remember a previous year where so many predictions were being made about teams where we have not seen a lot of the key components play together before.

When I look at teams like Orlando, I wonder if the acquisition of Vince Carter really makes them better. In my mind, Hedo Turkoglu was, and still is, one of the toughest matchups in the NBA. That is why it is so easy to pick the

Lakers this year, because we've seen them play together before, and with the exception of Artest, we know what we are going to get, which may just be another ring.

CHRISTIAN

The only reason I like Shaq with the Cavs is because he'll actually play. Zydrunas Ilgauskas can't stay healthy for more than a week, and I think he'll actually be productive off the bench. I agree the loss of Turkoglu is huge for the Magic because he was the do-it-all guy and now he's playing for the Raptors.

I won't count the Magic out because they'll have Jameer Nelson all year, which should help solidify the starting rotation. I think we both agree the Lakers are clearly one of the best teams in the league. I questioned the Artest move at first, but he has fit right in and I expect him to be a big-time contributor. I can't believe I'm saying this, but I'm actually excited for the first time in a while to see how this season is going to play out.

Cross country teams gear up to host SoCon Championships

Jack Rodenfels
Reporter

The moment they all have been waiting for has arrived. The men's and women's cross country teams will channel their year long efforts into one jam-packed day — the SoCon Championships on Saturday at Elon.

For the first time in school history, the Phoenix will host the end-of-year championships after a successful season both on the men's and the women's circuits.

"It's really exciting for not just our team, but for the school as well," head coach Christine Engel said. "Having the championships on a course that is so familiar will benefit (our runners) and hopefully give us an advantage on race day."

The Phoenix has practiced on the championship course all year and also held the program's inaugural Elon Invitational on Sep. 12. Elon's newly designed cross country course starts at South Campus, winds itself around the development behind the club fields, goes around the lake and finishes up right where it started at South Campus.

Both teams ran well on the home course in the Invitational, with the men's team finishing first out of nine schools and the women's team finishing second out of nine schools.

"We would like to finish the conference year the same way we started it, with strong finishes on our home course," Engel said.

Men

Although the men's team lost three of the top seven performers from last year, the Phoenix has had a successful season full of broken personal and school records along with strong finishes.

Of the four meets this season, the Phoenix has finished in the top half of the competition in all but one. Highlights have included the aforementioned first-place overall finish to start the year at the Elon Invitational, and a second-place overall finish at the Winthrop Invitational on Sep. 19.

In addition to team success, the men's team has had considerable personal success. On Oct. 3, junior Justin Gianni broke a school-record in the 8K with a time of 25:39 at the Louisville Classic.

"To have a new school record truly says a lot about where this program is headed,"

Engel said. "We have also had three guys with times under 26 minutes in races. This continued improvement means that prior school records will continue to fall."

Gianni, junior Matt Richardson and sophomore Will Schefer have paced the Phoenix this year and have continually been Elon's strongest runners. Gianni has finished first for Elon in three of four races, Richardson finished first for Elon at the Blue Ridge Open on Oct. 16 and Schefer has had three top-three finishes.

"Our top guys need to keep working together to push ourselves a little bit further in order to stay with top runners from other schools in the SoCon," Richardson said. "However, where we can really benefit from is with our fifth, sixth and seventh runners. If we stay close (as a team) we can really outlast other teams."

Women

The women's team has also performed well this year. Along with its second-place finish at the Elon Invitational, the women's team took third place at the Winthrop Invitational and has finished in the top half of all four races.

"The depth of the women's program is much more so than years previous," Engel said. "They have worked extremely hard and have continued to improve throughout the season."

Thirteen runners returned from last year's team, with the addition of six freshmen. The mix of youth and veteran leadership has helped the women's team along the way.

"The women's team has meshed together well and has truly been exciting to watch all season," Engel said.

Pacing the women's team this year has been junior co-captain Emily Fournier, who has finished first for the Phoenix in all four races this season. Fournier finished third overall both at the Elon Invitational and Winthrop Invitational, with top-50 finishes at the other two races in which Elon has competed thus far.

Senior co-captain Caitlin Beeler has also had a successful season, with four second-place finishes for the Phoenix and two sixth-place overall finishes.

"(As a team) we have been highly motivated because we have all set high standards and goals for ourselves," Fournier said. "Every day at practice I see everyone driving to do their best while trying to push the pace as much as possible."



TOP: Sophomore Melanie Reyer and freshman Emily Tryon run down the final path of the course during the Elon Invitational.
ABOVE LEFT: Sophomore Will Schefer is a key member of the team, who looks to be a top performer for the Phoenix during Saturday's SoCon Championship.
ABOVE RIGHT: Freshman Sullivan Parkes takes off for the finish. Parkes is looking to make a good showing in her first SoCon Championship appearance.

Phoenix prepare for Halloween match

Jordan Scahill
Reporter

After a busy weekend of volleyball, defeating The Citadel three games to zero last Saturday and dropping a close match to the College of Charleston two games to three Sunday, the Phoenix is spending the week preparing for its big match Saturday against Samford.

The Phoenix has a current season record of 19-5 and 6-4 in the Southern Conference. The match against Samford will take place 2 p.m. Saturday in Alumni Gym. Elon is currently second place in the North Division of the conference, behind Samford. The Bulldogs have an 8-3 conference record, are 14-11 overall and are the defending conference champions.

"I think we played well this weekend and am really happy with our effort and preparation for the matches," head coach Mary Tendler said. "Things just didn't go our way against Charleston."

The team only lost by two points in the fifth game against the College of Charleston, and still executed some exciting game-winning points throughout the match. There were also some individual performances that stood out for the Phoenix. Sophomore outside hitter Caroline Lemke had a career high in blocks, with two solo and five assisted blocks against the College of Charleston.

"Our serve receive this weekend was very consistent and really helped to give

us a chance to set up our offense," Tendler said.

As the regular season is now more than halfway over, the Phoenix is starting to face teams in the SoCon for a second time this season.

"All good teams never come back the same," Tendler said. "You can watch all the video you want, but they will be a totally different team than last time because of changes they make throughout the year."

Last time the team faced Samford on Sept. 27, they lost two games to three. Both Jessica Barrow and Traci Stewart led the team with 11 kills each, but fell short, as it was defeated nine to 15 in the fifth game.

The Phoenix has been adapting and working on strengthening its weaknesses in games and practices throughout the year.

"I think we will be much more confident going up against Samford this time because we will know them better and are a better team than we were in the beginning of the season," Tendler said.

Like all teams, players on Samford have certain tendencies Elon can focus on and use to its advantage. Tendler said Samford has a strong middle attack and consistent hitters who the Phoenix will focus on slowing down while also containing the other offensive players.

The Phoenix has another home match Sunday against Chattanooga at 1 p.m. Chattanooga is in fifth place in the North Division of the SoCon with a 3-8 conference record and an 11-12 overall record.



Elon sophomore outside hitter Caroline Lemke had two solo and five assisted blocks against the College of Charleston on Sunday.



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

The Elon baseball team huddles together during last season's Southern Conference tournament. Seven players from that team were selected in the MLB draft this summer.

Baseball grinds throughout fall, keeps eyes to opening day

Conor O'Neill
Reporter

As the Phoenix baseball team approaches the spring season, head coach Mike Kennedy said he knows this year will be different. Elon's baseball team is deep into its fall schedule and this spring the team will aim to win its third straight conference championship, totaling four in the past five years.

Last season, Kennedy had an experienced, power-hitting lineup. This fall, there has been more emphasis on "small-ball" strategies.

"We've got to coach this club," Kennedy said. "We're going to hit-and-run, bunt and steal bases. This team won't lead the league in home runs, but we're going to put pressure on people and play a different ballgame."

To transition from a power lineup to small-ball, Kennedy will use the fall to evaluate players.

"Most of your teaching, learning and competition for winning a job is done right now," Kennedy said. "It's hard to do that in the spring when you're playing five games a week."

Now is the time the Phoenix will be molded into a championship-caliber team, and Kennedy said he will adjust his coaching strategy to do just that.

Crafting an experienced pitching staff

Although the first pitch of the Phoenix season is still three months away, junior pitcher Thomas Girdwood can see the pitching staff will be a strength of this year's team.

"I think we have a staff that has proven themselves early," Girdwood said. "Right now it feels like everybody is clicking."

Last season, the Phoenix found itself slugging its way toward victories instead of shutting down opponents' offenses. The pitching struggles were often covered up by the production of a lineup that belted 138 home runs and had a team batting average of .323.

While some players from last year's lineup will return, the Phoenix will lean on starting pitchers Daniel Britt, Ken Ferrer, J.D. Reichenbach and Jimmy Reyes, among others.

The bullpen will be used to bridge the gap between the starters and Girdwood, Elon's career saves record holder after two seasons. Senior Ryan Adams, sophomore Jordan Darnell and junior Jared Kernodle are a few of the relievers who will pitch the late innings this season.

"We've got some great freshmen arms coming in with a lot of confidence," Girdwood said. "It's good to have them not questioning their pitches, and that helps them throw strikes."

It's also a major priority for senior catcher Mike Melillo to get on the

same page with the new pitchers.

"Coach Kennedy and (associate head coach Greg) Starbuck did an awesome job of bringing in some good arms, which makes the transition easy," Melillo said.

Installing a new lineup, new strategy

Alumni Chase Austin, Bennett Davis, Cory Harrilchak, Pat Irvine and Dallas Tarleton were selected in June's MLB Amateur Draft. Those five players combined to hit 87 home runs, drive in 311 runs and score 328 runs in 59 games.

To fill the shoes left by these professionals, returning players will need to improve their offensive games. Who has shown the most improvement this fall?

"(Shortstop) Neal Pritchard has been phenomenal," Kennedy said. "He's a junior now and all of a sudden, with all the things we've been telling him, he's just starting to click."

Pritchard batted .276 with 10 home runs and 42 RBIs last season.

Kennedy also highlighted senior outfielder Justin Hilt, who hit 16 home runs last year, as having a good fall. But Hilt acknowledged he has things to work on.

"I'm trying to cut down on my strikeouts," Hilt said. "With my speed, I think if I put the ball on the ground more then I can beat out some throws and get on base."

Hilt shares Kennedy's theory that the Phoenix will have a different identity than last year's team.

"We've got some guys that can hit the ball out of the ballpark, but that won't be what we rely on like last year," Hilt said. "We're going to steal more, we're going to bunt runners over and, hopefully, we'll have another good year."

Maintaining leadership roles

Not only has the Phoenix lost offensive firepower, it lost leadership of players who graduated or were drafted. But any great college program has athletes ready to fill voids left by seniors, and the Phoenix is no different.

What is different is that the Phoenix will not only be led by its upperclassmen this spring.

"It's a credit to our team that we have a ton of leaders," Melillo said. "The upperclassmen have been around the program for a while and can lead by example, but there are guys all across the field who are leaders."

Kennedy acknowledges there are many players ready to assume larger roles, and the team is ahead of schedule.

"We're ahead of where I thought we'd be at this point," Kennedy said. "Our guys are coming back and they have a purpose."

The "purpose" this year will be winning a third consecutive Southern Conference championship, and work for that has already begun.



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Junior pitcher Ken Ferrer makes throws during a game last season.



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Members of the 2009 baseball team watch their team bat during the opening game against N.C. State.

Pursuit of SoCon championship to continue Saturday afternoon



TOP LEFT: Elon junior wide receiver Sean Jeffcoat, right, runs past Chattanooga senior linebacker Steven Smigelsky. TOP RIGHT: Junior defensive back Terrell Wilson, left, dives in an attempt to block a Chattanooga field goal attempt by place kicker Craig Camay. BOTTOM: Senior wide receiver Terrell Hudgins, left, dives into the endzone for his second touchdown of the game. Hudgins finished with three touchdowns.

Pam Richter
Sports Editor

Aaron Walker has been flashing his Southern Conference Championship baseball ring in the weight room. Walker, the head strength and conditioning coach for the football team, received his Southern Conference ring Saturday from Elon's baseball team's championship last season.

Walker has been using the ring as motivation for the football team while they are in the weight room. Freshman wide receiver Jeremy Peterson recounts this story with a grin on his face.

Walker's motivational tactic is just another way for the Phoenix to finish this season strong and keep an eye on the prize — a SoCon title.

Elon will take another step toward the SoCon crown at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday when it travels to Spartanburg, S.C., to take on the Wofford Terriers.

The Phoenix is coming off the heels of a 45-10 victory over UT Chattanooga last Saturday.

The Phoenix now stands at 6-1 overall and 4-0 in the SoCon. Chattanooga falls to 4-3 overall and 2-3 in the SoCon.

"It's great to get another SoCon win and do it in convincing fashion," Elon head coach Pete Lembo said.

Elon began the game with junior quarterback Scott Riddle's pass, which was intercepted by Chattanooga's defensive back Joel Bradford.

Chattanooga completed the first drive with a 27-yard field goal by kicker Craig Camay.

"I put the (defense) in a tough spot,"

Riddle said. "The offense didn't come out with a sense of urgency."

After its first offensive drive, Chattanooga would not score again until 13:13 left in the fourth quarter.

The Elon defense held the Mocs to 261 offensive yards in the game. The defense also recovered three fumbles.

"After the pick, there was a sense of urgency to turn the game around quickly," junior linebacker Travis Greene said. "We wanted to get the ball back to (the offense)."

The Phoenix offense finished with 388 total offensive yards. Riddle finished with 13 completions in 18 attempts and 196 total yards. He also had three touchdown passes, all three to senior wide receiver Terrell Hudgins. Hudgins finished the game with six catches for 74 yards.

"He's a great player," Chattanooga head coach Russ Huesman said about Hudgins. "It's hard to simulate in practice the things he can do."

Huesman was the defensive coordinator at the University of Richmond last season, and was part of the staff that led Richmond to the Football Championship Subdivision national title last year.

He said he's seen the teams who have made a run in the playoffs last year and said Elon is "good enough."

"I've seen the teams, and if Elon stays focused and continues to work and continues to improve ... they can make a big time run," Huesman said.

Currently, Elon is ranked No. 6 in the Football Championship Subdivision and sits at first place in the Southern Conference. Appalachian State is also 4-0

in the conference and 5-2 overall.

Elon is also ranked No. 2 in the FCS in rushing defense, holding opponents to 63.7 yards per game. Wofford will come into Saturday's game with a 1-3 SoCon record and a 2-5 overall record. It also has the No. 1 rushing offense in the FCS.

"You need to slow them down," Lembo said. "You need to get some stops in terms of getting the ball back to your offense." Wofford junior running back Mike Rucker averages 9.1 yards per carry. Rucker had one touchdown and 81 all purpose yards in Wofford's 35-26 victory last Saturday over Western Carolina.

The Terriers began the game with an early lead, 21-0. Lembo said Elon has to prevent the Terriers from gaining that early lead in Saturday's game if the Phoenix wants to be successful.

"If they get an early lead, that's exactly where they want to be," Lembo said.

Last season, Wofford jumped ahead early in the game 14-0 when the two teams squared off Oct. 25, 2008. Wofford went on to win 55-20 in a top-five matchup between the two teams. The Terriers were ranked No. 4 in the game last year, while Elon came in at No. 3.

Senior offensive lineman David Harrison said last year's game is in the "back of their minds."

"We can't go out there and change anything that we've been doing," Harrison said. "We have to play focused and consistent."

Elon will finish three of its last four games on the road. Since Elon sits on top of the conference, the players and coaches agree — the team will control its own destiny.

Chattanooga Round-up



Check out The Pendulum Online for highlights of the game, "Scene In" Rhodes Stadium feature and video from Homecoming tailgates.

Also, see how the Class of 1959 celebrated their Golden reunion.

www.elon.edu/pendulum

Top five things to look for against Wofford College

1. Elon is 10-22 all-time against Wofford. Last season, Wofford defeated Elon 55-20.

2. Last season, Wofford finished second in the conference. Wofford was defeated by James Madison in the first round of the FCS playoffs last season. Currently, Wofford is 1-3 in the SoCon and 2-5 overall.

3. Junior wide receiver Sean Jeffcoat recently injured his hip and junior quarterback Scott Riddle injured his ankle. Both are considered minor injuries and they are expected to play Saturday.

4. Senior wide receiver Terrell Hudgins is 188 yards from breaking Jerry Rice's career FCS record of 4,693 receiving yards.

5. Last year against , Riddle threw three interceptions. At this point in the season, he has three total interceptions.

BY THE NUMBERS

1st time this season Elon has allowed an opponent to score on its first drive of the game

3rd touchdown receptions for senior wide receiver Terrell Hudgins, the first three-touchdown game for him since Nov. 10, 2007, which was against The Citadel

4 fumbles by the Chattanooga offense

5th game in which the Phoenix has scored 30 points or more

7 total tackles for both senior defensive back Cameron McGlenn and junior linebacker Brandon Wiggins

17 first downs for both Elon and Chattanooga

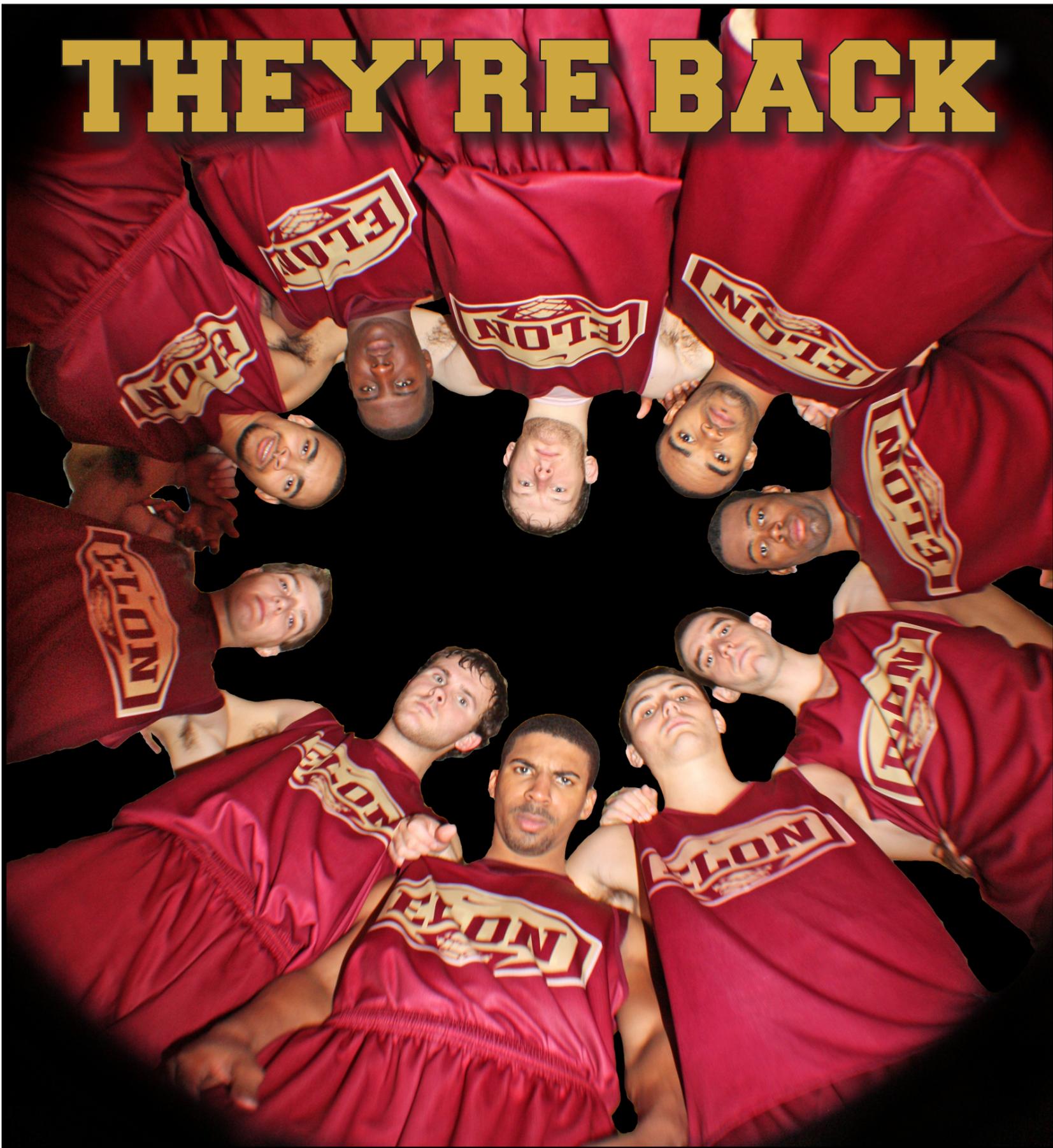
18 pass attempts for junior quarterback Scott Riddle — a career low

35-yard return for a touchdown by sophomore running back A.J. Harris on a blocked punt

90 all-purpose yards for sophomore running back Jamal Shuman

Sports

THEY'RE BACK



The returners from the 2008 men's basketball team huddle after last Friday's practice. The team will be led by the four returning seniors this season, which kicks off Nov. 14 against Lipscomb University. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Men's basketball looks for season of renewal

Conor O'Neill
Reporter

Change has arrived for the Phoenix men's basketball team. It came March 29, 2008 when Matt Matheny was named the new head coach for Elon.

Now Phoenix fans are closing in on the date when they can see that change for themselves. The season officially starts Nov. 14, when the Phoenix travels to Nashville, Tenn., to take on non-conference opponent, the Lipscomb University Bison.

The first thing fans will notice this year is the change of pace the Phoenix will bring to the court.

"Offensively, we're going to push the ball and try to score

early in transition," Matheny said. "In an ideal world, we would score between 35 and 28 seconds on the shot clock."

But the first-year head coach is quick to point out this style of play should not create careless mistakes.

"If we don't get a good shot in that time, we're not just going to take any shot," Matheny said. "We'll attack and push ... and if we don't, then we'll run a motion style offense."

An uptempo style offense could be just what is needed for a Phoenix team that averaged only 65.8 points per game last season, ninth out of 12 teams in the Southern Conference.

On the defensive end,

Matheny said he wants his team to play with a hard-nosed aggressive style to wear down opponents as games wind down.

To make a smooth transition to Matheny's style from that of former head coach Ernie Nestor, who resigned after last year's season, the players will need to adapt and become comfortable with the new style.

"Because of the (practice) time we had in the spring and the fall, I think they have gotten pretty comfortable with our staff and the way we are going to coach," Matheny said.

Not surprisingly, Matheny is quick to assert the four seniors on the team will

be vital to the Phoenix's success. Devan Carter, Adam Constantine, T.J. Douglas and Jon Ogolo will be relied on heavily.

"They've been through the battles in the Southern Conference and nothing's going to surprise them," Matheny said. "It doesn't matter where we go. They've been there, and they will impart that knowledge onto the younger guys."

Not only will the seniors need to guide the team emotionally, they will have to improve their scoring. Gone from last year's team are the two leading scorers, Ola Atoyebi and Brett James. They averaged a combined 27.1 points per game last season.

Improving the team's performance on the road is also a necessary change. While the Phoenix was 8-6 in Alumni Gym, the team had a record of 2-14 on the road.

"When you have senior leadership, those guys will help us overcome any hurdles that we may face," Matheny said.

But the most important aspect for the Phoenix this season is for it to improve throughout the year. Matheny said he wants the team to be playing its best basketball when it matters most — at the end of the season.

"We have put no expectation on number of wins," Matheny said. "What we've said is that we want to play at our best in March."

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