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THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2009 | VOLUME 35, EDITION 11

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Report challenges Alamance sheriff

Elon professor's study says 850 more Hispanics were stopped than sheriff reported

Margeaux Corby
News Editor

An Elon professor's independent research has provided a new challenge to the Alamance County sheriff's assertions that his deputies are not going out of their way to stop Hispanic drivers to check his or her immigration status.

After Alamance County Sheriff Terry Johnson said publicly in February that his deputies had made traffic stops on 494 Hispanic drivers from 2004 to 2008, Elon political science professor Laura Roselle conducted her own study of traffic data using statistics filed with the state government.

She found the total was actually 1,344 for the same period — 850 more than Johnson reported.

Roselle, who has been critical in the past of the Alamance County Sheriff Department's actions on this issue, stopped short on Sunday of claiming the statistical difference represents the practice of racial profiling.

But she said the big difference in figures raises questions about the sheriff's accountability on a sensitive topic.

"There are many good people working in that sheriff's department," Roselle said. "There are men and women doing a really good job and I understand they put their lives on the line to protect and defend. I think this whole thing does them a tremendous disservice."

Randy Jones, a spokesman

for the sheriff, played down the statistical difference and said Monday the variation in numbers is primarily the result of software difficulties the department has dealt with for years. He said the variation is true not only for cases involving Hispanic drivers, but all stops of motorists.

"It's a combination of human error, paperwork errors, computer errors and major software errors we've been dealing with (for) some time," Jones said. "I don't see how racial profiling could be involved if it affects everyone across the board."

At Monday night's county commissioners meeting, Chief Deputy Tim Britt echoed Jones's statements. He said back in March, the sheriff's department found they had "grossly underreported traffic stops in all demographic groups."

Britt said they have been working ever since to correct the data and to employ a new system.

"The problem with the previous system was that there were no checks and balances," Britt said. "We have implemented some internal safeguards and some new procedures to correct that."

According to Britt, they now have a staff member that reviews the traffic stop data weekly from the office and will have a full report to the board in 30 days with the correct data.

"We certainly don't have anything to hide, this was not by design or intentional," Britt said. "It was simply an error."



DEREK NOBLE | Photographer

At a county commissioners meeting on Monday night, Alamance County Sheriff Terry Johnson briefly addressed the Alamance County Commissioners on recent allegations of racial profiling in traffic stops.

He claimed that accusations of profiling made against the sheriff's department were unfair and unwarranted.

"I think what is being done to the sheriff's office, what is being done to us, is the same thing we're being accused of," Britt said. "We're being profiled and put into a group because somebody doesn't like a particular program."

Commissioner Tim Sutton

has backed Johnson's policies in the past, and he did so again before Monday's meeting by questioning Roselle's purposes.

"I have never seen such an obsessed attack on government in my life," Sutton said. "It's stunning to me that people don't want to address the problem of illegal immigration and don't want to address the processes needed to do so."

At issue behind all of

this is the sheriff's embrace of a section of a federal immigration law that allows local law enforcement agencies to arrest and detain people found to be in the United States illegally. Section 287 (g) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act and Immigration and

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Chemistry professor dies in University Drive accident

Ashley Barnas and Margeaux Corby
Executive Editors

Chemistry professor Eugene Gooch died Friday night at 6:47 p.m. when a motorist struck him while he was riding his bicycle on University Drive near Highway 87. Gooch was riding west in the same direction as the car that hit him, when the car crossed over into the shoulder where Gooch was cycling. He died at the scene of the accident.

The driver was identified Monday morning by Capt. Craig Andrews of Elon police. Mary Davis Murphy, a resident of Hebron Church Road in Mebane, was behind the wheel of the 2005 Buick that struck and killed Gooch. Murphy is in her early 80s.

According to Elon police, no charges have been filed against Murphy at this time and the investigation is ongoing. Alcohol does not appear



Eugene Gooch
Chemistry Professor

to be a factor in the incident.

Gooch joined the university as a faculty member in 1988, specializing in chemical education and organic chemistry. He taught two sections of organic chemistry II, a section of general chemistry and medicinal chemistry this semester.

"Gene Gooch was a complex guy," said Dan Wright, chair of the chemistry department. "He was bright and passionate about teaching organic chemistry. He might not always have had the right technique in teaching organic, but he would try new things, trying to find that special method that would make students learn."

Students and faculty have written notes and posted them on the corkboard outside of Gooch's office on the third floor of McMichael Science building. A 1000 mL graduated cylinder and Erlenmeyer flask filled with flowers have been placed in front of his office door, a door, according to several students, that was rarely ever shut.

"He loved student interaction," said Carly Fabrizio, a junior biochemistry major who has had three classes with Gooch, including medicinal chemistry this spring, and is one of his organic chemistry teaching assistants.

"He was always rocking out to jazz

"He loved life, he loved this building and he loved Elon. I guess I never really realized what he added to my chemistry experience until now that he's gone."

- Sarah Denin
JUNIOR CHEMISTRY MAJOR

music in his office," she said.

Gooch was an avid jazz enthusiast and had planned to teach a global studies class in the fall called "Rediscovering Rembrandt," a course connecting chemistry and art.

"I remember one story in particular, which characterizes the teachings of Dr. Gooch," said senior Philip Zakas, who took four classes with Gooch. "On his way to work one day, he ran out of gas and was stranded in the McMichael parking lot. Without concern, Dr. Gooch simply mixed a few organic compounds from the chemistry lab, emptied a flask of combustible liquid into his German-made automobile and was able to drive to a gas station. His lesson was that there are always several answers to a problem, and there is always a new approach to a common dilemma."

Gooch lives on through such humorous stories and through his love for his life, Zakas said.

"He loved life, he loved this building

and he loved Elon," said Sarah Denin, a junior chemistry major. "I guess I never really realized what he added to my chemistry experience until now that he's gone."

Faculty in the chemistry department are not only having to deal with the emotional loss of a coworker and friend, but are having to manage the four courses Gooch was teaching this semester as well.

"I'm grieving for my friend and colleague, and I'm having to worry about the logistics of how to cover his classes," Wright said. "If I could magically talk to him this morning he would have said, 'Dan, focus on the latter. Take care of the students.' That says a lot about how much he cared about his students."

Assistant professor of chemistry Lisa Ponton will teach a large lecture in order to take over Gooch's general chemistry courses and Joel Karty will

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THE PENDULUM IS ONLINE ONLY APRIL 15
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Elon remembers, honors life of Alvarez

'Beautiful soul' loses long-term battle with cancer

Andie Diemer
Editor-in-Chief

Students, faculty and staff gathered April 1 to honor the death of freshman Milena Alvarez, who died earlier that morning from cancer.

Red hearts with "Milena" printed on them were passed out to the hundreds of people that joined together in Moseley 215 to remember Alvarez and her impact at Elon.

The community was also encouraged to wear the hearts around campus on Thursday.

Chaplain Richard McBride opened the ceremony by expressing appreciation for Alvarez's life and for those that joined to honor it and also help to determine how to best assist Alvarez's family.

"Lots of people want to make sure you have the support you need when confronted with something none of us want — the death of a young person," McBride said. "It's never right. It's never fair."

McBride said he spoke to Alvarez's father on April 1, who confirmed she had passed away in the morning.

"So many of you have come and so many of you wear hearts with Milena's name on it," McBride said. "Clearly, she had a large community of friends for a student who was only here for one semester plus a few weeks. I am grateful you are each here tonight."

He asked that each person in the room honor his or her emotions and be willing to share stories or experiences of Milena with others.

"Hold all the memories as precious," McBride said. "Certainly, here was a beautiful soul."



Freshman Milena Alvarez passed away last Wednesday from cancer. Friends describe her as a friendly, outgoing, happy individual full of energy and honesty.

Freshman Nicole Morillo said Alvarez was "always smiling." While Morillo was not close with Alvarez, she said she frequently saw her around Elon and was touched by how optimistic Alvarez always seemed to be.

"We would always run into each other and she always had a smile on her face, every single time," Morillo said. "I always got this great vibe from her."

Many students said they didn't know Alvarez was even sick, and those who did know about her illness said she never let it stand in her way

or expected to be treated differently.

Many also said she was always happy, as well as honest.

"She was so full of energy and happiness," freshman Brittany Sullivan said. "I'm glad I had the opportunity to get to know her. She always lived in the moment and took every moment for what it had to offer. Everyone should try to be more like her."

A few students shared remorse of not getting to spend more time or know Alvarez better.

Jana Lynn Patterson, assistant

vice president for student life, sent out an e-mail to the Elon community informing them about Alvarez's death at 5 p.m. April 1.

At the gathering in Moseley, Patterson said on March 29 she received an e-mail from Alvarez's family inquiring how to go about entering medical withdrawal and they indicated Alvarez would most likely be leaving for the remainder of the semester.

She said nothing was mentioned about an extreme severity of illness and it sounded as though Alvarez planned to come back at some point.

The next day, Patterson said she received another e-mail from Alvarez's father. While different, the e-mail again didn't hint at anything extreme and was still optimistic, she said.

McBride asked everyone to remember the "silly joy" and aura of living in the moment that Alvarez seemed to embody.

"If you want to honor Milena, honor that joy," McBride said. "Let this all be a prod for you to be more authentic with yourselves and more loving. Let's honor her beautiful soul by trying to capture some of it that's already within us."

A member of Alpha Chi Omega and Campus Outreach, Alvarez was a freshman from Winston-Salem and lived in Carolina dormitory.

For those who wish to speak with a minister or counselor, please contact the Chaplain's office at 278-7729 or Counseling Services at 278-7280.

The Office of Student Development can be contacted at 278-7200.

Alvarez's parents and sorority president could not be reached for comment.

Professor's research implies racial profiling by Alamance police

TRAFFIC from PAGE 1

Nationality Act allows the secretary of U.S. Department of Homeland Security to enter into agreements with state and local law enforcement agencies.

Law enforcement officers work in conjunction and are trained and supervised of sworn U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers to gain "necessary resources and authority to pursue investigations relating violent crimes," according to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Web site.

On Feb. 2, Johnson showed data from the State Bureau of Investigation on traffic stops to commissioners at the Alamance County Commissioners Meetings.

"When an accusation of profiling is made on an agency or an officer, it could be a career-ending process," Johnson said.

At this meeting, Johnson presented data and said from 2004 to 2008 there were 494 drivers identified as Hispanic stopped by Alamance County police officers.

Johnson compared this data to Burlington Police Department stops, where 4,702 Hispanic drivers were stopped in the same time period. She presented data that showed 13 percent of the stops made by the sheriff's department involved Hispanic drivers, while 15 percent of Burlington police stops and 18 percent of Graham stops involved Hispanic drivers.

"This is evidence that we are not profiling," Johnson told meeting attendees. "I feel like the commissioners needed to know this information."

According to Roselle's research, 1,344 Hispanic drivers were stopped, not the 494 reported by Johnson at the February commissioner meeting. These inconsistencies are present from year to year, according to Roselle, like in 2008 where the sheriff's office reported 52 Hispanic traffic stops and Roselle's research showed 269 Hispanic traffic stops actually took place.

Sarah Preston, legislative council for the American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina, said the numbers the county sheriff released didn't seem correct to their offices either.

"We made these request to 40 law enforcement agencies and most places were complying or attempting to comply, and Alamance County was kind of holding out," Preston said. "Our legal director sent a letter saying that if they didn't comply these are public records and would sue to release them."

The ACLU made the initial public records request on Feb. 11 and sent out the follow-up request on March 18. It was only after the demand was sent that the ACLU received a call from Alamance County Attorney Clyde Albright saying the sheriff's office was working on compiling records.

The ACLU is still waiting to receive the information.

According to Preston, the ACLU does have reports the sheriff's office gives to ICE annually.

In 2007, the sheriff's department reported it placed 302 traffic charges against persons who were processed under 287 (g) and approximately 80 percent were for misdemeanors.

"We do have some issue that they're not using 287 (g) to target violent criminals, but mainly to target for traffic offenses and misdemeanors," Preston said. "Through that it's encouraging profiling and discouraging reporting of crimes from the community being targeted, (the) Latino community."

Roselle said she first started her investigation after viewing a recording of the February commissioners meeting.

"The numbers just didn't seem right to me at all," she said. "The whole 494 number seemed low to me for five years. He said, 'You go online to get the data,' so I got the data."

Roselle went with the smallest time period searched on the SBI site and looked at every single month from 2004 to 2008.

She found in January, February, March and April in 2007 there were only two stops reported for those two months, and in July 2008 it was reported that no Hispanics were stopped.

"I just didn't see how that could possibly be true, so I sent the sheriff an e-mail on Feb. 18," she said.

In the e-mail, she said she told Johnson she would like to sit down and go over the stops data.

"He has never ever responded to that e-mail," Roselle said.

Roselle decided the best way to check on the data was to compare the SBI's enforcement action data, more specifically citations reported by the sheriff's office, to the real number of citations. These 'real' citations go to a database in Raleigh through the clerk of courts, not the Alamance County Sheriff's Office.

"I just couldn't believe it," Roselle said, when she found such large inconsistencies in the data.

The sheriff's department is required to collect information about the number of drivers stopped, identifying characteristics of the drivers stopped, including ethnicity, as well as the alleged traffic violation that led to the stop and subsequent action taken once stop was made, regardless of whether a ticket or citation was issued.

These requirements fall under North Carolina statute 114-10.01, which also states such information regarding traffic law enforcement must be collected, correlated and maintained by law enforcement officers which include those employed by county sheriffs or county police departments.

This information is then sent to the SBI, where the it is put on the Web site, <http://trafficstops.ncsbi.gov>.

Roselle said the Administrative Office of Courts e-mailed the sheriff's office a copy of the traffic citation she received on March 10.

According to Jones, this e-mail was never received by the sheriff.

"They can find no evidence that the e-mail got to the county server and that happens sometimes," he said. "We can't find anybody who ever saw this information. They can find no evidence of this being sent to the sheriff."

Roselle said her research was a result of continued frustration with the unresponsiveness of the sheriff's department to public criticism and concern about various federal immigration programs they are assisting, including the most recent 287 (g).

"I've heard more and more stories in the community from people that feel like they've been target or treated differently because they're Hispanic," Roselle said. "These are from people who are American citizens and just of Hispanic background."

Sutton said current federal immigration programs in place in Alamance, such as 287 (g) and the detainee programs, which allows the sheriff's department to enforce federal immigration laws, protect county citizens.

"I love people as much as anybody, but there is a proper way to come into this country and an improper way to come into this country," he said. "What would you have us to do when we pull someone out here on our roads, when he doesn't have a license or insurance and doesn't speak English. Just give them a ticket and let them drive off."

In an article in the News and Observer in late April 2007, Sheriff Johnson was quoted saying, "In Mexico, there's nothing wrong with having sex with a 12, 13 year-old girl," and, "They do a lot of drinking down in Mexico."

Later in the article, Johnson said the sheriff's department does not "choose the race, financial status or color of those individuals who violate the law."

Roselle said she was shocked by the rhetoric Johnson and some of his colleagues have said about Hispanics and was upset that government officials were so unresponsive.

"The people of Alamance County deserve better," she said.

According to Sutton, those against such federal programs don't understand the realities of illegal immigration.

"When Roselle, people like her and other professors at Elon start being replaced by professors from Europe, South America or Central America, or Canada, it doesn't have to be Mexico, with illegal undocumented professionals, then maybe they'll start screaming," Sutton said.

ACLU files Taser lawsuit against Elon Police

Alexa Milan
Managing Editor

The American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina filed a lawsuit against the Town of Elon Police Department last week on behalf of an Alamance County man.

According to the complaint, an Elon police officer shot John Paylor, 54, twice with a Taser in June 2006. Officers Harold Dunn, James Giannotti and Candace Ripple, Captain Craig Andrews and the Town of Elon are named as defendants.

According to the complaint, Dunn, Giannotti, Ripple and Andrews surrounded Paylor's home to serve him with an arrest warrant for using profanity on a public highway and reckless driving. The complaint states when Paylor did not immediately go with the officers and asked them to "wait a minute," Dunn "fired his Taser at Mr. Paylor's chest at point-blank range."

Paylor was subsequently charged with resisting arrest.

The complaint cites "excessive and unlawful force" as the reason for suing the officers. It also states the Town of Elon is being sued for "failing to properly train the officers of the Elon Police Department in the use of force."

"This is a situation where an officer employed this potentially deadly weapon, and the (Elon police) Taser policy even said it was a potentially deadly weapon," said Katherine Lewis Parker, legal director of the ACLU of North Carolina. "Officers ought to be using them only when necessary and

know when to use restraint."

The ACLU took the case when Paylor's defense counsel from his 2007 trial contacted the organization. In that trial, a jury found Paylor guilty of reckless driving but not guilty of resisting arrest. The charge of using profanity on a public highway was dropped before the trial.

According to the complaint, the Taser "has left scarring on Mr. Paylor's chest, and it caused him to suffer substantial pain."

"Not only was (Paylor) not guilty of the things he'd been charged with, but he suffered a harm at the hands of the police," Lewis Parker said.

According to the complaint, the incident at Paylor's home stemmed from an encounter he had with Dunn the previous day. On June 17, 2006 Town of Elon Police officers were directing traffic at an accident scene at the intersection of Manning Avenue and University Drive.

The complaint states that when Paylor approached the intersection on his way home from work, Dunn instructed him to turn left even though an officer at the previous intersection had told him to drive straight. Andrews then told Paylor he could continue through the intersection.

When he began to drive through the intersection to his home, the complaint states, "Officer Dunn began cursing and yelling at Mr. Paylor, saying he could not drive that way. Mr. Paylor yelled back and cursed in response to Officer Dunn and proceeded home as previously instructed by Captain Andrews."

Following the incident, Dunn obtained a warrant for Paylor's arrest for using profanity on a public highway and for reckless driving. On June 18, Dunn went to Paylor's home with Andrews, Giannotti and Ripple to serve Paylor the warrant.

According to the complaint, "Despite the fact that it is not the custom and practice of the Elon Police Department to arrest a person or otherwise take a person into custody for the charge of reckless driving, Officer Dunn made the decision to serve the warrant upon Mr. Paylor in person."

The complaint states Dunn told Paylor the warrant was for the incident that occurred the day before, but Paylor said there had been no incident. When Dunn told Paylor to go with the officers and Paylor said to wait, Dunn fired his Taser.

According to the complaint, "After being struck by the Taser, Mr. Paylor screamed and fell down the steps at his front door and onto a wooden walkway."

The officers told Paylor to put his hands behind his back, but Paylor "was temporarily paralyzed by the Taser." According to the complaint, "Approximately eight seconds after first firing the Taser, Officer Dunn fired his Taser again."

The complaint states that "the other individual defendants who accompanied Officer Dunn to Mr. Paylor's home knew or should have known that Officer Dunn intended to punish and exact retribution from Mr. Paylor for what Officer Dunn perceived to

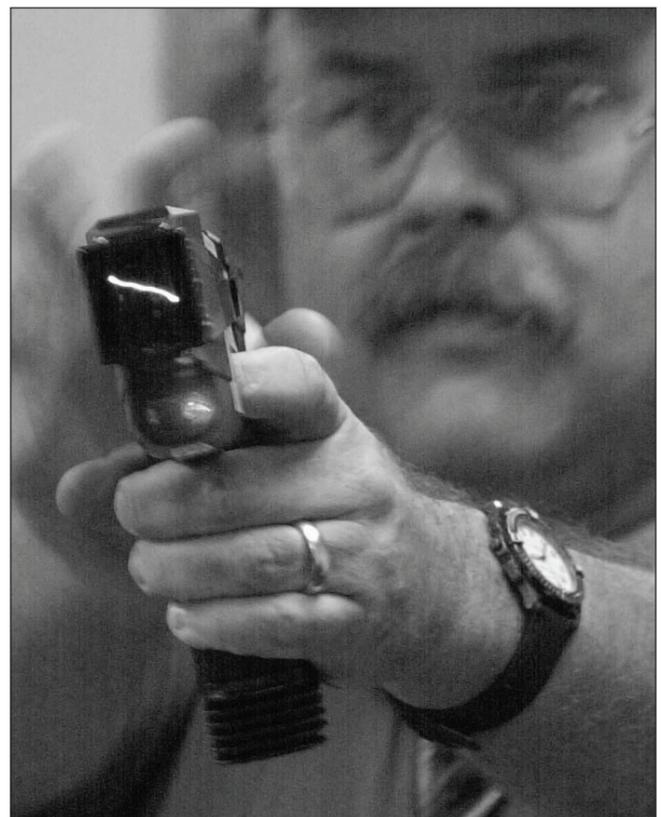


PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

The Taser, a brand of stun gun, sends an electrical shock through a person's body, causing one to temporarily lose control of one's muscles. Police officers sometimes use them to subdue suspects they consider to be aggressive or dangerous.

be disrespect of his authority."

"Not only did (Dunn) use excessive force, but there was no reason to use the Taser in this situation because Mr. Paylor was not a threat," Lewis Parker said. "But he used it as retaliation for a verbal altercation."

The ACLU is asking for the Town of Elon Police to implement more sufficient

training "to ensure that its law enforcement officers will avoid employing Tasers in situations where such use would constitute excessive force." The organization is also asking for compensatory and punitive damages for Paylor.

The Town of Elon Police declined to comment on this story. Paylor could not be reached for comment.

NC educators face funding cuts in 2009-2010 budget proposals by Gov. Perdue

Jake Martin
Senior Reporter

Gov. Bev Perdue recently announced her 2009-2010 proposed budget for North Carolina. Although facing the most challenging budget situation in decades, her budget increases per-pupil spending and invests in job creation.

"I am stepping up to the plate to help our citizens when they need it the most," Perdue said. "Despite our nation's tough economic situation, I stand ready to strengthen our middle class, improve public education and public safety, and ensure that government works smart for our citizens."

Perdue's budget reduces spending by about \$2.6 billion during the next two years in the face of recent economic instability on both state and federal levels. Her budget also utilizes \$2.9 billion of federal recovery funds the state has received and recommends a \$1.3 billion revenue tax change for tobacco products and alcohol.

The budget's total recommended appropriations amount to nearly \$21 billion despite cutting a lot of corners because of the recession. But not everyone is pleased with the efforts.

North Carolina Republican Chairman Linda Daves released a statement in response to the proposed budget.

"Not only does Governor Perdue propose raising taxes as well as creating new taxes, she is balancing the budget by placing the burden on some of our state's taxpayers least able to afford to pay more in difficult times," Daves said. "She also devotes less than 6 percent of new education spending to dropout prevention even though one in three North Carolina students are dropping out."

Despite an increase in K-12 per-

student spending and a \$118 million overall increase in education spending with help from federal aid, just \$7 million is going toward dropout prevention programs and \$3.5 million to support underperforming schools.

The budget proposal also recommends the freezing of longevity pay for teachers and state employees and reducing spending by 3.6 percent at all UNC system campuses. The budget will fund the UNC system's need-based financial aid request at \$23.4 million.

North Carolina has been hit hard by the recession, just as many other areas in the U.S. The proposed budget, therefore, relies a lot on federal stimulus money to fund certain programs and is certainly a cause for concern.

"Gov. Perdue relies too heavily on federal stimulus money to cover the shortfall and leaves our state with an uncertain future," Daves said. "A return to fiscal responsibility, smart, efficient spending, and realistic planning for the future is desperately needed as we embark on the budget process."

North Carolina educators across the state have been deliberating for the past two weeks, crunching numbers and deciding how to make the necessary cuts to their programs. UNC system schools will have to deal with a \$192 million cut, or 6.4 percent at each of the 16 campuses. UNC system president Erskine Bowles gave a grim assessment about the budget cuts facing the universities at a recent Board of Governors meeting.

"We're going to lose hundreds of people and it's going to hurt this university," Bowles said. "It's going to hurt our academic core. We're going to lose 400 to 500 folks."

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Poor job market forces seniors into new options

Neel Arora
Reporter

With the economy deep in a recession, the shrinking job market abetted by the global financial crisis appears to be affecting the sentiment of college seniors poised to enter the work force in May.

A nationwide study reveals that only 19 percent of college seniors have secured jobs at this point - down nearly 6 percent from last year.

"This is one more implication that the job search is going to be a longer process," said Bret Woodard, director of employer relations at Elon.

Graduate programs have seen a rise in the number of applicants, and it is reasonable to assume the economy is having an impact, said Tom Vecchione, executive director of the Elon career center.

Vecchione said he feels that society requires more education, which is another reason for the increased numbers.

Graduate programs are an option students pursue in order to develop new skills that are marketable among an increasingly large and diverse work force, said Arthur Fadde, assistant dean of admissions and director for graduate admissions.

He said he believes bachelor's degrees are now being viewed as a "first degree and not a final degree by most Americans."

Fadde said such programs play an instrumental role in stimulating intellectual dialogue among a network of professionals. In turn, this

creates job prospects.

Woodard suggests a different reason. "Students are pursuing graduate degrees as a way to defer the job search," he said.

Different fields have been impacted in different ways by the economic downturn. Communication professions appear to be streamlining, making massive job cuts rather than hiring new talent, in an age where print media is seeing a rapid decline.

Other professions in IT, engineering and health care continue to be in need of new talent.

Many seniors at Elon graduating with a degree in one of these areas have already secured employment, Vecchione said.

He said college seniors planning a career in business will have an increasingly harder time. Students who were in the pipeline for jobs at Lehman Brothers, Merrill Lynch or elsewhere in the financial sector will have to be prepared to explore other options, as many of the major employers in this sector either cease to exist or are on the verge of bankruptcy.

Pursuing higher education or MBA's straight out of college in some of these fields is also difficult, as acceptance into the top business schools requires up to two years of professional experience.

But networking and internships have begun to play an exceedingly prevalent role in securing employment in many fields.

"Internships are non-committal ways for the



One way college students combat the issue of finding jobs in the current economy include attending free student career work shops, such as the one held April 4 at North Carolina State University. Because of the weakened economy, only 19 percent of college seniors have secured jobs so far, according to a nationwide study.

company to test drive you as their next full-time hire," Woodard said.

It is not uncommon for college graduates to seek internships, Woodard said.

Companies such as JP Morgan, Vanguard and Bank of America primarily focus their recruiting through internships, as it is a way to assimilate prospective employees into the company, also known as "on-boarding," he said. The internship is also used for training purposes.

According to Vecchione, 85-90 percent of Elon students secure employment, receive acceptance into graduate school

or both after graduation.

His reasoning is that Elon has better quality students that are well positioned with the rigorous program Elon has in place due in part to its Experiential Learning Program. But anxiety still exists among those graduating in May.

Both Vecchione and Woodard warn students not to be complacent and take a passive approach to the job search, as the search has become a much longer process with on-campus recruitment and job fairs on the decline.

The jobs are still out there, but college graduates have to

be willing to broaden their expectations for the role they want to play and "get a foot in the door," Woodward said.

Reassuringly, the career center has all the tools to "tap into the hidden markets and help build 'career relationships,'" Woodard said, stressing the importance of "making connections before there is need."

It is never too early to pay a visit to the career center.

Other good news is the Dow Jones index depicts a visible trough in its charts with the market heading in the right direction on its pursuit for recovery.

Students opt to choose majors based on economy

Professor presents paper on relationship between college major and earnings

Laura Wainman
Senior Reporter

With the economy getting worse by the day, many students attended assistant professor Neal Olitsky's presentation of his paper on how the choice of college major influences the relationship between academic achievement and earnings April 3.

In the paper, Olitsky divided the sample into "science" majors, which he defined as majors in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and "non-science" majors. He then examined the wage differences between the two types of majors.

He also restricted his observations to men only to ensure gender would not affect his findings.

He used data collected from the ACT Alumni Outcomes Survey to provide information on major choice, earnings, key demographic variables and a measure of the match quality between an individual's personality and his chosen major, otherwise known as congruency.

Olitsky then used an econometric model that accounts for the selection into college major to help him generate predictions on earnings for each major across the support of academic achievement.

The results found at high levels of academic achievement, the economic rewards of a science major is lower relative to someone of lesser academic achievement, as well as the fact that science majors tend to earn approximately 10 percent more than non-science majors.

Since he was a student in graduate school, Olitsky has been interested in studying earnings differences and why

they exist, as well as why people choose their majors.

When he was assigned his adviser project at ACT, it gave him the perfect opportunity to study both of his interests and publish his findings.

"I think it is important for college students to be aware of and understand the findings in my paper because it could certainly influence their major choice," Olitsky said. "We have found that college students are not currently choosing the major best suited to their interests. I hope that from this paper they can become better aware of how to properly choose a major, after having considered all the factors."

While Olitsky said the process of choosing a major will be different for each student, he said he does feel there are certain factors everyone should consider.

"I absolutely believe that potential income options should be a factor in a student's major choice," Olitsky said. "Education is a personal investment, but if you are investing in something with a weak return, it is not a smart decision. Therefore a student should be aware of what he could expect to make in the long run after graduating with a degree in a certain subject."

Olitsky did deliver some good news during his presentation, when he explained that the majors that pay well in a recession are the same majors that pay well in an economic boom, which gives students one less factor to worry about when making the tough decision of choosing a major in college.

With a few published papers complete, Olitsky said he is now interested in expanding his research to include how students' high school curriculum affects their major choices in college.

Professor's death shakes Elon community

GOOCH from PAGE 1

over the organic chemistry sections. The general studies department will cover his current global studies class. Gooch's specialty class, medicinal chemistry, has been the most challenging for the chemistry department to cover.

"Obviously we can't do it as Dr. Gooch was going to, but we can honor the syllabus the best we can," Wright said.

Kathryn Matera, supported by biology professor Tonya Train as a guest lecturer, will be taking over Gooch's medicinal chemistry course and the biology department may help with grading.

"This department is a family. All of us want to contribute to the solution," Wright said. "We're internalizing most of the fixes."

Gooch is survived by his wife, Marcia, who has been in constant contact with faculty and family members.

"She tells stories about Dr. Gooch all the time," Wright said. "The new faculty are being indoctrinated into the Gooch myth."

He shared some of his own stories, reminiscing about Gooch welcoming him as a new faculty member and the stir fry with Dr. Pepper Gooch made Wright and his wife, as well as the Carmengia Gooch received from his father when he graduated college.

"All of us have our ways of decompressing," Wright said. "Gene was out bicycling on Friday, when he was struck, clearing his head."

Not only did Gooch cycle to unwind, but to keep himself healthy after suffering a heart attack four years ago.

"Since he had his heart attack he used his bicycling to keep in shape," Wright said. "He is a strong supporter of the American Heart Association and he would promote that as much

as anything. If you want to remember Gene Gooch, remember him through that."

Many of the avid cyclists frequenting McMichael have traveled by the same place Gooch was struck.

"There's a lot of biology faculty members that bicycle," Wright said. They've done that same route. They sit back and think, "Wow, that could have been me."

The chemistry department has several options for covering courses next year while the hiring process is underway.

According to Wright, Wake Forest has a visiting organic chemist that would like to be in the area for another year and the Physical Therapy department has offered their assistance.

"We have to replace him at some point," Wright said. "Next year, we're probably going to take it slow. We're going to be very intentional and make sure we get the right fit."

Chemistry students have talked about renaming the Sophomore Organic Achievement Award after Gooch.

"The organic award is given by the students of the American Chemical Society and there was talk about changing the name," Wright said. "I would wholeheartedly bless that."

Chemistry professor Eugene Grimley is considering naming the nuclear magnetic resonance lab after Gooch, and Wright said the chemistry department will support his efforts.

Add to a collection beaker in McMichael 327 for the American Heart Association. Write your name on a sign-up sheet to prepare low fat, salt and sugar meals for Gooch's wife in the coming weeks.

Texas proposes guns-on-campus bill

Pam Richter
Sports Editor

The Texas legislature is milling over a bill that would allow students to carry properly registered weapons on college campuses.

Utah is currently the only state that has legislature allowing students to have guns on campus. Now there are seven states, including Texas, that have legislation up for consideration.

During the fiscal year 2008, Texas issued 73,090 licenses. The state law requires applicants to pass a training course, a criminal background check and be at least 21 years old.

A public hearing was scheduled for Monday. The bill is sponsored by Rep. Joe Driver, a Republican, in the House Public Safety Committee.

Jeff Wentworth, a Republican state senator of Texas, is the sponsor of the Senate Bill.

The Brady Campaign Against Gun Violence said similar bills have been filed in 18 states but none of them have passed.

Supporters argue this legislation would continue to

protect the Second Amendment right of bearing arms. Also, the other argument is that it would help prevent school shootings such as the ones at Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois University.

In the Virginia Tech incident, 32 people were shot and killed on campus. This was the largest mass shooting on a college campus.

Senior Stu Gowdy disagrees with this legislation. Gowdy is currently a gun owner who lives off campus.

"I'm strongly opposed to it," Gowdy said. "I haven't read the entire text to legislation. I just don't really like the idea of it."

His guns aren't for defense purposes, he said.

"Generally if your place gets broken into, you won't have time to look for it," Gowdy said.

Chuck Gantos, director of Campus Safety and Police, said North Carolina currently has a law that prohibits guns on college campuses throughout the state. Texas may be a little different.

"It's more of a wide open state," Gantos said. "We're more of an urban setting. There's no need for weapons to be on campus."



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Senior Will Bertram enjoyed his spring break with friends by operating a variety of weapons, including this .22-caliber rifle.

Gowdy said he's been around guns a lot in his life. His dad bought him guns and went hunting when he was younger. Now, as he's older, Gowdy said he occasionally goes target shooting.

Currently, Elon is accommodating for students

who own guns and live on campus.

"We do make arrangements for students who want to hunt. We store them at a facility," Gantos said.

He also said students need to bring the guns, dismantled, to the office. Students who

want to use their guns must give the office 24-hours notice before they wish to hunt.

"Most of the people who store their guns are those people who like to hunt," Gantos said. "Some of them also like to shoot recreationally."

Engineering and computer science programs on the rise around country

Jack Dodson
Reporter

According to a Computing Research Association study in mid-March, enrollment in engineering and computer science programs has increased by 8% over the 2007-2008 school year.

"There's a definite need in America to increase its numbers in the sciences in general, but computer sciences and engineering in particular," engineering professor Richard D'Amato said.

The engineering program at Elon currently serves as a dual degree program, allowing students to receive a degree in another major while they study engineering. Typically, according to D'Amato, this is another science like physics or chemistry.

"It makes for better engineers — not only are they able to calculate and design, but they can also articulate it," he said.

Engineering majors spend three years at Elon, then finish their degrees at larger, more intensive engineering programs.

"Typically they transfer to one of our affiliate schools," D'Amato said.

He gave N.C. State, Georgia Tech, University of Pennsylvania, and Notre Dame as a few examples.

"We've got some good affiliates," he said.

Noting the fact that the university has a rare program in this respect, and that University of Florida has plans to model its dual-degree Engineering program after that of Elon's, D'Amato defends the usefulness of a liberal arts education for the first three years of study.

"[Students] see the value of this dual degree. They could have gone directly to N.C. State, but they see the value of starting at a small liberal arts school," he said.

He also said the program "generates better engineers than a four-year education."

But for all these reasons, the engineering program at Elon is somewhat small and the trend around the country only slightly applies. With

an enrollment of about 20 students, one more student would increase the group by 5 percent, D'Amato said.

The group is small enough that this one of two engineering professors occasionally has all his students to his house for barbecues and gatherings. With about 50 students, including those that are in affiliate schools, the Elon engineering program sees no reason to change its setup for a larger one.

Sophomore Pierre Cieniewicz said the program is effective for its size, and that "things function pretty smoothly." But of expanding, Cieniewicz sees the need for more professors to fill some gaps.

"Some branches of engineering are noticeably shortchanged here because the [specialization] classes don't apply to them. We would get more variety and a slightly improved learning experience," he said of a larger program.

"For what it's worth, I think the current plan is better," he concluded.

Computing Science professor Dave Powell notes that the trend seems to have come to Elon for that department.

"This year, we saw a large increase in the number of students taking Computer Science I. The number of students increased from 65 in Academic Year '07-'08 to 105 for Academic Year '08-'09," he said.

Powell also said the Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts an increase in the computer sciences job market in years to come. With this, the increased participation could either be a growth trend or a change in scheduling that works better.

Despite the reasoning for it, both departments emphasize the importance of their subjects for increased involvement. And at a school where both departments are somewhat small, D'Amato's words serve as a representation of the shift within the industry that is seeing stronger output of students and more competitive markets.

"Typically, the United States doesn't produce all the engineers and computer scientists it needs," he said. "So that [increase] is encouraging."

Increase in foreign students in the United States excludes Elon

Jack Dodson
Reporter

The United States has seen a 7 percent increase in foreign student admissions this past year, according to the Institute of International Education.

With nearly 625,000 international students in college in the United States this year, the previous record of 586,000 was broken.

Graduate enrollment saw a 12,000-person increase while undergraduate enrollment increased by 5,000 this year.

According to the study, Optional Practical Training might be the reason for this.

This is the law that allows students with F-1 Status — the student visa for international students — to work in America after nine months or more of study.

More students are staying in America to work after they receive their degrees, reaching a 28 percent increase that falls into this category.

Elon has also seen an increase in international students this year, admitting more students that are foreign, overseas Americans and dual citizens.

With 55 total foreign students and 150 to 179 overall that qualify as "international," Francois Masuka, director of international students and faculty scholar services, sees no reason that the program serving foreign students should expand.

"I think Elon is able to handle the increase we're going to have," he said, making the analogy that in a house with a growing number of occupants, only the amount of food need increase and not the size of the house.

Elon does not follow the trend with OPT involvement. With eight graduating foreign students, only one might be considering going into the program.

According to Masuka, the others will either attend graduate school or go home.

"It would be a waste of money," he

said. "I would not advise international students to be looking for a job. This is a bad time for it."

Instead, it seems the focus at Elon is more in the increased involvement between domestic and international students.

Along with Madeleine Albright's speech at Spring Convocation for honors last week, Masuka emphasized the university's agreement with her statements.

"On every continent, there are competitions between ignorance and knowledge, between prejudice and understanding and between people obsessed with separating themselves from all others and those striving to establish common ground," Albright said. "Our ability to prevail in these struggles must begin with a desire to learn."

Masuka took this further to suggest that an increase in international students and prominence of Elon's global outlook is ineffective without student acknowledgement.

"We can provide whatever service we provide, but (students) have to take advantage of it or the goal of Elon will never be realized," he said.

He referenced the analogy Albright made, citing its significance at Elon.

"To function successfully in such an environment, we must challenge ourselves intellectually and socially," Albright said. "We must, in the language of the playground, develop the ability to play well with others."

According to Dean of Admissions Greg Zaiser, though, this increase the country has seen is not affecting Elon.

"We are even with last year in the number of applications and offers of admission," he said.

The overall tone at Elon seems to focus more on the ideas Albright brought up, establishing its priorities for having more globally involved and educated students.

This doesn't necessarily mean increasing the number of students from out of the country, but increasing student engagement with their foreign colleagues, Zaiser said.

Community asked to help shape new long-range plan

Andie Diemer
Editor-in-Chief

As part of a new long-range strategic plan for the university, a strategic planning committee has invited the Elon community to write headlines for the year 2020 about what they want Elon to be by then.

Following two previous long-range strategic plans, Elon Vision and the soon-to-be concluded NewCentury@Elon, the new plan, which is currently unnamed, has been in the works since last fall.

Elon's Board of Trustees appointed 23 members, including trustees, faculty, staff, students and alumni, to the committee to help formulate a plan.

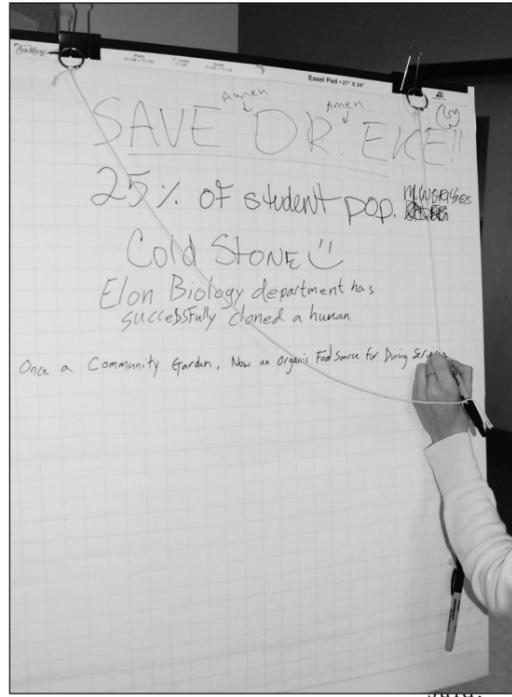
Gerry Francis, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, is a co-chair of the committee. He said the committee has eight strategic goals they are working with, and the 2020 headlines fall into or under each.

The goals include: transformative academic programs, deepening engaged learning, implementing a new financial model, developing a vibrant community and supporting campus, recruiting and retaining the best faculty and staff, building stronger ties with the local community, creating a stronger understanding of each other and deepening Elon's program of distinction.

"If you go through all of these different goals, we want to hear what other people might think or want to be a headline," Francis said. "Before we get to the final product, we want to make sure we've heard all the ideas from everybody."

Francis said he wants people that are walking around in the halls to write these headlines on the boards that have been propped around campus. He is welcoming community input in the process as well, since he does not want the report to come out as a surprise to anyone.

"We think we know some of (the headlines), but we want to know



Previous long-range strategic plans:

ELON VISION

Completed construction of Rhodes Stadium and McMichael Science Building

Opened Belk Library

Renovated Carlton building

NEWCENTURY@ELON

Completed Academic Village for the arts and sciences

Created additional international study centers

Developed premier program in Career Services

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID WELLS
The strategic planning committee put up posters across campus and asked the community to write headlines they hope to see about Elon in 2020.

what we don't know," Francis said.

The committee reviewed other university long-range plans to research the scope, structure and time frame of the plans and to get an overall understanding of what others are doing. This created a context for them to start crafting a plan that will eventually have a distinctly Elon stamp.

Kenn Gaither, assistant professor of communications, is a member of the strategic planning committee. He said aside from inviting the community to write headlines to provide transparency in the project, the task also creates interactivity, which gets people to think about goals in an indirect way.

"Headlines frame their thinking in such a way that it reflects goals," Gaither

"Blogs are nice, but that requires the effort. But here, you can incidentally or coincidentally participate because you came across one of the signs."

Community members are invited to participate until April 15 through writing on the boards scattered on campus, posting on a blog (<http://elonstrategicplan.wordpress.com>) or contacting any of the people on the committee.

"If a member of the community wrote a headline that made us all stop and think, it could have tremendous impact ... because it could really put something on our screen for discussion," Gaither said. "If we get a type of

headline that's fresh, innovative and interesting, it could have real impact."

After all of the ideas are compiled, the committee will then review substantive comments, evaluate their nature and pick up on community feedback, trends or patterns, Gaither said.

The committee, which has already developed their own list of ideas and objectives for each goal, wants to see new ideas, as well as if the community is in consensus with their original plans.

Findings will be submitted to the Board of Trustees on April 17. After that, the committee will compile a draft and share it with the Elon community in the fall before submitting the final report to the Board of Trustees.

Creating a long-term plan like this gives Elon a road map to the future, which will be flexible, Francis said.

These long-range plans normally last between seven and 10 years. As NewCentury@Elon wraps up, the administration is ensuring they have enough time to create a new plan for the next decade.

"When you have a plan and you really work at it, it's amazing what gets done," Francis said. "And if you don't have a plan and you're not doing anything in an organized manner, it's amazing how it can wallow."

Some components of the plan that could change in the future, like the economy, technology or the way students learn, are also being taken into account.

But Gaither said the final report will be strong enough to provide direction for the university regardless. He said the plan will be fresh and innovative, what he describes as the "hallmark of Elon."

"There's been a very good sense of direction from the start about what we're trying to accomplish," Gaither said. "A plan is only as good as the ideas that go into it."

E-Warning proves to be helpful to Elon professors for student status

Laura Smith
News Editor

Because of Elon's E-Warning system, some students may have received an e-mail stating their standing in a class and any penalties incurred as a result of excessive absences or other concerns.

The E-Warning system was installed by the Office of Academic Advising in 1997 to give professors the ability to alert students about attendance, judicial or academic concerns via e-mail.

"This is an early warning system that lots of institutions have," said Becky Olive-Taylor, associate dean of academic support and director of the system. "Particularly those who are concerned about retaining students, they want to be able to intervene sooner."

Olive-Taylor emphasized Elon does not use the system for retention, as Elon has a very high retention rate. Instead, it is used for problems such as excess absences, lack of class participation and poor test performances.

It is especially critical in the first six weeks of the semester, she said.

The system works via an e-mail account to which the professor can send concerns. The academic advising center forwards those e-mails to the student, as well as their academic adviser.

"The e-mail account indicates the concern for the success for one of their students," Olive-Taylor said. "The information is used to better inform academic advising of their standing at the end of the semester."

The account is open all the time, but Olive-Taylor said she sent out reminder e-mails about its presence after the last drop/add period and again at mid-term time at the end of March.

In the fall of 2008, advising received 205 E-Warning e-mails from professors.

Jessica Gisclair, associate professor of communications, has been utilizing the system since it began.

"It allows me to communicate with more people," she said of the ability of the student, adviser and advising department to receive the student's status.

Gisclair uses E-Warning mostly for attendance issues, as does the majority of faculty who use it, according to Olive-Taylor.

In the e-mails she sends to the E-Warning account, Gisclair restates the School of Communications policy so the student can see the potential violation he or she has committed.

"The student is made aware of the policy. It's an encouraging message for them to come in and talk to me," she said. "There may be problems I'm not aware of."

Assistant professor of psychology Alexa Darby also said the system is very helpful for herself and her students. She has been using it since she started working at Elon four years ago.

"E-Warning helps the Elon community provide appropriate support to students," she said. "I find it very effective in providing additional support for students and faculty working with this student."

According to Olive-Taylor, the majority of departments who utilize the system are the English, chemistry and foreign language departments.

The E-Warning system has saved students from getting a failing grade, as well as reminded them of the academic policies Elon holds, she said.

"It's a good reminder that people make mistakes and make bad choices and all it takes is for one person to notice and call it to their attention," Olive-Taylor said. "For some students it makes them stop and think about the bad choices they're making."

Conferencing technology on campus helps Elon community stay connected

Jake Martin
Senior Reporter

Elon University has had teleconferencing and video conferencing technology for some time now. But in the recent past, use of the technology has spread across campus and elsewhere.

"One thing I think is cool is that we have video conferencing-in-a-box," said Scott Hildebrand, director of instructional technology systems. "So if a professor would want to bring an expert into the classroom, they can send the box and have a conference via this technology."

The product uses IP, meaning that the numbers travel with the unit. This technology allows the university to send out the boxes in order to connect with people outside the campus via video. One area that has used this technology extensively on campus is alumni relations.

"So far, we've used it for Elon's alumni relations in Boston and New York City, and they have had different alumni call in from those areas to tell students what it is like to live there," Hildebrand said.

The university currently owns eight units that the Board of Trustees uses for conferencing, and President Lambert has one set up in his office. There are also two additional conference-in-a-box units that the school ships out regularly.

"Last week, we actually just purchased Web conferencing technology," Hildebrand said. "We've had teleconferencing for quite some time and video for about a year to a year and a half. We had been piloting Web for a while, and now we have it."

The Web conferencing software the university purchased is Adobe's Acrobat Connect Pro, developed to

make conferencing possible for both students and businesses. With Connect Pro, students can watch a PowerPoint presentation while listening to a speech and ask questions afterward without the speaker having to be present.

"It could be used in a variety of ways by other departments, like to talk with faculty in other cities or countries, communicate with students on study abroad or provide panels for prospective students or parents of students," said Lindsay Hege, assistant director of alumni relations for young alumni. "We foresee this being able to allow us to provide even more educational Web conferences for alumni, as well as students."

The Web conferencing technology has been used not only for current students at Elon, but also to help recent graduates find jobs and settle into a life after school. These "webinars" can be used in a variety of ways, such as to push out information to other people or to share a desktop workspace in different locations.

"We have used the Web conferencing technology to provide educational and career webinars to our alumni," Hege said. "We have also used it to provide Web panels of alumni for students to interact with. We held two alumni Web panels this spring, with Destination New York City and Destination Boston."

Conferencing technology has been used in many different departments on campus, but alumni relations has seized the opportunity it gives them to interact with both current students and graduates. Alumni Relations will use the new technology on April 21 by hosting a webinar for young alumni by Dean Mary Gowan titled "Managing Employees for Competitive Advantage."

Facial recognition system helps North Carolina DMV track identities

Laura Smith
News Editor

If a North Carolina resident is renewing his or her license, they must keep in mind that a photograph goes a long way.

The North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles uses the facial recognition system, a biometric information technology, to compare facial features from one's license picture to match existing images in its database.

The system is part of Operation Stop Fraud, a program installed in 2005 that assists the DMV in preventing driver's license fraud.

"We started making comparisons through what we call 'one to many,'" said Marge Howell, a DMV communications officer.

The DMV takes a license photograph and compares it to past photographs through biometric analysis.

This analysis recognizes facial features, takes facial measurements and puts them into numeric measurements.

Currently, there are up to 28 million photographs in the system and the DMV has installed new cameras in its offices to take them.

The system is used to verify a person's license identity with their real identity as well as stop identification fraud, Howell said.

"It (Operation Stop Fraud)

involves a lot of state agencies in making sure you're ensuring the person is who they say they are," she said.

According to Howell, the DMV has been able to find people with multiple identities. In one instance, a man was discovered to have over 40 identities.

The facial recognition system also helps to identify criminals.

"We use the digital photos we have as a way to look up potential criminals if we have a call from law enforcements," Howell said.

The DMV can run the criminal's photograph against other photos in the database to see if there is a match.

The North Carolina DMV estimates there are about 18 other states that use some form of facial recognition.

Kansas was the second state to use a facial recognition system for driver's licenses and has caught more than 1,000 people trying to get fraudulent licenses in the years since it began.

West Virginia became the first state to use such a system in 1998.

Picture renewal occurs every eight years for people between the ages of 18 to 53 and every five years for anyone over 53.

"It's worked really well," Howell said. "It's been a very useful system to the DMV."



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS
Facial recognition systems compare facial features from one's license picture to match existing items in a database. The system is a kind of biometric information technology and is designed to cut down on driver's license fraud.

Comparing Prices

Ever notice that the same grocery items are different prices in different places? With today's economy and college tuition to pay, who can afford paying extra for the basics?

Below is a breakdown of the prices for items of the same brand at some local grocery stores.

	Food Lion	Harris Teeter	Walmart
Wheat Bread (Nature's Own)	\$2.49	\$2.79	\$2.24
Milk (store brand)	\$2.99	\$2.89	\$2.78
12-pack Aquafina bottled water	\$4.49	\$5.69	\$4.48
12-pack Coca Cola cans	\$4.69	\$5.79	\$3.98
Eggs (EB)	\$2.79	\$3.19	\$2.32

INFORMATION COMPILED BY CAMILLE DEMERE AND ANNA JOHNSON
RACHEL CIERI | Graphic

'Dilemma' starts dialogue about Afghanistan violence

Chris Lorch
Reporter

At 7 p.m. tonight, the Elon community will have the chance to see and hear a series of perspectives on one of today's most controversial issues.

In the downstairs McEwen theater, "Afghanistan: An American Dilemma" will feature the Robert Greenwald film, "Rethink Afghanistan," followed by a panel discussion with three Elon professors.

Rudy Zarzar, Safia Swimelar and Aqueil Ahmad will provide their commentary in light of the American government's recent decision to commit more than 17,000 more troops to Afghanistan.

Anne Cassebaum is an English professor at Elon and the chair of tonight's panel.

While Cassebaum is well aware of the issues surrounding American involvement in Afghanistan, she still has questions yet to be answered.

"When we entered Afghanistan, it

was the third poorest country in the world," Cassebaum said. "What do we hope to accomplish there? Who is with us? Twenty years ago to the month, Russia was pulling out of Afghanistan. We were asking those same questions in the 10 years they occupied the country. Why were they there?" she said.

Ahmad is one panelist who will bring a global view to the discussion on these questions.

Ahmad was a supporter of Barack Obama in the 2008 presidential race, but has been disappointed with his actions in Afghanistan and Iraq so far.

He is currently a full-time professor at the Walden University School of Management and has taught a Winter Term class at Elon called "Nonviolence of the Brave: From Gandhi to King" since 1992.

In his self-described "Ghandian" efforts of promoting peace, Ahmad seeks to find a resolution to this problem.

"What I would like to hear from

the panel is what are the alternatives through which we can resolve this dilemma, without having to entrench ourselves so that we cannot get out of it?" Ahmad said.

As a sociologist, psychologist, political analyst and expert on management and globalization, Ahmad will provide a wide variety of information emphasizing the economic and physical costs of the war.

Ahmad said he is looking forward to the question-and-answer section of the discussion, which should prove to be a heated debate for those of all political views.

Tonight's panel will provide one example of Ahmad's hope for future action by the international community: Starting a dialogue.

"How can you achieve peace without agreeing to sit down and talk? You have to talk to the enemy," he said.

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Man behind 'Blow' bust visits campus

Patrick McCabe
Reporter

Ever wondered who the real people were behind the characters in the Johnny Depp film "Blow"?

Michael McManus, former Drug Enforcement Administration supervisor, posed as a dealer and gained the trust of drug lords in order to bring down George Jung, the man responsible for establishing the American cocaine market.

McManus arrives at Elon's campus Thursday to share his experiences as part of the American drug world. He said he hopes to promote knowledge and awareness among the student body.

"My father was a federal agent with the Drug Enforcement Administration and was undercover for more than 17 years," said his daughter, Elon senior Kelly McManus. "He has spoken all over the world and I know he will do a great job of educating us all at Elon."

As a part of the Isabella Cannon Leadership Program, Kelly is completing a common good project on drug education at Elon. She has been working all year on various projects to make Elon students aware of the serious drug issues that plague college campuses.

Teaming up with the Office of Greek Life, Kelly was able to bring her father to campus as

part of her education effort.

"He's been in a lot of life or death situations," Kelly said. "It's hard to ever think that your father could not come home one night. It was scary, but he was fighting the war on drugs."

While going undercover and meeting all sorts of rich and powerful people may sound like a dream job to some Elon students, Kelly says it is a hard way of life.

Michael spent much of his career as a drug enforcement administrator befriending, and then arresting, hardened criminals. He has had experiences with some of the top drug lords in America and he has helped put many of them behind bars.

"Going back and traveling to certain parts of the Bahamas can be risky for my family," Kelly said. "When we lived there my father put so many people in jail that people know his last name. So every time I travel back there I never tell people my last name unless I have to."

Michael will help Kelly continue her efforts in educating Elon students on the serious issues that go hand-in-hand with drug use and abuse, as well as share some of his experiences, including the role that was modeled after him in "Blow."

Watch McManus speak at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in Alumni Gym.

Scholar speaks on selfless nature of research

Megan Wanner
Reporter

Earl Honeycutt, Elon University's 2008-2009 Distinguished Scholar, addressed the Elon community Monday night in LaRose Digital Theater about the selfless nature of academic research as it creates knowledge that benefits mankind.

Honeycutt asserted the role of a professor is divided into a "triad" of teaching, research and service.

The amount of weight assigned to each area by every university is different.

Some schools are solely devoted to research, giving Ph.D. students the opportunity to teach while professors do research.

Others are more focused on teaching, where research and service are seen as taking away time from students.

"I would guesstimate in the School of Business we have about 55 percent emphasis on teaching, about 25 percent on research and about 20 percent on service," Honeycutt said.

As the students improve and become sharper, it is important to have higher quality faculty to keep up with them.

"We are shifting a little bit from being teachers to being engaged faculty," Honeycutt said. "We are engaging and we are mentoring and we are serving as examples of how people should be."

Staying current in research makes it easier to stay current in the classroom.

"If you are active in research ... you can actually conceptualize, you can design, you can test, you can come up with logical explanations for what is going on," Honeycutt said. "If you don't do that, it's not as easy to explain to the students, cutting-edge, what is going on."

Elon faculty must be scholars

HIGHLIGHTS FROM HONEYCUTT'S SPEECH

Professor's role is divided into three parts:

1. Teaching
2. Research
3. Service

The amount of weight a university assigns to each of these areas is different according to the school.

Elon's School of Business probably places 55 percent emphasis on teaching, 25 on research and 20 on service.

Staying current and active in research makes a professor more able to stay current in the classroom.

Professors' knowledge must extend beyond Elon.

who can mentor students about latest knowledge.

Research advances understanding of the world outside of Elon and professors' focus must extend outside of campus into a world they are preparing their students to enter.

"It's really hard to be a good teacher if you are not acquiring new knowledge," Honeycutt said.

In addition to being Elon University's 2008-2009 Distinguished Scholar, Honeycutt is a marketing professor and a director of the Chandler Family Professional Sales Center at Elon.

While at Elon, he has been involved with the Business Fellows, headed multiple study abroad experiences and taught at the undergraduate, graduate and executive education levels.

Honeycutt also founded the Elon Chapter of the national sales and marketing fraternity, Phi Sigma Epsilon.

He has published more than 70 peer-reviewed journal articles and co-authored four books.

NEWS IN BRIEF

POWERless results week seven

The POWERless competition is in its seventh week.

The results for week six are as follows: For the building competition: Division I— Maynard with 22.8 percent, Colclough with 21.5 percent, Oaks Building B with 21.3 percent and Chandler with 20.5 percent. Division II— Danieley C with 26.6 percent and Loy J/K.L.M with 25 percent. For the area competition: Division I— The Oaks with 18.5 percent and North Area with 15.4 percent. Division II— Danieley Center with 47.5 percent and Loy Center with 10.7 percent.

Presidential Fireside Chat Series begins tonight

African/African-American Studies at Elon will hold the first Presidential Fireside Chat Series featuring Julianne Malveaux, president of Bennett College for Women, and Leo Lambert, president of Elon University from 6:30-8:30 p.m. tonight in the LaRose Digital Theatre.

A reception will precede the event from 5:15-6:15 p.m. in the Koury Business Center Concourse.

Hillel Passover Seder

Hillel will hold its annual Passover Seder in McKinnon Hall at 7 p.m. tonight.

The traditional Seder meal will be served while the Passover story is told. Admission is \$5 and tickets will be sold in Moseley Center in advance.

Elon Easter celebrations begin Friday

Elon will hold special Easter celebrations this weekend for students who stay on campus.

The Stations of the Cross will take place at 12:15 p.m. Friday around Fonville Fountain.

Easter Sunday Mass will also be celebrated in McKinnon Hall at noon on Sunday.

Father Gerry and Catholic Campus Ministry will lead the service.

Furniture CEO and civil rights advocate to speak Tuesday

North Carolina furniture business CEO and civil rights advocate Mitchell Gold will discuss his book, "CRISIS" Tuesday at the Elon School at 7 p.m.

The book discusses the personal, social and religious pain he experienced growing up gay in America.

Books will be available for purchase and all proceeds go toward several nonprofit groups that help gay teens.

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Editorial

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

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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Little Leaders leading elementary education evolution

Education always pops up as an essential issue that often finds itself lost on the back burner. A Gallup poll conducted in late October 2008 found that more Americans considered the economy, terrorism, the situation in Iraq, health care, taxes and the budget deficit all more important than education.

Even Obama's recent announcement of his plan to revamp the American educational system to help it compete better on a global level has been lost in the shuffle, with the G20, the AIG fiasco and North Korea's mischief grabbing the headlines.

But outside of the scrutiny and the pundits, the Alamance-Burlington school system is taking a bold step toward changing the way educators, parents and young students all approach the classroom. A newly announced pilot program, "Little Leaders," is a response to the increased competition from global markets and the imbalanced opportunities in the United States and it is being formed right in Elon's backyard.

The program, which starts in July, will take 60 students from Eastlawn, Haw River, Newlin and Andrews elementary schools and place them in groups of 15 for yearlong classes and cultural events. The students, kindergartners chosen by a long series of parameters including their situation at home, whether or not they're on free or reduced lunches and their guardian's income, will stay in the same classes with the same teacher until the end of the third grade.

Based off a massive amount of research, the program is intended to satisfy several elements of what makes individual students succeed. A highly qualified group of teachers, early intervention, low student-teacher ratios, parental involvement and an extension of the school year were all cited as essential by Dr. Randy Bridges, superintendent of the Alamance-Burlington school system.

To supplement the traditional educational experience, the program will have a strong presence outside the classroom, exposing the students to museums, businesses and leaders in all sectors of the community. This will provide them with the breadth of knowledge and role models needed to develop a solid foundation.

Caron Myers, executive director of communications for the Alamance-Burlington school system, stressed the importance of cooperative action.

"This provides things the middle class students do in normal life. Others don't have that advantage," she said. "These are the kids on the fence. There's a chance they could go on one side or the other."

By focusing on the youngest students, the program can help mitigate any negative side-effects of the population boom in North Carolina, as there were 121,045 students in kindergarten in the 2005-2006 school year, compared to a graduating class of 82,291. Educating that group is no inexpensive task either, with the Alamance-Burlington school system spending \$7,658 per student with nutrition plans included last year. A tightening state budget will only add to preexisting problems. From 2006 to 2007 the state government covered almost 66 percent of all expenses, with local governments picking up 24 percent and the feds taking the rest.

It's important to keep in mind that this is a pilot program that has not yet begun, and it's currently seeking to raise \$125,000 in each of the next four years, with \$50,000 pledged so far. But what's essential is that the Alamance-Burlington school system is putting down a specific plan of action based upon community and excellence for those who otherwise would be missing out on those opportunities.

The "ABCs of Public Education," a report conducted by North Carolina on the growth and performance of public schools during the last school year, found that 68.8 percent of schools did not meet the standard of adequate yearly progress.

Obama's speech on education included references to the South Korean school year, which is a month longer than the American equivalent, but simply adding time to the school year without a suitable game plan is just another way to toss cash onto the bottom line.

The Little Leaders plan, with a more intensive academic plan coupled with extracurricular activities, is a refreshingly bold approach to improve the much-maligned American school system when it's most needed.

A brief look at United States, North Carolina education

NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Sixty-eight percent did not meet adequate yearly progress during the 2007-2008 school year.

Six out of 35 Alamance-Burlington schools met adequate yearly progress.

Total education expenses totaled over \$11 million last year.

The average expense of each student was \$7,650 including nutrition programs.

The average critical reading SAT score was 496 in 2008 and the average math score was 511, a 19-point increase over the past 10 years.

UNITED STATES PUBLIC SCHOOLS

An estimated \$255 billion is needed to repair the infrastructure of public schools nationwide.

Obama's plan includes a partial federal handout for these repairs.

Proposed reforms from Washington include performance-based pay for teachers, a greater role for charter schools and longer school years, school days or both.

The average critical reading SAT score was 502 in 2008 and the average math score was 515.

INFORMATION COURTESY OF NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

TO COMMENT...

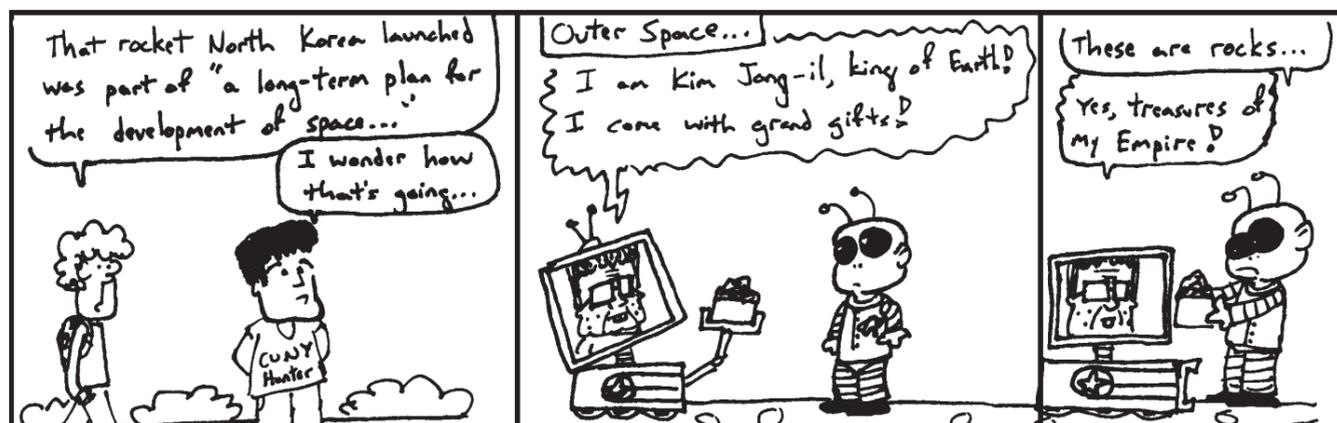
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Content will be edited for clarity, length and accuracy. All submissions must include a name and phone number.

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

ILLUSTRATING THE ISSUES:



Opinions

A man, professor to remember



Margeaux Corby
Columnist

I was bound to never forget Dr. Eugene Gooch because of his name and the subject he taught me. Organic chemistry is one of the most loathed and feared subjects an undergraduate biology or chemistry major is required to complete. And Gooch was my professor for Organic I sophomore year.

Naively, I thought everyone was exaggerating about the class, and organic was

going to be rigorous but ultimately manageable. I was wrong. Organic chemistry kicked my butt. I failed recitation quiz after recitation quiz and barely scraped passing grades on the first exam. For someone coming into sophomore year with a 3.9 grade point average this wasn't an awakening — it was an Elm Street nightmare.

I was terribly intimidated by Gooch. He was a tall man with shaggy brows and I was sure if I came to his office he would make me feel even more inept at chemistry than I already did. After another five out of 20, I decided it was time to suck it up.

Gooch was sitting in his office, drinking coffee out of his handled 250 mL beaker and listening to some smooth jazz. I approached him and told him my situation. He listened without interruption. After I was done he said he didn't think I was bad at chemistry.

"I'm not worried about you," he said. "You ask questions."

He agreed I needed to start making a connection with the material to improve my exam scores but assured me it was just a matter of tweaking my studying process. He explained to me the various techniques he had employed during his post-graduate study and his own F in organic chemistry. I had the hardware, he said, I

just had to find a way to make it run properly.

After that I visited Gooch's office regularly. Whenever he received or sent an e-mail there were various Star Trek sound bytes — the whoosh of the bridge doors opening, the voice of Majel Barrett commenting on message status.

He was curious about me beyond the class, commenting on the articles I wrote for The Pendulum and asking about my second major. Once, he gave me several chemistry magazines, telling me to look through them and see if that was a type of science writing I was looking for in a career.

The third exam, the test that would make or break my grade, was handed back on a Friday. I was in the hospital during class time and came by his office that afternoon. After weeks of working with him, was I going to show any improvement?

I came in and was greeted by a huge smile. I had come to expect the classic enthusiastic Gooch grin but this time his dimples reached up to the edge of his glasses. He handed me my first A in organic chemistry and spent 45 minutes after his office hours on a sunny Friday afternoon going through the test, showing me where I had done well and the improvement I had made.

Many people, both faculty and students, have assisted me through my organic struggles, but the success I've had came from a foundation shaped by Gooch.

While Gooch and the class he taught were a significant chapter in my life, it was just one of the many student lives he has been part of in his 21 years at Elon.

I knew Gooch a lot more and a lot less than the various students frequenting McMichael. I didn't know him outside of the science building or outside of Elon. I only got to see a sliver of his personality and of his life. In that short time, Gooch invoked distinct change in my life.

The vibrancy of his memory is a true testament to the power of his character and the uniqueness of his being.

Cautious cheers for G20



Neel Arora
Columnist

The G20 summit hosted in London last week brought together leaders of the world's superpowers with leaders of the developing world. Rekindling the world economy from the pandemic global financial crisis took center stage.

Never before has a contingent as large as this come together to discuss a crisis of this magnitude with such inconceivably far-reaching consequences. Leaders with diverse political ideologies put their differences aside and sat

together to come up with an amicable proposal.

The comments disseminating from leaders are positive and agreement seems to have eventually transcended across the debates. Initially, it appeared an outcome with such unanimity would be a remote prospect.

French President Nicholas Sarkozy and German Chancellor Angela Merkel had their reservations and took the hard line early on, demanding the implementation of regulations controlling hedge funds and tax havens along with stricter controls over the financial market, specifically the banking system.

The developing nations had their own set of demands, and rightly so, as it was the superpowers who were largely responsible for the meltdown in the first place. The crisis is also far more apparent in the developing world.

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh called for additional funding to be injected into developing markets, along with additional lending from the World Bank among an array of other economic reforms in order to compensate for the large foreign capital that has been withdrawn and is unlikely to be reinserted by 2010.

But the limelight was shining incandescently on President Barack Obama in his first international conference and he failed to disappoint his critics. His rhetoric and diplomacy earned him fans from all across Europe that the Bush administration had pushed away. His decision on Guantanamo seems to have had a far-reaching positive impact among politicians and people.

The final outcome of the proposal sees more than \$1 trillion being injected in the world financial system to battle the recession and strengthen the system. The proposal addresses key issues that will promote global trade and reject protectionism, while restoring lending, confidence and jobs. Most importantly, the communiqué promises "to fund and reform our international financial institution to overcome this crisis and prevent future ones."

How this proposal will be implemented and adhered to is the real imperative. The intricacies and the details are what really matter and that is what has been widely criticized by many foreign and domestic media on the basis of its lack of attention to detail. After all, the communiqué is only nine pages long and the summit lasted less than a week.

But the statements of British Prime Minister Gordon Brown epitomize how far the discussions have been carried forth.

"A new world order is emerging and with it the foundations of a new and progressive era of international cooperation," he said.

International cooperation is indeed the key, and so far it has been embraced. The pride and egos of political leaders were almost entirely subdued. Despite the skepticism from all of the critics, a consensual point of reference has been established to collectively revive the world economy. The political leaders are justified in declaring history to have been made "on an unprecedented scale."

The complexities defining a global economy make predicting the effectiveness of this proposal immensely difficult and it is unreasonable to hypothetically criticize it before it has even been put in place, unless it's done in relation to alternatives. The specifics should be objectively analyzed by experts without bias. Its inadequacies should be pointed out and taken into account, as it runs its course, to further develop and advance the proposal when the G20 meets later in the year.

The roots of the crisis do seem to have been touched upon. The communiqué explicitly provides details for reforming and monitoring the financial sector and its regulatory system, while looking at the fundamental causes of the crisis in relation to the banking system.

The proposal appears to be well thought-out and numerous compromises would have been made behind closed doors for such a comprehensive proposal, encompassing a sincere attempt to provide solutions and to gain acceptance. On that note, and for the maturity shown by all the politicians involved in the G20 summit, some accolades need to be dispensed accordingly.

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Students bearing arms a grisly prospect



Laura Wainman
Columnist

With the increase in gun violence among youth in America, particularly on college campuses, thousands of students across the nation are advocating their right to bear arms on campus. They argue they should have the ability to defend themselves against a crazy assassin should they encounter one while on campus rather than being made a sitting target with no means of self-defense.

Though it is undeniable that change is necessary to work toward eradicating the problem of rampant school shootings, allowing 18- to 22-year olds to carry concealed weapons is not the answer.

Making access to guns easier will not increase our security and, in fact, is likely to increase our vulnerability. Decreasing gun violence should be done by making access to guns harder rather than easier. I have always felt very safe at Elon, but that would change if I knew that my classmates could be legally packing heat. Though we like to consider ourselves mature adults, the simple fact is that college students do not always make the most responsible choices.

The idea of mixing guns into the equation along with alcohol, drugs, parties and fights is a scary thought. There would be no assurance that a student isn't going to pull out a gun and shoot a classmate or professor in the heat of the moment.

The problem with this solution is that it is reactive rather than preventative, which is so often the case. Instead of seeking to address the root of the problem, the tendency is to seek a solution that appears to address the problem and often is

a dramatic response rather than a reasoned and rational one. What college campuses should be focusing on is the fact they have students attending their universities who are so depressed they believe their only option is to shoot their fellow students and/or themselves.

In the massacre at Virginia Tech, the shooter, Seung-Hui Cho, had been diagnosed with a severe anxiety disorder known as selective mutism, as well as depression, in middle school. Multiple incidents of inappropriate behavior, such as his commenting in a school assignment that he wanted to repeat Columbine, went unaddressed throughout his middle and high school years.

One of his professors at Virginia Tech, Nikki Giovanni, had him removed from her class because she found his writings intimidating and his behavior menacing. Lucinda Roy, who worked one-on-one with Cho after receiving the letter from Giovanni, even said she began to worry for her safety during those sessions.

Despite all of this, Cho was allowed to remain a student at Virginia Tech, as the student affairs office, the dean's office and the campus police all stated there was nothing they could do until he made an overt threat against students or himself. Unfortunately, by the time he made a threat it was too late, at the expense of 32 lives taken, 25 wounded and thousands of lives changed forever.

We cannot simply take up arms in hope of protecting ourselves. The solution is much more complex and lies in changing policies and procedures that currently do not facilitate a teacher, administrator or other student in helping students like Cho, but simply allows them to be ignored.

Do we need to wait for overt acts and arm ourselves in the off-chance we are caught in one? Or do we need to equip our universities to look for and respond to cries for help? I, for one, would feel much safer with the latter policy.

COMING OUT: ATHEISTS' DILEMMA

By Russell Varner
Reporter

In a society that embraces Judeo-Christian ideals as a cultural code of conduct, those who lack a belief in a god are often stigmatized.

While the First Amendment guarantees freedom from an established religion and free exercise of religion, Americans often reject those who choose not to believe.

"I pledge allegiance to United States of America and for which it stands: one n indivisible, with liberty and

The 1954 addition of the the Pledge of Allegiance ex demographic of American profess a belief in the nonex

Fifteen percent of American unaffiliated with any religion in Religious Identification Surve Trinity College in Hartford, 8.2 percent in 1990 and 14.1

Fewer than 1 percent of ARI identified as non believers, 0.9 and 0.7 percent as agnostic, stated personal beliefs consiste agnosticism according to the 200 the researchers highlight that th doubled since 2001 to nearly 1

According to a 2006 study Minnesota professors of socio Joseph Gerteis and Douglas H list of groups that also includ immigrants and homosexuals, atheists as those least likely to of American society. They are disapprove of their children r

Nearly 40 percent of the respondents named atheists as not at all agree with my vision o and 47.6 percent said they would child married an atheist. Muslim group, received the same classifi percent and 33.5 percent of respon

"Americans are less acceptin of any of the other groups we by a wide margin," the res

In 1987, then-President Geor in an interview, "I don't know t be considered as citizens, no considered patriots. This is one

He failed to restate or ch on this issue in any subs

"I think atheists, as well as a other religious convictions other t that matter, are disliked because s in the South equate patriotism v said Tripp York, an Elon religiou

According to a 2001 Public more Americans were religio that crime would go down, a better job raising their ch would be more likely to help o most Americans fear that th decline if people lost their

"Atheists are the least tr America," said William Johnso Elon sophomore, whose name "Multiple polls, studies and happ fact that most people would not relationship or position of power have anti-atheist bigotry on ther are trying to take over schools an

In the Public Agenda s of respondents said th unlikely to vote for a p who is "open about not b

"We just elected our first bla Elon sophomore and atheist A still think we're at least a goo being able to elect our first

York echoed this. "In the Christianity, people were killed beliefs in their particular God, cannot be elected unless they belie

Edgell, Gerteis and E increasing religious pluralism increasing tolerance of reli but reduces tolerance of no

According to Edgell, Gerte "Those in the South and less accepting of atheists in private life than those in th

"Here (in the South), people attend the church of your famil people find that unusual or Lynn Huber, an Elon religious

"This, in my opinion, is less a and more about the fact that values familial relationship

Johnson said until he v had almost no religious

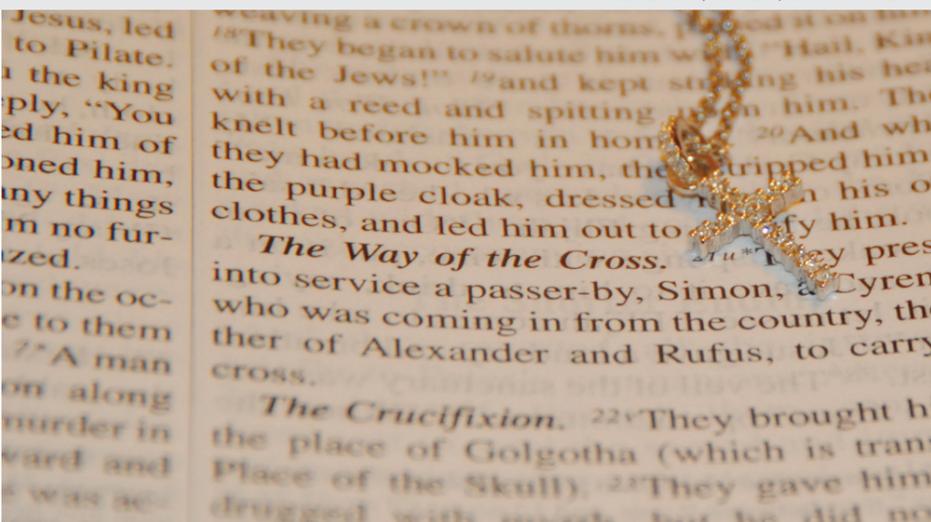
Huber said breaking the mo familial religious traditions means be it through changing religions

"Plus, because most believ think that belief in God is ju to reject belief is, for many, al person difficult to trust," York with belief in our culture is th conviction to be an atheist th Believing in the existence of God breathe, therefore it requires far to reject such belief than to

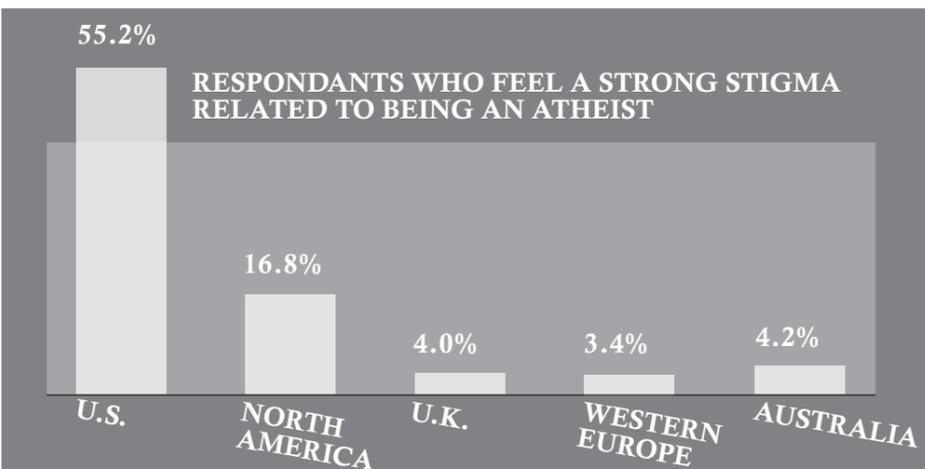
"I barely knew more than that C for getting presents and Easter ha Johnson, who only started atten church when his family mov Johnson said he discovered

the flag of the d to the republic ation under God, justice for all." se two words to cluded an entire s: those who xistence of a god. ns said they were n a 2008 American ey conducted by Conn., up from percent in 2001. S respondents self- percent as atheist while 12 percent nt with atheism or 08 ARIS report. Still, e atheist population .6 million in 2008. y by University of ogy Penny Edgell, Hartmann, "From a es Muslims, recent Americans name share their vision also more likely to marrying atheists." more than 2,000 a group that "does f American society" d disapprove if their ms, the next closest fications from 26.3 ndents, respectively. ng of atheists than e asked about, and earchers reported. ge H. W. Bush said hat atheists should or should they be nation under God." ange his position equent interviews. gnostics or folks of than Christianity for so many 'Christians' with belief in God," s studies professor. Agenda report, "If us, people believe families would do ildren and people each other. Indeed, he country would 'religious faith.'" usted minority in on, an atheist and has been changed. enings support the trust an atheist in a . Many church signs m and the religious d the public sphere." tudy, 54 percent ey would be olitical candidate elieving in God." ack president," said ndy Harris. "But I d 40-50 years from atheist president." first 300 years d for their specific yet in the U.S., one ve in God," York said. Hartmann report m coincides with igious differences nreligious beliefs. is and Hartmann, Midwest are also both public and he East or West." e assume that you y, and if you don't, surprising," said studies professor. about belief in God t Southern culture s and loyalties. was 7 or 8 he schooling at all. ld of continuing in becoming an "other," or becoming atheist. ers in the South st common sense, absurd, making that said. "The problem at it takes far more n to be a believer is simply the air we more attentiveness go along with it." Christmas was a time d Peeps candy," said ding a Presbyterian ed to Greensboro. d atheism on the

Internet in his early teens, sympathized with the beliefs and eventually told his parents about his doubts during the middle of church one day. He said he explored other religions, but none struck a chord. "I haven't looked back at my decision since," Johnson said. He said only his closest family and friends know he's an atheist. Many have drawn a parallel between atheism and homosexuality, in that both take an active effort to assert a belief against the norm. "The parallel with homosexuality is instructive," Edgell, Gerteis and Hartmann wrote. Harris recounted the experience of coming out as an atheist to his parents. "My Irish Catholic mother screamed at me for a while, (then) went into denial," he said. Harris said he had to convince his mother that her was indeed an atheist, and not just going through a phase, and then had to convince her he had not dropped his morals along with his belief in God. "For whatever reason, many Christians have come to associate morals with God, so by their logic those without God are without morals," Harris said. "After it finally set in that her precious son was an atheist, she asked me if I was still a good person, (if I was) happy, and (if I) 'still cared about people.' When I assured her that the only thing that had changed was my level of faith and not my code of morality, she let a relieved sigh and then said, 'Good, because I was worried that you worshipped Satan.'" Many misconceptions circulate about atheists and their beliefs. One example is the mistaken belief that the nonreligious are inherently immoral. "Some people view atheists as problematic because they associate them with illegality, such as drug use and prostitution," Edgell, Gerteis and Hartmann wrote. "Others saw atheists as rampant materialists and cultural elitists that threaten common values from above - the ostensibly wealthy who make a lifestyle out of consumption or the cultural elites who think they know better than everyone else. Both of these themes rest on a view of atheists as self-interested individualists who are not concerned with the common good." Johnson said, as an atheist, he finds it hard to form relationships. "In the South, very many people are highly religious and expect others to be religious," he said. Edgell, Gerteis and Hartmann found, "Church attendees, conservative Protestants, and those reporting high religious saliency are less likely to approve of intermarriage with an atheist and more likely to say that atheists do not share their vision of American society." In order to avoid offending others or risking personal rejection or judgement, Johnson said he "screens out" anyone who is highly religious before getting involved in close or romantic relationships. "Since the topic of my sabbatical research ('Coming Out as an Atheist') became public, people have come to me out of the woodwork saying, 'I'm glad you're working on that because I've always felt uncomfortable here,'" said Tom Arcaro, a professor of sociology at Elon whose forthcoming research will be submitted to the American Sociological Association for publication. "There is a stigma attached, and the stigma in the U.S. is different than the stigma in the U.K. and Europe," Arcaro said, citing data from over 8,200 survey responses. Only 4 percent of the people in the U.K who responded to Arcaro's survey said they felt "very stigmatized" as atheists versus the average 55.2 percent in the United States. The Bible Belt has the most stigmatization related to being an atheist followed by the Midwest, the West and the Northeast, said Arcaro, who noticed similar trends across his data. "All over the U.S. people feel that being atheist is very stigmatized," Arcaro said. "But people in the Bible Belt feel more strongly, by 13 percentage points, that there is a strong stigma attached to being atheist. There's been a lot of research into the 'God gene' and into the origins of religion. I do think that in the general population, both for cultural and biological reasons that we don't understand yet, that there are people who are wired to be nonreligious." Arcaro said to a certain extent being atheist is analogous to being left-handed or being gay: it's not something you choose, it just is. "I think there are some of us who are just hard-wired differently," Arcaro said. The least likely to reject atheists were the nonreligious who did not attend church, did not claim a religious identity and reported religion was not at all salient to them, according to Edgell, Gerteis and Hartmann. "A lot of my peers range from indifferent to agnostic to atheists," Harris said. He said he didn't feel personally persecuted or stigmatized as an atheist, "but every now and then I'll encounter somebody who grimaces when I tell them I'm an atheist." Arcaro said increased awareness and understanding of atheism in the United States will decrease stigmatization. "I'm going to predict that as the stigmatization decreases, more people are going to come out of the closet and admit to having no religion or to being atheist," Arcaro said.



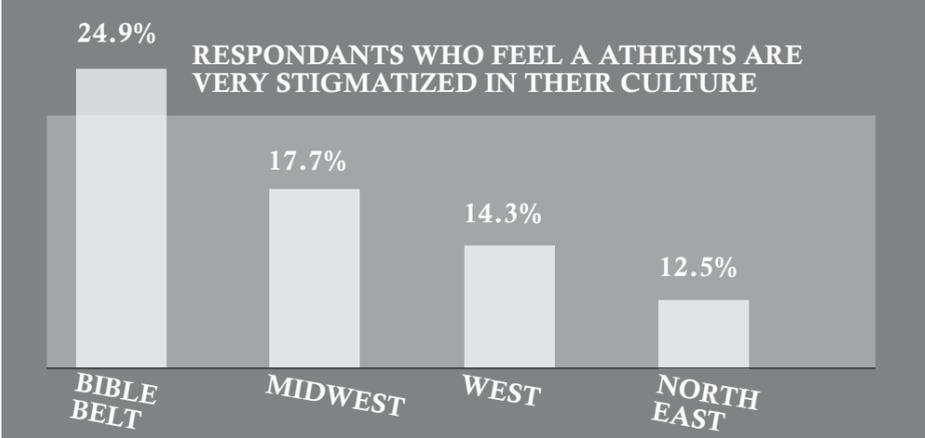
RESEARCH ONLY RELEASED TO THE PENDULUM



Professor of sociology Tom Arcaro is researching the process of "coming out" as an atheist and the stigma associated with atheism. He said his research is ongoing and plans to submit it to the American Sociological Association for publication later this year.

"There is a stigma attached, and the stigma in the U.S. is different than the stigma in the U.K. and Europe," Arcaro said, citing data from over 8,200 responses to an online survey posted to various atheist forums between mid-September and December 2008.

Arcaro shared his preliminary findings with The Pendulum. The following graphics highlight various questions Arcaro posed in the online survey and the percentage of participants who selected the given response.



The Bible Belt has the most stigmatization related to being an atheist followed by the Midwest, the West and the Northeast, said Arcaro, who noticed similar trends across his data.

"All over the U.S. people feel that being atheist is very stigmatized," Arcaro said. "But people in the Bible Belt feel more strongly, by 13 percentage points, that there is a strong stigma attached to being atheist."

Style



LAURA WAINMAN | Photographer
Landen Ryan, a miracle child whose brain tumor is now stable, performs rock songs for the dancers at Elonthon. Landen has been playing for about four years and said he loves rock because it's soothing to him. He played and sang "We Will Rock You" by Queen and "Boomin'" by TobyMac.



ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer
The Flight of the Phoenix, who are members of the Club Dance: Elon's Ballroom Dance Club, performed their own performances, they gave the crowd its own ballroom dancing lessons.

24 HOURS dedicated to dancing and changing lives

Ashley Barnas
Online Editor-in-Chief

Emily Hollis was a huge fan of butterflies. She drew them all the time while she was in the hospital. On the day of her funeral, the biggest, fattest caterpillar her aunt, Stephanie, had ever seen was crawling around and ended up curled underneath Emily's brother's chair. Stephanie pointed it out to Emily's parents and said it was Emily's sign that everything was all right.

When they returned to the grave site later that evening, the caterpillar was still there, underneath some flowers. Two days later, when Emily's parents went to visit her grave, there was a beautiful butterfly. When Emily's grandfather went to visit the next day, the same butterfly fluttered above his head.

Miraculous stories like Emily's were shared throughout the 24 hours of Elonthon to help the dancers understand the impact of their participation in the event.

The "Ultimate Miracle Machine" chugged out about 1,300 dancers and 12 miracle families at this year's dance marathon. A number of groups performed, games were played and families shared their stories at the marathon to raise money for Duke Children's Hospital and Health Center.



ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer
Elonthon began at 2 p.m. Saturday and lasted until 2 p.m. Sunday. In addition to 24-hour dancers, three shifts of dancers arrived throughout the marathon. About 1,300 dancers participated in this year's Elonthon.



ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer

On the surface of Elonthon is the executive team, but along with that, there are 120 committee members who help run the different aspects of the dance marathon.



PJ Ramsey, 3, was born with a laundry list of syndromes and conditions, but his parents, Elon alumni, consider every milestone of his recovery a miracle.

ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer

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GRAPHIC SUBMITTED
The Company Shops Market had its grand opening on Saturday and boasts locally grown, organic produce. A \$100 membership per family guarantees not only perks but voting rights for co-op decisions.

Cooperative organic market opens in central Burlington

Angie Lovelace
Reporter

Local, organic and sustainably produced food will be available in Burlington when Company Shops Market, a cooperative grocery store and café, opens for business. The market will be opening in downtown Burlington at 268 E. Front Street.

On April 4, more than 700 people attended the afternoon open house at the new location and approximately 160 new members signed up, bringing the membership total to 1,105 as of Monday.

But they need 1,500 members to begin renovation and 2,000 to officially open the doors.

Buying a membership to the co-op provides people with various benefits and perks but, most importantly, it buys ownership in the cooperative. Owners get to contribute to and vote for decisions. An individual membership costs \$100 and a family membership is \$150. Customers will not be required to buy a membership to shop at the co-op.

"I think everyone has in their mind that it's going to be a farmer's market, and that's not really what it is," project coordinator Jill Durba said. "It's going to be a full-service grocery store. Our goal is to keep things within a 250-mile radius, what we call 'locally grown,' to ensure freshness and to support that local idea."

In North Carolina, the market value of crops produced in 2007 was more than \$2.6 billion, according to the agricultural census. But most of the food produced in the region is exported and the food consumers are buying has been imported from abroad.

According to Andy Angyal, professor of environmental science at Elon and a member of Company Shops Market, "local food is fresher, is seasonal and it is grown more sustainably."

"Buying local, first of all, supports the local economy, it supports local farmers and it keeps them in business and prevents them from having to sell their farms to developers," Angyal said. "There is a more direct relationship between

the grower and the buyer. You can ask the grower directly how they're growing and what they're using on their crops and fields. And you can buy with more confidence and buy with less danger of food illness."

Durban said she thinks people who have been in this community for a long time will want to support local farmers, and that people can make a conscious choice. If they want to eat healthier, the Company Shops Market will give them that opportunity she said.

Angyal owns a small farm in Gibsonville, N.C., and he currently sells his produce to local restaurants and the Deep Roots Cooperative in Greensboro.

"I don't think people yet realize the value of local, sustainable food production," Angyal said. "Most people just buy from Harris Teeter or Food Lion, if they cook at home at all, and I think that many, many people simply eat out all the time."

For Company Shops Market to be successful, Angyal said, "I think there's enough suppliers, the question is whether there are enough buyers."

Meditation club blooms in tranquility

Nick Massa
Reporter

Midterms just ended, but finals and graduation are looming around the corner. Jobs, internships, undergraduate research, homework, tests, papers, friends, parents — does anyone have time to breathe anymore?

One organization has found the secret to staying cool during stressful times.

Iron Tree Blooming, Elon's Zen Meditation Society, is all about slowing down, something all students could benefit from.

"We're just a group of people who believe you need to stop and smell the roses occasionally," sophomore Kristen Feeney said.

People take up Zen for a variety of reasons. Some are interested in its New Age, Asian feel. Some come for the spirituality. Others come for the deep sense of relaxation that can't be found anywhere else.

"In eighth grade, I sustained a knee injury that would continue to bother me throughout high school," sophomore Jett Burr said. "I could no longer solely rely on exercise to make me feel good and relaxed. I learned about Buddhism in my ninth-grade class and was attracted to the

whole 'mind over matter' concept, so I looked up some meditation pointers on the Internet and began meditating on a regular basis."

He joined Iron Tree Blooming his freshman year and is now the organization's president.

"Generally speaking, our group does have a core set of attendees who enjoyed their first sit and keep coming back," Feeney said. "But the real fun is that every sit is a surprise. You never know who will show up."

The best part is that everyone is welcome — students, faculty and staff can all meet and unwind.

The group meets every Tuesday from 4:15 p.m. to around 4:50. The first 20 minutes of the meeting consists of silent, spiritual meditation.

Participants are encouraged to sit as still as possible and to try to overcome fidgety urges. After 20 minutes, a short discussion takes place where members talk about the meditation, plans for the group, or anything else they want to.

Sometimes the group hosts special events, such as trips to Namaste, an Indian restaurant in Burlington. In addition to group outings, Iron Tree Blooming also holds special campus-wide events. Last month the

“
But the real fun is that every sit is a surprise. You never know who will show up.

- Kristin Feeney
IRON TREE BLOOMING MEMBER

group hosted a speaker series in an effort to reach out to students and raise awareness about the practice of Zen.

Last month the speaker set included English professor Barbara Gordon, philosophy professor Anthony Weston and religion professor L.D. Russell, as well as students freshman Maggie Castor and Burr. All are experts in the field and were eager to share their knowledge about the often overlooked practice of Zen.

According to Feeney, the series was less about attracting members as it was about getting people to see that "the pathway to Zen is not some cookie-cutter trail. There's plenty of room for making it your own."

No experience is necessary, and new people constantly come to sits. There are no group requirements or expectations.

NPHC defined by purpose, not race

Black Greek organization chapters at Elon remain small but strong

Jasmine Gregory
Reporter

Nearly a century ago, in the days when black Americans were facing a great deal of discrimination, a number of Greek organizations formed, especially on predominately white campuses, aiming to unite those with similar goals and ideals to bring about a positive social change.

Today, the nine largest of these organizations form the National Pan-Hellenic Council, which was organized in 1930 at Howard University. Elon University currently has six active chapters of fraternities and sororities under the umbrella of the NPHC. These include fraternities Alpha Phi Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi and Phi Beta Sigma, in addition to sororities Zeta Phi Beta, Alpha Kappa Alpha and Delta Sigma Theta.

"NPHC organizations are more similar than they are different from one another and other fraternities and sororities," assistant director of Greek Life Zach Thomas said. "They are all committed to service, scholarship, brotherhood, sisterhood and leadership."

About 35 percent of Elon students participate in Greek organizations, but only a small percentage of these students are brothers and sisters under the NPHC. In comparison to the organizations under the Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Council, the NPHC is drastically smaller. Of the black students at Elon, about 40 of them participate in NPHC organizations.

"The African American pool is very slim here at Elon," NPHC Chairman Brandon Helton said. "With six organizations choosing from the same pool, it's very difficult for each chapter to really have that significant growth. IFC and PHC are very strong in numbers. They actually have quotas that they meet as far as the bids that they give out and membership intake each year. We don't have those set quotas, and it's basically based on interest and who decides to apply. That's the big difficulty as far as numbers in NPHC organizations."

The small size of these organizations creates a closer bond between members.

"Because of our numbers, I feel like we're closer knit," former NPHC chairman James Williams said. "Because our fraternities average around six members and our sororities average around eight to 10 members, we're a lot closer."

The small size allows members to hold multiple leadership positions within their prospective organization and the NPHC as a whole.

The NPHC council's size also gives it another unique edge. The fraternities and sororities have close relationships where they often collaborate with one another.

"Because our council is relatively small, our organizations have to work together and rely on each other to make NPHC as great as it is," Helton said. "There are rivalries and competition that exist amongst our organizations, but at the end of the day we understand that we have to remain a unified body."

One of the most noticeable aspects of these organizations is that they appear to only consist of black students and are not integrated.

"NPHC organizations were originally founded for African Americans who were not granted access to other fraternities and sororities," Thomas said. "Now NPHC organizations have a vast majority of races within their organizations. They are integrated and open to all people."

Like the majority of Greek organizations, many of the NPHC organizations have stereotypes.

"Collectively we are seen as intimidating, or the 'Greek Elite,' on campus," Thomas said. "Some organizations have their own stereotypes that they are labeled with. Alpha Kappa Alpha is known as the 'pretty girl' sorority. Kappa Alpha Psi is known as the 'pretty boy' fraternity. Omega Psi Phi is typically labeled as the more rowdy fraternity. Each organization has its stereotype."

Shooting Chicago: Exchange student meets Pulitzer Prize winner

Laura Wainman
Reporter

Exchange student Zi Liang Chong experienced many of the opportunities available to study abroad students during his time at Elon. He made new friends, tried new foods and traveled to new places. But Chong added an uncommon experience to his list when he spent a day with Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist John White.

Chong, who came to Elon last spring from Singapore, was assigned a presentation on a famous photojournalist for communications professor Randy Piland's photojournalism class. If the photojournalist was still alive, the student was asked to contact him or her. After e-mailing with White a few times for information for his project, Chong received a call from White toward the end of his semester and the two really hit it off. White even told Chong that he should stop by if he was ever in Chicago.

"I had plans to travel to Chicago, and when I was there I saw the Chicago Sun-Times building and thought to myself, what the heck, I'll just try my luck and call him," Chong said. "He picked up and very nicely agreed to meet with me."

After meeting at the Chicago Sun-Times office, seeing the newsroom and meeting other photographers, Chong and White spent three hours together touring around Chicago and taking photographs. They spent time in one of White's favorite spots, the Buckingham Fountain in Grant Park. White even bought Chong dinner at a Japanese restaurant.

Though Chong admitted to being a little nervous before meeting White, he said he forgot all about it once they



Exchange student Zi Liang Chong spent an afternoon shooting Chicago with Pulitzer Prize-winner John White. PHOTO SUBMITTED

met.

"I was a little apprehensive just before I met him," Chong said.

Initially, Chong felt the whole experience was surreal and couldn't believe he was actually meeting White. However, White's friendly demeanor pushed away Chong's anxiety.

"In a way, it really was like being with a friend because he never made me feel aware of his seniority or his status as a Pulitzer winner," Chong said. "I became less self-conscious that I was around a famous guy as time went by," he said.

In just the three hours they spent together, Chong was able to see what makes White unique as a photojournalist. He said White's passion for photography shined as they drove through the city taking photos, and Chong said he was amazed that even though White has been in Chicago for such a long time, he still sees the city through fresh eyes.

"I think he captures the interesting

moments of everyday life in his photos. Most of the photos I've seen of his aren't necessarily the spot-news photography type," Chong said. "He has the unique ability to make the seemingly mundane look special with his photography, and that's what I like best about his photos. He showed me that the same street that I take to school every day can be interesting if I look hard enough."

Chong said that the time spent with White will be a memory from his time in America that he will always cherish.

"I will always remember how an award-winning photographer was willing to pick up my call and meet me for the first time, just like that," Chong said. "His readiness to spend time with a complete stranger and rookie showed me what photography is all about: sharing."

As the two parted ways that day, White left Chong with his signature sign off: "Keep in Flight."



Alex Baker
Reporter

Rich past serves Elon's future Bromilow brings wealth of experience to construction

With what he describes as the attention span of a gnat, Neil Bromilow has voluntarily lived in more cities around the world than the average age of a college student. From Saigon and Londonderry to Virginia and California, Bromilow now calls Gibsonville, N.C. his home and couldn't be happier.

While not every student around Elon knows the name Neil Bromilow, none of them would be here without him. As the director of construction management, Bromilow is responsible for every building's conception and construction on campus.

But campus construction was not always Bromilow's passion.

For 20 years he served in the United States Navy in many different roles, including being a member of the construction battalion maintenance unit, a Navy adviser and eventually earning the title of Commander.

As a young boy growing up surrounded by his sandbox and Tonka trucks in Las Cruces, N.M., Bromilow realized he liked to solve problems. His father was the dean of engineering at New Mexico State University, which allowed Bromilow the opportunity to study civil engineering at the school as well.

In 1969, the year Bromilow was expected to graduate, he received a letter in the mail.

"I received a letter from Uncle Sam," Bromilow said. "They said they had an opportunity for me to do something for them in the army in Vietnam."

The thought of service was appealing to Bromilow, but he did not want the Army.

"I wasn't into marching," he said.

But the Navy seemed to be a perfect fit.

"I went to San Diego once as a kid and saw the ocean and thought, 'This

is cool.' (I) saw all the big ships and thought, 'Wow, this is really cool.'"

From then on Bromilow built model ships, but there was no water in Las Cruces for him to test his inventions. The Navy provided him with the perfect opportunity to combine his interests.

In the Navy, Bromilow remained true to his passion of engineering. As a member of the Civil Engineer Corps, he helped build the water lines and buildings for the Navy. Once he was recognized for his impressive work, he was on the move and hasn't seemed to rest since.

In his travels, Bromilow has built power systems for bases in California, made cinder blocks for Vietnamese homes, advised Vietnamese officers, commanded Navy radio systems from Northern Ireland and built structures for NATO in Iceland.

But by 1989, he had two children and a wife who were very overwhelmed by the extensive moving from country to country, and he decided to retire from the Navy as a Commander.

"My wife never got used to moving around," Bromilow said. "However, it made us more open to meet people. You couldn't afford to wait a long time to meet people because you never knew when you would be leaving."

At the time of Bromilow's retirement, he was stationed in Virginia, which provided the step to his next job at the University of Richmond as the assistant to the physical plant director.

Elon hired Bromilow in 1995 to be the director of Physical Plant. As a one-man show, he arrived on the scene when Elon was a mere 900,000 square feet. Since then, he has had a hand in every single building raised on Elon's campus, including McMichael Science Building, Belk Library, the Greek courts and the expansion of Daniele Center.

When it started, Bromilow was single-handedly in charge of communication between contractors, architects,

mechanics and electricians for the development of the new buildings being constructed. But almost 19 years after his arrival at Elon, there are three full-time staff members, one part-time staff member and 150 employees working on the construction management team and Physical Plant at Elon.

Also under Bromilow's thumb has been the prolific growth of the campus. Reaching 1.8 million square feet, Elon is almost double the size it was when he arrived.

Bromilow is still in charge of communication between all the players involved in construction around Elon, most currently Lindner Hall.

"I like to solve problems," Bromilow said. "There are about 300 people I am managing and responsible for per job. It is a big amount to maintain."

While Elon is currently in the middle of creating a master plan for the next 10 years, Bromilow said he is unsure if Elon will maintain the amount of growth it has seen in the past few years. "We know where we have been, and if you look back in time it was pretty flat. However, in the '90s Elon really grew," Bromilow said. "It would be hard to sustain that type of growth."

Though growth is not planned to remain at such high levels, Bromilow will be around to take care of the small progress that will continue to take place. With plans to add a convocation center and renovate Powell for the new Interactive Media masters program, he will have his hands full.

Always noticed for having a hat on his head, Bromilow can be found walking around campus or working busily in his office at Physical Plant.

But Elon is not his only commitment.

As the chairman of the Downtown Revitalization Committee of Gibsonville, Bromilow also works to organize farmer's markets and concerts in the area.

From pizza to biscuits

Southern cooking
rooted in Burlington

Sarah Costello
Reporter

The Deep South is wellknown for southern dishes like barbecue, baked beans, hush puppies and coleslaw, but when it comes to good breakfast, not much can compete with the food at Biscuitville, a popular chain that serves fresh breakfast foods every morning until late afternoon.

The origins of Biscuitville can be traced back to 1966 when flour broker Maurice Jennings opened two bread stores in Burlington. Because of the high demand for pizzas, Jennings decided to use his ovens to appease local pizza lovers.

"We started out with pizza restaurants, and when we got into the restaurant business, it was called 'Pizza-To-Go,'" said Burney Jennings, son of Maurice Jennings and president of Biscuitville, Inc.

"About 35 years ago, we started selling biscuits in the morning, and over the years it became very popular and we decided to try a biscuit restaurant only," Jennings said. "Of course we named it Biscuitville, and that opened up in Danville, Va. As we added restaurants, we didn't add on the Pizzaville side. To make a long story short, we ended up taking the pizza out of the other restaurants and changing the names from Pizzaville to Biscuitville."

Burney is continuing the legacy of Biscuitville that began with his father as president of the company. He has a longstanding relationship with Elon, having graduated in 1987 with a degree in business finance and a minor in accounting. He has served on the Board of Trustees since 2000.

Burney's father, who also attended Elon, knew of the college because his father was on the Board of Trustees. Jennings and his father, who is now a Trustee Emeritus, have continued the legacy.

Burney did not originally plan to attend Elon, but after a disappointing semester at UNC W, he decided to return to his hometown and take a year off from school.

"I worked for a year in Burlington. With my family's history of being involved with Elon — that's what drew me to that school."

Burney graduated four years later, but never planned to continue working with Biscuitville after college.

"I worked with the company just to gain experience but never had the intention to come and work with the company," Burney said.

He started helping his father with real estate deals and located sites for other Biscuitville restaurants.

"I really just worked my way up the company doing different jobs. It's something that evolved over a 15-year period," Burney said.

Kellie Hicks is the director of marketing at Biscuitville and has worked for the company for 16 years. She said Burney is very passionate about the chain.

"I think that's one thing that I, and a lot of folks, enjoy about family businesses — we see him every day, he's in meetings with us and we have a direct line to talk to him," she said. "There are a lot of presidents or CEOs of organizations that you might see once in a while. But they're not as connected — not Burney. He is a man of a definite set of values that he adheres to and does not compromise."

There is one piece of advice that has stuck with Burney for many years: "Don't put all your eggs in one basket."

"It can be business advice. It can be personal advice. But it just makes a lot of sense to make sure you diversify, that you don't break your business and rely just on one customer," Burney said. "For Biscuitville, it means we don't just rely on one restaurant."



Burney Jennings
President of
Biscuitville, Inc.

Old fashioned festival makes history fun

Jordan Frederick
Reporter

The North Carolina Renaissance Faire opened its wooden gates at its new location at Wake Forest this past weekend for its 15th year of historical reenactment and period-based fun.

An annual affair, the festival is supported by local sponsors such as Borders Books, the News and Observer and Tír Na Nóg Irish Pub and Restaurant. Organized by the Historical Enrichment Society of North Carolina, the 2009 Renaissance Faire marks another year of supporting the education of the state's youth.

For junior Mary Hansen, this was her first experience at a Renaissance festival. Although she didn't know what to expect from the colored tents and purveyors of strange goods, it didn't take long for her to feel at home.

"I really had no idea what to expect, but I needn't have worried about being bored or annoyed," Hansen said. "As soon as we walked out to the field where all the tents were set up and I realized just how complex the whole thing was, I was caught. It was loud and colorful and absolutely, irresistibly enchanting."

This year's Faire sponsored more than 100 different vendors who set up shop on the grounds of an old golfing green, from handmade crafts to mass-produced goodies for children.

One tent sported a fine array of hand-crafted silver shaped into images of dragons and fairies and necklaces sporting complex Celtic knots and Viking runes.

Another sold colorful fairy wings and latex elf ear tips for the passing "Lord of the Rings" fanatic, while its neighboring stall was packed with corsets and underbusts in every shade and pattern.

From tables piled high with glazed pottery for the avid period costumer, or the artfully-minded homemaker, to toymakers selling wooden unicorns and griffins, the paths traversing the fairgrounds were ripe for shoppers of all ages.

Shopping was far from the only order of the day. From opening to closing, demonstrations, games and crafts were going on in pavilions across the grounds.

A daily jousting tournament was preceded and followed by a number of smaller groups demonstrating weaponry and the art of medieval fighting. A handful of smaller stages housed belly-dancers, magicians, acrobats, jugglers and singers.

Groups like the local chapter of the Knightly



For its 15th annual event, the North Carolina Renaissance Festival opened at its new location outside Wake Forest. The three-day event offered various handcrafted gifts and many demonstrations, including jousting competitions and weaponry shows.

KELLY OSTAZESKI | Photographer

Order of the Fiat Lux — a non-profit organization that does combat reenactment to raise money for autism awareness — drew in large crowds during its three daily shows. Junior Amelia Helms said she was particularly impressed by these practicing artisans.

"This was a hobby that they could share with people, emulating how it would have been 'back in the day,'" Helms said. "There was a fellowship among the artisans as well as the wandering actors. At one booth I stopped at, the (vendors) saw a flower-seller walking by and knew her by name, knew what she had been up to since last year."

Saturday was named Tartan Day and found the fairgrounds swarming with men, women and children sporting kilts and plaid shawls.

In honor of the occasion, Mary, Queen of Scots, and her confessor, the Pope, could be seen wandering among the vendors accompanied by an entourage of elegantly dressed lords and ladies.

An actual piece of Mary's shroud, commissioned by her son James VI of Scotland (later James I of England) after her execution, was on display in the vendor hall.

"Educational, crazy, fun, distracting, dorky," Hansen said. "All of these are equally applicable to the experience. There was a real richness of character about that place, and it gave a tantalizing glimpse into a way of life that has long interested me."

For more information about future fairs and other



In honor of Tartan Day, actors portraying Mary Queen of Scots and the Pope graced the streets of the fair.

KELLY OSTAZESKI | Photographer

events associated with the Historical Enrichment Society of North Carolina, visit their Web site at www.historicalenrichmentsociety.org.

PLAY REVIEW

★★★★

Play continues legacy of anti-Nazi pastor

Dawn Joyce
Reporter

On April 2 in Whitley Auditorium, former Baptist minister Al Staggs performed the newest installment of the H. Shelton Smith Lecture Series. The lecture series honors H. Shelton Smith, an Elon graduate and distinguished member of the scholarly Christian community.

Staggs' performance told the story of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German Lutheran pastor, theologian and participant in the German Resistance movement against Nazism. Bonhoeffer's role in the resistance against Hitler was cut short when he was arrested in March 1943, imprisoned and eventually executed as a result of his involvement in plans to assassinate Adolf Hitler.

The stage was transformed into Bonhoeffer's prison cell with only a mattress, a desk and a broom. These simple alterations took Whitley Auditorium back to Nazi Germany. Staggs brought Bonhoeffer to life as he directly addressed the audience to tell his story.

It was obvious by his distinct German accent and strong presence that Bonhoeffer was a well-educated German man and a true Christian. The differences between the Christian and Jewish religions did not deter him from recognizing the significance of every human life.

He developed an understanding for the oppressed while studying in New York City as a young adult. There he first encountered racism as expressed against his fellow classmate, a black man. Soon after Bonhoeffer returned to Germany, Hitler's influence spread. Hitler used the Bible to support his platform and the Church of Germany supported this use.

This misinterpretation of the Bible was much of the reason for the turmoil of the time. The separation between church and state had become indistinguishable. Bonhoeffer, as presented in the play, even spoke of pastors who draped Swastika flags across the altar.

According to the play, the purpose of God had become compromised by the purposes of the state. The church was just as guilty of the deaths taking place as Hitler was.

Staggs' one-man show ended suddenly as Bonhoeffer was summoned from his cell by a prison guard. Before exiting, Bonhoeffer once again addressed the audience, questioning why



DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Performer Al Staggs brings to life the story of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a member of the German Resistance Movement in WWII.

Germany should have the power to decide the identity of God's people.

Staggs immediately returned to the stage as himself to answer questions from the audience. With a Southern drawl typical of many North Carolinians, Staggs explained how his idea for the show began while performing missionary work in Mexico. There he discovered Bonhoeffer's writing and found his message paralleled current issues in America.

As a former Vietnam veteran, Staggs identified with Bonhoeffer's feeling of responsibility to fight against the atrocities of his time. Bonhoeffer believed there are three categories of people responsible for the continuation of these events: victims, perpetrators and guilty bystanders.

Staggs holds a B.A. from Hardin-Simmons University, an M.R.E. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, a T.H.M. from Harvard Divinity School and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Prior to becoming a full-time performance artist, Staggs served as a congregational Baptist minister for 24 years.

Bonhoeffer spent his life fighting the power of Nazi Germany, and Staggs' performance at Elon continues Bonhoeffer's goal to teach the world that everyone is a child of God.

This Week on WSOE

WEDNESDAY

3-4 p.m.
Global Warming with
Professor Lisa Peloquin

4-5 p.m.
Rock Of The Ages with
Professor LD Russell

6-7 p.m.
News

7-8:15 p.m.
Venus Rising

8:30-10 p.m.
Radio Core

10 p.m.-Midnight
The O.C. Show

THURSDAY

1 p.m.-2 p.m.
Julia & Alana

2 p.m.-4 p.m.
The Sounds of Europe

4-5 p.m.
4th & 15

5-6 p.m.
The Pregame Show

6-7 p.m.
Fractured Air

7-9 p.m.
TV on the Radio: Not The
Band

9-10 p.m.
Metal Militia

10 p.m.-Midnight
Clarence Greenwood
Hour

FRIDAY

10 a.m.-noon
The LP Show with Prof.
Paul Weller

Noon-2 p.m.
Sarah's Car Radio Music

3-5 p.m.
The Blues Show

5-6 p.m.
Craig's American
Country

6-7 p.m.
The Elephant 6 Show

7-8 p.m.
Alexa & Luke

8-10 p.m.
Nearly Pleasant Noise:
Bumpin' Dance Edition
with Raj & Jay

SATURDAY

10 a.m.-noon
The Alex Ciessau Show

Noon-2 p.m.
Wohner on The Radio

2-4 p.m.
DJ B

4-6 p.m.
Snake and Aces Rock
Block

6-8 p.m.
Peanut Butter Jelly Time

8-10 p.m.
B McLaughlin

MUSIC REVIEW

★★★★

New York-based The Damnells release free to download new album

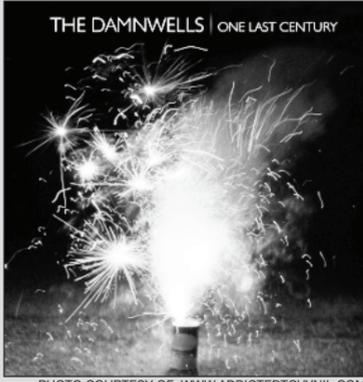


PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.ADDICTEDTOVINYL.COM

The Damnells' "One Last Century" has a more mature sound than their debut album, "Bastards of the Best."

Kyle Wiggins-Rowan
Reviewer

For a band hailing from Brooklyn, N.Y., The Damnells' new album "One Last Century" has a surprisingly low-key, Southern rock feel. The free-to-download album is much like their debut, "Bastards of the Beat," with strumming guitars, an easy groove and vocals that resemble those of the Goo Goo Dolls and John Mayer.

But singer-songwriter Alex Dezen has not benefitted very much from his residency at the University of Iowa's "Iowa Writers' Workshop." The lyrics are predictable in places and the chord changes are too repetitive. On the other hand, the harmonies are soothing and easy to sing along to, so the new album turns out a little fresher, a little less scatterbrained and a lot more mature than the first.

The Damnells formed in 2001 and has released three full-length

albums so far: "Bastards of the Beat" with Epic records, "Air Stereo" with Zoe/Rounder Records and "One Last Century," the most recent one. The group took a bold move and self-released its latest work, citing the desire to share its music with the world for free. Typically, if a band self-releases an album it means it wasn't good enough for a record company to carry. This definitely is not the case with "One Last Century."

Some of the best songs are "Dandelion" and "Down with the Ship." These numbers prove the most intricate, the most original and the least predictable. The remaining songs create a fine backdrop with themes about love and losing to showcase the band's talent.

As to exactly why the album is free to download, lead singer Alex Dezen took to his blog on the Damnells' Web site to explain the group's decision.

"I have never worked so hard or put so much of myself into a collection of recorded songs," Dezen said. "It is for just this reason that I want to give it away."

With the help of drummer Andrew Ratcliffe, bassist Adrian Dickey, producer/guitarist Freddy Wall and producer Wes Kidd, the album came to life.

In the past, the Damnells have shared the stage with many well-known bands such as the Dixie Chicks, The Fray and Los Lonely Boys. Though their sound is much less country than the Dixie Chicks, they fit in well with this caliber of band. Though their lyrics are elementary, their sound is one worth playing as you sit somewhere outside in a lawn chair, drink a cola and unwind.

Poetry Slam blends spoken word with performance

Rebecca Wetherbee
Copy Editor

On April 3, the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority and the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity hosted a poetry slam in the Zone. Both current and prospective students were invited to share poetry, music and song.

Last weekend was Multicultural Experience Weekend at Elon, a two-day event that allows prospective students from diverse backgrounds to visit the school and participate in a variety of events, including welcome sessions, tours and speakers.

But the poetry slam, which occurs annually during multicultural weekend, perhaps serves as the best window into the lives and personalities of current Elon students.

"The program is an outlet for students to express themselves and showcase their talents," said Kelia Evans, a sophomore communications major who organized the event this year. "And it lets the prospective students know the Elon community."

Poetry slams have been popular since their emergence in the '90s and emphasize a performance aspect of poetry reading that is both energetic and artful. Most slam poetry is not meant to be read silently from a page but must be experienced aloud.

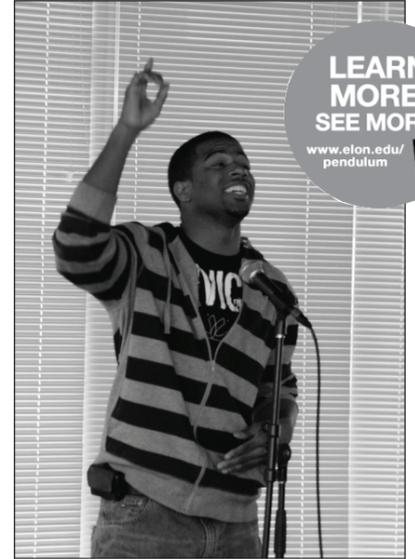
Like any performance art, it's not for the faint-hearted. Megan Murae, a freshman who has been writing poetry for a few years, performed at the event.

"This is my first time saying it out loud in front of a crowd — it was nerve-wracking," Murae said.

Elijah Martinez is a senior performing arts major and no stranger to the stage. He shared his poem "Untitled 1984."

"This was my first attempt at spoken word," said Martinez, who has been writing prose since he was a preteen. "I felt it was good, but there's room for growth."

Because slam poetry is a modern literary movement riding on the



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www.elon.edu/pendulum

DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor
Sophomore Eugene Daniel performed the song "Cute" by Canton Jones in Friday's Poetry Slam.

coattails of the politically and culturally influenced beat generation, it most often addresses the issues that compel its young writers, such as racial and gender discrimination, class issues, politics, economics and pop culture.

In addition to the poetic recitations, students showcased their musical talents, singing both popular songs by artists like Jamie Foxx and traditional hymns. Nicole Lockhart, a freshman performing arts major, played the guitar and sang one of her original songs.

"(Writing) is kind of a new endeavor I started when I came to school," she said. "I taught myself to play the guitar, and I've always been kind of poetic, so I just started putting my words to music. I was nervous, but it went really well."

Neither Murae nor Lockhart attended last year's multicultural weekend, but Lockhart said she wishes she had "because it's such a cool opportunity."

Have your voice be heard...

SGA

Student Government Association
Service. Leadership. Excellence.

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

PERFORMANCE REVIEW



Student show supplies 'Grand Night' of fun, togetherness

Amanda Kennison
A&E Editor

Last weekend, music theatre students sponsored Grand Night; Marking the event's 17th year. In all four shows, the group performed for full houses, with hopeful audience members lining up sometimes an hour in advance.

Grand Night showcases a wide breadth of performance skills found in the performing arts department. But as all the numbers in the show are student auditioned and selected, Grand Night also exhibits the overall understanding students have of planning and executing a successful show. After witnessing this year's program, it becomes all the more evident why the university's department continues to gain national notoriety.

This Grand Night seemed to focused on all things big and powerful. Virtually every number brimmed with raw emotion and the fantastic, expressive stage presence that has come to be expected of Elon's music theatre students. Throughout the entirety of the roughly hour-long performance, audience members appeared engaged.

Part of this year's show's appeal lies within the variety it offered. While the department seeks to provide a well-rounded selection for every

variety show it offers, the numbers of this Grand Night proved especially impressive. With numbers ranging from Broadway favorites like "Hello Dolly" and "Hairspray" to popular ballads from "Il Divo," the students proved they do not confine themselves to a particular theme or genre.

Although each number was performed with obvious adeptness and great spirit, as with any show, a few performances stood out. For Grand Night XVII, these numbers were "Aggie's Song," "That Smile" and "Webber Love Trio." Both "Aggie's Song" and "That Smile" were highly energetic numbers with some intense choreography. These two were simply just fun to watch.

"Webber Love Trio," provided a deeply poignant performance that offset many of the night's lighter pieces. The three female performers of this piece each possessed her own distinct sound and style, and all proved brilliant in their song of uncertain and painful love.

In addition to the quality musical performances Grand Night offers, the night also emphasized a sense of community. As the senior class's last major group performance, and the first major group performance for the freshman class, in many ways Grand Night symbolizes the beginning of new chapters. It is clear by the tears shed by many of the performers that a tight

bond exists between the students. As senior Anna Kimmel explained, Grand Night is as much about the students performing for one another and being together one last time on stage as it is a show to entertain audiences.

While each class of music theatre majors performed a number of their own, the last performance of the show brought students from all classes together on stage. This year's final piece proved even more special for the occasion, because it was composed by two student performers.

Senior Dan Gibbons created the music, while junior Christopher Staskel wrote the lyrics for "I Will Turn to You." This original piece managed to capture the overall spirit of togetherness and fun that ran throughout the show.

From the opening number that showcased the budding talents of the freshman class to the finale, which highlighted the general excellence of all involved with the program, Grand Night proved to be a night, or rather nights, to remember.



PHOTOS BY SEAN GLYNN | Photographer
Grand Night XVII showcased a variety of student talents. With numbers ranging from Broadway hits to popular ballads, performers proved their abilities weren't limited to a particular style.



MOVIE REVIEW



Bromance of the year: 'I Love You, Man' proves hilarious

Nolan Elingburg
Reviewer

Almost a year after "Forgetting Sarah Marshall" hit theaters, Jason Segel and Paul Rudd are on the big screen together again in their newest movie "I Love You, Man."

Now that everyone knows about the kind of humor Rudd and Segel are capable of, "I Love You, Man," which features the same type of entertainment, will no doubt have just as much, if not more, success than their previous collaboration. "I Love You, Man" has the potential to be the year's funniest film.

The movie begins with Peter Klaven (Rudd), an uptight real estate agent in Los Angeles, proposing to his girlfriend Zooley, played by Rashida Jones (The Office). Zooley immediately lets her best girlfriends know she said "yes," but Peter does not have anyone to tell other than his family. Peter then overhears the girls talking about how weird it is he doesn't have any gay friends.

After getting advice from his gay brother (Andy Samberg) on how to meet a guy with whom he can have a platonic relationship, Peter goes on a series of "man-dates" to find a best friend. Several failed attempts later, including one where the man thought it was a real date with another gay man, Peter runs into Sydney Fife (Segel).

This unplanned meeting takes place at Peter's open house for Lou Ferrigno's (The Incredible Hulk) estate. Sydney and Peter hit it off when they start making fun of some of the people interested in buying the house. Sydney's free spirit is evident when he confesses to attending open houses for the free food and the high chances of meeting divorcees.

The two exchange business cards and their friendship begins when Peter nervously calls Sydney to grab some drinks. More humor hits as Peter awkwardly attempts to crack jokes in response to Sydney's witty speech.

The "bromance" takes flight as Peter goes to Sydney's house for the



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.HOLLYWIRE.COM
Jason Segel, left, and Paul Rudd star as newfound best friends in "I Love You, Man."

first time to hang out, where he is forced to open up to Sydney's casual questions about his private life. While hanging out in Sydney's "man-cave," the two share their love for the band "Rush" and start playing their music: Sydney on the axe and Peter "slappin' da bass."

Everything seems to be going great for Peter as the wedding approaches, because he has finally found a best friend in Sydney. But when Sydney meets Zooley for the first time at her and Peter's engagement party, he gets nervous and makes an inappropriate yet hilarious toast directed towards Zooley.

Things take a turn for the worse when Zooley informs Peter she does not like the effect Sydney has had on him. Peter then has to choose whether he wants to get married or continue hanging out with Sydney.

The combination of Rudd's awkward and uptight acting and Segel's straightforward edge results in the two finding themselves in absurd scenarios. The chemistry between the two is apparent throughout the movie as they feed off of each other by doing impersonations and coming up with funny nicknames.

In its first weekend, "I Love You, Man" raked in \$18 million and came in second at the box office. This movie has the cast and humor to ensure it will be placed on the same level as comedies like "Forgetting Sarah Marshall" and "The 40-Year-Old Virgin."

Crossword

- ACROSS
- Burglary
 - Surgery memento
 - Drama opener
 - Card game rules expert
 - Crooner Perry
 - Smutty material
 - Spelling, e.g.
 - ___ Preminger
 - Land map
 - Cherish
 - Vehement speech
 - Countertop material
 - Changer
 - Man of the cloth
 - Long-eared critters
 - Employ
 - Everybody's button
 - Twilled fabric
 - Dishonest one
 - Peddles
 - Word with evil or wrong
 - Appeared shocked
 - Fit for Elizabeth II
 - Part of many Dutch names
 - Blow one's own horn
 - Serpents
 - Disgust
 - Terrier of film
 - Gladdens
 - Cookie slips
 - Comedian Sahl
 - Part of Q.E.D.
 - Piano piece
 - Building projection
 - Acapulco parlor
 - Controls
 - Deficiency
 - Barking animal
 - Mantilla wearers, often: abbr.
- DOWN
- Item pointed at
 - Frost
 - Brontë heroine
 - Ice cream treats
 - Stress
 - Tie, e.g.
 - Sheep shelter
 - Small quantity?
 - Enthusiastic fan
 - Notified
 - Beverages
 - Switch
 - Prefix for act or change
 - Parts of arms
 - Burl
 - Pregame event
 - Tooth tissue
 - Home for over half of mankind
 - Authentic
 - Slave
 - Part of a poem
 - Wander
 - Equipment
 - Harbor fliers
 - Contradicted
 - Taste
 - Distribute
 - Groups of puppies
 - Set a value on

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4/11/09

Solutions

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N	R	O	P	O	M	O	H							
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- Disgruntled one
- Provide with a new staff
- Unite secretly
- Analyze a sentence
- Adder's result
- "...with boughs of holly, ___"
- Night in Paris
- ___ Ferber
- Scheduled meeting: abbr.
- Charlotte ___

PHOENIX FRISBEE SOARS



LINDSAY FENDT | Staff Photographer

Sophomore Kara Moore, left, throws underhand to a teammate further down the field. Although the team lost on Saturday it has done well enough to move on to the regional tournament.

Women's ultimate Frisbee advances to regional tournament

Pam Richter
Sports Editor

The Elon women's ultimate Frisbee team thrilled fans with three straight victories Sunday. With the wins, the team advances to the regional tournament, held April 25 and 26.

The women did not perform well on Saturday, which set up several must-win games for Sunday, co-captain Katy Branson said.

"We went into the tournament seeded fourth," Branson said. "Saturday we had a disappointing day. We lost to a team we (had) already beaten a couple of times this season."

Elon won three straight games Sunday to clinch sixth place. In the first game, it defeated the University of North Carolina B team. Next, it defeated Duke University 13-7.

These two victories set up a must-win matchup for the Phoenix against the East Carolina Pirates in the third game on Sunday. In this matchup, the Phoenix found itself down 7-5 going into the half.

"We were nervous at halftime," Branson said. "We knew that if we lost this game, our entire season would be over."

At the beginning of the season, Branson said the team set goals for the entire season. One of those goals was to make regionals. Last year, the team missed the regional tournament after making it the previous few years.

Shortly after halftime, the Phoenix found itself down 12-7. Elon fended off five game points to tie the game at 12-12. The team played to 13 and the game came down to a universe point, which is the last point in ultimate Frisbee.

Elon was in a familiar position with the team having played five other games in that situation this season.

An Elon player had a hand block and the team was in control of the disc, Branson said. They called a play on the goal line and Elon scored the game point.

The 50-plus fans in attendance cheered and the team rushed the field.

"I've never experienced anything like that



LINDSAY FENDT | Staff Photographer

Senior Meli Kobelinski, right, passes to a teammate around a defender.

before," Branson said. "It was one of those surreal sports moments that you only see in movies."

The co-captain said it was a special moment for the nine seniors on the team.

Elon played the sectional games on its home field at Elon.

"It was an absolute advantage," Branson said. "It made a huge difference. In one sense it could have gone the wrong way and put too much pressure on us. But we used the energy of sidelines and friends and fired us up."

The team will compete in the regional tournament in Charlotte on April 25 and 26. The region consists of teams throughout the southeast, including North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

ATHLETIC RESULTS April 1-April 6

BASEBALL

April 1
Elon 2
Duke 3

April 3
Elon 2
UNC Greensboro 1

April 4
Elon 12
UNC Greensboro 2

April 5
Elon 15
UNC Greensboro 9

SOFTBALL

April 4
Elon 4
Furman 2

April 4
Elon 7
Furman 3

April 5
Elon 5
Furman 6

MEN'S TENNIS

April 1
Elon 7
Davidson 0

April 4
Elon 2
Furman 5

WOMEN'S TENNIS

April 4
Elon 0
Furman 7

Elon Sports This Week

THURSDAY 4/9
Softball @ Charlotte-
4, 6 p.m.
Men's Tennis @ East Carolina-
3 p.m.

FRIDAY 4/10
Baseball vs. College of
Charleston- 7 p.m.
Softball vs. Georgia Southern-
4, 6 p.m.
Women's Tennis @ Davidson-
2 p.m.

SATURDAY 4/11
Baseball vs. College of
Charleston- 7 p.m.
Softball vs. Georgia Southern-
1 p.m.
Track and Field (UNC
Invitational)- All day

SUNDAY 4/12
Baseball vs. College of
Charleston- 1:30 p.m.

TUESDAY 4/14
Baseball @ UNC Wilmington-
7 p.m.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Wes Miller named assistant coach at High Point University

Former Elon men's basketball assistant coach, Wes Miller, was named an assistant coach at High Point University under head coach Scott Cherry.

Miller completed his first season as an Elon assistant coach during the 2008-09 season. Last season, the Phoenix went 11-20 under former head coach Ernie Nestor.

Previously, Miller was a player at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He played there for three seasons from 2004-2007. In 2004, his team won the NCAA championship.

Miller is a native of Charlotte, N.C. During his time at UNC, he was part of two ACC regular season titles and one tournament title.

In his senior season, Miller was captain of the UNC team. After graduation, he played basketball overseas for the London Capitals of the British Basketball League, where he averaged 19.6 points per game.

Cherry was named High Point's new head coach last month.

Men's soccer continues with spring games

The men's soccer team has eight games left in the spring schedule. The Phoenix played a few games prior to spring break and will finish out the schedule by playing Louisburg, Charlotte, North Carolina, Belmont Abbey, Liberty, Virginia Tech and Lees-McRae.

The next games will be held today, when Elon takes on both Louisburg and Charlotte at Rudd Field. The first will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Dance team tryouts to be held at the end of April

Elon's dance team, the Flames of the Phoenix, will host tryouts for the 2009 season April 24 and 25. Tryouts will be open for both current students and incoming freshmen and will determine the dance team that will perform at next season's football games and men's and women's basketball games.

Tryouts will begin Friday, with a workshop for the dancers to learn two routines. On Saturday, the candidates will perform the learned routines in groups of three. About three to four weeks after tryouts, the dance team will decide the roster for the coming year.



ONE ON ONE

College basketball: Coach of the Year, most disappointing team and most surprising team

Joey Accordino and Chris Bunn
Sports Commentators

JOEY

Chris, a great season of college basketball just finished up, and it's time for One on One to hand out some postseason awards. There's no debate Blake Griffin is the national player of the year, but some of the other awards are a bit less obvious. Chris, who is your national coach of the year?

CHRIS

I think it has to be Bill Self, coach of the University of Kansas. He did a comparable job to what Roy Williams did in 2006, taking the defending champions, stripped of its best players, back to national prominence. Self took a team of freshmen, along with Cole Aldrich and Sherron Collins, to the Big 12 championship.

JOEY

Self is certainly a good pick, but in a conference like the Big 12 that really only had three good teams, I don't think he's the best choice. I'll take Jay Wright, who led Villanova to the Final Four. Picked fifth in the rugged Big East preseason, Villanova clawed

its way through the NCAA tournament without a definite potential NBA player to reach its first Final Four since 1985.

CHRIS

Who was the most surprising team this year?

JOEY

Oklahoma, which wasn't ranked in the top-10 in the preseason but spent a lot of time at No. 1 during the year, has a good case. But I'll go with Louisiana State University, which wasn't even a preseason top-30 team, but won the Southeastern Conference and gave Carolina a great test in the second round of the tournament.

CHRIS

I'm taking Missouri. Mike Anderson's "Forty Minutes of Hell" absolutely terrorized teams this year leading the Tigers to the Big 12 tournament title. A team that was widely overlooked coming into the year, Missouri exceeded expectations tremendously by being a top-15 team most of the year and pushing

Connecticut to the brink in the Elite Eight.

JOEY

Now, how about the flip side of the coin. Which team has been the biggest disappointment this season?

CHRIS

I think you have to say Notre Dame. They brought a lot of pieces back, had veteran leadership, strong shooters, great rebounders and an All-American. All those parts got them was a semifinal loss in the National Invitation Tournament. Mike Brey could be on the hot seat because of it.

JOEY

The University of California at Los Angeles was one of the few teams that may have matched Notre Dame's level of underachievement. They began the season at No. 4, ahead of teams like Michigan State and Pittsburgh, and barely escaped the first round of the NCAA tournament. They were a colossal disappointment.

Mills reflects on career, looks to go pro

Jack Dodson
Reporter

There are certain people who play golf their whole lives, attracted by that sharp determination to beat their last score, always off to the course, giving way to the constant mental battle that is arguably the most frustrating or satisfying sport.

Since senior Danielle Mills was 5 years old, she's been that person. Honing her wedges and irons on the fairways and perfecting her drives, she asserted herself early on as a player with the determination to take her game far.

"My dad taught me how to play the game when I was 5 and I loved it so much because it was a sport that we could play as a family, including my mom and sister," Mills said.

Her parents would take her out to the course for the first round of the year on her birthday in April, and until they had a membership, they would play every weekend at a different course.

She became a member at a course when she was 13 and started competing when she was 14.

She has also played in Golf Quebec and Royal Canadian Golf Association junior tournaments.

"I was a late bloomer, I didn't really have that much success in my junior years," Mills said.

She played in amateur

tournaments as well, but when she was in high school, she only played in one tournament without any real competition.

Mills heard about Elon through a friend and was put into contact with women's golf coach Christopher Dockrill. He recruited her to be part of the Elon Phoenix.

Her collegiate experience rendered itself different from other tournaments she'd played in, offering the stiff competition in the Southern Conference.

Practicing about three hours a day and playing regularly at Alamance Country Club, Stoney Creek and Mill Creek, Mills started perfecting her game when she came to Elon.

Since her freshman year, Mills has not missed a tournament as a Phoenix.

Her sophomore year, she won the Elon Tournament (Seatrails Inercollegiate) and was named SoCon player of the month for October.

"As for junior year, my best finish was 2nd place at the Conference Championship, where I again was named to the All-Southern Conference team. That second place finish was a disappointment, as my goal was a victory, but I learned a lot from that defeat," Mills said.

This year has also been a successful one for her, with her recent individual win at the Lady Seahawk Tournament at University of North Carolina Wilmington. Elon came in second at the

tournament and Mills was named the SoCon player of the week in late March.

"I've always been happier on the course than in the classroom," she said. "When I'm there, it's business, basically."

Now the tone is shifting for her.

With only a number of weeks left in her senior year, she looks back with admiration on the lessons her coach taught her, the experiences with her team and the improvements in her game.

"You always have stories about teammates," Mills said. "All I can say is I love my team and I wouldn't trade them for anything in the world."

During her time at Elon, she also developed a strong relationship with her coach.

"I definitely have to thank coach Dockrill because he has taught me so much about becoming a golfer and about managing my game," she said. "He's been extremely supportive throughout my four years and I owe much of my success to his efforts."

Looking ahead, Mills said she plans to go after the Duramed FUTURES Tour, the developmental tour for prospective LPGA players.

With her tiger head cover to match that of Tiger Woods, Mills is seeing her hard work pay off as she gets ready to move on from Elon and into modern professional golf.



Senior Danielle Mills has been playing golf since she was 5 years old. She has since grown into a successful player, even earning the honor of SoCon Player of the Week on March 18.

DANIELLE MILLS

SOCON PLAYER OF THE WEEK
March 18-24

FAVORITE PGA/LPGA PLAYERS
Tiger Woods and Annika Sorenstam

HOMETOWN
Montreal, Quebec, Canada

MAJOR
International Business

RECENT WIN
UNC Wilmington Tournament, 1st
Place, 71-68-76

Provence and Evellien

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Provence at 807 East Haggard (5 blocks from campus)

Applications at www.Evellien.com

Call for a tour 336-266-6666

Trainers tirelessly treat athletes

Taylor Shain
Reporter

At Elon University, there are many people who help behind the scenes with the athletic department. These include academic advisers, field maintenance workers and athletic trainers. All of these people aid the Elon athletes.

There are many dimensions to student-athletes, and they must rely on a support system to perform at a high level.

College athletes play with intensity and their risk at injury is high, making athletic trainers instrumental in helping to prevent and treat athletes' injuries.

Athletic trainers spend their days conditioning athletes, working on injury prevention, treating injuries and helping athletes recover from injuries and to get back on the playing field as fast as possible.

Since they have a lot of responsibility, athletic trainers often find themselves working long hours each day.

"(During football season) I can expect to put in 12-15 hours, six days a week," said A.J. Lukjanczuk, an athletic trainer at Elon who works exclusively with the football team. "Its hard trying to balance personal life with athletic training."

In season, Lukjanczuk's day begins very early at 6 a.m. He spends the rest of the time until 3 p.m. treating player injuries. An hour before football practice begins, at 3:30 p.m., Lukjanczuk tapes the football players.

The Elon football team practices yearlong, but the off-season time commitments are not as demanding. When the off-season begins, Lukjanczuk must rehab any athlete after surgeries. Since the team has workouts all summer, working with the football team logs many hours, since there are about 90 players on the football team.



Elon athletic trainer, A.J. Lukjanczuk works long hours with the football team. The team began spring workouts last week and Lukjanczuk hit the field with the team treating the players' injuries.

The other teams at Elon require a significant time commitment as well.

Martin Baker, who has been working with Elon for 29 years, primarily works with the women's basketball team and the golf teams.

"It is a little bit like a student in the period before midterms," Baker said. "You're swamped. That's like being an athletic trainer in season."

During the season, Baker spends seven days a week working with the women's basketball team.

Baker said offseason work does not require as much time.

Helping athletes recover from injuries safely and quickly is a primary

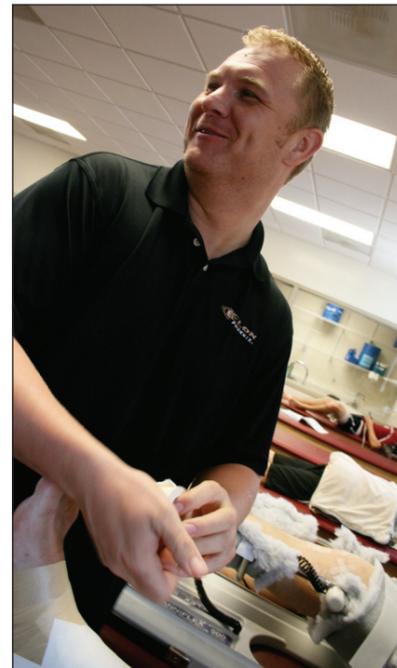
goal of athletic trainers. They must diagnose injuries, help the athlete heal and send athletes through rehabilitation processes.

"When I help a student athlete get better quicker, I get very excited knowing I contributed to the team," Baker said. "Helping an athlete return to the playing field is a major contribution to the team."

Lukjanczuk said the effects of rehab are different on each athlete.

Athletic trainers also need to have a strong education background.

Eric Storsved, Elon's director of athletic trainers, said he will not even look at applications for an athletic



Lukjanczuk works an average of 12-15 hours per day helping players prevent and mend injuries.

trainer if the applicant does not have a master's degree.

With the enormous time commitment, the athletic trainers at Elon must be intensely passionate about their jobs.

"Watching an athlete recover and return to the playing field is the best feeling...the comraderie with the players is great," Lukjanczuk said.

But Storsved said his favorite part of his job is on game day.

"I've become addicted to game day. the excitement of the players and the fans," Storsved said. "You get to know them so well, you really want them to succeed."

Check it Out At

Lighthouse

Wednesday, April 8th:
Student DJ

Thursday, April 9th:
Mug Night & Karaoke!

Check us out at <http://org.elon.edu/lighthouse/>

Join the Sisters of Alpha
Xi Delta
in celebrating
Xi Week



Tuesday: "Sweet Tooth Tuesday" in Moseley Center during the day! That night, from 5-9 p.m., join us at Red Bowl with 10% of the proceeds going towards our new philanthropy, Autism Speaks.

Thursday: Xiti Dinner at the Parrish House from 6-9 p.m., with a Xiti Eating Contest at 8 p.m. Proceeds will benefit Grove Park Elementary's new basketball court.

Friday: The AmaXing Race, 3-6 p.m.

Saturday: \$10 car wash from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Parrish House parking lot.



Sophomore Emily Fournier competed at the Duke Invitational this weekend in the 1500-meter run, and the 3000-meter steeplechase. Fournier ran a time of 4:51.06 in the 1500 and broke the school record in the steeplechase with a time of 11:04.42, good enough to place her at the top of the Southern Conference so far this season.

JUSTINE SCHULERUD | Photographer

Phoenix races to records

Jordan Scahill
Reporter

The Elon women's track team had an excellent showing this weekend at the Liberty Collegiate Invitational in Lynchburg, Va. and Duke Invite in Durham, N.C. as the women raced their way into the record books with five new records set by the Phoenix.

Unlike the two previous outdoor meets this year, the Phoenix was split into two teams Saturday to maximize experience for the athletes. Both invitationals provided excellent competition for the women.

"Both of the competitions

were very strong," Elon head coach Mark Elliston said. "All of the girls competed at a high level."

The Phoenix broke a total of five school records — three set at Duke and two more set at Liberty.

At the Duke Invitational, freshman Amy Salek broke the school record for the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.71 seconds.

The 4x400-meter relay team, consisting of sophomore Melissa Turowski, junior Andrea March, junior Jennine Strange and Salek, finished fourth place in the meet with a time of 3:53.72, breaking the second of three Elon records at Duke.

Sophomore Emily Fournier set the third Phoenix record at Duke in the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a time of 11:04.42.

At the Liberty Invitational, on the other hand, freshman Dana Cataldo broke Salek's 200-meter dash record only three hours later by .35 seconds.

For the second record broken at Liberty, sophomore Jacqueline Beliveau earned a two-day heptathlon score of 4,271, placing her second in the meet overall.

The team recorded other high-caliber performances, as well.

Sophomore high-jumper Courtney Weathers tied the current school record with a best jump of 5'1.75" at Liberty on Saturday.

Freshman Alyssa Girvin and sophomore Justine Robertson came in first and second, respectively, in the

discus competition at Liberty. Girvin's throw landed two centimeters farther than the current school record.

"Both parts of our team performed exceptionally well with some highlight performances," Elliston said. "It was our first meet with decent weather and very nice sunshine, which is key for the girls to stay warm and perform well."

Elliston said separating the Phoenix into two separate teams this Saturday improved the morale of the team as it provided all the women with a chance to do well and have success.

With a large team, it is not always easy for all of the athletes to get experience on the track or field.

The strong showing by the Phoenix at both invitationals this Saturday will also help to prepare it more for the upcoming meets this season.

Looking at its record and showing at the invitational, it is clear the Phoenix has had success so far this season. The team will continue to work on its speed and technique in the upcoming practices in order to improve even more.

"Right now, we are mainly focusing on putting on the finishing touches," Elliston said. "We are right on target for the conference championship. As long as everyone stays healthy and strong, we should continue to perform at a high level."

The Phoenix will travel to Chapel Hill, N.C. for its next competition to participate in the UNC Invitational on Saturday.



Junior Monique Vines sprints down the homestretch at the Liberty Invitational this weekend. The women's 4x100-meter relay team placed third with a time of 48.82.

DAVID WELLS | Photo Editor

Elon swept by Furman, looks ahead to Davidson

Sam Calvert
Assistant Sports Editor

Furman toppled the Elon women's tennis team 7-0 on Saturday at the Jimmy Powell Tennis Center. The team will look to rebound quickly with an upcoming match against Davidson on Friday.

The Paladins, undefeated in the Southern Conference, captured the doubles point. At No. 1, Laura Gioia and partner Monica Arguello defeated juniors Anna Milian and Paige Kensrue 8-3. Lauren Tomory and Jennifer Betts bested Elon's freshmen Elisa Simonetti and Lauren Sessoms 8-2 at No. 2. At No. 3, Jessica Preeg and Susan Bitetti ousted freshman Daleen Kloppers and junior Hayley Wahl of the Phoenix 8-2.

The singles matches looked to go just as quickly, with the Phoenix dropping the first match in more than an hour.

Wahl lost to Betts 6-3, 6-0. Kensrue followed, with a loss to No. 91 Arguello 6-0, 6-3. Milian was the next to fall, to No. 15 Gioia 6-1, 6-3. Sessoms and senior Whitney Butcher both ended with the same result as the rest, defeated by Tomory 6-3, 6-0 and Bitetti 6-2, 6-2 respectively.

Simonetti seemed to be the one that was going to break the losing streak. With a first set win 7-6 (8), she found herself up 5-0 in the second set.

She was not able to hold on, and Preeg won the next seven games to take the match to a third set, which she also won 10-7.

But the team will stay positive through this defeat, trying to forget this loss, Simonetti said.

The team will focus on fine tuning its game to face the upcoming opponents, Elon head coach Elizabeth Anderson said.

"The little details are a lot of what affects games and matches," Anderson said.

The women play in two upcoming SoCon matches, beginning with Davidson on the road 2 p.m. Friday.

In these matches the Phoenix is working on its doubles play, Anderson said, trying to improve to capture a small, but important point.

"We are also focusing on working and improving each player's game," she said.

The team also must recover both physically and mentally from the match.

"I lost a lot of energy," Simonetti said

The women plan to learn from their mistakes

and try to improve in these last few matches before the conference tournament, both Simonetti and Anderson said.

"I want to prepare so that next time, when I'm in that situation, I can keep focused," Simonetti said.

After Davidson, Elon travels to Appalachian State, its last conference match, before ending the regular season at home against Presbyterian.

Anderson said the players will try and use these matches to prepare themselves to succeed in the SoCon tournament, beginning April 23.

"The matches that are coming up are good because they give us a chance to continue to work on improving things," Anderson said. "That way, we are



Senior Whitney Butcher was defeated by Furman's Susan Bietti in the fourth singles match 6-2, 6-2.

ANDREW DODD | Staff Photographer



Junior Anna Milian lost to Furman's No. 15 Laura Gioia in the second singles match 6-1, 6-3.

ANDREW DODD | Staff Photographer

Sports

Phoenix baseball sweeps UNC G



Senior outfielder Cory Harrilchak runs out with a younger Phoenix baseball player in Friday's game against UNC Greensboro. The Phoenix starters were joined by the little Phoenix rec baseball team during introductions of the win against the Spartans.

Conor O'Neill
Reporter

With clutch hitting and dominant pitching performances, the Phoenix baseball team swept Southern Conference rival UNC Greensboro last weekend and extended its home winning streak to six games.

The Phoenix improved its record to 17-10 overall and 10-4 in SoCon play.

The Phoenix took game one of the series by a score of 2-1, then the bats exploded for victories of 12-2 and 15-9. Senior center fielder Cory Harrilchak recorded six hits and six RBIs in the series. He has also reached base in 60 consecutive games dating back to last season.

Winning Friday's contest by one run also gave the team a sense of relief.

"We've lost so many close games, by one run or two runs, so it feels nice to remind us we can win those close ball games and get some momentum going back our way," sophomore shortstop Neal Pritchard said.

The Phoenix had lost its last four games that were decided by one or two runs.

"We haven't had many of those wins," head coach Mike Kennedy said. "It's good for the team because if we want to get where we're going and win a championship later down the road, then we've got to win some one-run games."

Sophomore pitcher Jimmy Reyes was Friday night's winner, going eight innings and only allowing one run while striking out 11. Junior pitcher Daniel Britt followed up that performance with six strong innings Saturday, allowing just two runs.

Some of the Phoenix faithful might have noticed a few changes to the batting order this weekend.

Kennedy made small adjustments, moving junior outfielder Justin Hilt into the leadoff spot and dropping Harrilchak to second.

Those changes certainly paid off on Saturday and Sunday.

"It's not a major shake-up, it's just trying to find the right key to get everybody going," Kennedy said.

Getting the bats going will be a key element to the upcoming series this weekend, as the College of Charleston Cougars visit Latham Park. Last season, the Phoenix defeated the Cougars in the conference championship game after losing two of three in Charleston during the regular season.

The Cougars are currently tied with the Phoenix for second place in the conference with a 10-4 record. Both teams trail Western Carolina, who sits at 8-3 in the conference.

The College of Charleston will travel to Elon after getting swept at Georgia Southern this past weekend. In the three-game series against the Eagles, the Cougars gave up a combined 51 runs.

This will not give the Phoenix any reason to look past its foes this weekend.

"They're going to be pretty hungry coming in. We're going to have to be playing good ball defensively and hitting the ball hard," Harrilchak said.

Pitching and defense will be important for the Phoenix as the Cougars currently lead the SoCon in team batting average, at .350. They also lead the conference in home runs hit, 68, and runs scored, 286.

Game one of the series against the College of Charleston will be at 7 p.m. Friday at Latham Park, when the Phoenix tries to extend its home winning streak to seven games.

Men's Tennis falters in key conference match up

Pam Richter
Sports Editor

Saturday afternoon's men's tennis match between Elon and Furman had the makings of a key battle between the two teams. The Jimmy Powell Tennis Center was packed with fans, and the sky was clear as the two previously undefeated teams in the Southern Conference took the court.

The Phoenix lost a hard-fought match with a score of 5-2. The loss ended the team's previously unbeaten streak of 12 matches. Overall, Elon is 15-5 and 6-1 in the SoCon.

Furman continued its undefeated record in the conference and is 16-7 overall, 7-0 in conference play.

"I knew it was going to be high intensity because they are always tough," head coach Michael Leonard said. "I didn't feel we played as well in doubles as we had been playing."

In the No. 1 doubles matchup, Furman's No. 66 duo of Andy Juc and Bo Ladyman defeated Elon's No. 32-ranked senior Damon Gooch and sophomore Philip Nemeč 8-4. On the No. 2 court, Elon was victorious 8-2 with sophomore Chase Helpingstine and freshman Carlin Murray winning against Furman's Chris Rhyne and Chris Motes. On the No. 3 court, Furman's Andrei Chvetsov and Jordan Walters defeated Elon sophomores Alberto Rojas and Cody Stauffer MacDowell with a score of 8-4.

Leonard said it was difficult to come back after Furman took the doubles point, as well as the first singles point.

Overall, Elon earned two points on the afternoon with singles victories from Helpingstine and Rojas. Helpingstine defeated Furman's Motes 6-4, 6-4, while Rojas bested Walters 6-3, 4-6, 6-2.

In the top singles match of the day, No. 166 Juc from Furman defeated No. 66 Gooch 6-7 (6), 6-3, 10-3.

Elon also fell at the No. 2 singles spot with Furman's No. 121 Ladyman defeating

sophomore Oscar Podlewski in a back and forth match (7-6, 4-6, 6-4).

"I was frustrated that I couldn't really close the match out in the second set," Podlewski said. "I won the first set so easily and then I thought my standard of play dropped a bit."

Leonard acknowledged his team is still young and learning, with a majority of the team being sophomores.

"The more times you get in this environment, the better off you'll be in the long run," Leonard said.

Both Podlewski and Leonard said they hope to put this loss behind them and embrace the positives as they close the season in the upcoming weeks.

"We just have to take it match by match and we've got some things to work on," Leonard said. "Hopefully we will learn from this."

Thursday, the team will travel to East Carolina for a non-conference matchup. This will be the team's last non-conference opponent of the season.

"We're confident for our matches next week," Podlewski said.

The team then has a break for Easter weekend that Leonard said they will use to get some guys healthy.

Next Wednesday, the team will return to the Jimmy Powell Tennis Center for a matchup against UNC Greensboro.

The Spartans sit third in the conference, behind both Furman and Elon.

With the loss against Furman on Saturday, the Phoenix finds itself in a difficult position to win the SoCon regular season championship.

The team does have a chance to do well in the SoCon tournament, which begins on April 23.

"We've had a good season so far and we can have a really good season in the Southern Conference tournament and we're still ranked No. 66," Podlewski said. "There's still a lot of good tennis to play. There are a lot of things to win."



Sophomore Chase Helpingstine won both his doubles and singles match during the Phoenix's heart-wrenching loss to Furman Saturday afternoon. Furman ended the 12-match winning streak and caused the Phoenix to move to 6-1 in conference play.