



INAUGURATION COVERAGE FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. IN SECTION B

THE PENDULUM

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“On this day,
we have
gathered
because we
have chosen
hope over
fear.”

President Barack Obama

President Barack Obama delivers
his inaugural address at the U.S.
Capitol in Washington, D.C. on
January 20, 2009

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ELON AND THE ECONOMY

Increase in accepted applicants curbs possible negative effect on private school education; nation's economic status hurting Elon

Margeaux Corby
News Editor

Letters of acceptance are currently traveling from Elon's admissions center to the mailboxes and inboxes of eager high school seniors. This year, the number of acceptances will increase as administrators prepare for decreased attendance by students whose parents will struggle to finance a private school education.

"Elon is well-positioned to face what is definitely coming," said Susan Klopman, vice president of admissions and financial planning. "At this stage in the game, we feel very fortunate our applicant pool is very strong and we are on course."

Elon will be accepting 60 additional applicants this year, leading to a total 4,050 offers of admissions compared to the usual 3,990.

As a result of these fiscally tenuous times, more attention is being paid to enrollment of the class of 2013.

"We are watching admissions extra carefully and will admit a few more students," President Leo Lambert said. "We have to have more offers out there to get the same class size."

Such financial hardships have many questioning what university programs or services will be sacrificed to meet the challenges of a tight budget and failing economy.

"Our budget is made up almost exclusively of tuition revenue," Lambert said. "Fewer students mean fewer classes being taught and therefore less

faculty needed."

Both Klopman and Lambert emphasized that cutting programs and staff will only occur in the most dire of situations.

"If you are talking about drastic change you're talking about cutting people, which is not something we are thinking about," Lambert said.

A freshmen class that has 50 students less than expected can lead to a revenue loss of about \$1 million, Lambert said.

Klopman and Lambert both said the university's cinching of the financial belt will not be burdened on student shoulders, but will occur imperceptibly within university operation costs.

"There will be a more internal allocation of resources," Lambert said. "It is easy to pass the difference onto students, but parents will feel a pinch. I'm going to tell students that we are going to have a tuition increase that is lower than last year."

Klopman ensured that Elon's academic standards for enrollment will not suffer because of these increased acceptances.

"Our academic profile has stabilized," Klopman said. "They might have a one-tenth point lower GPA or 10 point lower SAT score, but that is not a different student."

Klopman said Elon exceeded all previous records for students visiting campus this year, and that relatively the same amount of applications were received this year as in past years.

"We are perceived as an incredible



ANGIE LOVELACE | Photographer

More students may need extra assistance from Elon's Financial Planning office, but the university is taking measures to help students.

value in private education and we are very careful in choices we make," she said.

Klopman said in the case of a decreased income into the university, there will be less money available for operation funds which "run everything from salary and financial aid."

"We'd have to make adjustments to the things we enjoy but can work without," Klopman said.

Klopman talked about the possibility of making the academic catalog strictly

online, saving thousands of dollars on printing.

Lambert discussed changing the computer replacement schedule for faculty members so laptops set to be replaced every three years could be extended to every four.

"These times cause you to be as efficient as possible," Lambert said. "These are things that you think about to save money."

Elon avoids economic crisis, some potential students may not

Chris King
Reporter

As an economic crisis envelops most of America and the world, the same does not seem to be the case for many Elon students. For others, it could be a deciding factor in whether they are able to attend a private university or a public one.

According to Pat Murphy, the director of financial planning, Elon is currently not seeing that much of an effect from the bad economy.

"We are a tuition-driven school, so we can't really afford to be losing student body," Murphy said. "We've been watching what has been happening between now and spring semester, and the bursar's office reports that everything is going just like normal. We don't anticipate seeing any drop in student body or enrollment."

Dean of Admissions Greg Zaiser supports Murphy's statements, saying Elon has had more students applying early action and early decision than ever before. However, the number of total applicants might have dipped by "a tiny margin," but nothing remotely significant.

And what will happen for students in need of financial aid as the budget at home gets tighter and things like a \$32,000-a-year private institution starts to look more like a luxury they can't afford?

"In terms of financial aid, we always get students or parents coming to us with special cases," Murphy said. "We'll have parents who get laid off or lose their jobs and we have always been able to help in situations like that. We're seeing some of that right now, but nothing out of the normal from

“Elon does a great job making sure that we are prepared for the future. We are always looking at not just this year, but a couple of years ahead.”

- Greg Zaiser
DEAN OF ADMISSIONS

what we have seen in other years.”

Murphy also said there has not been a significant increase in the number of students who have had to apply for financial aid or drop out due to their budget concerns.

Murphy said Elon is on "a tight budget" and makes sure "we don't overspend so I can help the students that really need it."

But that doesn't mean Elon isn't preparing for the continuing demise of the economy.

"It does worry me some," Zaiser said. "But Elon does a great job making sure that we are prepared for the future. We are always looking at not just this year, but a couple of years ahead."

Murphy said Elon applicants that are concerned about their financial status should turn in their financial aid forms immediately.

"The other thing is, be realistic about your financial situation," Murphy said. "We will do what we can, but it is ultimately the students' and parents' responsibility."

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ELON AND THE ECONOMY

Elon students' extra credit: tempting but risky

Increased responsibility comes with using a credit card, college students should be cautious

Margeaux Corby
News Editor

The shiny plastic card can seem almost magical and oh-so-liberating. A consumer can purchase clothes from the campus shop and groceries from the Colonnades with a simple swipe and signature — no cash required. College students are not only introduced into a new world without parental supervision, but one where a simple card opens the doors of Mynt, Ulta and all-night tabs at West End without an apparent dent in the bank account.

According to a nationwide study by the U.S. Public Interest Research Group, about two-thirds of the 1,500 students surveyed nationwide reported having at least one credit card.

The same study showed that graduating seniors with credit card balances had an average debt of \$2,623.

The biggest recommendation Pat Murphy, director of financial planning, gives is for students to just not get a credit card.

"The best way to stay within your budget is to spend what you physically have," Murphy said.

According to a New York Times study and data compilation, average interest rates for student cards are the highest of any card type at 13.89 percent. The same study showed that, among college students with credit cards in their own name, 30 percent received cards in high school and 25 percent got credit cards their freshman year of college.

There has been a national trend by larger

“

We don't want to entice students to accumulate debt. It is too easy for students to feel it is not real money.

- Pat Murphy
DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL PLANNING

”

universities to make contracts with banks that involve payments to colleges or alumni associations in exchange for student contact information.

In turn, banks use that information to send adverts for credit cards. Elon participates in no such dealings.

"We don't want to entice students to accumulate debt," Murphy said. "It is too easy for students to feel it is not real money."

The Phoenix Card, although designed in collaboration with Wachovia, is instead intended to be similar to a check or ATM card, not a credit card.

Sophomore Zane Campen has a credit card, but stays out of debt by limiting his spending to only essential purchases, such as his plane ticket to London for his study abroad in the spring.

Bank of America has agreements with about 700 colleges and alumni associations and claims they try to educate college students about credit card responsibility. University officials that participate in such contracts with banks claim that the money from those deals is used to benefit students.

"It provides money for scholarships and other programs," Terry Livermore, manager of licensing programs at Michigan State, told the New York Times.

At Michigan State football games, Bank of America tents are set up and representatives offer free T-shirts, blankets and various other items to students and attendees who apply for credit cards.

"I don't spend more money than I have to pay it off," Campen said. "People think it's free money and they don't realize they have to pay it back."

How to manage credit cards:

Read all application material carefully. Don't get blinded by teaser rates and make sure interest rates are stated clearly.

Use a debit card instead of a credit card.

Save credit cards for emergencies only.

Carry only the cards that will be used and use a credit card only if the debt can be repaid.

Pay bills on time to avoid penalty charges and increasing interest.

Be aware of all charges when applying for a credit card:

Late payment fees can result in higher interest rates.

Annual fees or yearly membership fees can be as high as \$100.

Finance charges, which are interest charges on the unpaid portions of a bill, can be as high as 25 percent.

Cash advance fees are expensive and have higher interest rates.

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Addition of physician assistant graduate program to improve science curriculum

Laura Smith
News Editor

In an attempt to enhance science initiatives, a subcommittee was appointed to consider installing a physician assistant graduate program.

About a year and a half ago, a subcommittee of the long-range planning committee was appointed to look at possible new programs for Elon.

The committee, chaired by Dr. Gerry Francis and Connie Book, associate dean of the School of Communications, suggested a joint program between business and science, a pharmaceutical program and a physician assistant program.

In order to discuss the possibility of the program, Francis created a feasibility study committee that was chaired by Bill Andrews, the assistant professor for physical therapy education.

"We're looking at the approach we're going to take to develop this report," Andrews said. "We want to investigate this program as well as a pharmacist program."

The committee will look at physician

assistant programs at other schools, what it takes to get a degree, what sorts of facilities are needed, how much staff is needed, where student housing will be located and more.

So far, the committee has had two meetings to discuss the possibility of the program.

At the first meeting, Andrews brought in a consultant from George Washington University to discuss the program.

The committee is in the process of surveying the need for the school, Andrews said. This includes assessing the need for physician assistants in the area, as well as the need for the clinical sites required for students to study.

The committee is set to report its findings this spring.

According to Francis, the earliest anything may be announced is next fall, but even then, there may not be a decision.

"They may just say thank you for the study, but we may hold it for a couple more years," Francis said. "They still have a long way to go with making decisions and nailing something down."

The school is also looking at a pharmaceutical program, but Francis said there is a higher probability that the physician assistant program will come first.

"I'm interested in the topic but I'm not convinced one way or the other that Elon needs this," Andrews said. "I'm approaching it with an open mind."

Robert Vick, associate professor for biology, agrees.

"We have a lot of kids that go into physician assistant programs," he said. "But just because we have kids interested doesn't mean we have to go get it."

But Vick believes this program could benefit the university as well.

"I think we would see an increase in some of the science-oriented kids," he said. "Another graduate program for Elon could raise visibility of the school."

Francis said there will be a greater demand for physician assistants in the future.

"Everyone will need a [physician assistant in their lives]," he said.

Dangerous gunfire present on- and offscreen at 'Notorious' opening

Laura Smith
News Editor

Moviegoers hoping to see the new film "Notorious" on Friday night got more than they bargained for when gunfire erupted in the lobby of the Grand 18 at Four Seasons theater in Greensboro.

Gunfire broke out right before the opening night showings of the "Notorious" movie — the movie about the life and death of the rapper Notorious B.I.G.

According to an article published Saturday in the Greensboro News and Record, an estimated 700 people were evacuated and a 32-year-old man was shot twice in the abdomen as the result of an argument.

Greensboro police identified the victim as Clive O'Connor, who was rushed to Moses Cone Hospital where he had surgery. His medical condition is still unknown, and as of Friday night, no suspects were in custody.

"Our first objective is safety for our customer," said George Solomon, CEO of Southern Theatres, LLC, the parent company to the theater, in a news release Sunday. "Our prayers and thoughts go out to the victim and his family. We wish him a full and speedy recovery."

Jamal "Gravy" Woolard, who plays rapper Biggie in the film, was present at the Greensboro theater when the shooting occurred.

All showings of the movie were suspended Friday and Saturday night. According to the news release, the decision to suspend the showings of "Notorious" on Saturday was made "in order to assess the situation and ensure the safety of moviegoers."

"This is under police investigation," theater spokesperson Lisa Burwell said in the news release. "We are confident that the police are handling this matter appropriately. We will cooperate with and assist them in every way possible."

Burwell also said additional security would be present in the theater until further notice.

The theater will give refunds to customers who purchased movie tickets and were unable to attend a movie on Friday night.

The movie "Notorious" resumed showing on Sunday at 1:15 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MOVINGPICTURE.NET
Jamal "Gravy" Woolard, who plays rapper Biggie in the movie, was at the Grand 18 theater in Greensboro when the shooting

NEWS IN BRIEF

Wake Forest University hosts 2009 Conference on Media Ethics and Civic Responsibility

The 2009 Conference on Media Ethics and Civic Responsibility will be held at Wake Forest University on Wednesday, Jan. 28. The program will include an interactive panel on ethical questions facing reporters and editors and a keynote address by David K. Rehr, the president and CEO of the National Association of Broadcasters. The conference is free to area students and professors, but pre-registration must be completed today. Elon students are encouraged to sign up.

Elon students get the opportunity to explore their desired career field at Professional Discovery Week

Professional Discovery Week will take place Monday, Feb. 9 through Friday, Feb. 12. The week is designed to provide Elon students in all majors with opportunities to explore career options, learn job search skills and transition from college to a career. A schedule can be found on the Career Center Web site.

Teenage piano extraordinaire Vikram Potdar visits Elon to perform in Whitley Auditorium

Vikram Potdar, a teenager from Chapel Hill and piano extraordinaire will perform selections from Chopin, Liszt and Bach tonight in Whitley Auditorium. The concert is co-sponsored by the Office of Cultural and Special Programs and the Department of Music.

Elon students in Ghana make appearance in Ghanaian media

After speaking with Ghana Parliament Member George Nfodjo, Elon students studying in Ghana for Winter Term have made coverage in the Ghanaian media. They spread the word about the hospitality of Ghanaians, Ghana's democracy and their effort for development. The course is led by faculty member Brian Digre.

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Driven to change: Alamance invests in new public transportation system



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Laura Wainman
Senior Reporter

The lives of Elon students and members of the Alamance community may soon be made a little easier with the creation of a public transportation system in the Burlington-Graham area.

The project began in 2003, when the Alamance County Board of Commissioners found the existing public transit operations insufficient after having met and interviewed 15 community leaders. The most common complaints included the lack of a regular schedule, a fixed-route service, the high cost of the existing services (\$5.00 for a one-way ticket) and long wait times for return trips.

Delegates of 19 major employers and agencies in the community conducted surveys to determine the need for a public transportation system and the respondents indicated that beginning a public transportation system was their first priority relating to transportation issues.

In a community with an increasing elderly population and a large percentage of low income families, access to public transportation was deemed necessary.

"This is a social justice issue to me," Deborah Long said, the director of Elon Academy. "When you have a community where 47 percent of the students qualify for reduced lunches, it is clear that luxury items such as cars, computers or even the funds to pay for higher education are not abundantly available to the community. These students are at a disadvantage and allowing them access to a public transportation system would be a step in the right direction to helping these students gain access to the resources they deserve."

In April 2003, the ACBC adopted the Destination 2020 Strategic Plan to "guide the future growth and development

of the county." It stated that they would work closely with the Alamance County Transit Authority to establish a combination of flexible and fixed-route bus services for the area.

Three years later, Patrick Harmon, executive director of the Hayden-Harmon foundation, stepped into the picture and gave a \$150,000 grant to the community to use in the planning and construction of a public transit system.

"By 2008, nothing had really happened from this grant and I decided I needed to do something different since I hadn't been very successful the first try," said Harmon. "I spoke to the community council about the importance of public transit and made five visits to urban areas with existing public transit systems. By September, Burlington had put public transit on the agenda at the community council meeting."

Elon University has also played a role in shedding light on this issue. Last May, anthropology students collaborated with United Church of Christ members to host an inter-faith conversation seminar on community development and public transportation. They invited religious leaders throughout the community to come together with students and faculty to discuss the economic, environmental and social imperatives for the development of public transit in Alamance County.

"This is a huge issue for our community," Long said. "We will have a stronger, healthier, better educated community if we have public transportation options. We owe it to the people in this community to try."

Despite the progress that has been made, the transportation plan is only in the planning stage and nothing is definite according to Linda Massey, the chair of Alamance County Commissioners.

Proposed location for new welcome center vetoed by locals

Laura Smith
News Editor

Complaints from residents on Williamson Avenue were enough to halt building plans for the university's new welcome center.

In late November, Elon submitted a request to the town for permission to rezone a piece of property across from Latham Park. That was determined to be the location of the new welcome center, similar to what exists already on O'Kelley Drive.

The property is four acres and is currently designated as a residential planning district. Because the rezoning would occur on residential property, Elon University is required to pass their plans through the town of Elon's government.

But after initially taking the rezoning proposal to the town, complaints from neighbors of the property led the university to pull the plans.

"There were a few citizens that

were concerned about the fact that if you rezone, this opens it up to other options as well," Ken Mullen, assistant vice president for business and finance at Elon said. "They were being cautious about their neighborhood."

Originally, Elon took its proposal to the planning board of Elon who intended to pass it on to the Elon Board of Aldermen, but the plans never made it.

"This was a university decision," Elon Town Planner Sean Tencer said. "They had to notify property owners of rezoning due to North Carolina state law."

Elon is in the process of building another welcome center in the Danieley Center, and because that area has already been zoned for institutional use, there is no need to take the plans to the town.

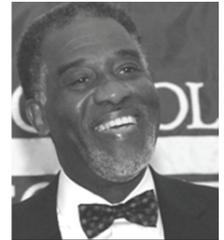
"We just didn't think it was the right thing at this time," Mullen said. "We're in constant communications with those residents but this is just one they got concerned about."

President of N.C. Bar Association visits Law School

Charles Becton, president of the North Carolina Bar Association, visited Elon Law School on Jan. 14 as part of the school's new Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Lecture Program. This year's program is called "Power Advocacy: Shaping a More Just Society." The overall event, which was free and open to the public, was titled "Believing in the Dream: Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King's Legacy" and was sponsored by Elon's chapter of the National Black Law Student Association.

The NBLSA was founded in 1968 and is the largest student-run organization in the country, with over 7,000 members. At Elon Law, the group serves as a forum for black students to share their views on issues unique to the black and minority community.

Elon Law said they hope to continue this recent tradition of hosting renowned speakers in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in an effort to further his legacy.



Charles Becton
NCBA President



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The program cost (approximately the cost of tuition, room, and board at Elon) includes tuition, a home stay with two meals a day, and international health insurance. Also included in the program cost are excursions to places like the Monteverde Cloud forest, Arenal Volcano, hot springs, waterfalls and banana plantations! A short trip to Nicaragua will also be included. A group flight will be offered to students for purchase.

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.

Purchasing a nation's faith

The rationale behind the apparent excess of inauguration day

Beneath the confetti-sewn streets, the throngs of supporters thanking their lucky stars for the chance to see their new president from a distance, the promises of a new era and the evocations of President Abraham Lincoln, lurks the day when the honeymoon will be over. The passing of the torch is now a game of hot potato, the nation's ills a scalding spud singeing the hands of anyone attempting any remedy.

Everybody loves a party, or at least, with costs upward of \$140 million, the Democratic Party is hoping so. As nice as the speeches are and as grand as the decorations may look, inauguration day is rarely held in the national consciousness for long.

The country does have cause for celebration, there's no doubt of that, but President Barack Obama's anticipated whirlwind of executive activity will leave Americans inspired, confused and enraged at the same time. The main goal of Obama's first 100 days is to push an \$825 billion stimulus bill through Congress. Through the bill, Obama seeks to check off a multitude of campaign promises from his list.

The bill contains, among other things, allocations to double renewable energy production, the creation of high-speed Internet access in rural communities, extensions for healthcare subsidies, implementing of digital medical records and the enlargement of Pell Grants, the largest federal program with the purpose of providing financial aid to college students.

Currently, 6 million students receive at most \$4,700 from the government and by increasing funding for the program, Obama seeks to deliver upon his campaign promises to ease the financial burden on those in college.

As for those on Wall Street, whose government funding is increasing by the minute, recent comments by former Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson have brought about a flurry of rumors. According to Paulson, U.S. regulators have been considering the establishment of a federal bank as a possible way to move bad loans and mortgages off the market.

Combine that recent information with comments from Obama's political adviser David Axelrod, who made hints to Reuters that the administration would soon be debuting an original approach to the country's financial turmoil, and you have a plan that will initially turn many people upside down.

The details of such a plan are unknown at the moment, but the idea behind it is plain. It's the same idea behind the lavish inauguration festivities. As superfluous as such a gala may be, Obama is attempting to use it to stir up the melting pot once more, boiling up a national fervor he hopes will stand beside him and provide a significant mandate.

Markets and economies, in essence, are not simply games of numbers and obtuse financial language. They are balancing acts of confidence, tightrope performances that only last as long as the crowd believes the performer cannot be harmed. Americans, economically as well as politically, have lost their confidence.

They see Russia throwing its weight around unhindered in Eastern Europe once again and the continuation of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict between plywood peace deals. At home, they're shocked to see Bank of America receive \$138 billion from the government right after witnessing Citigroup, despite countless taxpayer infusions, cease being a group and split into Citicorp and Citi Holdings.

After three years of a president who has been hobbled by a hostile and incompetent Congress as well as his own failures, Obama is seeking to put faith back into the office — if not for his policies — then for the position itself, and into the belief that the country is going somewhere, instead of swimming in place.

As hokey as it may have been, Obama's emulation of Lincoln prior to Inauguration Day sent out a message of, "Yes we have," in that the country has gone through worse days and still came out ahead. The elaborate festivities shout out, "Of course we can!" to a populace that can no longer take its country's powers for granted.

The post-inauguration road is a minefield. One has to look no further than Obama's predecessor to find how the belief of a mandate can lead to a president biting off more than he can chew and crippling his further effectiveness. The contradictory nature of Obama's increasingly pragmatic rhetoric and the spectacle of his inauguration seek to simultaneously temper expectations and embolden the nation. The new commander in chief just has to be sure not to pull too hard in one direction.

Beating around the Bush

A glance at the outgoing president's legacy, deserved and undeserved

Looking back, the 21 Century will seem a tumultuous time in which the last pillar of the modern era and American predominance in the global stage eroded beneath the changing tides.

Behind a great deal of this change stands President George W. Bush. The most divisive figure of the past eight years, Bush's departure represents the end of an era. Pushing executive power to its limits, embarking on cultural and military wars through the use of brute, stubborn force, Bush is a man tailored for an earlier time. The last pieces of the world in which his generation rapidly grew up in disappeared during his terms in office, and he suffered because of it.

"No one could have predicted the direction the economy would go in or 9/11," sophomore Nick Ochsner, chairman of the College Republicans, said. "[Bush] faced hard choices and has done what he's needed to do."

More so than any other recent president, Bush has been faced with one disaster after another. Despite this, it's essential to separate the crises that fell into his lap, and those that were of his own making.

For each 9/11 or Katrina, which were unprecedented events that quickly spiraled out of control and would have under any executive, there was an Abu Ghraib or Iraq War.

The opinion of senior Daniel Shutt, president of the College Democrats, rings true in this matter.

"[Bush's] lasting legacy is one of incompetence," Shutt said. "Whatever his intention or beliefs may have been, he was one who could not govern properly."

Bush has become a scapegoat for much of the country: The reason the economy has fallen into shambles, the reason that the Iraq War was bungled so badly and the cause of the red state/blue state mentality that split America for eight years.

Much of this is undeserved. Though Bush's tax policy was foolhardy, the recent economic downturn was an eventuality, the product of a financial model based entirely upon the influx of presumably unlimited capital from Asia into Western countries. Many of these models were in place long before Bush was sworn into office.

The handling of the Iraq War, which Ochsner admits could have gone smoother and been sold to the public better, remains a huge stain on the Bush administration.

An overly confident, arrogant invasion and occupation riddled with corruption and blatant disrespect for the citizens of Iraq has now given way to a more effective, albeit larger, rebuilding process. Most of

the credit for the success of the surge goes to the military, which has adapted admirably, but Bush deserves credit as well.

As for the culture clash, everyone involved is to blame.

Though Democrats had every reason to rally against the administration, Republicans had every right to fight back. Bush acted, as anyone would expect a president to, within his own moral standards.

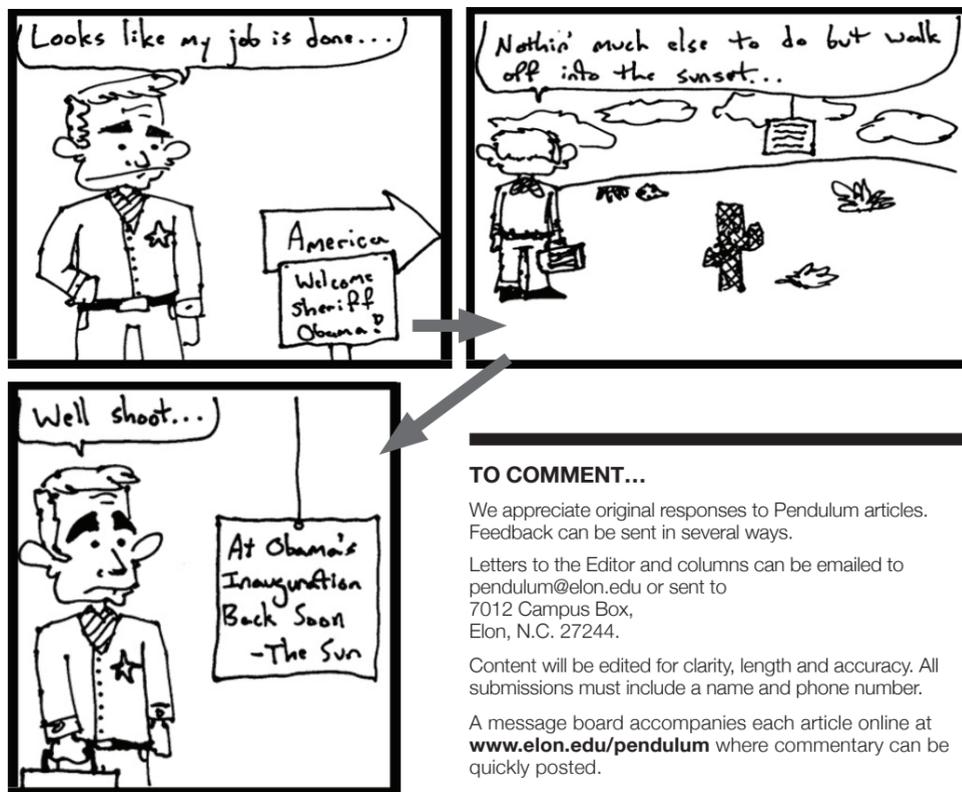
Though much of the country has now rejected several of his doctrines, there are still a great number of people who believe in his principles.

The condemnation of both groups in an infantile manner has come to be a doctrine of both parties, but Bush is just one man. The nation chose to reduce debate into mud-slinging on its own terms, and the steadfast nature of Bush inadvertently incubated such attitudes.

Far from being the weak daddy's boy that people expected during the 2000 election, Bush has emerged as a dominant figure with a nearly indomitable will and an ideology that still appeals to many Americans. His failures stem from a poor understanding of the emerging global order and mediocre administrative talents.

President Bush is a man to be respected, but not followed.

ILLUSTRATING THE ISSUES:



TO COMMENT...

We appreciate original responses to Pendulum articles. Feedback can be sent in several ways.

Letters to the Editor and columns can be emailed to pendulum@elon.edu or sent to 7012 Campus Box, Elon, N.C. 27244.

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

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

THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

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

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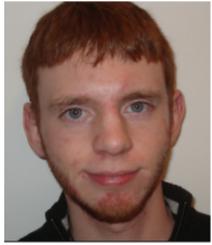
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Opinions

Government should raise fuel efficiency standards

We've all seen the commercials on television: a mammoth truck barreling through mud, with slow-motion setting in just as it hits a large puddle.



Kevin Clang
Columnist

The truck is then shown carrying an absurd amount of stuff in its bed, just to show you that it can. Sometimes it's even shown evading some ridiculous metal contraption that drivers will likely never encounter. Then the announcer's voice cuts in, extolling the truck's \$30,000 price tag and highway mileage of 20 miles per gallon.

Twenty miles per gallon? Is this really something worth bragging about? Yes, it's an improvement

over the usual 10-14 mpg of most pickups, but it is nowhere near where the country's fuel efficiency needs to be. The average mpg of American-made cars hangs at around 25. Only two American-made cars grace the list of the top-10 most fuel efficient cars of 2008. It is no secret that gasoline is a disappearing commodity. It is time Americans start getting serious about fuel efficiency.

There are several ways we can do this. The simplest way would be a massive increase in the federal gas tax, but in today's economy where many families are struggling to pay mortgages, another tax would probably not be the wisest thing to do. Several states have begun to explore ways to tax the number of miles you drive, rather than the amount of gas you use. The idea is an interesting one, but it will most likely be years before we figure out how to employ it most effectively. Until that happens, fuel efficiency standards must be raised.

Last week, President George W. Bush declined to issue final fuel economy benchmarks before leaving office, giving President Barack Obama

the power to set them at whatever he pleases. An energy bill passed in 2007 requires all cars and trucks to meet 35 mpg by 2020, but 2020 is not soon enough. One hopes that Obama won't give into major car companies, as Congress has in the past, and instead, set ambitious touchstones to show how serious we are about the environment. The sooner our government elevates fuel efficiency standards, the better. With gas prices back down to the levels they were before the outbreak of war in Iraq, many Americans may feel compelled to drive the way they used to.

What seemed impossible just ten years ago is now a reality. American car companies such as Ford, Chrysler and GMC are already producing more fuel efficient cars and trucks for European markets, but these models are not yet being sold in the United States. Increasing fuel efficiency standards would force these companies to make these models, which are already being manufactured in this country, available to the American public. Doing so would decrease our dependence on foreign oil and potentially bolster a troubled auto industry.

There are many reasons why the American auto industry needed a government bailout earlier this year. One of the most pressing was their failure to respond to the changing market. From the mid-1990s to about 2004, bigger was definitely better. American-made cars could not be built big enough. Sales for pickup trucks and SUVs skyrocketed. When gas prices rose, the demand for these types of cars went down, but production continued at similar levels. Suddenly Japanese-made sedans started becoming more popular, and Detroit's revenue plummeted.

The car companies have already stated their realization of the need for smaller, more fuel efficient cars in their testimonies before Congress. Now, they just need that extra push to get them there. Obama should use his power in the opening weeks of his presidency to send a clear message to the rest of the world: Earth's largest polluter is ready to get serious about the environment.

'Miracle of the Hudson' gives media a chance to change its tone

The 155 passengers on U.S. Airways flight 1549 last Thursday afternoon could not have anticipated the sort of media coverage they would be receiving by sunset that night.



Jack Dodson
Guest Columnist

One minute after take-off, a flock of geese incapacitated the plane's engines, causing the pilot to make a daring emergency landing in the Hudson River. Hours later, he was being hailed an American hero.

What started out as an impressive story of courage was soon a show of sensationalism. "The Miracle of the Hudson" as it was referred to by New York Governor Michael

Bloomberg, was all over the media that night.

Chesley Sullenberger III, the pilot, is by no means inexperienced. After graduating the Air Force Academy in 1973, Sullenberger joined the Air Force as a fighter pilot for seven years, reaching the rank of captain. He then went to work for U.S. Air, for whom he has flown more than 19,000 hours since 1980.

On top of this, Sullenberger has helped develop safety protocols with the National Transportation Safety Board and investigated aviation accidents for the Air Force. The University of California at Berkeley asked him to be a visiting scholar for the Center for Catastrophic Risk Management. He also owns a safety consulting firm in Danville, Ca., where he lives when he is not flying commercial jets.

So could the real miracle be how lucky the passengers were to have a pilot like him?

In media's hunger for an uplifting story, major outlets covered the passengers' prayers and their back-stories. This was the type of reporting that dominated the news Thursday evening, over the historical inauguration that was less than a week away, the military conflict in Gaza and global economic issues.

The pressure to keep audiences has pushed journalists and executives to skip over finding the important pieces of news, and instead focus on what makes people feel good or keep it interesting.

It seems as though the sensationalism of reporting increases dramatically in times of hardship. But media, at its core, has to draw a line between what is important and what is excessive. There is a difference between a puff piece and sensationalizing something important.

The duty of a consumer is to find the best product and, in terms of media, this would be the piece that takes a more subjective look at the news, leaving sensationalism behind.

It's not that this is a new phenomenon, either. Historically, this sort of media coverage is behind wars, social unrest and major public opinion shift. As conglomerates own larger portions of media, truer journalism can be hard to come by. But, it is an issue that needs to be taken on by the industry, whose first priority is to serve as a cultural tool for knowledge and action, not business.

Along with the presidential inauguration, this piece served the country's attitude. In hard times, people will latch onto happier news. We're looking for a reason to be uplifted, and the media granted us that. By covering uplifting events, this piece of news has served as a break in the negative reporting.

That's when it becomes important to ask what true journalism really needs to be. Is it more important to positively influence society or to always be the watchdog?

There's no reason this sort of media should be used for business purposes. But when it can be beneficial for a public in desperate need for a positive news story, then even what seems like a puff piece can hold the same importance as true journalism.

OBAMA'S CABINET RIPE WITH FAMILIAR FACES:

Support shows a more restrained approach to change



Christina Edwards
Guest Columnist

For many, the cabinet nominations set the tone and impression of the beginning of the presidential term. So what do the picks say about the 44 presidency?

In short, they project a lot of caution, a dash of safety-oriented doubt and a sprinkle of self-assertion.

One of Obama's earliest staff picks was Rahm Emanuel for White House Chief of Staff. Emanuel has the experience that Obama is hoping to assert in response to questions of his own experience. He served as a top advisor to President Clinton and is a veteran Congressional leader. But this same top-level experience comes with a catch; he's a "Clintonite." Does Obama have the political expertise and knowledge necessary to create his own team?

And what about all of this change we've been talking about? Emanuel's experience may show good judgment, but may also be a double-edged sword.

Adding to the

lineup of politicians we've seen before is Obama's secretary of state nominee. The nomination of Hillary Clinton was possibly the most publically scrutinized of the process. While Clinton has significant and extensive experience in world travel and diplomacy, she is, of course, part of the old school of politicians so much of the country is eager to get away from, particularly in the form of her husband's lingering presence.

And of course, Clinton's rather volatile campaign against Obama in the Democratic primaries raises additional concerns. The two, who are probably the most prominent example of "frenemies" in current U.S. politics, have traded enough barbs to raise well-founded skepticism on their ability to work concurrently. A partnership between the two could be incredibly well-run and an effective linking of vision and expertise; yet, there's always the

lingering chance that the old prejudices and unsettling politics of the past could lead more toward the path of disaster.

While many of Obama's cabinet picks may suggest a tendency to stay the same rather than the promised change, others in top positions draw from his circle of Chicagoan political contacts, which suggest an assertion of his own style.

He is certainly treading with an appropriate or even precautionary level of carefulness: His vetting process has shown to be incredibly rigorous. Gov. Bill Richardson has withdrawn his name for commerce secretary in the midst of the vetting process. Even in the case of Timothy Geithner's taxes, things are out in the open.

Obama's cabinet is promising, but with reservation. There's a lot of solid experience and potential. But it remains to be seen what will come when that solid experience and caution meets the promise of change.

Off-Campus Student Housing

Information compiled by Michelle Longo
Online Programs Director

Design by Ahmed Hassan
Design Editor

1 West End Apartments #1
404 & 406 W. Lebanon Ave.

Residents: 4
Bedrooms: 4
Full Baths: 3

B.C. Parker

Utilities: Electricity, Water and Gas.
Square Footage: 1393 ft²

\$410.00 per resident **\$1,640.00**
a month

2 West End Apartments #2
104 & 106 N. Manning Ave.

Residents: 4
Bedrooms: 4
Full Baths: 3

B.C. Parker

Utilities: Electricity, Water and Gas.
Square Footage: 1393 ft²

\$410.00 per resident **\$1,640.00**
a month

3 College Station Apartments
1000 St. Johns St.

Residents: 3
Bedrooms: 3
Full Baths: 3

B.C. Parker

Utilities: Electricity, Water, High Speed Internet, Cable & HBO.
Square Footage: 1291 ft²

\$460.00 per resident **\$1,380.00**
a month

4 Old & New Trollinger Apts.
321 & 323 West Trollinger Ave.

Roommates: 3
Bedrooms: 3
Full Baths: 2

B.C. Parker

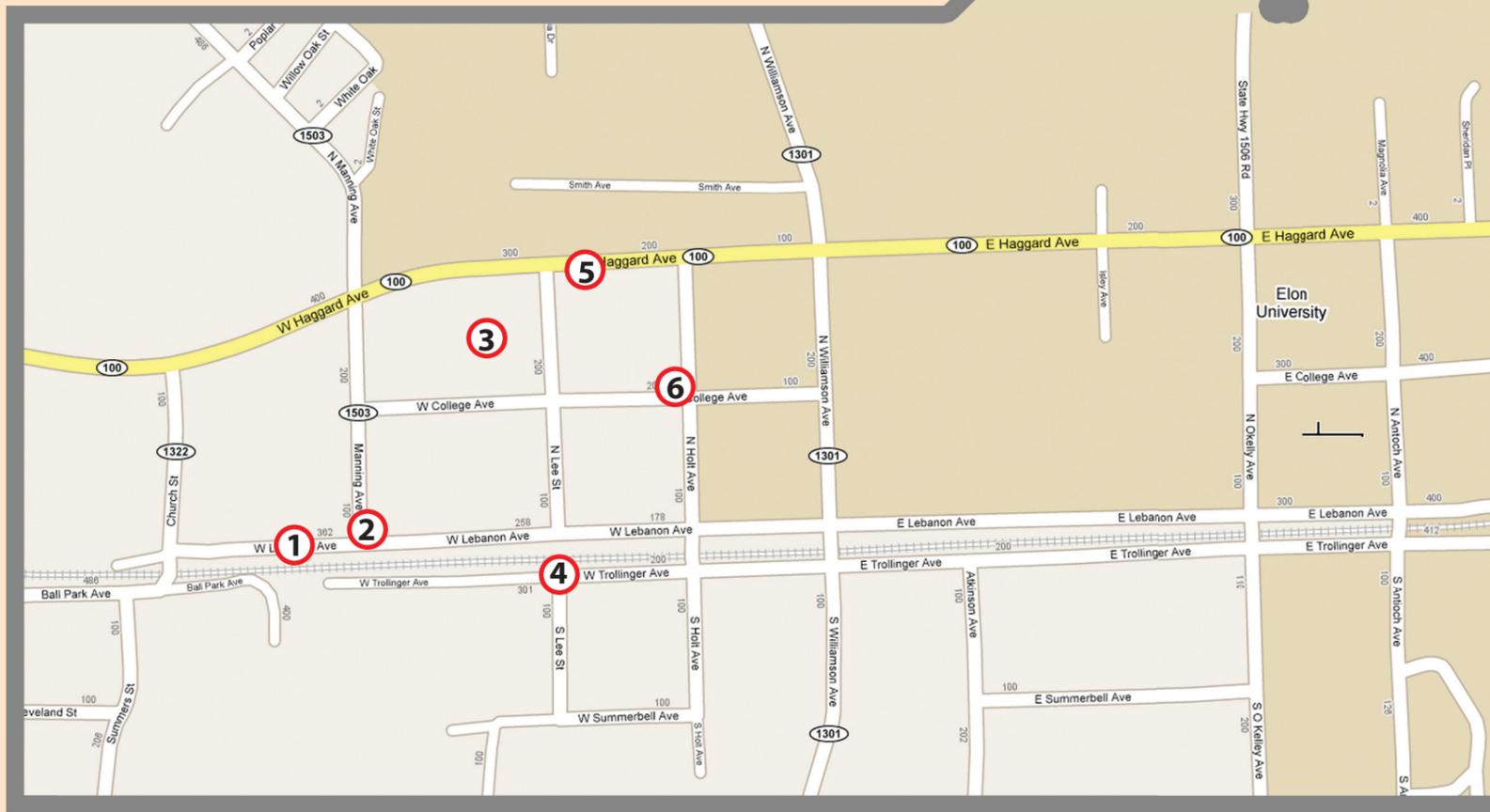
Utilities: Electricity, Water and Gas.
Square Footage: 1291 ft²

\$395.00 per resident **\$1,185.00**
a month



8

Web site:
Phone: (336) 585-0167
Roommate:
Utilities:
\$462.00



5 Acorn Residence Inn
301 W. Haggard Ave.

Phone: (336) 585-0167
Web site: www.acorninnelon.com

Residents: 2 & 1
Bedrooms: 3
Full Baths: 2

Two bedroom townhouse standard, large or deluxe. All apts. fully furnished down to the mattress.

Square Footage: 743ft² - 1,070ft²

\$565.00-\$655.00 **\$1,130.00 - \$1,310.00**
a month

6 College Place Townhouses
213 College Ave.

Residents: 3
Bedrooms: 3
Full Baths: 2

B.C. Parker

Utilities: Electricity, Water, High Speed Internet, Cablevision with HBO.
Square Footage: 1,715 ft²

\$505.00 per resident **\$1,515.00**
a month

7 Sheridan & New Sheridan
Haggard Ave.

Roommates: 3
Bedrooms: 3
Full Baths: 2

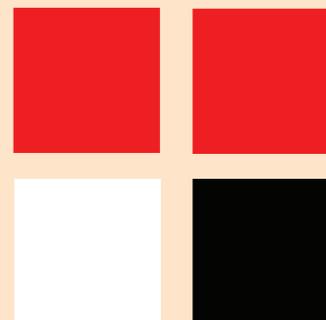
Freeman Apartments

Utilities: Cable and Internet

IMPORTANT: CURRENTLY FULL

\$395.00 per resident **\$1,185.00**
a month

With spring semester rapidly approaching, it is time for all returning students to begin thinking about their housing plans for the next academic year. On-campus or off? Two roommates or three? Location or style? There are many nearby off-campus apartments that offer great amenities and services to students. All come with central air and heating and many are within walking distance to campus. For apartments more than one mile from campus, a designated parking sticker will be issued from Elon University, ranging from Danieley Center parking privileges to commuter parking in Moseley Center. All apartments listed below are in the Town of Elon. For a more comprehensive list, including available apartments in Burlington and Gibsonville, visit www.elon.edu/e-web/students/residence_life.



Evellien Townhouses
223 Kawrebece St.

www.evellien.com
Phone: (336) 266-6666
Bedrooms: 3
Full Baths: 2

Water, Cable and Internet

\$1,848.00 per resident a month

9 Oak Hill
735 East Haggard Ave.

Roommates: 3
Bedrooms: 3
Full Baths: 2

Freeman Apartments

Utilities: Cable and Internet

\$375.00 per resident **\$1,125.00** a month

10 The Crest
756 East Haggard Ave.

Roommates: 4
Bedrooms: 4
Full Baths: 4

B.C. Parker

Utilities: Electricity, Water, High Speed Internet, Cable with HBO
Square Footage: 1,345 ft²

\$460.00 per resident **\$1,184.00** a month

11 Provence Townhouses & Apts.
807 E. Haggard Ave.

Web site: www.evellien.com
Phone: (336) 266-6666
Residents: 4
Bedrooms: 4
Full Baths: 2

Utilities: Electricity, Water and Gas.
Square Footage: 1291 ft²

\$460.00 - \$498.00 **\$1,185.00 - \$1,992.00** a month



12 Phoenix Arms
900 East Haggard Ave.

Residents: 4
Bedrooms: 4
Full Baths: 4

B.C. Parker

Utilities: Electricity, Water, High Speed Internet, Cable and HBO.
Square Footage: 1,536 ft²

\$454.00 per resident **\$1,800.00** a month

13 University Pointe Apts.
944 East Haggard Ave.

Residents: 2
Bedrooms: 2
Full Baths: 2

B.C. Parker

Utilities: Electricity, Water, High Speed Internet, Cable and HBO.
Square Footage: 1291 ft²

\$420.00 - \$460.00 **\$900.00 - \$920.00** a month

REALTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

B.C. PARKER
411 South Broad Street
Burlington, N.C.
Phone: (336) 226-8411
Web site: elonstudenthousing.com
Office hours: Monday-Friday,
9 a.m. - noon, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

FREEMAN & COMPANY
2111 N. Elm St.
Greensboro N.C. 27408
Phone: (336) 275-4007
Web site: freemanapartments.com
Office hours: Monday - Friday
9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Style

Racy themes hit the stage with 'The Country Wife'

Elise Delmercio
Reporter

The farcical humor of the 17 Century British Restoration period will come alive at 7:30 p.m. tonight, on the stage of the Black Box theater.

Since the weekend before Winter Term, a cast and crew of performing arts students have been tirelessly memorizing lines, perfecting dialect and donning corsets to bring "The Country Wife" to stage. With less than three weeks of preparation, the group managed to put together the production, everything from designing costumes to blocking the show.

The plot follows the pursuits of Mr. Horner, a womanizer and pursuer of married women. Horner aims to alter his reputation by claiming himself a eunuch — a man who has been castrated.

"Horner's chief preoccupation is having affairs with multiple women, and all of the men of the upper crust look down on him, yet trust him with their wives as a non-threatening companion," director Kirby Wahl said.

The promiscuity and sexual innuendo displayed by Horner and his mistresses were common in the theatre during the British Restoration era and is still relevant to audiences more than 300 years later.

"Sex never ceases to be funny, and it is very much a point of our lives," said senior Carin Metzger, whose character is part of The Virtuous Gang.

This gang is a group composed of three sexually-charged women who mask their promiscuity with a pure name.

"There is lots of social commentary, and you'll see characters similar to college students," Metzger said. "Margery, the Country Wife, would be described today as the naive freshman who sleeps with a senior and expects a relationship. The Virtuous Gang is a group of hypocrites who act like they're pure and have ideals, but underneath they're like sexual volcanoes ready to explode. In college, plenty of people fill these same roles, which makes the show relatable for an audience to watch. It allows you to see that people from the 17 Century aren't that different from us today."

One apparent difference between Margery and a typical college freshman is most easily discerned by the language spoken.

"The accents used by the characters show a lot about their class and background," junior Sarah Pace, who is serving as the dialect coach, said. "This period in time was all about looking and speaking beautifully, so you'll be able to tell a lot about each one depending on the way he or she speaks. Most of the characters speak in formal British, which was used in addressing the Queen, while the maid speaks country Irish and the Country Wife speaks Hampshire."

Acquiring skills and awareness of characters must happen in a very short time, as Winter Term only allows the actors three weeks of rehearsal. Each day, the actors met from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., with a short break during the afternoon for lunch. Additional rehearsals occurred later in the evenings and on weekends when needed.

"In the morning, we focused on certain scenes to fix, and in the afternoon, we ran the show," junior Edward Schmit, who plays Mr. Pinchwife, said. "Winter Term is an exciting time for a play because you aren't burdened with other classes and can put all of your energy into making it a great production."

Themes of the pursuit of lust, promiscuity and class structure are all present in "The Country Wife," giving the audience an evening of hilarity. Clever lines delivered with many double-meanings and innuendos are certain to be in great supply.

"This play covers everything you talk about in your dorm room," Schmit said. "Instead of watching 'Gossip Girl' or a movie like 'Wedding Crashers,' come out to watch us."

DRESS REHEARSAL



Kabby Borders shows off one of the play's period costumes.



Hard at work, Mark St. Cyr delivers his lines as Horner.



Edward Schmit and Kabby Borders' characters share an intimate moment.

PHOTOS BY ANGIE LOVEFACE | PHOTOGRAPHER

FROM BEHIND THE SCENES

WHAT
"The Country Wife"

WHEN
January 22-26
Thursday, Friday, Monday at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday at 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sunday at 2 p.m.
February 4-7
Wednesday through Friday at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, at 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

WHERE
Black Box Theater

ADMISSION
\$12 or free with Elon ID

RESERVATIONS
Call (335) 278-5650



“

This play covers everything you talk about in your dorm room. Instead of watching 'Gossip Girl' or a movie like 'Wedding Crashers,' come out and watch us.

- junior Edward Schmit
ACTOR WHO PLAYS MR. PINCHWIFE

”

SINGIN' SWEET SIGS



PHOTOS BY CAMILLE DEMERE | Photographer

Even though they were hosting the competition, Elon's own all-female a capella group Sweet Signatures didn't participate. However, they did keep the crowd entertained while the judges deliberated.

Sweet Signatures hosted the International Championship of Collegiate A Capella's (ICCA) regional quarterfinals in Whitley Auditorium on Saturday night. With the top two competitors continuing on to the semifinals at UNC-G March 14, the tension was high and the crowd was electric.

This marks Elon's third year hosting the ICCA South Quarterfinals. Since September, members of Sweet Signatures have been working on putting the competition together. From organizing arrangements for visiting groups to deciding on what songs they would sing for their own set, the group has worked to make sure the competition would offer smooth entertainment.

"The venue and resources have proven to be successful and the location is ideal for competing groups," Sweet Signatures President Lindsey Perdue said. "The event is always a hit on our campus."

Singing to a full house were (in order of appearance): the Achordants (UNC-Chapel Hill, All-male), the Loreleis (UNC-Chapel Hill, All-female), New Dominions (University of Virginia, mixed), Another Level (Appalachian State University, all-male), the

Spartones (UNCG, all-male) and the Blues Tones (James Madison University, all-female). Each group had 12 minutes to wow the judges and the crowd.

The Achordants set the tone for the night, opening strong with Hellogoodbye's "Here (in Your Arms)," "Ain't No Sunshine When She's Gone" and "Can't Take My Eyes Off of You." The Loreleis stood out for their innovative choreography, in songs such as "Last Name" by Carrie Underwood, for which they won a special award at the end of the night. While James Madison only sang two songs, their soloist for the second number received the award for Best Solo.

After a short intermission, it was Another Level's turn to woo the crowd, which they did by opening with energy and some fancy choreography. In a league all of their own, Another Level's beatboxers won

an award for Best Vocal Percussion. The Spartones followed, garnering the largest applause of the night. Although all of their songs were performed well, the definite crowd-please was the TV Medley, composed of such old-school theme songs as the Nickelodeon theme, "Inspector Gadget" and the "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles."

Closing the night was the Blues Tones, with "Shot through the Heart," "Where I Stood" and "Never Too Late." Despite several groups having to combat technical difficulties, all the performances ran smoothly. Although it was clear that UNC-G's Spartones had the largest number of in-house supporters — the noise level was deafening at times — the audience enthusiastically supported each group on stage.

Elon's own all-female a capella group, Sweet Signatures didn't actually compete in the competition. But they did perform during the judge's deliberation. While waiting for the results, Sweet Signatures performed a set including "Sweet Child O' Mine," Emmy Rossum's "Slow Me Down" and Sara Bareilles' "Fairy Tale," coming back for an encore with "Disturbia," a number the crowd loved.

"We didn't compete this time," senior Sweet Signature member Lizzie Napier said. "But, it was so much fun to watch the other groups compete. I'm a senior so I've seen a lot of a cappella competitions, and they never get old."

At the end of the night, the Blues Tones placed third, Another Level second and the Spartones first. Closing with Boyz II Men's "End of the Road," the Spartones ended the night the way it had started, with good music and good fun.

While Sweet Signatures hosted the event, they will be back to competing come February. On Feb. 7, they will travel to the University of Georgia to compete in the ICCA finals. The group hopes to turn last year's third place win and overall Best Choreography award into top honors all the way across the board.

Area groups sing along with Sweet Signatures

A Cappella group hosts regional competition featuring scores of song birds

Jenna McNair
Reporter

'Prisoners of Plenty' film in progress, according to Nelson

POW camp documentary offers a new spin on old war stories

Jack Dodson
Reporter

One phone call can dramatically alter the course of a life. Associate Communications professor Tom Nelson's experience is proof of this.

In Nelson's case, a birthday greeting from an old friend, Michael Fungeling, led to a spontaneous trip to a WWII German prisoner of war camp in Concordia, Kan. That trip turned into the inspiration behind Nelson's documentary-in-progress, "Prisoners of Plenty."

Nelson's friend suggested he and his son visit the site of the camp, which was 40 miles from where they were on vacation.

"I just got a kick out of walking through these fields and thinking what was there," Nelson said.

The two men had been friends since the early '90s, when Nelson and his family lived in Germany. Fungeling's father, Hans-Gerd Fuengling, had been a POW sent to Kansas during WWII. Nelson found the father's story intriguing, as it has a different tone from most of WWII. In place of the typical war story, Nelson's documentary offers accounts

with underlying tones of compassion. Many former prisoners even have warm memories of the camp.

"Prisoners of Plenty" takes on a subject matter often overlooked, which is why Nelson was so adamant to start working on it. The stories that lie within the remains at Concordia have as powerful an impact as any war story.

"The Germans, to this day, appreciate that the Americans were not retributive," Nelson said.

Conditions at Concordia weren't what one imagines of a traditional POW camp. Because of the pleasant treatment and humane standards at Concordia, many positive bonds grew between the German prisoners and their overseers. It is a story of some irony because through the war, enemies became friends. The friendships and relations that developed between the Germans and Americans in this camp were ones that transcended the war.

"It struck me that [the Germans] would come back [to Concordia] to live," Nelson said.

Of course, with the limited restrictions they

enjoyed in the camp, why wouldn't they? The Germans were allowed to work normal jobs. Hans-Gerd Fungeling was a cinematographer who worked in Hollywood during his time in the camp. Some prisoners were painters, others were carpenters. Their works still remain in the town today.

While the film does not escape the horrors that go along with war, "Prisoners of Plenty" provides a seemingly positive perspective for a WWII story. Nelson's wife, Joan, even travelled to Germany to conduct interviews with former prisoners, making sure their side of the story would be told.

Now in post-production, the documentary is anticipated to be finished by this coming summer. Pushing ahead with editing and tying loose ends in the film, the path of the documentary from now on remains somewhat unclear until completion.

Brooke Barnett, associate communications professor and head of Elon's documentary program, Elon Docs, describes the path of a documentary as one that has no clear-cut form. As a veteran in the industry,

she makes the argument that the most important thing in this genre is "the balance you have to find as a filmmaker." The story has to be told deeply and well, but it still needs to have a plot.

Nelson focuses on a topic that has a strong story behind it and a lot of originality.

For Nelson, making this documentary wasn't about trying to analyze the war or simply focus on the makeup of a POW camp. Unlike many documentaries focused on this subject, Nelson's piece doesn't try to answer the moral or ethical questions inevitably stirred up when war is mentioned. It's all about the people.

"[The point of the documentary] is not to draw moral conclusions, just to tell the story of these guys," Nelson said.

"Prisoners of Plenty" offers an audience a chance to make up their own minds about the Kansas POW camp. Whether it was moral or not, too lenient on POWs or not, this camp serves as a unique subject allowing Nelson to produce a final product that provides a new twist on the age-old war story.



Appalachian State's Another Level placed second in the competition.



Each group spent 12 minutes on stage performing for the crowd and judges.

THE NIGHT'S WINNERS

FIRST PLACE

UNC-G - Spartones

SECOND PLACE

Appalachian - State Another Level

THIRD PLACE

James Madison - Blue Tones

BEST VOCAL PERCUSSION

Appalachian State - Another Level

BEST CHOREOGRAPHY

UNC - Loreleis

BEST ARRANGEMENT

UNC-G - Spartones for the TV theme song medley

BEST SOLO

UVA - New Dominions



Sophomore Maddie Franke and junior Julianne Katz give an energetic performance of "Hot Honey Hag."



Sophomores Jeff Masters, Taylor Trench and junior Julianne Katz model "Wizard of Oz" inspired costumes designed by Caitlin Graham.

Music with a powerful message

Amanda Kennison
A&E Editor

For the fourth year in a row, a group of about 40 Elon students and faculty took to the stage to remind their audience that performing doesn't have to just be about expressing personal talents. On Jan. 17, performing arts students sponsored their annual Broadway Cares/Equity Fights for AIDS benefit concert.

This year's performance boasted a variety of numbers. The audience enjoyed up-tempo and energetic performances including "More" and "Hot Honey Hag." Also included were more somber ballads such as "Do You Know what it's Like" and "I'm Yours."

This eclectic mixture of songs perfectly conveyed the overall message of the concert. Musicals are often associated with happy, in-your-face emotions.

While that feeling was present at the concert, the deeper meaning of fighting for a cause and finding a cure for AIDS was never overshadowed.

During performance breaks, associate professor of performing arts Linda Sabo and associate professor of theatre arts Dale Becherer provided personal anecdotes about people close to them who have been affected by AIDS.

Their comments tackled common misconceptions about the disease and made the cause seem especially real. The professors explained how though

people may not be directly affected by AIDS, the disease affects everyone through many indirect routes.

Just as the performances did, the professors' words made it clear that, regardless of the progress made in AIDS research and treatment, more can always be done. Until a cure for the disease is found and AIDS is eradicated on a global level, people should continue to fundraise, by any method.

Becherer took the stage, accompanied by a friend, and sang a song titled "Lost and Found." The song was a tribute to a friend, who lost his battle against AIDS. Sabo's and Becherer's time on stage were just two of many of the concert's touching moments.

While the entire concert was composed of brilliantly delivered numbers, a couple pieces stood out. For instance, during a performance of "One Night Only," a number of male performers came out dolled-up in dresses and heels. Their willingness to show some leg definitely brought the powerful song up a notch.

During the second act, the audience witnessed student talent of a different variety. This year, the concert added a fashion show to its lineup. Junior Caitlin Graham designed the musical-themed costumes. Graham's designs mixed common costume ideas with unique twists.

Dorothy and her "Wizard of Oz" companions became the "Wizard of Green" donned in costumes made of

recycled Starbucks products. "My Fair Lady," became the "Rare Lady" decked out in vibrant colors and an eccentric design. Graham's designs added an extra level of fantastical fun that contrasted nicely against some of the more serious numbers.

And of course, as a benefit concert, organizers offered a number of opportunities for the audience to donate funds.

From raffle tickets to silent auctions, audience members had the chance to win prizes like CDs and signed posters from the cast of "The Lion King" and "The Color Purple." All proceeds will be sent directly to the BC/EFA headquarters in New York City. Funds will be distributed and used for a number of AIDS research and treatment measures.

Elon's fourth annual Broadway Cares concert brought another successful show for Elon's performing arts students. A break from typical theatre productions, where so many productions aim to showcase the students' talent, this show was all about the students giving back and raising awareness for a great cause. In every number, the performers' passion proved evident.

With a great mixture of hope and struggle, the performances voiced an important message.

The battle against AIDS persists, but it doesn't have to be a losing fight. As long as people continue to care about the cause and continue to support it, hope for a cure will always exist.

116 Oak: Upscale dining without big bucks

Colleen Wood
Reporter

As some students may have noticed, a new restaurant is opening in Elon. Located on West Lebanon Avenue next to West End Station, 116 Oak is converting the vacant Slices of Heaven Bakery into an upscale, yet casual restaurant and bar.

Owner Josh Ezrine, an Elon graduate, decided to buy the space in September and it has been a work-in-progress ever since. Ezrine, also the owner of West End and numerous houses in Elon, said he hopes 116 Oak will offer students and community members a new place to eat that is close to campus and affordable.

"I wanted to fill the void of upscale, quality restaurants in Elon," Ezrine said. "I always look for an opportunity to try something new."

With a maximum capacity of 60 people, the idea is that a more low-key setting will offer an alternative to other restaurants in the area. A more intimate setting will make 116 Oak a place for dinner, drinks and conversation with friends.

116 Oak is set to open by February, and with a chic and romantic atmosphere, it is sure to be a popular Valentine's Day date destination.

The restaurant will offer a menu with a variety of appetizers and small-dish meals, similar to tapas. On the menu, you will find homemade dips (including pimento cheese and crab dips), salads, crab cakes, filet of steak, shrimp and grits and homemade seasonal soups.

Wallet (and student budget) friendly, the food will be moderately priced. With salads and appetizers ranging between \$4 - \$6, entrees for \$7 - \$9 and dessert for \$3 - \$6, patrons won't have to break the bank to enjoy a good meal.

With a wine list of 60 different types, food is not the only thing you'll be ordering at 116 Oak. Wine prices will range from \$5 - \$13 for a glass and \$20 - \$75 for bottles. Other drink options include 25 different types of beer (including imports), champagne and specialty drinks such as Sangria.

Though only open for dinner as of now, there are thoughts of adding a Sunday brunch later on. The restaurant will open for all ages from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., and will then be customers 21 and over for the remainder of the night. Closing times are 12:30 a.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and 1 a.m. on the weekends. ID's will be checked at the door.

A unique feature of 116 Oak is that cocktail waitresses will be able to take drink orders, eliminating the hassle of getting up and going to the bar to order another round.

"I think 116 Oak will be a much-needed addition to Elon," sophomore Alex Feldman said. "It will give students a different type of place to eat and hang out with friends off campus but still be nearby and affordable."

As students and residents await its opening, 116 Oak will fill the niche of a classy, yet casual eatery and bar in Elon.

MOVIE REVIEW



'Notorious' pays tribute to memory of famous rapper

Chris King
Senior Reporter

Christopher Wallace was born and raised as an overweight kid in Brooklyn, but by the time he died, he was a renowned rap star known as Biggie Smalls, or Notorious B.I.G. The new movie "Notorious" chronicles Wallace's life, going from small-time drug dealer to rapper to martyr.

Almost everyone knows about the beef between Biggie and Tupac Shakur, both of whom were shot under mysterious circumstances. "Notorious" isn't about this conflict, or his final days. This is a movie about the life of a man with dreams and ambitions even bigger than himself.

It starts in Brooklyn, with Christopher Wallace (played by Biggie's real-life son Christopher Wallace Jr.) as a little kid who lives under the protective wing of his mother (Angela Basset, who gives a great understated performance). Before long, the lure of the streets draws him in, and soon he's dealing crack on street corners.

It is here where we are introduced to adult Wallace (Jamal Woolard, whose resemblance to Biggie is uncanny). He has stepped into the world of full-time drug dealing and eventually gets busted. Around this time, his love of rap really begins to take hold as he starts writing and becomes a rap superstar.

"Notorious" shows Biggie's shooting-star life, moving from a nobody to a superstar and then death, all before reaching his 24 birthday. While his rap career is given a due amount of screen time, it's the personal moments of Biggie's life that really show the strengths of both Woolard and the movie. When Biggie returns from his prison stint, he is a father. The first time he sees his daughter with her grandmother is an emotional moment. The movie shows Wallace as a man who has women and friends who love him.

The acting is solid with several standouts, including Derek Luke as Sean "Puffy" Combs, and is filled with hope and energy.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM

Jamal Woolard brings to life Christopher Wallace, the rapper known as Notorious B.I.G., in the biopic "Notorious."

Basset does a great job in a small role, but the focus is really on Woolard, who does an exceptional job. He has the physical appearance of Biggie, but his lack of acting ability is apparent in certain scenes when he is stretched too thin. Overall, though, he is convincing.

The movie does have some shortcomings, such as reducing rival record label owner Suge Knight (who may or may not be partially responsible for Biggie's death) to a mostly background role, and not giving enough time to the development of the relationship between Puffy and Biggie. Their close friendship is not properly represented.

In "Notorious," a man rises from the street corner to become a rap star and, after his demise, a legend. Biggie Smalls was a singular talent, but this movie isn't about the rapper, it's about the man. This movie honors his memory.

Marketing indies for the collegiate



Colleen Callahan
Columnist

Blood and guts, boy meets girl and the end of the world. One of these scenarios is usually involved in a major motion picture. The formulas have a proven track record and therefore provide

sufficient funding to a major film studio.

But what about films seeking to delve further into the human condition with quirky characteristics? What about those films that take a chance? These are often independent films.

Such movies are generally financed outside major studios, or under their independent-flavored subsidiaries. Because of limited budgeting, independent films largely depend on word-of-mouth marketing to propagate themselves. College students may very well appreciate independent films because of their unique themes and variety. But when students with busy schedules don't see the indie films in the first place, they can't spread the word.

Independent films are also challenged by the limited number of theaters screening them. Since students want convenience, in both movie marketing and theater proximity, promoting indie films to college students appears to be a challenging and unnecessary task. Here are some thoughts on how to tackle that challenge:

1. For atypical movies, there has to be an atypical route of marketing. It's definitely understandable that an indie film doesn't want to buy ads on something as mainstream as 'Perez Hilton,' or other celebrity and entertainment gossip blogs — it's a cop-out. However, there has to be a focus on online marketing, probably the most cost-effective option for an indie film. One way could be through education, track research done for the movie, production and distribution. This can all be posted online and serve as a source for those aspiring to work in entertainment, as well as those studying issues involved in the movie. Indie films such as "Crash" and "Run Lola Run" are used countless times in schools to address cultural and ethical issues. By posting online what would appear on the "features" section of a mainstream DVD, indies could push ahead in marketing.

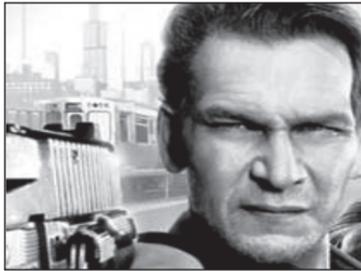
2. Pressure independent exhibitors to enhance their own local marketing techniques. One reason students won't go to the theaters is they don't know their location. But when students experience indie theaters' retro charm, unique food and alcoholic beverages, they'll be sure to return.

3. Focus on storytelling through marketing. The stories are what make independent films unique and should be the primary feature. If a major celebrity is in the film, it might be nice to feature, but it should be secondary to the story when marketing. Most independent producers and directors probably have more concern for the actor working for the story rather than the story working for the actor. The best way to showcase a story is through trailers and television spots. While this strategy may be typical, it's estimated that trailers account for 25 to 40 percent of box office revenue, a fairly large percentage for one tactic. Television spots also allow stories to be creatively and accurately represent the film. Through such innovative television spots, students will surely take notice of indie films.

Winter watch: a look at new series and returning favorites hitting the small screen

Chris King
Senior Reporter

NEW SHOWS



"The Beast" (A&E, premiered 1/15):

Twenty-two years after "Dirty Dancing," Patrick Swayze is back in the limelight with this new show, "The Beast." Swayze plays veteran FBI agent Charles Barker, who uses unorthodox methods to get the job done. He has to train Ellis Dove (Travis Fimmel), a rookie agent, using extreme tactics to make sure he understands the danger of undercover FBI work. Named after what Barker calls his job, the show is full of action and intrigue. "The Beast" airs Tuesdays at 10 p.m.



"Dollhouse" (Fox, premiers 2/13):

From the mind of Joss Whedon ("Buffy the Vampire Slayer," "Firefly") comes this new sci-fi series, starring Eliza Dushku as Echo, an "active." The actives are people whose minds are wiped and reprogrammed so they can perform specific jobs. Together, these actives, or "dolls," live in the secret hideout called The Dollhouse. Things go awry as Echo begins to remember jobs, and FBI Agent Paul Smith (Tamoh Penikett) begins to close in on the Dollhouse conspiracy. "Dollhouse" airs Fridays at 9 p.m.



"Lie to Me" (Fox, premiers 1/21):

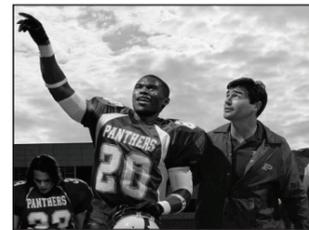
On this new Fox drama, Tim Roth ("Reservoir Dogs," "The Incredible Hulk") plays Dr. Cal Lightman, a man who studies facial and body expressions when interrogating people for law enforcement. Lightman is eccentric, and many old-fashioned law enforcement agents don't agree with his tactics. Thought of as a joke, Lightman has to prove them all wrong. "Lie to Me" airs Wednesdays at 9 p.m. after "American Idol."

RETURNING SHOWS



"Lost" (ABC, premiers 1/21):

TV's most complicated show returns. This season has Jack (Matthew Fox) and the rest of the Oceanic Six trying to get back to the island. While hundreds of questions remain, producers Damon Lindelof and Carlton Cuse promise this season will have answers. So prepare to dive back down the rabbit hole, and figure out what happened to all your favorite castaways. "Lost" airs Wednesdays at 9 p.m.



"Friday Night Lights" (NBC, premiered 1/16):

After the third season of this critically acclaimed show was aired on DirecTV earlier this year, it now comes to network television. Picking up where season two left off, this season shows the second half of the Dillon Panthers' season as Coach Eric Taylor (Kyle Chandler) tries to lead his team to a state championship. But this is a show more about the people and their relationships in a rural Texas town. "Friday Night Lights" airs Fridays at 9 p.m.



"Scrubs" (ABC, premiered 1/16):

The doctors are back in the house, except the house is now on ABC instead of NBC. This show hasn't completely changed. J.D. is still on and off with Elliot, it's still filled with zany fantasies, serious moments and J.D.'s inner monologue. But some things have changed. With Dr. Kelso ousted as the hospital's chief there's a new boss in town. In the first episode, it's Courtney Cox. Creator Bill Lawrence said this will definitely be the last season. It airs Tuesdays at 9 p.m.



"24" (FOX, premiered 1/11):

After more than a year and a half on hiatus, Jack Bauer (Kiefer Sutherland) returns. Set three years after season six, CTU has been disbanded and Jack is on trial for the things he did while working there. Before he can get in trouble with the law, catastrophe strikes and the government needs his services once again. This time, Jack's working with the FBI, and the bad guy is a familiar face many fans thought they would never see again. "24" airs Mondays at 9 p.m.

Tennis teams start season against stiff competition, score several upsets

Sam Calvert
Assistant Sports Editor

WOMEN

Friday night, the women's tennis team went into North Carolina State's J.W. Isenhour's Tennis Center as an underdog against the No. 36 ranked Wolfpack. They left with small victories that paved the way for larger ones to come in the near future.

The team prepared rigorously for the match, dedicating a good portion of its practices to creating a match-tough team ready to take on whatever opponents lie ahead.

"We've played a lot of doubles matches," head coach Elizabeth Anderson said. "It's a big strength of ours, and we are trying to capitalize on it."

Elon went to N.C. State a clear underdog, but that didn't daunt the team. Although the Phoenix lost its three singles matches, along with its first five doubles matches, its No. 6 singles player, Whitney Butcher, managed to pull through a difficult two sets to beat N.C. State's Jackie Ussery in a tiebreaker, 6-2, 1-6, 1-0 (12-10).

Doubles action did not go as well. The Wolfpack's Berkely Brock and Lenka Hojckova, who are ranked No. 2 in the NCAA Southeast Region, defeated juniors Anna Milian and Paige Kensrue. Elon's freshman duo Elisa Simonetti and Daleen Kloppers also tallied losses at the hands of Neils Barringer and Diana Mortlock, as did Sally Wilkey and Butcher by Daria Petrovic and Pender Sessoms.

As for the singles matches, Brock routed Milian 6-0, 6-2. No. 87 Hojckova bested Kensrue 6-0, 6-3. Simonetti battled hard, but was unable to overcome Barringer 7-5, 6-4. Mortlock defeated Kloppers 6-1, 6-4, and at No. 5, Sessoms beat Wilkey 6-3, 6-2.

In the end, N.C. State prevailed over Elon 6-1.

But the team does not view this match as a loss. They see it, rather, as a time to learn and develop as players.

"In the first few tough matches, it is all about the experience, so there's not much pressure," Elon co-captain junior Paige Kensrue said. "We just want to play our best."

The Phoenix takes on No. 60 Virginia Tech on the road at 2:30 p.m. on Jan. 28. This is another chance for Elon to improve. They still have eight matches before conference play begins, and will use every opportunity to gain experience before these big games.

"At the beginning, it's not about the record," Kensrue said. "It's about getting our freshman ready, which will help us in our conference matches."

The team's first conference match is Feb. 21 against Georgia Southern. This will be a big match for them, but until then, Elon is focusing on improving and using every opponent as a chance to hone their skills so they will be ready for the all-important Southern Conference match-ups.

MEN

Men's doubles action would have told a similar story to that of the women's team if it were not for No. 1 doubles pair senior Damon Gooch and sophomore Philip Nemeč. The duo defeated Kiril Dimitrov and Alain Michel, the No. 38 ranked doubles team in the country. This put Gooch and Nemeč in first place in the doubles standings, tied with Clay Donato and Taylor Fogleman of UNC after day one.

The Duke Invitational matched the Elon men's tennis team with tough competition. The tournament gave the Phoenix a chance to compete against three nationally-ranked teams, No. 20 UNC Chapel Hill, No. 35 Duke University and No. 39 East Tennessee State University. The Phoenix was an underdog - the only unranked team in the tournament.

Elon had a rough first day against Duke on Saturday, winning only one of its fifteen matches. The Blue Devils swept the Phoenix in singles, with Elon only winning one set against them.

The team did keep most of the matches close, proving that they can keep up with a big team.

Even though the record for the day didn't look promising, it gave the team priceless experience.

"The Duke Invitational gives us a chance to play with some of the top players in our region," head coach Michael Leonard said. "We can't get that in practice."

Day two proved to be an improvement as the Phoenix played UNC. The team won six of its 12 matches against the highest ranked team in the tournament.

Elon lost its first two singles matches before winning its next four. Sophomore Chase Helpingstine defeated Luke Mojica 6-1, 6-4; Carlin Murray battled back and beat Kyle Baker 1-6, 6-2, 6-2; Sophomores Alberto Rojas overcame Zach Hunter 7-5, 6-1; and Cody Stauffer-MacDowell bested Cameron Ahari 6-2, 6-4. The team then gave up its last two matches to split the singles record 4-4.

The doubles action played out very similarly. Gooch and Nemeč upset Donato and Fogleman 8-5 to claim top spot in the doubles rankings. Clark Howell and Oscar Podlewski defeated Ahari and Baker 8-5, securing two of the four doubles matches.

"The team was really productive today," Leonard said. "I was pleased with what I saw. It was one of the better performances I've seen since I have been at Elon."

The Duke Invitational doesn't affect the match record of the team, but it still gives them a chance to get ready for the season.

"We are looking to gain confidence, and prove we can play with competitive teams," Leonard said.



FILE PHOTO
Last season, junior Anna Milian went 19-4 overall and 8-1 in conference play in singles play. She looks to build off her solid sophomore season to lead the Phoenix in the 2009 campaign.



DANIEL BAQUET | Photographer

Campus Recreation's intramural bowling league provides students with alcohol-free options during Winter Term.

Bowling league is a knock down success Inaugural year for Obama, why not bowling too?

Erik Kendall
Reporter

Elon's Campus Recreation has delivered an unexpected hit with a free bowling league, which has created buzz across the campus.

Surprisingly, the sport that draws the greatest number of participants in this country has been absent from Elon's intramural calendar until this month. During the past two weeks, more than 150 Elon students have flooded Country Club Lanes West on Church Street, both to evade cold temperatures outside and while competing for bowling glory.

The teams comprise of five players who bowl individually for three games each night. Their scores are then combined in order to compete against another team. This not only allows the opportunity for good team competition, but also the adaptation of clever team names. Gut-ter Done, Split Happens and Bowl Movements are only a sample of the clever names submitted.

Although the competition is fierce, the bowling backdrop also serves as a nice setting for social interaction and a fun alternative to alcohol-fueled nights on the town.

"Elon has created a stereotype for being a drinking school, so we are trying to create some fun alternatives for students so they have something else to do," junior Matt Whaley, Campus Rec team leader, said.

A free bowling league may be a great alternative but can also be economically challenging. Fortunately,

with the help of tremendous planning by the special programs unit within Campus Rec combined with funding from the presidential task force on alcohol, the idea has become a reality.

"The original idea was to have a one-night tournament, and we were expecting about 60 students, and thought we might need only about 15 lanes," Chris Myers, assistant director of special programs, said.

But as the number of people signing up increased and more funding became available, it became clear that the one-night tournament needed to become a five-night league.

"It's great to see as many people here as we have had," Myers said. "We had raffles going on [Tuesday] night and it has been a lot of fun."

Although Myers would not say exactly how much had to be spent to make the league happen, it has an estimated cost of about \$10,000 for alley rental and supplies.

The experience of the participants has been positive as well. Bowlers, like freshman Stephanie Bement, think the league was a great idea.

"I actually found out about it from an e-mail from my RA, and it has been a lot of fun," Bement said, her team Club Staley currently sits at 31 in the standings.

As of now, Bowl Movements, ranked first in the league, is the team to beat. Bowl Movements boasts the league's only undefeated record of 12-0 and may be a shoe in for the eight-team playoff that will conclude the league on Jan. 27.

But no matter who wins, this year's intramural bowling experiment will surely go down as a success and possibly make another appearance next Winter Term.

Team's efforts extend beyond basketball for a great cause



PHOTOS BY ANGIE LOVELACE | Photographer
Junior forward Amber Wall fights for a rebound against Western Carolina's Kristen Feemster. Wall finished with 11 points and 11 rebounds.

Basketball team drops 17 straight game but said they are seeing the bigger picture

Sam Calvert
Assistant Sports Editor

The Nest was filled with action Monday night as the Elon women's basketball team battled against the Western Carolina.

The Phoenix fought hard, but could not conquer the Catamounts losing 78-50. The Phoenix fall to 1-17, 0-11 in the Southern Conference.

Amber Wall led the Phoenix with 11 points and 11 rebounds. Elon freshman, Erica Keto made her first collegiate start, and recorded a career-high seven rebounds.

The Phoenix matched the Catamounts in most areas, including steals, turnovers and free throws. But, the numbers didn't come close in field goals and three-pointers, with Elon shooting 27.7 percent and 10 percent respectively.

"Tonight we tried our hardest," freshman Aiesha Harper said. "We aren't doubting ourselves because we see our potential."

The team continues to stay optimistic and players said they believe they can succeed together.

One example of a small success Monday night was improved free throws. Elon was 13-19 from the line, nailing 68.4 percent of their free throws.

"We attack with a lot of speed," Elon head coach Karen Barefoot said. "We're aggressive and quick, so we expect to be fouled."

The players now have another reason to be reminded to work hard, and that lies in their shoelaces.

All players were wearing one pink shoelace in honor of Kay Yow, a former Elon head basketball coach.

Yow, was the head women's basketball coach at N.C. State for 34 years until she stepped down from her position on Jan. 6, 2009 because of her ongoing battle with breast cancer.

Yow was first diagnosed with breast cancer in 1987. It has come and gone and Yow has said in various interviews she now has to focus her energy on recovering.

The disease reoccurred in the 2004-05 season, forcing her to miss 16 games of the season.

Elon is holding a "Pink Zone" game on Feb. 7. A portion of each ticket sale will benefit the Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund.

Elon will also sell Pink Zone T-shirts and shoe laces at the game.

For the Phoenix, that one game is not sufficient enough to remember Yow's continued fight, Barefoot said.

"She left a mark on the game, and I want the team to

know the history," Barefoot said. "I want them to fight hard until the buzzer. We can keep fighting. I want them to remember not to give up."

The Phoenix has to follow this loss with two conference road games in the next week - one Saturday at the College of Charleston and one Monday at Georgia Southern.

Both opponents stand at 6-4 in the Southern Conference.

Barefoot said she hopes to change the recent shooting trends of her team in time for the next few conference games.

"I want to breakdown tape, show them the good shots from the bad shots," Barefoot said. "We take too many quick and off-balanced shots. We settle too much for jump shots."

The team has played hard on the road, especially against tough opponents.

They said they are carrying that experience with them for their next two games.

Barefoot and members of the team agreed they are not going to let themselves be discouraged simply because of their record - with the zero in the wrong column.

"Our whole team is taking little steps and just trying to leave our mark," Harper said. "We are just going to stick to the plan and execute."



PHOTOS BY ANGIE LOVELACE | Photographer
Ola Atoeybi goes up strong for a shot against a UNC G defender. Atoeybi finished with a team-leading 17 points in the Phoenix's loss.

Phoenix lose sixth straight game, looks to rebound against Samford

Michelle Longo
Online Programs Director

With a little more than three minutes left in Saturday's game against UNC Greensboro, freshman guard Josh Bonney reached down to pick up a bobby pin on the court, left by one of Elon's cheerleaders. Bonney threw the pin to the side, off-the-court, but it ricocheted off the stands right back onto the hardwood.

He didn't try again.

The pesky pin's hindrance was indicative of not only the game, but Elon's less than gratifying season thus far.

The 89-72 defeat at the hands of SoCon and cross-town rival UNC G drops the Phoenix to 4-10 overall and 1-5 in conference play. The loss also tops a six-game losing skid dating back to Dec. 22, 2008.

"We came in thinking if we could win this game we could turn our season around," junior forward T.J. Douglas said. "We were hoping to come out, win big and gain some confidence. Obviously, we are lacking confidence in a major way."

Douglas finished his night with 11 points, including three three-pointers in an attempt to keep him team in the running. Four other Elon players scored in the double-digits, including team-leading Ola Atoeybi, who scored 17 points.

Atoeybi was coming off a career night against Davidson earlier last week, in which he netted 19 of his career-best 27 in the second half alone. Saying UNC G was gunning for him would be an understatement. Three different players covered Atoeybi during the 40-minute game. A pattern for future teams may be developing.

"We knew [Atoeybi] was capable of having a big night so we worked hard and tried to limit him," Spartans head coach Mike Dement said. "But you can't limit a player like that. He's one of the top players in this league."

Despite his 8-for-12 night, Atoeybi could not single-handedly lead Elon to a much-needed victory.

"When we are struggling to score like [Saturday], everytime you get the ball to [Atoeybi], you expect him to score, but he is only human," Elon head coach Ernie Nestor said. "The key to our team is being able to score some other way. No team is going to let us throw the ball into him all night anymore."

As a possible bright spot for the Phoenix, it committed only 12 turnovers in Saturday's game, its second lowest of the season behind eight against Virginia Tech. Turnovers have been a puzzling piece of the problem for Elon lately, and although it was not solved completely, it may be a step in the right direction.

On the other hand, the 89 points scored marked the fourth time this season the Phoenix surrendered 80 or more points, already tying last season's overall total.

"We hit a wall," Nestor said. "We went through a period where we didn't score and they did and basically we lost energy defensively. We have to have a better effort to be successful."

The Phoenix completes the last two games of a three-game homestand later this week with a game at 7 p.m. tonight against Samford University and one on Saturday versus Chattanooga.

Samford is 3-4 in the Southern Conference and sits in third place in the North Division standings, while Chattanooga is 4-3, good enough for second place.

"We put ourselves in a tough position, and we are going to have to fight hard to get out of it," Nestor said. "You just have to keep working. That is our only option."

Sports



PHOTO SUBMITTED

ABOVE & RIGHT: One of 90 dance teams present at the Universal Cheer Association/Universal Dance Association National College Championships in Orlando, Fla., the Phoenix did not advance to the finals but had a blast ranked in the top twenties of their division.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Phoenix dance team shines in Orlando

Jordan Scahill
Reporter

While many Elon students spent the weekend shivering in frigid temperatures, the Elon women's dance team was heating up the competition in Orlando, Fla., at the Universal Cheer Association/Universal Dance Association National College Championships. The Phoenix was one of 90 teams from around the country in the tournament.

"The National Championship is equivalent to the playoffs or tournaments in other sports," head coach Christine Martin said.

It is a way for the Phoenix to gain exposure and compete at a national level.

Including the cheerleading teams, there were around 5,000 participants in the entire competition. The dance teams were split into divisions according to the size of their school. There were 24 dance teams in the same division with the Phoenix.

Early Saturday morning, Elon performed its routine in front of the judges and audience. By Saturday afternoon the results were posted and the finals took place on Sunday.

"We did not reach the finals, but performed well and placed in the top twenties," said senior Elise Porter, a four-year member of the dance team.

The Phoenix received some very promising remarks from the judges in regards to their talent and hope to build on their success in the future Martin said.

"For our first time in this type of tournament, I am very happy with our finish," Martin said.

The dance team has been preparing for this competition since the beginning of the season. In the fall, Coach Martin selected 10 girls out of the 22-member competition team to compete in the National Championships.

"In early October we had a choreographer from Los Angeles come in to create a custom dance routine for us,"

Martin said.

The Phoenix has been practicing and perfecting that routine for months to prepare for this weekend in Orlando.

The team sent its video entry in November, later receiving an invitation from the judges to participate in the tournament in January. The dance team worked closely with the Elon Athletic Department throughout the process to garner support.

Martin said she is proud and content with the efforts of her team.

"The girls have stayed late and come in on weekends," she said. "They were working very hard to make this dream come true."

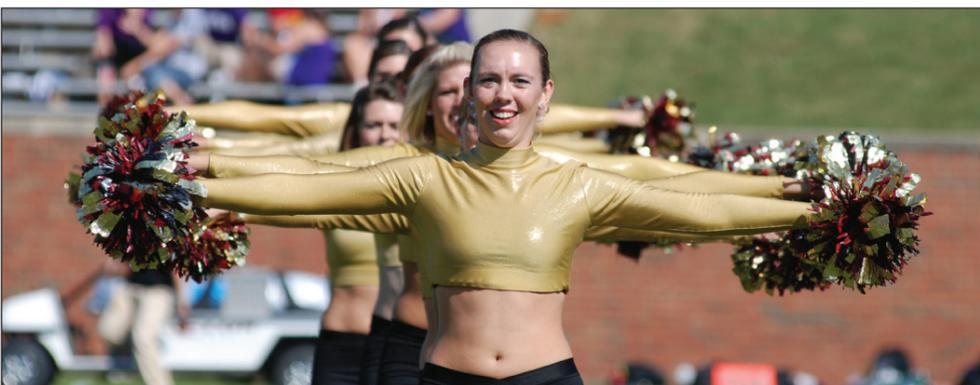
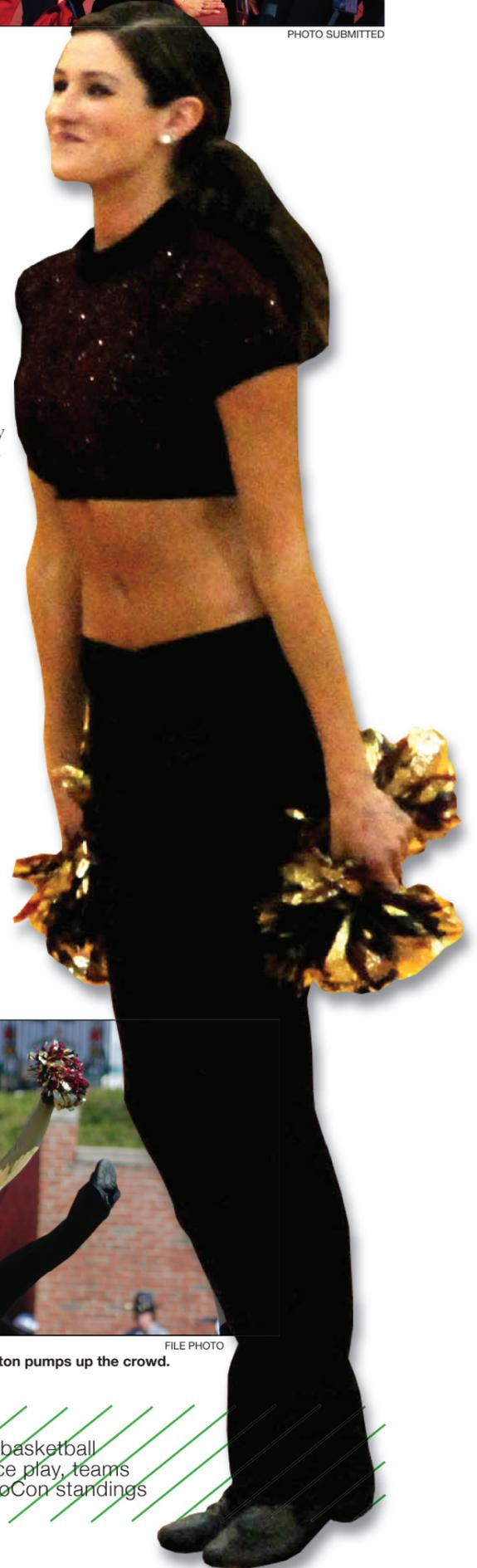
In a normal week, the Phoenix practices from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday. They also lift weights for one hour twice a week.

Additionally, the competition team comes in on weekends for some extra practice time.

In preparation for the competition, Martin said she planned to lead her team to represent Elon University and Elon Athletics in an area otherwise formally underrepresented.

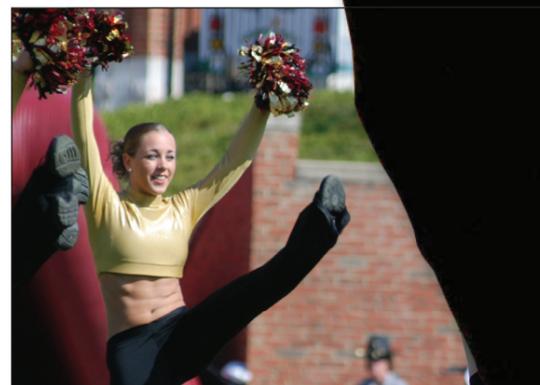
Unlike most other athletic teams, the dance team does not have games or tournaments often. Competitions like the National Championship this past weekend provide them with an opportunity to prove themselves by competing against other teams, especially on a national level.

The Universal Cheer Association/Universal Dance Association National College Championships is the last major competition for the dance team this year, but they will continue to dance at the Elon basketball games and other sporting events for the remainder of the athletic year.



FILE PHOTO

A line of dancers led by senior Jessica Lindsay support the Phoenix in a home football game late last year.



FILE PHOTO

Sophomore Liz Harrington pumps up the crowd.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Tennis tournament coverage
- Intramural bowling
- Men's and women's basketball struggle in conference play, teams look for a boost in SoCon standings



A PENDULUM SPECIAL EDITION

INAUGURATION 2009

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA | THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2009 | VOLUME 35, EDITION 2



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

President Barack Obama takes the oath as the 44th U.S. President with his wife, Michelle, and daughters, Malia and Sasha, by his side at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 20, 2009.

Obama sworn in as 44th president

Alyse Knorr
Senior Reporter

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Nearly 200 years after the birth of civil rights champion Abraham Lincoln, Barack Obama was sworn in as the first black president of the United States on the same Bible Lincoln used. Obama took the oath of office Tuesday to become the 44th president of the United States before a crowd of more

than 1 million people. In his inaugural address on the steps of the Capitol, Obama spoke of this nation's "winter of hardship," focusing on the many challenges facing America in the next few years, including foreign wars and domestic economic concerns. He stressed that America would

overcome these difficulties and urged Americans to regain feelings of both hope and responsibility.

"Today I say to you that the challenges we face are real," Obama said. "They are serious and they are many. They will not be met easily or in a short span of time. But know this America — they will be met."

Obama declared "a new era of responsibility" for all Americans, encouraging them to maintain their solid work ethic and not forget their values.

"For as much as government can do and must do, it is ultimately the faith and determination of the American people upon which this nation relies," he said.

In his 18.5-minute speech, Obama also stressed the importance of temperance, humility and diplomacy in dealing with foreign enemies.

"As for our common defense, we reject as false the choice between our safety and our ideals," he said.

At least 1 million people, and

perhaps as many as 2 million, began making their way to the city as early as 4 a.m., where they packed the Mall from the Capitol to the Washington Monument and braved the sub-freezing weather to see the historical event, which didn't start until 11:30 a.m.

The theme of the inauguration, "A New Birth of Freedom," was intended to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth. The theme's title is taken from a phrase in Lincoln's famous Gettysburg Address: "This nation shall have a new birth of freedom."

Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D), the first woman to serve in the Senate from California, gave welcoming remarks, after which the pastor Rick Warren gave an invocation and Aretha Franklin sang "America."

Vice President Joe Biden was then sworn into office by Justice John Paul Stevens before Chief Justice John Roberts administered the oath of office to Obama just after noon. Following the ceremony, Elizabeth Alexander read a poem, the Rev. Joseph E. Lowery gave a

benediction and the United States Navy Band performed the national anthem.

Afterward, Obama had lunch with members of Congress, the Supreme Court and his Cabinet and attended a parade down Pennsylvania Avenue from the Capitol to the White House.

Tuesday's inauguration ceremony follows a three-day weekend of events beginning with Obama's train journey from Philadelphia to Washington, a trip that mirrored the one Lincoln took before his inauguration. This trip included public events in Philadelphia, Wilmington, Del., and Baltimore.

On Sunday, festivities in D.C. began with a free kick-off concert called "We Are One: The Obama Inaugural Celebration," hosted at the Lincoln Memorial. It featured Beyonce, U2, Garth Brooks, Bruce Springsteen and Stevie Wonder. Historical passages were read by Denzel Washington, Martin Luther King III, Jamie Foxx and Queen Latifah.

On Monday, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Obama and Biden took part in activities commemorating King.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer

Crowds of people gather around the Washington Monument and perch on top of port-o-potties to view the "We Are One: Opening Inaugural Celebration at the Lincoln Memorial" on Sunday, Jan. 18.

'We Are One' concert sets tone for inauguration celebration

Olivia Hubert-Allen
Senior Reporter

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Bundled head to toe in mittens, long underwear, scarves and hats, thousands swarmed the National Mall on Sunday for an unprecedented inaugural concert that set the tone for the three-day inauguration party in Washington, D.C.

Spectators clustered together from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial to beyond the Washington Monument to witness a star-studded event that felt part pep rally, part Woodstock and a hint of a history lesson thrown into the mix.

President-elect Barack Obama's entrance drew cheers, applause and tears from an audience that came from around the world to see him become America's first black president.

"Robert Kennedy once said 'Forty years from now there will be an African American president of these United States ... well, Barack Obama is the fulfillment of that prophecy and that dream,'" said Ruthie Stevenson of Mount Clemens, Mich., who serves as president of the Macomb County Branch of the NAACP.

The 62-year-old said she never thought she would see this day.

A host of artists performed songs, beginning with Bruce Springsteen who opened the concert with "The Rising," which he wrote as a tribute to firefighters following Sept. 11, 2001.

Between musical performances, politicians, celebrities and everyday people spoke of past presidents, service and unity. They served the concert's theme, "We Are One."

Audience members hung from trees, sat on each other's shoulders and climbed on top of portable toilets to get a better view of the flag adorned stage. At the choruses of "Ain't that America," by John Mellencamp and "Lean On Me," by Mary J. Blige, viewers sang along, dancing to the familiar tunes. James Taylor joined together with John Legend to perform Taylor's hit, "Shower the People," and Sheryl Crow and Will.i.am collaborated to cover Bob Marley's famous, "One Love."

Though some came for the music, the highlight of the night for many was Obama's speech, which addressed the hardships the country faces. Speaking

with a sense of purpose and resolve Obama explained his hopes for the future.

"Despite the enormity of the task that lies ahead — I stand here today as hopeful as ever that the United States of America will endure — that the dream of our founders will live on in our time," Obama said, noting the things about America that make him hopeful.

Despite the turmoil in the world's economic markets, the Iraq War or the situation in Gaza, few people spoke about the problems that will certainly plague the first months and years of the Obama administration. Instead conversations took an optimistic tone as attendees reveled at the historic moment they were witnessing.

About 400,000 spectators looked up at Obama, their cheeks red and chapped from the cold, but their eyes bright and eager. The enthusiasm of the masses made it clear that this party will go on — no matter what.

"I never thought in my lifetime I would ever see a black president in the United States," said Gregory Floyd of Germantown, Md. "There's so many people coming out to see this. It's wonderful, just wonderful."

From Africa to America for Obama A small step for one supporter, a giant leap for the Comoro Islands

Ashley Barnas
Online Editor-in-Chief

WASHINGTON, D.C. — To witness Barack Obama's inauguration, Abou Kaudra traveled for 16 hours from tropical weather to what feels nearly Arctic.

Kaudra is from the Comoro Islands, between the eastern coast of Africa and Madagascar, and was invited to attend the inauguration because of his vehement support of Obama.

He was the only person from his country to predict that Obama would be nominated, even before the primaries, and soon after, he began telling people Obama would be the next president.

As the election began to take shape, people started listening to his predictions. After Obama's victory, Kaudra invited students, friends, countrymen, and even the American ambassador from Madagascar to a ball celebrating the feat.

The ambassador, R. Niels Marquardt, was overwhelmed with Kaudra's effort and enthusiasm. As a way to thank Kaudra, he arranged for free travel to

D.C. to see the inauguration.

Kaudra is accompanied by Maryland native, Salah Djimbanaou, who serves as his translator and guide.

"Every day," Kaudra said, "I'm getting phone calls and e-mails from back home: people asking me, 'So how is it over there? How are people reacting? What's it like to be there?'"

Kaudra has spent his time in the U.S.

“Even though the distance is so far away, it's my duty to be here and witness this and go back home and tell them what I saw and what I found about American life.”

- Abou Kaudra
Comoro Island resident attending inauguration

in meetings and conferences, including a three-day trip to New York to visit and meet with leaders of the United Nations. But for now, he wants to take pictures in front of the Capitol so he has something to share with those back home.

"Even though the distance is so far away, I feel like it's my duty to be here and witness this and go back home and tell them what I saw and what [I] found about American life, [about] American spirit," Kaudra said.

Kaudra said he wants the democracy in the United States to be a model

for overseas. This trip is not just for himself, but for all the people of the Comoro Islands.

"They are waiting for me to tell them what I saw," Kaudra said. "They're waiting for me to tell them what exactly I discovered in the process."

Kaudra explained that this victory is not about a white person or a black person, but about everyone.

"This is something you don't see in Africa," he said. "You don't see this spirit. This is a victory about race, this is a victory about ethical issues." Americans embraced Obama's bid for presidency and mobilized,

something Kaudra and his people did not get a chance to do.

"But this victory shows that American democracy has taken an additional step from other countries," Kaudra said. "And now, other countries should look up to this as a model and follow this change."

By being here, Kaudra said he just wants to witness history and the unity of the whole world.

"It's almost like when Armstrong went to the moon," he said. "Every small step is a giant leap for humanity."

Djimbanaou explained that Kaudra is here representing an entire country, so every step he takes is for the country as well.

"God created us as one," Djimbanaou said, "and then separate, as different colors, different studies, different ages, different ethnicities in order, at the end, to reunite as one. And today, with this victory and the way people gather together, it's almost like witnessing that spirit, that coming back as one again. I'm hoping this [will] really, really, really be the moment for us to witness a miracle, [in] history and God's work."



Locals hold out for scarce tickets

Olivia Hubert-Allen
Senior Reporter

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Hundreds of North Carolinians lined up outside of Kay Hagan's office Monday in hopes of getting one of the leftover inauguration tickets she was planning on doling out at 3 p.m. Some even beat Hagan's staff members to the office this morning, arriving before 8 a.m. For most it was a last attempt to get one of the 250,000 highly-prized (but free) inauguration tickets that have become the must-have object in Washington, D.C. this week.

"I just wish I had some for everybody," Hagan said. "So many people have come to Washington from North Carolina to witness this historic moment, we wanted to open it up to as many people as possible."

Hagan says she didn't even give tickets to her own children because she wanted to give them to others from the state.

Two Elon students were among the crowd that poured out of Hagan's congressional suite and into the hallway. They first started trying to get inauguration tickets when they were up in Washington, D.C. earlier this month for a Winter Term Teaching Fellows course.

"Our parents called us and were like, 'Oh, Kay Hagan is giving out tickets at three,' so we came to wait for tickets," junior Iris Versmissen said. "We're on the waiting list, so that's all that we can do."

Sen. Richard Burr had already allocated all of the inauguration tickets he was given, so his office was substantially calmer on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Hagan's office was particularly busy because she was able to get extra tickets for the Tar Heel State. Many waited for hours to see if their

name would be called.

Alicia Hash, a Charlotte resident, was hoping to get a second ticket for her and her husband, who already had one ticket between them.

"Maybe we'll just bless someone else with the ticket and we'll both stand in the mall and watch it," Hash

said, in the event that they do not get the second ticket.

At last the final ticket was given out. Many left disappointed and empty-handed, but a few were holding a piece of history: their ticket to Obama's inauguration.



People lined the streets outside House and Senate buildings on Monday to obtain the last inauguration tickets available.

ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer

Elon students, alumni a presence at inauguration

Olivia Hubert-Allen
Senior Reporter

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Given a long weekend, a beige minivan and a free place to stay in Washington, D.C., Marshall Sharpe and Shane Morris knew what they had to do: pack up the van, spend some quality time on Interstate 95 and see America's 44th President get sworn into office.

It's not the typical way that Elon students spend Martin Luther King Jr. weekend, but it is one that many say they will fondly remember. Elon made a definite mark at the inauguration this year, as students and alumni made small sacrifices of time, gas money or bedtime comfort to attend the event.

I think it's one of those once in a lifetime opportunities, said Megan Farrell, a 2008 graduate. I live right in the middle of it all.

Farrell walked from her apartment in nearby L'Enfant Plaza to the national mall at 3 a.m. Tuesday to stake out a good spot. Her efforts paid off and she got as close to the stage as a non-ticked spectator was able.

Other students weren't in such a convenient location, but were glad to attend anyway. Sharpe and Morris drove their van from Elon to Trinidad, a neighborhood in the northeastern part of the city. They stayed with Sharpe's sister and were able to make a long, 6 a.m. hike to get to the inauguration on time.

Being young and in college, you have to take an

opportunity to be a part of this, Sharpe said.

A few Elon students showed up at Sen. Kay Hagan's (D-N.C.) office to try and get one of the leftover inauguration tickets that her staff was handing out. Juniors Brandy Sparks and Iris Versmissen spent several hours in the hallway outside of Hagan's office on Monday. The two were in D.C. with the teaching fellows program, and have marveled at how the city had transformed during their two weeks there.

Everyone is so excited here. The energy is just crazy, Brandy Sparks said. It's just exciting to be a part of something so big.

Brad Hartland, a 2008 graduate also tried to get tickets from Hagan, but gave up quickly after he learned they were no longer accepting names for the waiting list. In the end his roommate pulled through with an extra ticket and he was able to get a close-up view of the inauguration.

Hartland says that having recently moved to the area, he has a unique take on the three-day celebration.

I feel like I'm getting to see it from the perspective of a resident because I live here now, but also as a tourist because it's my first time being here for an inauguration, he said.

No matter what Elon students or alumni went through to see the inauguration, they were all pleased to be a part of a moment that will live on in American history.



Iris Versmissen and Brandy Sparks, two Elon Teaching Fellows, got their names on a waiting list for inauguration tickets from Kay Hagan's office.

ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer

For our generation, a lot of things have happened, but very few things have happened that we've been able to be a part of, especially politically, Farrell said. I feel a responsibility to my children and grandchildren to go.

Red Cross volunteers offer aide, smiles at Capital

Ashley Barnas
Online Editor-in-Chief

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Cramming millions of people into a small geographic area can be hazardous and medical issues are inevitable, which is why the presence of more than 300 American Red Cross volunteers is not only welcome, but necessary.

Numb toes, missing children and visitors in search of port-o-potties are, gratefully, the most common problems that volunteers said they expected to encounter throughout inauguration weekend.

"This is where you see the folks that haven't quite prepared as much as they could have," volunteer Pam Burks said. "This is where it comes back to haunt them. So, there's folks getting cold, a little numbness in the hands and

feet, but we also have warming tents available so folks can warm back up again before they come back out."

Burks, from Elkridge, Md., is a volunteer with the National Capital Area chapter of the American Red Cross. She and other volunteers are around to help with public service, emergency management, emergency services and assisting the Go Teams walking around the Mall.

There were 10 Go Teams on the mall and more than 100 volunteers in the area on the day of the

"We Are One" inauguration concert assisting people as they needed it, watching the crowds to see if anyone needed help and answering visitors' questions. Go Teams are made of two volunteers trained in CPR and First Aid. They also work to help locate lost families. Communication by walkie-talkie was key among the Go Teams along the Mall.

Working with Burks was Steve Woods

of Danbury, Conn.

Woods is currently unemployed, so he called the Red Cross, said he has a couple weeks on his hands and asked how he could help. "They said to come on down," Woods said.

He has been volunteering for about 30 years and said he loves to see people come together and help.

Charlene Hatton was compelled to sign up during Hurricane Katrina and has been helping out ever since. From Oxon Hill, Md., Hatton said she just learned that the Red Cross has been assisting with inaugurations since 1909 when William H. Taft was sworn in.

Inauguration is an event that everyone wants to volunteer for, she said, but volunteering with the Red Cross is not a "one-event type of thing."

"This is really the largest crowd for me thus far," Hatton said, "and of course Tuesday is going to be even bigger, so I just can't imagine what it's

going to be like Tuesday. This is a pretty good-sized crowd, but everybody seems to just be in a happy, jovial mood and it seems like it's going to be a wonderful concert."

Primary concerns are to make sure everyone is safe and warm. Hatton said she is most concerned about young children because they will shed their warm layers and not realize how dangerous the bitter cold can be for them.

The volunteers took on the cold with smiles. Most of them working during inauguration weekend were from the Washington/Metro area and would easily have the opportunity to take part in the inauguration if they were not already volunteering. But at the same token, Burks has a better alternative:

"I've got to be honest, I'm a Washington native," she said, "so the call of my big screen television is hard to resist. But I tell you, now that I am here, I'm glad I came."

“We will not apologize for our way of life, nor will we waver in its defense. And for those who seek to advance their aims by inducing terror and slaughtering innocents, we say to you now that, ‘our spirit is stronger and cannot be broken; you cannot outlast us, and we will defeat you.’ For we know that our patchwork heritage is a strength, not a weakness.”

FROM THE WALL



“What the cynics fail to understand is that the ground has shifted beneath them - that the stale political arguments that have consumed us for so long no longer apply.”



Inauguration: A Global Perspective

South Africa Reported by Dan Rickershauser

Obama inauguration reminds South Africans of their own historic election.

For South Africa, citizens of the rainbow nation welcome the inauguration of Barack Obama with a great sense of excitement and hopefulness. To many, it is reminiscent of the '94 election of their first black president, Nelson Mandela. "Being a black person during the apartheid was tough in South Africa, and Mandela did a lot to make us all one," said Grace Tseleni Mthapo, a teacher at Ekukhanyisweni Primary School in the Alexandra Township near Johannesburg. As a teacher of social studies, Mthapo teaches her students about the similarities between South Africa's recent history and America's history in the making.

Peter Rebello, an account manager from Cape Town, also sees the similarities between Obama and Mandela. "To me, Barack Obama is Nelson Mandela in his youth," said Rebello. "[Obama] is going to create unity. He is going to pull the nations together."

Bram Jumna, an account manager from Durban, also sees the similarities between Obama and Mandela. "They have taken their carriage and grown their support from values, and they are true to their word," said Jumna.

Jumna's family in Durban was taping the entire inauguration process. Jumna says the recording, along with his signed copy of Bill Clinton's memoir, will be passed down in his family for generations. For Jumna and Rebello were both in Johannesburg on a business trip. While both have family in the United States, they agreed that it was a historic day for the world. "From our side, I'm proud America has taken this great step forward, which I think is greater than the first steps on the moon," said Rebello. "Obama to me is one small step for America, and a giant step for the world to see."

Notes from President Obama's inaugural address

“And so to all other peoples and governments who are watching today, from the grandest capitals to the small village where my father was born: know that America is a friend of each nation and every man, woman and child who seeks a future of peace and dignity, and we are ready to lead once more.”

“Today I say to you that the challenges we face are real. They are serious and they are many. They will not be met easily or in a short span of time. But know this, America — they will be met.”

“The state of the economy calls for action, bold and swift, and we will act — not only to create new jobs, but to lay a new foundation for growth.”

Prague

Reported by Jennifer Clements, Alexa Milan & David Wells

At bars across the city, huge television screens are tuned to CNN as patrons eagerly await the moment Barack Obama is sworn in as the United States' first black president.

Red, white and blue decorations adorn the walls, and some venues will not even seat customers unless they had reserved a seat for viewing the inauguration in advance.

As Li' Wayne's song "A Millie (Obama remix)" plays, the crowds go wild. When Obama is officially sworn in as president, everyone claps and cheers. But this excitement isn't just coming from Americans. In Prague, Czechs, Britons, Romanians and Americans alike were celebrating this historical moment together. Even days before the inauguration, people across Europe were already discussing their excitement about America's new commander in chief. "Everyone here loves him," said Leena Letterman, a 25-year-old native of Munich.

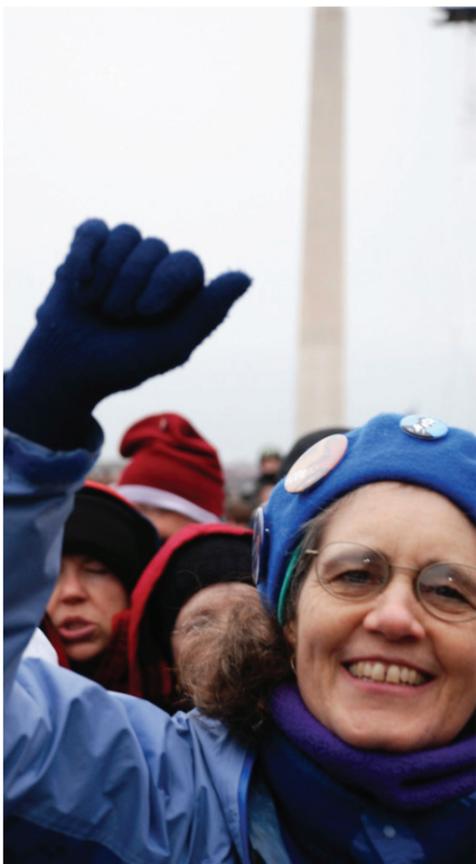
Letterman said Obama is well received throughout Germany because he is different from Pres. George W. Bush and he represents the kind of change people around the world want.

While a lot of people internationally looked forward to seeing Obama take office, not everyone shared the same enthusiasm. Ben Hubble, who owns a pub outside London, said he has never seen anything as monumental as this inauguration. "In England we don't celebrate anything like this," Hubble said. "If there's a football match on we'd rather watch the football match."

Hubble said he finds it hard to relate to people's enthusiasm about Obama because young people don't get as excited about politics in England. "But this is still history in the making," said Corrie-Ann Wilson, who owns the pub with Hubble. "It's a shame. I wish we had more passion about our country." Though some Europeans struggle to relate to the massive scale of this inauguration, others are still hopeful that Obama can bring about change. When asked what citizens of Afghanistan thought about America now, Akbar Ayazi, director of Radio Free Afghanistan, replied, "How many more hours does Bush have left?"

Radio Free Afghanistan, a subdivision of Radio Free Europe, is bringing Obama's inauguration into the homes of the people of Afghanistan. Two reporters selected and translated portions of Obama's acceptance speech that were most relevant to Afghanistan.

The radio station, which is based in Prague, features call shows that last two hours and create platforms for democratic debate on differing subjects. The next call show is scheduled for Thursday and will discuss Obama's presidency and what it will mean to Afghanistan. "There is a hope and a change with Obama," Ayazi said. "Afghans want this."



ALYSE KNORR | Photographer

Many in the crowd did not allow the freezing temperatures to alter their excitement and enthusiasm.



ALYSE KNORR | Photographer

Millions gathered outside the Lincoln Memorial for President Barack Obama's inauguration celebration.

You road trip, you take part in history, you vend

Ashley Barnas

Online Editor-in-Chief

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Traveling from across the country or popping several states down to witness history in the making is not so out of the ordinary. But when you toss in a few Barack Obama pins, Obama family portraits, Obama posters, hats, scarves, flags and T-shirts, you get a whole new reason for your journey. 0

You vend.

A three-day, six-hour road trip from California with his sons is how Lester Johnson traveled to D.C., not just to experience the historical moment, but with the hope of making some money as well. Barack Obama promised jobs, Johnson said, so here he is: doing his job.

Robert Eddy traveled to D.C. on Sunday night from Dayton, Ohio, to sell his pins and knit caps. After only an hour, he had sold about 100 buttons.

For him, buttons are the most popular purchase, but it's also only one of two things he's selling.

Eddy is one of about 20 people who work for the same merchant back home, and came to D.C. for the prime reason of vending.

Michael Jones, who is selling more than just buttons and hats, said sales have been great for him. From New York City, Jones came to D.C. to make money off his merchandise. Surrounded by



LAURA WAINMAN | Photographer

More than 100 members of the Elon community watched President Barack Obama's inauguration on a screen in McKinnon Hall.

Elon community gathers for historic Inaugural Watch in McKinnon Hall

Laura Wainman
Senior Reporter

Despite the snow and the lure of their heated rooms, more than 100 students, faculty, staff and members of the Elon community came together to witness the historic inauguration of President Barack Obama. The Inaugural Watch was sponsored by the Council of Civic Engagement, the Elon members of Phi Beta Kappa and the Multicultural Center.

The Council on Civic Engagement, which is co-chaired by Associate Provost Nancy Midgette and Dean and Vice President of Student Life Smith Jackson, discussed a variety of events they could host in honor of Obama's swearing in to office. Ultimately, they decided on the Inaugural Watch.

"Everyone at Elon has been very helpful in putting this event together — media services, ARAMARK, Michael Williams in the Moseley Center, University Relations and Moving and Set-Up," Deborah Long said, the coordinator of Civic Engagement.

A large portion of those who gathered in McKinnon were Elon students, which is what the Council had hoped for.

"Today is a special day," freshman Luis Sanchez Jr. said. "It is history in the making. I feel like I am part of it too, because this was actually the first election that I could vote in and it is the first black president, which is a big deal in this country."

Many students, like junior Lauren Beckham, chose to attend the Inaugural Watch rather than watch it in the comfort of their own dorm room so they could be around others who shared their excitement.

"I think this is a big event that you should share with your friends," Beckham said. "All my friends

are coming here too, and I am glad because I want to be around a lot of people today. I want to celebrate."

For others, this was more than just a historic event to watch. Obama taking office represents a victory after decades of struggle.

"I never thought I would see this day in my lifetime," Kimberly Cole said. "I still remember when Martin Luther King Jr. died. I was starting grade school and they had just integrated the schools. I understand fully well what today means, and I wish my parents were alive to see this. I never thought we would have an African-American president."

Obama's emphasis on remembering and respecting those who labored for the good of the country and the people within, along with celebrating his inauguration, rang true with the attendants.

"I came today not just for myself, but for my grandmother and all those who came before me," senior Paula Moore said. "They say this is our time, but it is really their time because they have been waiting so long for this dynamic to happen. Just think, we are going to put this black man in the president's office, and he is standing on steps that slaves built. It is an amazing feat that we have accomplished."

Even the youngest members of the audience seemed to understand the historic significance of this event. Nine-year-old Hannah Otos and four-year-old Grace Otos watched with their parents Libby and Kevin Otos, both faculty at Elon.

"We wanted our kids here today to feel the energy of this festive event and be a part of the bigger community," Libby said.

The excitement in the room continued to increase as the moment of Obama's swearing in approached.

"I feel really good about the turnout of the event," Long said. "I was worried when it snowed and when classes were canceled that students might think, 'Oh, it's just more convenient to stay in my room.' But there is something about having a group together, watching together; that makes it so much more celebratory, so I am glad we have this many people."



ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer

A vendor proudly shows his work to potential customers.

INAUGURATIONS THROUGH THE YEARS

Alyse Knorr
Senior Reporter

Some things change, some remain the same. How did this ceremony differ and conform to past inaugurations?

What's the same?

The Church Service

The morning worship service tradition began with Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933. That year, Roosevelt and his wife attended a morning service at St. John's Episcopal Church next to the White House, before the inauguration ceremony began. Roosevelt attended the same church before the swearing-in ceremony at his next two inaugurations, and after that, a precedent was set.

Though the churches attended have varied according to the denomination of each president, most inauguration ceremonies since Roosevelt have been preceded by some kind of religious service.

The Luncheon

Around 1 p.m., Obama took part in a luncheon in the Capitol with members of Congress. This tradition began in 1897 with William McKinley. The menu at the inaugural luncheon usually corresponds with the inauguration's theme or reflects the cuisine of the president's home state. Obama's menu included seafood stew, pheasant and duck with molasses sweet potatoes and cinnamon

sponge cake.

The luncheon included speeches from members of Congress and Obama, as well as toasts and gift-giving. Obama and Biden received framed photographs of their swearing-in ceremonies, taken by the Senate photographer, flags flown over the Capitol during the ceremony and engraved crystal balls inscribed with the date of the inauguration.

The Parade

After the inauguration luncheon, Obama and Biden led a procession of floats, bands and military groups down Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House. After arriving, the two watched the rest of the parade with their families from stands at the White House.

The parade tradition began after George Washington's inauguration in New York City in 1789.

Blacks first participated in the parade in 1865, during Abraham Lincoln's second inauguration and women first participated in 1917, at Woodrow Wilson's parade. The limit to the number of parade participants is set at 15,000.

What's different?

The Bible

Obama was sworn in using the same Bible as Abraham Lincoln in 1861, making him the first president since Lincoln himself to use this Bible. Although the Constitution does not specify that the president must be sworn in on a Bible, presidents have traditionally chosen to use it for their oaths of office and tend to select volumes with personal or historic significance.

The Lincoln Bible was on loan from the Library of Congress for the event.

Tiger Woods

Golf legend Tiger Woods, usually known for his tendency to stay out of politics, spoke at Sunday's "We Are One" welcome concert at the Lincoln Memorial.

Woods spoke about the importance of honoring members of the military, citing his own experience as the son of a member of the military.

The Neighborhood Ball

Although inaugural balls are nothing new — presidents usually attend or host many of them on inauguration night — Obama's "Neighborhood Ball" is new and different. Unlike past inaugural balls, the Neighborhood Ball was open to ordinary Americans (with tickets), and a handful of the spaces were reserved for D.C. residents. Tickets to the event were distributed to a cross-section of everyday Americans for free or at affordable rates.

The ball will also be televised live on ABC, and webcasting and text messaging updates aimed to make the event more inclusive as well.

Beyonce, Mary J. Blige, Mariah Carey, Nick Cannon, Stevie Wonder, Shakira, Alicia Keys, Faith Hill and Jay-Z will perform at the event.

What will probably never change?

The speech tradition

After he took the oath of office, Obama delivered a 18.5 minute inaugural address, a tradition that began at the very first inauguration in 1789. After being sworn in as the first president of the United States, George Washington delivered a speech to Congress in its then-seat in New York City.

Although every president has given an inaugural address, the location of this speech has changed over time. In fact, inaugurations did not take place on the west front terrace of the Capitol — where Obama's took place — until Ronald Reagan's inauguration in 1981. Until then, most inaugural addresses were given on the east front portico of the Capitol, and before that, in the House or Senate chambers.

Some of the most famous presidential quotes come from inauguration speeches: Kennedy delivered his, "Ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country," line at his inauguration in 1961, and Franklin D.

“

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.

- Presidential oath of office
Article II, Section 1, United States Constitution

”

Roosevelt stated, "We have nothing to fear but fear itself," at his inauguration in 1933.

The Oath

The presidential oath of office is defined in article II, section I of the U.S. Constitution. The same oath is administered to every president, as well as vice presidents who have had to be sworn in to replace presidents, such as Lyndon B. Johnson, Calvin Coolidge and John Tyler.

Inauguration by the numbers

2 million — Number of spectators that attended the 2009 inauguration

7 degrees Fahrenheit — Coldest inauguration day temperature in history, at Ronald Reagan's second inauguration in 1985

31 degrees Fahrenheit — the high temperature Tuesday

43 — Number of presidents the U.S. has had up until now

50 — Number of Greensboro police officers who assisted with security at the ceremony

1.2 million — Highest number of inauguration spectators on record, at Lyndon B. Johnson's inauguration in 1963

135 — Number of words in the shortest inaugural address ever given, by George Washington during his second inauguration in 1793

\$150 million — Approximate cost of the inauguration

1,600 — Number of people the inaugural platform held on Tuesday

5,000 — Portable toilets in downtown D.C.

8,445 — Number of words in the longest inaugural address ever given, by William Henry Harrison in 1841

\$40-45 million — Estimated cost of the inaugural parade, balls, welcoming ceremonies and other expenses

32,000 — Number of military personnel involved in the inauguration

10,000+ — Number of square feet of the inaugural platform (this is the same size as 2005's platform, which was the largest inauguration platform ever built)

240,000 — Ticketed guests who fill the space closest to the stage

240,000 — Number of inauguration tickets given out



Obama's first week in office



What does Obama face in his first 7 days?

From the beginning of his candidacy, President Barack Obama has been declaring he would begin to implementing changes on "day one" of his term in office. It was campaign promises about the Iraq War, the economy and education that helped win him the election, but have left him with a hefty to-do list. Now into his first week, there are a few things that have become clear priorities for the new administration.

Olivia Hubert-Allen
& Alyse Knorr
Senior Reporters

THE IRAQ WAR:

It's been more than five years since President Bush delivered his infamous "Mission Accomplished" speech but the war still continues. Recent news out of Iraq has proven more optimistic, especially following the more than 20,000 troop surge that officials say has led to a reduced number of violent attacks. As America has made progress in Iraq, the voices in the Senate chamber calling for withdrawal have lessened and concerns over the economy have taken their place.

Yet, one of Obama's biggest promises to voters was to bring an end to the Iraq War, and millions

are paying close attention to his first few days in office. In July 2008 Obama said, "I intend to end this war. My first day in office, I will bring the Joint Chiefs of Staff in, and I will give them a new mission, and that is to end this war responsibly and deliberately but decisively." Since then he has made several statements indicating that withdrawal will take some time.

According to a Washington Post article Obama will meet with members of the National Security Council today to reassess Iraq and Afghanistan.



Protestors demonstrate against the use of the Guantanamo Bay prison they day before the inauguration.

GUANTANAMO BAY:

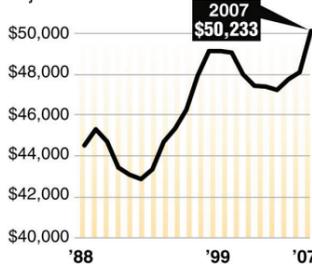
Obama has said that he will issue an executive order for the closing of Guantanamo Bay Detention Center which has received ongoing criticism for using violent or torturous methods to interrogate prisoners. One of the obstacles with closing the facility is where to send the 250 military prisoners who are currently living there. If Obama closes the prison, many detainees are expected to be shipped to other high security prisons and some may be released completely. A Guantanamo Bay protest was staged in Washington, D.C. the day before the inauguration.

Economic inequality

While new Census Bureau data show some improvement in Americans' finances, not all groups benefitted.

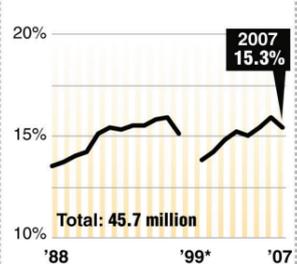
Income continued to inch up ...

... but the poorest's share of national income held at 3.4 percent; median household income, adjusted for inflation:



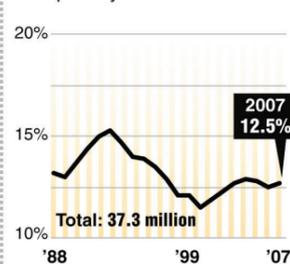
Fewer lacked health insurance ...

... but the rate among Asians jumped 1.3 percentage points; overall uninsured rate:



Poverty rate remained virtually the same for most ...

... but rose almost a full percentage point for Hispanics; total poverty rate:



How racial/ethnic groups rank

For 2007

Asian	\$66,103	Hispanic**	32.1%	African-American	24.5%
White, non-Hispanic*	\$54,920	African-American	19.5%	Hispanic**	21.5%
Hispanic**	\$38,679	Asian	16.8%	Asian	10.2%
African-American	\$33,916	White, non-Hispanic*	10.4%	White, non-Hispanic*	8.2%

*Survey methodology changed in 1999; data reflects that change by showing both values

**Hispanics can be any race

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Graphic: Pat Carr

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GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM

Charts show 20-year trends in U.S. median household income, poverty rate and rate of those without health insurance; tables show 2007 racial/ethnic data.

THE ECONOMY:

The woes of the economy are hard to miss. The Dow Jones Industrial Average has sunken to lows not seen in years. The Federal Reserve cut the interest rate to near zero percent and 524,000 jobs were lost in December. Even before Obama was sworn into office on Tuesday, American's looked to him for solutions to the current economic crisis. Given the grave predictions of many economists, America's financial situation will be Obama's first and most important challenge in office.

So far, Obama has worked with members of Congress to build an \$825 billion fiscal recovery package that was presented by House Democrats on Jan. 15. The plan involves \$550 billion in government spending and \$275 billion in tax cuts. Some of the government expenditures include \$87 billion for a temporary increase in aid to states for Medicaid costs; \$79 billion in aid to local school districts and public colleges to prevent cutbacks; \$90 billion in infrastructure spending; and \$54 billion to encourage energy production from renewable sources. The House is expected to vote on this package in the next two weeks.



Students from the Muslim American Youth Academy walk past a classroom with younger students displaying their artwork honoring Martin Luther King Jr., in Dearborn, Mich., Thursday, January 15, 2009. The pre-school to K-8 students are part of the more than 400,000 Muslims that live in the Detroit area, the largest concentration of Muslims in the United States.

GAZA-ISRAELI CONFLICT:

The current ceasefire agreement between Gaza and Israel is in a delicate state that can be ended at any moment by any incitement of violence from either side. The precious land that the conflict started over now represents the political, religious and cultural differences that have separated the Israeli's and Palestinians for some time. The June 2008 ceasefire only lasted several months when Israeli forces began to launch ground and air attacks again in November.

So far Obama has been mum on details about what he will do about the current issues in the Middle East. His staff has continually said that there is "only one president at a time." But now that Obama has sworn into office, the world is watching to see what role the United States will play in this sensitive and historic conflict.

EDUCATION:

During President George W. Bush's term, Congress passed the No Child Left Behind Act, an attempt to improve the performance of public American schools by increasing an emphasis on reading and mathematics. Critics of the act have noted that its increased focus on accountability has resulted in too much standardized testing and, subsequently, "teaching to the test." Other critics point out that the reading and math focus has narrowed the curriculum, cutting arts and sciences classroom time.

Obama has pledged to reform No Child Left Behind by changing the way performance is measured in the classroom and by providing support for under-performing schools rather than punishing them by cutting funding. He has also emphasized recruiting and rewarding high-quality teachers, which earned him an endorsement from the National Education Association, the largest union of teachers in the country. The millions of teachers across America will be watching Obama's first few weeks closely.