

Dan Ingle: The life of Elon's own campus investigator

Candace Buckman

Features Editor

Dan Ingle leans back in his chair. His eyes seem to smile as they look off to the side, reliving old memories. Wrinkles on his forehead show that he has interesting stories to tell.

It is not every day that you feel warmth from an accent. Talk to Ingle for only a minute and you will feel the comfort in his Southern drawl. He is content in his small office, and if given the chance, he'll happily tell you why.

His story begins in high school when it came time for him to choose a college. In 1970, Ingle decided to follow in the footsteps of his father, mother and aunt by enrolling at Elon College. He little knew what lay ahead of him.

During the many baseball games in which Ingle played during his first year of college, his eyes were always focused on the scoreboard. But he could have cared less about

the score. His only interest was in the scorekeeper.

"Yep, she was the scorekeeper for the team," Ingle said, speaking of the woman who became his wife. "Her dad was actually the captain of the Burlington Police Department."

Ingle found himself impatient, and quickly dropped out of Elon after his first year.

It wasn't until he reached the age of 20 that he considered becoming a law enforcement official.

A short time later he was wearing the Burlington Police badge, a badge he wore for the next 11 years.

In 1984 he saw yet another opportunity. The Town of Elon was looking for a chief of police. Ingle came back to Elon a second time, not as a student, but as the new police chief. He soon discovered difficult days would come along with his new title.

"One story that sticks out in my mind," Ingle said, "is when a 19-year-old went AWOL from the



Candace Buckman / Photographer

Dan Ingle began working as Elon's campus investigator this January. As campus investigator he is in charge of investigating any criminal activity on campus.

Army and decided one day that he would buy this young lady he met some ice cream."

End the story there and you're left with an innocent anecdote. When you are the chief of police, the story ends with the young man

killling an old man after robbing him for ice cream money. Ingle was named lead investigator of the case.

He knew the boy would face the death penalty, an issue that still unsettles him.

"I've always had mixed feelings

about the death penalty," he said.

The 19-year-old received life in prison.

In 2002 Ingle knew that it was time for a break. On Jan. 2 he handed down his title as the Elon police chief.

But law enforcement remained in his blood. He spent a year as a cold case investigator, supervising more than 40 people.

In January, he took a chance and became Elon University's first campus investigator.

"Any type of criminal investigation that needs to be done on the campus, I do," he said. He smiles as he reports that as of yet, there have been no calls for investigation.

Ingle's satisfaction with his life is evident in his speech.

"After 31 years," he says, "I've done about everything you can do."

Contact Candace Buckman at pendulum@elon.edu or 278-7247.

CAREER CONNECTION: Your link to the Elon Career Center

Upcoming Information Sessions/On-Campus Recruiting Events:

Seniors! Stop by the Career Center, Duke 101, and sign-up to talk with employers about jobs. You may view these employers on our web site at www.elon.edu/careers and click EVENTS. Deadlines are quickly approaching so hurry into the Career Center. Upcoming events include:

US Census Bureau – Jobs with the federal government. Deadline to sign up: March 8, 101 Duke. Bring your resume to this session!

IBM Internships for Accounting Juniors – Deadline to sign up: March 9; See Dr. Art Cassill (must have 3.3 GPA)

Walt Disney World Intern Program Information Session – Thursday, March 11, Mooney Room 111 at 5 p.m. Please sign up in Duke 101.

Merck Pharmaceutical Information Session – Tuesday, March 16, 4 p.m. Deadline to sign up: March 10, Duke 101. Bring your resume to this session!

The Sherwin Williams Company - Full-time management trainee positions; locations nationwide. Deadline to sign-up is March 10, Duke 101; you will be notified if you are to interview on March 16.

NCCC Information Fair for Careers in Nonprofit
Wednesday, March 17, 2004, 1:00-3:30, Alumni Gym, Guilford College
See www.ncccjobfair.org for more information and a list of attendees.

Elon Career and Graduate School Fair

Thursday, March 11, 1 – 4 p.m., Alumni Gym

What are you doing after Graduation? Attend the Elon Career and Graduate School Fair and find the answer to this question and more!

Open to all majors; internships and full-time opportunities available. Students can win great door prizes!

Win a Prize by Visiting the Career Center—it's not too late!

Just meet with a counselor in the Career Center or have your resume reviewed by a member of the Resume Rescue Team by March 4 and your name will be entered into the weekly raffle for a \$25 gift certificate to the location of your choice. Call the Career Center to set your appointment or come in for the walk-in resume hours listed below.

Career Center Resume Walk-in Hours

Come to Duke 101 and have your resume reviewed by a member of the Resume Rescue Team. Tuesdays: 2 - 4 p.m.; Fridays: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. First come, first served!

Do You Know How to Conduct a Job Search?

Call or come by the Career Center, Duke 101 and sign up for an appointment with one of our career counselors. They can get you started and answer any questions you may have. Don't wait until it's too late!

www.elon.edu/careers - 101 Duke - 278-6538

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.