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This tree was just one of many that fell during the tornado-like storm that swept through Elon in June.

Storm brings wind, rain, and damage

By Mindy Schneeberger
Pendulum Editor

Students just returning for the fall semester would hardly know it by looking at the campus, but Elon was the site of a devastating storm early this summer.

Around 7:15 on the evening of June 16, a tornado-like storm ripped through the Elon College area, leaving \$300,000 worth of damage in its wake.

After a spring of unpredictable and often dangerous weather, including a number of tornado warnings and watches, the campus had already been thoroughly drenched on several occasions. Yet none of the previous storms could match the power of the one which struck during the first session of summer school.

The gale appeared almost without warning and vanished as fast as it came. In a mere 15 minutes, however, 50 mile per hour winds managed to wreak havoc upon many of the buildings and trees on campus.

The roof of Beck Pool was just one victim of the wind and rain. Damage was so extensive

that observers could actually see the sky while standing inside the building. The roofs of Mooney and Duke buildings also suffered damage. Another casualty was Adams House.

Three trees crashed upon the roof of the historic building now used by the ROTC. Additionally, the recently-opened Powell Tennis Center suffered an estimated \$3000 worth of damages.

Across the campus, lightpoles and trees were twisted and bent. Fifty of Elon's namesake oaks fell victim to the storm, as did a great many pine trees in the northern portion of campus.

Vice President for Administrative Services Bob Poindexter asserted that another six to ten trees will be lost within the next few months because of damage incurred by the storm.

Poindexter says that the total bill for damages and repairs will probably reach \$300,000. Yet very little of the damage can now be seen.

Crews began cleaning the debris by daybreak the morning after the storm, and they have been working since then to restore the campus. Poindexter says that the

clean-up process is "95-plus percent" complete; but even as recently as last Thursday morning, workmen could be spotted on the roofs of Mooney and Duke. The clean-up effort has been slowed substantially by summer rainstorms.

While the damage to property was extensive, no injuries were attributed to the storm. Poindexter said that he feels "very fortunate" that there were few students on campus at the time.

Director of Housing Lee Proctor reported that only about 65 students were being housed in Jordan Center facilities during the summer semester, and perhaps around a fourth of those residents were present during the storm. Proctor said that because the storm rose so suddenly, no evacuation effort was organized. There was no damage to any of the "Oaks" facilities, although the campus lost power until late Saturday afternoon.

Because of the power outage, the campus dining service set up two charcoal grills on the patio of the Grille, and students as well as cleaning crews enjoyed eating the foods that could not be preserved.

School has big plans for first class of Leadership Fellows

by Mindy Schneeberger

For the first time in Elon's history, the college has opened its doors to a group of "Leadership Fellows." These leaders round out the school's three-part "fellows" program, which also includes Honors students and North Carolina teaching fellows. Last school year, the Admissions Office targeted 197 nominees who demonstrated both academic success and extracurricular involvement.

Nominees must have attained either a minimum 3.0 grade point average or a score of at least 1000 on the SAT. Additionally, each potential fellow had to be involved in at least four extracurricular activities during his or her high school years, holding a serious leadership role in at least one of them.

Of the nominees, 80 students were named "finalists" and were granted \$1000 scholarships. These awards are renewable each year, dependent upon the individual's academic and leadership performance. Fellows are obligated to maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA, successfully complete the yearly objectives outlined for them, and remain in satisfactory disciplinary standing at the college.

As for academic and campus involvement, these students will be enrolled in leadership development classes, various lecture series, community internship projects, and travel-study programs.

Lela Faye Rich, Director of Pre-Major Advising, said the intention is not to separate these students from the rest of the population. Instead, she said, the

group will "bring some energy" to the campus and "act as leaven" by adding new ideas and inspiring other students to participate in campus and community activities.

The Leadership Fellows will be enrolled in specially-designed Elon 101 classes, however. These courses serve to ease the student's transition to college life and involve group activities outside class. The group has been divided into five sections. Faculty members Nancy Midgette, Robert Pelley, John Mitchell, James Drummond and Rev. Richard McBride have volunteered to head the classes. The future of the program depends upon the fellows themselves, according to Ms. Rich.

Members of Elon's chapter of Omicron Delta Kappa, a national honor society which recognizes campus leadership in both students and faculty, are helping orient the fellows. During the summer, the fifteen student members of ODK each contacted four or five fellows by mail. This relationship will continue throughout the semester.

Ellen Gagnon, Assistant to the Dean of Admissions and Financial Planning and the staff member who coordinates the nomination process and annual initiation ceremony, hopes that this leadership fellows-ODK member link will nurture an impressive group of inductees in the fall of 1991.

According to Gagnon, "One of my great expectations for Omicron Delta Kappa would be that a large portion of these incoming leadership fellows be tapped for membership in their junior year."

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