

The Pendulum

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Rob Whiteside / The Pendulum

Being restricted to a wheelchair adds another challenge to college life. Travel between classes, for example, is slowed down substantially.

Overcoming limitations

College and handicapped students can work together

Mindy Schneeberger
The Pendulum

Currently, there are no wheelchair-bound students registered at Elon. There have been a few in the past, however; and there have been -- and are currently -- students with a variety of other handicaps, ranging from blindness to spina bifida.

Although Elon does not actively recruit students with handicaps, the school does not turn such students away, says Lela Faye Rich, director of academic advising. "We try to meet the needs of all the students that are accepted to Elon College," she says.

The college also makes concessions for students who make requests for assistance. For example, some handicapped students have been able to pre-register early in order to ensure placement in classes taught at a particular time. Schedules are arranged so that students of

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limited mobility have plenty of time between classes, and classrooms are moved to the first floor of accessible buildings like Duke and Carlton.

Students with vision problems have been able to order from a series called "Readings for the Blind," a New York City-based service that provides tape-recordings of textbooks. Hearing-impaired students can tape lectures to play back later, and male professors have trimmed their beards over their lips in an effort to make lip-reading easier.

Professors have been very cooperative and have often gone out of their way to assist handicapped students, Rich says.

"I've never had a professor who would not be willing to work with a student if it was an identifiable need that could be met."

"Most students who come here have been mainstreamed," Rich says, meaning that they have managed to overcome their handicaps to an extent that they can feel comfortable on campus. In fact, she says, all students are "only limited by their vision of what they can do." But, she reminds, the college is often not made aware of less-visible handicaps. If a student needs help, says Rich, "It's his responsibility to speak up for himself and ask for it."

If a student expresses a genuine interest in the college, Elon will make an effort to provide for all students, handicapped or not, she says. "I think we are trying to see differences and see students' differing abilities," Rich says. "We're a human college and try to respond to human needs,"

Date rape victims do have choices

Kelly Potter
The Pendulum

"Fourteen rapes occurred last year at Elon," says Detective Mike Wosnick of the Elon College Police Department. "Only three were reported to the police."

"The other eleven are unaccounted for," Wosnick continues. If a rape is reported to a college official, to anyone on campus, it must in turn be reported to the police, he says.

Wosnick says he received his information concerning the number of rapes on campus from a knowledgeable source but requests the name be left anonymous.

"We are required by law to report rape incidents to the police, even if we file blind reports, excluding the names of those involved," says Jana Lynn Fields Patterson, associate dean of student affairs.

After the actual date rape has occurred, what is the next necessary step for the victim to take? Hit with a tremendous wave of emotional upheaval, the victim must sift through her options and decide to do what is best for her. For some, it may

Follow-up

be immediate help. For others, it may take a lifetime to acknowledge the violation that has been committed.

If she reports a rape right away, a victim has the right to prosecute later if she so desires. Immediate action allows the police to gather necessary evidence, a rape kit that can prove "John" raped "Jane." If a rape is left unreported, the victim has lost her chance of prosecuting in the future.

Wosnick does not agree with the adjudication of offenders on a campus level. "The most the college can do is kick the offender out of school. It does not help others to know it gives him the opportunity to do it again. It won't give him a lasting scar that will follow him wherever he goes," Wosnick says. He feels passionately that all rapists should be adjudicated by the criminal courts.

"Victims will not be pressured or coerced into prosecuting. The decision is totally up to them," he says.

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SUB making final plans for Smithereens concert

Rena Mauldin
The Pendulum

The Smithereens are coming to Elon in less than a week, and tickets for performance are going fast. According to the Student Union Board members, this concert is going to be a blast.

The national touring artists will appear in the Alumni Gym Tuesday, April 3, at 8 p.m. Richard Barone will be the Smithereens' opening act.

Jim Bush, SUB President, said Barone has just released an

album with Paradox/MCA, his long-awaited major label solo debut album.

Barone's Hoboken-based band, the Bongos, helped define the term "alternative music" for the 80s and entered the 90s with an album called *Primal Dream*. "Primal Dream has a unique and sophisticated level of songwriting," Bush said.

Working with the core group from *Cool Blue Halo* -- Jane Scarpantoni, Nick Celeste and

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