

Our Town is a return to yesterday

Deborah Durkee
The Pendulum

If car chases and violent action are what interest you, hit the local movie theater. But, if you're looking for a glimpse of yesterday, check out *Our Town*.

Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning play will be presented by the Department of Theatre Arts in the Fine Arts Theatre April 12 and 13 at 8 p.m. and April 14 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5, free with Elon identification.

The play, directed by Elon Fine Arts Professor Fred Rubeck, has little scenery and less action. It is a return to the simple life, "This is the way we were..." states a line from the play.

Our Town is set in Grovers Corners, N.H. at the turn of the century. It was a time when a boy married the girl next door and people lived and died in the same town.

"(The play) is a journal," Rubeck said. It talks about things that have always been the same about all of us, he said.

A familiar life theme includes a teenage girl asking her mother if she is pretty. Other familiar themes are being "just a little bit crazy" when you fall in love and marriages that last through 50,000 meals.

"Actually, the play is deceptively simple," Rubeck said. "Wilder has created a very simple and clean script with some universal messages."



Elon students (left to right) Todd A. Horman and Guy Walden prepare for Elon's production of *Our Town*.

Guy Walden, 21-year-old junior from Washington, D.C., plays the stage manager who narrates the play. Walden said he believes the theme of the play is that people go through life and pay attention to the big things, the ceremonies: births, marriages and funerals.

"People don't pay attention to the true value of life," Walden said. He said people look to the future but don't look at the here and now, the smell of coffee or the color green.

Other lead roles are played by Christina Dougherty as Emily Webb and

Todd A. Horman as George Gibbs. Elon student Tracie J. Ablard will design lighting and Elon professor Jon A. Drtina will serve as production design coordinator.

Other students in the production team are Chris Bower, sound design and John Scango, properties master.

"We are trying to incorporate more student designers in our productions to increase their educational experiences," Rubeck said. "It's a great learning experience for all involved."

Out of Time - not a typical REM album

Kristen Meyer

REM--*Out of Time* (Warner Brothers) When I saw REM about six years ago at Rutgers University frontman, Michael Stipe, passionately vowed to the crowd that they didn't care how far they went, they were strictly for us--a college band.

REM has certainly come a long way since then. After the prodigious success of their *Green* album, and over two years later, REM has returned with *Out of Time*.

This is not a typical REM album. This atypical sound manifests itself in the



addition of new instruments such as horns, harpsichords and strings. The band

members also traded instruments on some songs. On three cuts, Kate Pierson of the B-52's is featured vocally augmenting Michael Stipe's voice.

On *Out of Time*, REM also deviated from their common fascination with political declarations and they wrote songs a little closer to the heart.

The finished product is an unexpected surprise--very unique and distinct from any other REM album. The first released single, "Losing My Religion" is already climbing its way up the charts. "Radio Song" and "Texarkana" are noteworthy cuts, sure to make *Out of Time* an unequivocal success.

ON THE SCENE

Our Choice

Top 10 Money Making Movies

1. Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles II: The Secret of The Ooze
2. The Silence of the Lambs.
3. New Jack City.
4. Class Action.
5. Sleeping with the Enemy.
6. Dances with Wolves.
7. The Hard Way
8. Home Alone
9. The Doors
10. The Perfect Weapon

Top 10 Video Rentals

1. Flatliners
2. Air America
3. Die Hard 2: Die Harder
4. Darkman
5. Days of Thunder
6. Navy Seals
7. Arachniphobia
8. Problem Child
9. Death Warrant
10. The Two Jakes

Heading To Concerts

■ Indigo Girls, April 15, War Memorial Auditorium. Tickets are \$18.50.

■ The Judds, April 26, Charlotte Coliseum. Tickets are \$18.50 and \$23.50.

■ Pink Floyd Laser Light Show, April 26. Tickets are \$11.

At The Movies

■ Home Alone, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles II, Class Action, Silence of the Lambs- Janus Theatre, Church St. Huffman Mill Rd.

■ Out for Justice, New Jack City- Janus Theatre, Church St. Times not available.

■ Dances with Wolves, PinkFloyd-The Wall, Graham Cinema. Tickets for these shows are \$3.00.

Musicals/Plays

■ "Madame Butterfly," April 12, 14 and 16. Stevens Center. Tickets range from \$6.00 to \$20.00. For reservations call 725-2022.