

**INSIDE**

5

Fall symposium brings a variety of speakers to campus.

7

Pep band prepares for this year's football season. Chooses "Sound of Music" for home opener.

9

Football wins South Atlantic Conference opener at Catawba.



**REMINDER:**

First home football game this Saturday.



# THE PENDULUM

Volume XX, Number 3

Informing the Elon College Community

September 15, 1994



Brian Corrado/The Pendulum

## I've deflated and I can't get up!

Assistant coach Ann Lashley helps out women's basketball coach Brenda Paul, after the air escaped out of the Fightin' Christian during the Organizational Fair last Friday.

## Student jumped in woods

**Mary Kelli Bridges**  
Senior Reporter

An Elon College student was assaulted Saturday in wooded area near the college, an Elon College police report said.

Michael J. Seck, 20, Sigma Phi, Greek Circle, said he was walking in the woods between

Sheridan Place apartments and the greek houses at about 3:30 a.m.

Someone tackled him from behind, Seck said.

Seck said he kicked the person and ran.

He was not injured. "I was pretty lucky," he said.

Seck could not give police a description of his attacker.

## Jewish student leader calls theft of religious books a hate crime

**Mary Kelli Bridges**  
Senior Reporter

A Jewish student believes she was a victim of a "hate crime" when her dorm room was burglarized Sunday.

Elon College police are investigating the break-in, but don't believe yet that it is a hate crime.

A charge card, \$15, \$300 worth of medicine and eight "priceless" religious books were stolen from Jodi Pearlman's West dormitory room.

The books included seven Jewish cantorial and rabbinical books hundreds of years old and a prayer book, Pearlman said.

"They took a part of who I am," said the founder of Elon Hillel, a Jewish student organization.

Last week was Rosh Hashanah, the start of the Jewish New Year

and today is Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. Pearlman said she thinks the break-in was deliberately done on the holidays.

Pearlman said she thinks the break-in was a "hate crime" because a television, jewelry and textbooks were left behind.

Pearlman is not certain how the room was entered. She said her dorm door and her suitemates' door was locked, Pearlman's suitemates could not be reached for comment Tuesday evening.

Pearlman said she reported the incident to police and campus security.

Director of Campus Security Terry Creech did not return calls Tuesday.

Police don't have enough information to call the incident a religious or hate crime, Officer Mike Stidham said.

Stidham could not recall any

religious or hate crimes at Elon College that were reported to police.

However, in 1991 a black student told college officials that a Knight of the Ku Klux Klan card was delivered to her Staley dorm room.

Student Michael Russell admitted slipping the card under Latricia Moore's door. On the card was the message: "You have been paid a social visit by the KKK. Don't make the next visit a business call."

Russell's punishment included 100 hours of community service, banishment from Staley dormitory, probation for the remainder of the school term, and attending mandatory alcohol meetings.

Pearlman said she doesn't know of anyone who would want to break in to her room.

Pearlman said she wanted her books back.

## Special education programs offered for first time

**Tonya Hubart**  
Photo Editor

Undergraduate and graduate programs in special-education are being offered for the first time this fall by Elon College.

The graduate program offers a master's degree in special-education with a specialty in learning disabilities or behaviorally/emotionally handicapped, which are the highest demand categories, said Judy Howard, an assistant professor of education and the program's coordinator.

The master's program is open to students who meet Elon's admission requirements for graduate programs and who already have a recognized teaching license, Howard said.

The undergraduate program offers a bachelor's degree in spe-

cial-education with a specialization in learning disabilities, Howard said.

"Our primary reasons for going into this area is responding to a real need of public schools for additional qualified special-education teachers," said Gerald Dillashaw, dean of the college's Division of Education, Health, Physical Education and Leisure/Sport Management.

An Alamance County School Systems official called the shortage "critical."

"There's just not enough teachers available," said Denise Morton, the director of special children's programs for the Alamance County School Systems.

She said her school system has had two special-education teaching programs open for a long time.

"What we are having to do is hire teachers outside of the special-

education field will agree to go back to school," Morton said.

In 1992, there were more than 350,000 special-education teachers employed to serve infants through 21, according to Annual Reports to Congress, U.S. Department of Education.

The number of states required to provide services to students with disabilities has increased annually since 1978, resulting in special-education being one of the fastest growing occupations in the United States, according to Occupational Outlook Quarterly.

"Right now, special education is where the jobs are," said Howard, who has a doctorate in special-education and taught it for 10 years.

The demand for special-education teachers is a result of a higher turnover rate, fewer colleges and universities offering the degree, and

See Education, Page 4.