

Elon's most wanted comedian: Carrot Top

Shannon Prater
Staff Reporter

Carrot Top will make his second appearance at Elon College Sept. 29 in the Koury Center Alumni Gym at 8 p.m.

The comedian's appearance at Elon results from a survey that the Student Union Board sent to 1,000 students in the spring.

"We wanted to give students more of what they want," said Stan Zeigler, stage performer chairman for SUB.

"Students asked for bigger names. Because of the expense involved, we'll have bigger shows, just less often," Zeigler said.

Six hundred students returned the survey and Carrot Top was one of the most requested acts. Zeigler contacted the comedian's manager in June and booked him for the September date.

Carrot Top, born Scott Thompson, first appeared at Elon in the spring of '91.

Senior Rob Hann said, "That show was great. Carrot Top was hysterical. It'll be cool to see him

in person again."

Carrot Top, whose comedy is a unique blend of homemade inventions and observational humor, has come a long way since that first visit to Elon.

The first evidence of this is his performance price. Barb H. Carlton, director of Student Activities, said, "Last time he cost \$1,300. This time he's costing \$10,000."

Of course, last time he had only been on the college circuit for a couple of years. Since then, he has earned national fame as the most booked act ever on the college market.

Carrot Top's fame is not limited to the college scene, though. He performs in comedy clubs and has made several television appearances, including spots on MTV, Showtime and the Tonight Show.

His unmistakable humor and packed audiences most recently earned Carrot Top the 1994 American Comedy Award for Best Male Stand-Up.

Last year was also a big year for the red-head, who has homes in both Charlotte, N.C., and Los An-



Carrot Top

Press Release Photo

geles, Calif. He was voted National Campus Entertainer of the Year, National Campus Comedian of the Year and Comedian of the Year for the American Comedy Awards.

His resume is full of kudos for someone who never had serious

intentions of entering show business. As Scott Thompson, a marketing student at Florida Atlantic University in the mid-'80s, he has said he was always just having fun.

When dared to enter a comedy contest in college, the Cocoa Beach, Fla., native apparently found his

calling.

He paired his knack for humor with his marketing knowledge and became Carrot Top, the comedian whose clothes, which are as bright as his hair, and creative props keep audiences laughing.

What's New in Music: CD Review

Eric Clapton's got the blues on his new album *From the Cradle*

Chris Adams
Staff Reporter

Chris' Call: ****

After the immense sales of his *Unplugged* album, many Eric Clapton fans may have felt that he had reached the pinnacle of his musical talents with his 1992 effort, a disc which included a remake of the Derek and the Dominos smash hit "Layla." Although *Unplugged* was his best selling album to date, Clapton had more than a few tracks left up his sleeve and many of them were released last week when *From the Cradle* hit the stores.

From the Cradle is Clapton's escape back to his

deeply rooted blues background. His 29th album perhaps best captures the musical imagery that may have been lost in some of his mid-'80's recordings such as *Behind the Sun* and *August*. While both of these works were solid ones for Clapton, they each drove the artist away from his past greatness in the blues scene. It is in this musical realm that Clapton is the most comfortable.

"Blues Before Sunrise" opens the disc with a bullet; a long, hard, trip of a tune with a horde of background vocalists.

Personally, my favorite cut on this album is "Bad Love," a smooth, bass-filled song that is a great tune to "come down" to. This track gives the listener several biting lyrics and reminds the audience just how legendary Clapton's

status as a blues musician was and still is today.

"Motherless Child," the 11th track on the album, offers a new sound to the listener, with various percussion and an up-tempo beat throughout the song. "Drifting," meanwhile has a sound that reminds the listener of the closing portion of "Malted Milk" from *Unplugged*. This is but one of many tracks on the disc that will remind the listener of a song from an earlier Clapton album.

With this, his latest work, Clapton has once again given life to a career that was perhaps slipping after the breakup of Cream. He fought his way back to the music scene as a soloist, made millions of new fans and brought back the longtime believers.

ECTV Guide September 22-28

	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30
22 T	French In Action pts 8 & 9		Voices from North Ireland		Anatomy Review 8		The Mind pt 4		Peace Corps Panel Discussion			Vision Thing
23 F	Watch Vision Thing, And Other Student Programming											
24 S	Watch Vision Thing, And Other Student Programming											
25 S	Presidency & the Constitution		Destinos pts 9 & 10		Moyer's World of Ideas		The Power Game		Civil War pt 5		Civil War pt 6	
26 M	French In Action pts 10 & 11		Western Tradition pts 10 & 11		The Implant: Hip Replacement			Vision Thing	The Astronomers		Pacific Century	
27 T	Destinos pts 10 & 11		French In Action pts 10 & 11		The Implant: Knee Replacement		Anatomy pt 7		The Africans pt 3		The Long Search	
28 W	Anatomy Review pt 7		Destinos pts 10 & 11		French In Action 10 & 11		The Secret of Life pt 3		World of Psych		Shoulder to Shoulder	