

INSIDE

EDITORIALS/ LETTERS

2-4

COMICS

12-13

NEWS

The Fletcher Series comes to Elon

5

Alamance County Arts Council will perform "Steel Magnolias" in Whitley this winter

11

Find out why large amounts of teachers will be at Elon next September

11

Crimewatch

11

A&E

A review of jazz musician John Coltrane

8

Two reviews of "Ransom."

9

PEOPLE

Patrick Singleton

7

SPORTS

A listing of intramural soccer and basketball champions

15

Volleyball's record setting sophomore

Fiona MacPherson

15



Men win opener; women lose close game on free throw line

16

AIDS Quilt Comes to Elon

Tricia Ziegler

The Quilt stretched as far as the eye could see, from the Washington Monument to the Capitol Building. It was a living and ever-growing memorial to those who have lost their fight against AIDS.

More than 50 members of the Elon College community experienced the sadness, courage and joy woven into the panels of the AIDS

Quilt displayed in Washington, D.C., October 11-13.

Now the experience is coming closer to home.

Elon College will display a portion of the AIDS Quilt on April 24-27.

The display includes a Youth Day, Elon Day, Friends, Family and Lovers Day and Worship Day.

The Quilt contains almost 40,000 panels representing people

who have died of AIDS. New panels continue to be added to the Quilt, which is maintained by the NAMES Project Foundation.

Although the Quilt covers 15 acres, it represents just 11 percent of all United States AIDS deaths, according to the NAMES Foundation.

Michael Ulrich, assistant professor of biology, saw the Quilt displayed in St. Louis six years

ago.

"I thought I was aware and I thought I was compassionate (about the AIDS issue)," Ulrich said. "Seeing the Quilt took that to a different level. It personalized something that until that point had been impersonal."

Ulrich wrote the proposal which is bringing the Quilt to Elon.

Ulrich estimates that the display will be on campus for a week. See **QUILT**, page 5

One-Half Graduate in Four Years

Greg Grantham

The most recent statistics from the Office of Institutional Research reveal that Elon will graduate a little more than half of its senior class under the traditional four-year plan.

Brooks Cates, director of institutional research at Elon, said 54.7 percent of the students who entered the college as freshmen in 1992 graduated in May of 1996.

The numbers may seem low, but 54.7 percent is the highest graduation rate Elon has had in more than a decade.

The national average for students graduating in four years from colleges classified as "traditional" is 53 percent.

Traditional colleges, like Elon, target students who have received a 950-1070 on their SAT scores.

"The graduation rate is constantly rising, Cates said. "In 1995, it was 50.1 percent; in 1994, the four-year percentage was 43.2 percent. This is something we take very seriously."

According to Cates, there are a number of reasons why it would take a student more than the expected four years to graduate.

"Changing majors midstream in a student's college career is one of the most common ways to extend a student's stay at Elon," Cates said.

Financial problems and poor grades also reduce students' chances of walking down the stage in May.

Nan Perkins, dean of admissions and financial planning, said she was pleased with the rising graduation rate and predicts even more of a growth within the next five years.

"The numbers have gone up across the board," Perkins said. "We will see even more of a rise in the percentage because we are recruiting more and more of the brightest students each year."

When students take the SAT test in high school, their names are put on a list and sold to colleges by various services.

see **RATE**, page 5

How Elon's graduation rate compares to other North Carolina schools

•Elon - 54.7 percent in four years.

•Duke University - 90 percent in four years.

•Wake Forest University - 68 percent in four years.

•University of North Carolina at Greensboro - 28 percent in four years.

•North Carolina State University - 31.5 percent in four years.



Emily Feinsod/The Pendulum

Elizabeth Rogers will be one of Elon's professors in the new physical therapy masters program starting in January, 1998

Elon Gets Physical

New Masters Program to Start in the Spring of '98

Leann Alfred

While jobs in the health field are in high demand, opportunities in home care, mental health facilities and physical therapy are promising. Elon has directed its attention towards this need and has announced a master's program in physical therapy which will be available in January of 1998.

Julianne Maher, vice president of academic affairs agrees with the decision to bring the

program to Elon. "There is a growing demand in the health field and Elon's job is to provide students with options within this field."

The physical therapy master's program is a partnership between the College and Alamance Regional Medical Center in which both parties will be responsible for instruction and resources.

ARMC will provide a hospital physical therapy staff for

see **THERAPY**, page 5.