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Informing the Elon College Community

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West End Station to Open Saturday

Amy Frazier
Pendulum Reporter

Jesse Regan-Laur, a December 1996 graduate of Elon, was told that it was virtually impossible to open a private business that was not owned by the college in the Elon community.

However, if one final inspection is passed this week, Regan-Laur will have proved this rumor to be false.

On Saturday, Feb. 15, West End Station, Inc., located at 138 W. Lebanon Ave., will open and be competing with the Lighthouse Tavern and other area businesses for customers.

West End Station, Inc., is a bar and restaurant that will incorporate the atmosphere of a traditional English Pub.

Co-owners Regan-Laur, Jeremy Russin (graduate of Salisbury State University in Maryland) and Patty Regan are very excited about the opening.

"I'm real excited to bring something new (to the area)," Regan-Laur said. "There is not a place around here like this one."

West End Station, Inc., will be open seven days a week from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.

The kitchen will be open until a.m.

The bar will serve pub-style food and late night gourmet pizzas.

The food on the menu has names that are Western and train related. For example, "coal," more commonly known as popcorn, will be served free of charge. Among the items on the menu are specialty pizzas, such as Greek Pizza, White Pizza and Pizza Florentine.

Regan-Laur said his bar has one of the best selections of beer and wine in the area. Various wines from around the world, such as wines from Australia, will also be served.

Regan-Laur said there will be various scheduled activities during the week.

Some of these activities include live entertainment, comedy night, a DJ and open-mic night. Also, there will be daily specials on food and beverages.

The bar is intended for people of all ages to gather.

Among the games that will be available are pool, fooz ball, dominoes, chess and backgammon.

As a special for the first month after the opening, each time the train passes, every person that is sitting on one of the 24 bar stools will receive a free beer.

Located in the rear of the building is a mural of a train that was painted by Jeff Ruemann, a 1992 Elon graduate. Regan-Laur said he hopes to showcase Elon students' artwork in the building

Regan-Laur thought of the idea to open this business last January.

Through the help of Brad Metz and other friends and family members, the goal was reached. Renovations of the building started in August and modeling began in October.

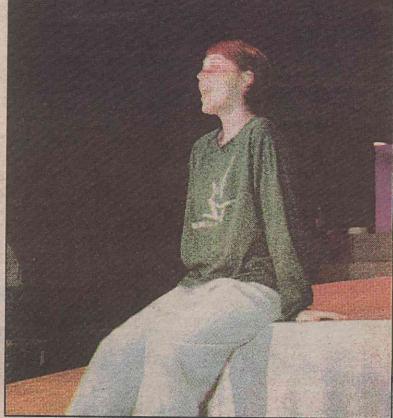
In regard to area competition, such as the Lighthouse Tavern, Regan said, "Competition is the best thing for business and it helps people to try harder."

"This definitely has been a learning experience," said Regan-Laur, who has a political science degree from Elon.

"I have definitely used what I have learned from political science when I was dealing with people, such as city and county officials."

Regan-Laur said he feels that opening the bar will promote the growing community of Elon.

"We're just some college guys trying to make a difference," he said.



Oh Baby!

Andrew Brickey/The Pendulum

Lisa Kanoy practices for the musical comedy "Baby." The musical will be performed Feb. 13-16 in McCrary Theater. See story, page 7.

Nobel Prize Winner to Speak at Elon

Jeff Wirick
Editor-in-Chief

One of men responsible for ending apartheid rule in South Africa will speak at Elon's spring convocation.

F.W. de Klerk, former South African president, will speak to Elon students, staff and members of the Elon Society on April 21 in Alumni Memorial Gymnasium at 7:30 p.m.

De Klerk's visit comes two years after another world leader, former Great Britain Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, spoke at Elon's 1995 spring convocation.

George Troxler, director of cultural programs, said de Klerk was on the list of possible speakers because he fell under the "world leader who brought about change," category.

"This is a way to honor our dean's list (students) and donors,"

he said. "We want to bring attention from a regional audience... it definitely helps with our self-image."

Under de Klerk's leadership, the National Party and the ANC agreed in 1993 on a transition to majority rule. The first all-race elections were held the following year and Nelson Mandela was elected president.

Even though de Klerk currently has no formal title in South Africa's government, Elon political science professor Bob Anderson said he will still have a major role in the country's future.

"This was one of the first countries in which a minority peacefully gave up power.

And de Klerk had a lot to do with that."

Mandela and de Klerk won the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts.

Pendulum F.Y.I.

