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## Board Passes \$45.5 Million Budget

**Michelle Cater**

*Asst. Managing Editor*

The Board of Trustees passed a \$45.5 million budget which includes a total cost increase to students of \$875 and a 10 percent salary increase for faculty and staff.

The trustees voted at their meeting on March 12 to pass the budget that was proposed by the administrative budget committee.

The budget committee consists of Vice President of Business and Finance Gerald Whittington, Vice President of Academic Affairs Julianne Maher and Provost Gerry Francis.

The approved budget for the 1997-98 academic year has a tuition raise of \$845, bringing the

yearly tuition to \$11,322.

"We are funding an increase in salaries, financial aid, cost of athletics with moving to Division I and a new physical therapy program," Whittington said. "All of those combined cause us to need a tuition increase to enhance the quality of the institution."

Edmund Gant, a member of the board's budget committee, said the trustees hated to raise tuition but felt that it had to be done. He added that at 5.9 percent it is the lowest increase in years.

"We feel that we have a very good balance between quality and cost," Gant said about the increase.

The budget also includes a health and Student Government see **BUDGET**, page 4

## Trustees Take Next Step Toward Vision

**Michelle Cater**

*Asst. Managing Editor*

At its annual spring meeting, the Elon College Board of Trustees voted to approve a financing plan for the remainder of the Elon Vision and voted for many of the next steps to be taken.

The Elon Vision, which is a plan to make Elon one of the best schools on the eastern seaboard, has a total estimated cost of \$75 million.

Approximately \$25 million

still needs to be raised to complete the second and third stages of the Vision.

"It's what I'd call a working vision," said Trustee Robert Lane. "If you look at where we started eight years ago and compare it to where we are now it's astounding."

A lot of small, private schools are cutting back on their programs but Lane said the addition of a physical therapy and the construction of new buildings, such as the see **VISION**, page 6



Andrew Brickey/The Pendulum

After a year and a half of anticipation, the moment has finally arrived for starwatchers. Comet Hale-Bopp, which astronomers say is the brightest comet in 30 years, can be best seen from March 24 through April 10. See story, page 5.

## A Question of Sex

*Seventy-five percent of Elon honors students are female. Professors and students offer different theories why.*

**Jason Dennis**

*Pendulum Reporter*

Are women really smarter than men? It's hard to say, but Elon may have the numbers to add to this enigma of intelligence.

Of Elon's 332 honors students, 87 are male.

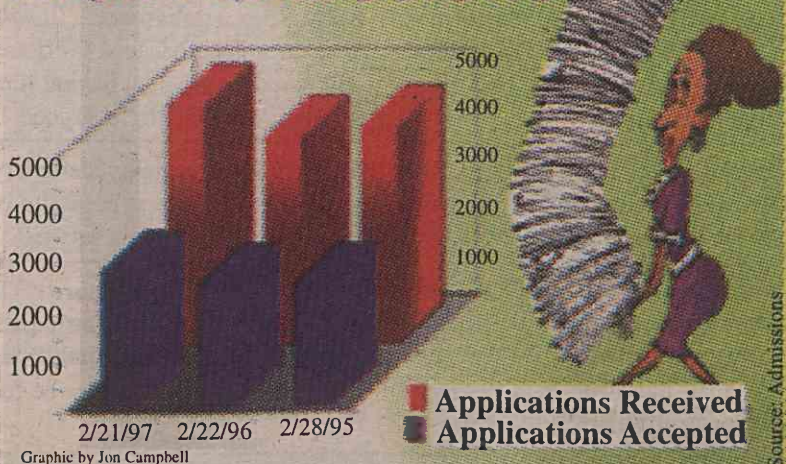
Why is the ratio so lopsided? Opinions at Elon differ.

"Most schools have a fairly equal ratio of males to females, but I think you're going to find most of their honors programs are going to be predominantly female," said Kathy Lyday-Lee, director of Elon's

see **HONORS**, page 4

## Pendulum F.Y.I.

### Elon Admissions



## Police Hope Proposed Speed Limit Change Will Solve Auto Problems

**Leann Alfred**

*Pendulum Reporter*

Motorists passing through Elon on Haggard Avenue might have to slow down even more than they normally do if the town and college pass recent proposals on speed limit changes.

Both the town and college have proposed to reduce the speed on Haggard Avenue from the corner of Williamson Avenue to the corner of Oak Avenue.

The speed limit would be re-

duced from 35 to 25 mph during school hours to accommodate the increased pedestrian traffic, especially in the early morning hours, said The Town of Elon College Police Chief Dan Ingle.

The proposed law would also accommodate local elementary parents dropping off and picking up their children at Elon College Elementary School.

By changing the speed limit, Ingle said the town hopes to increase reaction time of motorists and reduce the possibility of acci-

dents.

Failure of the pedestrians to use the newest stoplight, placed on Haggard at the beginning of the past spring semester, is a major concern, Ingle said.

Complaints and previous accidents have caused the town to re-evaluate the present traffic conditions on Haggard Avenue.

Students complain that motorists drive too fast and do not yield at crosswalks while drivers accuse students of walking out in front of see **LIGHT**, page 6