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Noble Prize Winner Comes to Elon

Jeff Wirick
Editor-in-Chief

When former South African President F.W. de Klerk comes to Elon Monday, he'll be the second world leader to address the school in three years.

Former Great Britain Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher spoke to a group of Elon students during spring Convocation in April, 1995.

"She was a strong-willed leader," said Provost Gerald Francis. "Now we have a strong man who has made a difference in

a country."

De Klerk, who will be on campus for seven and a half hours Monday, will be the guest speaker at Elon's 1997 spring Convocation in Alumni Memorial Gymnasium at 7:30 p.m.

The event is open to students, staff, media and members of the Elon Society. It will be de Klerk's first speech in the United States this year.

De Klerk's speech will cap a week of events that the school is sponsoring to celebrate South Africa. See VISIT, page 6

De Klerk Takes Center Stage at Convocation

Jeff Wirick
Editor-in-Chief

There's little doubt that former South African President F.W. de Klerk will be remembered for his impact on his country's peaceful transition to democracy. But there's a difference of opinion on whether his influence kept the old

apartheid system around longer than what it should have been.

"Sure there is controversy that surrounds former president de Klerk," said Elon Provost Gerald Francis. "The way we have planned this symposium is that you're going to see both sides of the picture. And then you're going to hear from see DE KLERK, page 6



Junior Eric Cone climbs the wall Saturday afternoon during the Earth Fest outside Whitley Auditorium. Despite the rain, more than 100 students came for a chance to listen to live music, including local band Back Seat Driver. See story, page 9.

Andrew Brickey/The Pendulum

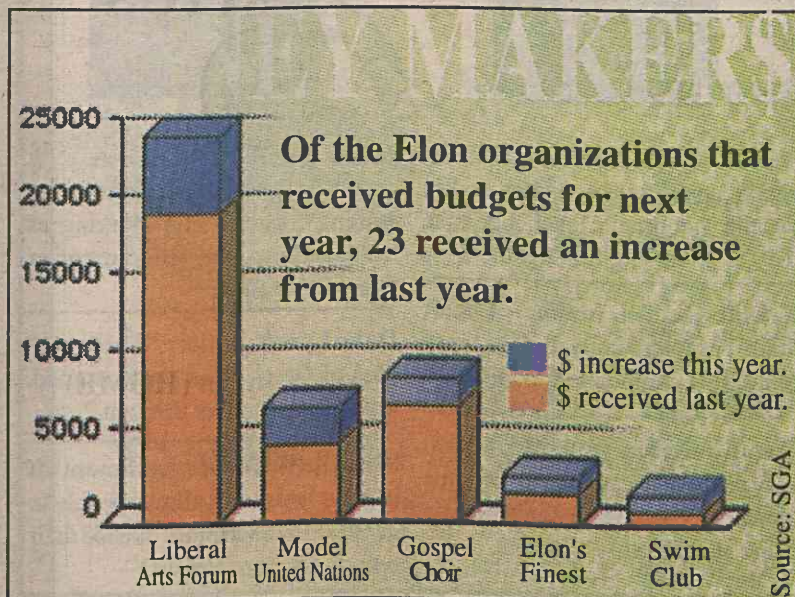
April Busy Month for EC Students

Jeff Wirick
Editor-in-Chief

With Greek Week, Earth Fest, summer and fall class preregistration and the South Africa In Context program either concluding or underway, most Elon students don't have much problem filling up their time this week. And with spring Convocation and the Special Olympics this week and the arrival of the AIDS Quilt set for next week, the schedule could get even busier.

"It's a very busy time," said Provost Gerald Francis. "But when you do things like the AIDS Quilt see BUSY, page 11

Pendulum F.Y.I.



School Addresses Concerns about Tenure

Michelle Cater
Asst. Managing Editor

Members of the Elon administration, Board of Trustees and faculty have formed a task force to examine the current tenure policy of Elon and examine ways to make it better.

"I think the administration is entirely well intended in trying to set up a tenure system that both protects the school and ensures that the school will have valuable faculty members," said biology professor Phillip Mason, "but at the same time protecting the rights and

ethical responsibilities it has towards its faculty."

Tenure is an employment process that is used by most colleges and universities. When a professor is granted tenure they are given a contract that guarantees employment, except in extreme circumstances, at the institution until they retire.

Vice President of Academic Affairs Julianne Maher said that tenure is important because it gives faculty a commitment from the institution and allows the faculty more freedom in their research.

"Tenure gives faculty protec-

tion for expressing unpopular ideas," Maher said.

Under the current process, faculty on the tenure track are reviewed by their department heads and deans. Faculty also write a self-evaluation. During their yearly evaluations, professors are judged on their teaching, advising, involvement at Elon and in the community and their contributions in their profession.

The surveys completed by students during the fall semester are also used in the evaluation of the professor. Some members of the see TENURE, page 6