



THE PENDULUM

Volume XXIII, Number 4

Informing the Elon College Community

September 18, 1997

INSIDE

EDITORIALS

2-4
COMICS

15

NEWS

Unless you're a new student at Elon this year, you can't help but notice the many physical changes that have occurred on campus during the summer. Even Lake Mary Nell got a touch up.

8

One of the first female cadets to enter Virginia Military Institute was suspended from the school for two semesters for hitting an upperclassman, officials said Sept. 9.

9

Elon Club sports, which have been at Elon for the past 20 years, is as strong as ever.

13

A&E

Chuck and the Amazing Jonhathan: a *Pendulum* exclusive.

10

SPORTS

Men's soccer wins first Division I game against VMI.

20

'The power of one' Plotkin encourages students to make a difference

Michelle Cater
Managing Editor

"I firmly believe in the power of one. It's people who make the difference in science, in conservation, in academia, in politics," Mark J. Plotkin said to a crowd of more than 1,000 people near the end of his speech at Elon's annual Fall Convocation, held in Alumni Gymnasium Wednesday morning.

Plotkin is the executive director of the Ethnobiology and Conservation Team. He was also the Author of "Tales of a Shaman's Apprentice," this year's common reading.

Plotkin has spent the last 15 years in the Amazon rainforest studying the native medicinal use of plants.

In his speech, Plotkin promoted cultural and biological diversity and the importance that other cultures have on our own.

"If there's a message I want to leave you with today, it's listen to other cultures. And I'm not just talking about Indians in the Amazon, I'm talking about Indian and Native American people here at home," Plotkin said.

"It is important for all of us, incumbent for all of us, to recognize that we live in the luckiest, most technologically advanced, most wonderful civilization ever seen on the face of the earth. But we still have things to learn from other

see PLOTKIN, page 12

Elon families go Greek this weekend

Giselle Pole
A&E Editor

For three days, Elon will travel back in time to a land where the gods were revered, food and drink were abundant, and athletic competition was encouraged.

Family Weekend begins Sept. 19, and this year's theme is "Greek Holiday."

"This year the faculty and staff determined a theme that we felt would be fun to communicate in a number of ways—through decorations, brochures and food," said Amanda Harless, director of Greek Life.

This is Harless' fourth year coordinating Family Weekend. In '94, the theme was Italian; in '95

see WEEKEND, page 6



Emily MacDonnell/The Pendulum

Money Man: Knight Kiplinger, editor in chief of Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine, spoke to members of the Alamance County Area Chamber of Commerce and local businesspeople last Friday at a luncheon in McKinnon Hall.

Movie director returns to Elon this month

Jamie Richey
and Andrew Brickey
Pendulum Reporters

Eight months after lecturing students on the importance of staying in school, film director Spike Lee returns to Elon. Only this time, he's bringing his cameras.

Lee will be at Elon to shoot several scenes on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 for "He got Game," a film that focuses on the challenges confronting the youth of today as they struggle toward adulthood.

The acclaimed director of such

see MOVIE, page 6

Pendulum F.Y.I.

VOTER TURNOUT

How did Freshmen election turnout stack up to other elections?



Graphic by Jon Campbell

Sources: SGA/AP

SGA fills final seat with former VP

Jeff Wirick
Editor in Chief

The former executive vice president of the Student Government Association is back in the senate.

Matthew Belardi, who lost a hard-fought battle for executive president in February to Ashton Newhall, was voted last Thursday into the final senior class senator position.

The position was the last of eight open senate seats left vacant

during February's election. The senate voted Angela Olsen, Ashley Hayes, Meghan McGlinn, Jennifer Bates, Kristin Downes, Heather Coffee and Robin Brame into the other seven vacant seats during April meetings.

The final SGA seat had two other strong candidates.

Stephanie Clark, who had served three years in SGA, and Jay Pusey, the president of Kappa Sigma fraternity, were the other two candidates the senate had to consider.

The three made speeches and endured the five-minute question and answer session before the senate voted in a secret ballot.

"I miss being on the political side of (Elon)," Belardi said during his speech to the senate. "I didn't know how much I missed it, until I wasn't in it."

The business administration major has as much experience as anyone in Elon's SGA. He is the only remaining SGA member who

see SGA, page 6