

## MayFest offers music, fun this weekend

**Katisha Hayes**  
*Pendulum Reporter*

A fun-filled day of special events, games and music will make MayFest on Saturday, May 2 unforgettable.

From temporary tattoos to volleyball, MayFest will liven up Elon's world. In addition, special guest Gran Torino will rock the house as they give Elon a dose of their unique music.

This 2-year-old Tennessee-based band is a combination of funk, reggae, R&B and rock music that will leave all music lovers pleased.

Jen Klyne, the 1998-99 music chairperson for Student Union Board, is excited about the Gran Torino performance.

"They are unbelievable," she said. "They have a lot of talent."

GT is comprised of eight talented individuals: P.J. Alexander on trumpet, piano and vocals; Stephen Decker on lead guitar and vocals; Chris Ford on lead vocals and rhythm guitar; Dexter Murphy on trombone, piano, organ and vocals; Todd Overstreet on bass and vocals; Scott Pederson on trumpet, saxophone, and vocals; Whit Pfohl on drums and Jason Thompson on saxophone and

vocals.

The band is known for their horn section, and will liven up the festival as they perform a full-concert.

"They are a band that anybody can get into," Klyne said.

"When you see them performing, you can tell they are enjoying themselves."

In regards to their credentials, GT has released two CD's, including their previous one titled "Live at the Chameleon Club," which was recorded by a technical supervisor, who sold it to them later.

Their most recent CD is titled "One," which was recorded studio after nearly two years of touring.

"One" has become a hometown favorite, and as a result has sold more than 5,000 copies in its first few weeks on the shelf.

"The band decided to forego the live approach in favor of the more controlled and precise atmosphere of the studio," said Mark Jordan, writer for the Memphis Flyer.

Whether live or recorded, GT's energy and unique style will entertain audiences and leave them wanting more.

Gran Torino has been described as a "rock 'n' soul party." Elon will get a chance to see if this is true when the band performs at Mayfest Saturday.

SUB chose this band because their talented horn section would create a surround sound effect outdoors.



**Gran Torino performs Saturday at MayFest.**

Members of SUB saw the band perform at Ziggy's in Winston-Salem, and asked them to perform at Elon.

Ben Senn, the current music chairperson for SUB, said they were lucky because the band is performing in Knoxville, Tenn. on Friday night and in Raleigh on Saturday night.

GT will perform on Saturday from 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Rudd Field.

## Chamber Singers perform concert in McCrary

**Brie Bittenbender**  
*Pendulum Reporter*

The Elon College Chamber Singers will showcase their talents Sat, May 2 at 8 p.m. in McCrary Theatre.

The group consists of 25 auditioned male and female singers, who perform challenging pieces that range from 16th century to contemporary.

In addition to their performances at Elon, the Chamber Singers have participated in the 1998 NC ACDA Collegiate Choral Festival.

The group perform music that contain up to 16 parts that must be sung acappella, which means without musical accompaniment.

Some of the musical pieces the group will perform are three works by Ralph Vaughan Williams, two spiritual pieces, a work by William Hawley, which will be sung by two groups of

singers, and two secular motets.

In addition, some of the pieces will be performed solo, where individual singers will be featured. The singers who will perform solos are Jennifer Oleszczuk, soprano; Dan Calloway, tenor; Jamal Green, baritone and Bret Williams, bass.

Richard

Cook, the director of the Chamber Singers, is pleased with how far the group has come in preparation for the concert.

The group has grown from a choir of 16 people to 25 in over two

years. The Chamber Singers concert is Saturday at 8 p.m. in McCrary Theatre. Tickets are free with an Elon College ID.

## Wahlberg hands in a stellar performance

**Ian Spelling**  
*Tribune Media Services*

Mark Wahlberg may be a hot, respected commodity now, but it was just a few years ago that the start of "Boogie Nights," "Basketball Diaries" and Renaissance Man," not to mention the performer formally known as Marky Mark and the ex-Calvin Klein underwear model, seemed destined for a life behind bars.

"I felt that way because of the path I'd been on," says the soft-spoken Wahlberg of his oft-chronicled brushes with the law and his brief jail stint as a teenager.

"Even when I was trying to stay out of trouble, the whole karma thing was working against me. It was hard. I had a lot of anger and a lack of common sense. But not now. I've got good people

around me. The acting is my therapy, my way to vent. I think it would be a waste if I didn't use all of my real-life experiences to my advantage."

But what personal experiences could he possibly put to use in "The Big Hit," a new action-comedy that's like Jackie Chan and Chow Yun-Fat's flicks on speed?

"It sounds funny, but my inability to say no is there," Wahlberg says, laughing.

"I still have people in my life who can do whatever they want. They're my friends and my family, so it's OK. It's not the same as letting other people take advantage of me."

In "Big Hit," Wahlberg plays Mel, a sweet-natured hit man with a conscience. Mel is engaging to bitchy Pam (Cristina Applegate), fooling around with gold-digging Chantel (Lela Rochon), and under

the thumbs of both.

It's true love, though, when he meets Keiko (Chia Chow), the daughter of a wealthy industrialist he and his testosterone-laden team - Lou Diamond Phillips, Antonio Sabato Jr., Bokeen Woodbine and Robin Dunne - have kidnapped after a botched moonlighting job.

"It's just so over the top, so out there," Wahlberg says of the film during a conversation at a Manhattan hotel.

"All I could do was sit there and laugh. What's cool is that I had to play it so low and everybody else is just going crazy. It was a tough shoot. I've got my bumps and bruises. The first day, I got kneed in the groin, then I smashed my knee into the marble edging of a podium, and then I smashed my elbow.

"I knew if I got out of there breathing the first day that I'd be

fine."

As "Big Hit" reaches theaters, "Boogie Nights" arrives on video. Many feel that the Oscars stiffed Wahlberg, who starred in the acclaimed period drama as a porn star Dirk Diggler. The actor, though, won plenty of respect for his work.

"All I hoped for at the end of that was that filmmakers would not only see what I'm capable of, but what I'm willing to do as an actor. 'Boogie Nights' did everything for me I hoped it would."

Wahlberg's now shooting "The Corrupter" with Chow Yun-Fat, though he swears the film is a drama and not an action movie. After that he heads right into "The Yards" with Joaquin Phoenix and James Caan, then the boxing film "Out on My Feet" with Robert DeNiro. Sounds like a matter of striking while the iron is hot.

"Not necessarily," he says.

"My whole approach is just to do something different every time and to try to continue to grow as an actor. I'm not in a huge rush."

Wahlberg also recorded a song for "The Big Hit" soundtrack, one can't but wonder if he even has time for a personal life.

"Oh, I've got an interest in a personal life," he said, denying rumors that he's dating "Big Hit" co-star China Chow.

"It's just that these movies are ones that I've been attached to or involved with for a long time. They just all happened to fall into place this close together and the only time they can get done is now. If I don't do them now, who knows what will happen. I'm not gonna get too into it, but I've still got a personal life, and that's OK."