



## Town of Elon College to change name: *Unanimous vote will lead to town charter revision*

**Elizabeth Sudduth**

*Asst. News Editor*

In a unanimous vote of 7-0, the Elon College Board of Alderman voted Tuesday to drop College from the town's name.

After 107 years of referring to the Town as Elon College, the town will now be referred to as the Town of Elon.

"This is a historic evening," said Mayor, Beth Schmidt. "For the past 25 years the town has witnessed tremendous change."

The board decided to place the issue on Tuesday night's agenda after the Elon College Board of

Trustees voted unanimously on Oct. 11 to change the school's name from Elon College to Elon University.

Since that decision in October, the town invited all citizens to give input about the possible name change.

"Most of the citizens response was positive," Schmidt said. "I personally believe that the general consensus of our town will be pleased by our decision this evening."

It was one of the shortest meetings in the town's history for one of the most historic decisions ever made. The Mayor called the meeting to order promptly at 7 p.m. Nine minutes later with an approval to adjourn the meeting had concluded.

The next step for the town is for local representatives to sponsor a town charter revision in the General Assembly that both the House and Senate will have to approve. The official name change will then not take place until July 2001.



*Elizabeth Sudduth/ The Pendulum*

*Chuck Gantos Jr., Beth Schmidt and Phoebe Harrison announce the decision to rename the town of Elon College to Elon at the town meeting Tuesday night.*

## Understanding the Electoral College: *Constitutional Value and impact*

**Jason Chick**

*The Pendulum*

The State of Florida has caused an unprecedented amount of controversy in the race for the White House, yet it has also been the primary tool for enlightening many Americans to their own governmental processes.

The media frenzy in Florida has unearthed a word foreign to many Americans: the Electoral College. No, this is not a four-year institution, nor does it require a lengthy admission procedure, yet its members are responsible for electing the president of the

United States.

The majority of America is uneducated in governmental policies and procedures and has the mindset that we live in a democracy.

On the contrary, we do not live in a democracy but a republic. James Madison, our fourth president, defined a democracy where the people are the legislative branch of government and therefore have control, which works best in a small country; however, Madison defined a republic as a society where the people elect officials to represent them, which works best in larger countries.

The United States of America operates under a republic, and, furthermore, in a presi-

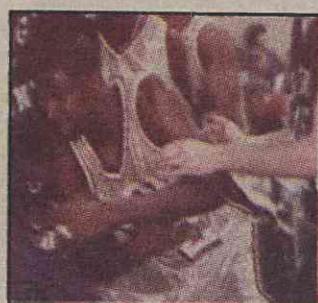
dential election elects representation from each state to vote for the president, which may or may not be based on how the citizens vote. These representatives constitute the 538 members of the Electoral College that ultimately decides the presidency.

The current turmoil in Florida has raised questions about the validity of the Electoral College in the 21st Century. Many American citizens question whether or not the Electoral College serves any direct purpose in modern elections. The 'founding fathers' established the Electoral College in the United States Constitution because they did not trust the people to vote in the country's best interest.

"Each state shall appoint... a number of electors, equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress "(Article 2, Section 1). "The electors shall meet in their respective states and vote by ballot for President and Vice-President..., which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States. The President of the Senate shall...open all the certificates and the votes shall then be counted; —the person having the greatest number of votes for President, shall be President..." (Amendment XII).  
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