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A sudden downturn in enrollment could cause catastrophic events. An endowment provides a financial cushion against such troubles.

Most experts agree that a one-year slide will not immediately cause budget cuts or tuition increases because schools have restrictions on how much they can spend from their endowments each year.

However, if endowments continue to fall and inflation increases, colleges that rely more heavily on endowment revenue will have serious budget decisions to make. Experts from The Chronicle of Higher Education

report that a sluggish economy can have a positive effect. Construction becomes cheaper and enrollments often rise as people desire to improve their skills.

Despite the decrease in value most endowments endured, most presidents are not worried about the effect on this year's budget because payoffs are based on the average market value over the past three years, two of which were generally strong. If the market continues to fall for more than one or two, years Elon may have to take the unwelcome step of raising rates for spending from the endowment. Only time will tell, however.

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One story Cullinane said touched him more than others involved the chaplain of the New York City Fire Department. The chaplain rushed into one of the burning towers and did not return. His fellow firefighters refused to put his body in a body bag or in a morgue. Instead, they wrapped his body in a sheet and brought him to a nearby church. "Emergency personnel ran in while others ran out," Cullinane said.

"The greatest poverty one can experience is poverty of the heart," he said, "but in our nation we see only richness." He concluded with a prayer and said, "The noble lives we commemorate today... their honor must be carried on."

Steve Beckner sent an eerie chill through the crowd when he declared that it "was just a day like this three weeks ago" when he narrowly escaped death in the World Trade Center collapse. A reporter for National Public Radio, Beckner said he had "never been a war correspondent until Sept. 11." He was in New York to cover a meeting with economists on the 14th floor of the Marriott World Trade Center. Beckner said he would never forget the faces of the men who led him to safety. "Run and don't look up," Beckner recalled hearing the firemen yell. "It was block after block of pure butchery." He said he has immense respect and admira-

tion for the rescue workers who remained after he had run to safety. "I have a debt of gratitude to these magnificent men," Beckner said. He came to a close with a statement of hope and optimism. "We have accomplished many things in our history, and I am confident we can overcome terrorism as well," he said.

Reverend Larry Covington said in the terror and destruction, he saw the opposite of life; he saw evil. He looked at the evil and searched for a lesson. The lessons he took from the tragedy are to "do your best in the line of duty" and live each day to the fullest. Covington said in the line of duty one must serve a noble cause. He then questioned how the audience members would spend their lives. "We will never get over it," Covington said, "but joy will overcome."

EMS/Rescue Chaplain, Rick Moser asked, "Why did they go in there?" They ignored the first rule in safety taught to firefighters, which is "you are the most important person at the scene," he said. They ignored the first rule in safety because "we can't ignore the basic rule, which is to love one another," Moser said.

Dave Gilbert, Fire Chaplain, offered perhaps the most powerful and emotional part of the memorial with a statement, which brought the crowd to its feet as he addressed those in uniform, "God bless you, and thank you for serving our country."

Elon hosts annual Family Weekend

Sally Lynch
Reporter

Elon's pristine campus was covered with flowers, oak trees and more than 1,000 families during the Family Weekend festivities this past weekend.

"It was great to be able to experience the caring community that my son goes to school in," Anita Voelker, whose son, Jay, is a freshman at Elon, said. "I was impressed that the professors gave up their Saturday mornings to meet with parents. Everyone is just so kind and friendly here."

Parent-professor meetings were just one of the many activities that took place during the weekend's events. Family Weekend began with a Captain's Choice Golf Tournament at the Indian Valley Golf Course. The weekend continued with a Collage Concert Presented by the department of Performing Arts. "My family and I went to the Collage Concert," Warren Abraham, a freshman father, said. "It was amazing. I thought the students were great. The wait for the show was long, but it was worth it."

The entrepreneurship program of the Love School of Business and the music department presented faculty artist Jon Metzger and Greg Gleb playing music from their new CD, "Time's Fly" celebrating Benny Goodman. The program also included a performance by one of Elon's jazz ensembles. Following



Emily Hudson/Photo Editor

Nearly 1,000 visited Elon this past weekend for Family Weekend.

the performance, there was a CD release party.

"The night was great," Matt Paolino, Master of Ceremonies said. "The entrepreneurship program reached their goal of more than 75 CDs sold."

President Lambert addressed parents and students on Saturday morning, bringing them up-to-date on the university. Mini-classes were held on topics such as study abroad and career services.

Many families participated in the Family Weekend picnic by Lake Mary Nell and the football game against Gardner-Webb University.

"My parents had a wonderful time this weekend," senior Meghan Daniel said.

"We went to the football game and the tailgating party for school

and for Alpha Chi Omega. My parents thought that the stadium was beautiful. It was definitely a highlight of the weekend for them."

Saturday night concluded with a dinner and dance in Alumni Gym.

Families, students, faculty and staff enjoyed food, fun and music by The Malones.

Although Elon planned a fun-filled weekend for families, some families participated in different activities.

"We did a lot of the Family Weekend events last year," Pauline Smith, whose daughter, Shelley, is a sophomore, said. "This year, my daughter planned other activities for us to do like eat dinner with her roommate's parents and take her shopping. We love Elon and are just happy to be here."

During the weekend, parents got a chance to meet their child's friends and see aspects of Elon that their child enjoys.

"My daughter and I went shopping and ate together a lot," Gina Kennedy, a freshman mother, said. "We went out to dinner and lunch a lot. She wanted me to eat lunch at Daniele Center before I left, so we are doing that today."

Overall, students and their families enjoyed getting to spend time together.

"My dad and I worked together on the Habitat for Humanity house on Saturday morning," freshman Alison Gray said. "I am a part of that organization. It was nice to share that with my dad. After all, that is what Family Weekend is about."



Amy Cowen/Assistant Photo Editor

Students and their parents enjoyed the football game in Rhodes Stadium as Elon won against Garner Webb 27-14.