

## Libertarian urges students to think critically during Elon visit

**Jessica Vitak**  
Managing Editor

Former New Hampshire state legislator and 2000 Libertarian Party ticket nominee Don Gorman visited Elon Monday. During the day, Gorman met with administrators, professors and students and visited two philosophy and one political science classes.

Gorman presents his seminar, "Campaign School for Winners," around the country to encourage young Libertarians to think more critically and prepare for future political races under a Libertarian ticket. Last weekend, Gorman was in Durham for a regional seminar coordinated by the North Carolina Libertarian Party (NCLP).

Gorman says he enjoys these seminars because they allow him to talk with young people and help them think in terms of winning strategies.

"It's all hands-on," he said. "I try to trick people. I'm going to get you to stick your foot in your mouth,

and then I'm going to assist you in putting your other foot in your mouth. I'm not going to be nice."

Gorman says that many young Libertarians need this guidance if they want to actively compete with the major party candidates at any level of government.

"It's all about manpower and money," he said. "Democrats and Republicans have a lot of volunteers, so they have a lot more manpower. We have to be more frugal."

In discussing his political party, Gorman emphasized that Libertarians mean what they say and do not change their agendas once they are in office.

"We say less taxes, less government interference in your life, less regulations," he said. "We believe you should be left alone, and the individual has the right to do whatever they want. If you want to be a drunk lying in the gutter, that's your prerogative."

Gorman says he is happy to see that Libertarians are starting to be heard and supported around the country. Last fall, a record 41 Lib-

ertarians were elected to local offices around the country. Gorman says he believes this number will continue to grow as more people hear the party's message.

"When I first went into the legislature in '92, nobody knew what a Libertarian was, what the party stood for...zero," he said. "Now, almost every state I go to, there are articles in the press, Libertarian candidate coverage, in the news and on TV. We're beginning to snowball with the number of people elected to office."

Senior Cameron DeJong invited Gorman to campus after being contacted by the NCLP about Gorman's visit to the state. DeJong says it is important to get Libertarians on campus because their views will not be heard otherwise.

"I think the need for speakers like Gorman can be seen in the lack of depth that students have in their knowledge of government," he said. "The best thing about the Libertarian philosophy is it reveals real flaws in the government. While solutions may not always be agreed



Photo courtesy of Barbara Howe  
Don Gorman travels the country teaching young Libertarians political strategies and giving them the keys to winning an election.

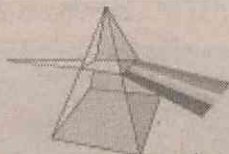
upon, the eye opener can be the corruption in our government."

DeJong has been instrumental in bringing a diverse array of opinions to campus, especially Libertarian speakers. In September, the Liberal Arts Forum (LAF) sponsored Jacob Hornberger, a prominent Libertar-

ian, in a discussion about the war on drugs.

The LAF also sponsored Russell Means, who last night presented the speech "America: Right or Wrong?" Means is a member of the Lakota Nation and is running for governor of New Mexico this year.

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