



The Pendulum

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Elon University

Elon, N.C.

If it matters to you, it matters to The Pendulum.

Project Pericles studies Hispanic growth in Alamance

Keren Rivas
Reporter

Recent figures released by the U.S. Census Bureau revealed what many have been predicting for years: Hispanics are now the largest minority in the country. With 37 million people, Hispanics have surpassed African Americans, growing at a rate almost four times faster than the general population.

In Alamance County, residents have experienced this demographic explosion first-hand and communications instructor David Loomis is planning to expose students to this new converging community.

This spring semester, Loomis will be in charge of "Civic Journalism: Thinking Global, Acting Local," a project that will focus on the Latino community in Alamance County. The project, funded by a Project Pericles grant, will enable students to conduct interviews within Alamance coun-



David Loomis ty's Hispanic population and report for the Burlington Times-News. Students will also hear civic-journalism scholars and members of local Latino advocacy groups who will speak to the class throughout the semester.

"Alamance County has [one of] the fastest growing Latino population in the nation," Loomis said, "and it is happening right here in our front door."

Between 1990 and 2000, Alamance County experienced an 1,100 percent growth in the Hispanic population. Local institutions and organizations are still trying to adapt to the new composition of the population but maybe no other sector has been more ineffective than the media.

Loomis says there is little sub-

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Students get new wheels

Lindsay Porter
News Editor

Students commuting between McMichael and Danieley Center will soon be presented with a new school-sponsored mode of transportation. Beginning March 1, SGA will launch a new transportation project on campus, known as The Commuter or Shared-Bike Program.

Under this new program, up to 20 coaster bikes will be available for student use on campus. The

bikes will be maintained and inventoried by student workers.

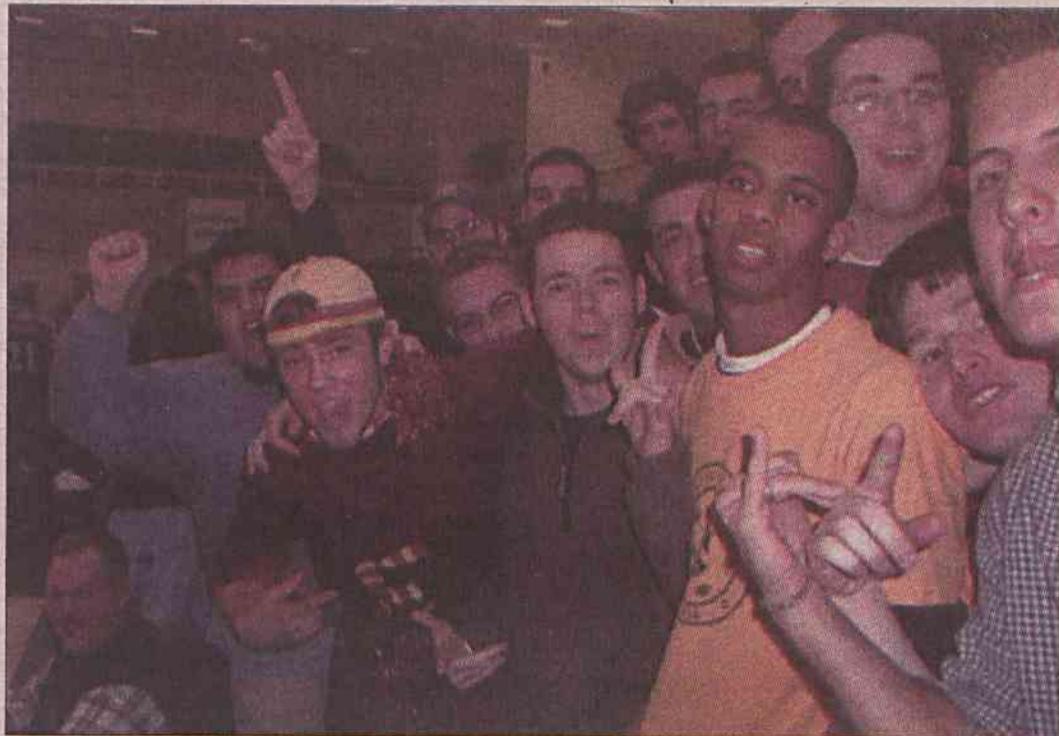
While students can use the bikes to commute to all on-campus locations, McMichael and Danieley Center buildings are drop-off points.

SGA President Christian Wiggins says he hopes the new program will encourage students to bike to class rather than driving.

"The university and the

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Phoenix fans flock to Nest



Mary-Hayden Britton / Photographer

Jacob Potter, Zachary Lauritzen, Nate Huret, Andre Essue, Jon Williams, Joey White and Chris Altman cheer on the women's basketball team. See story on page 21.

SGA hosts private colleges, universities for conference

Matt Belanger
Reporter

A group of student leaders from across North Carolina visited Elon Feb. 8 to share experiences and discuss issues pertaining to student government.

The conference was sponsored by North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, NCICU, which is an organization comprised of the state's 37 private colleges and universities.

Student government representatives from a number of institutions gathered on campus for the student-driven seminar and had

the opportunity to discuss topics including student involvement, student-administration communication, strategic planning, fundraising and public relations.

Hope Williams, president of NCICU, says she feels the conference allowed students to work together in ways that would otherwise not be possible.

"I think one of the most important resources this conference offers is that students from different institutions can network, understand how different institutions work and make contacts that may be important in both their student and professional lives,"

Williams said.

Students were able to share their experiences with certain events and methods, both successful and not, with the hope of learning what does and does not work.

Christian Wiggins, SGA president, said he feels this is a key benefit of the conference.

"It is important to recognize that there are 37 other private colleges and universities similar to Elon in our state and each has its own strengths and vision," Wiggins said. "My hope is that

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