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## Elon scores top ranking

Mary-Hayden Britton

Copy Editor

When searching for a college, parents and students can sometimes get caught up on how schools are categorized, sometimes picking one school over the other simply because of their prestigious label. But, with the help of Jay Mathews' new book, prospective college hunters have an outlet from what society perceives to be a "good school."

This month Mathew's' book "Harvard Schmarvard: Getting Beyond the Ivy League to the College That is Best for You" was released. This book explores outstanding, unappreciated colleges in the United State. Elon was ranked No. 1 out of 100 colleges.

Mathews had several reasons for writing this book. "As my daughter began the college admissions process two years ago, I realized that after 20 years of thinking about this issue I had a lot to say, and most of it at odds with prevailing beliefs in this country," Mathews said.

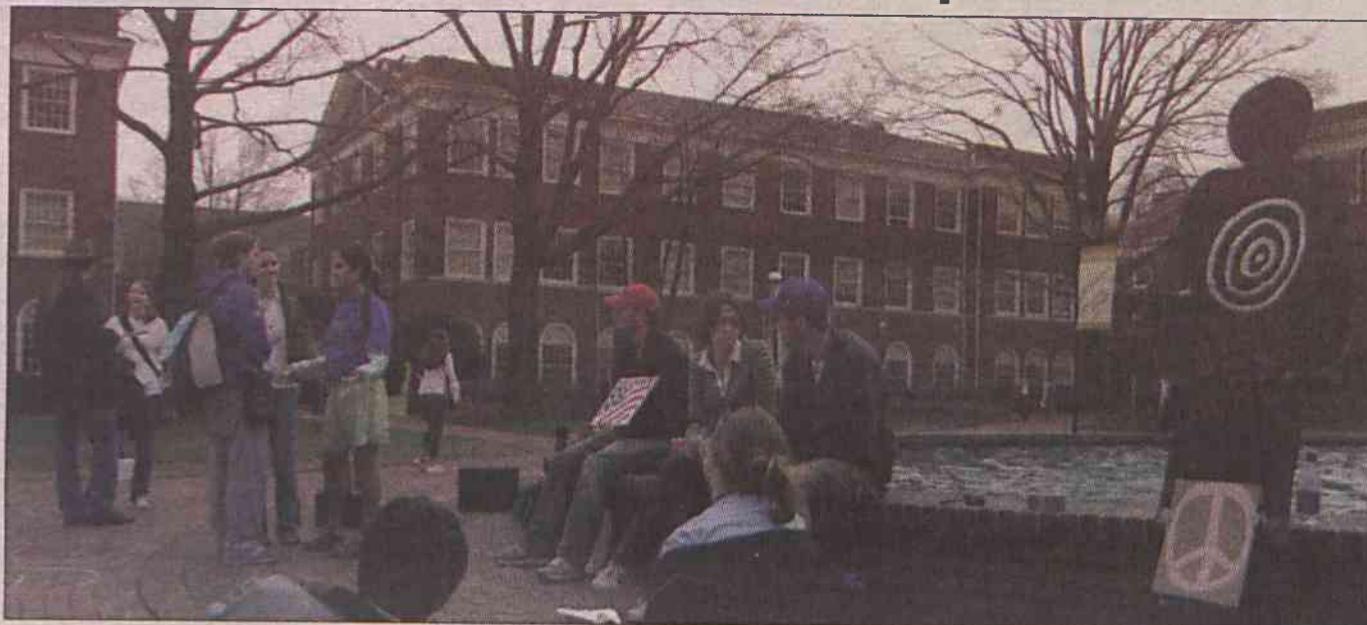
Mathews graduated from Harvard, but says he believes people looking at colleges can get absorbed into labels, branching away from schools that deserve more attention than they actually receive. He himself said he was consumed by the label of being a Harvard graduate.

After going to colleges with his daughter and interviewing hundreds of people who he claims to be more successful and smarter than him, Mathews came to a realization. The people he had interviewed had never attended an Ivy League institution, and with that he decided he needed to re-think the way he had been perceiving colleges.

Now, he is a strong believer that students should concentrate more on what colleges will fulfill their dreams and/or desires, rather than focusing in on SATs and

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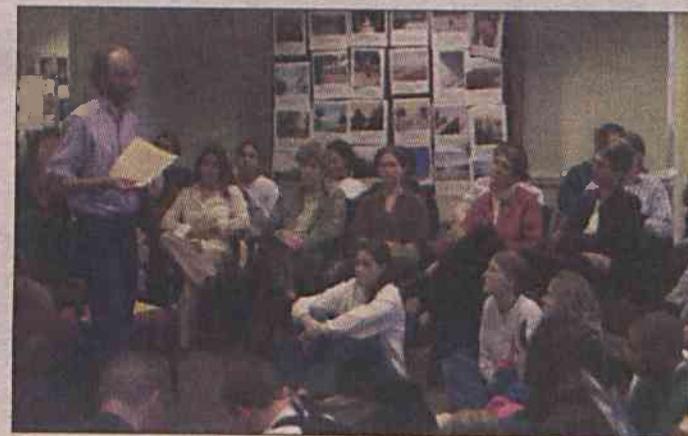
## Discussions and demonstrations on campus provoke thought and action on possible war



Photos by Tim Rosner

Above: Students for Peace and Justice met at Fonville Fountain Monday to protest military action in Iraq. The group was joined by several members of the Elon community, many of whom signed their names to a declaration promoting peace in the Middle East. The students created cardboard cutouts of humans painted with bullseyes to symbolize the people who will be affected by war in Iraq.

Left: An international crisis forum was held Tuesday afternoon in the Isabella Cannon Centre for International Studies. Students, faculty and staff took the time to share their opinions of the potential war in Iraq.



## Weekend incidents alarm students

Lindsay Porter

News Editor

Campus Police were busy last weekend with two unrelated incidents involving students on either side of campus.

What appears to be an attempted case of breaking and entering in Danieleley Center ended with two suspects fleeing the scene, while an accidental fall from a third-floor

stair rail in Barney residence hall sent a student to the hospital.

Police responded to a call at Barney residence hall at 3:30 a.m. Sunday. A sophomore male student, whose name was not released, was sitting on a stair railing on the third floor of the building when he lost his balance and fell, said Chuck Gantos, chief of Campus Safety and Police.

The victim landed 12 feet below on

another stair landing, according to Smith Jackson, dean of students. He sustained injuries to the head and lost a lot of blood. Two campus officers were the first to arrive on the scene and found the victim semi-conscious, Gantos said.

The victim was stabilized by paramedics in the parking lot. He was taken to

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