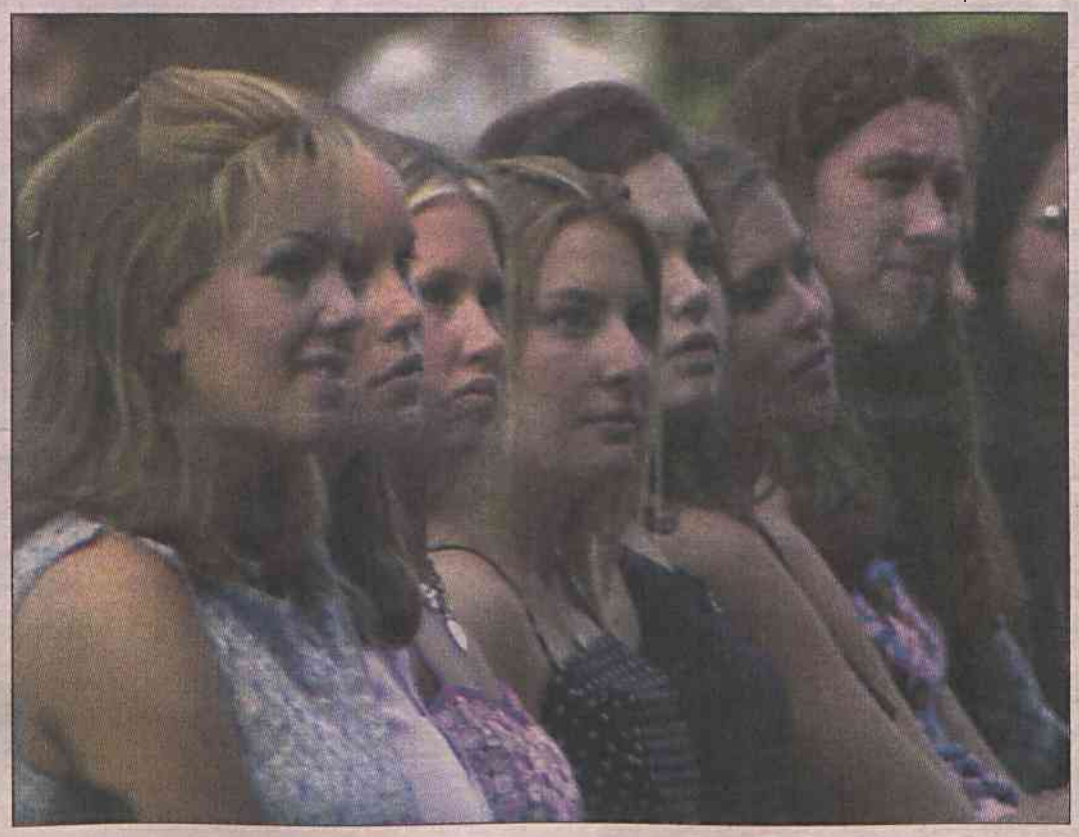
THE PENDULUM

Volume 29, Issue 2 | August 28, 2003 | www.elon.edu/pendulum

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

"You will leave Elon someday, but Elon will never leave you."
—Leo Lambert, president



Tim Rosner / Asst. Photo Editor

Students prepare for academic journey

Freshmen students listened closely as President Lambert addressed the audience at convocation Saturday. More than 1,200 new and transfer students joined the Elon community at the ceremony held "Under the Oaks" on Elon's historic West campus. For story, see page 11.

Elon graces charts in national rankings

Adam Smith
Reporter

The Princeton Review and U.S. News and World Report both released their annual college rankings last week. Elon placed in both issues, scoring highly in several categories.

According to the Princeton Review, Elon is ranked second for most beautiful campus and third for schools where professors make themselves accessible. Also under "quality of life," Elon was ranked No. 11 for having happy students. Under the "parties" categories, the university received a high ranking for its fraternity and sorority scene.

The Princeton Review, which also publishes five regional volumes, ranks Elon as one of the "Best in the Southeast."

The review, which publishes test preparation courses and other education services, has been conducting the survey since 1992. This year, students at 351 colleges took more than 106,000 surveys. The survey consists of 70 questions concerning student life, as well as politics and study hours. Nearly all data came from student opinion. Out of the 63 lists, only three include data gathered directly from the institution.

"We present ranking lists in multiple categories for one reason: To help college applicants and their parents decide which of these great colleges is best for them," said U.S. News President Robert Franek in a press release from Aug. 18.

Other colleges that made the list include Bowdoin College for best campus food, University of Colorado at Boulder for top party school and the students at Brigham Young are ranked "most religious."

While the Princeton Review is

See RANKINGS p. 8

Recording industry targets file-sharers

Steve Earley
News Editor

Share, and we'll all get along. It's a typical childhood lesson. With respect to online peer-to-peer file sharing, however, the word takes on a criminal connotation. And "getting along" can mean tens of thousands of dollars in settlements.

In June, the Recording Industry Association of America, a trade group representing major record labels, started a new phase in its ongoing campaign against the online sharing of copyrighted music. They are now targeting individual users, including college students.

Previously, the RIAA has gone after network administrators. RIAA action has effectively sunk popular networks such as Napster and Audiogalaxy. However, new, more decentralized file-sharing alternatives, would soon take their place.

So the industry turned to a new plan.

Armed with a provision in the Digital Millennium Copyright Law that allows for up to $150,000 in damages per copyrighted-song, and a District Court ruling saying that Internet service providers must reveal the names of subscribers alleged to be sharing copyrighted music, the RIAA has sent hundreds of file-sharers scrambling for their lawyers.

According to a July Associated Press article, the RIAA has won

See ELITE p. 9

Weak economy takes toll on the local market

Jessica Patchett
Reporter

Though national officials report the end of the worst recession in years, Alamance County leaders say they are still waiting for a breakthrough in a two year economic backslide that only continues to grow worse.

Since June 2001, Alamance unemployment rates have soared above 5 percent and have been continually increasing. The July 2003 rate rested at 7.5 percent, 1.1 percentage points above North Carolina's unemployment rate and 1.3 above the national rate.

Historically, Alamance County has held a relatively low unemployment rate: a 10-year average of 4.9 percent between 1990 and 2000, which was far below

See ALAMANCE p. 8

P12: Omicron Delta Kappa Chapter wins national leadership award.

P14: Pi Kappa Phi brothers complete summer-long Journey of Hope.