

THE PENDULUM

Volume 29, Issue 4

September 11, 2003

www.elon.edu/pendulum

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

Miscommunication leads to bookstore inaccuracies

Rachel Abbott

Reporter

As if shelling out the money for textbooks wasn't enough, some students found themselves unable to even purchase the books they needed this semester.

A large number of students had trouble getting the required texts for their classes from the bookstore this semester. The bookstore attributes the problem to a variety of factors, including miscommunication between the bookstore and book publishers as well as between faculty and the bookstore.

Kathy Scarborough, manager of the bookstore, said that many times incorrect books are ordered because the wrong international standard book number, or ISBN, is provided or incorrectly copied down.

Scarborough said that problems projecting class enrollment also made it difficult for the bookstore to keep the correct number of books in stock this semester.

"We can only go by numbers," Scarborough said. She said the bookstore

relies heavily on numerical data from the registration's Datatel system to decide how many books to buy. Scarborough said the bookstore also uses historical data to project book sales.

This year, something went wrong. Multiple courses offered this semester had problems with their books — or no books at all.

Scarborough said it would be nearly impossible to estimate the number of students who had problems with the books for their courses this semester; however, she did say the bookstore had 995 different titles to keep track of for this fall's courses. She said that was a 91-title increase from last year.

Scarborough explained that problems arise when students drop or add classes, changing the number of students in each class. She said that the only way to prevent the shortage of books would be to over-order; however, over-ordering poses the threat of leaving the bookstore with unsold books.

See **BOOKSTORE** p. 10



Jeff Heyer / Photo Editor

Junior Ryan Turner browses the campus shop looking for the correct textbook for his class. This year, the bookstore faced problems projecting class enrollment when ordering books.

'Cut-and-paste' plagiarism, honor code violations on rise

Matt Belanger

Assistant News Editor

A recent study by Rutgers University revealed that Internet plagiarism is rising among students.

Donald L. McCabe, a management professor at Rutgers, organized the survey which asked 18,000 students, 2,600 faculty members and 650 teaching assistants at 23 large and small public and private universities nationwide questions about plagiarism and cheating.

Forty percent of students surveyed

acknowledged plagiarizing written sources within the last year.

Mary Wise, assistant vice president for Academic Affairs, said academic honor code violations have increased at Elon consistently over the past few years.

During the 2001-2002 academic year, 37 incident reports were filed with Academic Affairs. Last year, 38 incidents were filed. For the past two years, there have been 53 students investigated for honor code violations.

See **PLAGIARISM** p. 11

Downtown Elon may grow

Fire house fields central in development discussions

Steve Earley

News Editor

Elon — the university — has seen it's share of changes in the last five years — Construction of a new library, football stadium and two new academic pavilions to name a few. And a new political science pavilion and business school building are on the way.

Meanwhile, downtown Elon — mainly defined by the block of merchants along Williamson and Lebanon Avenues — has remained relatively stagnant.

But, a North Carolina State University graduate student's vision for downtown and a pending contact for development of the fire house fields suggests that sweeping change may soon be on the way for Elon — the town.

Pam Graham, who recently earned a master's of landscaping architecture at North Carolina State University, outlined a decade-long development plan in a term project.

In the project, Graham outlines a downtown district made up of residences, retail establishments, green space and public gathering places. The site, which would extend across the current firehouse fields,

See **DOWNTOWN** p. 10

P19: The Brian Wiltsey Band makes a much-anticipated return to the Lighthouse.

P22: Men's soccer coach Mike Reilly tells it like it is in an exclusive interview.