

# THE PENDULUM

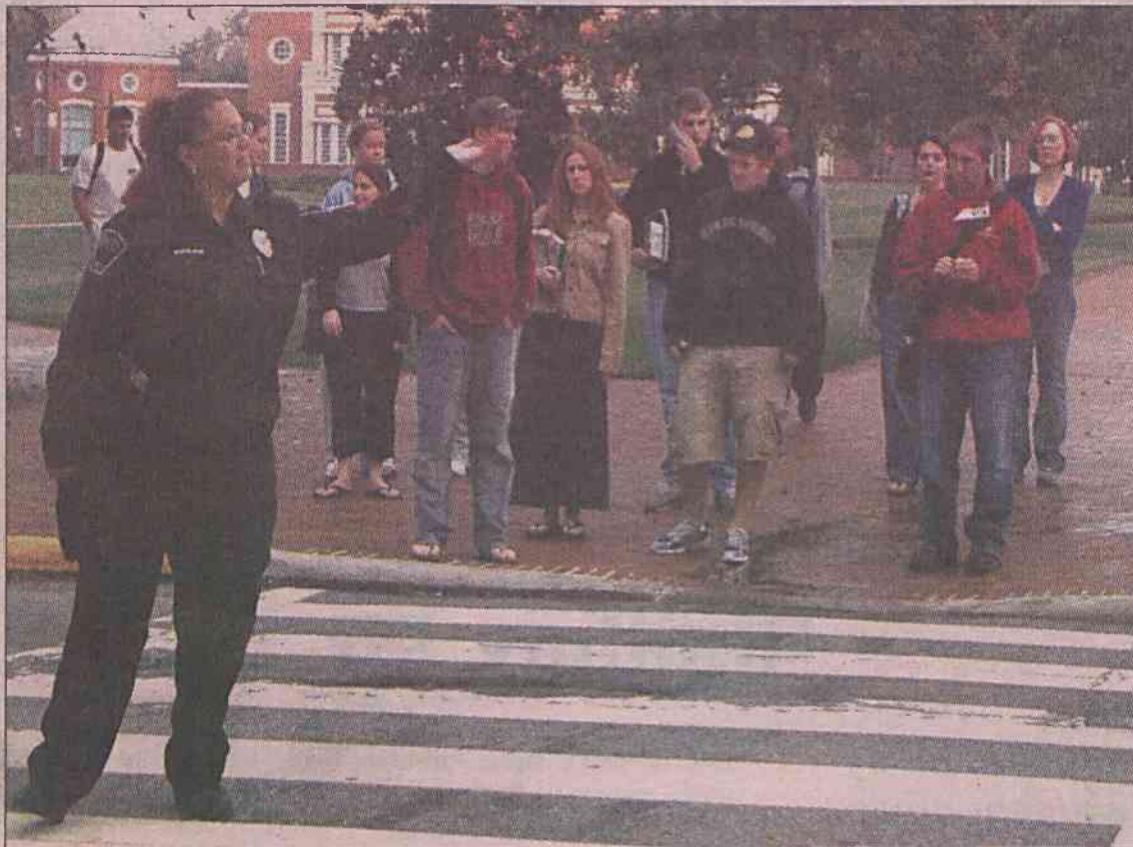
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If it matters to you, it matters to The Pendulum.

## Pedestrian accident prompts crosswalk concerns



Kristen Sween / Photographer

Sgt. Vickie Moehlman of Campus Safety and Police directs traffic on Haggard Avenue before 8 a.m. classes Tuesday. Crosswalk safety and laws have become areas of increasing concern following an accident involving an Elon student driver that collided with another student illegally crossing North O'Kelly Avenue.

*Student injured while jaywalking; driver not at fault*

Lindsay Porter  
Managing Editor

Junior Steven Davis, 19, was struck by a car while crossing North O'Kelly Avenue at the east end of the Moseley Center parking lot Wednesday, Oct. 15 around 3 p.m. Davis suffered two spiral fractures in one leg and was transported to Alamance Regional Medical Center via ambulance, where he underwent surgery Oct. 16 to place metal rods below his knee. Davis was charged with failing to yield right of way to a vehicle, also known as jaywalking.

"(Davis) saw the car coming, but thought he could cross in time," said Patrolman M.L. Brewer of the Elon Town Police.

Davis was crossing the street near the wooded portion of the Moseley lot, moving toward McMichael. He was struck by a

1997 Nissan driving south on O'Kelly by sophomore Nicole Ellis, 19. Brewer said Ellis was not at fault in the accident and received no citations.

This is the second incident within a year in which a student has been hit by a vehicle while crossing a street on campus. Last spring, two students were struck by a car while crossing Williamson and Haggard avenues at night.

According to both Brewer and Campus Safety and Police Sgt. Vickie Moehlman, crossing North O'Kelly Avenue at any point other than the pedestrian crossing light at the intersection of O'Kelly and Haggard avenues is illegal and subject to ticketing.

A pedestrian crosswalk used to exist on O'Kelly Avenue between the financial planning office and McMichael at one time, however Moehlman said it was removed by the North Carolina Department of Transportation because it was too close to the stoplight intersection.

See CROSSWALK p. 9

## 'Under God' under review

Matt Belanger  
Asst. News Editor

If a U.S. Appeals Court ruling made last Wednesday is allowed to stand, schoolchildren will no longer be allowed to say the words "under God" when they recite the Pledge of Allegiance at the start of each day, at least schoolchildren in the nine Western states covered by the court.

Critics of the decision were stunned and warned that it calls into question the use of "In God We Trust" on the nation's currency, the public singing of patriotic

songs like "God Bless America" and even the use of the phrase "So help me God" when judges are sworn into office.

The case was brought by a California man who objected to his daughter being compelled to listen to her second-grade classmates recite the pledge.

In a 2-1 vote, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the phrase, "One nation under God," amounts to a government endorsement of a particular religion and is

See ALLEGIANCE p. 9

## Health center offers free flu vaccinations

Caitlin Burke  
Reporter

As temperatures begin to fall, the R. N. Ellington Health and Counseling Center is preparing for the inevitable sniffle and sneeze season by offering a free service to students, faculty and staff.

To help thwart the flu from spreading across campus, Elon is offering free flu shots Oct. 27 through Oct. 31. The shots will be administered in McKinnon Hall Monday through Thursday and in the Commuter Lounge on Friday.

Shots will be available from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and usually only take a few minutes to administer. However, since shots are given on a walk-in basis, students can expect to wait if they arrive first thing in the morning or during lunch hours. Julie Smalls, registered nurse at the health center, said times for quick appointments are typically between 10 a.m. and noon and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Smalls said this year's flu season is predicted to be worse than that of recent years. Influenza viruses change frequently and

each year the vaccination needs to be updated to make sure it will be effective. The Center for Disease Control recommends that anyone living in a residence hall get vaccinated to prevent large outbreaks of the flu.

Protection against the flu does not begin until two weeks after the shot is administered. Slight side effects often occur from the vaccination, including a mild fever, aches and redness and soreness at the site of the shot. Side effects

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**P16:** Local resident Bruce Wheeler returns home after spending 10 months on Naval deployment in Iraq.

**P22:** Five Elon alumni return to campus to be inducted into the Elon Sports Hall of Fame.