

THE PENDULUM

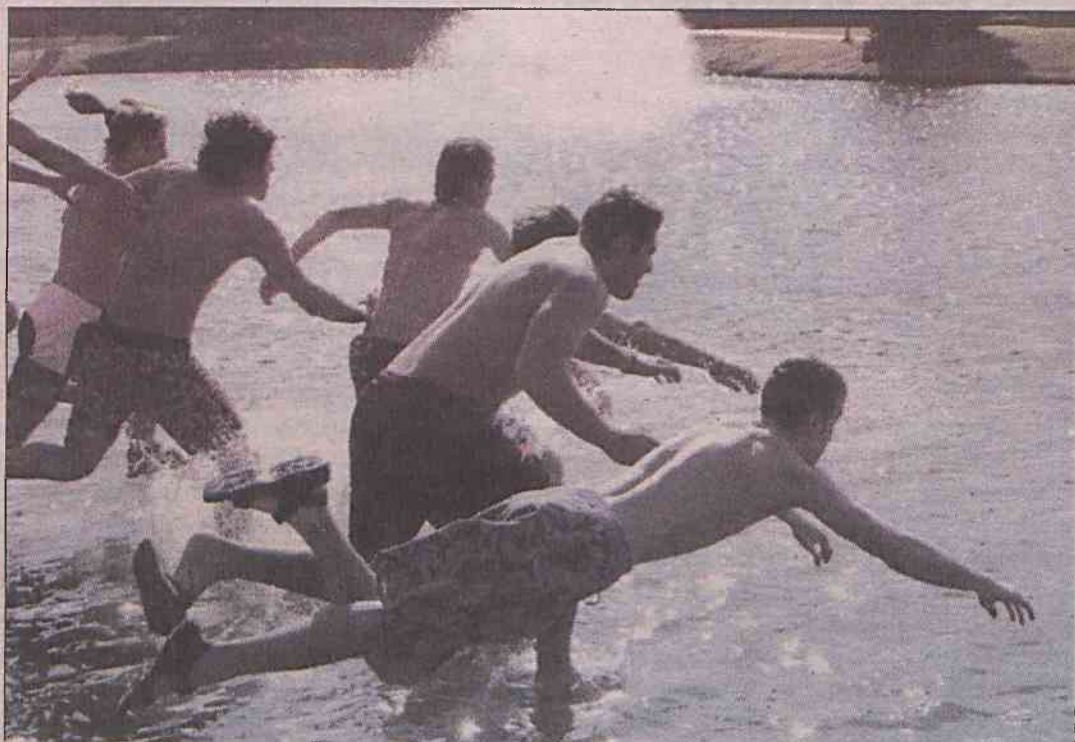
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If it matters to you, it matters to The Pendulum.

Students brave cold waters



Tim Rosner / Photo Editor

Temperatures in the 40s did not keep 28 students from taking a swim in Lake Mary Nell during Elon's first Polar Bear Plunge. Sponsored by the Resident Student Association, more than 100 people showed up to watch the event Thursday.

Gergen advises emerging leaders

Jessica Patchett

Editor in Chief

David Gergen, the first Isabella Cannon Distinguished Visiting Professor of Leadership, taught more than 2,500 students and faculty in 10 class sessions during his two weeks at Elon this Winter Term. Gergen's reputation as a professor, journalist and presidential advisor nearly filled McCrary Theatre at his first lecture Jan. 5. His following two lectures in the series "Lessons from World Leaders" sold out days prior to the presentations.

George Troxler, dean of cultural and special programs, estimates that nearly 50 percent of the audiences at each lecture were Elon students, though neither the Department of Cultural Programs nor the Elon Box Office tallied the exact number of students requesting free tickets to the lectures. Gergen also held two

question-and-answer sessions, conducted several classroom visits and met with Isabella Cannon Leadership Fellows on two occasions.

"Having him come in has really given us some insight from an outside perspective," said freshman Leadership Fellow Ashley Bennett. Leadership fellows met with Gergen to discuss the future of the students' leadership at Elon.

As a sophomore, Bennett will again sit down with another visiting professor and gain a new perspective on the art and importance of modern leadership.

Junior Zach Pund is in his third year of the Isabella Cannon Leadership Fellows program.

"A lot of what we do in the third year of the program is about change," he said. He said he remembered Gergen focusing in both

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Internet and cable news enticing young adults

Jay Dorne

News Editor

Young adults are leading a shift toward alternative media sources for election news, according to a report released Jan. 11 by the Pew Research Center for the People and Press.

Released just days prior to the Iowa caucus, the results of the Pew study indicated that although young adults are the hardest segment to reach, their habits are contributing to the public's long-term shift away

from traditional media outlets. Cable news, the Internet and comedy shows are among the alternative news sources young people are turning to for campaign news. These trends are now becoming apparent in all age groups.

Local and network news and daily newspapers have experienced the most severe decline. According to the report, only 42 percent of Americans said they regularly learn something from local television,

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Student mugged along Haggard

Lindsay Porter

Copy Editor

Elon Town Police are searching for suspects after a student was robbed and assaulted at gunpoint near Elon Elementary Jan. 13. According to the police report, five or six assailants fled the scene in a blue, late-'80s model Buick or Oldsmobile sedan with rust spots. A wallet containing \$45 cash, as well as credit cards and other items, was stolen. Police have not recovered the wallet or its contents.

Graham Hasted was approached by men in a car on Haggard Avenue

as he walked between McMichael building and Elon Elementary around 11:45 p.m. Hasted told police a car slowed as it neared him and three men got out, two displaying weapons.

"They were described as chrome or silver pistols," said LaVell Lovette, chief of Town of Elon Police. "They took Mr. Hasted's wallet and at least one of them struck him about the head."

The suspects then fled the scene in their car, heading west on East Haggard Avenue toward Gibsonville. Hasted walked to Sheridan Place, where he stopped a Campus

Safety and Police security car to report the incident, according to Elon Campus Safety and Police Chief Chuck Gantos. The police report indicates Hasted had been drinking.

"A crime like this is very, very unusual," Gantos said. He said his department is working with the town police department to develop a list of possible suspects.

The three men are all described as being between the ages of 18 and 20 and have been identified as being a white male, a black male and a

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P13: The textbook war: are they cheaper online or at the bookstore?

P18: Men's basketball team seizes first SoCon win against Chattanooga.