

THE PENDULUM

Volume 29, Issue 20

March 18, 2004

www.elon.edu/pendulum

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

Honor board calls for community engagement

Jessica Patchett
Editor in Chief

Editor's note: The Pendulum continues to examine Elon administrative policies regarding student, faculty and community accountability...

The academic integrity committee is brainstorming ways to deepen community awareness and engagement with the Elon academic honor code this semester, according to the head of a committee charged with the examination of the Elon honor code. The committee meets today to discuss alternatives to judicial affairs' current approach to informing the community about the code and carrying out its procedures.

Maurice Levesque, associate professor of psychology, chairs the committee, which includes faculty, staff, academic and student life administration and members of the student body.

"The community feels that we can make the code more central, more visible, more applicable," Levesque said. "We want to say, here are a set of values that are critical to our community that we are all committed to uphold."

The committee, through the Duke Center for Academic Integrity, has surveyed the student body to gather a sense of what values are present in the community. The board now has data regarding student opinions on topics such as cheating and plagiarism that will be helpful in evaluating the need for changes in the current code, according to Levesque.

Levesque has outlined the committee's expectations for a revised honor code. This code would work

efficiently, include policies and procedures that include faculty and student voices, and be effective for both students and faculty to begin to take ownership of the code.

Although the committee has been charged by the Provost to examine the honor code itself and the procedures under which it is enforced, Levesque said that his committee is most concerned with thinking about how the community can uphold academic integrity. The committee has expressed a desire to answer questions such as why it is important for what Elon students and faculty do in the classroom.

"We promote engaged learning, so we should address issues like respect, as well as traditional issues like plagiarism," Levesque said.

Scott Nelson, assistant dean of students, said he perceives respect as something Elon students take very seriously and something that should be taken into consideration when revising the honor code.

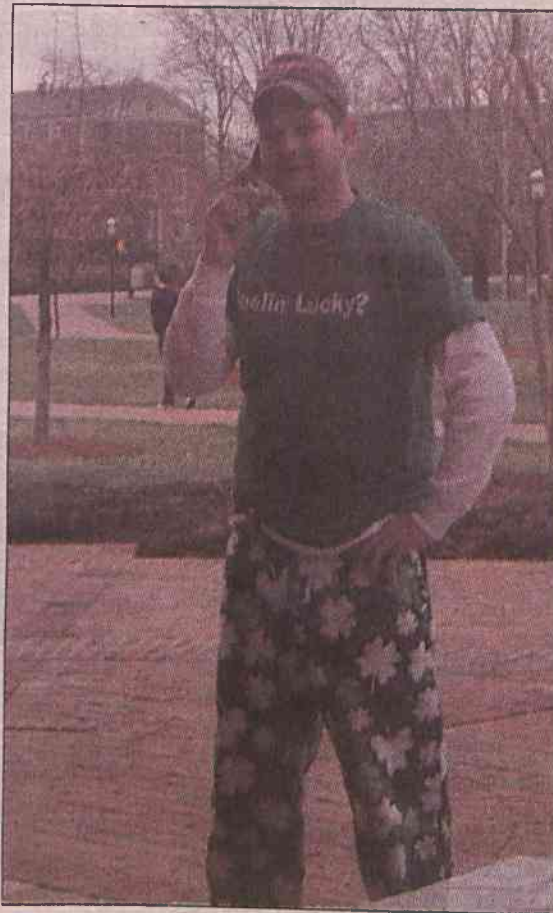
Currently, faculty report honor code violations directly to Mary Wise, assistant vice president for academic affairs, rather than immediately confronting students.

"One of the things that I have seen from sitting in on proceedings is students sometimes feel like they have an awesome relationship with this faculty member and they (the faculty member) went to Dr. Wise with this violation and (the students) wonder why they didn't come to them," Nelson said.

Is there any way for faculty to sit down with students first? Nelson said he thinks this would make students feel better about the proceedings.

See **JUDICIAL** p. 9

Students show St. Patrick's Day pride



Ashley Feibish / Photographer

Junior Ty Vrabel (left) and senior Jared Calhoun (right) show their Irish pride on St. Patrick's Day. Student Union Board also sponsored a campus wide treasure hunt called "Find the Leprechaun's Gold." Prizes were given to students that found one of the 15 golden bricks around campus.

Checkpoints result in nine arrests

Andrew High
Sports Editor

Nine Elon University students were arrested and more than 30 misdemeanor and criminal charges were issued Saturday night and early Sunday morning at checkpoints set up by a joint police task force.

Members of the Sheriff's department, Graham, Burlington and Elon

police forces set up DUI checkpoints on East Haggard Avenue and Oak Street. Twenty officers and a magistrate were involved in the all-night operation.

Pfc. A.R. Barnes, an officer who worked at the checkpoints, said the team charged three Elon students with possession of marijuana but made three fewer DUI arrests than at checkpoints sets up in the same locations in November.

"Although the numbers may seem like they're going down, that shows that there's still a problem," Barnes said. "The more the public sees that the police are out, the more the message will be driven home that drinking and driving is not tolerated. Hopefully people will find other ways to get home."

See **CHECKPOINTS** p. 9

P13: Elon students interested in political issues but perceive their votes as unimportant.

P22: Elon softball hosts Elon Classic, falls to Seton Hall.