

Robbery suspects arrested

Brittany Smith
Managing Editor

Police arrested two men Saturday night for the armed robbery of Elon freshman Richard Wysor.

Johnny Reese Dove, Jr., 18, and Darell Lavon Willis, 18, were stopped Saturday evening on Lawrence Ave. for a speeding traffic violation. While inspecting the vehicle, police officer Harold Dunn found a .22-caliber revolver and a .22-caliber Magnum Derringer. Both men were taken into custody for weapons violations.

While at the Elon Police Department for processing, it was determined that the two were involved in the Jan. 21 robbery of Wysor.

Dove, the driver of the red 1998 Ford Escort, was arrested and charged with conspiracy to commit robbery and carrying a concealed weapon. Willis, a passenger in the vehicle, was arrested and charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon and carrying a concealed weapon. Both men were placed in the Alamance County Jail under a \$40,000 bond.

On Jan. 21, Wysor was walking on East Haggard Ave. around 9 p.m.

"I like to clear my head every now and again," said Wysor.

When he was between Elon Elementary School and Sheridan Place, he was stopped by a car traveling on the opposite side of the road.

"I thought they were going to ask me directions because that's what usually happens when a car stops like that," he said.

Instead of asking for directions, Wysor was robbed.

"A guy got out of the car and walked right up to me and stuck something in my side," Wysor said. "I assumed it was a gun when he asked me for my wallet."

Wysor then reached into his pocket and gave the man his wallet. The men drove off and Wysor took out his cell phone.

"I was drawing a blank about who to call, so I called my mom," he said. "She was more hysterical than I was. She contacted campus security and cancelled my debit card, which only had \$20 on it anyway. It wasn't like the guy got away with any cash or anything."

While on his way back to his dorm in Danieley Center, Wysor was met by police officers who took his statement and drove him around to look for possible suspects, but he could not identify anyone at the time.

"This is the second time in 10 years a crime like this has occurred at Elon," said Chuck Gantos, chief of Campus Security and Police. "The last one happened eight



Dove (top) was arrested and charged with conspiracy to commit robbery and carrying a concealed weapon. Willis (bottom) was arrested and charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon and carrying a concealed weapon.

years ago when someone stole a vehicle, but he was apprehended as well. However, Elon is not immune to crime; it can happen anywhere at any time."

In order to prevent another situation like this, Gantos suggests that students practice common sense by not walking alone at night and making sure they know what is going on in the surrounding areas when walking.

Capt. Sam Russell of the Elon town police department also suggests that students do not resist when something like a robbery happens.

"It's not worth getting hurt over something like a wallet, purse, cell phone or whatever," said Russell.

"I feel bad for the guys who robbed me," Wysor said. "They obviously had to stoop so low as to rob a college student, who is poor anyway, and now will have to do jail time for it. It just seems so wrong."

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New housing construction creates choices for Elon upperclassmen

Jessica Frizen
News Editor

Because of new housing springing up right outside Elon University, it's easy for students to enjoy their new options. But administration is saying that these independent apartment owners are wasting their time and money, because on-campus housing will soon pick up speed.

Students quickly filed into new apartments this year as The Crest, Provence and Phoenix Arms opened in the fall. From all the construction close to campus, it appears the number of students living off-campus will only increase over the next few years.

Partner's Place is the newest apartment complex under construction between University Pointe and Phoenix Arms Apartments on East Haggard. Partner's Place representative Kay Short said there will be a total of 108 apartments. Some of their three-bedroom apartments have already been sold.

George Whittington, vice president for Business, Finance and Technology, said that he can understand why apartment owners would want to build around Elon, but there's a danger with building so many so quickly.

"If I were a person looking to invest money, it might seem like a good idea to

invest money in apartments close to campus," he said. "You never think 'enough is enough' until it's too late." Students living in The Crest this year are learning the hard way that their "first-year discounts" won't last. Next year Crest residents will pay approximately \$525 a month.

"I would say that with rising interest rates out here in the general economy, prices are bound to go up," Whittington said.

Disadvantages of off-campus apartments, like high prices and an inconvenient distance from campus, cause upperclassmen to fight for those cheaper, closer apartments with waiting lists and squatting squabbles. Jerrid Freeman, associate director of Residence Life Operations and Information Management, said that most apartments have trouble filling up during different parts of the year.

So is all hope lost for upperclassmen looking for a decent place to live? Vice president and dean of Student Life Smith Jackson doesn't think so. He said that with the heavy construction of on-campus housing, juniors and seniors will not only have more options, but better ones.

"We do guarantee housing for freshmen and sophomores," he said. "The seniors get what they want. It's the juniors that get

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