

THE PENDULUM

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



(Left:) *Elon and Hillsdale students hang out with children at the bonfire at the Casa Hogar.*

(Right:) *Students get extra free time while waiting for a new bus after theirs broke down.*

(Bottom Right:) *Senior Misty Pearson spends time with two Mexican girls.*



Photo submitted by Matt Sally

Photo submitted by Matt Sally

volunteer

Students ~~relax~~ in Key West for spring break

Mexico



Rebecca Watts

Reporter

"Care for today, hope for tomorrow." That's the motto for the Latin American Ministry of Back2Back, an organization that uses resources and volunteers from the United States and other countries to partner with children's homes, churches and communities in Monterrey, Mexico.

Over Spring Break, 21 Elon students, two Elon staff members and eight students from Hillsdale College in Michigan were those volunteers.

The group spent four days playing, working and living at a children's home

near Ciudad Mante. There they completed work projects, such as removing trees, painting, digging ditches and building a roof.

They played games and did crafts with the children and joined them for swimming and hiking at a nearby park.

"I learned what true service looks like," sophomore Blair Buckley said. "In interactions with people there is always a part of me that seeks a positive response and when you don't get that response, it's easy to quit and make it all about you. A lot of times on this trip I didn't get that response. It showed me about loving and serving people unconditionally."

"My favorite memory of the trip was to hear us singing the same songs in different languages. It was amazing," senior Matt Sally said. "I won't ever forget that."

The group attended a Quinceañera, (an event in celebration of a girl's 15th birthday), completed a ropes course, served dinner at a children's home (a Casa Hogar) in Monterrey, and they also visited "the Rio"—a shantytown in the poorest section of Monterrey, where houses are built from crates, tarps and scraps of wood and metal.

"It's humbling to see how there are people in a lot worse living situations



Rebecca Watts/ Photographer

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Students share Hurricane Katrina relief experiences.



ENTERTAINMENT

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"V for Vendetta" is an intense drama with political undertones.



SPORTS

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Elon faces off against conference powerhouse, Charleston.

