



Alyse Knorr/Photographer

Giving teen mothers a voice, Part 2

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www.retro-sports.com/.../sm_nascar_banner2.jpg

Professor hosts reading and Q&A for his book: *Godspeed: Racing is my Religion*

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Poll finds rise in U.S. president's approval rating

Evann Clingan
Reporter

Before fall break, the students and faculty members working with the Elon University Poll tabulated the results of a Sept. 24 through 27 phone survey. They found slight improvements in approval ratings of President George W. Bush since the last Elon Poll.

Out of the 664 (margin of error plus or minus 3.9 percent) residents polled, 65 percent disapprove of Bush's actions regarding the war, which is up from 70 percent in April.

Thirty-eight percent, up from 36 percent, feel positively about Bush's overall performance.

"North Carolinians traditionally are Republicans in elections for national offices and Democrats in elections for statewide and local offices," said Hunter Bacot, an associate professor of political science and the director of the Elon Poll. "North Carolinians often are more favorable to President Bush because of this. However, of late they are not very supportive of him or his handling of the economy and war."

The war was another hot topic. Sixty-seven percent of the sample supports a plan for withdrawing troops from Iraq in early 2009. Sixty-four percent feel that troops should be withdrawn during 2008.

While exactly half of the population surveyed agrees that the war is not worth fighting, 53 percent said that the United States should no longer be fighting at all. Half of the participants said the war makes them feel safer, while 41 percent say they feel more at risk.

"[North Carolinians] are tired of the war because it has dragged on for much longer than the president promised. They see no end," said Professor of Public Administration and Political Science George Taylor, who consults on survey design and methods

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65% disapprove of Bush's actions regarding the war, compared to 70% in April



38% feel positively about Bush's overall performance, compared to 36% in April

Graphics by Angie Lovelace

The Phoenix knocked off Wofford College 24-13 last Saturday and defeated the highest-ranked opponent in school history. The Terriers were ranked as high as sixth in the nation in some polls. Elon is currently ranked 16th in the nation and tied for first place in the Southern Conference.

Pictured: Wofford's Kevious Johnson (20), center, fumbles the ball during an open field run in Elon's victory.



Alex C. Hick Jr./Spartanburg-Herald Journal

Actress urges students to 'be yourself'

Bethany Swanson
Copy Editor

Offering life lessons disguised as acting tips, Academy Award-winning actress Olympia Dukakis continuously urged everyone in the room to maintain a sense of honesty of character and depth of spirituality. One must always take responsibility for themselves and their dreams, she said.

She kept the audience in Whitley

Auditorium ooo-ing, ah-ing and har-har-ing while she answered questions for more than an hour Wednesday.

"If you don't define yourself," she said. "Someone is going to reach into your brain and squeeze it real hard."

Dukakis indulged the audience with animated stories of her progression as an actress and as an individual, gesticulating and pacing the stage, and occasionally dropping her wireless microphone when she would stand to

make a point.

The question-and-answer session was part of a two-day visit with the performing arts department. Dukakis lead a master class for students Thursday afternoon.

Dukakis, a Lowell, Mass. native, explained that much of her life was spent guarded and defended until she realized, "I had to go out there and be

OLYMPIA DUKAKIS cont. p. 4

Ordinance to keep couches off porches

Justin Hite
Managing Editor

The town of Elon is stepping up enforcement of an ordinance that prohibits having indoor furniture used outdoors.

The Community Appearance Ordinance was passed at the beginning of 2007 and prohibits misplacement of furniture and unkempt or litter-filled yards.

"It makes people more responsible for their yards," said Elon Town Planner Sean Tencer. "If you had a neighbor that had all kinds of junk in their yard, it can make property values decrease. It makes the town neat, nice and aesthetically pleasing."

This ordinance is similar to many around the country that were enacted to increase property values and the overall look of the town.

"It's an appearance ordinance,"



Lindsay Fendt/Photographer

The owner of this house, Adam Justice, built this couch contraption when the police told him that the previous couch on his porch was illegal.

Tencer said. "As far as appearance goes, it's things that cosmetically don't look good for the community. You might have a pile of pipe or a rubber tire, most towns have community standards

on how the town should look."

This ordinance could have an impact on a number of students who

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