

A NEW SET OF WHEELS

Campus Police hit the streets with new-age trikes **PAGE 9**



On the stump

Michelle Obama visits the Triad to woo women voters **PAGE 3**

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A STATE ON THE EDGE



ELIZABETH FLORES | Minneapolis Star and MCT Campus
Republican presidential candidate Sen. John McCain and vice presidential candidate Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin are greeted by a welcoming crowd during a rally at the Anoka County/Blaine Airport in Blaine, Minn., Friday, Sept. 19.

Man sues Elon Law for race discrimination

Whitney Bossie
News Editor

A Greensboro man has accused Elon University's School of Law of racial discrimination. The university has denied the allegation.

Dennis W. DeBerry filed a complaint in federal court in Durham last month, alleging he was denied admission to Elon Law because of his race. In the complaint, DeBerry said he was denied admission twice: once in 2005 and again this year.

DeBerry said he believes the university rejected him based on his "Afrocentric dress and personal style," which he called "nonconservative and nontraditional." He claimed this impacted the administration's decision to deny him admission to what he called a "white conservative school."

The university issued a statement denying DeBerry's claims. The statement read, in part: "The university denies that it engages in any form of discrimination and will vigorously defend itself against this lawsuit."

After DeBerry was rejected the first time, he said he spoke with Associate Dean Alan Woodlief. DeBerry said Woodlief urged him to complete a paralegal program at Guilford Technical Community College before reapplying.

DeBerry said he then completed the GTCC program with a 3.4 GPA and ranked in the top 10 percent of his class, but was denied admission a second time.

DeBerry, who is black, said he saw no black students or faculty members when he visited Elon Law.

DeBerry sued the law school, two law school administrators and the Elon University Board of Trustees. He is seeking at least \$75,000 in damages.

In its statement, the university said it practices a "strong and clear" nondiscrimination policy. The policy reads: "Elon University and its School of Law do not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, disability, sexual orientation, or veteran's status in the recruitment and admission of students, the recruitment and employment of faculty and staff, or the operation of any of its programs."

DeBerry has also filed discrimination charges against the U.S. Postal Service. He plans to represent himself in both trials.

Republicans hold slight lead in Tar Heel state, Democrats find optimism in Elon Poll results

Olivia Hubert-Allen
Editor-in-Chief

According to the latest Elon Poll, 41 percent of North Carolina residents plan to support the Republican Party in the November presidential election compared to the 35 percent who say they'll support the Democratic Party. The findings are important to a state that has been listed as a possible swing state that either presidential candidate stands to win this November.

"It's surprising that it was so close," Hunter Bacot, director of the Elon Poll, said. "This is a red state, and what we expect to see are the Republicans dominating, but those numbers are pretty close."

The six-point spread is within the margin of error, meaning that in certain scenarios the number of citizens voting Democrat and Republican are the same. However, the margin could also be as wide as 12 points.

"We know it's going to be an uphill climb for any Democrat in North Carolina, but Barack Obama is better poised to win North Carolina than any Democrat has been in the last generation," Daniel Shutt, president of

College Democrats, said.

The last time North Carolina selected a democratic presidential candidate was Jimmy Carter in 1976.

"I am not concerned," Nick Ochsner, president of the College Republicans, said. "We still see John McCain with a decent lead. The numbers have been closer during other parts of the year."

Other tight races in the state

include the Senate race between Republican incumbent Sen. Elizabeth Dole and Democratic challenger Kay Hagan. According to Poll results, the two are tied, each receiving 35 percent of the vote.

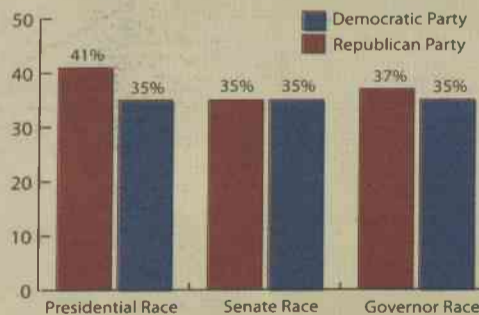
These numbers show movement

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Republicans holding a narrow lead

The Republican Party is favored across several races in the state, but all numbers are within the margin of error. Such tight spreads between how people indicate they will vote has catapulted North Carolina into "swing state" status.

Which party do you plan to support in the presidential, senatorial and gubernatorial race?



Source: Elon University Poll Sept 2008 Graphic: Olivia Hubert-Allen

Excessive illegal file sharing has students, legislation out of tune

Andie Diemer
News Editor

A panicky wave washed over campus last week when word leaked that the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) had been investigating file sharing at Elon. While the rumors ranged from company officials physically showing up on campus to being able to backtrack downloaded songs from years ago, Chris Fulkerson, assistant vice president for technology, knew one thing was true: Illegal downloading has to stop.

While Fulkerson is normally notified of these types of infractions on a regular basis, the first two weeks of September marked a period of excess use

that merited a severe wake-up call. Fifteen reports of downloading specific songs, which were chosen by the RIAA to trace, were reported by the RIAA to Elon during a three-day period.

"I let out that we had 15 notices and so people are getting nervous," Fulkerson said.

He said the RIAA has never stepped onto campus, nor do they need to. Instead, they simply use the internet to jump on music-sharing sites, such as Limewire, and pick targeted songs to track.

Fulkerson said the first round of high hits may not be aimed as much at students as it was at the administration as a warning to curb the problem before more serious steps are taken.

The school used to keep logs of complaints

for three days, but when the Higher Education Reauthorization Act was passed in August the school became required to keep logs for about two weeks.

"We must comply," he said. "They don't take that well [when we tell them no]. That is part of why the new act went into effect — a lot of schools have been doing that."

Fulkerson said it means several hours of work for him. After the RIAA reports specific IP addresses from computers that are illegally file sharing, Fulkerson's networking people have to go through all the logs and match them up.

"We trace it back to the dorm, to the port, to the wireless connection," he said. "We try to find

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