

Students raise money to help missing 2006 alum

FLEISCHMANN from page 1

painful because there's still no closure for him," Fleischmann said. "I believe he was killed. There's no doubt in my mind."

While Stimmel hopes there is some type of resolution before another year passes, he said the group will continue to sponsor events in his honor annually if no conclusion is reached.

"He's a brother of ours and we know that he'd do the same thing for us, if any one of us were in this situation," he said.

"The fact that both alumni, who knew him a little better than the people at school, care so much about his cause and that we're continuing our efforts speaks to the strength of the brotherhood we have."

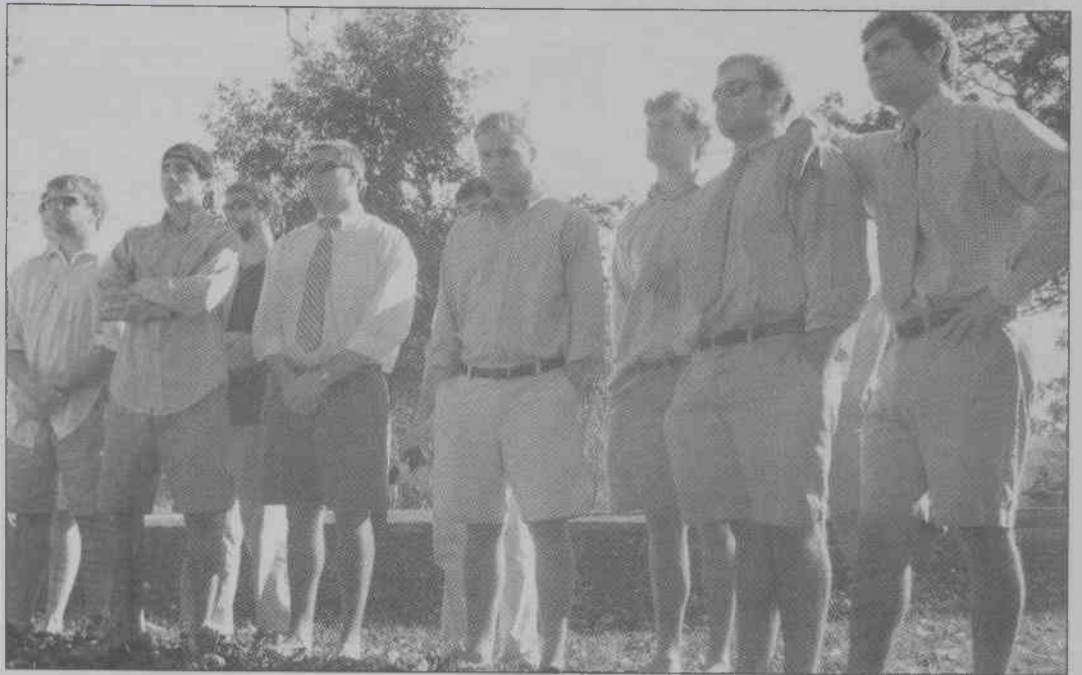
Stimmel said many alumni and members

from the foundation were thankful they were able to continue to spread the word about Fleischmann and other missing young adults situations.

"He'd be doing as much as he can if it was any one of us. That's something we're pretty proud of. We've come together, even though there's no resolution, and can still demonstrate strength by coming together and supporting his cause."

There is a \$50,000 private reward for anyone with information leading to the resolution of Kyle's case and his whereabouts.

Anyone with any information on Kyle's disappearance is asked to contact Crime Stoppers at (704) 334-1600.



Brothers of Kappa Alpha Order gathered Saturday morning to honor of their missing brother, Kyle Fleischmann. PHOTO SUBMITTED



Kyle Fleischmann

Kyle's story and the Kyle Fleischmann Foundation

Kyle Fleischmann, then 24, was last seen leaving Buckhead Saloon in Charlotte around 2:20 a.m. on Nov. 9, 2007. Shortly after that, he was identified as buying pizza at Fuel Pizza in uptown Charlotte around 2:25 a.m.

He has not been heard from since.

Fleischmann graduated from Elon with a business administration degree in 2006. He volunteered with the Special Olympics, the Boys and Girls Club and was an officer of

the Kappa Alpha Order fraternity.

Established in November 2007, The Kyle Fleischmann Foundation works to spread public awareness and educate others about missing persons and support families missing loved ones.

They focus on education and prevention and train speakers, including Fleischmann's father, to travel and talk about their experiences and offer tips on how to stay safe.

The Foundation marked the one-year anniversary of Fleischmann's disappearance with a charity golf tournament and banquet in Charlotte to raise money and awareness.

On Dec. 13, members of the Kyle Fleischmann Foundation will race the Thunder Road Marathon Relay in Charlotte to raise awareness as well.

To learn more or donate, visit: www.thekff.org.

Student struggles with attacker in London flats

Police capture suspect within four hours of incident, possible link to other crime in area

Ashley Barnas
Reporter

LONDON — In the early hours of Friday, Nov. 7, an Elon student's phone call to his brother turned sour when he was attacked during an attempted robbery on the front stoop of the university flats in London.

The student was relatively unharmed and a suspect has since been taken into custody and is now being linked with numerous other robberies in the neighborhood.

Between 4:10 and 4:25 a.m., the student, a male junior who has chosen to withhold his identity for security purposes, stepped outside the Elon flat in London to make a 10-minute phone call.

He then saw two men on bikes about 100 meters away. The men were weaving back and forth and seemed suspicious, so the Elon student turned around and walked back to the flat's front door.

The student saw the men speed up, but said he remembers focusing on the guy in the front, who dropped his bike as the student dug into his front pocket to grab his keys to get in the front door.

The attacker jumped on the student's back as the student pounded through the door. The student's body slammed to the ground and the attacker screamed for the student to pass over his phone. The cell phone was underneath the student and the attacker grabbed it and put it in his pocket as the student held the attacker back two feet from his face.

"I just made a lot of noise and the guy tried to hush me, but there was no way that was happening," the student said.

The attacker chased him to the stairwell and grabbed his leg but failed to drag the student down. As the attacker ran off, the student sprinted up to the first floor and began banging on doors.

"It was probably one of the most surreal experiences of my life," he said. "I feel like it was all acting, just

instinctive survival."

He came away from the experience with only a scratch on his eyebrow and the battery cover of his cell phone — the attacker got away with the rest of his phone.

He was let into the flat of Elon girls, where he was able to use one of their cell phones to call 9-9-9, the British equivalent of 911. He joined the police for a 25-minute drive around the area, but could not find the attacker.

He returned to the flat around 5:30 a.m. and was informed three to four hours later that the police found the attacker. By noon, he was called into the Charing Cross police station.

"The fact that they found the guy was really impressive," he said. "And the fact that they found him within four hours of me reporting it."

The police were able to reach him through the phone they confiscated from the attacker. When the student walked into the station holding the back of his phone, it was a Cinderella slipper moment. The battery cover fit perfectly to the body of the phone now held by police.

On Saturday, the student, along with six other witnesses from other incidents, went to the Victoria police station to identify the attacker from nine men shown on a screen.

The Elon student said he looked the attacker in the eyes twice during the morning of the incident and was able to give the police details without being prompted for them. The student could tell details down to what embroidery was on his attacker's shirt. Somehow, the student said he subconsciously knew how to act in the situation.

"I'm just glad it wasn't one of the girls or anything on this trip because all of the girls were like, 'How did you not shake when you were trying to get the door open?'" he said. "My main priority was just — I need to get this door open."

The suspect will be held for seven months without bail until his court case.

It is likely that the student will get an all-expenses-paid trip back

to London with one other person in late May or early June to testify as a witness in the trial because he got the best look at the attacker.

Junior Jenny Cupero, who heard parts of the encounter from her apartment on the basement level, said that though the incident was unfortunate, she isn't more concerned about her safety than she was before.

"I have been taking extra precautions from the beginning

and that has not changed," Cupero said. "I believe that as long as we do everything we can to practice caution at night we will be safe."

The victim's scab is disappearing and he is now recovering from the draining experience of filing police reports. He has been able to get a little more rest and talk through the experience with people. All the Elon students on the trip are gathering for a mandatory safety meeting tonight.

Science Matters

Anatomy of fighting back

People learning self-defense are taught that if they cannot run away immediately, to strike their attacker at these vulnerable points, giving them enough time to escape.

Throat and windpipe

Strike with thumb and fingers held in a "V"

Nose cartilage

Drive heel of hand into nose; warning — this injury can kill

Eyes

Grab attacker's head; rake thumbs across eyes

Groin

Knee, punch or kick testicles to cause intense pain
Strike from below, if possible, to make blow harder to block

Rake side of your shoe along attacker's shin ...

... then drive heel into top of his foot

Shift weight to your rear foot and kick attacker's knee; bring leg back quickly and be ready to kick again

Squeeze windpipe to block attacker's breath

Source: "Self-defense: Steps to survival" by Katy Mattingly, "Self-Defense for Women: How to stay safe and fight back" by Susan L. Peterson, "Fighting Back: Every woman's guide to survival" by Helene Crane
Graphic: Lindsay Dubois, Sun Sentinel © 2008 MCT