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LUPE ROCKS ELON



ANGIE LOVELACE | Staff Photographer

Lupe Fiasco, pictured, and Girl Talk performed at Elon's spring concert Friday in Alumni Gym. SUB's choice of Lupe marks a change from bands chosen in the past.



ASHLEY BARNAS | Photographer

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Elon counselor arrested, case now dismissed

Alexa Milan
Managing Editor

Leigh-Anne Royster, Elon's coordinator for personal health and community well-being, was arrested April 29 on charges of resisting a public officer. Alamance County District Attorney Rob Johnson dismissed the case Monday afternoon.

According to a statement released by the university Friday, "The charge related to Royster's interaction with a town police officer in connection with Royster's counseling of a student who said she was sexually assaulted at an off-campus location."

The arrest report said a warrant was issued for Royster's arrest April 28. On April 29, she was processed at the Elon Police Department before being transported to the Magistrate's office and placed under a \$500 bond.

Royster and the Town of Elon Police declined to comment for the story.

Johnson's dismissal report states, "The charge in this case arises from a conflict among competing responsibilities and duties by those serving as counselors and by law enforcement agencies. Prosecution of this charge in criminal court is not in the best interests of justice in this case. Rather, the state encourages the parties to engage in full and candid dialogue with a view toward reaching a solution or understanding designed to prevent any such future conflicts."

University officials are not sure exactly when the alleged sexual assault occurred, but it was sometime within the week prior to Royster's arrest, said Dan Anderson, assistant vice president and director of University Relations.

Royster, who deals primarily with sexual assault cases and sexual assault education, reported to Campus Safety and Police that an assault had occurred, following protocol that the victim's identity not be disclosed without the victim's written permission.

Campus Safety and Police then reported the assault to the Town of Elon Police.

Chuck Gantos, director of Campus Safety and Police, said this is standard procedure for cases that fall under the Town of Elon Police's jurisdiction. The assault did, in fact, occur off-campus.

Royster had been counseling the student and spoke with the Town of Elon Police about the sexual assault case April 28. When she arrived at work the next day, Royster was arrested by Town of Elon Police Detective Kelly Blackwelder.

"As to why she was arrested the next day, we don't know," Anderson said.

Royster was released on a \$500 bond later that day and returned to work the next morning.

According to its statement, the university believes Royster acted in the best interest of the student and followed established protocols for dealing with sexual assault victims.

Anderson said the university has been trying to understand why the police charged her.

According to North Carolina statute 14-223, resisting a public officer is

Economy changes admission process, university stays optimistic

Laura Smith
News Editor

As Elon University gains more national recognition, more high school seniors have started to envision themselves wearing maroon and gold. But this year, a weakened economy has called for different marketing strategies as well as readjustments in numbers, financial aid and deposits.

But that didn't dramatically impact the quality of students in the incoming class of 2013.

"We have a very strong freshmen class coming in paralleling last year's students academically," said Susan Klopman, vice president of admissions and financial planning.

The average GPA is a high "B" with many students having a GPA higher than

a 4.0, she said. The average SAT is the same from previous years, around 620 a section.

Currently, there is a ratio of 39 percent men and 61 percent women, a number that may alter as more male athletes sign to teams, Klopman said.

As far as demographics go, the No. 1 state students hail from is North Carolina, then Massachusetts followed by Maryland. More than 150 siblings have been admitted and approximately 65 sons, daughters, grandsons and granddaughters of Elon alumni have been admitted, equaling more than 200 legacy students.

"That's a wonderful number," Klopman said.

Dean of Admissions Greg Zaiser said he sees a growing number of legacy students admitted.

"It's a wonderful thing for an alumn to send their son or daughter to Elon," he said. "It's something we recognize in the admissions process ... but the student needs to be academically qualified as well."

The effects of a rough economy have certainly impacted the admissions process, Klopman said.

"The economy has had a tremendous impact on our incoming freshmen," she said.

This year, Elon accepted almost 350 more students than usual in order to make sure numbers can be filled in case students withdraw their acceptance to attend a less expensive school.

This is not just a trend at Elon, though. Nationally, high school seniors

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