



KATE HOPKINS
crowned
Homecoming Queen

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AS GOOD AS
THE BOOK?!

See how The Pendulum's
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THE PENDULUM

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FIGHTING THE FLU

Local hospital sets new guidelines for visitors



Nursing student Kelli Emery, left, gets a nasal H1N1 vaccine from Sara Wall, an infection control nurse, at Alamance Regional Hospital's Octoberfest. Octoberfest provides medical services, such as vaccinations, to hospital staff members.

LINDSAY FENDT | Staff Photographer

Influenza

Antiviral medications can help people feel better if taken within 48 hours of onset of symptoms

- Headache
- High fever
- Dry cough
- Chest pains
- Chills
- Severe fatigue
- Severe aches



NOTE: H1N1 virus also causes some gastrointestinal distress

Cold

Colds are caused by a different virus; symptoms are less severe — and they come on more gradually than flu

- Sneezing
- Stuffy nose
- Hacking cough



- Mild sore throat

- Mild fatigue

Strep throat

A sore throat, but no stuffy nose, may mean it's a streptococcal bacterial infection — antibiotics can help

- High fever
- Pus on tonsils
- Very sore throat



Stomach flu

Virus enters via mouth and multiplies in small intestine; symptoms can appear in a few hours, but usually take a day; food poisoning typically is a bacterial infection, such as E. coli

- Headache
- Vomiting
- Fatigue
- Diarrhea



GRAPHICS COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Allee Bennett
Reporter

For those seeking treatment for the flu or visiting friends or loved ones that may be infected, expect some limitations at Alamance Regional Medical Center this fall.

The hospital, which is the county's largest health care provider, is not restricting visitors but is encouraging anyone not seeking treatment to steer clear of facilities.

"If you don't need to come, you shouldn't," said Sara Wall, the infection control nurse at the hospital.

North Carolina is one of

46 states with widespread flu activity, according to the Center of Disease Control. The visitation guidelines were placed in hopes of controlling flu outbreaks in the region. The guidelines placed in May require each visitor and employee to sanitize their hands upon entering the facilities.

"At this point we aren't banning visitors, but we are about to move toward more strict guidelines in the future," Wall said.

Additional guidelines suggest any person with flu-like symptoms, including the H1N1 strain, should not visit patients. Also, individuals should come to the hospital for treatment only.

Senior Jennifer Schafer has had the H1N1 flu since Thursday and has since been quarantined in her apartment.

"I had a really high fever and it's developed into bronchitis," she said. "The most miserable part of it has been that I haven't been able to leave my apartment since Thursday. Otherwise, it's just like the regular flu."

Schafer was told to stay in her room with the door closed as to not infect her roommates. She was also instructed not to visit any public place until 48 hours after her fever broke.

She said she agrees with the

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The great marijuana debate draws crowd

Sam King
Assistant News Editor

More than 70 students, some irate and begging to attend, were turned away from an overflowing La Rose theater Monday night, where speakers discussed the hotly debated issue on whether or not marijuana should be legalized during "The Great Marijuana Debate."

Students, faculty and members of the Burlington community may have crowded the room and spilled into the aisles because of the new Obama administration policy that will not press charges against those who use or sell medical marijuana, provided they abide by the state laws and new policy guidelines. That change, which was announced two weeks ago, moves America closer to ending, or at least partially ending, the prohibition against marijuana now than at any other point.

Paul Chabot, an Iraq war veteran and father, offered the

con side of the issue and stressed the moral concerns of legalizing marijuana, while Kris Krane, former representative of Students for Sensible Drug Policy, discussed the positive aspects of legalizing marijuana.

"We're better than them," Chabot said in his opening statement. "We have a responsibility for ourselves, our families and our communities."

Chabot framed his position as the minority and the underdog, saying "pro-drug" advocates outnumber anti-drug supporters at least 100 to one. He said those who want legalization had more money for campaigning and that a majority of Americans want to see marijuana legalized.

While Chabot stressed the moral responsibility every American in the room had to uphold the country's values and beliefs, Krane brought the

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University compensates for economic downturn

Anna Johnson
Senior Reporter

With \$1,425 an Elon student can buy 203 medium one-topping pizzas, 530 gallons of gas or 843 small cups of coffee. This is also the amount Elon University's tuition increased from last year.

While Elon's tuition increased at a rate of 5.59 percent, higher than the 4.7 percent average increase for other private schools in North Carolina, Elon's tuition cost remained below the national average.

A new report by The College Board states, on average, four-year public schools raised tuition and fees by 6.5 percent last year. At four-year private schools, the costs rose by an average of 4.4 percent.

"Because the public schools are funded by states, when the state's revenue is down they struggle," said Susan Klopman, vice president of admissions and financial planning. "The N.C. system is in trouble and had to cut hundreds of positions. Of course they have got to make up for shortfall (by raising tuition). We've always been independent in that sense. We don't feel quite the same dramatic impact as public schools losing state funding."

The report states "the widespread

perceptions that published college prices are rising more rapidly than the prices of other goods and services." It also says this has been a trend for more than 30 years.

Klopman said no one likes to see tuition go up, but with the cost increase in other areas it was a necessary step. She said the university made several cuts to help save money.

"One example in our department is we stopped printing the academic catalog," Klopman said. "We usually print around 15,000 copies and we printed 900 this year. You have to use it online so it is a way to save a lot of money."

Elon currently estimates the cost for in-state students comes to \$31,875. This is \$3,761 less than the national average for total cost of private schools.

According to Klopman, Elon provided an additional \$250,000 for financial aid than normally allotted for students because of the economic downturn. Klopman said 60 percent of Elon students get some sort of financial aid, either need- or merit-based.

Along with financial aid, an increase in student loans has jumped in recent years. Nancy M. Viggiano, director of communications for

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