

# @ELON

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF ELON UNIVERSITY FEB. 2004

## E-PEOPLE

### Matt Eviston: shining the spotlight on Elon athletes

By Brian Grady '06

People in the sports news business know that the word “holiday” just isn’t part of their lexicon. So, when Ernie Nestor announced last Easter weekend that he would become Elon’s head men’s basketball coach, Matt Eviston knew what that meant for him: Easter Sunday in the office.

“Obviously I had to cut some plans short that I had for that day and spend Sunday night here,” says Eviston, assistant athletics director for sports information and media relations. “If we have something special come up like that, it could result in either an extra evening, weekend or holiday in the office. In that case, it just happened to be all three.”

Eviston spent the evening calling members of the press, writing news releases and otherwise shuffling to prepare for the press conference being held the next day. Although such unanticipated intrusions into his schedule can be a hassle, Eviston shrugs them off as a part of the job.

“In athletics, you work a lot of evenings and a lot of weekends,” he says. “As long as you enjoy what you’re doing, it doesn’t really bother you.”

When Eviston came to Elon nearly four years ago, the athletics program was going through an extensive transition that recently culminated in Elon’s move to the Southern Conference.

“Our job just continues to get bigger all the time, and this is just one way it’s gotten bigger,” he says. “The Southern Conference is such a prestigious league.”

One perk that Eviston says he enjoys is the opportunity to travel. He spends much of the fall and winter traveling with the football and men’s basketball teams. He has been all around the country and as far away as Hawaii.

“To think of all the places I’ve been and seen, and all the people I’ve gotten to work with and meet over the years, that is something a lot of people don’t get to do,” he says.



Matt Eviston prefers to make plays behind the scenes so that the real playmakers, Elon athletes, get the notice they deserve.

“There are a lot of sports fans out there who have never gotten to sit on press row or at the scorer’s table or have a front-row seat. It’s a great experience.”

A wrestler in college, Eviston says his favorite part of the job is working to highlight under-the-radar athletes who deserve recognition.

“Sports like wrestling and volleyball aren’t always in the limelight, to say the least,” he says. “When I competed in college, we always appreciated times that an accomplishment of ours was recognized. Now the role’s reversed, and I get a chance to make sure our athletes are recognized.”

To get skilled athletes noticed, Eviston sends out information about deserving athletes to media outlets using just the right approach. But much of the time, he admits, sheer luck is a factor.

“You have to leave no stone unturned,” he says. “You don’t want to get to that point where your person is not recognized or could have been recognized more, and you say to yourself, ‘Well, if I would have done this...’”

Much of this work goes unseen, but Eviston says he prefers it that way.

“It’s a behind-the-scenes job,” he says. “I’d rather be behind the people who are taking the pictures, than in front of the cameras.” @

## Elon's newest weapon in the war on geese

By Kim Hayes '05

One of the trickiest jobs on campus is being tackled by Elon's quickest employee: a border collie named Pete. Elon acquired Pete through a bird control and goose removal service to help get a handle on the growing population of Canada geese on campus.

Pete, who works in the physical plant department, comes to work every day with his trainer, Tom Flood, superintendent of landscaping and grounds. While Flood works in the office, Pete lounges and sleeps on an oversized dog pillow on the floor until he's called into action.

"Everything that happens on the grounds is my problem, hence the geese," Flood says. Using border collies as goose control is a fairly new concept, evolving within the past decade to control bird populations on golf courses.

Generally, border collies herd sheep, but some dogs instinctively run into the middle of a flock of sheep instead of circling around them. When a dog does this, Flood explains, he begins his training as a goose chaser. Learning how to swim is included in their training, and Pete has a special insulated swimsuit to swim in the lakes during the cold winter months.

Pete came to Elon at the beginning of the 2003-2004 school year. Both Pete and Flood have developed an understanding of the habits of the geese, predicting their migration patterns and therefore more effectively preventing them from settling.



Work or fun? It looks like both as Pete patrols the area around Lake Mary Nell.



Tom Flood works with Pete, a border collie hired to keep the Canada geese from getting too comfy on campus.

When working a flock, Pete crawls close to the ground to sneak up on the geese and then waits for the command from Flood to attack. He calls out a series of noises, a language known only to Pete and Flood, to instruct the dog on how to chase the geese away. After Pete has worked a flock several times around campus, the geese tend to leave more easily.

"I have to read what he's thinking and try to go along with it," says Flood. "He's not a machine."

But even during all of his many "attacks" on the flocks, Pete has never physically harmed a goose.

"He can't catch up with them," says Flood. "The dogs act like predators, these crazy animals that come tearing out of nowhere. The geese go into the water because it is their protection from the predator."

Flood recalls one shining moment for Pete after he chased a flock away from Lake Mary Nell near the residence halls.

"He was working the geese and once they all flew away, there was a group of about a half dozen to a dozen students cheering for him," says Flood. "The reason we got him is for the students. You can't lie out by the lake or play ball if there are geese droppings all over. He has such a happy personality that he works really well on campus."

When he's not saving students from the geese, Pete lives with Flood on his farm. While Pete takes time off to play with Flood's two other dogs and his kids, he doesn't get as much down time as Flood's other pets.

"He's a work dog, not a petting dog," he says. Pete gets rewarded for a job well done with praise and petting, but other than that, he doesn't receive any extra attention. In fact, he even takes it upon himself to watch Flood's horses while at home.

"He's obsessed with the horses, he thinks it's his job to watch them," Flood says. "Everybody enjoys watching a dog work, and I enjoy it as well." @

## WHO'S NEW



### **Morgan Gentry, multimedia office manager**

A native of Burlington, N.C., Morgan comes to Elon from Salem College, where she earned a bachelor's degree in studio art with a concentration in graphic design. As a final project before graduation, she and two classmates organized an art exhibition at the college that featured many of their own works.

She and her husband, Walt Lasater, stay busy at home with their dogs, Luke and Sam, and a cat named Hiedi. In her spare time, Morgan enjoys reading and painting, or preparing her favorite meal, chicken pie.

### **Monica Pagano, assistant dean of international programs**

Monica comes to Elon from the University of Pittsburgh, where she was assistant co-director for the Institute for International Studies in Education and a study abroad service learning instructor. Originally from Buenos Aires, Argentina, Monica has been in the United States for almost 20 years. She earned a bachelor's degree in international studies and a master's degree in Spanish education and cultures from Ohio University, and a doctorate in administrative and policy studies in education from the University of Pittsburgh.

Her work complements her love of travel. "I greatly enjoy traveling and meeting people," Monica says. "I would say that's my hobby." Monica likes to visit friends and do a variety of volunteer work. She also enjoys classical music and going to the symphony in her spare time.



## ELON FACULTY & STAFF GO INTERNATIONAL



Janet MacFall shows off a tarantula in Belize.



Nancy Harris shows student Chrissie Edwards some of the native plant life in Belize.



Faculty and staff sightseeing in London were: Stephen Bailey, Elizabeth Bailey, Kyndy Boyle, Angie Cates, Jimma Causey, Jean Chandler, Jimmy Crawford, Jodi Emond, Art Fadde, Karen Floyd, Bernice Foust, Nicole Jones, Rhonda Kosusko, Vickie Moehlman, Lisa Pennington, Celeste Richards, Bea Sanford, Cindy Sarwi, Julie Schuldt, Suzanne Sioussat, Jerome Sturm, Rene Summers, Wayne Thompson, Gloria Thompson, Gary Troxler, Helen Walton, Ernie White, Gerald Whittington, Anne Wright, Paula Zachary and Greg Zaiser.



(L-r) Laura Burnette, Jo Grimley and Gene Grimley pose in front of the London Bridge during the faculty/staff development trip in January.

# Emotional Intelligence @ Work

By Mary Santiago, professional development specialist



Recently David Gergen, the first Isabella Cannon Distinguished Visiting Professor of Leadership at Elon, presented a series of three lectures on the topic "Lessons from World Leaders." Over the course of his talks, Gergen focused on six traits of effective leadership. One of the traits that made it to his list was "Emotional Intelligence (EQ)." You may have heard of this term before, but what does it really mean? Is EQ only for leaders?

In Daniel Goleman's book *Primal Leadership*, EQ is defined quite simply as "how leaders handle themselves and their relationships." Goleman points out that emotional intelligence is not just for those born with this trait; it is an ability that can be learned and developed over time. This skill helps people become more attuned to those with whom they relate both at work and at home.

EQ skills fall into two major areas: the personal and the social. Let's look at some of the ways that you can use EQ skills to improve the quality of your work and home life. Emotionally intelligent individuals first and foremost take the time to learn about themselves. Self-awareness reinforces the ancient wisdom of the Oracle of Delphi, "Know thyself." To develop a better self awareness we need to perform an occasional self-assessment to gain a realistic perspective of our strengths and our limitations. It also means accepting oneself and developing the confidence that comes with acting from our strengths and dealing candidly with our limitations. Of course, a healthy sense of humor about ourselves helps, too.

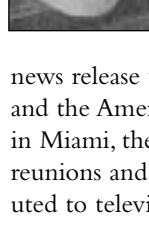
The next EQ skill is self-management. The questions to ask ourselves here are: How do I respond during a crisis situation or when I'm under pressure? How adaptable am I in the face of change? How am I living the values that I hold dear? How am I expressing optimism and expecting the best from others? How am I learning from my mistakes? The answers to these questions will indicate a person's ability to manage his or her emotions and deal positively with setbacks and adversity.

People with high scores in EQ demonstrate a social awareness that includes an ability to empathize with others. What is empathy? Is it the same as sympathy? Actually, it is a skill that is very different from merely sympathizing or feeling sorry for someone else. If you empathize with a fellow employee or professor, it means that you are able to listen to what that person has to say and understand their unique perspective. This ability also helps a person relate to other people who hold different views or come from different cultures.

How does EQ help build a team? The final EQ skills involve relationship management. Developing the skills involved in managing relationships can help us be successful not only at work but also at home with our families. This a way for people to inspire others through a shared vision of the future, mentor others to success and encourage teamwork and collegiality for a common purpose.



**Brooke Barnett, assistant professor of communications**, had an op-ed column published in the Dec. 14 issue of the *Greensboro News & Record*. The column included her recent research into the possible bias created by television images of criminal defendants.



**Larry Basirico, professor of sociology**, appears in a video news release with Royal Caribbean International and the American Society of Travel Agents. Filmed in Miami, the news release promotes family reunions and family gatherings and was distributed to television stations nationwide in November.



**Chandana Chakrabarti, associate professor of religious studies**, has been invited to the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton University. She will serve as a visiting scholar during fall semester 2004. Her main work will concentrate on theories of quantum consciousness and conventional quantum mechanics.



She has also been invited to Stanford University for spring semester 2005, where she will continue her research on intentionality and subjectivity in relation to quantum consciousness theory.

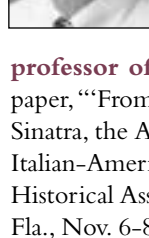


**Casey DiRienzo, assistant professor of economics** (left); **Earl Honeycutt, professor of business administration** (center); and **Robert**

**Pavlik, associate professor of finance** (right), had their article, "Student Attitudes Toward Selected Career Attributes," accepted for publication in the fall issue of the *Journal of Contemporary Business Issues*.



**Tom Erdmann, associate professor of music and education**, had his review of Andrea Tofanelli's recording, "Ricordo di Napoli," published in the January 2004 issue of *The International Trumpet Guild Journal*.



**Michael Frontani, assistant professor of communications**, presented a paper, "From the Bottom to the Top": Frank Sinatra, the American Myth of Success, and Italian-American Identity," at the American Italian Historical Association conference in Boca Raton, Fla., Nov. 6-8.



**Jessica Gisclair, assistant professor of communications**, will present her paper, "An Exploration of Themes: Mainland Chinese and American Freshmen Assimilation to University Life," at the joint meeting of the Popular Culture Association and the American Culture Association in San Antonio, April 7-10.



He was a featured soloist with the East Davidson High School Jazz Ensemble at the annual Music Educator's In-Service Conference in Winston-Salem in November. In December, Metzger was the featured soloist with the percussion ensemble and jazz ensemble at the State University of Arkansas in Jonesboro. During his visit he also gave a master class for university jazz studies and percussion majors.



**Pat House, director of development support** (left); **Bea Sanford, director of gift planning** (center left); **Mary Santiago, professional development specialist** (center right); and **Anne Wright, director of parent giving** (right), completed the Duke University Certificate in Nonprofit Management.

**Mayte de Lama, instructor of Spanish**, had her interview with Marina Mayoral, a famous Spanish writer, published in *Confluencia*. The article was titled, "Al otro lado de Marina Mayoral: entrevista."



**Todd Lee, associate professor of mathematics**, has co-authored a book titled *Finite Mathematics, An Applied Approach*. The book covers the traditional topics in finite mathematics, including sections on linear modeling, linear programming, probability and game theory. Spreadsheets are used to facilitate both exploration of concepts and an introduction to how this technology is used in real-world situations.



**Ernest Lunsford, associate professor of foreign languages**, was invited to join an interdisciplinary team at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to create a multimedia program to teach Spanish to health-care professionals. The program, named "A Su Salud!" ("To Your Health!") will be centered on a DVD-based video series with accompanying DVD- and Web-based interactive exercises and a print workbook. Lunsford will design the Spanish language teaching program and supporting materials and coordinate them with the DVD series.



**Jon Metzger, assistant professor of music**, served on the judging panel for contemporary music for the Central Piedmont Regional Artist Hub Program in September. In October, the nationally acclaimed Lenior-Rhyne Youth Percussion Ensemble released a recording of his percussion ensemble piece, "Batterie Diabolique." A recording on which Metzger played in 1986, "Reiko," was re-released under the title "10 Years in 5 Days" by Howland Record.



**Paul Parsons, dean of the school of communications**, was elected to the Accrediting Council of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications during the mid-winter meeting in Atlanta, Dec. 6 and 7. He will serve on the council from September 2004 through September 2007.



**Jeffrey Pugh, professor of religious studies**, has published his third book, *Entertaining the Triune Mystery: God, Science and the Space Between*. The book is an exploration of the boundaries between science and theology. Drawing on one of Christianity's great mysteries, the life of the Trinity, Pugh seeks to bridge the gap between ancient faith traditions and scientific inquiry, in part by celebrating that gap as divine essence.



**Sandy Smith-Nonini, assistant professor of anthropology**, presented a paper on the history of the U.S. movement for health rights in Central America at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Chicago on Nov. 21.



**Vickie Somers, director of auxiliary services**, attended the 35th Annual National Association of College Auxiliary Services conference in Colorado Springs, Colo. During the conference she gave a presentation on ethics and became a member of the Professional Development Committee of NACAS.



**Sharon Spray, assistant professor of political science and environmental studies**, co-edited a new book that was recently published. *Loss of Biodiversity* introduces readers to the important concepts of environmental challenges and the declining diversity of life on the planet. She co-edited the book with Karen McGlothlin of the University of the South.



**Hal Walker, associate professor of leisure and sport management**, and two students presented a session at the International Conference on Sport and Entertainment Business in Columbia, S.C., Oct. 8-12. Seniors Shannon Campbell and Shelley Smith joined Walker for a session titled "Internship Success: For Students, By Students." The conference was hosted by the University of South Carolina.





## *Keep trying: New Year's resolutions can work*

Six weeks into 2004 and hopefully your resolve to reach your goals remains as strong as ever. But if you feel yourself weakening, we hope you'll be encouraged by reading about the successes of the people around you.

It was one of those "crisis" years for me. It was Jan. 1, 1981. I was 30 (no longer a child and supposed to be grown) and wondering how my career was going to develop. After finishing one year at University of Virginia, I resolved to be more focused on doing what I needed to move ahead both professionally and personally. My resolution: adopt the premise that after you thought you were finished, there was always one more thing that could be done to make it better.

By the end of that year, I had a new job (university treasurer), a new son, a new church and a new car (not in that order). Twenty-three years later I am still paying for them, too (but not in that order)!

I'm not saying that making that resolution was the difference in my life, but it sure helped me focus on what was important, and still does.

*Gerald Whittington*

*Vice president for business, finance and technology*

Three years ago I made a promise to myself that I would begin walking on our treadmill.

It was brand new, sitting there and taking up space for six years before I jumped on. I didn't really tell anyone about my promise. I just steadily stayed the course and gradually built up from walking 10 minutes (I was out of breath after 10 minutes!) to a current 3.5 to 4 miles, five days per week. I did this for my health. I've been able to maintain it because I look forward to my hour alone. This is my own special time to listen to music, books on tape, plan, pray or just reflect. I love my treadmill because inclement weather is no excuse for me not to walk. I feel safe and secure also. I actually burnt up the first treadmill, and I'm on my second NordicTrack!

*Debby Wall*

*Recruiter relations specialist*

My resolution for 2003 was to give up soda of all kinds. I figured it was something I enjoyed but didn't really need. Mostly, it was the sugar that my teeth didn't need. So, I decided that it was something I could do without—and I have—for more than 12 months now. I spent the year drinking a lot more water (and a little more tea) but in the end, I don't crave, miss or need it.

*Greg Zaiser*

*Associate dean of admissions; director of international admissions*

My hubby and I were recently talking about resolutions when he stated that he was going to give up smoking. I reflected for a moment and realized that he doesn't smoke. His comment was that he was setting realistic goals. We had a good laugh.

Now, when someone asks my resolutions for 2004, I pick one that I can realistically accomplish, like not smoking (I don't smoke), not being introverted (I am very outgoing), etc.

*Tammy Hill*

*Secretary, residence life*

## *Succeed with SMART goals:*

Still need a little help? **Susan Edwards, an exercise physiologist and adjunct instructor in health education**, offers this advice for sticking with your resolutions:

### **Specific**

Don't say, "I will get in shape." Instead, say, "I will start exercising."

### **Measurable**

Don't say, "I will lose weight." Instead, say, "I will lose 3% body fat."

### **Action-oriented**

Don't say, "I will get in shape." Instead, say, "I will walk 30 minutes a day."

### **Realistic**

Don't say, "I will lose 25 pounds in one month." Instead, say, "I will lose two pounds a week."

### **Time constrained**

Don't say, "I will walk." Instead, say, "I will walk 30 minutes a day for two months."

# Happy Birthday!

**Feb. 13**  
Stanley Greeson

**Feb. 14**  
C.C. Cowan  
Tiffany Lowe

**Feb. 15**  
Rick Kaczinski

**Feb. 16**  
Susan Lindley

**Feb. 17**  
Darryl Bullock

**Feb. 18**  
Nancy Henley  
Jacky Joe Smith

**Feb. 19**  
Linda Dunn  
Adam Garris  
Gary Troxler

**Feb. 20**  
Greg Calone  
Gregory Haenel  
Yoram Lubling  
Kelly Reimer  
Rex Waters

**Feb. 21**  
Leigh Pierce  
Wendy Williams

**Feb. 22**  
Skip Allis  
Pamela Baker

**Feb. 23**  
Cassie Kircher  
Beverly McQueen  
Douglas Redington  
Carol Smith

**Feb. 24**  
Judith Howard  
Wayne Thaxton  
Lynne Wentz

**Feb. 25**  
Mike Sterling  
Anthony Weston

**Feb. 26**  
Susan Chinworth  
Christie Dickerman  
William Wade

**Feb. 27**  
Barbara Boyette  
Hiromi Sumiyoshi

**Feb. 28**  
Anthony Bennett  
Dave Powell

**March 1**  
Brooke Barnett  
Beulah Mitchell

**March 3**  
Joann Cousin

**March 4**  
Chris Dockrill  
David Magee  
Robin Straka

**March 5**  
Michael Strickland

**March 6**  
Robert Blake  
Lisa Purtz  
Pamela White

**March 7**  
Beth De Ford  
Joseph Glass  
Jana Lynn Patterson  
Bonnie Smith  
Kathy Whitt

**March 8**  
Diane Choplin  
Chris Leupold  
Pat Murphy

**March 9**  
Martin Fowler  
Sue Johnson

**March 10**  
Wilhelmina Boyd  
Stephen Futrell  
Teofilo Matias

**March 11**  
Anthony Mancuso  
L' Tanya Richmond

**March 12**  
Eileen Miller  
George Taylor

**March 13**  
Keith Caton  
Leah Kessler

**March 14**  
Betty Hatch

**March 15**  
Kathryn Cort  
Jo Grimley  
Pat House  
Jean Schwind

## RECENT GIFTS OF \$10,000 OR MORE

**Koury Business Center: \$350,000**  
Wallace L. Chandler '49  
Nita H. Chandler

**Koury Business Center: \$250,000**  
Mark T. Mahaffey P'01 P'97  
Marianne Mahaffey P'01 P'97

**Koury Business Center: \$75,000**  
Richard H. Shirley

**Koury Business Center: \$25,000**  
Capital Bank

**Koury Business Center: \$10,000**  
David A. Stevens '81  
Beth G. Stevens

**Koury Business Center: \$10,000**  
Dorothy Ward  
Arthur T. Ward III P'05  
Elizabeth A. Ward P'05

**Elon Athletics Foundation: \$12,912**  
Howard Arner '63  
Beverly Arner '66

**Jane M. Baird Endowed Scholarship Fund: \$25,000**  
James H. Baird P'87  
Jane M. Baird P'87

**Roger W. Barbour Collection: \$10,000**  
James L. Barbour P'04  
Jo Ann S. Barbour '01 P'04

**Project Pericles: \$10,000**  
Park Foundation Inc.

**Capital Restricted: \$10,000**  
T.E. Powell III P'90  
Betty Y. Powell P'90

**Elon Fund/Parents Fund: \$10,000**  
Dorothy Ward  
Arthur T. Ward III P'05  
Elizabeth A. Ward P'05

**Mary Mildred Sullivan & Algernon Sydney Sullivan Scholarships: \$23,500**  
Algernon Sydney Sullivan Foundation

**The Mila D. Weavil Physical Therapy Scholarship: \$25,000**  
David C. Weavil  
Mila D. Weavil

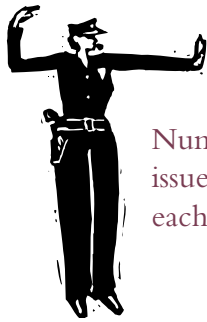
**The Lettie Pate Whitehead Scholarship: \$46,500**  
The Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation

**Wilkinson Theatre Arts Fund: \$10,000**  
William E. Wilkinson P'88 P'85  
Betty R. Wilkinson P'88 P'85

1,133



Number of parking tickets issued by Elon campus police during fall semester and Winter Term.



Number of parking tickets issued by Elon town police each day (M-F).

15-20

Number of copies of The Pendulum that are delivered to campus.



2,200

4,000

Number of people who use campus recreation facilities each week.



Number of countries represented among Elon international students.

36



Number of states (plus Washington, D.C.) represented among Elon students.

48

Number of replacement Phoenix cards issued from June 1 to Dec. 31, 2003.

425

Average number of hits to Elon's Web site each month.



1,139,806

## @Elon Staff

**Donna Bearden**, editor

**Holley Berry**, designer

**Jerome Sturm**, photographer

**Annette Randall '05**, student writer

**Brian Grady '06**, student writer

**Kim Hayes '05**, student writer

**Bryan Jones '07**, student writer

**Dan Anderson**, director

The @Elon newsletter is published by the Office of University Relations for the faculty and staff of Elon University. If you have faculty/staff news to share, e-mail David Hibbard in the News Bureau ([dhibbard@elon.edu](mailto:dhibbard@elon.edu)). Please send your comments and story ideas to Jaleh Hagigh ([hagigh@elon.edu](mailto:hagigh@elon.edu)).



**Congratulations to the newest member of the Elon community:**

**Christine Nemicik**, assistant professor of history, and her husband, Todd, welcomed a son. Palmer Andres Richardson was born Jan 2.