



Elon's star wideout to sign with Cowboys, **B3**
SPORTS



Meet the candidates for state House, **B1**
REGION

Burlington, North Carolina

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Weather: Afternoon storm 74
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BAILEE ELIZABETH PORTER Grade 2
Alexander Wilson Elementary School

5 MINUTE TIMES

► NATION

At least 10 people were killed when the tornado ripped through the rural Mississippi countryside, but the stories told by survivors on Sunday show how much higher the toll could have been. **A3**



Civil rights activists called on President Obama to fight a tough new Arizona law targeting illegal immigrants Sunday, promising to march in the streets and invite arrest by refusing to comply if the measure goes into effect. **A3**

► WORLD

An al-Qaida front group in Iraq on Sunday confirmed the killing of its two top leaders but vowed to keep up the fight. **A10**

► STATE



President Barack Obama made a pilgrimage Sunday to Billy Graham's mountainside home, concluding his North Carolina vacation with his first meeting with the ailing evangelist who has counseled commanders in chief since Dwight Eisenhower. **B2**

► PEOPLE

W. Willard Wirtz, a lawyer and labor arbitrator who was labor secretary in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations but broke publicly with Lyndon Johnson over Vietnam, died Saturday at age 98. **A2**

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WEATHER REPORT
It's looking like a stormy Monday. Will Tuesday be just as bad?



All together, now ...



Photos by Brad Coville / Times-News

From left, Garrett Jackson, Steve Haines and Cameron Williamson from team Sigma Phi Epsilon tug on a rope Sunday to move a school bus 25 feet. The event was part of a fundraiser planned by an event management class at Elon University.

PULL!

Ten teams discover just how heavy a school bus really is

By Roselee Papandrea
Times-News

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One by one, teams of six grabbed hold of ropes and pulled.

The Boys & Girls Club bus, weighing in at about 30,000 pounds, only had to move 25 feet. The object of the game was all about what team could pull it the fastest.

Ten teams tried on Sunday in the parking lot behind the Burlington Municipal Building as part of a bus-pull fundraiser planned by an event management class at Elon University. The point of the fundraiser in the service-learning class taught by Elon professor Hal Walker was twofold: Students were challenged to raise money for a worthy cause and also to plan an event from beginning to end.

In this case, the money raised will be split between the Salvation Army's Boys & Girls Club of Burlington as well as the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Elon University senior Kyle Johnson was the brains behind the idea. He developed it after an event he attended for N.C. Special Olympics that involves pulling an airplane at Raleigh-Durham International Airport.

"We just substituted a bus for a plane," he said.

The 14 students who worked on the event split into committees. One group targeted sponsors. Another planned the logistics, and the third marketed the fundraiser.

Amanda Portoghesi, a junior at Elon University who is majoring in leisure and sports management, said getting the experience was invaluable. She went out looking for sponsors and even had to get the event approved by the Burlington City Council.

"I like seeing the end process of everyone actu-



Melanie Lutz gives her best effort Sunday along with her Elon Cheerleading teammates.

ally doing what we planned," she said. "Before now, it was just an idea we had back in February. ... It's a great hands-on experience. We had to think of literally every aspect of it."

For the Boys & Girls Club, it meant participating in a different kind of fundraiser — one that hasn't been done in Alamance County before, said Sherry Henderson, the director of the Boys & Girls Club. It also meant continuing a relationship with Elon University students and receiving more funding to provide after-school services to children in the community.

"I would have to say that Elon is one of our biggest assets in Alamance County," Henderson said. "We have had 120 volunteers from Elon just this year that have come to assist in our programs. ... Our programs wouldn't be a success without them, so we are lucky to have them."

As for the teams that pulled the bus the quickest, in two legs, Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity pulled it 25 feet in a combined time of 13.43 seconds and were the winners of the all-male division. Elon Cheerleading won in the co-ed division with a combined time of 14.71 seconds.

For local woman, grief fueled artistic outpouring

Judith Madarasz turned to painting after her mother's sudden death

WHITSETT — When Judith Madarasz looks at a flower or a sunset or even into someone's eyes, she sees something different than she once did.

"It gets my imagination going," she says. "I get into such a beautiful state of mind. I feel like I'm in heaven."

REAL PEOPLE
with
Roselee Papandrea

pel her to translate what is in her mind's eye to paper or canvas. Whether it is through vibrant watercolors or acrylic paints, she breathes life into land-

scapes, portraits and cityscapes.

"This outlet for me is so natural," Madarasz said. "... I never know what I'm going to paint next."

It's a statement that is perhaps true for many artists: The inspiration for their work is unpredictable and surprising. But for Madarasz, her art, talent — gift — is still fresh and new and shrouded in the kind of mystery that leaves those who have seen it wondering where it all came from.

She, too, seems as if she is still smitten with it all — a woman on a honeymoon with her craft.

Madarasz, a native of Budapest, Hungary, didn't grow up surrounded by paint and brushes. She didn't doodle or dabble in the arts. She lived what she described as a "simple" life in a country riddled with troubles. The communist regime that took over after World War II meant that her own family's history — her maternal grandfather's noble



Brad Coville / Times-News

Judith Madarasz, who escaped communist Hungary at age 18, sits in her living room Friday with several of her paintings.