Elope College bans junk food on campus

Kiley Barnard
Assoc. Editorial Asst.

Students have expressed mixed reactions to Elope College’s recent campus junk food ban. The college issued a statement in December saying:

“The Otter County Junk Food-Free Indoor Diet Regulation will go into effect on January 1, 2008. This new regulation requires all public and private employers to prohibit eating junk food in all enclosed areas and within twenty-five feet of any entrance, operable window, and ventilation system. In order to comply with this new regulation and promote a healthier lifestyle, Elope College will become a junk-food free campus on January 1, 2008.”

Junk food will not be permitted in any campus owned or leased building in any residence hall, apartment or cottage; on any campus walkway or green space; or outside in college parking lots.

“Part of it is an image issue,” Otter County anti-junk food campaign expert Linda Blabston said. “You see a group of kids hovering around a building munching on chips and twinkies and what do you think? It doesn’t make the establishment look good. Recent tests have proven that the smells of fries and funnel cakes make the people who don’t like to be exposed to junk food. The campus regulation, released on NoElope and the UnoElope e-mail systems states: “Please adhere to the twenty-five foot distance and dispose of your junk food materials appropriately before re-entering the campus area.”

Student Reactions

Some students have reacted to the news positively. “I think it’s great.” Carol Vanderdykstra-haan (10) said. “Junk food is gross. There’s nothing worse than having the smell of Doritos salt waft by when you’re trying to walk to class. If people are addicted, they should just quit now. I mean, it can kill you anyway.”

Other students feel differently.

“Part of it is an image issue,” Otter County anti-junk food guru said. “You see a group of kids hovering around a building munching on chips and twinkies and what do you think? It doesn’t make the establishment look good. Recent tests have proven that the smells of fries and funnel cakes make people associate the business with unhealthiness.”

The campus regulation, released on NoElope and the UnoElope e-mail systems, states: “Junk food is permitted in private vehicles (including those parked in college lots) and on public right-of-ways away from building entrances,” the regulation states.

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY—Purchasing junk food from on-campus vending machines is now a Class B misdemeanor, thanks to the recent junk food ban. This student looks out for any squads of Elope College Segway-patrolling Campus Security officers before surreptitiously grabbing some peanut M&Ms.

He’s coming! He’s coming!

Elope Greens to host Pres hopeful Ralph Nader

J.G. Buffalo
Guest Writer

Presidential hopeful Ralph Nader has scheduled to stop on campus Monday, April 8, as part of his 2008 campaign tour. He will appear at Dimwit Chapel as guest speaker following brunch with students. The visit will conclude with a speech on faith, hosted by Elope Greens at 2 p.m. in DoWitt Main Theater.

“I’m proud to see that our small institution is a big step in along the campaign trail,” said Elope College President Culman at a press conference Monday. “First McCain, then the Brothers Romney, and now Nader. It’s a regular full house.”

Coincidentally, Elope Democrats are boycottting the events, even going so far as to stage a hunger strike, saying Nader is to blame for Bush’s winning the elections of 2000 and 2004.

Nader, in hopes of enticing Elope College students to vote for him, brought along weed to pass out to students, promoting his views to legalize marijuana. Campus Security caught him leading students to his unmarked Astro van. When confronted, the students fled the van that had a bumper sticker on it saying, “Go green or go home.”

When interrogated by Holland police, his only response was, “Just chill, man.”
Campus digital technology to consolidate

Joni Stepford
PREMIERE STEPFORD WIFE

April 2, 2008
at Elope College in the past several years, such as reverting their 1990s-era website template to an "old-school" style, decreasing bandwidth to an allotted 56.2 MB download limit per hour and becoming passionate green for Mel Gibson by shutting down Elope's Internet on Sunday nights. Their current project, though, certainly makes the campus wonder what they are thinking.

Software/Hardware Information Technicians, though they try to help the students on campus as much as possible, are currently undertaking a project to consolidate the entire content of every computer on campus to one single hard drive. Many questions are circulating about this mystery project, but members of Software/Hardware Information Technicians are not talking. One representative of Software/Hardware Information Technicians, Billy Gies (‘09), said, "We cannot disclose any information about our consolidation project, although I can tell you that it is currently underway throughout campus right now.

The hard drive that they are storing everything on has been confirmed to be a super computer that no one on the campus has ever seen the likes of. The trouble is, no one has been able to find it. Ivan Ghosthunter (‘10) is an expert when it comes to finding the truth in questionable situations, but even he was unable to locate the super computer.

"I looked everywhere, in every building on campus," Ghosthunter said. "I even used my infrared heat detectors because a super hard drive like that is sure to be radiating unimaginable amounts of heat, and still, I could not find where Software/Hardware Information Technicians are hiding their special computer. It's disappointing."

Ghosthunter ended with a promise: "I haven't given up looking. It has to be somewhere, and I'm going to find it."

"Those Software/Hardware Information Technician boys were unclear about why they needed the consolidation."

- President Cultman

The reasons for Software/Hardware Information Technicians to need a super computer with a massive hard drive are still unknown to the campus at large. Though there are some radicals that insist Software/Hardware Information Technicians are trying to overthrow President Cultman and take over the campus, most believe it to be something less extreme.

"They probably just want more room on the normal computers for games," Thomas Nimwit (‘11) said. "The hard drives in the library don't have any more room on them to download all of the new video games, because they take up so much room."

For his part, President Cultman is not worried about the Software/Hardware Information Technicians revolt. "I don't believe that at all," Cultman said. "Those Software/Hardware Information Technician boys were unclear about why they needed the consolidation, but all of the important materials for running the school are encoded in ways that make it hard to raid every bit." Maxine Pluther (‘08), a radical, had this warning for President Cultman and all other high officials at Elope College: "Do not underestimate Software/Hardware Information Technicians. They know what they are doing, and they are going to hold you captive until they are able to change some of the archaic traditions that run this institution! Prepare yourself because they are just getting started."

In response to the warning by Pluther, President Cultman chuckled softly. "The reason students choose to come to the excellent institution that is Elope College is for the tradition, along with the promise of an above-average education. I am not worried for my safety, or for the safety of any of my staff."

CRIME BEATS

Mar 29 - Gearing up Campus Security Offices - In an ordinate ceremony earlier this week, Campus Security unveiled the newest member of its force: the Segway Personal Transporter. After the reciting of the pledge of allegiance, Campus Security Patrol Chief Chuck VanderKlompen rolled in front of the crowd on one of the high-tech scooters. These scooters, which travel at about four miles-per-hour and are widely considered an eyesore, have become increasingly popular with law enforcement and other government agencies.

"We hope that the scooters will give Campus Security new life," Vanderklompen said. "They will give us an improved response, up to a whole minute unless there's a crowd, and they will give us an increased presence on campus."

Later that day, a parked officer's car was seen pursuing a student in violation of the junk food ban. The student was in hot pursuit before thwarting Campus Security by running up a flight of stairs.

Mar 31 - War Games Tennis Courts and Skate Park - Last night, in a swift and strategic move, Campus Security Forces liberated the tennis courts and skate park from the city of Holland, claiming them for Elope College. These facilities have been ruled with an iron fist since time immemorial.

The initial invasion began at about 2 a.m. after the last skaters had left, and lasted about five minutes. Royal Holland Defence Forces attempted to retake the parks at about 3 a.m. but were routed by some illegally parked cars in the street.

President Cultman gave awards to the officers involved in the invasion, and announced the future plans for the land: a performing arts center that will be built after we all have left.

April 1 - Thunder Noordeloos - Elope student Eleanor Mackenzie (‘10) was found in Noordeloos after a severe storm blew through Holland.

In the middle of the storm, Elope's emergency system was activated, locking all academic and residents halls, to prevent intruders from entering. As a result, Mackenzie was unable to access Van Vlook Hall and a wind gust caught her, causing her to take flight, and land in Noordeloos. Mackenzie is safe and sound, but still unable to access her dorm, and somewhat unsure of the location of Noordeloos.

PHONE 2
New diversity campaign draws public attention

Sammy Stares

The Elope College community has been excited by the announcement of a new publicity campaign to promote Elope. The new campaign entitled, “See the Diversity,” will involve billboards, videos, posters and the like announced Elope’s Admissions Office.

A spokesman for Elope College Admissions, Paul Irtica Lee-Korrekt said, “We hope that the new campaign reflects the visual diversity of our students and faculty. At Elope, we’re proud to have individuals from almost every ethnic background, and that’s a notch on our belt that others need to know about.”

The “See the Diversity” campaign is expected to involve many students, with everyone having an equal chance of being selected according to Elope Admissions. Student groups, however, are reporting high percentages of minority students who have been “randomly selected” for the campaign.

At a press conference Lee-Korrekt said, “Elope College has become more diverse. I know, I know. That used to be a dirty word centuries ago. But we’ve progressed quite a bit since then, and now ‘diversity’ is a four-letter word that all of us can enjoy.”

When asked what the purpose of the campaign was, Lee-Korrekt said, “Here at Elope, we know that diversity is everything. And we owe it to the press and those outside of the community to show how attractively diverse we are.”

Some argue that the campaign, meant to reflect diversity and the uniqueness of each member of the student body, unfairly capitalizes on the race of students. During the press conference, opponents of the campaign argued that every student is unique to which Lee-Korrekt replied, “For the purposes of promoting Elope College, some are more unique than others.”

Lee-Korrekt added, “Our goal is to improve the minority presence on campus to a larger, yet still safe, proportion.”

When asked if the increase in minority students would make for a richer, united community, Lee-Korrekt said, “We are committed to meeting the needs of our more unique students. And in the spirit of that, we’re creating more spaces that will be reserved only for minority students of color – spaces where they’ll be isolated away from those who might not know anything about them – so that they won’t feel unequal.

One reporter asked, “Does that really promote equality?” Lee-Korrekt answered, “At Elope, we realize that equality doesn’t always mean ‘equal’ in the strict sense. In 1866, Elope College was founded by 200 Dutch humanists and 1 German. Even back then, it was only fair to let the German live by himself in his own 100 percent German district of the town. The Dutch settlers respected and encouraged that. Nowadays, we affirm the centuries-old practice of equality through segregation. After all, if people didn’t have a place to be with other ethnically unique students, we might lose all consciousness of race. And that is why we have spaces like the Mother Muller Center lounge for minority students to get away from us all, to examine the best lounge money can buy and say, ‘Yeah, now that only I can be in here, I do feel equal’.”

Springing into spring: Winter wonders are regretfully overcome by spring sedation

Jules Mackie
Great Wester

“I knew it was coming. We all knew it was coming. Spring just thinking about it makes me sick,” said Debbie Downer (10). It’s official, ladies and gentleman: winter is gone and spring is upon us. Only a few snow piles remain to remind us of what a wonderful, blizzard-filled windshield, “Billy Frown (‘08) said. “Whenever I was walking to my car, bundled up to my neck in scarves, I got this tingling sensation all over my body, just knowing what a wonderful, blizzard-filled windshield I had.”

“1 knew it was coming. We were ready, and now we are living in a winter wonderland,” said Billy Frown (‘08). “I remember this one time when the snow was up to my knees, and I had to go outside to get the snow off my car.”

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Springle-time approach — Two students mourn the imminent loss of the DeWitt snowpiles as temperatures warm at Elope College.
Women's Studies adds MRS

Jenny Sombree

Dr. Wanda Steinstien, director of Women's Studies, announced late last week that the program will now offer the option of an MRS degree with new courses beginning this fall.

"Since the Elope College Women's Studies program began, Dr. James Bobson and his band of outspoken donors have pressured Elope to add the MRS to its repertoire," said Steinstien, adding Elope to add the MRS to its repertoire, "I want to tell you that the program has been under consideration for some time."

New courses offered with the degree will include a two-credit "Intro to Interior Painting and Wallpapering" listed with the department, "Husbands and their Wives in 1850s Literature" (cross-listed with the English department), and "Proverbs 31 and Beyond," a study of biblical references to women's roles in the church and home (cross-listed with the religion department).

Student reactions are mixed.

"I wouldn't mind taking the course," said Sally Vandersmith ('10), "I like the idea of it, but I don't think it's necessary." And while some students claim to have dropped out of Elope College to join a convent because they were afraid they wouldn't be able to find a husband after graduation, others, including President and Mrs. Cultman, are questioning the religious validity of the unions. "At this point, it's not clear whether they can recognize these marriages," said Cultman, "The Elope College community seems divided on the reception of the marriages."

The Elope College community seems divided on the reception of the marriages. Dean of the Chaplain, Trigger Johansson, has had to face scrutiny from his superiors, who call "gypsy," decision to perform impromptu marriages in chapel. It all started during a weekly chapel service when Johansson felt the Spirit move. "I could sense that God was trying to tell me something. And that something was that more Elope College students were needed to take the plunge," said Johansson. "I knew that alone had the power to make this happen. And that felt good, you know? Realizing that I was the only one at Elope College went to be chosen for this task was very humbling."

During that first chapel service at least five couples were "married" by Johansson in a matter of minutes. Since then, Johansson has married some 15 to 20 couples, and it is not yet clear whether all of them were willing or even dating when Johansson married them. Perhaps it is for this reason that some, including President Cultman and Dean Crossed, are questioning the religious validity and legality of the unions. "At this point, it's not clear whether we can recognize these marriages," said Cultman, "Just pointing two people and saying, 'You're married,' seems questionable."

"Perhaps it is for this reason that some, including President Cultman and Dean Crossed, are questioning the religious validity and legality of the unions. "At this point, it's not clear whether we can recognize these marriages," said Cultman, "Just pointing two people and saying, 'You're married,' seems questionable."

"Surprisingly, the attendance at chapel services has risen dramatically with almost every seat filled. While some students claim to have stopped attending chapel out of fear of being chosen, others, including seniors, have been drawn to what appears to be a small revival of the young and the desperate on Elope's campus."

Johansson recalls his comments at the opening of one service. "As I saw the desperation on their faces, I knew that they were thirsty for divine intervention. You could tell everyone was thirsty."
ed to see if God was going to move me today to marry these students: "But the chapel isn't the only building that's packed. Oggall Apartments, Elope's designated married housing, has never been fuller.

"Now that we've been married by Trigger, we want to be housed as a married couple," Steven DeWittstra ('09) said. "We're ready to begin our married life living together — with all that entails."

Aside from the other concerns that Johansson's spiritually led marriages have created, the heart of the controversy remains the validity of the marriages. When asked if he felt the marriages were truly binding, Johansson replied, "Well, I guess I'll have to answer you with the same phrase I say after every marriage in Chapel: What Trigger hath joined together, let no man put asunder."

uses desperation to scramble for marriage certificates

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"I got really lucky at a transfer student came in last year, and we fell in love the first time we spoke. Then Trigger Johansson agreed to marry us during a special chapel service. Everything happened so fast, but I'm really happy now," Singer said. "I saw when I got here that it was going to be pretty difficult to meet someone while all of the other girls were on the hunt for a guy, too."

Chocolate ('09) took this route after realizing the uneven ratio of men to women on campus. "I saw when I got here that it was going to be pretty difficult to meet someone while all of the other girls were on the hunt for a guy, too," Chocolate said. "So one weekend I went home and made amends with an ex-boyfriend, and now we have been happily married for almost two years."

Though many girls feel they are running out of options, they need to keep in mind that everyone comes to Hope knowing this. Before the transfer credit option was allowed, many women stayed at Elope for five or six years, and most of them are happily married now. That is not a preferable option either, but there are always other options out there. Someday, the marriage requirement will probably be abolished, but for the time being, the percentage of married students at Elope College remains the highest of any college campus in the country.
 Armed with knowledge

Colonel Noah
Vander-Dykhou senstra

We arndt safe

Ever since our earliest freshmen days here at Elope College, we have been taught that the leader of our school was the merciful President Cultman. That President Cultman was the glue that held our school together, the maestro that conducted the orchestra of academic departments, the lowest common denominator in the equation that is Elope.

But recently, the Ranchor came into some shocking information suggesting that President Cultman reports to a higher authority: the Board of Trustees (also known as the BOT). Not much is known about this board, besides the fact that, according to a college catalog carelessly discarded within the WhyCough Catacombs, the BOT selects the president, and the president is accountable to the board directly. This raises numerous questions. Who are the members of this BOT? Who selects its members? What are its powers? What are its goals?

The first place we at the Ranchor looked was NoElope. Membership lists dating back several years were the only thing that could be found. Trustees appear to be selected by the board itself, ensuring the perpetuation of the elite nature of the organization.

Members of the administration, facility and staff were contacted, and asked about the nature of this mysterious organization. No reply. At all. Why would an organization need to keep so much secrecy from the very body for which it supposed to work?

The only conclusion that we can find is that the BOT has the same goal as any other highly secretive organization: to try and bring about a New World Order, based on heated sidewalks, respect toward squirrels and thriftiness. It makes sense. Instead of going about the arduous task of taking over the higher echelons of a government, the BOT has instead started a school where it can teach its ideologies to young, impressionable minds, and send them forth into the world. When the former students reach high levels of academia, church, business and state, they will implement the board’s directives without even knowing it themselves. It is an ingenious system.

And it must be stopped.

Arm yourselves with knowledge, my fellow students. Knowledge of the truth! Resist their lies! Viva La Resistance!

Colonel Noah could not be reached to provide his own bio. The BOT has required him to undergo reprogramming... we won’t mention additional general education requirements. All praise the BOT!

Campus digital technology to consolidate

• JUMP, from page 2

Technicians revolt. “I don’t believe that at all,” Cultman said. “Those Software/Hardware Information Technician boys were unclear about why they needed the consolidation, but all of the important materials for running the school are encoded in ways that make them hard to read even by me.”

Marvin Purther (98), a radical, had this warning for President Cultman and all other high officials at Elope College: “Do not underestimate Software/Hardware Information Technicians. They know what they are doing, and they are going to hold you captive until they are able to change some of the archaic traditions that run this institution! Prepare yourself because they are just getting started.”

In response to the warning by Purther, President Cultman chuckled softly. “The reason students choose to come to the excellent institution that is Elope College is for the tradition, along with the promise of an above-average education. I am not worried for my safety, or for the safety of any of my staff.”

At press time, the members of Software/Hardware Information Technicians were still in the middle of their quest to consolidate all information on every computer campus onto one mysterious and hidden hard drive. So far, President Cultman and all other officials at the college are safe.

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The Ranchor

The Ranchor is a production of student effort and is funded through the students of Elope College funding which comes through the Elope College Student Congress Appropriations Committee. Are you still smiling? Don’t think so. That means I can say anything wants. Na Na Na. Every Tuesday we slave away to bring you the news, and do you want me? No. You don’t even bother to read it. Sigh. Why do I even bother? I should just quit The Ranchor and move to Fiji. And I bet you won’t even miss me.

Our Mission: The Ranchor strives to spread truthiness, read knock-knock jokes, make Olive Oyl sandwiches and protect the Flying Spaghetti Monster. All of this is done to establish the real facts about Elope College that otherwise would be concealed by the Feds. The Ranchor seeks to “in it with worthy cause here.”

Chief E-mailer
Chief Listmaker
Whitney Fillmore
Tina Dropers
Sammy States
Jeni Stepheiders
To/Sho
Kylle Barnard

1600 Square Feet On 3 Levels, 4 Bedrooms (Maximum 4 tenants per unit), 4 1/2 or 3 1/2 bathrooms per unit, Full Kitchen, Dinette, Living room, Full sized washer & dryer,

Tiggles McDermitt
H.D. Resolution
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Blues Brother #2

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Matching flowers are hard to find
Students asked to help pick two identical bouquets

Matching flowers are hard to find
Students asked to help pick two identical bouquets

Bridal store frenzy creates tag tangle
Bride-to-be relies on student help to figure out which dress corresponds with each price
Wednesday, April 2, 2008

THE FUTURE OF SPORTS

(And Other Events)

Friday April 4

Max Power

Guest Writer

The last few years of the Elope steeplechase insurgency have been quiet, but new actions by both Elope College and the Track insurgents have pushed the risk of a full-out armed conflict. Campus Security has elevated the risk level to magenta.

The tension dates from a disagreement over the lack of a steeplechase pit at the track complex. While the Track insurgency, al-Steepea, claims that the pit is required for practice and league competition, Elope holds firm that conditions are satisfactory. Uncanny to many, the steeplechase is a moderate distance track event with five large hurdles and one water pit that runners must jump or leap over each lap. Other KIAA schools have steeplechase facilities.

As part of its counterinsurgency strategy, Elope College has pursued a construction surge consisting of the Da Boss Temple steeplechase insurgency.

The construction surge is working, Cultman said. "We will not be intimidated by the actions of these track extremists.

In response to the changing battlefield, the al-Steepea insurgents have altered their tactics. On terms of anonymity, one track insurgent revealed plans of recruiting Elope basketball players for the steeplechase cause.

"We are hoping," the insurgent said, "that funding will follow the addition of basketball players to the track teams."

Basketball Coach Sven Van Weidern could not be reached for comment.

With both sides firmly entrenched, the battle is far from over. However, the conclusion of the semester will bring a scheduled peace conference between Cultman's top ambassador and a non-militant faction of al-Steepea. Dean Crossed expressed hope for the process.

"Steeple pit or no steeple pit, we cannot permit this conflict to endanger Tullip Time," Crossed said.

NOT ENOUGH PRACTICE — Elope's Bailey Roberts (09) takes a spill in a race. Runners have had difficulty competing due to Elope not having a steeplechase pit for practice.

New worship service to feature slam dunks

A. Soup Cup

Guest Writer

As Elope College students walk past the Da Boss Temple this spring, they may hear the familiar lyrics "Better is one day in your courts, better is one day in your house, better is one day in your courts than thousands elsewhere."

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Dean of the Chapel Trigger Johansson said, "We felt it was time to broaden religious horizons here at Elope. Who better to give our praise and thanks to than to those who have done so much for us as a campus?"

"I'm on fire for the basketball gods! Whenever I watch them play, I am filled with such spirit," said Sarah Kaasjager (10).

The services will consist of songs of worship, inspirational messages from spiritual leader Coach Sven Van Weidern and occasional performances by the Sacred Cheerleaders.

Elope's campus ministry also plans to install stained-glass windows of former basketball gods in the Da Boss Temple, which will allow students to reflect on the "cloud of champions" as they worship.

As a special convenience to Elope students, the new worship services will take place at 11 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays directly after the regular worship services of the Christian God in Dimwit Chapel. Elope College administration has decided to rearrange classes in order to accommodate the new services.

HOPES FOR THE FUTURE

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We can hope and we can have hope, but hope means nothing unless it is brought to birth by action. — THEODORE ROOSEVELT

Elope College

ANCHOR

HOU-AND, Ml 49422-9000

PO Box 9000

ANCHOR

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