Caitlin O'Donnell
News Editor

Elon University students expressed contrasting reactions following the announcement late Sunday night of the military strike against Osama bin Laden in Pakistan. Some erupted in celebrations and others quietly paid tribute to those who lost their lives during the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11.

A large group of students, originating in Danieley Center, made its way across campus starting at 12:30 a.m., chanting patriotic slogans and waving American flags. While the participants said the demonstrations were in celebration of revenge against one of the United States’ most wanted former fugitives, others characterized Sunday night’s events as an unnecessary celebration of death.

Sophomore Elizabeth Nerich lives in Manhattan and was there on Sept. 11. When she first heard the news of bin Laden’s death, she said her mind went blank and she couldn’t fully grasp what had happened.

Nerich, who lives in Danieley Center, chose to partake in the demonstrations last night, partly to emphasize to terrorists that citizens of the United States would never forget what happened that day, the death of bin Laden brings some closure.

"It doesn’t really change a lot, but it’s good for our mentality," she said. "And it’s nice that someone that caused me, my friends, New York City and America so much fear is out of the picture."