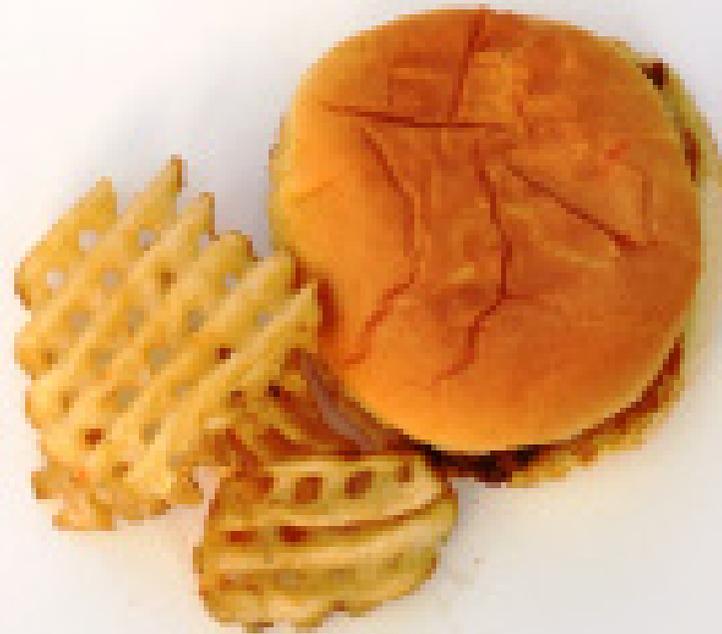


THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA • WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2013 • VOLUME 39, EDITION 15

CHICKEN
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BAK.



*University sets date for
Chick-fil-A reopening*

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THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

The Pendulum is a daily operation that includes a newspaper, website, magazine and multimedia. Letters to the editor are welcome and should be typed, signed and emailed to pendulum@elon.edu as Word documents. The Pendulum reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned. The Pendulum is located on the third floor of the Elon Town Center on Williamson Avenue.

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OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
/	/	/	2 Public Lecture: Peter Levine 4:30 p.m. LaRose Digital Theatre	3 Fall Convocation featuring Steve Wozniak 3:30 p.m. Alumni Gym	4 SUB Movie Run 9 a.m. Moseley 207	5 SUB Cinema: "Monsters University" 9 p.m. Young Commons	
6 Women's Soccer at Francis Marion 2 p.m. Florence, S.C.	7 LEAD Program Strengths Workshop 5:30 p.m. Moseley 215	8 Women's Golf 8 a.m. Greenville, N.C.	9 Math Education Info Session 5 p.m. Oaks 103	10 "Numen Lumen: An Inspiration" 9:50 a.m. Location TBA	11 Fall Break Begins 2:50 p.m.	12 Fall Break	
13 Fall Break	14 Fall Break	15 Fall Break	For more event coverage visit The Pendulum online at www.elonpendulum.com.				/



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The Pendulum news organization is always looking for reporters, photographers and videographers.

All years and majors welcome!

To get involved, contact our Editor-in-Chief Rebecca Iannucci at riannucci@elon.edu or visit our office, located on the third floor of the Elon Town Center.

Town of Elon engages in downtown development plan

Michael Papich
Senior Reporter

The Town of Elon is beginning a multi-year project to improve its downtown area. Developers met this week to talk with various constituencies about what the community wants.

At the Elon Downtown Master Plan meeting, retail development and architecture experts talked through issues that locals have with the current downtown area.

Community responses were initially recorded in private and compiled by the consultants from Kauffman Associates Inc. to be used to develop plans for the town. Planning boards will consider these plans and then bring them back to Elon residents and businesses.

“By January, we’ll be bringing some options or the option to the Aldermen,” said Lucien

Roughton, the principal architect with Roughton Nickelson De Luca Architects.

Questions posed to community members included asking how residents feel about the idea of a downtown in general, how they feel about Elon’s downtown and why they travel outside of Elon and Burlington.

When the floor was opened up for discussion, one issue that was discussed more than any other was a lack of parking in Elon.

“It was a real issue to the merchants and they blamed it on the students and the university not taking care of that,” said Ken Kauffman from Kauffman Associates Inc.

The residents at the meeting were largely opposed to the idea of a parking garage in downtown Elon, fearing it would ruin the aesthetics of the area.

“There are a lot of parking garages that aren’t pleasant experiences, but it can be done,”

Kauffman said.

While much of the discussion was left to the residents and their ideas, Roughton brought up the idea of expanding downtown all the way to Holt Chapel Road.

“In order to get some momentum going, you need more than just one block,” he said.

Roughton said he and Kauffman will meet with property owners of those blocks on Thursday.

Another issue for community members was they felt there was nothing for them in the downtown area. One meeting member learned Elon had a downtown area only that night.

Community members suggested having general interest shopping in the area, including a pharmacy, some office space and possibly a park or village common.

“If the percentage sold to students is high, the downtown doesn’t work,” Roughton said.

Kauffman said, over time, the idea of what makes up a downtown has changed.

“You’ve got to be pretty old to remember when downtowns were the place to go,” Kauffman said. “No strip centers, no malls.”

While a diversity of shopping was something all in attendance wanted, they also pointed out this is not available in prominent college towns like Chapel Hill.

“You’ve got to go to Durham County to buy a refrigerator,” said Sean Tencer, Elon town planner.

While much of the discussion was focused on what the residents would want for downtown, Kauffman pointed out the university wants downtown to be bustling as well.

“If the school wants to bring in some professor from Berkeley, they want the downtown to be inviting when he thinks about getting a job here,” Kauffman said.

Martin Alumni Center unveils custom tours for graduates

Corinne James
Senior Reporter

It’s a common sight: red-shirted tour guides walking backwards, leading throngs of prospective students and their parents down Elon University’s crisscrossing brick paths. Now, some of those

groups may contain more adults than high schoolers.

Elon’s Martin Alumni Center recently began offering tours to alumni who attended the university before it began renovating and constructing many buildings.

“We have alums who come to campus and do not even recognize the building

where they had club meetings or organization events,” said Durice White, assistant director of Alumni Engagement. “It is amazing to reconnect through the experience and to hear stories from the past.”

To register for a custom tour, alumni enter information online, including their major, favorite class or professor, where they attended most classes or what they specifically wish to see in order for staff to build a tour based on their preferences and experiences.

For example, a tour for an alumnus who graduated with a business degree could include visiting Long, which housed the business school before the Koury Business Center was built.

White said custom tours can last between 10 minutes to longer than an hour, based on the alumnus’ preferences.

The tour guides are specific to the alumni center and Elon Ambassadors and are trained through a similar process as admissions guides.

According to White, the custom alumni tours are very different from the typical admissions tour.

“We’re not talking at you,” White said. “We want to have a conversation and build relationships. Tour guides hope to

hear about personal stories and experiences within the older buildings and spaces as they show alums to the new facilities.”

So far, the alumni center has given custom tours to a few alumni, two of whom asked to visit the Numen Lumen Pavilion.

The Martin Alumni Center, which opened in August, is located on North O’Kelley Avenue. The alumni welcome experience begins with a welcoming greeting, including a new video created by Max Cantor ’10 and Tim Johnson ’09, who also produced the Elon admissions film.

Alumni also receive a gift for coming through the Martin Alumni Center, including a 24-hour campus parking pass, a gym pass, a free visit to the driving range, coupons for Barnes & Noble and free game-day tickets, available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

According to the center, more than 50 alumni visited campus on Move-In Weekend this year. More than 2,000 alumni come through Elon for Homecoming each year, and about 1,200 graduates register through the alumni center for Homecoming activities.

White said he expects these numbers to grow in coming months.



TARA WIRTH | Staff Photographer

Tours for alumni allow Elon graduates to see the campus and the changes that have recently been made.

Chick-fil-A scheduled to reopen after Fall Break

Katherine Blunt
News Editor

Chick-fil-A is scheduled to open Oct. 16 on the first floor of McEwen Dining Hall at Elon University, the day Fall Break ends and classes resume. The restaurant will offer the same menu options as it did last semester.

Chick-fil-A used to reside in the Octagon Cafe at Moseley Center until the dining space was closed for renovation during the summer. The university had originally planned to build a full-service Chick-fil-A in the retail area of Lakeside Dining Hall, but opposition to the restaurant's presence on campus halted the plans for expansion.

"I'm hoping that the reopening of Chick-fil-A isn't the reopening of last year's problems," said junior Devon Gailley. "If people want to abstain from eating there, good. If they want to grab a chicken sandwich, good. But since it's clear that the restaurant is not leaving, the best thing both parties can do now is be mature about their viewpoints and move on."

Chick-fil-A's presence at Elon became a divisive issue in September 2012 when Spectrum, Elon's queer-straight alliance, drafted legislation calling for the restaurant's removal. Spectrum did not take issue with Chick-fil-A COO Dan Cathy's support for "the biblical definition of a family unit," but rather the franchise's donations to organizations such as the Family Research Council and Exodus International through WinShape, its charitable arm.

The Student Government Association first voted on the legislation Oct. 12, 2012.

"These groups cause direct harm to LGBTQ people and contribute to an environment that is unhealthy, discriminatory, hostile and offensive to the entire LGBTQ community," said Lauren Clapp '13, then an advocacy and education chair for Spectrum, during an SGA open forum prior to the vote. "Exodus International is an advocate of conversion therapy, despite the fact that it has been denounced by at least 15 reputable medical societies."

The legislation against Chick-fil-A passed in the SGA Senate that night in a 35-11 vote, but Darien Flowers '13, then



The Chick-fil-A controversy that erupted on campus last year culminated with the relocation of Chick-fil-A to the first floor of McEwen Dining Hall. It will offer the same menu options as it did in its previous location.

SGA Executive President, vetoed the bill Oct. 21.

"We are here to permit the free flowing exchange of ideas," Flowers said in a statement. "If we ask the administration to remove an institution because of its ideas, we are setting a precedent that is dangerous because it stops the free flow of ideas."

The SGA Senate voted 21-20 to uphold Flowers' veto Oct. 24, following a day of protests on campus. Several students organized "Chick-fil-A Appreciation Day" to show support for the veto, while other students gathered to oppose those who patronized the restaurant.

"There are people who have been saying, 'I don't have any problem with the LGBTQ community, I just really like this chicken sandwich,'" said Kirsten Ringelberg, associate professor of art history and former LGBTQ office coordinator, on the day of the protests. "I think if you can say that when you know how much our stu-

dents, faculty and staff have been hurt by the symbolic representation of Chick-fil-A on campus, then it is not entirely honest to say that you care about us."

In recognition of the tensions caused by Chick-fil-A, the university appointed a 15-member Vendor Policy Study Committee to investigate the issue and recommend an appropriate course of action to Elon's Board of Trustees.

"This doesn't mean we're going to start running every business relationship by this committee," said President Leo Lambert at the time of the announcement. "The university already has several processes or screens in place to ensure we behave as a responsible enterprise, but there are exceptional times when someone says 'I'm concerned about this,' and there needs to be a process by which that concern would be evaluated."

As the committee began to form, Spectrum redrafted and resubmitted legislation

to the SGA as a resolution, rather than a bill. A bill encourages a specific course of action, while a resolution is an affirmation of a belief or sentiment.

The revised resolution asserted Chick-fil-A had become a "symbol on Elon's campus of intolerance and discrimination towards members of the LGBTQIA community" and opposed the continuation of Elon's relationship with the franchise.

"We still want Chick-fil-A off campus, but the way we are going about it is no longer the financial argument, but rather the climate that has been created because of this controversy," said Emily Kane '13, an advocacy and education chair for Spectrum, at the time of the proposal.

The revised legislation passed in a 30-8-2 vote Nov. 30, signaling a win for Spectrum and others after nearly two months of controversy. But the Board of Trustees was ultimately assigned to make the final decision.

After considering the findings and recommendations of the Vendor Policy Study Committee, Elon University's Board of Trustees determined there was no actionable cause to remove Chick-fil-A from campus and voted to continue the university's partnership with the franchise.

"The Board is reluctant to put the University in a position of monitoring or making value judgments about the lawful philanthropic giving of vendors or related organizations, board members, alumni, faculty and staff, students or friends," said a statement issued by the Board. "Removing Chick-fil-A solely on the basis of the owners' stated views or their lawful philanthropic choices would stand in opposition to Elon's mission statement, which encourages freedom of thought and liberty of conscience."

SGA Senior Class Treasurer Patrick Brown, who often encouraged students to look at the issue from a business perspective during last semester's open forums, said he is pleased with the administration's decision.

"I know I and other students are looking forward to having the new Chick-fil-A open and having another great retail option on campus," he said.

Belk Library, Hearth Lounge extensively renovated

Ben Scanlon and Mary Kate Brogan
Reporter and Web/Social Media Editor

Belk Library and Octagon have received a facelift.

The walls surrounding the new student center in Moseley came down Sept. 25 as the former Octagon and Hearth Lounge re-opened to the public. The space has been repurposed to make it more accessible to the needs of the student body, according to Smith Jackson, vice president for Student Life.

"I think this is the result of the students saying they wanted a living room, they wanted a place to let their hair down and feel comfortable, and this is right in the heart of the campus," Jackson said.

The improved lounge includes eight permanent offices for campus organizations as well as lockers for organizations without offices. Other features of the new space include new mobile furniture, additional doors leading to the pa-

tio on the south side of the building, a printer station, additional flat screen TVs and Macs, a drop-down projector and a fully functioning kitchen. Room 120, which occupies PanGeos' former Moseley location, has gotten a make-over as well.

There is also a magnetic writing wall with the Elon Phoenix logo. The wall is compatible with dry erase markers, ballpoint pens and permanent markers, and everything comes off, said Henry Walling, assistant director of campus operations.

Many students perusing the new space seemed excited, including junior Devon Gailey, who plans to use the space often.

"I think it would be a waste if we didn't use this space," Gailey said. "It was obviously put up for our benefit, and you can tell that they went out of their way to make this as comfortable for the students as possible."

Belk Library also spent the summer renovating its facility, adding an entire area spe-



The renovated Hearth Lounge in Moseley Center now offers expanded student seating and a full kitchen. KATY CANADA | Photo Editor

cifically for the Center for Writing Excellence. Numerous new study locations were also added, including new study tables and computers throughout the second floor, some high-top tables and new chairs on the first floor and a coffee machine.

The renovations are an extension of the writing initiative begun last year, and the Center for Writing Excellence received the biggest and most obvious renovations of Belk Library.

For the full story, visit <http://pend.lu/hl>

SGA passes legislation to increase awareness of bias acts on campus

Katherine Blunt
News Editor

The Student Government Association at Elon University passed a bill to "clarify and expand communication to students, faculty and staff about acts of hate on campus" in a 36-5-2 vote at the Sept. 26 Senate meeting.

The bill was presented as a response to a recent bias incident in which a Jewish student and a black student found a swastika, the letters "KKK" and male genitalia drawn on a whiteboard outside their dorm in Colonnades D. It called for a semester report on bias incidents to be made available to students, the addition of four students to the Inclusive Community Council and clearer communication from the administration about acts of discrimination.

Several senators criticized the vagueness of articles III and V, which called for the creation of the semester report as well as an online forum that reports and discusses diversity issues on campus. The legislation was unclear about how the report would be distributed and how the forum would be moderated.

"There are a lot of aspects of this bill that I'm in full support of, but because it's multi-pronged, it's hard for me to stand behind

article three and article five," said Connor O'Donnell, senior class president. "The online presence and forum have a lot of intricacies."

Patrick Brown, senior class treasurer, asked what information the university is legally allowed to reveal in reports of crimes and honor code violations. Jana Lynn Patterson, vice president for Student Life and adviser of the SGA, said the report must adhere to the laws that define how universities report crimes and honor code violations, such as the Clery Act and FERPA.

"We could present aggregate information, but we can't identify students," she said.

Junior Josh Kaufman, representative of the Elon College of Arts & Sciences, said that if the report was issued in addition to other notifications, it may be a valuable resource for students.

"If they want to read it, they could have access to it," he said. "I don't see the harm it could do to give students information they want."

The Senate eventually deleted the clause that called for the creation of an online forum and clarified that the semester report would not be made available in lieu of notifications of bias incidents.

Diversity Legislation

A BILL TO: Clarify and expand communication to students, faculty and staff about acts of hate on campus.

WHEREAS: Recent acts of bias and discrimination on Elon University's campus have offended members of the community and impeded the Student Body's efforts toward a pluralistic and accepting campus and;

WHEREAS: Elon University has stated in its strategic plan an unprecedented commitment to diversity, striving to create a campus climate which understands the value of difference and honors the dignity and humanity of each community member and;

WHEREAS: Elon University's Student Government Association has repeatedly supported administrative and student initiatives promoting these stated goals.

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Students, staff address causes of bias incidents on campus

Katherine Blunt
News Editor

Students, faculty and staff at Elon University are actively engaging in conversations about matters of diversity on campus in the wake of an incident of racial and religious bias.

A forum held Sept. 26 united more than 60 members of the Elon community in a debate moderated by seniors Immanuel Bryant and Mason Sklut, leaders of the interfaith organization Better Together. The forum was not only a response to drawings of a swastika, the letters “KKK” and male genitalia found on a whiteboard outside the dorm of a Jewish student and a black student in Colonnades D Sept. 15. It was an effort to address the root causes of the acts of discrimination and bias that have occurred on campus during the last several years.

“The culture of apathy is part of the

blame for something like this,” said sophomore Bobby King. “We’re showing outrage with forums like this, but I still fear we’re going to have more events like this because more will come and we won’t have the proper response unless we take direct action.”

Since Fall 2011, Elon’s administration has announced at least five incidents of bias and discrimination on campus. Several of the incidents involved unidentified individuals yelling racial and homophobic slurs at students from cars as they drove through campus. Several students at the forum noted that bias incidents, both reported and unreported, happen far more frequently than notifications from the administration suggest.

Junior Bashia Oudmeyer challenged the administration’s response to the most recent issue. She asked why students and faculty members weren’t immediately notified of the incident. Recently, Elon changed its policy of emailing all students, faculty and staff members when bias incidents occur.

“We determined that sending notices to the campus in every situation often raised anxiety and focused unwanted attention on members of the very groups subjected to the bias and disrespectful behavior,” Smith Jackson, vice president and dean of Student Life, wrote in a recent email. “Communicating each incident may also reinforce the very behavior we wish to prevent. Each situation must be handled individually in accordance with its unique circumstances.”

Brooke Barnett, interim associate provost for inclusive community, expanded on Jackson’s explanation.

“I hear people saying that a notice to campus community will make people care about the incident,” she said. “I say that’s not true. This is not an effective means of communication. It may be for communication of facts, but what do you have to do to not have people be apathetic?”

Bryant identified with the idea that the emails could be upsetting to some students.

“I call it bias response fatigue,” he said. “Getting those emails that someone has been called gay, called a n-----, called a



Elon administrators asked and answered questions about the school's policy on diversity and nondiscrimination at a forum held last week. The university recently changed its policy about notifying students of incidents.

KATY CANADA | Photo Editor

fag, I felt that was me. Each time I got an email was damaging. I didn’t want the emails anymore. I just got tired. I got tired of having to deal with this, alone, when we’ve been fighting this battle for two or three years.”

But senior Sarah Holland argued the emails may provide students with information that affects them personally.

“Because I’m not black and I’m not Jewish, people assume that I wasn’t affected [by the latest incident],” she said. “I have devoted the last two years of my life to studying the Holocaust ... and I was offended because I had family members who were in the KKK. You’re not always going to know who is affected.”

Several administrators prompted students to weigh in on how the university could better handle incidents of bias. Many suggested implementing diversity education and anti-defamation courses or tests into the Elon curriculum. Others asked for greater transparency into the policy-making process related to issues

of diversity.

The discussion shifted to the role students play in fostering an accepting campus environment.

“College represents the real world,” said junior Greg Zitelli. “When [bias incidents] happen, there isn’t a mass Smith Jackson email that goes out to everyone. We do have to be proactive. We are reminded on a regular basis that discrimination isn’t gone. It hasn’t faded away. When you graduate, it’s still going to be on your shoulders to reach out to the silent majority who don’t care.”

Junior Alisha Carter reminded the participants that only a small percentage of the student body attended the forum.

“There are probably a lot of people who wanted to come but couldn’t, but some people aren’t going out of their way to engage in this conversation,” she said. “We each have a powerful voice. We’re all involved in some type of organization ... and we need to tell our friends this is something we’re standing up for.”



KATY CANADA | Photo Editor

Senior Immanuel Bryant moderated the forum on diversity issues held last week in McKinnon Hall.



ANDREW CREECH | Reporter

Bobby Maness works on a customized piece in his new shop, Last Stand Studio in Burlington. These large, custom works help build the artist's portfolio and reputation, but the majority of revenue comes from smaller designs.

Triad tattoo culture evolves to embrace custom designs

Andrew Creech
Reporter

Times are changing. That's what any tattoo artist in the Triad will tell you. As the years pass, tattoos are moving away from being associated with convicts, bikers and other rough crowds, towards social acceptance.

According to a 2012 Harris Poll, more than one in five American adults has at least one tattoo, up from less than one in seven in 2008. There are more than 10 tattoo and pierc-

ing shops in the Burlington area alone and more than 70 in the Triad.

In the midst of this change, there are key differences between the tattoo scene now and that of years past.

"Most people nowadays at least have one, or have talked about getting one or thought about it," said D.J. Catlett, shop manager of Inferno Ink Tattoo in Burlington. "No matter the age, we've seen as much as 18-year-old people in here all the way up to, like, 65. There's been a 65-year-old woman that came and got a tattoo here before."

As the industry moves into the mainstream, people are beginning to embrace the practice as an art form, even the older generations. Bobby Maness, who owns Last Stand Studio in Burlington and has trained at least nine artists currently tattooing in Alamance County, described how the art of the ink has changed.

"Tattoos now are more of an art form, instead of just the sticker kind of tattoos," Maness said. "And so the people that can't really draw are being pushed out. And it's a good thing because this sticker art thing is not 'in'

anymore."

Sticker art is a genre of tattoos that essentially look like a sticker on the skin. They are small, colorful and generic. Maness said he believes they are being replaced by custom designs, but the majority of the tattooed community is not setting any records abandoning old ways.

"People around here aren't used to fully tattooed people walking around, so we get a lot of generic pieces around here," said Jordan Goldston, an artist at Inferno Ink Tattoo.

The tattoo scene in the Triad is quite unlike

tattoo culture on the West Coast, where tattoos are viewed as more of the artist's creation instead of just body art.

"Out West, [you] give the artist an idea and the artist just runs with it, makes it however he wants to and makes it his piece," Goldston said.

Generic pieces, such as the sticker art and names, while not the most interesting for the artist, are the bread and butter of financial security. Chris Burgess, who tattoos at Rare Breed Tattoo in downtown Burlington, described the small quick tattoos as being the moneymakers, while the larger custom pieces are what build portfolios and skills.

Unfortunately for the growth of tattooing, the practice of "scratching" is becoming more and more common. Scratching is when people — disdainfully called "scratchers" by artists — tattoo illegally out of their homes without formal training or license. Illegal operations often charge much less than licensed studios.

Cheaper tattoos often come at the cost of quality, especially since most tattoo supply companies will not sell professional equipment to artists not associated with a legal shop. Only knockoff companies sell cheap equipment to unlicensed practitioners. Maness blames the growth of illegal amateurs in part on the many tattoo shows on television today.

"It's taken a dramatic effect on the general public," Maness said. "Everybody thinks, 'Oh, I see it on TV, I see these people doing it, I can do the same thing.' These companies are selling people tattoo equipment so that they can do it out of their house, and then they've got to come to me to get it fixed, because they're not an artist. They have no idea what they're doing or how to run the machine. They haven't gone through any type of apprenticeship."

But Maness clarifies that art still prevails. He started tattooing underground while in the Navy, but he has been an artist since he could walk. He criticizes scratchers who are simply tattooing to make some fast money.

Zachery Wright, an artist at Body Ink Tattoos in Haw River, N.C. said the increase in scratchers is what has changed the most about the tattoo culture since he started tattooing.

"I think it's one thing to start out as a scratcher realizing that you want to pursue it further, and go into a shop and learn it then, but I think it's another thing never to draw anything and just try to tattoo for the popularity of it," Wright said.

The danger of tattooing as a scratcher is

not the lack of quality in the tattoos — it is the danger of infectious disease. When someone buys a cheap tattoo kit online, they may struggle with sterilization of equipment. In a licensed shop, there are sterilization vessels to ensure the equipment is kept clean, but home shops often do not have this technology. Even while using disposable needles and tubes, the machine itself can become contaminated if it is not properly cleaned after each session.

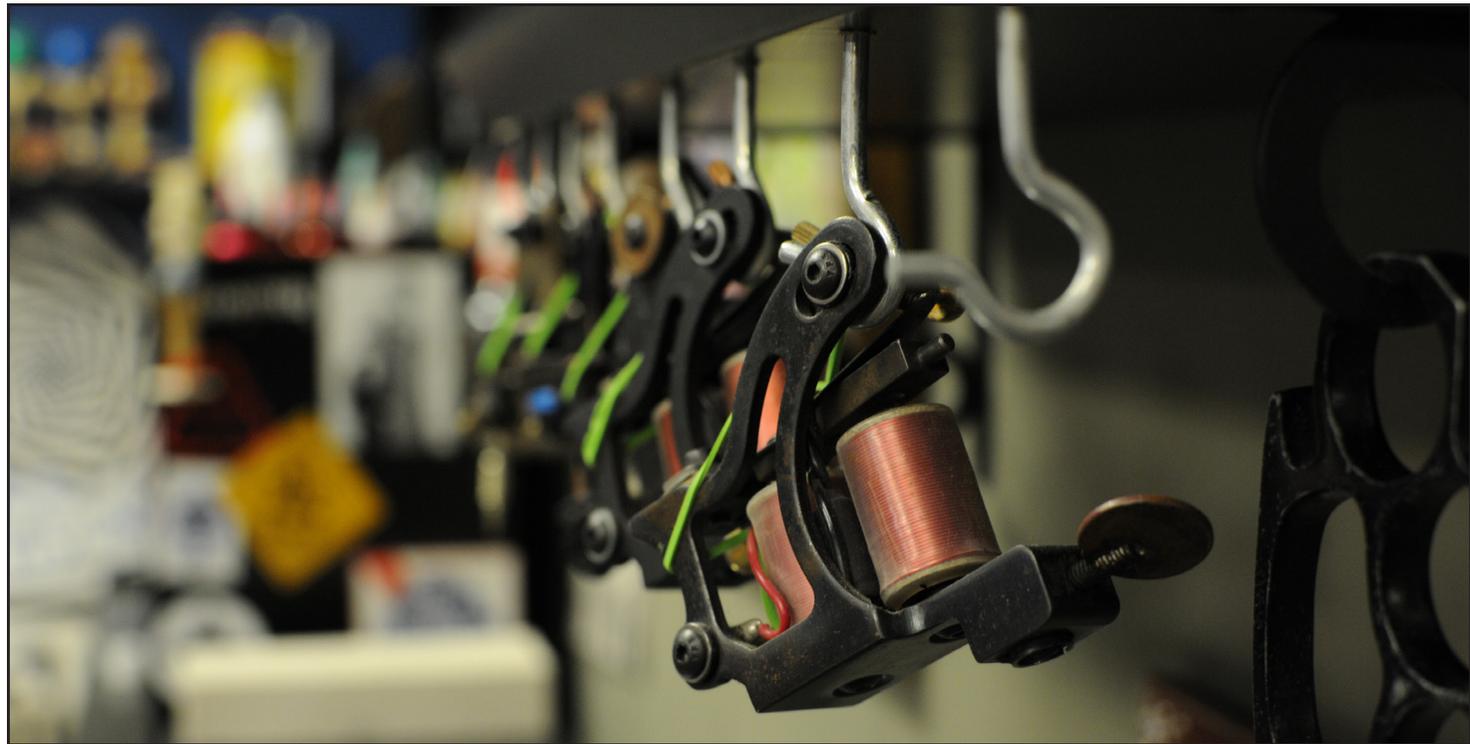
There is some risk of contracting HIV from needles used during the tattooing process if they aren't properly sterilized. But since 1985, when the Centers for Disease Control began tracking HIV transmission, there has not been a single recorded case of HIV contracted from needles used in a licensed tattoo studio. There have been seven cases of HIV contracted from equipment used in the dental industry. Additionally, there is the risk of contracting hepatitis. The CDC estimates tattoo needles transmit about 12 cases of hepatitis annually.

As part of the application process to open a tattoo studio in North Carolina, each artist in the studio must prove that he or she is educated in blood borne pathogens, and the studio must meet a series of guidelines concerning the construction of the shop, as well as water, plumbing and sewage systems. In addition, the shop must keep a record of every person tattooed for a minimum of two years, including a copy of photo identification. §



Chris Burgess applies a stencil for a small tattoo in Latin at Rare Breed Tattoos in downtown Burlington.

ANDREW CREECH | Reporter



Tattoo gun handles hold a variety of needles types that range in size, thickness and shape, but tattoo parlors must ensure each needle is sanitized properly.

ANDREW CREECH | Reporter

College students gamble with network marketing

Kate Murphy
Reporter

Imagine a workday that consists of waking up whenever you want and Skyping a couple of business partners, on track to making a six-figure salary while sitting on your couch in plaid pajama pants, watching “Sherlock Holmes” and eating ramen.

That is the workday Eliot Browarsky, a senior at Elon University, wanted, and that’s what he got. He got involved in a network marketing business because the job pays well.

“I wanted to make money, and I saw it as a great way for young people to make money,” Browarsky said. “I’m very happy I joined. I’m excited it’s something that if you build it once, you’ll be paid forever, and I’m happy about being paid forever.”

According to the Federal Trade Commission, network marketing, also known as multi-level marketing, is a business model in which individuals sell products to the public, often by word-of-mouth and direct sales. Distributors earn commission not only for their own sales but also for sales made by the people they recruit. Network marketing relies on the work of the people, rather than commercial ads, to promote a product.

“It seemed like a good plan, and it’d be easy to make money,” said Jordan Darnell ’13, who Browarsky recruited to join in on the movement. “But if you don’t go about it the right way, then it won’t be a thing that can last forever. It’s not that easy.”

But network marketing carries risks. It involves the initial investment on the part of the seller in order to obtain the company’s products, and there’s no guarantee an individual will sell enough products to recoup their investment. Even riskier, some networking marketing businesses are in fact illegal pyramid schemes.

Network marketing companies get their pyramidal structure from the way products are sold through a network of distributors. Each member recruits and trains additional distributors to sell products and recruit more investors, and compensation is rewarded to those above them.

According to the office of the New York State attorney general, what separates multi-level or network marketing from a pyramid scheme is that a legitimate multi-level marketing company emphasizes reliable products or services in addition to recruiting business partners, while a pyramid scheme is a fraudulent system that uses products or services to disguise its pursuit of taking money from the “investors” on the bottom levels to pay other investors above them.

“If somebody wanted to get involved in it, I wouldn’t tell them to run away,” said Coleman Rich, business professor and chair of the Department of Marketing and Entrepreneurship at Elon. “I would tell them to do their homework on the

company and see if its product is fit for them, if the company is financially stable, make sure pay is based on consumption, ask if they will be able to handle rejection and if they have the time commitment for it.”

Getting involved

Browarsky and Darnell took interest in the idea of network marketing when they were introduced to Vemma, a \$100 million nutrition company that utilizes network marketing in its promotion of products.

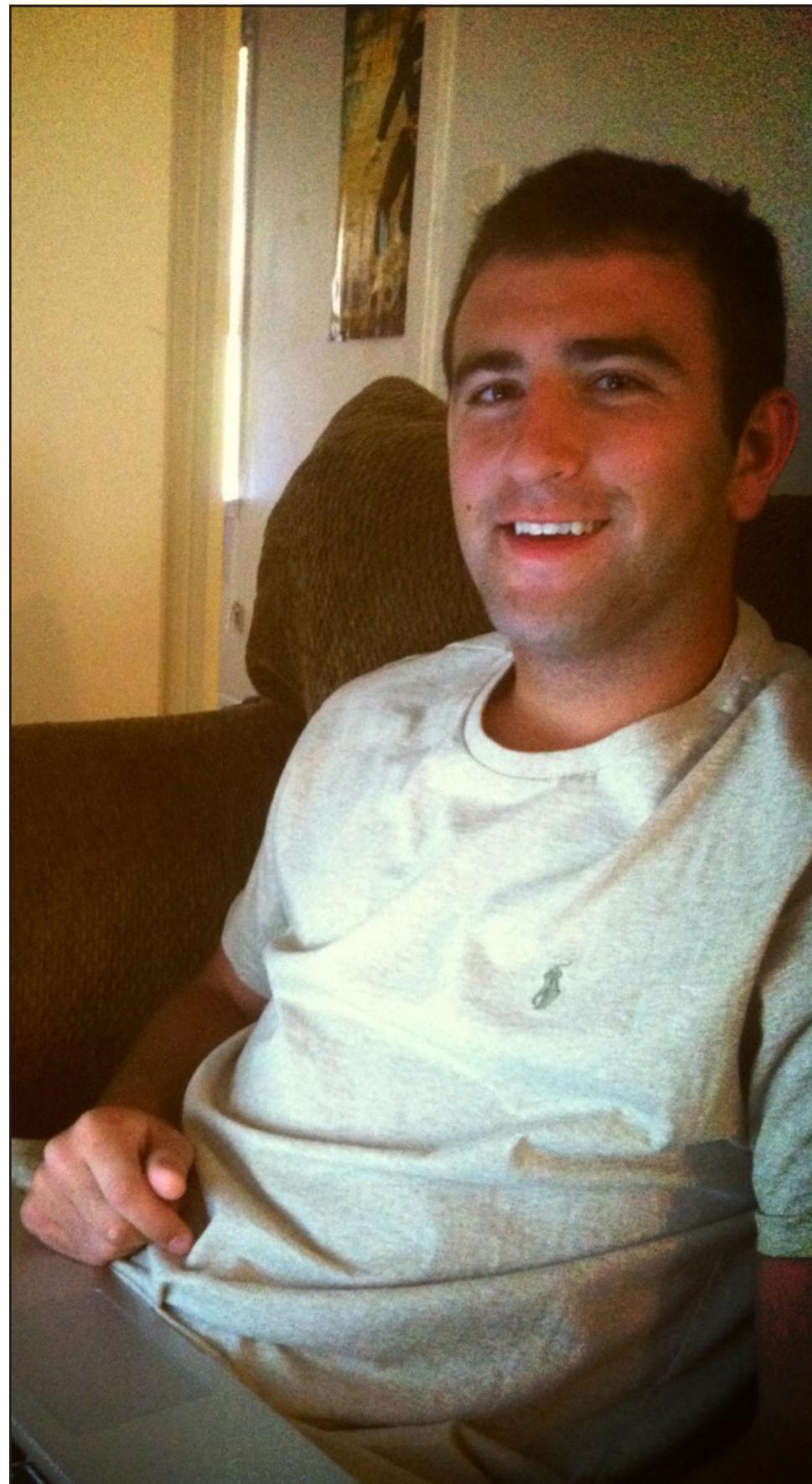
Vemma spends no money on commercial advertising. Instead, it uses its \$55 million advertising budget to pay people to promote its Verve brand through word-of-mouth advertising. College students are often recruited for this role because many see it as a business opportunity that allows them to manage their own business on their own time while making a considerable amount of money.

“The reason that the young people are really resonating is because we’re an opportunity that fits into their life,” said BK Boreyko, founder and CEO of Vemma. “It’s not something they have to fit into [their lifestyle].”

Verve, one of Vemma’s most popular energy drinks, quickly gained popularity on Elon’s campus just before students went home for Winter Break last year. Dozens of students got involved with the marketing opportunity, which required an initial investment by the individual.

According to a study by Nutrition Journal, 51 percent of college students are energy drink consumers. The study concluded that using energy drinks is a popular practice among college students for a variety of reasons, including late-night studying, partying and the need for energy boosts throughout the day. Verve, which is the official energy drink of the NBA’s Phoenix Suns, contributed to 65 percent of Vemma’s sales last year. Browarsky managed to make a profit by promoting it, but Darnell never regained the capital he used to break into the business.

“It sounded like a good opportunity and I came into it with a real positive state of mind,” Darnell said. “After contacting people and getting the word out, I



Elon senior Eliot Browarsky works from home by selling company products directly to consumers.

realized it was hard for people to buy into the concept and I didn't have time for it."

Targeting students

According to the Direct Selling Association, 15.8 million people in the US in 2010 were involved in network marketing. Sellers between the ages of 18 and 29 made up 14 percent of that group, and 91 percent of sellers worked part-time.

More than 6,000 people attended a conference Vemma held recently in Las Vegas. According to Boreyko, around 4,000 of those present were excited young people in their twenties.

Despite the risk of losing money, Boreyko said college students are willing to take the risks of network marketing in the hopes of making a profit.

"It's something different," Boreyko said. "It's outside the box of what everybody tells you to do to become successful and make a living, which isn't working for a majority of the market."

He attributes much of the interest on college campuses to economics. The weak economy, unemployment and rising student loan debts often motivate students to want to become entrepreneurs and not settle for minimum-wage jobs.

Darnell agreed.

"Everybody wants to make money, and that's what everyone is worried about leaving college."

-Jordan Darnell, Class of 2013 graduate

"Everybody wants to make money, and that's what everyone is worried about leaving college," he said. "Learning the way things work in this business you realize you have so many resources and are meeting new people everyday."

Thuc Phan, a sophomore football player at Elon University, got involved with World Ventures, a company that hires people to market everything from travel memberships to vacations and airfares. Other Elon football players and students at University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and Winston-Salem State have also invested in the entrepreneurial opportunity offered by World Ventures.

"Entrepreneurship teaches you not to be afraid of taking chances," Phan said. "Not only do you learn how to make money in the business aspect, but you learn so many other personal development skills that will propel you in life and allow you to be successful in other fields."

For Phan, sharing this concept is a part-time job. It's something he can do on the side to make money, especially as a Division I athlete whose schedule doesn't cater to a traditional part-time job, much less a nine-to-five workday.

"This business takes a lot of motivation and personal development, just like playing a sport," Phan said. "That's what got me into it. It's about the people you work with and teamwork and camaraderie."

Vemma created Young People's Revolution, a movement named and started by a small group of students at Arizona State University, to give college-aged kids the opportunity to make their own success in the business world.

"It's really the accumulation of the frustration stemming from the student loan debt crisis, college graduate underemployment and unemployment," said Lynn McGovern of Vemma Public and Community Relations.

The success of network marketing re-

lies not only on the number of people who join in the effort, but also the popularity of the product the company is selling.

"A student has to be a user of the product if you're going to be involved in it," Rich said. "They need to drink [Verve] everyday and wear a Vemma shirt, be a walking billboard and talk about how good it has made you feel."

Navigating the legal landscape

Not all network marketing opportunities are genuine. Some are designed to make a few people rich at the expense of the seller.

North Carolina law prohibits pyramid and chain schemes. A person who establishes or operates a pyramid distribution plan is guilty of a Class H felony, while a person who participates in a pyramid distribution plan is deemed to participate in a lottery and is guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.

Rich said he believes network marketing can be an entrepreneurial opportunity with the right company. He listed four criteria students should consider when looking into network marketing.

First, he said, it has to fit the individual's beliefs, experience and interests. Second, sellers should make commission on products sold, not recruitment. Third, it shouldn't cost more than \$50 to get started. And lastly, the company should provide all necessary training materials.

Entrepreneur Magazine offers a how-to on researching a business opportunity ventures, which, includes guidelines similar to Rich's.

"I still believe it could be a really good thing for people my age to get into, I would warn that this is a process that takes self-motivation and a lot of time, which is one thing that got me," Darnell said. "We all thought it was going to be easier than it actually was." §

Young People in Direct Selling

 **15.8 million**
total direct sellers

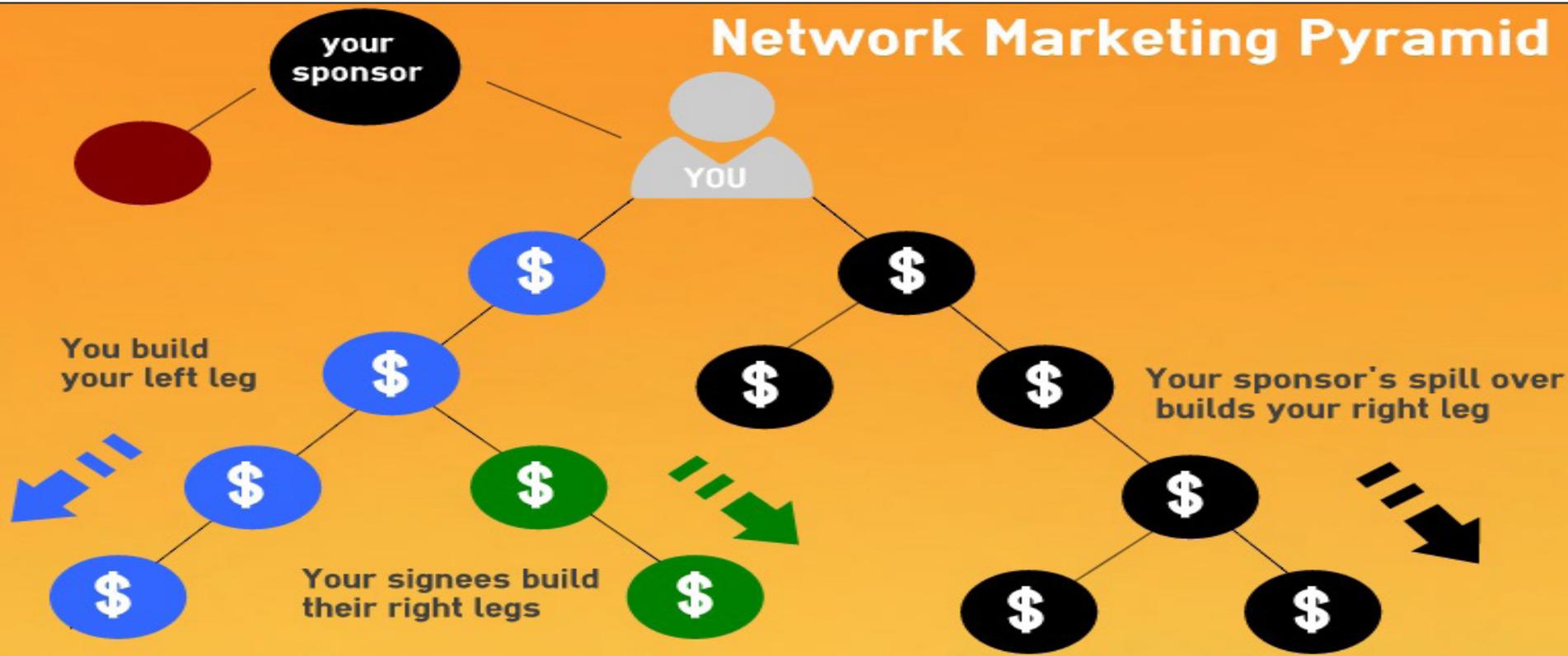
 **2 million**
ages 18-29

 **91%**
work part-time

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF KATE MURPHY

The graphic illustrates how many students under 30 make network marketing part of their lifestyle.

Network Marketing Pyramid



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF KATE MURPHY

Network marketing works in a pyramidal structure which allows sellers to earn commission when they sell products or recruit new members. Although this is a big draw for college students, network marketing is still risky.

Standards to Judge a Network Marketing Business Opportunity

1. Has to fit the person that you are, your beliefs, experience and interests
2. Basis of how you get paid is on consumption and not just right off the bat getting other people to sign up
3. Shouldn't cost more than \$50 to get started; distributorship is inexpensive.
4. All the training materials are provided

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF KATE MURPHY

Coleman Rich, business professor at Elon, lists four criteria for successful network marketing opportunities.

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'Poor' doesn't mean 'unworthy of respect'

"The world has become an idolator of this god called money."

Pope Francis spoke these words a week ago, in an off-script speech to 20,000 out-of-work, increasingly desperate men and women in Sardinia, off the coast of Italy. And while his words may have been spoken halfway around the world, they rang true in cities all across the globe.

Nowhere are wealth and the wealthy more venerated than here in the United States. From celebrities to politicians to your neighbor down the street, the country is in agreement: You're only worth it if you're rich. But this mentality comes at a cost to millions of Americans, young and old. When we worship the wealthy, we fear the poor.

Just last week, Michigan state Sen. Joe Hune proposed a bill that would force welfare recipients to participate in mandatory volunteer service in exchange for their aid. Also known as a job.

But the Michigan poor don't even get the respect to receive the classification of "employed." They remain tax moochers, skimming off the hard work of "real Americans."

But far more often than not, the people receiving welfare are people just trying to get by in a nation that has moved forward without bringing them along. Adjusted for inflation, minimum wage should be closer to \$10.75 an hour and almost \$22 when adjusted for productivity. Instead of a reasonable wage, low-level workers receive welfare and stigma.

Government handouts go to nearly every single American in one way or another. Whether it's Medicare for the elderly, tax breaks for churches or subsidies for farmers, our money is distributed to other, potentially undeserving people on a daily basis. But as soon as the poor receive government funds, the torches come out, the pitchforks are raised and sweeping assumptions are made.

And here in North Carolina, poor families have little more respite. As of Monday, Loaves & Fishes Christian Food Ministry has shut its doors, leaving more than 7,000 Burlington residents



CARTOON COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

scrambling to find somewhere new to feed their families. Details about the shut-down remain scarce, but it only increases pressure on poor people.

About a month ago, Raleigh-based Love Wins Ministries showed up at Moore Square to hand out breakfast biscuits and coffee, as they have every weekend for almost six years. But despite years of compliance with city laws, they were turned away by Raleigh police, as were several dozen of Raleigh's homeless, eager for what may have been one of the few hot meals they would get that week.

City officials from all levels of the government assured Raleigh citizens — particularly surprised Love Wins members — that the event was a misunderstanding where no specific stance was taken by anyone in Raleigh's government to deter the poor from getting fed.

But the Raleigh News & Observer

uncovered emails that indicated the truth is quite different. Raleigh Parks and Recreation Director Diane Sauer wrote in one email that the small, weekly distribution was "out of control," and Raleigh Police Lieutenant Kevin Carswell "laughed about" irritating and disbanding the group just trying to provide for the poor.

Unfortunately, this attitude isn't uncommon. America has taken such a stance at this point that the poor are a non-entity in the public sphere. Or if they are mentioned, they are something to be feared, distrusted and destroyed.

The reality of the situation is not a simple fix. Like welfare, Medicaid or food stamps, no aid will be able to fully solve America's problems. But the easiest fix, and the one most in need of attention, is our apathy toward the issue. Especially wrapped in the warm,

\$40,000-a-year insulation of Elon's walls, the real, daily concern of poverty is easy to forget. But just outside our brick walls and across the train tracks, Burlington faces a 25 percent poverty rate and one less place willing to help its residents.

Concern for the poor is an increasingly unpopular topic, but it's needed now more than ever. Raleigh city council members need to know we as a state and as a country have better things to do than deprive the city's poor of a biscuit and a hot cup of coffee.

But it starts with just caring about them. Not caring for them, and certainly not paying for them. But our apathy toward almost every issue that faces America these days can only go so far. When one in four people just down the road can't pay the bills, it's time to do something, even if that just means treating them like people.

It's time to pay college athletes

The debate surrounding paying college athletes, primarily the players of the nation's top college basketball and football teams, has been heating up for years.

But recent events further revealing the true scale of NCAA hypocrisy have ignited a new push for considering a so-called "pay for play" model of college athletics.

The NCAA has long hidden behind the charade of the amateurism of college sports in

order to conduct its business. Using the talents of athletes nationwide, the NCAA continues to launch new networks, propel TV mega-contracts and land advertising deals that generate billions of dollars of revenue each season. The coaches get paid, the universities get paid and networks, marketers and advertisers get paid. Yet the people who make it wholly possible — the student athletes of the NCAA — do not get fairly compensated.

Make no mistake: Big-time college

athletics are a business. The illusion that college football and men's basketball are simply extracurricular activities that complement an academic experience was shattered long ago by billion-dollar TV deals and revenues exceeding some professional leagues.

The hypocrisy of the NCAA's massive revenue garnered from the work of its student athlete labor force can no longer be ignored. Together, college men's basketball and football generate more than \$6 billion in revenue each year. The NCAA generates \$770 million in revenue in just a three-week period of March Madness. For comparison, the annual revenue for an entire six-month NBA season is \$930 million.

The NCAA and CBS/Turner Sports agreed to a \$10.8 billion deal for broadcast rights to March Madness until 2024. ESPN doled out more than \$5.6 billion for the rights to broadcast the new BCS playoff system. The 15 highest-paid college coaches earn a combined \$53.4 million each season. What do the workers who make it possible for networks to spend billions and coaches to earn millions make? Absolutely nothing. The student athlete is supposed to be happy with a scholarship

that usually does not even cover the full cost of living and attending college.

Despite the fact many Division I schools grant scholarships, most of the time they do not even cover a four-year education and rarely leave the players enough money to pay for food and everyday items. A scholarship is a huge reward not afforded to all students. But relative to the value these players bring to their universities, a scholarship alone does not seem fair. If these players were student workers at the university generating hundreds of millions of dollars of revenue each season, would paying them a \$9 an hour wage seem fair relative to their value? No, it would not.

The top football and basketball players put in full work weeks at their sports and they understand that when the game starts they are generating incredible amounts of revenue for their universities. They see their names and numbers on jerseys in the school store and online. They look into the stands and know they are the reason the bleachers are filled. No wonder so many scandals occur involving players taking money for their autographs or memorabilia sales. NCAA amateurism rules prohibit players from receiving payment for

their name, image or likeness, but the NCAA profits off them at will.

The NCAA can continue to pretend its players are students first, but the players themselves and the fans know better than that. It's time for the NCAA and the universities alike to start rewarding these players with proper compensation relative to their true value.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Vince Gilligan: Don't fear the cliffhanger

Millions of Americans have spent Sunday nights on meth for the past five years.

This past Sunday, there were about 10.3 million.

According to Nielsen ratings, that's how many viewers tuned into the series finale of the AMC network's wildly popular drama series "Breaking Bad." This is coming off the show's big win last week at the Emmys, where it (finally) took home the trophy for Outstanding

Drama Series over the likes of "Homeland" and Netflix darling "House of Cards."

People love "Breaking Bad," that much is obvious. I count myself among the ranks of crazed fans of the show. But considering its

rabid fan base, the final episode of "Breaking Bad" was pretty underwhelming.

Of course, expectations were astronomical for the episode. Will Jesse escape the neo-Nazis? Will Todd get away with his bad deeds? Will Walt die and, if so, will it be his cancer or a well-placed bullet or something else that does him in? All of these questions and more were answered in the finale, providing what the show's creator Vince Gilligan called "necessary closure." But such an intense show deserved more from its ending.

In an interview with Entertainment Weekly, Gilligan said the team behind the show wanted to go out with a bang, not a whimper. Actors Bryan Cranston and Aaron Paul both claimed the final episode was "satisfying." It was ultimately satisfying in terms of tying up all the show's loose ends and (most of) its stray subplots, but it was too tame.

Yes, there were a number of deaths in the finale. Yes, questions were answered. But did a show about a meth-cooking chemistry teacher turned ruthless drug lord need to be wrapped up so nicely? I think not.

Gilligan and his fellow showrunners should have taken a lesson from HBO's "The Sopranos" or ABC's "Lost" — two shows that concluded with open-ended finales. They tied things up, but they also raised more questions for fans' endless speculation. "The Sopranos" had a particularly controversial ending, in which (spoiler alert) its lead character departed without explanation. While the cliffhanger upset many fans, it also made them gush to their friends about the show — a smart marketing tactic to generate more buzz.

If you're not already one of the legion of Heisenberg followers, then you've surely at least heard a friend or two adamantly recom-

mend you watch it. When your friend suggested it to you, I bet he or she didn't base the recommendation on the show's pilot episode but rather one of the show's more shocking moments, such as the explosive season four finale (hint: there's an explosion). That episode drew 2.9 million viewers on Oct. 9, 2011. The show then went on a nine-month hiatus during which its first four seasons prospered on Netflix. Season five premiered to almost 6 million viewers in July 2012, which must have had something to do with said explosion.

Thus, showrunners and networks shouldn't be afraid of open-ended, potentially infuriating finales. These types of endings hit our emotions hardest and are ultimately the most memorable. The final episodes of "Breaking Bad" hurtled toward a cliff before stopping comfortably short and sighing relief. My message to showrunners: Dare to push your shows over the edge.



Alex Francis
Columnist



Tyler Oberle
Columnist

Latin American cookbook reveals flavorful,

Grace Elkus
Senior Reporter

Cheesy enchiladas. Hot and spicy fajitas. Crispy hard shell tacos. These are the staples of Latin American cuisine, right?

Not so, says cooking instructor and local food writer Sandra Gutierrez, who recently released her second cookbook, “Latin American Street Food: The Best Flavors of Markets, Beaches and Roadside Stands from Mexico to Argentina.”

In fact, the type of enchilada Americans chow down on is very different from a Guatemalan enchilada, which is actually a tostada topped with peas, cabbage and a vibrant beet slaw. And those beloved hard shell tacos? You won’t find those in any city in Mexico, according to Donna Van Bodegraven, associate professor of Spanish at Elon University and long-time homeowner in Yucatan, Mexico.

The misconception that the food Americans find in Tex-Mex restaurants is indicative of all Latin American cuisine is just one of the stereotypes surrounding Latin

American food that Gutierrez, who grew up in Guatemala City, aims to dismiss with her new book. In addition, her book highlights the diversity of flavors and dishes within Latin America.

“The food of Latin America is very different — it cannot all be boxed together,” Gutierrez told an audience of family, friends and colleagues at the cookbook’s launch event Sept. 3. “We do not all eat Mexican food, and Mexican food ... it’s only what I call the doorway into the home that represents all Latin American cuisines. Once you walk into the door, you find that you have 20 other rooms in the house, each of them just as special and worth trying and discovering.”

Identifying the stereotypes

While Americans may feel comfortable cooking a cheese quesadilla, many find the task of frying a churro a bit more daunting. Gutierrez hopes to eradicate this intimidation with her cookbook.

“In my opinion, there is no food that is less intimidating, more casual, more fun than street food,” she said.

Vanessa Bravo, assistant professor of communications at Elon University, who spent 14 years as a journalist and editor at a newspaper in Costa Rica, sees Gutierrez’s decision to include Mexican food in the cookbook as a smart way to accomplish the spread of authentic Latin American cuisine.

“The Mexican cuisine is very good, [and] there are dishes that are pretty simple to prepare, so it’s probably a good way to make people feel more confident and then try to go into more exotic dishes,” she said.

The “Raw Bar” chapter in Gutierrez’s cookbook is full of fresh salads and no-cook dishes, helping her dispel the common stereotype that all street food is unhealthy. A similar stereotype — that all Latin American food is cheesy — came about because of Americans adapting the food to their liking, Gutierrez said. Americans put cheese and sour cream on top of Latin American dishes to tame the heat, giving rise to another stereotype: that all Latin American food is spicy.

“I would say most Americans think of Mexican food as spicy, [but] the typical cui-



PHOTO COURTESY OF FRED THOMPSON

Costa Rican “tacos ticos” are filled with shredded meat and topped with fresh cabbage, a traditional favorite.

sine in the Yucatan is not spicy,” Van Bodegraven said. “There’s a particular chili pepper, the habanero chili pepper, [that] they will chop up and mix with a little vinegar and put on the side if you want to spice things up. But typically, the food itself from the region is not spicy.”

And just as dishes can take on very different forms from one country to the next, food terms can take on different meanings within the various parts of Latin America.

“In Latin America we may all speak Spanish, but it doesn’t all mean the same thing when we say it,” Gutierrez said. “Argentines don’t eat tacos. ‘Tacos’ for them mean the little heel in their shoe. Just like if you ask for a fajita in Chile, and [the waitress is] a pretty woman, and you’re a man asking for a fajita, you’ll probably get slapped because it means ‘girdle.’”

The birth of a cookbook

It’s a lack of first-hand encounters with the food itself, perhaps, that gives birth to these stereotypes. Gutierrez said she believes there is an absence of authentic Latin American street food in America — a visit with other food writers to a food truck park in Portland, Ore. opened her eyes to this

void. As they sat around the table enjoying food from Vietnam, Thailand, Spain, Yugoslavia and Poland, Gutierrez noticed there was something missing from the table: a plate of Latin American food.

Eight weeks later, the proposal for a book on Latin American street food was sold. The theme, Gutierrez explained, was ripe for the taking. Freelance food writer Jill Warren Lucas agreed now is the time for Americans to begin opening themselves up to Latin American flavors.

“I think most people will come to the book with a very open mind, and very open eyes and a very open palette,” she said. “When you look at what’s happening not only in North Carolina, but nationally, Latino communities are growing so much ... and they are bringing their food cultures with them.”

Andrea Weigl, food writer for the Raleigh News & Observer, said she hopes Gutierrez’s cookbook will help bridge the generational divide that exists between street food goers in America.

“Young people think it’s the coolest thing in the world, and they track down [trucks] using their Twitter account, and some older people are still reluctant,” she said. “They may go for the cupcake truck, but they won’t



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY GRACE ELKUS

Local food writer Sandra Gutierrez just released a cookbook detailing authentic Latin American cuisine.

bold recipes that defy culinary stereotypes

go find the taco truck.”

The book, which launched at Quail Ridge Books & Music in Raleigh, consists of 150 recipes from 20 different countries. It is divided into chapter by theme, and while there are chapters focused on tortillas, soups, sandwiches, fried food, empanadas and tamales, the longest chapter in the book is dedicated to toppings.

“[Toppings] make you a participant in the dish you’re going to eat,” Gutierrez said. “What you put in your taco is going to be different than what I put in my taco. You become part of the cooking equation just by what you put on your food.”

Gutierrez is no stranger to making home cooking part of the experience — as a cooking instructor in both Chapel Hill and Cary, she is constantly teaching her participants about flavor and technique, through both hands-on demonstrations and personal stories. She also has another successful cookbook, “The New Southern-Latino Table,” and is the former food columnist for The Cary News. These experiences bring to her book both a voice of expertise and a wel-

coming quality, which gives readers more confidence when tackling the recipes, said food writer Warren Lucas.

“She has a tone that’s very encouraging, and I appreciate that as a home cook,” she said. “It’s very accessible food, and I think it’s a really exciting book because I love things like a ceviche, but I don’t feel especially confident whipping one up and serving raw fish to people, and now I have a recipe I can really trust.”

Forming a community

While street food in America is a relatively new phenomenon and is often seen as festival food or rodeo fare, it is very much a way of life in many Latin American countries, Gutierrez said.

There’s been documentation of street food in Latin America since the 1600s, and it, too, was relegated to festivals and special activity until the 1970s, when more and more people joined the workforce and traffic became extremely congested. The subsequent gas shortages made it so buses

that took children home for lunch and back to school in the afternoon could no longer make this midday trip.

“Schools and universities had no places to serve food from — there were no cafeterias in schools back then,” Gutierrez said. “You either took your lunch box and stayed the whole day until 6:00, or there had to be an option, and street food vendors filled that niche.”

And while the service was quick, these street vendors weren’t selling “fast food.” These food vendors made it their responsibility to serve home-cooked meals in the street, so that kids could find a sandwich similar to the one their mothers made back home. They attracted their customers not with plastic toys or giveaways, but with flavor and authentic dishes.

“You would walk an extra half a mile to get to that specific sope stand or pupusa stand or ceviche stand that had the food you liked or that reminded you more of home,” Gutierrez said. “You started meeting the people who used to conglomerate around that same [stand] ... The importance of street food in Latin America is not just eating to eat, it is more than that. It is community.”

Between these stories, photographs of Latin American streets, extensive research and authentic recipes, Gutierrez said she hopes her book will bring readers into this community and invite others to share in it as well.

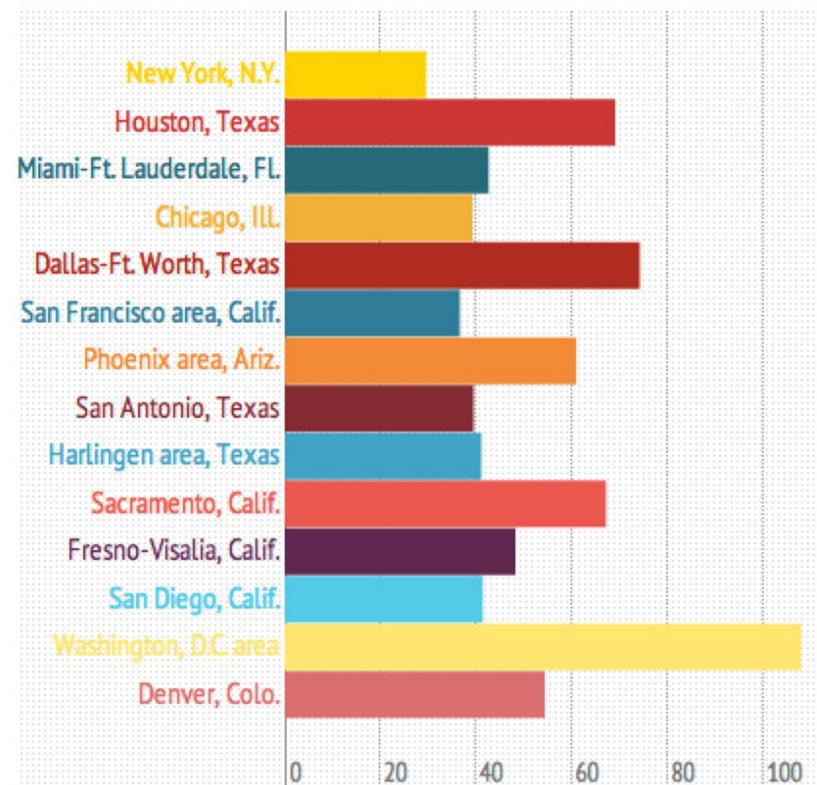
“This is meant to be a communal meal,” she said. “And that you’re happy every time you make it.” §



PHOTO COURTESY OF FRED THOMPSON

Chocolate-covered bananas, often covered in shredded coconut, are a traditional Latin American dessert.

% Growth of Latino Population



% Growth of Latino Population in 15 states between 2000 and 2013

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF GRACE ELKUS

The graphic illuminates the growing U.S. Latino population, with the Washington D.C. area leading the pack.

Finding a place to call home

Chaplain confronts, remembers challenging past to guide students in their faith

Alana Romans
International Editor

At age 11, Janet Fuller sits in a dark hallway surrounded by her family. Although they haven't seen actual daylight the entire summer, Fuller knows it is dreadfully hot outside. This shouldn't come as a surprise — the country of Jordan easily reaches oppressively hot temperatures during the summer months.

"It's interesting how in the Middle East all the wars begin in the summer, when it is excruciatingly hot. Unbearably hot," Fuller said.

Fuller, who is now chaplain of Elon University, lived through her first war when she was only a child: the Arab-Israeli War of 1967.

When many American families fled the area, Fuller's parents chose to stay. Jordan was their home, and it is difficult to imagine where to go when you no longer have a home.

Due to increased anti-American sentiment during the war, the U.S. State Department asked Fuller and her family to hide. So during the summer of 1967, Fuller spent a long and hot summer sleeping in a hallway.

Despite her young age, Fuller said she was able to recognize the dire situation surrounding her family. Her biggest concern was being the last one left alive, all alone.

"I was 11," Fuller said. "I was old enough to know that we were in grave danger. And I was old enough to be scared."

Putting faith first

While the worst parts of her childhood will never fully escape her, Fuller has learned to embrace her past to shape her future. Today, Fuller is an ordained Episcopalian priest.

"I knew at 14 I wanted to help people," she said. "I didn't know where that would lead me. But if I can prevent some other child having to live in a war, I think that would be a meaningful life."

In 1981, Fuller was originally ordained in the Baptist faith. But only five years later the church decided it no longer recognized women

as priests. Her feelings of alienation eventually led her to the Episcopal Church, where she was ordained in 2010.

On Sept. 15, Fuller celebrated her second year as Elon University's chaplain. During her year of adjusting to life on Elon's campus, she was uprooted and moved multiple times on campus before finally making her way to the Numen Lumen Pavilion, which Fuller said is finally starting to feel like home.

As the chaplain of a university with more than 5,000 undergraduate students, Fuller often has her hands full. Still, she somehow makes her job seem simple.

"My job is to oversee all of the religious and spiritual life in the university," she said.

Anyone who attends Elon recognizes this is no easy task. Aside from supervising everyone who works with students in the network of spiritual life, Fuller places a great emphasis on rooting students in their traditions, religions and worldviews.

Senior Opal Patel first met Fuller while planning Holi, a traditional Indian celebration, on campus. Patel spent her entire spring semester planning the event and working out the logistics under Fuller's guidance.

"It was so great to work with Dr. Fuller," Patel said. "She is always so happy to help anyone with anything they might need."

Fuller said she has made it her commitment to help guide students in not only their own faith, secular beliefs or traditions, but those of others, as well.

Patel said she believes Fuller is a great advocate for a large presence of cultural, traditional and religious events on campus.

"She is very generous and always ready to establish more religious events on campus," Patel said. "And she does it in a really awesome way, one that is never mediocre."

Dealing with disappointment

During a typical day, Fuller might respond to crises on campus, speak out on issues of justice and lead public prayer. Up until recently, she was also planning a Winter Term study abroad



Janet Fuller became chaplain of Elon University Sept. 15, 2011, and is based in the Numen Lumen Pavilion. RUTH GRAY | Staff Photographer

program for students to Israel, Palestine and Jordan. Unfortunately, due to a lack of student involvement, the trip was canceled.

Fuller said she received phone calls for many weeks regarding questions of the Middle East's stability, as well as if the trip would be safe for students.

"What you see on the news is not what you get," Fuller said. "The news can make it sound like every street corner is very dangerous. Anybody who has lived in a country like that knows that the instability or the fighting is maybe in one region or another. If you know the language and the geography you can make smart decisions."

Junior Emily McCachren, who was going

on the program, said she was not only upset about the cancellation, but surprised it stemmed from a lack of student involvement.

"Dr. Fuller is one of the most inspirational and interesting people at Elon," McCachren said. "So you can imagine my surprise when I found out not enough people were interested in studying abroad with her."

Despite her canceled Winter Term plans, McCachren said she is more concerned about her teacher, and she simply wants more student participation so students will get the chance to work with Fuller.

"I hope the program continues to grow so students will have the opportunity to get to know Dr. Fuller in the future through this study

abroad experience,” McCachren said.

Fuller said she looks at the cancellation as a mere roadblock and plans to rebuild the trip again next year. She hopes to visit the same areas, taking students to visit grassroot peace-makers to understand the conflict. Fuller said she believes this could teach a lesson in mutual respect, as the conflict will not just end itself.

“I don’t believe that peace in that region is going to be made by political processes,” she said. “I think it will be made by people who figure out how to live together.”

Remembering the past

Fuller speaks from experience. She had already lived through two wars by the time most teenagers get their first car.

But it wasn’t as if her parents planned for their children to live through the wars, hiding in hallways and learning to speak in hushed voices. Both of Fuller’s parents were Baptist missionaries. They left California and moved the family to Lebanon when Fuller was only an infant.

In 1965, the Fullers moved to Jordan for five years, where Fuller would experience not one, but two wars.

Despite her tumultuous childhood, this was the life she knew. Fuller said the Middle East was her home, and she didn’t know anything different. In fact, she said she thinks it was a wonderful place to grow up.

Although her first 10 years living in Lebanon and Jordan were relatively stable, the years that followed placed a heavy burden on her parents. Fuller said she realizes the struggle they faced in making decisions that directly affected their children.

“We make decisions, and maybe they aren’t the best decisions, but we do the best we can,” she said.

After Fuller finished eighth grade, there was a break in fighting. Her family decided to leave Amman — the capital of Jordan — and move to a small village called Ajloun.

At this point in time, Fuller aspired to be a doctor. She began volunteering at the local hospital, where she worked a brief stint in the labor and delivery room. It was when the fighting moved closer to the hospital that Fuller realized she no longer wanted to be a doctor.

As the fighting grew near, injured soldiers and civilians flooded the hospital. Fuller realizes now that — in many ways — she had seen too much.

“I just thought, ‘I can’t smell human blood anymore,’” Fuller said. “I was a child. I was 14,



Young Janet Fuller (second from left) admires cliffs above the Mediterranean Sea with her siblings. Today, Fuller looks back fondly on her childhood growing up in Jordan.

and that’s a child. I’m thinking I shouldn’t have been seeing that stuff, but you know ... I did.”

Living for the present

Fuller has spent her entire life recovering from post-traumatic stress. Though she has learned to accept it as part of her identity, she admits she will still never celebrate an event with fireworks. Even tornado sirens send shivers down her spine.

It is the remembrance of her childhood that creates feelings of hesitancy for Fuller in regards to the Syrian conflict. While the United States has promised the bombings will be limited, Fuller said she remembers what it is like to experience bombings. She said she still remembers the people who died.

But the “Crisis in Syria: Prospects and Perspectives” panel, held Sept. 11 in the Numen Lumen Pavilion, changed her mind. Fuller said the powerful account of Haya Ajjan, assistant professor of management information systems, made her think limited air strikes might be the right decision after all.

She said her original point is still crystal



In 1968, Janet Fuller (right) sits with longtime best friend Jumana Sharabi in Jordan. They are still close friends today.

clear: There will be a heavy cost no matter how many lives are lost.

Today, Fuller lives her life in the present yet keeps strong ties with her past. For someone who still dreams in Arabic, this will most likely never change.

She is still best friends with Jumana Sharabi, whose parents rescued Fuller’s family from their home during the first war. Today, Sharabi lives in Atlanta. Their friendship has lasted more than 50 years.

Twenty years ago, Fuller adopted her son Samuel from Lebanon when he was only 10

weeks old. Last month, she and Samuel celebrated his homecoming day, which the family has made an annual event. With her friendships and her family, Fuller makes a point to remember both sides of her unique background. She has coined herself a “third-culture kid.”

“I’m at home in this blended culture that doesn’t really exist anywhere except in my mind, or at least in my own family,” she said. “So I struggle. I hold together Arab cultures and American cultures and blend them up in my own life, but I’m not really at home in either place.” §

Putting 125 years into 25 cards

Elon celebrates anniversary with release of commemorative historical cards

Abby Franklin
Senior Reporter

Elon University doesn't do anything particularly special to celebrate its birthday.

There are no celebratory maroon and gold cakes or lavish parties hosted by President Leo Lambert, and the university has never treated itself for its birthday.

But this year is different. The 2013-2014 academic year marks Elon's quasiquicentennial. Translation: Elon is 125 years old.

To commemorate this milestone, the Office of University Communications has figured out a way to celebrate by issuing a collectible set of 25 historic cards.

Dan Anderson, vice president of University Communications, along with a team of motivated members of Elon's staff, created the cards to outline the rich and complex history of the university. The cards have been available for free at College Coffee since Aug. 27, and a new card will be issued each week through Nov. 5.

"You get to learn a little bit of history, and it's not so much to digest," Anderson said.

He and his team organized the details of this project during the summer, consolidating 125 years into 25 cards.

Anderson said he was aided by Keren Rivas, assistant director of University Communications for Alumni, in editing Elon's 125-year history into 96 words and 694 characters (including spaces) in order to fit write-ups on each card.

Anderson also said they made the information manageable by designating a theme for each card. Each one contains a subject and represents an era handpicked by Anderson and Rivas.

"We had a lot of Elon's history chronicled already, so we went through that timeline and determined that the set of cards having 25 would be the right number — 125 would be too many," Anderson said. "From there, we went about choosing the different subjects for the cards and finding photos to match. We wanted to include big events and find themes that were important."

Topics range from faculty and academic growth to buildings on campus, to name a few.

"It's a nice variety," Anderson said.

Although Anderson spoke of the collectible card production frankly, the process was indeed demanding, according to Katie Nash, archivist at Belk Library.

"When we had to research some of [the information], we had to consult a lot of different sources and weed through a lot of information to synthesize it down to a page or two of relevant information they could use," Nash said. "So that was really time-consuming on our part."

Nash said she was in charge of the research side of the process, although she had help from other librarians. Once Anderson and Rivas came up with the 25 themes, Nash said she dove into Elon's photo archives and Durward Stoke's book, "Elon College: Its History and Traditions," to get information on Elon's past.

Nash said the university's modern information was the most challenging to gather.

"Some of the more current [cards] were actually surprisingly a little more time-consuming and difficult," she said. "We had to be creative about where we found the information."

As far as a favorite theme, Nash said she's partial to the railroad card.

"That was a mode of transportation," Nash said. "It was sort of like the highway system or the subway. I mean, it's how students got here — it's still here. It's not such an old transportation technology that it doesn't exist anymore. It's one of the many that has a national context but then also zooms in and has a very Elon-focused context, too."

In addition to being available at College Coffee each week, there will be complete sets of cards available at the Martin Alumni Center Nov. 8-9 during Homecoming. The cards will also be on display at the Isabella Cannon Room in the Center for the Arts for a historical exhibit during Homecoming.

"We're going to use the walls of that gallery to tell Elon's story — it's history," Anderson said.



Elon University's commemorative cards are available at College Coffee each week through Nov. 5.



RUTH GRAY | Staff Photographer

Pardue Court was chosen for "Dance in the Landscape" for its wooded area as well as Lake Mary Nell. Each year, the scenery contributes to the modern and abstract style of dance the performers practiced through the fall.

Annual 'Dance in the Landscape' takes dance majors offstage, into the sun

Jessica Petrocchi
Senior Reporter

Elon University underclassman dance majors were lucky for a rare and unconventional reason Sunday — the weather was clear.

"Dance in the Landscape," the annual outdoor dance performance, took place in Pardue Court this year under a blue sky on Family Weekend.

Jason Aryeh, assistant professor of performing arts at Elon, directed the show with the help of the assistant director, senior Julie Crothers. Aryeh was in charge of choosing this new location for the dancers, who have typically performed in the Academic Village in the past. With Lake Mary Nell on one side and trees surrounding the outdoor stage, Pardue Court became a successful choice of scenery for the dancers this year.

"The dancers have to go the extra mile in terms of technique and energy because the audience is very close," Aryeh said. "The challenge of not having the professional ground to perform on [makes them] really have to go with what nature gives to them."

The closeness of the audience was another challenge the dancers faced. Families visiting for the weekend and fellow students could see every single move and facial

expression the dancers made. The dancers had to bring their A-game to every piece.

There are many added challenges to having the concert outside. Crothers said there were certain technical movements they could not do because the dancers performed on the grass as opposed to a studio or stage.

"It's more abstract and modern dance," Crothers said. "Jason's piece is kind of African influenced with tribal music, then the two other works are a little more out there, a little strange."

But overall it was a much more informal performance than one that would take place in a recital hall. There were three total pieces, one with freshmen, one with sophomores and an improvisation piece.

"The sophomores are all putting together an improv piece," said sophomore Kayla McGrath. "It's directed by senior Julie Crothers and she basically just structured it all. So she gave us the ideas, but we have to come up with all the movements ourselves."

Though it was a dance performance, students from programs other than dance took "Dance in the Landscape" to the next level.

"For my piece I worked with a music professor, Clay Stevenson, who composed original music for my piece," Aryeh said. "It is a collaboration work that I'm doing with other professors, as well. There are three to-

tal pieces. I'm working with the freshmen dance majors."

Most seniors were busy with senior seminars, so the show mostly consisted of

freshmen and sophomores, many of whom had never performed at Elon before.

"I'm most excited just to have it all come together," Crothers said before the show.



RUTH GRAY | Staff Photographer

"Dance in the Landscape," Elon's annual outdoor dance performance, took place Sept. 30 in Pardue Court.

Elon art major Noelle Casimo places in major photography competition

Dalton Cox
Senior Reporter

What would look like an old, abandoned building to anyone else became art for Elon University senior art major Noelle Casimo.

Casimo is one of three winners in the Park Pictures billboard project, sponsored by the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh. She will have her award-winning photograph, "Reclaimed," featured in a 5-by-12-foot exhibition in the museum beginning this November. The photograph will also be presented on a billboard in the museum's park.

"Reclaimed" depicts an "OPEN" sign, clinging to the front window of an abandoned gas station, which has become overgrown with plant life.

"I was just driving around Burlington one day, along these backroads, and there it was, this old gas station," Casimo said. "There's something so fascinating about these old buildings. My roommate makes fun of me all the time, saying I go into places I don't belong in. I'll find these old abandoned houses and I just want to go exploring."

Casimo first heard about the NCMA contest from Mike Sanford, professor of art, who keeps his students updated on art-related programs, opportunities and exhibitions.

"There were many high quality submissions for this competitive exhibition and it is an honor for Noelle's work to be selected and to have her represent our art program," Sanford said. "Noelle has worked very hard to improve upon her art-making skills and to deepen her investigation of the conceptual and contextual foundations."

The theme of the Park Pictures billboard project is based on American photographer Brian Ulrich's exhibition "Copia-Retail, Thrift and Dark Stores," which is currently on tour throughout the United States and has been on display at NCMA since Sept. 29. Ulrich's work is a study of consumer culture — it documents what modern American shoppers choose to buy and what these consumers have come to disregard, as well as the emptying retail architecture of the United States following the Great Recession. Ulrich was awarded a 2009 Guggen-

heim Fellowship for his work.

In her statement for NCMA explaining "Reclaimed," Casimo wrote, "The fact that this station is closed and literally reclaimed by the natural world brings to light the fact that as much as consumerism has become a part of our world, the natural world will always be present, even when human presence is absent."

Casimo is currently engaged in the early stages of a senior thesis project which will combine her abilities in studio art with her psychology minor. Her work is currently aimed toward an exploration of mental illness and depression through sculpture. This project will culminate in an exhibition of her work in the spring.

After graduation, Casimo said she plans to attend graduate school to continue pursuing art. She said she hopes to earn a degree in art therapy and work with children with special needs.



TIM DEWITT | Staff Photographer

Senior art major Noelle Casimo is one of three winners in the Park Pictures billboard project. Her photograph will be featured in an exhibition at the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh.



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY NOELLE CASIMO

Casimo discovered this window at a gas station on a backroad in Burlington. She said she is attracted to photographing old abandoned houses.

Africa lands on Elon's campus

Acrobat troupe performs wide range of entertainment for sold-out audience

Isabel Strychacz
Reporter

Elon University has several courses and study abroad programs that focus on sending students to experience Africa's culture, politics and people. But Sept. 24 in McCrary Theatre, Africa came to Elon.

From the moment the lights dimmed and a disembodied voice announced "Welcome to Africa," the sold-out audience was entranced with the Kenya Safari Acrobats.

The acrobat troupe is a family affair consisting of Karen and Jacob Kalama, their daughter, and Karen's brother and two nephews. Each member of the troupe performs unique feats, such as limbo dancing, magic tricks and intense acrobatics during the show.

The performance's premise was the story of the journey of an American woman traveling in Africa and meeting a local tribe. This story enabled the acrobats to perform something rarely seen in acrobatic performances — a show with an educational and spirited purpose.

As the show began, all six acrobats played

their silent roles energetically and comically as they pretended not to know how to jump rope. As the American woman shook her head in dismay, the acrobats tripped over the rope and fell humorously to the ground.

The illusion was soon shattered as the acrobats began to perform impressive flips as though the ropes weren't even there.

"I was excited to see what the show would be like," said freshman Marissa Hom. "As soon as they started cartwheeling and back-flipping while jumping rope, I knew it would be cool."

Throughout the 90-minute show, the tricks were interspersed with small skits and voice-overs directing the audience back to

the story of the Kenyan tribe, with intent to inform the audience about Kenyan culture.

Even the simplest magic tricks were met with loud applause. But the audience seemed most enchanted by the mesmerizing contortionist tricks. At one point, Jacob turned himself into a human pretzel. He was so flexible that his legs and arms seemed to move independently from the rest of his body as his legs wrapped into inhuman positions.

Jacob held the crowd on the edge of their seats many times throughout the performance, including when he used chairs as building blocks to climb toward the ceiling. Then, in a feat of amazing strength, he held himself horizontal to the stage with a single

hand as the chair structure visibly shook beneath him.

Many of the acts required cat-like balance. One especially captivating trick was when an acrobat balanced on a thin platform on top of a large round pipe. While the platform rolled back and forth on top of the pipe, the performer set tall drinking glasses on the platform and set another platform on top.

Before the audience knew it, he had repeated this process five times and was balancing high above the ground. There were a few seemingly close calls when the glasses holding the platforms fell to the stage, causing the audience to cry out. But the acrobat simply climbed right back up the rising platforms. The audience watched with bated breath, and when he finally balanced at the very top, the room shook with cheers and applause.

This stunt was Hom's favorite, as well.

"There were a few times I could barely watch as he climbed up the platforms," she said. "It's crazy that people can learn to do amazing tricks like that. There were people in every single seat. It was a really fun way to spend a Tuesday night."

"As soon as they started cartwheeling and back-flipping while jumping rope, I knew it would be cool."

-Marissa Hom, freshman

October Arts & Entertainment Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
/	/	/	2	3	4	5
			Peter Levine Lecture 4:30 p.m. LaRose Digital Theatre	Department of Performing Arts presents "The Children's Hour" 7:30 p.m. Black Box Theatre	"The Return" film screening 6 p.m. LaRose Digital Theatre "The Children's Hour" 7:30 p.m. Black Box Theatre	"The Children's Hour" 2 p.m., 7:30 p.m. Black Box Theatre
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
"Numen Lumen for Organ and Strings" 3 p.m. Whitley Auditorium "The Children's Hour" 2 p.m. Black Box Theatre	"The Children's Hour" 7:30 p.m. Black Box Theatre	"The Children's Hour" 7:30 p.m. Black Box Theatre	"The Children's Hour" 7:30 p.m. Black Box Theatre	"Are the Monstrous Races 'Races'? Representing Difference in Medieval Art" 6 p.m. LaRose Digital Theatre		

Vidisdottir setting up for

Harrison Raby
Reporter

As the Elon University women's golf team prepares to begin its season this spring, it will look to accomplished sophomore Sunna Vidisdottir to lead the way.

Vidisdottir is coming off an impressive freshman year and is expected to be among the top players in the Southern Conference this year.

Perhaps even more unique than Vidisdottir's talent, though, is her route to Elon.

Crossing seas

Vidisdottir came to Elon last fall from Reykjavik, Iceland, and has been a key contributor to the Phoenix from the start. As a freshman, Vidisdottir had an average score of 76.04 per round and was selected to the Southern Conference All-Freshman team thanks to her ninth place finish at the Southern Conference Championship tournament in April.

Prior to beginning her career at Elon, Vidisdottir already had a wealth of experience playing at a high level against top European competition. She competed for the Icelandic National Team in 2011 and the Icelandic Junior National Team for four years prior to that. That international experience allowed her to play in competitive tournaments such as the 2011 European Ladies Amateur Team Championship in Austria as well as the International Children's Games in San Francisco, Calif., in 2008.

"The tournaments we play there usually have a stronger field and everything is just bigger," Vidisdottir said. "They have cameras. They have TV screens. They have people that are watching. It's just an experience and everything helps."

Aside from international golf, Vidisdottir also played at a high level within Iceland. Having had a lot of success at the junior level, she became the youngest player to win a tournament in the Icelandic Ladies Golf Series in 2010.

In addition, Vidisdottir achieved a third-place ranking in the Icelandic Women's Golf Tournament Series and was named "Brightest Future in Icelandic Women's Golf" in 2011. She also led her home club of Reykjavik GC to the Icelandic Women's Team Championship twice, as well as three times at the junior level.

Battling for a spot

Despite her talent and accomplishments, Vidisdottir's situation did not allow her to get much exposure to college coaches in America, so she needed to be more proactive.

During her junior year of high school, Vidisdottir did a Google search of top collegiate golf programs in the United States and emailed several coaches at schools that seemed like good fits for her.

"It was a long process," Vidisdottir said. "I didn't really know what to expect."

Several coaches, including Elon head coach Chris Dockrill, expressed interest in her after she contacted the staff at Elon. Instead of traveling across the Atlantic Ocean, Dockrill used the Internet to make up for the distance.

Dockrill was able to analyze Vidisdottir based on film she sent him of her playing her home course in Iceland. Both sides could tell it was a good match, and Vidisdottir signed to play with Elon.

As arduous as the recruiting process was, Vidisdottir said the most difficult part of the move was still ahead of her.

The big barrier

While freshman year presents many unfamiliar challenges to all student athletes, her transition was made even more difficult because she had to acclimate herself to life in the United States.

"It was kind of like a culture shock," Vidisdottir said. "I didn't come with a lot of expectations. I was kind of just open-minded and just faced the situation."

Perhaps the greatest challenge Vidisdottir faced during her freshman year was



PHOTO COURTESY OF ELON ATHLETICS
Sophomore Sunna Vidisdottir came to Elon from Reykjavik, Iceland, where she was the youngest player to win a tournament in the Icelandic Ladies Golf Series. At Elon, she has emerged as a top player on the team.

overcoming the language barrier. She spoke Icelandic as her first language growing up, and although she had some experience with English, she struggled early in her freshman year with her command of the language.

"She spent a lot of time in the library, she was reading things that would take us an hour to read that were taking her two hours," Dockrill said. "It took her a while to get acclimated because she was having to work twice as hard as everybody else. It shows how dedicated of a kid she is."

Vidisdottir's work ethic proved as helpful on the golf course as it did in the classroom.

"All the other kids realize that this kid's good," Dockrill said. "But she's good because she works hard so that makes a big difference. When the other kids see that, it's an important factor."

Starting fast

As a freshman, Vidisdottir got her ca-

reer off to a good start quickly in the fall season with a seventh-place finish at the Great Smokies Intercollegiate thanks to her low round of 70 on the final day of the tournament. At the Palmetto Intercollegiate in Kiawah Island, S.C., Vidisdottir finished ninth out of 95 golfers with a score of plus-4 over four days.

Vidisdottir took advantage of the winter of 2012-2013 to improve her game, something she had not been able to do as effectively growing up because of Iceland's brutal winters.

"At home I was never able to practice during the winter time, it was all during the summer," Vidisdottir said. "[Being able to practice in the winter] has helped me a lot, especially in the short game because that's something you can't practice in the winter [in Iceland]."

Her improvement was evident from the start of the spring season, as she tied for medalist honors in the Phoenix's first spring tournament, the High Point Classic.

Vidisdottir had some ups and downs

big 2013-2014 season



PHOTO COURTESY OF ELON ATHLETICS

Vidisdottir won her most recent tournament, the William & Mary Invitational Sept. 17 in Virginia.

during the rest of that spring but regained her form for the Southern Conference Championship, where she achieved her fourth top 10 performance of the season in helping the Phoenix to finish sixth overall. Vidisdottir held a share of the lead after the first day thanks to an even-par 72 and continued her solid play throughout the tournament to finish tied for ninth overall, earning one of five spots on the SoCon All-Freshman team.

Dockrill attributed much of Vidisdottir's success last year to the experience she had coming into Elon.

"The biggest thing about Europeans is that a lot of these kids are actually a little more tournament savvy than our kids here," he said. "They usually play on their national teams, they travel a lot and they get really good teaching. [Vidisdottir] played a pretty extensive schedule so she had that experience."

Not just an athlete

Vidisdottir's accomplishments were not

limited to the golf course during her freshman year.

Despite the language barrier, the marketing and statistics double major finished her freshman year with a grade point average of 3.93, earning her a spot on the Women's Golf Coaches Association All-American Scholar Team.

Vidisdottir, who graduated among the top 10 in her class at The Commercial College of Iceland, said the near-4.0 GPA she received that spring was one of her biggest accomplishments. She was also awarded the Coach's Award at Elon's athletics awards banquet.

No offseason for the driven

This summer, Vidisdottir returned home to Iceland and continued to improve. She won the Icelandic Championship in Stroke Play in July and also competed in the Ladies' British Open Amateur Championship and the European Amateur Team Championship.

"She worked really hard over the sum-

mer," Dockrill said. "She was on the national team and traveled a lot, so she was on the top of her game coming here."

Vidisdottir's role coming into her sophomore season was very different than it had been a year before when she was just getting used to life in America.

"Her role is obviously a leadership role when you're a top player," Dockrill said.

So far, Vidisdottir has lived up to these high expectations. She claimed medalist honors at the William & Mary Invitational in September, riding her 11 birdies through the course of the tournament and a final round score of 70 to win her first individual title of the season. She paced the Phoenix to a second-place finish.

"I played pretty well, it was pretty stable and I didn't make a lot of mistakes," Vidisdottir said. "I have been playing well recently so it's kind of good to just win now because it makes me more comfortable about the upcoming tournaments."

Dockrill knows what it takes to win these tournaments and recognizes Vidisdottir's roll of late on the course.

"Every tournament is just a tournament and you go in to win," Dockrill said. "Her experience is really what paid off for her. She really played well that last day and that's what you've got to do."

Vidisdottir's goal for this year is to record an average score below 75. So far, she is on her way to accomplishing that with a current average of 74.17 through the first two tournaments of the season. If Vidisdottir keeps up this pace, she will likely be among the contenders for the individual medalist honors at the Southern Conference Championship as the Phoenix hopes to improve on last year's result.

No time limit

But the sophomore's goals are not limited to her time at Elon as the talented Ice-lander hopes to take her career to the next level after college.

"My goal is to try to turn professional, so I'm just going to use the next three years to work on my game and then see what hap-

pens after that," she said. "I'm just going to practice as much as I can and see what my chances are after that."

Dockrill agreed that Vidisdottir has the potential to play at the professional level, but said she will have to continue to work hard and improve in order to attain her goals.

"There are some parts of her game that she has to work on," Dockrill said. "One of the things you deal with where she's from is a lot of wind so she hits a low ball, so now she's trying to hit a much higher ball. That's an important factor for her to make it to be a top player. She knows what she has to work on, but the changes she needs to make to be that much better are things she's capable of doing."

Vidisdottir agreed with her coach, noting that her short game is where she has to improve the most.

Home away from home

Obviously, this will not be the first time Vidisdottir has had to adapt since she arrived at Elon a year ago. She has proven time and time again that she is up to the task and credits her teammates for much of her success during the transition process.

"The team helped me a lot, they're kind of like a second family," Vidisdottir said. "It definitely helped me to have someone I knew I could reach out to, and if I needed help they were always there for me."

Dockrill backed Vidisdottir, noting the challenges of coming from another country, playing a collegiate sport and going to school all at the same time.

"It's quite a difference coming from a place that has 350,000 people to a place where within an hour we have two or three million people, but she did very well with it," Dockrill said. "She's a structured kid. In other words, she didn't like hamburgers before she got here and she still doesn't like them. I don't think we've influenced the way she handles her lifestyle, which is good. She did very well with the transition, but she's from Iceland, and that's not changing." §

THE FORGOTTEN ONE:

Matt Krause
Assistant Sports Editor

In the game of football, star players can emerge from many different positions on the field. Whether it's the quarterback who averages 400 passing yards per game or the linebacker who delivers punishing hits, both offense and defense produce their own fan favorites.

All the while, one player waits on the sideline for his few seconds of glory. This player is the long snapper, whose job is to snap the football 7 1/2 yards to the holder on field goal tries or 15 yards to the punter on punts. This job is often overlooked by the casual fan, but a successful long snapper can make life easier for a team.

At Elon University, the long snapper role belongs to junior Michael Crispi. Crispi, the

first scholarship long snapper in the storied history of Phoenix football, is lauded by his teammates and coaches as one of the best at the Division I Football Championship Sub-division level.

"He's by far one of the best snappers I've ever been around," said freshman punter David Petroni. "He's definitely probably the best at the FCS level. He makes it easy to get a good punt off."

On the surface, fans simply see Petroni boot booming punts to pin opponents deep in their own territory, but his success begins with Crispi.

Snapper from the start

Crispi began playing football in eighth grade in his hometown of Dix Hills, N.Y. He served as a starting guard on that team,

but a coaching decision and subsequent joke quickly changed his outlook on football, setting him up for the future.

"My coach jokingly said to me, 'Oh, you know, long snapping, they give out scholarships for this if you get good at it.' He was saying it jokingly at the time because he was making me be the long snapper," Crispi said. "But I took that to heart and practiced ever since then because I always had the passion to try to play college football."

He continued to hone his snapping skills at Half Hollow Hills High School West, with the idea that long snapping would be his ticket to a college football career down the road after high school.

In his three years as the starting long snapper for the Colts, Crispi never had an errant snap. His skills helped him earn the MSG Varsity Athlete of the Week honor during his

senior year.

Recruiting trail

While his on-field performance was impressive, Crispi still had to market his abilities to college teams. For many specialists [kickers, punters and long snappers], that marketing involves attending special teams camps hosted by major universities.

During his sophomore year of high school, Crispi attended his first camp at Rutgers University. That day provided extra encouragement for Crispi and the idea that his ticket could be punched.

"They had about 35 snappers," Crispi said. "I was one of the youngest ones there and I won the whole competition. That's when I realized I had a natural talent for long snapping."



Crispi (middle) has not made a bad snap in his career at Elon, but Elon field goal kickers this season have not been sharp, hitting just one of eight attempts this year between freshmen John Gallagher and Bobby Flood.

Crispi plays small but vital role for football

Many major colleges had their eye on Crispi, but were only able to offer him preferred walk-on status. A preferred walk-on is often given admission to the school he selects to attend, but will have to pay tuition and compete for a spot on the team and, eventually, a scholarship.

One team was different.

“Elon University was a school that I came to camp with and I felt really comfortable with,” Crispi said. “It just seemed like a really good fit. I have family down here. When I came to the camp and snapped down here, [former head] coach [Pete] Lembo saw me snap and offered me a scholarship on the spot, and I was very thankful for that.”

A streak begins

When Crispi arrived at Elon, he had a clear path to the starting long snapper job from his first day on campus.

“I remember I walked in on the first day of training camp as a freshman, the previous long snapper had graduated,” he said. “Everyone was saying there were high expectations for me to come in and get the job done, being the first long snapper to be offered a scholarship in the program.”

Crispi started his first game Sept. 3, 2011, a televised game against Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

“The first game was against Vanderbilt and I’ll admit, I was really nervous,” Crispi said. That day marked the first of what is now 27 consecutive games started for Crispi, each one without a bad snap.

“To have Mike step in as a freshman and to excel at what he does from day one has been a real blessing for us,” said special teams coach Scott Browne. “We never once have to worry about a snap. He’s a true professional at what he does.”

Crispi said the secret to his success is to keep things in perspective and not to over-think things. Thinking too far in the future tends to have negative effects, he said.

“I’ve had fun with it,” he said. “I’ve taken it week by week. I’ve never got too down on myself, never got too high on myself, just stayed even keel.”

Stepping up

During Crispi’s first two seasons with the Phoenix, former kicker Adam Shreiner and former punter Kenton Beal were the leaders of the specialists group.

“When I came in here I wasn’t a leader,” Crispi said. “I was like the wild child of the group. I didn’t see myself as a leader, Coach Browne didn’t see me as a leader.”

But, this year is different. Both starting kicker John Gallagher and Petroni are true freshmen, and Crispi has been forced to take a bigger role with the special teams unit.

“He’s really accepted the leadership role as a junior,” Browne said. “He’s definitely taken on a much more vocal leadership role with the two freshmen specialists that we have.”

Petroni said he believes Crispi leads by example.

“He’s started for the last two years so he really knew the routine,” Petroni said. “I came in and I didn’t really know what to expect. He showed me how practice works, how game day works.”

Looking to the future

Crispi has a year and a half left in his playing career at Elon. That final year will be played in the Colonial Athletic Association, which has member institutions near Crispi’s New York home.

“When I heard the CAA news, I was one of the happiest ones on the team,” he said, adding that Stony Brook University is only 30 minutes from his house.

Off the field, he will have an internship with CBS in New York, a big part of completing his degree in strategic communications.

Regardless of how his career turns out, Crispi said football has shaped his Elon experience.

“Playing football here is a platform to have a really good time,” he said. “It’s been a really good experience and there’s nothing like the bonds you make with your teammates off the field.” §



Michael Crispi has started all 27 games the Elon football team has played since he arrived on campus. TARA WIRTH | Staff Photographer

Women's soccer enters 'new season' riding high

Andrew Wilson
Sports Editor

They've already played 10 games in 2013, but for the Elon University women's soccer team, the real season has just begun with the schedule turning to Southern Conference play.

"[Elon head coach Chris Neal] always calls non-conference the first season and conference the second season," said senior forward Jennifer McGorty. "We approach both in the same manner as far as how we want to approach games, but now they mean so much more."

Off to a 6-1-3 start in the 2013 season, the Phoenix is a far cry from where they were a season ago.

In 2012, Elon went 2-5-2 in non-conference play and was battling injuries that signaled times of struggle could be ahead. Instead, the Phoenix bounced back to go 4-3-4 in conference to earn its fourth straight winning record in SoCon play. Only two other teams in the conference have finished with a winning record four straight years — Samford University and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Coincidentally, those two finished as the top two teams in the conference in 2012.

This season, Elon has numerous healthy bodies and high-flying goal scorers, something the Phoenix lacked majorly in 2012.

Through 10 games, sophomore forward Nicole Dennion leads Elon with seven goals. McGorty, who moved to forward this season after playing defense in 2012, already has five goals. In 2012, the team's leading scorer — then-junior Simi Dhaliwal — had just three all season. In 22 games in 2012, Elon scored 23 goals. Through 10 this year, they have 26.

"It really comes down to people putting the ball where it needs to be on crosses," said senior forward Catherine Brinkman. "The last few years, even when I led sophomore year, it was only five. With [junior midfielder] Beth [Haupt] out last year, we really didn't have anyone to cross the ball and we've stressed that this season because we have numbers. [Senior midfielder] Olivia [Mackey] can get it in. [Senior midfielder] Kimmie [Krauss] can get it in. All of these girls can get the ball where it needs to be and Nicole has just gotten the ball on frame more than she ever has and it's going in. She plays with such ferocity about her and it's paying off."



The Elon women's soccer team battled Appalachian State to a 3-3 draw in its most recent match Sept. 29. The Phoenix is 6-1-3 thus far in the current fall season.

The lone loss this season has come against Longwood University Sept. 13 in Wilmington, N.C. While it was a 4-3 loss, McGorty said it's a moment in the season she and the team look back on and know it was still a game the Phoenix could use as a major learning experience moving forward.

"We did lose that game. It was the only game we lost," she said. "But at one point we were down 3-0 and we were able to come back. Stepping off that field, I was able to still be confident knowing the week before we scored twice against High Point [University] and they were easily shut down. Their confidence was completely gone after those two goals. But with us, you could see everybody was still aggressive and everybody was determined."

In that match against the Lancers, Elon fell behind 3-0 on numerous mental errors. Junior goalkeeper Kate Murphy had the first goal taken off her foot in the penalty area, but they fought back from the 3-0 deficit to tie the game. On the ensuing kickoff, Elon fouled Longwood and wasn't ready for the game-winning free kick late in the match after tying it up just

38 seconds before.

"At the end, we did mentally turn off a little bit," McGorty said. "But sometimes you learn more from the games you lose. We can't let that happen again."

As the conference schedule comes into focus and the 11 teams left in the SoCon battle for supremacy, Elon will fight to prove it's better than its preseason pick of No. 5 in the conference.

"We're always picked fifth. Every preseason, it seems like we're always fifth," Brinkman said. "I don't think we've been picked any higher since I got here. They can say what they want but we always find a way to fight and have it end up differently."

Elon enters its third conference match of the "new season" against The Citadel Oct. 4 in Charleston, S.C. The Phoenix enters the match with Dennion leading Bulldogs senior forward Mariana Garcia by one goal for the SoCon lead.

"I was happy with the non-conference segment, but unfortunately it doesn't mean anything right now," Neal said. "This is the new season."



Senior midfielder Olivia Mackey, a captain on the team, has been a key part of the good record this season with four assists in 10 games so far.

THE LAST WORD: I can be my hero (baby)

This past week I was perusing potential summer internships when I ran across a question on an application that caused quite a lengthy pause: "Who is your hero?"



Jonathan Black
Managing Editor

A list of plausible options swarmed into my head: Meryl Streep, Hillary Clinton and Sadie, my dog, to name a few. But have they ever directly inspired me for the better?

Yes, Meryl Streep has taught me you can never be nominated for enough awards or age more gracefully. (Side note: Leo, I'm putting my vote in for her to be the com-

mencement speaker for the Class of 2015.) If anything, Hillary has taught me you can rebound from your spouse's impeachment and large shadow to have great hair and pantsuits and potentially lead the free world in four years. Finally, Sadie has taught me if you whine enough, you will get what you want.

As you can see, I've learned a lot from my "heroes," but I don't think any of these answers would provide me with a job, let alone an internship. The point is, I'm not a fictional character who has a Sirius Black or Mufasa to inspire me to eternal greatness for the entirety of my life.

The word "hero" is loaded, to say the least. It has a lot of connotations behind it, implying a person has done extraordinary good or some kind of activism, something

I can't even begin to grasp when I know what this application is looking for is some grandiose answer like a Kennedy, Roosevelt or King (Billie Jean or Martin Luther).

I definitely have had people inspire me, but I can't say with confidence that one person has inspired me for my entire 21 years. I've changed a lot in those years, and depending on where I am in my life, one person's advice may or may not be the best to emulate.

Does the fact that I have not had one consistent role model throughout my life make me extremely self-centered? Possibly. I've never been the most empathetic or selfless person, but I don't think there's anything wrong with being largely self-motivated.

Now that I think of it, is there anything

wrong with saying I'm my own hero? Would they see it as self-righteous or bold? I can certainly justify that no one affected my life enough to deserve the title of "Jonathan Black's Hero."

When I'm in a crisis I don't think to myself, "How would Barack Obama handle this if he were in my shoes?" Obama has never been in my shoes and has a team of trusted advisers to help with his crises. I have a team of college students who are equally as unequipped to deal with the real world as I am.

Ignoring the existential crisis this question has caused me to have, what is there to take away from this? Is there a greater meaning I'm missing?

I think the moral of the story is I am not going to apply for this internship.

Sudoku

				8	3			
	7		9					
	8	6				9		4
				6	8	3		1
4								9
1		3	4	2				
9		5				4	3	
					1		2	
			8	4				

Complete the grid so that every row, column and every three-by-three box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Difficulty Level: Medium

Find the solution at elonpendulum.com/sudoku.

Top Tweets of Family Weekend

@pressplay9

Walmart during Elon's Parents Weekend = Torture. Next time I need to get groceries there, I'll research and carefully schedule

@stebertstebert

Happy @OnlyAtElon Parent's Weekend! Really hoping to see some New Jersey dads wait for a gas attendant at Kangaroo.

@jackieeleighh

Elon is Disney World and Elon Family Weekend is even more ridiculous.

@alexsimon99

Parents weekend at #Elon! Everyone is already out with their parents and I be like, "Nah, I'm gonna sleep still."

@xoGossipSquirrel

Spotted: Senior BFAs washing cars outside Kangaroo. Nothing says "Hi, parents!" like, "donate money!" Elon has taught us well. XOXO, GS



Top Photos

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TARA WIRTH | Staff Photographer
Elon families came together at the football game for some good, old-fashioned family bonding.

TARA WIRTH | Staff Photographer
The Phoenix fell to the Coastal Carolina Chanticleers 28-53 in the clash of legendary birds of prey Sept. 28.



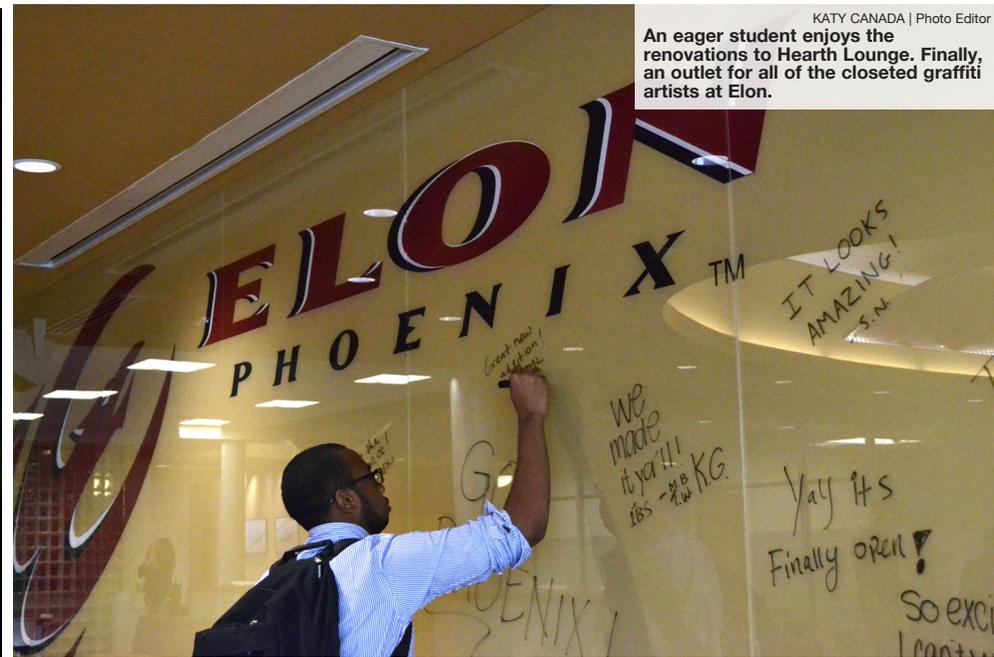
TO
Photos



TARA WIRTH | Staff Photographer
A group of Elon alumni tours the ever-evolving campus, taking in the curb appeal.

KATY CANADA | Photo Editor

An eager student enjoys the renovations to Hearth Lounge. Finally, an outlet for all of the closeted graffiti artists at Elon.



KATY CANADA | Photo Editor

Sophomore Shelby Lewis voiced her opinions and concerns about the past and present incidents of bias and discrimination on Elon's campus Sept. 26 at the SGA-sponsored diversity forum.



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Elon defeated the Western Carolina Catamounts 3-1 Sept. 25.



Volleyball in position for strong conference play

Max Garland
Senior Reporter

For two hours and 10 minutes, the Elon University volleyball team was the underdog versus Radford University Sept. 18. The Phoenix, holders of a 4-7 record at the time, managed to find their mettle and ground out the match into a decisive fifth set.

The Highlanders, with an 8-3 record at the time, had the advantage on paper. With 6-foot-4 sophomore middle blocker Megan Short on the frontline and two dynamic outside hitters, Radford looked to hand Elon its third fifth-set loss of the season.

But then Elon kicked it into high gear and hasn't shifted from it as conference matches have started.

The Phoenix stunned the Highlanders by jumping out to a 12-3 lead, with six of those points coming from sophomore outside hitter Megan Gravley. Elon won the type of game they used to struggle with: a nail-biter versus top competition.

"After being defeated in such close games, it definitely felt great to get a five-set win versus Radford, especially on our home court," said senior defensive specialist Maggie Reichard. "The win definitely gave us a lot of confidence going into the 49er Invitational."

Whatever Elon found in that fifth set, they maintained it throughout the 49er Invitational, a yearly volleyball tournament in Charlotte. The team only lost two sets in the three games

they played. The improvement has been obvious.

"I think we have done a great job of getting better every time we step on the court and playing better under pressure," said senior right-side hitter Cali Estes. "We are getting better at competing and making every point matter, which has helped us be successful in the last few games."

The strong showing put the Phoenix above .500 for the first time this season, but the real test for Elon is already underway — a five-game road trip featuring traditional Southern Conference powers such as Georgia Southern University and Davidson College.

"Playing on the road is always a little more challenging," Reichard said. "However, we are very excited to start conference play whether we play home or away. We are not predetermining any wins or losses for these next two weekends and are going into every game focused on what we need to do to win and getting better every time we play."

If Elon comes out of this stretch with a winning record, the team is set up nicely for a chance at a high seed in its last Southern Conference tournament: Eight of their next 12 games are at Alumni Gym, where the Phoenix has a 4-1 record so far this season. The mindset will remain the same for Elon.

"We prepare for every game the same whether it is home or away," Estes said. "Obviously, it is more fun for us to be on our home court, but we are excited to start confer-



FILE PHOTO BY RUTH GRAY

The 9-8 Phoenix plays their third straight road match Oct. 2 against the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

ence and compete against SoCon teams no matter what gym we are in."

Elon's best chance to compete with the elite of the Southern Conference starts and ends with junior middle blocker Kris Harris. Harris leads the team in points, kills, hitting percentage and total blocks, but she can't do it alone.

"Kris is having an amazing season," said head coach Mary Tendler. "She has made huge contributions every match on offense and defense. We do have a lot of other players that have stepped up in matches, but we are

still looking for some individuals to be more consistent."

Harris scored a game-high 24 points against Radford and the match that might have lit a fire inside the Phoenix. The timing is perfect, as the Southern Conference might be as deep as it has ever been in volleyball.

"We are simply a better team right now than we were three to four weeks ago," Tendler said. "Our team will continue to improve as the season goes along. There is no doubt about that."

UPCOMING EVENTS

FOOTBALL	MEN'S SOCCER	WOMEN'S SOCCER	VOLLEYBALL	CROSS COUNTRY
Furman 1:30 p.m. Sat., Oct. 5 Greenville, S.C.	Appalachian State 7 p.m. Sat., Oct. 5 Elon, N.C.	The Citadel 4 p.m. Fri., Oct. 4 Charleston, S.C.	UNCG 7 p.m. Fri., Oct. 2 Greensboro, N.C.	Mountaineer Open 5 p.m. Fri., Oct. 4 Boone, N.C.
Wofford 1:30 p.m. Sat., Oct. 12 Spartanburg, S.C.	Wofford 7 p.m. Sat., Oct. 12 Spartanburg, S.C.	Francis Marion 2 p.m. Sun., Oct. 6 Florence, S.C.	Davidson 7 p.m. Fri., Oct. 4 Davidson, N.C.	Greater Louisville Classic 10:15 a.m. Sat., Oct. 5 Louisville, Ky.