

THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA • WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2013 • VOLUME 39, EDITION 17

WE NEED
TO SEIZE THIS
OPPORTUNITY
AND RUN
WITH IT.

We're going to put our heads down and we're going to work for this.

**THIS IS THE YEAR
WE WIN THE SOCON
TOURNAMENT.**

We have an opportunity to do something special here.

Beating a BCS program never comes easy but the one thing Elon can bank on is the experience factor.

**NOBODY
OWES US
ANYTHING.**

We're not shy in talking about our dream.

**GREAT
EXPECTATIONS**

We as a team right now have a lot of experience, but we've got a long way to go to get where we want to be in March.

Returning all five

starters gives the Phoenix continuity and great team chemistry.

This is all going to pay off in March.

Our dream is to make the NCAA Tournament. So when we make it, when we walk

through that door having been through that door before, having experienced it the best we can.

We like to play against the best programs in the country.



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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.

Editor-in-Chief
Rebecca Iannucci

Managing Editor
Jonathan Black

News Editor
Katherine Blunt

News Editor
Ethan Smith

Assistant News Editor
Michael Bodley

Opinions Editor
Ian Luther

Assistant Opinions Editor
Alex Francis

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Alana Romans

Features Editor
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NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
/	/	/	6 Beyond Faith and Reason: Why Serve? 7:30 p.m. McBride Gathering Space	7 Numen Lumen: A Thursday Inspiration 9:50 a.m. Numen Lumen Pavilion	8 School of Communications Alumni Reception 3:15 p.m. McEwen Lobby	9 Smooth Progressions Fall Concert 7 p.m. Whitley Auditorium		
10 Men's Soccer vs. Appalachian State 7 p.m. Rudd Field	11 Allstate Information Session 5 p.m. Moseley 103	12 Elon University Orchestra Performance 7:30 p.m. McCrary Theatre	13 Women's Volleyball vs. UNCG 7 p.m. Alumni Gym	14 CATL Talk: Managing Stress 4:15-5:30 p.m. Belk 201	15 Men's Basketball at UNC Charlotte 4 p.m. Charlotte, N.C.	16 Football vs. Georgia Southern 3 p.m. Rhodes Stadium		
17 Relations Between Christians and Jews 1 p.m. Numen Lumen	18 Sean Carroll 7:30 p.m. McKinnon Hall	19 Elon Jazz Ensemble Fall Concert 7:30 p.m. McCrary Theatre	For more event coverage visit The Pendulum online at www.elonpendulum.com .				/	/



ELON PHOENIX WEEKLY

TUNE INTO ELON PHOENIX WEEKLY, THE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT-RUN SPORTS NEWSCAST ON SATURDAY MORNINGS, FOR THE LATEST FOOTBALL NEWS AND MORE!

- 7:30 A.M. — NOV. 16 | ESPN2 — NFL KICKOFF
- 7:30 A.M. — NOV. 23 | ESPN2 — NFL KICKOFF
- 7 A.M. — NOV. 30 | ESPN2 — BOOK OF MANNING

National health care overhaul hits home in Alamance County through community forum

Michael Bodley
Assistant News Editor

One rocky month into the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, a health care forum in McKinnon Hall found the issue far from settled on Monday.

Three invited professionals joined nine lay panelists from campus and the local community to expose the people behind the largely political debate. The panel was sponsored by a partnership between Elon University and the Burlington Times-News.

Each person left uninsured by the Affordable Care Act is an avoidable tragedy, according to Ginette Archinal, medical director of student health at Elon.

“My personal point of view about health care is that we have a moral responsibility to provide affordable, basic health care to everybody in society,” she said. “I find it morally reprehensible that so much of our society does not have access to basic health care.”

And now more than ever, these health care needs are increasing thanks in no small part to preventable lifestyle choices such as smoking, poor nutrition and lack of exercise, said Miles Grunvald, a first-year medical student at the University of Vermont and Class of 2013 alumnus.

“There will always be chronic diseases that will be costly to our country, but by encouraging preventative measures we can work to eliminate them,” he said.

According to the Center for Disease



Photo by Michael Bodley | Assistant News Editor

The panel looks on as Miles Grunvald reinforces the importance of preventative health care through exercise.

Control and Prevention, 65 percent of North Carolina adults are overweight and 28 percent are obese. Higher obesity rates are tied to greater need for health care, Grunvald said.

The less health care the average person requires, the reduced the strain is on a universal health care system, said Preston Hammock, president and COO of Alamance Regional Medical Center.

“The most expensive place to get care is the hospital. To fix this, we’ve got to keep people out of the hospital,” he said. “It is absolutely the right thing to do to have that patient live at home and contribute that much more to society.”

The debate now is less about whether people deserve basic access to health care, said

Resa Walch, senior lecturer of health and human performance. The consensus is that people do, she said, but what defines basic access?

“It changes,” she said. “It’s a dynamic definition, and I’m not sure we can reach a conclusion on that.”

Hammock echoed Walch.

“We talk a lot about basic needs,” he said. “We don’t always probe into the definitions of what those words mean.”

Addressing mental health issues is a basic requirement of health care, said community advocate Suelyn Dalton.

“We all have mental health issues,” she said to laughter from the crowd. “I’m sure you can think of yours real quickly right now.”

Piedmont Health Services nurse Connie Bishop reminded the crowd that one in three residents of Alamance County will be affected by dementia or Alzheimer’s as a caregiver or sufferer of the disease. A person is diagnosed with Alzheimer’s every 60 seconds in the world, she said.

Bishop and her mother wore purple to the forum in honor of National Alzheimer’s Disease Awareness month this November.

“My mom here is 88,” Bishop said, waving to her mother in the crowd. “She just got her first Kindle today, and she’s not consuming a lot of Medicare. She’s pretty healthy. That’s rare.”

Joshua Moore, an alumnus of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, said the mental health comments really resonated with him.

“It’s unfortunate, but a lot of times we as a society may not pay mental health the atten-

tion it deserves,” Moore said. “It’s a wonderful thing to take away from tonight, the value of preventative care and support for mental health.”

But while most support the ideas behind universal health care and providing basic care to all, funding it remains a different story.

“Is it fair that I, as a hard-working healthy taxpayer, have to front the bill to someone who can’t pay their own insurance?” asked senior Maria Restuccio.

But problems with universal health care may suggest a deeper mistrust of the U.S. political system, said senior Marissa Rurka.

“If we really have a problem with the way health care is set up, I think we have a larger problem with the capitalist system in general,” she said.

Vice President of Burlington Metals Jeremy Troxler reminded the audience of the importance of the separation between church and state.

“May we never confuse those things that belong to government and those things that belong to God,” he said.

And to be realistic, Restuccio said, those who can’t afford even basic health care at Affordable Care Act levels shouldn’t expect the same level of care that those who can may take for granted.

“I don’t think that it’s financially realistic to say that everyone can enjoy the same access to health care that the average middle-class American enjoys,” Restuccio said.

There’s also a difference between saying and doing, said senior Viviana Stavreva.

“One of the panelists was making it seem too easy to implement,” she said. “It’s easy to say, ‘Yes, this is what we should be doing,’ but economically it’s usually more difficult. I don’t disagree with universal health care at all. I just think we need to be cautious, be smart in going about it.”

While the dust hasn’t settled on the healthcare debate, Greensboro resident Stan Mackay said programs like the panel could have helped iron out wrinkles earlier on in the implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

“To me it was very informative, very encouraging,” Mackay said. “There was such a broad range of ages, such diversity of discussion. If these talks had been held on a larger level before, a lot of the issues we’re now talking about would no longer be problems.”



Photo by Michael Bodley | Assistant News Editor

Associate Dean of Communications Kenn Gaither watches panelist Preston Hammock call for health care overhaul.

Health care rollout slowed by ineffective exchanges

Michael Papich
Senior Reporter

The government entered a shutdown as the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) health care exchanges opened in 36 states, and now that the shutdown is over, frustration about the ineffective health care website is spreading across the country.

The exchanges allow Americans to sign up for subsidized health insurance, but the website that allows citizens to find insurance, HealthCare.gov, stalls when users try to take the final step in the sign-up process. Jason Husser, assistant professor of political science at Elon University, said issues with the exchanges should not necessarily be surprising.

"When you see gigantic enterprises start up, they tend to have problems," Husser said. "That said, we shouldn't just sit back as citizens when bureaucratic failures occur."

North Carolina chose to participate in a federally run, rather than a state-run, exchange. The exchange has been open in the state, with only Blue Cross, Blue Shield and Coventry Health Care of the Carolinas taking part for now.

Because North Carolina's exchange is not run by the state, it is more difficult for the Department of Insurance to expand insurance options or spread education about the program. In addition, premiums on federally run exchanges are higher than state-run exchanges to cover costs.

The state's Chamber of Commerce also said it plans to open a privately run health care exchange in January.

One problem with the ACA website experts point to is the website was designed by 55 different programming contractors who were not always working in tandem. Duke Hutchings, associate professor of computing sciences at Elon, said this lack of centralization likely led to the website's current bugs.

"I think it's not necessarily bad that there were 55 programmers, it's that there were 55 programmers with 55 different bosses, all parts of different groups with different management principles," Hutchings said.

Hutchings said there did not appear to be enough time allocated to contractors to build the website either.

To make his perception clearer, Hutchings

gave the example of a puzzle that, by itself, is not difficult to put together.

"The problem is if you have 50 different puzzle-makers and each is only working on 2 percent, it would work eventually but some parts would not work together as cleanly," Hutchings said. "The time given and the people involved did not match up."

The federal government only gave programmers the website's specifications last spring, which gave programmers the option of operating with low information or delaying the project.

Hutchings said this form of project management, called the "Waterfall Model," is a more traditional approach to running engineering and computing sciences projects.

There is another, newer approach known as "Agile Management" that makes projects more sequential by completing small portions of the project in delivery cycles before melding them together at the end of the project. But Hutchings said the government has been reluctant to try this method.

The issue the ACA website is now facing is the disparate pieces of programming are not

communicating effectively with one another. Hutchings gave the example of Twitter, where users can send and read tweets using a variety of different platforms.

"Each of these need to communicate with the main Twitter website, but they were also all developed by Twitter," Hutchings said. "It's harder when components are developed separately by project managers who didn't always communicate with one another."

To further explain the complexity, Hutchings referred to a mathematic principle known as Metcalfe's Law to show the number of added connections that must be created for each added component. With 55 contractors, that works out to 1,485 individual connections to get all of those pieces to work.

"If you've got 55 people working in the same company, from the same library, with the same supervisor, it would still be difficult, but you've got an easier task," Hutchings said.

Looking at how the website's failures may hurt the Obama administration, Husser said much of the damage had already been done when the administration did not go far enough to clear up misinformation about the law.



Kathleen Sebelius, secretary of health and human services, appeared before the House Energy and Commerce Committee Oct. 30 to answer questions about problems with the launch of the government's website for enrolling in health care plans based on the Affordable Care Act. The launch of HealthCare.gov experienced multiple hiccups and website crashes, causing many to deem it an unsuccessful launch.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Students question sanitation standards at Lakeside, Colonnades dining halls

Simone Jasper
Senior Reporter

Concerns regarding sanitation standards at Lakeside and Colonnades Dining Halls at Elon University were compounded recently after a student complained about raw chicken served in Lakeside Dining Hall and several students tweeted about a moldy bagel served at Acorn Coffee Shop.

Earlier this semester, Lakeside and Colonnades received health and sanitation ratings of 90 and 82, respectively, from the Alamance County Health Department.

Kate Nelson, district marketing manager for ARAMARK, Elon's food service provider, said Elon Dining was unable to immediately address the raw chicken incident because the student didn't contact Elon Dining after it was served.

"We would encourage students to find a manager or supervisor before leaving the dining location if they think the food is unsafe," Nelson said. "Using social media [as a means of communicating those types of issues] would only delay the resolution process."

Nelson said ARAMARK has implemented corrective practices to fix concerns that arose from the county inspections and will conduct internal inspections throughout the remainder of the year.

"We take these matters very seriously and

immediately address any potential issue that may arise," Nelson said.

Colonnades received a score of 95 upon re-inspection of the facility.

"If all of the violations found on the original Colonnades inspection were happening all of the time, we would have food-borne illness outbreaks, which we do not," Nelson said.

No confirmed food-borne illness outbreaks against Elon Dining have occurred since Jeff Gazda, resident district manager for ARAMARK, started his position 21 years ago.

"All inspections are a picture in time, and our institutional priority is to maintain a 95 or higher grade in all locations," Gazda said. "Albeit not a perfect record, I can say that of the approximate 650 Alamance County inspections that have occurred during my watch, only two of them have been below 90 and were rectified on short notice."

Gazda said his principal focus has been to provide Elon students with the best quality and variety of food options within the money students pay for meal plans.

"Elon is specifically designed as a residential campus, and I can confidently say that we provide as many or more dining options per capita on this campus than any other nationally," he said.

Currently, all Elon freshmen, sophomores and other students living in residence halls are required to have at least an All Access Basic



RUTH GRAY | Staff Photographer

Elon Dining has seen consistent problems this semester, causing students to question the value of meal plans.

meal plan, which costs nearly \$5,000 per year. Upperclassmen who do not live in residence halls may select either a 200 or a 300 block meal plan, which cost \$2,500 and \$3,140, respectively, or may opt to not purchase a meal plan.

Freshman George Whitaker said the recent sanitation lapses have caused him to question whether Elon's meal plans are worth the price.

"I think it's ridiculous that all freshmen are required to have at least the All Access Basic meal plan," Whitaker said. "We pay all this money and there are still poor sanitation standards."

Although Whitaker was not the student who reported the raw chicken in Lakeside, he said the dining hall served him undercooked

chicken on one occasion. He did not contact Elon Dining about the incident but said he will if he thinks his food is unsafe in the future.

For complaints of any kind, Nelson said people should get in touch with Elon Dining as soon as possible.

"Our degree of transparency is unparalleled, as we have a 100 percent open door policy and encourage our customers to reach out to us," she said. "If a customer has a concern about the dining program, they should contact a manager or come to the Elon Dining office so we can address and resolve the issue immediately. We want to ensure that you are having the best dining experience possible, and that is hard to do if we do not receive feedback in a timely manner."

Alamance municipal election voter participation declines from 2012 to 2013

Michael Bodley
Assistant News Editor

In the general election of 2012, seven out of 10 Alamance County voters cast ballots, one of the highest rates nationally. But in yesterday's Alamance County municipal election, only about one in 10 is expected to have voted.

The last municipal election in Alamance County brought out 11 percent of eligible voters in 2011. And according to Kathy Holland, director of the Alamance County Board of Elections, early voting numbers so far are projecting this year's total to be about the same.

"With local elections, you're just going to have lower knowledge, and that's going to lead to lower voter turnout," said Carrie Eaves, assistant professor of political science at Elon University. "People just aren't going to be as aware.

You're not bombarded with commercials like you would be in federal elections."

The Alamance County Board of Elections has tried to make voting possible for anyone eligible, Holland said. The 30 Alamance County precincts were open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. yesterday.

For the first time since 2009, someone is challenging incumbent mayor of Burlington Ronnie Wall. Class of 2008 alumnus Ian Baltutis is trying to unseat Wall.

But it may not be much of a race.

"Most local elections are not particularly competitive," said Jason Husser, assistant professor of political science and assistant director of the Elon University Poll. "Most stakes are fairly low. In this case the incumbent mayor probably is not too worried about his competition. He's not too worried about financing his

house in order to fund his campaign. He has a number of policy things he can point to, and he hasn't had any major scandals."

In keeping with North Carolina state law, the voting locations will all feature curbside voting for the elderly and the physically disabled. Curbside voting allows people who can't enter the voting place to vote from their vehicle or near the voting place.

But Holland said she is skeptical of the validity of the curbside voting system.

"Unfortunately, we see some people who are taking advantage of the system by taking oaths that they're someone they're not, or otherwise manipulating curbside voting," Holland said.

Local Elon business owners and employees said they had no sympathy for voter fraud, and less for those who don't choose to vote at all.

"It's simple. You just can't b**** about the

people in office if you don't vote," said Pandora's Pies employee and Burlington resident Kimberly Holt. "You're given this opportunity so you might as well go out there and do it."

But the 11 percent projected turnout may not be so bad after all, said Michaëlle Graybeal, a Burlington resident who owns clothing store All That JAS.

Baltutis may be the reason why.

"If we get 11 percent, well, that's pretty good for us," Graybeal said. "It's been a while since anyone has challenged the mayor. People need to keep in mind that if you don't vote, you have no say."

But the turnout rate could still be better, Burlington resident Vivian Splawn said.

"I think it's a shame people don't take the small elections more seriously," she said. "They're directly affecting the voter right here."

● **\$29,750**

The current tuition cost for a year at
Elon University.

★ **\$14,317**

What that equaled in 1987 (Adjusted
for inflation)

▲ **3.4X**

The cost of tuition in 1987

PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS
GRAPHIC BY JASON PUCKETT | Reporter

How much is too much?

Elon University struggles to maintain balance between quality, cost

Rebecca Iannucci
Editor-in-Chief

When Elon University sophomore Adam Gill was choosing which college to attend, he had five schools from which to choose. He ultimately decided on Elon, because it had everything he wanted.

That is, everything except financial aid.

"I ended up choosing Elon because it was the program I wanted, everything fit in," Gill said. "But I was very aware of how the money situation was going to fit in throughout my four years."

Although Elon spent \$31.9 million in financial aid in 2012, which was allocated to about 3,800 students, Gill did not receive any federal aid or scholarship money that would help him afford a four-year education at Elon. Instead, he and his parents are pinching pennies in order to pay tuition, room and board and other expenses.

"I'm looking into going into debt after leaving this school," Gill said. "I don't know what I'm going to do after next year, actually."

Gill's situation is similar to that of the thousands of college students who are struggling to keep up with rising tuition costs and increasing debt. According to an article from CNN Money, graduates from the Class of 2013 are facing

an average \$35,200 in college-related debt, the bulk of which comes from government loans. The amount of debt students accumulate has steadily increased from year to year, leaving students to choose between the quality of their education and the price of admission.

Building a better future — at a price

After experiencing a 3.9 percent increase, Elon's tuition crossed the \$40,000 threshold for the 2013-2014 school year. The increase wasn't unexpected, though: The cost of attendance at Elon has been steadily rising for the last decade, with increases sometimes as substantial as 8.6

percent in just one year.

According to Gerald Whittington, senior vice president for business, finance and technology, tuition increases are an inherent part of running a university and employing its workers.

"The single largest expense that we have at Elon is people costs — faculty, staff," Whittington said. "Those are salaries, health care, other benefits. So even if you did nothing else but say, 'We're just going to take care of those expenses,' it would take more to run the institution next year than it did this year."

Although administrators won't announce the 2014-2015 budget until February, Whittington did say cost of attendance is anticipated

to go up again, if only for “people costs.”

“When you grow the number of students, you’re growing the number of faculty and that type of thing,” he said. “The type of institution that you are — in our case, experiential education with lots of high-contact, high-impact opportunities for our students — those are labor-driven costs.”

Patrick Murphy, director of financial planning at Elon, also indicated tuition increases are somewhat inevitable, regardless of the state of the economy.

“There’s a good number of students that seem to feel that Elon lives in an economic

bubble where our costs don’t go up,” Murphy said. “And we have to pay for things like gasoline, teachers’ salaries, all the things that a household has to pay for. That’s why things go up each year.”

But Elon’s expenditures haven’t only been of the household variety. In 2012, a significant amount of money, \$254 million, was spent on buildings, landscaping and equipment. Simply put, Elon’s campus is expanding, and last year, the university spent almost eight times as much on constructing and maintaining buildings as it did on financial aid for students.

In addition to enhancing academic initia-

tives, establishing new standards for athletics and developing alumni programs, the Elon Commitment — a 10-year strategic plan for the university — focuses largely on building new facilities that will improve students’ quality of education.

Three of Elon’s newest facilities — the Station at Mill Point, Lakeside Dining Hall and the Numen Lumen Pavilion — landed on the Business Journal’s list of the Triad’s largest completed construction projects in the last year. The Station at Mill Point, which houses 324 juniors and seniors in two- and four-unit apartments, cost \$17 million, the 12th most expensive construction project in the surrounding area.

For many Elon students, the answer is simple: If Elon stops expanding, the cost of attendance will plateau.

Murphy assured students that is not the case. “It’s not like, when we raise tuition, that we’re just doing so arbitrarily,” he said. “It is very budget-based so we know exactly how much revenue we’re going to have coming in to pay for the things that the students are asking for.”

And according to Whittington, the expensive price tags on Elon’s new facilities are well worth the cost.

“Why are we getting bigger? Because everybody is beating down the door to come here,” Whittington said. “We’re doing something that people find value in. You actually get to do things [here] that, at a larger state institution, they just don’t have the resources to do. As long as we continue to have that, we’ll still be in demand. Great demand, as a matter of fact.”

Determining quality over quantity

As costs of attendance have risen nationwide, the value of a college education has become increasingly important.

According to CNN Money, only 12 percent of 2013 graduates felt their college education was not worth the debt they accumulated throughout four years. The majority of students, despite owing thousands upon graduation, felt as though the quality of their education was worth the cost.

“[Students] are looking at that cost-value proposition, and they’re saying, ‘Yeah, it might cost this, but it’s worth it because I’m going to have a return on my investment that’ll be sufficient for me and my family. It’ll provide opportunities and experiences that I’m just not going to get elsewhere,’” Whittington said.

Although he has a substantial financial bur-

den weighing on his shoulders, Gill said he believes the Elon education is of a high enough quality to warrant paying \$40,000 a year.

“I think, from what Elon offers, it’s going to be worth it,” Gill said. “I’m in the business school, and I have a lot more career potential. I love the one-on-one aspect, and I’ve been able to succeed in that environment.”

In fact, even though four other universities accepted Gill and offered him financial aid and scholarships, Elon’s curriculum outweighed all of that.

“I could have been going to Virginia Tech for probably half the price, but comparing business programs, I feel like I’ll get more out of being here than at that school,” he said.

The question now, though, is not whether Elon’s education is worth the price. It is whether Elon’s tuition will reach a number so high that the education is no longer worth it.

Whittington said he fears that will happen — it’s just a matter of when.

“We’re concerned about that because nobody has a real handle, nationally, about how the public is going to come down on the questions,” he said. “I think there will be some who will have that conversation with themselves and their families.”

But even for students who do find themselves in a financial bind, there are alternatives, Whittington said.

“We may perhaps see a change in the number of students who might take a year or two at a community college or public institution and then transfer [to Elon] for the last two or three years,” he said. “Many of our students get double majors and make themselves more competitive in the marketplace by having double majors. The question is whether that will continue.”

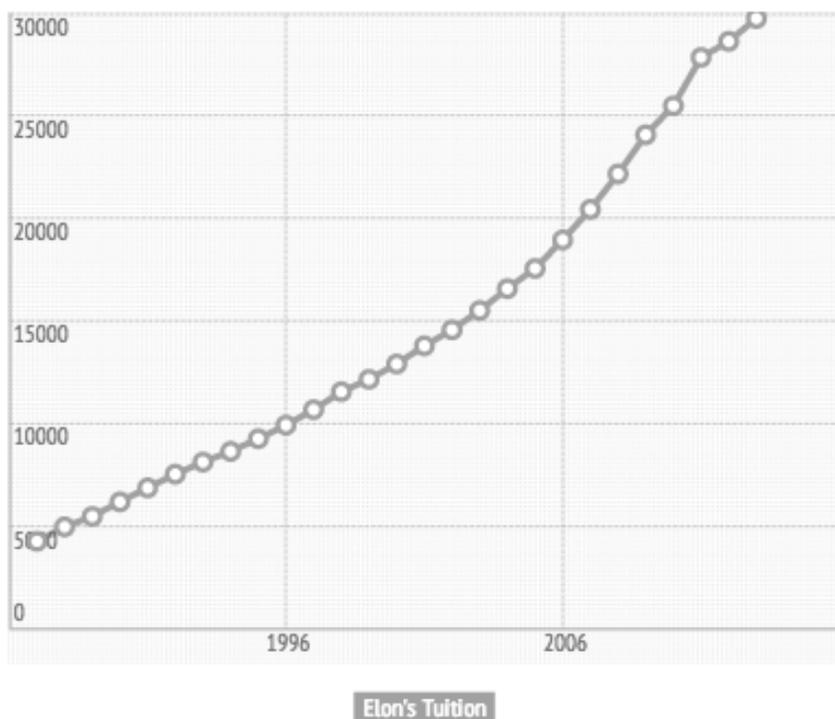
Although he didn’t anticipate attending community college, Gill has contemplated several of the options Whittington put forth.

“I considered the community college route, but my parents wanted me to go to a four-year college,” he said. “I’ve considered graduating early, and I still do. My current track is a double major, and I’d have to drop one of those majors to do that. But I’ve considered that, because it would save a substantial amount of money that would otherwise be debt.”

How Elon compares

For Gill and other students who are paying their way through college, the \$40,000 that Elon currently charges is quite steep.

Elon's tuition since 1987



● \$ 4,246

Elon's tuition cost in 1987

★ \$ 8,822

What that number equals in 2013-adjusted for inflation

But in comparison to other private four-year universities in North Carolina, Elon is actually on the cheaper end of the spectrum. Although Elon's cost of attendance is comparable to that of High Point University — about \$43,000 — it is far less expensive than Duke University and Wake Forest University, both of which cost full-time undergraduates about \$60,000 a year.

According to Murphy, putting things in perspective is crucial for Elon students who are struggling to pay tuition.

"If you compare our tuition to a lot of the other private schools that we're compared with, we're generally in the range of about \$10,000 less," Murphy said. "The dollar amount of tuition is very carefully thought out. We do map out everything that has to be paid for to be able to provide the services that the students want."

And yet, students like Gill still have a hard time meeting Elon's financial requirements, often because they are not given financial aid or scholarship money, even when it is well-deserved.

"I know I'm in that weird bracket where they're not going to pay me anything financially. What annoys me is, I have a 3.94 GPA at the moment," Gill said. "I'm an RA, I'm in two executive positions on campus, I've proven myself, I'm now a Business Fellow. They're not giving me any type of scholarship money, and I know kids here that are slacking off that are getting money through scholarships. I feel like they should do a re-evaluation of scholarship activity."

The "weird bracket" in which Gill's family resides is one that doesn't allow him to receive any financial aid from Elon. His father makes too much money to qualify for aid, but he does not make enough to front the entire cost of Elon with his salary alone.

Murphy said it is common for Elon students and their families to be essentially stuck in limbo.

"We do have a lot of students that are paying the full rate, but that's based on the results of the FAFSA [Free Application for Federal Student Aid] and CSS profile [which a student submits before applying to colleges]," Murphy said. "We get results that tell us what a family should be expected to pay toward education. Overall, we do spend a majority of our financial aid on the most needy students."

According to both Murphy and Whittington, Elon recognizes the need for more available financial aid. Elon is currently struggling to compete with universities like Duke and Wake

Forest, which have large endowments that provide plenty of scholarship money. To combat that, Elon completed the Ever Elon campaign in 2012, the school's first-ever campaign for endowments.

"We raised millions and millions and millions in endowment for scholarships," Whittington said. "We need to continue to do that. The cost of education is such that it's important to continue to do that."

Whittington also said it is largely the responsibility of the student's family to save tuition money throughout the years. Although Elon does offer a number of scholarships for select students participating in the Fellows programs, the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) and the engineering program, among others, families should not expect to rely on financial aid and scholarship money alone.

"Most of that advice that you hear — the talking heads on TV, 'Start saving for your children's education now' — it's the right advice," Whittington said. "If you did it, you'd be able to afford it. But if you don't, you're going to be saying, 'The cost of college is too much. I can't afford it.'"

Whittington isn't necessarily wrong. According to a June 2013 study published by Mother Jones, only 37 percent of middle-income parents said they had a plan to pay for college before their children enrolled. For high-income parents, 57 percent said they had a plan.

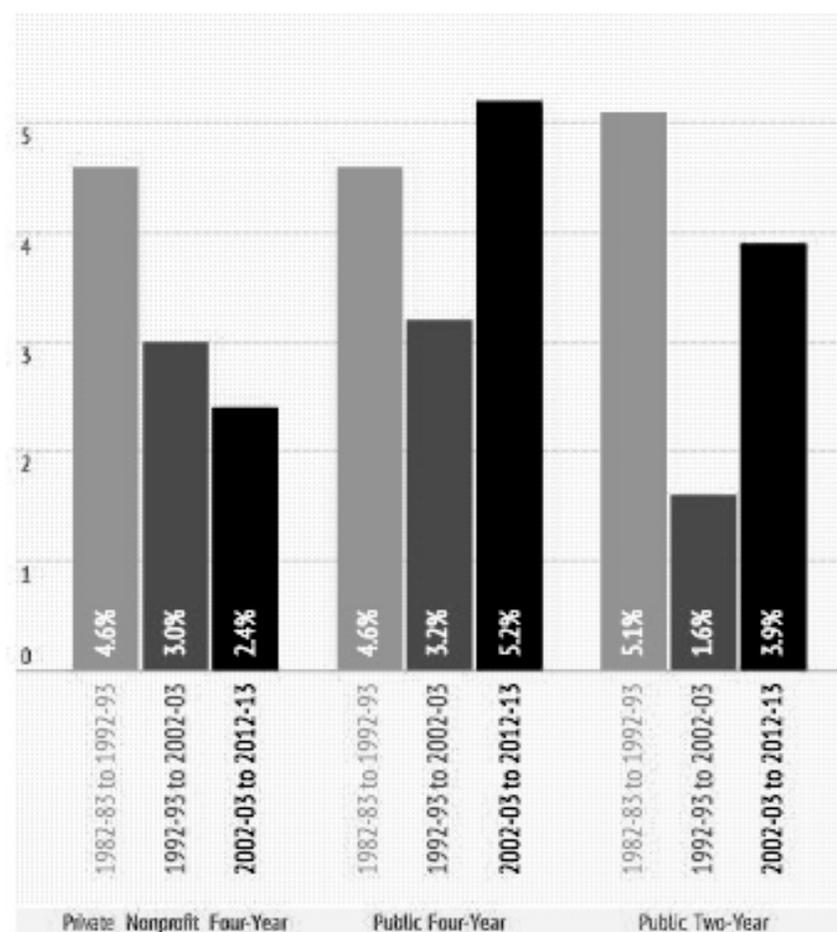
But Gill, whose parents saved for him before he went to college, said he feels differently, especially because he is working closely with his parents to pay Elon's tuition.

"They've saved me 'x' amount of money, but that 'x' amount of money is not going to be able to cover my four years here," Gill said. "My mom, who's been a stay-at-home mom, started working again just for me. And then I feel bad, as well. I have that type of weight on my shoulders. I have a lot of pressure to do well, be successful."

And in a college atmosphere of constant stress and studying, Gill said it's about more than just the money. It's about feeling wanted by one's school.

"It felt like Elon didn't want me, while these other schools [that offered me scholarship money] did," Gill said. "I was accepted, but I still didn't feel like I was wanted in that aspect. If you're a good student and you're doing well, you should feel like the school you're going to wants you, wants you enough to help you in some way." **\$**

That rate is different in Public and Private schools



\$31,900,000

Amount of financial aid Elon gave in 2012.



\$254,758,704

Amount of money Elon spent on buildings, landscaping, equipment etc...



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

College students won't be second-class

Last week, North Carolina politics made national news. Again.

As a general rule, when state politics hit the national scene, it's only because something has gone horribly, desperately wrong. And for at least one of these stories, that was certainly the case.

Aasif Mandvi of "The Daily Show" was kind enough to travel to Buncombe County, North Carolina to speak with Republican Precinct Chair Don Yelton. The topic was the same as it has been for months: North Carolina's stringent, comically inappropriate voter ID law.

Yelton explained clearly and concisely that the law was not intended to prevent the "one or two" cases of voter fraud every year. Instead, he explained through thinly veiled delight that, "the law is going to kick the Democrats in the butt."

It's more than a little unusual to see such transparency from a government official, but his actual message was hardly a surprise. Despite vocal arguments from N.C. House members and even Gov. Pat McCrory, the national consensus was the law was intended to keep Republicans

in place, at the expense of Democratic voters.

But what was surprising was how eager Yelton was to target the specific demographics he saw as unworthy of voting. And before poor people, even before African-Americans, the group Yelton is most eager to systematically disenfranchise is college students.

"If it hurts a bunch of college students too lazy to get up off their bohunkus [sic] and get a photo ID, so be it," he said.

Yelton is referring to a part of the law that forces students from out-of-state to apply for a new North Carolina ID in order to vote in local elections. Previously, students simply needed any photo ID, such as the one from the college they're attending, in order to participate.

But the law goes far beyond actually requiring government IDs to vote. House Bill 589 prevents 16- and 17-year-olds from preregistering to vote, and eliminates same-day voter registration. It moves many voting precincts off college campuses into far less accessible areas, and reduces the duration of the early voting

period. The law may intend to damage Democrats, but whether you're liberal or conservative, if you're in college, then you're a target of H.B. 589.

In 2012, more than 40 million Americans between the ages of 18 and 29 were eligible to vote. Nationally, youth voters make up about 20 percent of the total voting population, and generally, they tend to vote democratic. Last presidential election, two-thirds voted for Obama, while only one-third voted for Romney. The strategy behind H.B. 589 is sound, but the justification is beyond twisted.

Regardless of which party you support, North Carolina's voter ID law should be a slap in the face to every single college student. College-aged Republicans will face the same obstacles when voting as Democrats will. The bill doesn't target all Democrats, it targets all college students.

The ever-growing trend of viewing young people as lazy, disinterested and unworthy of respect in the public domain has spilled over into politics, and the North Carolina Republicans have decided to run with it.

The issue is less about Democrats or Republicans. Openly admitting in front of a live camera that a law is designed to weaken any group of voters is a massive distortion of the democratic process. Whether the disenfranchised group is conservative or liberal, black or white, rich or poor, the problem is the same. Democracy is intended to represent the views of everyone, not simply the ones deemed "worthy" of the privilege.

Each May, hundreds of thousands of college seniors adorn themselves in school colors, strap on square hats and listen as someone much older and much wiser tells them how important they are. They are told they are the next generation, the future of our nation, the ones who will have to clean up the mess that our parents have made before us. It's a nice speech, maybe even one that new grads will carry with them into new jobs and new cities.

But H.B. 589 and North Carolina lawmakers make it very clear that college students are not welcome in the current order, and until you turn 30, you can keep your opinion to yourself.

First Amendment protection doesn't end at T-shirts

Most of the time, going topless is considered indecent and, in some places, illegal. The most obvious reason we wear T-shirts is to cover ourselves and avoid breaking these rules.

Sometimes, the shirt we choose is our chance to express our opinions. There are countless T-shirts out there displaying jokes, making statements and advertising logos. That's why certain brands are more popular than others. It's unheard

of for someone to take legal action against a person wearing a shirt adorned with the Nike swoosh, but it's different when a T-shirt makes fun of the government.

In 2011, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the National Security Agency (NSA) issued a cease-and-desist order against T-shirt manufacturer Zazzle. The order was aimed at two shirts the company manufactured for LibertyManiacs.com, a libertarian product website. The shirts

in question featured parodies of the seals of the DHS and the NSA with the words "Department of Homeland Stupidity" and "The NSA: The only part of the government that actually listens" on the respective shirts. The two government organizations cried foul on the basis that it's a crime to use, mutilate or alter a government seal without permission. LibertyManiacs owner Dan McCall sued the DHS and the NSA on Oct. 29, citing his right under the First Amendment to parody government symbols.

Looking at precedent, McCall has a strong case. The First Amendment was created so Americans could speak openly about their government. In 1971, the United States Supreme Court ruled in *Cohen v. California* that words on clothes are protected under the freedom of speech guaranteed by the First Amendment. The jacket under scrutiny in that case displayed the words "F**k the Draft," referring to U.S. military recruitment. The DHS and NSA shirts didn't take it quite that far.

Doesn't the DHS have something better to do than try to censor a T-shirt calling them stupid? I doubt wearing such a shirt would

be in any way threatening to our national security. And now that it's being revealed to the public that the NSA has been listening to our phone conversations (shocker), what's the harm in poking fun at it? All the hubbub has only helped LibertyManiacs sell more of these shirts, which are now advertised on the site as "the T-shirts the NSA and DHS don't want you to wear."

The DHS and the NSA are acting like pouting children in this situation. People have been criticizing the government since the

concept of government was created. In modern society, it's part of the foundation of democracy. The government can only remedy its problems if the people it serves are able to give feedback, whether through direct or satirical delivery.

I'm not saying a T-shirt calling the government stupid is the way to fix the broken system. That will take much more work. But restricting citizens' right to wear certain T-shirts isn't helping anybody, and it's certainly not finding a solution. It's censorship of free speech and it's unconstitutional.



Tyler Oberle
Columnist

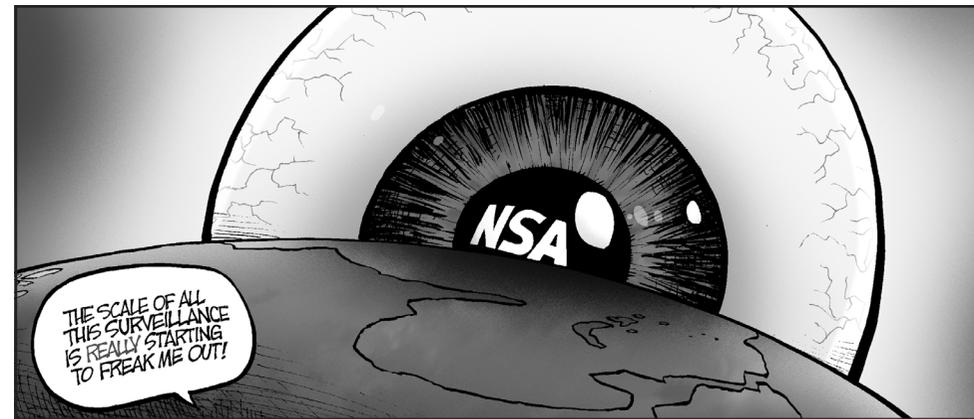
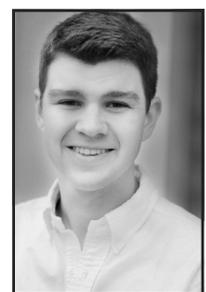


PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Obamacare demonstrates pitfalls of partisan politics

The Affordable Care Act (ACA), or Obamacare as it is more commonly known, has been in the news for years as President



Alex Francis
Columnist

Obama's landmark, controversial health care legislation. Requiring universal health care coverage for all Americans, Obamacare has reemerged into the national spotlight. It was a major talking point in the negotiations that led to the government shut-down, and the market-

place HealthCare.gov went live on October 1. Passed with brute political force by President Obama in 2010, the law generated controversy from the start as an example of unwavering partisan politics. The law is still so reviled by far-right Republicans that they were willing to literally let the government shut down for 16 days this October, to the cost and detriment of the American people. While Republicans as a whole un-

fairly received the bulk of negative attention, Democrats have been equally unmoving in their cross-party politics of recent years.

Recent headlines have centered on the unacceptable failure of the HealthCare.gov website — the glitchy, confusing, flawed centerpiece of Obamacare. But look beyond the website's flaws to find the deeper problem that Obamacare can serve to represent: partisan politics are not even remotely in the best interest of Americans. Democrats and Republicans are equally responsible for the dysfunctional state of Washington.

Obamacare demonstrates a bill lacking in any sort of bipartisan cooperation. The bill required 218 votes to pass in the House and barely squeaked by with a vote of 219-212, not the kind of thorough support that a sweeping health care bill should receive. It marked the first time in history that landmark legislation passed without a single cross-over vote. The Obama administration lacks dealmakers who can reach across the aisle and compromise with the Republican party.

Obama promised the ACA would bring

health care that was both affordable and placed an emphasis on increased patient care. But Obamacare simply shifts the disproportionate costs of health care affecting our system to younger citizens. It not only raises health care premiums for many people who Obama falsely claimed could keep their current plans, but it will further strain an already overwhelmed network of health care providers.

That doesn't sound like something that will benefit all Americans. It sounds like a flawed, misguided solution that simply transfers the burden to those without stake in the problem, passed without bipartisan effort or support.

The issue with partisan politicians comes from the fundamental fact that operating along party lines discourages cooperation or collaboration between members of different ideological backgrounds. Our politicians are operating at a sort of zero-sum policymaking process in which they feel that something must be lost in order for something to be gained. Politicians must start learning how to

collaborate in order for both parties to make gains, while first and foremost benefiting American citizens.

Maybe if our Congress would have worked together like adults, they could pass a health care bill that did not inspire such vehement opposition. Instead, Congress continues to behave like children, hurling juvenile insults across the aisle at the expense of any sort of productive discussion, using the nation's political wellbeing as a way to boost their personal power, stroke their ludicrous egos and treat our government like a joke.

There is no tactfulness, no respect, no cordiality across party lines anymore. Senators and representatives alike are more interested in treating Congress as their own personal playground than they are in making lasting, beneficial changes to help Americans. Pointing fingers is easy but making lasting change is what we really need right now, and that will require the incompetent, narrow-minded politicians on both sides of the aisle to start behaving like they have any concern for the American people.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

With 20 minutes left on the clock, the countdown is displayed in the crowd during the opening ceremonies of the 2012 Olympics at Olympic Stadium in London. The 2012 games aimed to be the most sustainable ever.

London avoids wasted space, promotes sustainability 1 year after Olympics

Tori Howlett
International Correspondent

LONDON — “Sustainability is like teenage sex. Everybody says they’re doing it, very few people actually are doing it. Those that are doing it are doing it badly.”

Students were greeted with this quote from Chris Spray, environmental director at Northumbrian Water, when they sat down to attend the Foundation for International Education’s sustainability lecture in London in October.

Presenter Olly Lawder spoke to students about how the city of London has been affected by the 2012 Summer Olympics. Lawder is a creative planner at Futtera, a sustainable communications agency that worked with the city of London during the 2012 Olympic Games.

“What does it actually mean to be ‘the most sustainable Olympics ever’ when no previous Olympic Games have even come close?” Lawder said.

Before London captured the world stage to host the 2012 Summer Olympic Games, the country made three promises during its bid to host the games. Lon-

don promised to be the most inspiring, the most diverse and the most sustainable Olympic Games yet. A year later, the city is looking back to gauge its progress and development.

Inspiring a generation was London’s first goal. According to the BBC, there are 1.4 million more people playing a sport regularly in the United Kingdom since 2005, when London won the bid to host the Olympics.

In a video released by the mayor’s promotional organization, London mayor Boris Johnson said he thinks the games were a huge success that gripped people in a way the city couldn’t have anticipated. According to the U.K.’s Office for National Statistics, the games attracted 680,000 overseas visitors to London during the Olympics.

“The opening ceremony did a great job of inspiring people, and the Paralympics changed the way people thought about disability,” Lawder said. “But when it came to sustainability, despite all the good individual initiatives, they failed to really excite the British public about the true value of sustainability to the nation. That was a

missed opportunity.”

The New York Times reported last year that the Beijing Olympics “Bird’s Nest” Stadium has scarcely been used since the end of the 2008 games. It also reported that 21 of the 22 stadiums constructed for the 2004 games in Athens had fallen into disuse as of 2009. London hopes to avoid this fate.

London attempted sustainability for the 2012 games as it encouraged use of the London Underground for transportation to and from the venues and created a new recycling campaign around the Olympic Park. The city also tried to utilize other pre-existing venues like Wimbledon Stadium instead of building more semi-permanent structures. Even the basketball arena constructed for the games was designed as a flat pack and could be sent to Rio de Janeiro for use in the 2016 Olympic Games.

Today, London’s Olympic Park is undergoing renovations to become Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, a huge development to make way for new schools and businesses. The Athlete’s Village is being converted into both private and so-

cial housing, while venues created for the games are being adapted into multi-use sporting facilities for the local community.

Tricia Hogan is a junior at Elon University. She said she thinks that, regardless of how sustainable the actual games were, it is great to see London recycling the venues.

“It is good to see that the city of London is reusing the buildings and not letting anything go to waste,” Hogan said.

All of this is part of a larger plan to revitalize London’s East End. By 2030, the Olympic Park is expected to be home to five new neighborhoods containing new schools and playgrounds. This renovation will open in phases and will cost London roughly 300 million pounds, yet the cost is part of the original Olympic budget.

“I think that the way they are breathing new life into London’s east area will be beneficial to the entire city. It seems as though they are really trying to foster a sense of community in the area around the Olympic Park,” Hogan said. “I wouldn’t want something as spectacular as the Olympic Games to be responsible for architectural waste.”

Spanish reforms threaten education, incite national strikes

Victoria Rand
International Correspondent

SEVILLE, Spain — Students, teachers and parents protested Oct. 24 against cuts and reforms to the education system in Spain. The protestors chanted with signs held high as they marched through the streets.

Local residents were protesting the Law to Improve the Quality of Education (LOMCE) that the highly unpopular education minister of Spain, Jose Ignacio Wert, recently proposed. The law would institute harsh cuts to the education system as a whole, including the layoff of tens of thousands of professors along with school budget cuts. A lack of teachers would create an unbalanced student-teacher ratio. Some of these cuts have already begun to take place within the last few years, since the initiative is not new to Spain.

Luis Laplaza is a part-time professor at the University of Seville. Although he did not participate in the strike, he said he feels strongly about the cause.

“One month of protest would better demonstrate to the government just how se-

rious we are,” Laplaza said.

Laplaza decided not to participate in the strike because he did not want to disrespect his superiors. While his literature and cooking class was normally held at the University of Seville, Laplaza opted to change the location of his class the day of the strike. Instead of meeting in the Old Tobacco Factory, the main university building, it took place in a kitchen blocks away from the university.

So far, the protests throughout Spain have drawn large crowds. In Seville and Granada, 20,000 people gathered to protest the education reforms. Barcelona saw an influx of 170,000 protestors and Madrid saw an unprecedented 300,000. The protestors are attempting to defend their right to excellent, free state education. Grammar school through high school is free in Spain, and the usual cost of enrollment in a public university is around 1,000 euros per academic year.

A poster hanging in the University of Seville outlines the strike's three main points: the approval of LOMCE and its cuts to education, the new decree of scholarships and increase in taxes and the expulsion of teachers and faculty.

Signs advertising the strike were seen

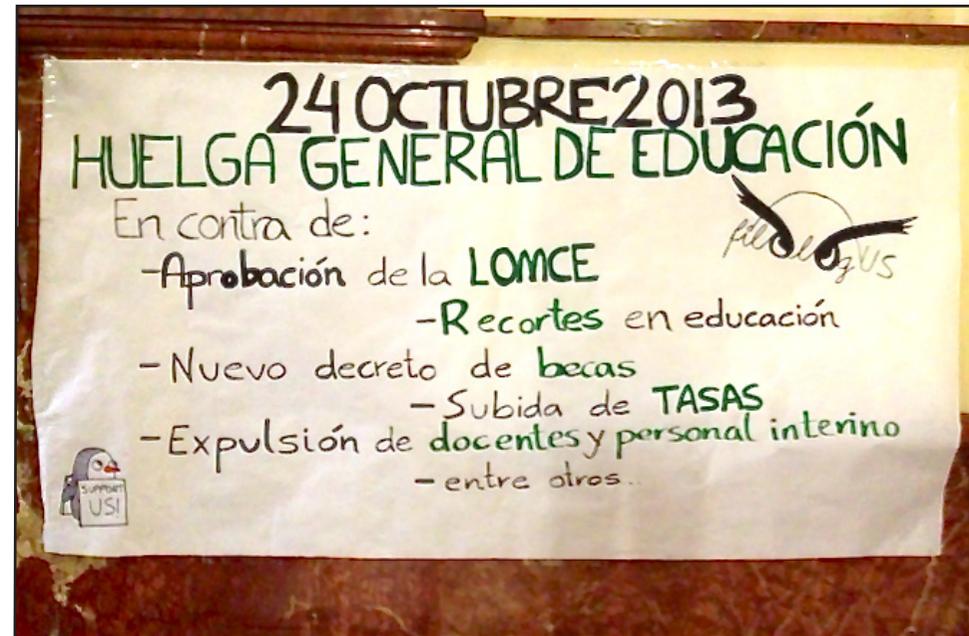


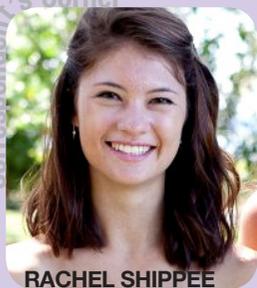
PHOTO SUBMITTED BY VICTORIA RAND
A banner depicts the strikes against education reforms, including the Law to Improve the Quality of Education.

across the University of Seville's campus in the weeks prior to the protests. The popular slogan declared, “Public education of everyone and for everyone.” Students set up tables in the university to promote the strike and general protest.

While Laplaza might support the cause, he said he doesn't believe one day of protesting will have much of an effect.

“One day of strike and a little protesting doesn't mean anything for the government,” Laplaza said.

Correspondent's Corner
Correspondent's Corner
Correspondent's Corner
Correspondent's Corner
Correspondent's Corner



RACHEL SHIPPEE

In Argentina, one of the most pressing issues in women's rights is abortion. Those in favor of legalizing abortion are fighting for aborto legal, seguro y gratis (legalized, secure and free abortion).

Sept. 28 was Fight for Decriminalization and Legalization of Abortion

Argentiniens protest to legalize abortion

in Latin America and the Caribbean Day. At 6 p.m., hundreds of protestors met at the Argentine Congress building to begin their march. They protested until they reached Plaza de Mayo, which sits in front of Casa Rosada, the executive office of the president of Argentina. Plaza de Mayo has been a political space since May Revolution in 1810, which resulted in Argentina's independence.

The national campaign for the right to legal, safe and free abortions in Buenos Aires organized the march in order to reclaim the debate on the Voluntary Termination of Pregnancy Act the campaign presented for the fourth time in 2012. The protestors either belonged to one of the women's organizations working on the

campaign or were unaffiliated individuals who chose to showcase their support. Young women raced from

sidewalk to sidewalk with spray paint and stencils, ready to graffiti park benches, building walls and crosswalks with phrases such as “Aborto Legal” and “Bisexuales Feministas.”

Anti-abortion protestors were also present, but were strongly guarded by two layers of policemen and women. Their one large sign read, “Si A La Vida, No Al Aborto” (Yes to Life, No to Abortion). All protestors were peaceful and the police did not have to intervene.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS
Local protestors marched to the Plaza de Mayo, in front of the Casa Rosada, which is the executive mansion and office for the president.

Anatomy students work themselves to the bone in Elon's cadaver lab

Abby Franklin
Senior Reporter

There are dead bodies on this campus.

They're kept beneath Elon University's McMichael Science Building, stowed away deep inside a laboratory's freezer. Within the freezer, the bodies lay one atop the other, bunk-bed style akin to a summer camp cabin.

When descending the stairs to McMichael's ground level, it gets gradually darker. It also gets gradually cooler. The freezer radiates cold temperatures, but is it the freezer alone, or is it the dead?

This is the myth often associated with Elon's cadaver lab.

The Elon cadaver lab is the only one of its kind in the state of North Carolina, and one of five in the nation that allows undergraduate study. The opportunity anatomy students are given to dissect a human donor is unparalleled, according to the lab's student overseer, junior Ann Marie Nunnelee.

"There's a plaque in the lab that says, 'This is a place where death nurtures life,'" Nunnelee said. "I don't think there could be a more appropriate way to put it. Through someone else's unfortunate demise, I've gotten an educational opportunity that I could never imagine."

As an incoming freshman, Nunnelee was part of a small group that got to take the anatomy course at the start of college (the opportunity is no longer available without prerequisites).

After taking the course with Matthew Clark, associate professor of biology and head of the cadaver lab, she said she became enthralled with the human body and its ability to recover from injury. It was then that the anatomy lab became "her second home."

But Nunnelee said she realizes the stigma surrounding the lab she supervises and knows it could come across as creepy that she spends so much time with the dead.

"The anatomy lab is not a scary place," she said. "It might be under McMichael, but it's just the ground floor. It's well-lit and there are plants in there so it doesn't smell so bad. The people who go down there a lot care that [the bodies] are treated with respect. You have to think that this is a person



Elon University anatomy students dissect the body of a human donor while working in the cadaver lab. The lab, located in the McMichael Science Building, is the only one of its kind in North Carolina. It is also one of only five cadaver labs in the nation to allow undergraduate study. PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MATTHEW CLARK

as well as someone's family member."

Nunnelee said she likes to emphasize this human reality to her fellow students at the end of the semester.

"Before students even enter the lab, we emphasize how to respect the body," she said. "Then at the end of the semester, I'll come in and tell them about the person they've worked with in an informal setting."

Through Clark and Nunnelee's experience with dissecting human donors, they said they've acquired the ability to separate the body and its unique parts into regions — upper extremity and brachial instead of arm, thorax and scapular instead of shoulder blade. Their approach is strictly scientific. That is, until a donor's tattoo or his or her painted nails come into view.

"There are things that make them more human," Nunnelee said. "Myself and other members of TEATAP [The Elon Anatomy Teaching Assistant Program] were flipping the bodies once because, you know, they

start on their stomach and then they have to go on their back. We went to flip the body and air had gotten into his digestive system, so when we flipped him back over, his mouth was slightly open and the gas within his digestive system was pushed out through his vocal chords to make a groan. That was possibly the scariest moment of my life."

To Nunnelee, instances like this remind her of stereotypes surrounding the dead. The difference is that those occurrences can be easily explained.

"Dr. Clark came over and said, 'Come on, guys' and showed us the air bubble in the digestive system that caused it,'" Nunnelee said.

Anatomy students at Elon are able to identify aspects of the human body with this hands-on opportunity that they normally wouldn't be able to have until graduate school. Elon students have even found cancer that was not accounted for on the donor's death certificate while dissecting a

body.

Clark said he wants the Elon community to know that the process of receiving the human donors is handled very formally.

"The bodies are sent to us from medical schools around the country that have the legal right to prepare human donors for anatomical study," he said. "We don't get the donors from the local mortician down the street somewhere. There is a federal regulation for how we get the donors."

Clark said he is asked questions concerning the handling of the bodies frequently — by students and faculty members alike — that are congruent with the cadaver lab myth instead of the educational cadaver lab Elon students actually experience.

"We're not in there doing the stuff they do in Halloween movies, running around with body parts and whatnot," Clark said. "Anatomy is an educational course. When people mention anatomy in association with Halloween, I respond that the dead can't hurt you, but they can teach you."



RUTH GRAY | Staff Photographer

All That JAS offers the option for customers to customize anything, from koozies to letter shirts.

Celebrating in style

All That JAS prepares for 10th anniversary

Leena Dahal
Senior Reporter

In November 2003, Michaëlle Graybeal decided to pursue her passion for creation by opening All That JAS, a boutique store offering unique apparel and customized merchandise to fit individual styles.

Ten years and 70,000 customized shirts later, Graybeal said All That JAS has developed into a highly successful store. To celebrate its 10th anniversary, the store will be hosting an open house with refreshments, a raffle and a 10 percent discount Nov. 9 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Looking back on the past decade, Graybeal said one of the store's biggest changes has been moving to and from multiple locations.

"We originally started in an old building in downtown Burlington," she said. "As more students from Elon [University] began visiting our store, we realized we had to be closer to them."

Two and a half years later, All That JAS moved into a house behind the Town of Elon's U.S. Post Office, only to find out another two and a half years later the space was going to be sold.

"After desperately looking around, we were fortunate enough to find our current location on North Williamson Avenue," Graybeal said.

Aside from the choice of location, Elon students have an even greater connection with the store. According to Graybeal, it was an Elon student who influenced her decision to

open the boutique.

"[Elon alumna] Shannon Kilgariff was working with me in my cheerleading business and expressed how difficult it was to buy customized Greek merchandise," Graybeal said. "It all began growing from there. We started learning how to make letter shirts, and it quickly became a labor of love."

The original company was titled "Jump And Shout," which later was shortened to "JAS." But as the store shifted from selling cheerleading items to customized apparel and Greek merchandise, they decided to keep "JAS" but change its meaning — the acronym now stands for "Just About Shirts" as well as "Jewelry, Accessories, Shirts."

Elon senior and frequent All That JAS shopper Jenna Sonlin said she believes All That JAS is a powerful force that attracts students from all over the area.

"I think it really says something that people drive a half-hour from High Point just for All That JAS," she said. "They also do significant business with...[other] states and, through the addition of its eCommerce site, the store now sells customized apparel to online shoppers across the United States."

Sonlin said the store is truly one of a kind, not only because there aren't many stores similar in nature in the area, but also because the customer service experience is unlike any other.

"The employees form such tight relationships with Michaëlle and the team becomes more like a family," she said. "When you shop,



RUTH GRAY | Staff Photographer

All That JAS assistant manager Vivian Splawn does paperwork as she oversees the store. All That JAS has a staff of about 15 employees who assist customers with picking out products and organizing special orders.

there is always somebody helping you and asking you what you need. The whole experience is so welcoming."

But despite the staff's efforts to be friendly, a survey done by Live Oak Communications indicates a common misconception about the store is preventing some students from giving it a chance.

"We surveyed 500 Elon students and alumni and found that many people thought the store only sold Greek merchandise, which caused some freshmen to be too intimidated to pay All That JAS a visit," said senior Kara Damiano, a senior account executive at Live Oak.

According to Damiano, the store has made it a point to focus more on customizable monograms and apparel while still offering Greek merchandise.

"If you walk by the window display, you'll notice there's so much more than Greek apparel," she said. "They do a ton of personalization and are willing to respond to almost every idea customers have. It's so much more than just a Greek store."

In fact, customers at All That JAS said they take pride in knowing items from the store are one of a kind.

"I prefer to buy Elon apparel from All That JAS because I don't want what everyone else has," said senior Lizzy Ballard. "Then I have a cute and unique way to show my school spirit."

As the store's pioneer of creativity, Graybeal credits her success to her dedication.

"You have to have passion for what you do," she said. "If you have the passion for it, everything else will fall into place. We love being at Elon and we love coming to work everyday."

Born in Elon, raised in a glass

Fat Frogg owners partner with alumnus to create specialty 'Maroon Ale' Elon brew

Tony Weaver, Jr.
Senior Reporter

Elon University alumni Peter Ustach '09, Jeff MacKenzie '78 and Toby Arnheim '07 have an idea brewing.

In recent years, North Carolina has received significant recognition for its beer industry. The 2013 "State of the Craft Beer Industry" report shows North Carolina setting the pace for growth of new breweries with a 23 percent increase in 2011. Specifically, Asheville's Highland Brewing Company has received medals at both the World Beer Cup and the Great American Beer Festival.

With the positive reputation North Carolina is earning in the brewing industry, the thought came to the alumni's minds to create an official Elon beer in honor of their alma mater.

Ustach and MacKenzie are the co-owners of Pandora's Pies and Fat Frogg. The pair has created establishments that contribute to life at Elon, and they said they hope their beer will be another significant contribution to the Elon community.

On behalf of Fat Frogg, Ustach and MacKenzie will visit Highland Brewing Company and will collaborate with Arnheim, who works at the brewery, to create a beer that is unique to Elon.

Fat Frogg is one of four bars in the country to have this opportunity, according to Ustach. He said he wants the Elon beer to be a symbol of school pride.

"We wanted to make the name something that was recognizable with Elon," he said. "To do that, we had to find a name that would resonate."

Initially, names such as "The Dr. Daniele Draft" were tossed around, but the alumni settled on the name "Maroon Ale."

"Since Elon means 'oak,' we're going to soak a red ale in oak bourbon barrels," Ustach said.

The brewing process will use the barrels to enhance the taste of the beer. They plan to incorporate locally grown ingredients so it will truly be a product of Elon.



TIM DEWITT | Staff Photographer
Peter Ustach '09 (pictured) co-owns Fat Frogg and Pandora's Pies with Jeff MacKenzie '78.

"It will definitely be on tap at Pandora's Pies, West End Bar and Fat Frogg," he said.

Elon junior Catherine Leonard said she's excited about the idea.

"I think that sounds like a really interesting idea," she said. "I am always looking to see new ways the school and the community develop Elon pride, and an Elon beer sounds like a cool, new way of doing that. I would be excited to try an Elon beer."

Other students were concerned about the quality of the beer.

"That would be kind of cool, but it can't be too expensive and it has to be good," said junior Jake Liles.

Some students were concerned about the concept of the beer being associated specifically with Elon as a university.

"It sounds like a good gesture, but I don't know if the university would condone that," said senior Sarah Gilliard.

Maroon Ale will be available for all students of legal drinking age in February 2014, according to Ustach.



TIM DEWITT | Staff Photographer
Maroon Ale, Ustach and MacKenzie's official Elon beer, will be brewed at Highland Brewing Company in Asheville using only locally grown ingredients from Elon. The beer should be available by February 2014.

Four mock, diverse weddings announced for Numen Lumen

Dalton Cox
Senior Reporter

Though one may be guilty of meticulously planning for that “big day” via Pinterest, marriage ceremonies are the furthest thing from the minds of most Elon University undergraduates. The Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life is working to change that.

“Four Weddings and an Understanding” is a series of four mock wedding ceremonies, receptions and discussions that will be held in the Sacred Space of the Numen Lumen Pavilion throughout the current academic year.

The idea for the series came from a discussion Jan Fuller, university chaplain, had with junior LeeAnna Matarazzo during Spring Convocation 2013 in which they examined the possibility of sponsoring a comparative series of religious ceremonies. After discussing the suggestion during the summer, the Truitt Center staff began conceptualizing the first interfaith program they all planned together.

The first of these weddings was a Roman Catholic wedding Oct. 21, during which Truitt Center student interns



In “Four Weddings and an Understanding,” sophomore Jessica Blast and senior Mateo Gaitan Granados were married in a mock Roman Catholic wedding. The ceremony was presided over by the Rev. Gerry Waterman.

sophomore Jessica Bast and senior Mateo Gaitan Granados were “married” by the Rev. Gerry Waterman, the Catholic campus minister. The bride and groom were responsible for selecting the biblical readings, choosing a color scheme for their wedding parties and other such

practical planning.

“As a graduating college student, I have been thinking about other things than marriage,” Granados said. “Going through this experience allowed me to project myself in years to come and showed me the importance of what’s

Visiting poet guides aspiring writers with fresh voice, new perspective

Jessica Petrocchi
Senior Reporter

Joseph Millar is not a stereotypical poet. Millar has not been a poet his whole life. He said he worked many other jobs, ranging from telephone repairman to commercial fisherman.

As the author of “Overtime,” “Fortune” and “Blue Rust,” Millar visited Elon University for a guest reading of some of his work Oct. 29 in Johnston Hall.

“You have to be your own best motivator,” Millar said during a visit to an intermediate poetry class. He told stories about many different topics, ranging from nuns turned poets to crazed fishermen brothers.

Elon’s Department of English brought Millar to campus so students could listen to a new perspective for guidance. In addition to his reading, Millar visited vari-

ous creative writing classes throughout the week to talk about his own work, answer questions and provide advice to promising writers on campus.

“We haven’t really had this kind of writer, which is more working-class, a poet who really emphasizes the economics of everyday life, the difficulties of everyday life,” said Kevin Boyle, professor of English. “He’s had a couple of marriages. It’s just nice to have somebody who’s not your traditional academic kind of poet.”

Millar’s take on poetry sounds simple: If there’s not enough, put more stuff in it. But in the poetry classes he visited, he was able to look at a student’s writing and immediately improve it.

“It’s part of your job as a writer to look at the world and stay open to it, and the people around you won’t even know you’re doing that,” Millar said.

When Millar started writing, he focused on fiction. He said he was great with descriptions but didn’t know what to make happen. With that in mind, he tried his hand at poetry.

“We think it’s important for students to hear other voices besides our own,” Boyle said. “Sometimes writers have different aesthetics than ours, so it’s nice for us to get exposed to those.”

Besides reading lots of poetry, Millar said he uses jazz music by musicians such as Ray Charles as an inspiration for his writing. He also looks at paintings by artists like Rembrandt to think about his work in new ways.

Every year, the Department of English invites one poet, one fiction writer and one nonfiction writer to campus. Professors in the department try to bring in authors and writers who have published two or three

books and are successful in their respective fields.

“I just have loved his poems for a few years, so you always try to get somebody who you’re enthusiastic about,” Boyle said. “I feel kind of drawn to his poems.”

“Even though the visiting writer might say similar things to what we’re saying, it seems like it always has a big effect on students when someone outside comes in and talks to them,” Boyle said. “They seem to respond in a fresh way to the new voice.”

For the department, the most important part of bringing writers to campus is ensuring they’re somebody whose writing evokes passion and creative thought in both the students and professors.

“We picked the ones we did because we thought we could pull them off, because we have leadership in those communities on campus and because we felt they were a little bit foreign to most of our students,” Fuller said. The aim of the series is to prompt students who attend several of these weddings to begin to compare and ask questions about the ceremonial intricacies.

Arts & Entertainment

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"Dancing in the Black Box" showcases five student works as well as pieces choreographed by faculty members. On the left, freshman Lucas Melfi and junior Kate Phinney perform a piece by guest choreographer Gaspard Louis.

ALL PHOTOS BY ASHLEY KING | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

'Dancing in the Black Box' to showcase new choreography in intimate performance

Casey Brown
Senior Reporter

For students in Elon University's dance program, fall is synonymous with the main stage show, "Dancing in the Black Box," which runs through Homecoming weekend this year.

Assistant Professor of dance Jen Metcalf, this year's director, said Homecoming is a perfect time for the show, especially this year since it showcases work from choreographers with different connections to Elon.

"We're using faculty work up against student works," Metcalf said. "The student works were chosen from the informal showing at Choreography Salon, and we actually chose five works because there were so many strong works. We even have a piece — a duet — choreographed by Michelle Micca, a 2010 alumna who graduated from our program and has been working in New York City."

Alongside Metcalf and Micca is Jane Wellford, professor of dance, who also choreographed several pieces.

Joining the many Elon-connected choreographers is a special guest choreographer, Gaspard Louis. Born and raised in Haiti, Louis is globally known for work with his company, Pilobolus Dance Theatre, which plays with light and shadows to create complex images on backdrops for their pieces. Louis currently directs The American Dance Festival's outreach program, which offers free dance courses to young performers. Metcalf said she has been a fan of Louis' work for a while and was thrilled when he agreed to choreograph a piece for the show.

One of the dancers in Louis' pieces will be junior Kate Phinney. Phinney said she originally thought she would not be chosen for the piece because she auditioned with the male-choreographed part. Louis chose her, she said, because of her strength and ability to dance in both male and female-choreographed parts.

For Phinney, auditioning and working with Louis has been a crash course in the real world of dance, giving her insight that she may not have received from another Elon dance experience.

"The most exciting part was the real audition scenario," Phinney said. "Louis knew

nothing about me, and I had to show him I had what he was looking for. It has been a real world experience for me. Louis has been energetic and positive. He challenges [his dancers] as a professional would."

This will be Metcalf's second year directing the annual show and it is a position she has grown to enjoy. She said the experience allows her to help dancers of all levels get their work seen and voices heard.

"It is really exciting to organize a dance production and have such strong student work next to faculty work," Metcalf said. "The pieces have different voices, and each should be heard, no matter what level they're at. When you organize a dance concert, it's like organizing a dinner party. Every dish is important. It just depends on how you serve it."

As assistant to the director, senior Julie Crothers has been helping Metcalf with the logistics of the show — communicating with the rest of the Department of Performing Arts about show dates and times and acting as a liaison between Metcalf and dancers. Crothers said this position has

given her insight into a part of the dance world she has never considered.

"It allows me to see the bigger picture of everything that must go into making a dance concert come together and be successful," Crothers said. "I've learned a lot through working with a variety of different people about

things I never would have thought of had I just been a performer or choreographer."

Last year, 33 dancers dueted with two emotions rarely seen together for a single performance: humor and violent aggression. The eight pieces ranged from intense fight-like scenes to lighter and less tense performances. In 2011, "Dancing in the Black Box" focused on dancer's interpretations and feelings toward a particular subject. Jane Wellford, professor of performing arts, choreographed "There is a Time," which was her artistic response to events, both positive and negative, that were currently happening around the world.

This year, Metcalf and Crothers have more in store for the audience than just an interesting and creative show.

During their Wednesday night rehearsal, Metcalf will welcome young dancers from the surrounding communities to see "Dancing in the Black Box." These dancers will also be able to ask the performers

about dancing in college, and college in general. Metcalf has been working with Maine Pointe Dancewear, a Burlington dancewear store, to sponsor a raffle for the young guests.

Metcalf taught the Dance for the Camera course as part of the Elon in LA program and brought a piece of Los Angeles back to Elon to show a different side of the dance world before the show: videos of her

students.

Even the piece Metcalf choreographed has an LA influence: Betty Gold, a Los Angeles-based large-scale sculptor she met in the city while teaching the program. Metcalf will use music, movement and backdrops inspired by Gold's artwork in her piece of the show.

Metcalf said she is very excited for the show to premiere because it offers an opportunity for the dancers and crew members involved to get experience in their various fields.

"I think the show is important for everyone involved," Metcalf said. "It is great performance experience for the dancers. The choreographers can have their work seen. Rehearsal assistants realize they may want to take this role on in a professional company. Even the technical crew gets to practice."

"Dancing in the Black Box" opens Nov. 7 and will show in the Black Box Theatre until Nov. 9.



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Men's basketball battles expectations as season approaches

Andrew Wilson
Sports Editor

High expectations can kill a team before a season starts. With the 2013-2014 college basketball season approaching, the Elon University men's basketball team has dealt with its fair share of them.

As the reigning Southern Conference North Division champions, the Phoenix returns their top six players from the 2012-2013 squad that fell in the semifinals of the SoCon Tournament in March to the College of Charleston Cougars.

Three of the team's four marquee seniors — guard Jack Isenbarger and forwards Lucas Troutman and Ryley Beaumont — were selected to this year's Preseason All-SoCon team. As a result, the Phoenix was selected as the conference favorite in both the Media and Coaches' preseason polls.

Elon has never won a Southern Conference championship, but those daunting ex-

pectations hang heavy on the program with the Phoenix just days away from kicking off what many think could finish as the best season in program history.

But how do head coach Matt Matheny and the team deal with the expectations? They don't listen. At all.

"We really don't talk about that stuff that much," Matheny said. "It's exciting in some ways because it adds buzz, which I think the campus has and the community has. But it doesn't have any value once we start playing. We've been on both ends of the preseason prognostications so it's better to be on the positive end and it's a sign of growth in our program, but we don't talk about it."

As for players, Isenbarger didn't even know of some of the USA Today preseason tournament selections. He said it's not about where media picks them, but what they actually do on the court, and the best way to succeed on the court is to not think

about preseason recognitions.

"Because we have veteran guys who have played in this conference and know what it takes to win, we don't get caught up in all the hype and we stay level-headed and humble," Isenbarger said. "We have to stay hungry because we know we haven't earned anything yet."

Walking off the court after falling to the Cougars in the semifinals of the SoCon Tournament, Matheny said he and the team remember the feeling and the taste vividly.

"We have a pretty vivid memory of the feeling walking off the court at the conference tournament last year," Matheny said. "As exciting as last year was, we have a little bit of a sour taste in our mouth with the way it ended in the conference tournament."

While Elon fell short of the NCAA Tournament, the Phoenix earned a bid to the CollegeInsider.com Tournament. In the first round, Elon met Canisius College and fell 69-53.

Losing back-to-back games to finish the season left the Phoenix hungry for more in 2013-2014, which Matheny said has helped the Phoenix shake off the preseason accolades.

"We didn't play well in the CIT, but I think the sour taste has driven us to have a good spring, summer and fall," Matheny said. "Our players understand where we've been and our seniors have been through a lot. They remember when we didn't win as many games and how difficult it's gotten to get where we are."

As Matheny enters his fifth season at the helm of the Phoenix, he's led the team from the bottom of the SoCon ranks to the top in four years. After Matheny's first year in 2009-2010, Elon had a record of 9-23, 5-13 in conference play. At the end of last season, Elon had a 21-12 mark, going 13-5 in conference. Based on the expectations, 2013-2014 could be the year Matheny's Phoenix gets over the hump.

On the schedule this season are matchups with Colorado University, Georgetown University and Duke University. Elon will also participate in the Preseason NIT Tournament in a pod with Rutgers University, Drexel University and Canisius. Elon and Canisius are on opposite sides of the bracket, but if the teams rematch, the win-

ner moves on to Madison Square Garden in New York City the following week.

"It's our philosophy in our program to be able to play the schedule we've put together. The reason we do that is to be ready for Southern Conference play," Matheny said. "We like to play against the best programs in the country. We've got several of them on our schedule. We also like to play in arenas that host or have hosted first-, second- and third-round games in the NCAA Tournament. Our dream is to make the NCAA Tournament. So when we make it, when we walk through that door, we want to walk in that door having been in that door before, having experienced it the best we can."

As for the preseason expectations, they could be a silent killer for the Phoenix. But Isenbarger knows there's work to be done to bring the expectations to life before the Phoenix can call the season a success.

"Nobody owes us anything," he said. "We've got work to do."



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO

Elon's record has improved each of the four seasons head coach Matt Matheny has been at the school.

SoCon

Preseason Standings

Coaches' Poll

(First-place votes)

1. **Elon (7)**
2. Davidson (3)
3. Western Carolina (1)
4. Appalachian State / Samford
6. Wofford
7. Chattanooga
8. UNCG
9. Georgia Southern
10. Furman
11. The Citadel

No scholarship, no problem

Walk-ons more than just benchwarmers, play role in success of Elon basketball

Matt Krause
Assistant Sports Editor

Time is winding down on another Elon University men's basketball victory in Alumni Gym. It's been another big day for senior guard Jack Isenbarger and senior forward Lucas Troutman. With Elon running out the clock on a big lead, head coach Matt Matheny gives those players a rest.

"Entering the game for the Phoenix, number five, Sam Hershberger!"

The guard enters to a roar from the Alumni Gym crowd. Why so much love for a 6-foot guard from Vandalia, Ohio? Hershberger is a walk-on, a player who is on the Elon roster, yet does not have a scholarship. He lives a life of being an extra body in practice and the last man in uniform on the bench.

Hershberger is one of four such players on the 2013-14 roster, joining red-shirt freshman forward Wes Brewer and freshman guards Ryder Bowline and Patrick Ryan.

The path to Elon

All four of Elon's 2013-14 walk-ons received offers to play at the NCAA Division II or III level but were drawn to the opportunity to play Division I basketball. For a variety of reasons, these players were exposed to Elon.

"During AAU [Amateur Athletic Union], they were recruiting one of my teammates, [current Elon sophomore center] Tony Sabato, so they got to see me play a little bit there," Hershberger said. "I had a little bit of contact with [assistant] Coach [Jack] Wooten about walking on, what the process would be like. I actually sent him some highlights after my senior year and he liked what he saw and he said, 'You can come down and if you try out, you have a good chance of making it.'"

Brewer is a local prospect, having



Walk-ons Sam Hershberger (5) and Wes Brewer (30) played in Elon's exhibition with Lynchburg College Nov. 4.

played high school basketball at Walter M. Williams High School in Burlington. That allowed him to develop a familiarity with Elon and its program.

"Me and coach Jack Wooten went to the same high school," Brewer said. "So I knew who he was. I came and talked to him, told him that I didn't think I was going to pursue any of the [Div. II or Div. III] options that I had. He said I had a pretty good shot of walking on as long as I came in in shape."

He added that being a true student-athlete also played a major factor in his decision.

"I took some visits to Division II schools, but they were subpar educationally and the whole student life part of it was subpar," Brewer said. "I got into Elon — I applied just as a normal student to have the option, and I decided to pursue that option because of the benefits of being a student here versus just being a student-athlete somewhere else."

Elon's newest players, Bowline and

Ryan, utilized Elon's summer camp as the primary means of exposure.

"I've been coming to [Elon's summer camp] ever since I was about 10 years old, so I have known the coaches for years and it just kind of worked itself out," Bowline said. "I have so much family up here, it's nice to see all of them. Basically my whole mom's side of the family lives here and I love the school."

Ryan did not come as much as Bowline, but his trip to summer camp before his senior year of high school helped him get a spot with the Phoenix.

"There was some familiarity there," Ryan said. "I talked to [assistant] Coach [Tim] Sweeney and he seemed optimistic, so then I came here."

Adjustment upon arrival

Regardless of what the players were told before coming to Elon, they still had to earn a spot on the team as a walk-on.

The tryouts occurred in early October

of each player's freshman year and were a multi-part process.

"We had two tryouts — the first one was at about 6:30 in the morning," Hershberger said. "We had that and then we had a second tryout the next day."

For Ryan, his tryout included a one-week trial as a team member.

"My tryout process was tough because they already had 16 guys on the roster," Ryan said. "So I made the cut at the first tryout, then I had to go to practice for a week to see if there was still a fit there, then they were kind of like, 'OK, we'll add a 17th guy.'"

Once the players made the team, they had to adjust from being a key high school player to a college walk-on with a specific job.

"I think I'd be lying to you if I said it was never tough," Hershberger said. "Anyone making the transition to college, the transition period isn't always easy — just learning the system, learning what coach [Matheny] is looking for, figuring out my role."

Elon's walk-ons go day-to-day not knowing what the next practice has in store for them.

"Some days we won't get a rep and some days we won't get a break. No day is the same, every day is different," Brewer said.

Walk-ons help out in drills for the team and serve as extra bodies in intra-squad scrimmages. With several injuries to key Elon players in this preseason, the walk-ons have seen significant time in practice.

While they may not play very much, the walk-ons know they are still a part of a special era in Elon basketball.

"This program is on the brink of being a year-in, year-out national powerhouse — just being a part of something like that is huge," Brewer said.

"Hopefully we'll have some really great things to tell our grandkids about Elon in 2013-14," Hershberger said.

Harris looks to become leader for Phoenix

Kyle Maher
Senior Reporter

Throughout her first two seasons with the Elon University women's basketball team, Kelsey Harris was often overlooked and undervalued as her teammates Ali Ford and Kelsey Evans — both of whom have graduated — stole the show. They were the team's heart and soul, the unquestioned leaders who pushed their teammates to be the best they could be.

This year, that same leadership will be expected from Harris, the team's only true senior. Harris knows her younger teammates will look to her and the team's other upperclassmen for advice on various aspects of life as a Div. I athlete.

If one of her younger teammates comes to her and asks what it takes to succeed at this level, both as an individual and as a team, Harris is confident she will have the answer.

"I would tell them to pay attention to the details," Harris said. "The pace of the game in college is so much different than in high school. In your first year, it's going to take some adjusting to get used to. But if you focus on the details and learning and understanding the game, then everything else will come."

Elon head coach Charlotte Smith has talked to Harris and the other upperclassmen about their leadership and what she expects of them on and off the court. She said she trusts Harris without hesitation because she's seen her natural leadership and maturity grow as Harris has gotten older.

"[Her leadership] has grown tremendously," Smith said. "That's why she was named captain before this upcoming season. I felt like she had all the intangibles."

Junior Candice Silas echoed her coach's sentiment on Harris' leadership style.

"She's very vocal. She'll say what she thinks, and she means it," Silas said. "She's so powerful in the way she says things that everyone is going to listen and do what she says."

Harris knew she would have to take responsibility for her team after Ford and Evans graduated, and she said she is com-

fortable in her new role despite being the heir apparent to two of the program's most successful winners and prolific motivators.

"I'm comfortable being a vocal leader and trying to take into effect what I learned in the past," Harris said. "I have to be more vocal this year, being one of the only seniors. I have to make sure that I'm always encouraging my teammates and making sure that we all hold each other accountable."

Silas said she can't think of anyone better to lead than Harris, whose work ethic and fiery lead-by-example attitude is perfect for a team littered with young players unfamiliar with the dedication they need to be successful on the collegiate level.

"I think everyone looks up to her," Silas said. "All the freshmen, sophomores and juniors all look up to Kelsey and expect her to be that spark and be that energy, and she always is."

As with other athletes in the final year of their collegiate careers, Harris said she hopes this season brings as much success as last season. The goals, Harris believes, haven't changed.

"We always come into the season and talk about our goals as a team, and I don't think they've ever changed," Harris said. "Our goals would be to win the Southern Conference, win the conference tournament and go to the NCAA Tournament."

The Phoenix has been picked to finish fifth in the Southern Conference in both the Media and Coaches' polls, a ranking Harris said is irrelevant and should be disregarded. In her eyes, rankings are meaningless until the conference's best teams begin to prove themselves.

Harris said she is not nervous about her younger, less experienced teammates worrying about their preseason ranking because of their poise and maturity.

"They need to realize that the rankings are there and that we can use it as motivation," Harris said. "We need to build off last year and realize that the rankings, in the end, don't matter."



As a junior last season, Harris averaged nine points per game with 6.2 rebounds and 2.6 assists per game. She was one of three players to start all 33 games last year.

Women's basketball faces tough test Thanksgiving Weekend

Max Garland
Senior Reporter

When the calendars turn to December, the Elon University women's basketball team will know where it stands compared to the traditional Southern Conference



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO
Junior Zora Stephenson was a threat from beyond the arc last season, shooting 32.4 percent from range.

powers like the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and Davidson College.

Elon's team is young, as its roster contains four highly touted freshmen and just one senior. But perhaps the quickest way to burgeon a team is to set up a difficult non-conference slate early in the season.

Enter the Vanderbilt Thanksgiving Tournament, located in Nashville, Tenn., from Nov. 29-30.

Four teams do not equal the mass spectacle of the NCAA Tournament, but it's a good measuring stick to know just how far the Phoenix could go in the Southern Conference.

"A tournament of this nature is a great opportunity for us to play back-to-back games like we will see in the SoCon Tournament," said assistant coach Emily Roberts. "We are preparing to win a championship, and this is a great opportunity to do that. We will be exposed to some very good basketball, and the chance to compete at that level in a tournament setting will benefit us in preparing for a SoCon championship down the road."

Elon, who went 19-14 last season, Vanderbilt University (21-12), the University of Wisconsin (12-19) and Mercer University (20-12) are the participating teams, with the Vanderbilt Commodores looking like the early favorites. The Phoenix will get the first crack at downing

Vanderbilt Nov. 29 when the tournament starts. The winner will either take on Wisconsin or Mercer in the championship or consolation game the following day. This will be the first match ever between the Elon and Vanderbilt women's basketball programs.

It's an early test for what lies ahead, and Elon is jumping into the fray against bigger schools without fear — just ask freshman guard Lauren Brown.

"We are going to take the same approach playing Vanderbilt, Wisconsin or Mercer and [North Carolina State University] the same way we go into every game," Brown said. "Focusing on the things we can control, such as defense and communication. At the end of the day, they will have five players on the court, and so will we."

The defense and communication aspects come via constant practices to learn chemistry and timing with the rest of the players. To prepare the roster for a tough early season stretch, head coach Charlotte Smith and her staff have been ramping up the stakes during scrimmages.

"From a coaching staff standpoint, we are working to create an extremely competitive environment in practice every day," Roberts said. "Drills are competitive and there are winners and losers, with consequences for losing. So the level we

are competing at in practice on a daily basis is really preparing us for the competition we could face in that tournament and with some of our other out-of-conference opponents."

Trips to N.C. State and West Virginia University after the tournament mean there will be little time to rest after the tournament style of play, but junior guard Zora Stephenson said the "one game at a time" philosophy holds true for the Phoenix.

"The team is excited to play the heavy competition that is scheduled in November, but we try not to look too far ahead," Stephenson said. "Right now, we are just focused on getting better, and hopefully that will transition into the Thanksgiving Tournament down the road."

Of course, with the team participating in a tournament, they're not going home like the rest of the students. What does that mean for the team's Thanksgiving plans?

"We are going to get in a film session, a practice and get some rest, maybe watch a little football, and we will do a big Thanksgiving Day dinner with the team and coaches, just like a family," Roberts said. "If I had to choose a group of people to be away from my family with on Thanksgiving, I couldn't ask for a better group to spend the holiday with."

ELON SOCCER TEAMS TAKE ON THE SOCON



Women's

No. 6 Wofford (8-4-6, 4-2-4) vs. **No. 2 Elon** (12-2-6, 5-1-4)

7:30 p.m. — Fri., Nov. 8 | Spartanburg, S.C.

After dispatching the Davidson College Wildcats on a flurry of second half goals, two of which came from SoCon leading scorer Nicole Dennion, the Phoenix will take on No. 6 Wofford College in the semifinals of the 2013 SoCon Tournament. Elon has reached the semifinal round in three of the last four years but has never reached the finals. The tournament, hosted by Wofford, is essentially a home game for the Terriers, as the game will be played on their home field in Spartanburg, S.C. Last season, Elon fell in double overtime to eventual tournament champion Georgia Southern University in the semifinals.



Men's

No. 2 Elon (12-2-6, 5-1-4) vs. **No. 7 Appalachian State** (3-7-6, 1-4-1)

7 p.m. — Sat., Nov. 9 | Elon, N.C.



With a come-from-behind 4-3 victory Nov. 2 at home against the University of North Carolina at Greensboro Spartans in the regular season finale, the Phoenix vaulted into the No. 2 seed for the Southern Conference Tournament and will take on the seventh-seeded Appalachian State Mountaineers in the quarterfinals of the 2013 tournament. In the lone meeting between the two this year, the Phoenix topped the Mountaineers 1-0 on Rudd Field on a goal from sophomore midfielder James Brace in the 29th minute. It was both teams' first SoCon action of the season back on Oct. 5.

Phoenix starts adjustment period with departure of program greats

Jordan Spritzer
Senior Reporter

Collegiate sports teams across the country have to cope with the loss of seniors on a yearly basis, and the Elon University women's basketball team is no different. This year, the Phoenix will be without arguably two of the best players the program has ever seen: forward Kelsey Evans and guard Ali Ford.

"Ali and Kelsey definitely brought a great dynamic for us," said Elon head coach Charlotte Smith. "This year is just a challenge for other players to step up and take up that slack."

Both Ford and Evans started in all 33 games for the Phoenix last year, but the two had been making an impact during each of their four years. Ford ended up being both Elon's and the Southern Conference's all-time leader in three-pointers made. She finished second in Elon's record books for career points scored. Evans holds the program records for career blocks and rebounds. She is also the only Elon player to score 1,000 points and grab 1,000 rebounds in her career.

"They were obviously a huge part of our team last year, so we are trying to fill those gaps," said junior forward Sam Coffey.

With sophomore Nicole Razor sidelined with a hip injury until December, freshman Lauren Brown will be running the point

for the Phoenix. The Alpharetta, Ga., native will be faced with the tough challenge of not only running the Elon offense as a true freshman, but replacing a program great like Ford.

"I think Lauren Brown is going to do a great job for us because she's committed to being the very best she can be," Smith said.

When Razor does return, she will look to contribute with her defense.

"I'm not a big scorer, but I love to play defense," Razor said. "I think my defense is what's going to help make this team successful."

Lenaira Ruffin is the other freshman who will look to add much-needed depth to the Phoenix backcourt. Ruffin provides a bit of local flair for the Phoenix, as she attended River Mill High School in Graham, N.C.

Ruffin and Brown will provide perimeter shooting to the Phoenix offense. The two freshmen will join Coffey, senior guard Kelsey Harris and junior guard Zora Stephenson as the threats from beyond the arc.

"It's going to take some time, but [the freshmen] are starting to get comfortable with the game," Razor said. "There is no replacing an Ali Ford. All we can do is bring that intensity and passion she brought every game."

Even without Evans, the Phoenix offense will run through the post players.

"It's not so much about threes," Razor

said. "It's all about our inside game. Our inside game has been very dominant. We have to keep pounding it inside, and that's going to be our game this year."

Coffey and fellow junior Shannen Cochraham as well as freshman Jenifer Rhodes will be the major contributors in the Phoenix frontcourt.

"We all spent time over the summer and in the preseason working hard, gaining and developing our skills," Cochraham said. "So we can be a presence just like Kelsey was."

Arguably the biggest buzz out of the team's preseason is the emergence of Rhodes. Her athleticism and size have captivated players and coaches alike.

"[Rhodes] is definitely going to contribute right off the bat," Coffey said. "She's really great at finishing around the basket and she's a pure post player."

Smith realizes the downside of starting two freshmen: mistakes. But Smith said she is simply asking the freshmen to give a great effort whenever they are on the court.

Even with capable bodies lined up to replace the departed Ford and Evans, the production also has to be replaced. Ford averaged 15.8 points per game, while Evans averaged 15.5 per game as well as 8.3 rebounds.

"I think we'll get our scoring done by committee," Smith said. "I'm not concerned about where the points are coming from."



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO

Evans and Ford combined for 47.7 percent of Elon's points last season, scoring 1,034 cumulatively.

The players know there are a lot of question marks with the void of Ali and Kelsey, but everybody's ready to step up for the challenge."

Evans and Ford will be remembered for their accomplishments in Elon uniforms, but for the rest of the Phoenix, there's no time to look back.

"It's the same as last year," Coffey said. "It's just different people. You just have to adjust."

UPCOMING EVENTS

FOOTBALL	MEN'S BASKETBALL	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	VOLLEYBALL	CROSS COUNTRY
The Citadel (Homecoming) Sat., Nov. 9, 1:30 p.m. Elon, N.C.	Washington & Lee Fri., Nov. 8, 7:30 p.m. Elon, N.C.	Winston-Salem State Fri., Nov. 8, 5 p.m. Elon, N.C.	Wofford Fri., Nov. 8, 7 p.m. Spartanburg, N.C.	N.C. State Three Stripe Invitational Sat., Nov. 9, TBA Cary, N.C.
Georgia Southern Sat., Nov. 16, 3 p.m. Elon, N.C.	Marist Sun., Nov. 10, 5 p.m. Poughkeepsie, N.Y.	UNC Wilmington Wed., Nov. 13, 7 p.m. Wilmington, N.C.	Furman Sat., Nov. 9, 5 p.m. Greenville, N.C.	NCAA Southeast Regional Championships Fri., Nov. 15, TBA Charlottesville, Va.

THE LAST WORD: Creativity killed the craft

I am a colossal failure at arts and crafts. Pinterest Fails are the scrapbook of my life. As a child, I could not color



Katy Canada
Photo Editor

inside the lines of my Disney Princess coloring books, and I definitely didn't have the self-control for Paint by Numbers. I was more likely to pick my favorite colors out of the crayon box (or magic markers – I didn't discriminate), clutch all of them in the same hand and make it look like Cinderella was vomiting a rainbow instead of singing “So This

is Love” with the prince who, at this point, probably looked like he was being engulfed in flames or had leprosy.

There was no art kit that could channel my rebellious coloring and reckless disregard for the instruction manual. If it were possible to fail art in kindergarten, I would probably still be trying to trace my hand and make it look like a turkey.

I wasn't lazy or uncreative. It was obvious to me that my handprint turkey was a commentary on the true nature of the meat packaging industry, but this type of criticism was considered inappropriate and stifled by watered-down explanations of what we have to be thankful for on Thanksgiving.

While my parents didn't quite know what to make of my avant-garde artis-

tic talents, they were never critical. No handmade birthday gift or Christmas present I ever made was considered less than beautiful (even when beautiful wasn't the emotional response I had hoped to evoke).

To this day, my parents have an entire drawer in their bedroom devoted to my artistic genius. It's like a little museum of my love. The fact that they valued my artwork enough to save it for more than 20 years is a testament to why I am such a well-adjusted adult human.

I can't claim that their unconditional nurturing of my creativity has resulted in my success as an artist because that would be unequivocally false. Creativity is often associated with art but is, in fact, transferable to non-macaroni and

crayon-related areas of life. I can't help but think that Miley Cyrus would be able to keep her tongue in her mouth had her parents retained a Barbie Dream House-sized stack of birthday cards that she'd made for them. And, just maybe, if Anthony Weiner's parents had validated his artwork more when he was a child, they could have saved him the humiliation of overcompensating with a sexting scandal as an adult.

The point of all this is that if my parents had been less accepting of my bizarre creative endeavors and admonished me for coloring outside the lines, I would have been reluctant to exercise my creative muscles at all. And, more importantly, they wouldn't have a massive, jealousy-inducing drawer full of handmade crap.

Top Tweets of Halloween

@lindsaykeyes

“Looks like Halloween got the best of Elon. The health center is packed and it's only been open for 30 minutes...”

@KappaSigmaElon

40th Reunion Fun Fact: Kappa Sig always had the best Halloween parties on the Elon campus- costumes optional and treats abundant.

@ElonSass

Every store in the area is fresh out of animal ears. All the girls are pulling a Karen. #ImAMouseDuh

@cmcclellan13

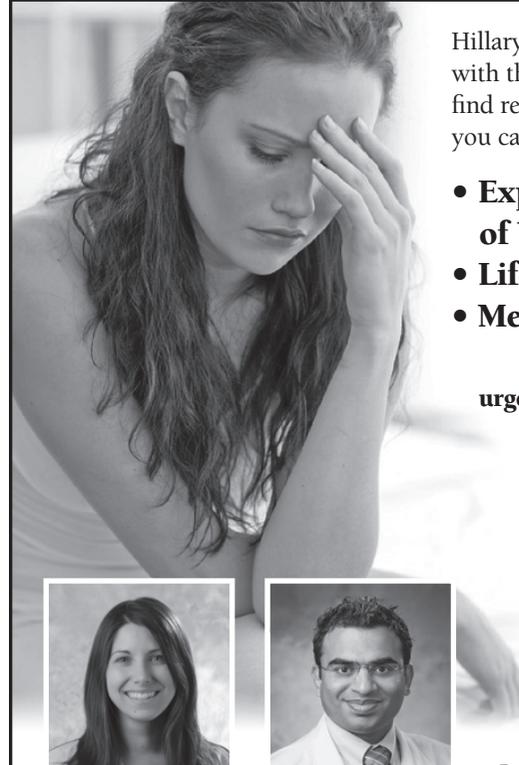
getting desperate for costume ideas. may or may not have entertained the idea of going as a typical elon white girl for halloween. #help

@xoGossipSquirrel

Halloween Part II: Count how many minions you see. Nothing like dressing like a sexy twinkie with eyes, #amirite XOXO, Gossip Squirrel



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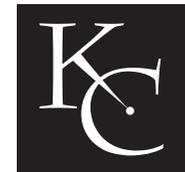
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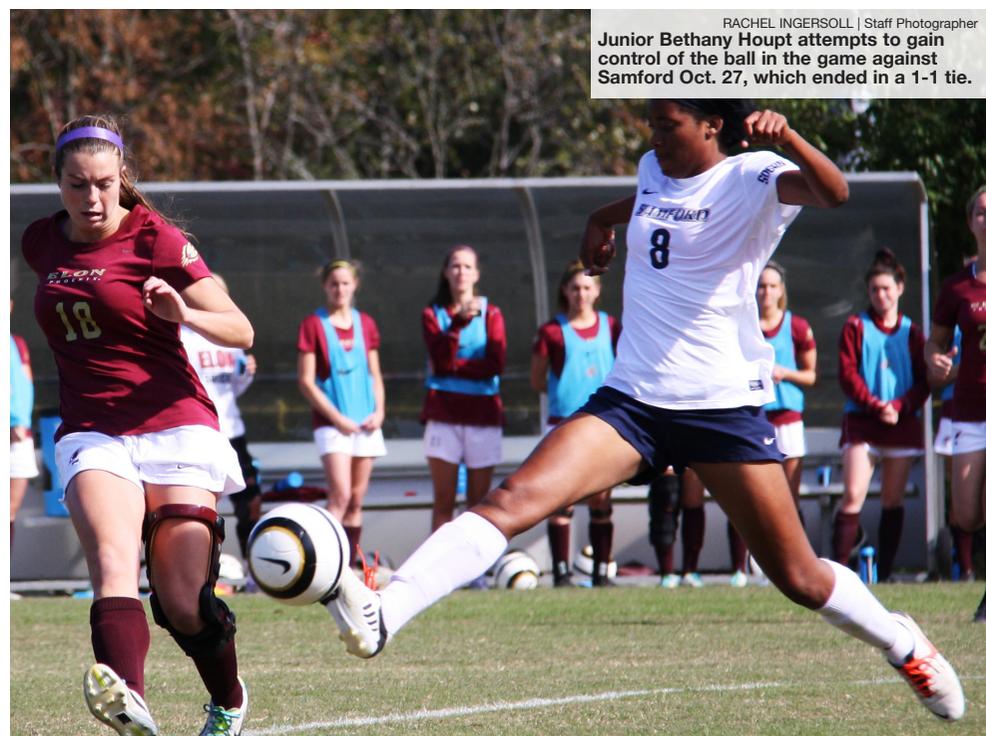
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RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer
The cast of "Ragtime" salutes the Model T Ford in their final dress rehearsal Oct. 23.



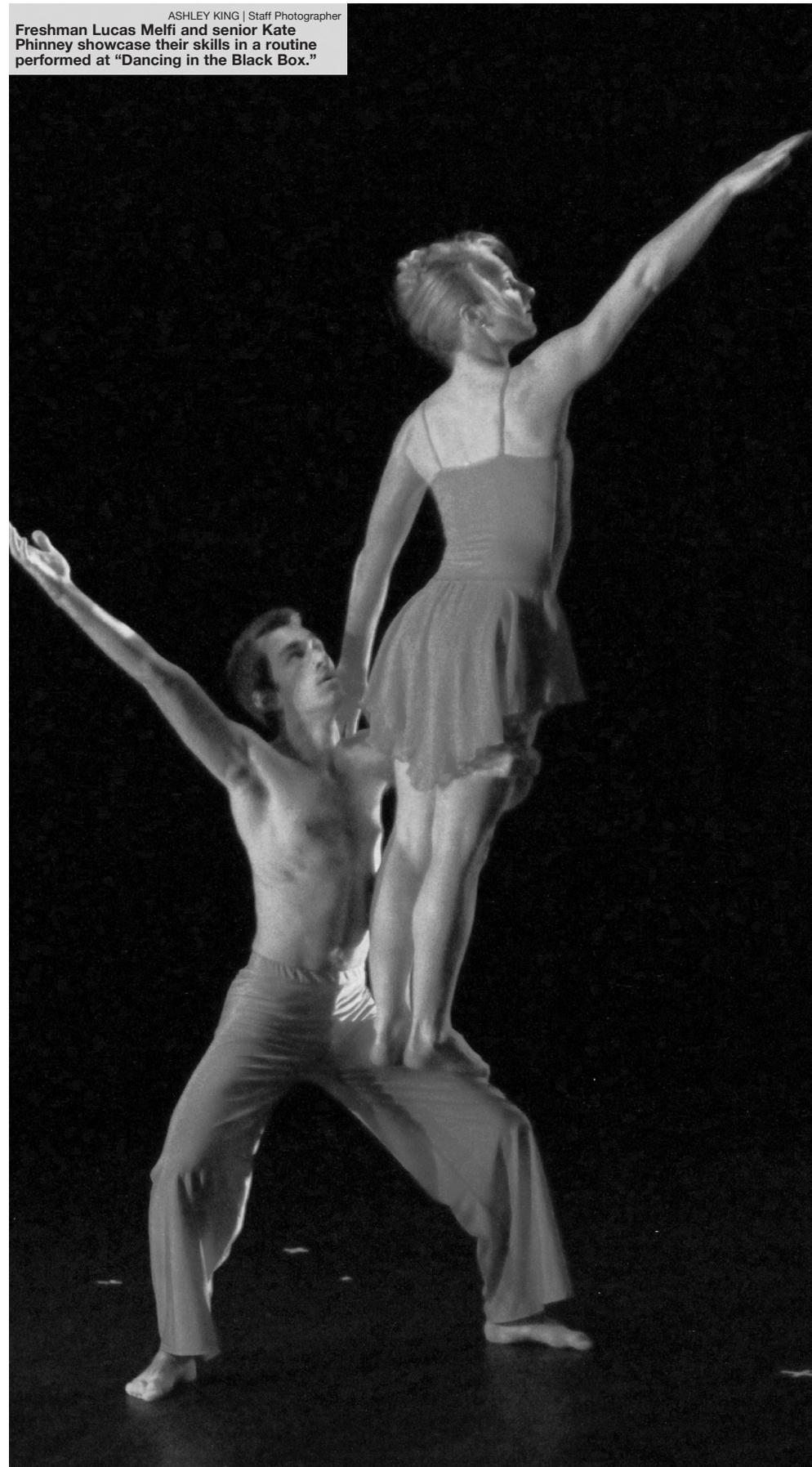
RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer
Junior Bethany Houpt attempts to gain control of the ball in the game against Samford Oct. 27, which ended in a 1-1 tie.



STEFAN FORTMANN | Staff Photographer
Junior Jason Waterman competes for the ball in the Oct. 29 game against then No. 6 Coastal Carolina, a 2-1 win for the Phoenix.

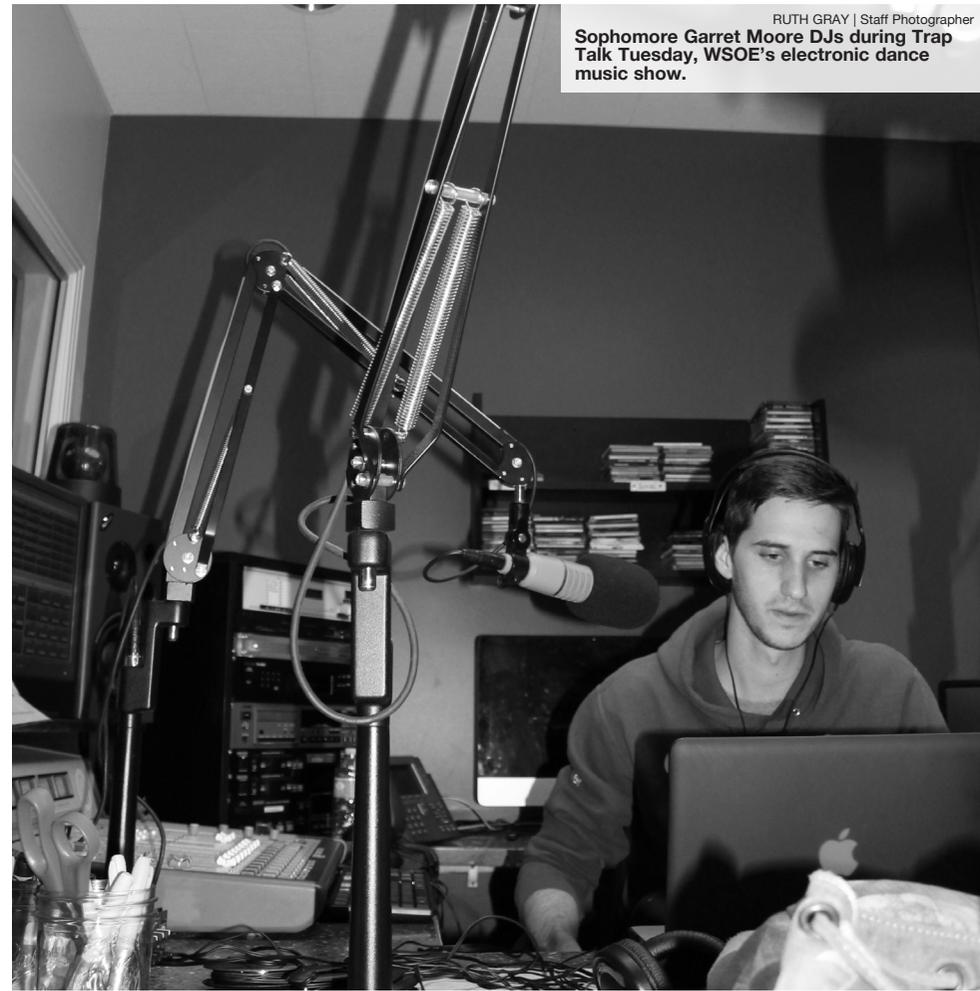
ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Freshman Lucas Melfi and senior Kate Phinney showcase their skills in a routine performed at "Dancing in the Black Box."



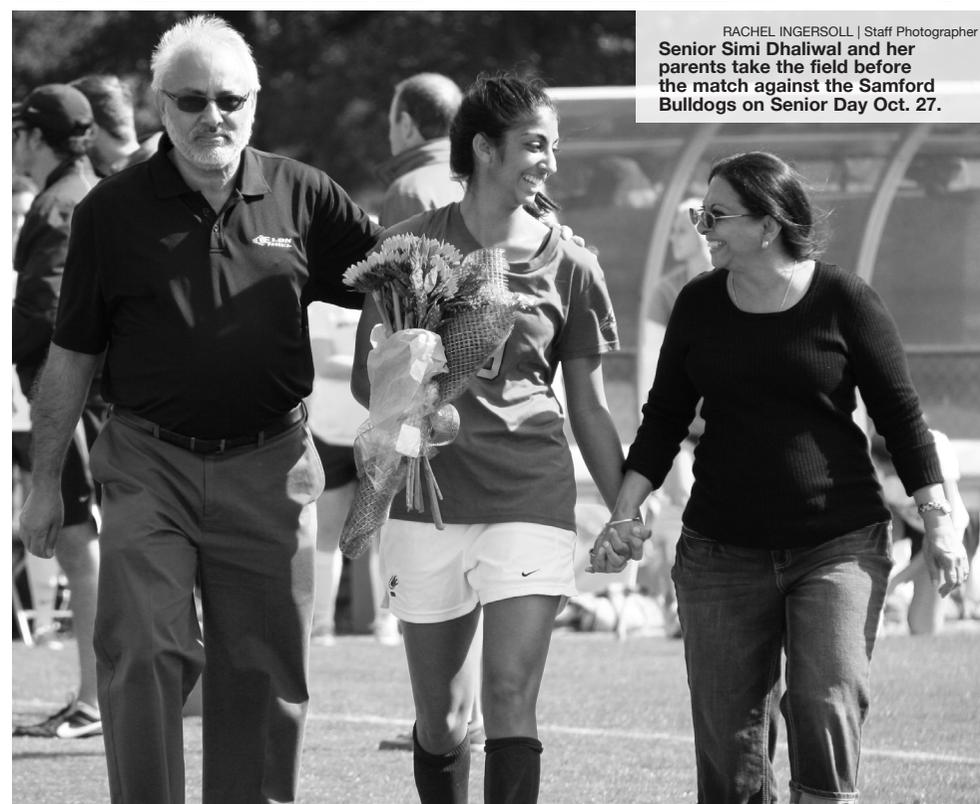
RUTH GRAY | Staff Photographer

Sophomore Garret Moore DJs during Trap Talk Tuesday, WSOE's electronic dance music show.



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer

Senior Simi Dhaliwal and her parents take the field before the match against the Samford Bulldogs on Senior Day Oct. 27.



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