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# THE PENDULUM

For News, Opinions,  
Lifestyle, see insert

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# 2016 FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

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# SPORTS TOP PHOTOS



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer



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JANE SEIDEL | Digital Manager



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### women's soccer

**HAMZIK:** As Chris Neal sets record, Elon's program still evolving

### football

Former Elon linebacker Corey Mitchell to play at New Haven

# ENN SPORTS

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SEPTEMBER 9, 2016

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AND JANE SEIDEL  
| Staff Photogra-  
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Manager

## HOME SPORTS EVENTS: SEPTEMBER 1 - SEPTEMBER 4

6 P.M.   Cross country Elon Opener <b>1</b>	7 P.M.   Men's soccer vs. St. Bonaventure <b>2</b>	7 P.M.   Volleyball vs. Youngstown St. <b>2</b>	11 A.M.   Volleyball vs. High Point <b>3</b>	3:30 P.M.   Football vs. Gardner-Webb <b>3</b>	7 P.M.   Men's soccer vs. Detroit Mercy <b>4</b>
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# YOUNG TALENT RAISES EXPECTATIONS



JANE SEIDEL | Digital Manager  
Sophomore quarterback Connor Christiansen (12, blue) takes a snap in a scrimmage Aug. 24. Christiansen was named the starting quarterback for the 2016 season.



Christiansen tabbed as QB to lead Elon in year filled with high hopes

**Alex Simon**  
Sports Director  
@alexsimon99

Head coach Rich Skrosky can't help but recite one of his favorite stats about the Elon University football team.

"We've talked about these two classes — last year's freshman class and this year's freshman class — that's the bulk of this team," Skrosky said.

**There were more than 30 freshman in fall camp, with more enlisting as walk-ons on the first day of classes.**

"We have 73 percent of the roster with three or more years of eligibility."

The youth movement was in full effect in 2015 for the Phoenix,

with freshmen starting the majority of games at quarterback, wide receiver and three positions of the offensive line. The leading rusher was a freshman, as were the top two kick and punt returners.

With 2016 around the corner, Elon brings in another large class of freshmen — there were more than 30 in fall camp, with more enlisting as walk-ons on the first day of classes — to join a group of a lot of sophomores and juniors with plenty of playing time already.

And, with that, the depth chart battles continue to rage on.

"Camp has gone well. There's so much more internal competition than we've had in the first two years," Skrosky said. "We still have light-years to go, but when you have that internal competition, it keeps everybody on their toes and it gets guys motivated. You can't take a day off or a practice off — you have to come out and go."

## Picking a quarterback

The most important in-camp battle was finally decided last Friday, when Skrosky informed sophomore quarterback Connor Christiansen that he would be Elon's starting quarterback. Christiansen and fel-

low sophomore quarterback Daniel Thompson had been competing for the gig since February 2015, when Thompson enrolled early at Elon.

"It really was a hard decision, because both have improved immensely," Skrosky said. "At the end of the day, we needed to see Connor minimize his turnovers, and he really did that during camp. He had two interceptions, one of which was on a deflected pass, and he's understanding the offense better."

Christiansen and Thompson split the starts in 2015, with Christiansen getting the nod when Thompson was unable to play because of spontaneous cerebrospinal fluid leak, a neurological condition. But Thompson ended up starting more games — six to Christiansen's five.

But Christiansen has been taking snaps with the first-team offense for the majority the 2016 offseason, and Skrosky announced the decision Saturday. Christiansen felt relief that Skrosky named a single quarterback as start.

"A lot of confidence comes with that," Christiansen said. "He doesn't want me looking over my shoulder. He doesn't want me playing scared, like if I were to make a mistake, he'd pull me. Some of the situations were like that last year. It was good to hear, because what I wanted was freedom to go out and play, because that's when I play my best — when I'm

loose and having fun. That was probably the best thing I could have heard coach say."

Both Skrosky and Christiansen reiterated that they have immense trust in Thompson to take over if the situation ever required, with Skrosky saying that, when looking around at the quarterback play in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA), he "feels really good about our two guys."

Christiansen added, "I've had a long history of injuries. Like coach said, if something were to happen to me, god forbid, he wouldn't bat an eye. Daniel is so devoted to the playbook and the offense that it would be a seamless transition, which is comforting for me, because I don't have to worry about it being me or nothing. There's a very capable quarterback right behind me."

## Replacing a lot on defense

While nearly every contributor on offense is returning to the team, the defense has had a good amount of turnover, losing six of 11 starters. The last departure stung the most, as linebacker Corey Mitchell '16 left the program early in the summer and transferred to University of New Haven.

But Skrosky still has been impressed by his linebacking core that returns, as senior John Silas leads the squad and sophomores Warren

Messer and Matt Baker have stepped up in camp.

"Mess, he's arguably been our best defensive player throughout camp," Skrosky said. "John's adapted well to the weak side position. Our depth is developing — Matt Baker's had a really good camp and John Jackson at the outside spot has improved immensely."

As a captain, Silas makes sure he lets his teammates know the commitment needed in order to succeed.

"It really depends on how hard we work and how consistent we can be. We just have to come out here 100 percent of the time and work hard," Silas said. "We can't come out here 70, 75, 80, 85 or 95 percent. We just have to come out 100 percent of the time and to work hard and keep getting better. We can't take any steps back."

## Looking up to the top

As Skrosky enters his third year at the helm, no one in the program believes Elon will take steps back. In fact, for junior offensive lineman and captain Ikenna Nwokeji, there is no limit to how Elon's expectations have gone.

"I really don't think that there's a ceiling [for this team]," Nwokeji said. "The record for the past couple of years don't reflect the heart and the passion that we've put into this team.

I think there are a lot of other factors going into this season — the work that we've put, the faith that we have in each other — that's going to lead us into the playoffs."

And while getting to the playoffs would seem like a successful season to many fans of Elon, Christiansen said he wouldn't be satisfied with just a playoff berth.

"As crazy as it is, you want to win a national championship," Christiansen said. "In the long run, you would be able to look back and be proud of a lot of things if you made the playoffs, because we were 1-11 a year ago. That would be something to be very proud of, but not satisfied with."

"I think, in order to be successful, you've got to win. You've got to win every game ... So would [the playoffs] be successful? I would say, no. But would we have a lot to be proud of and a lot to build off of? I would say, yeah."

But for Skrosky, results aren't indicative of something that's already true to him: This football team is vastly improved.

"I don't know what the results will be, and I don't know where we're at on the scale," Skrosky said. "I know we're a better football team. What the results are going to be? It's a funny game, and a funny season. You're not going to put a number on it, but I know we're a better football team than we were in 2015."

## STATS TO KNOW

**1,246**  
Yards starting QB Connor Christiansen threw for in 2015



Returning starters on offense

**41.32**  
Average distance of David Petroni's 73 punts in 2015

**8** Seniors on the 94-man roster

# Young offensive line ready

With all 5 starters returning, anticipations build for Elon's big men

**Alex Simon**  
Sports Director  
@alexsimon99

As Scott Riddle '11 was wrapping up his speech to conclude the Elon University football team's day Aug. 23, he asked where the offensive linemen were.

All 13 linemen raised their hands, having gathered near the front of the room. Riddle smiled at the sight of the group sitting with each other.

"You are the most important group on the team," Riddle said. "You need to eat together, work together and be there for each other."

For Elon in 2016, there is a lot expected of the offensive line. They return all five starters from last season, and between them, the group had only five missed starts.

But there's also youth. Three starters are sophomores — left guard C.J. Toogood, center Alex Higgins and right tackle Olisaemeka Udoh — who are joined by junior left tackle Ikenna

Nwokeji and senior right guard O'Shane Morris.

And, because of the rare combination of both youth and experience in college football, the expectations for the group are sky-high.

## Eating to keep up

Nwokeji usually has two plates of food for breakfast, which is served — like all meals — in Lakeside Dining Hall. Breakfast is his lightest meal of the day.

**The football team returns every starter on the O-line from last season, a group that only missed five starts total in 2015.**

reaching into the 90s, coupled with 90-percent humidity — or two-a-days, with a practice in the morning and another practice or a scrimmage at night.

With the amount of work to be done, Nwokeji doesn't worry about counting calories as he eats during

the day. He figures that if he eats until he is full, he'll get enough calories to balance the amount he burns in practice.

"Honestly, I'm more concerned with keeping my weight up," Nwokeji admitted.

Usually, breakfast is followed by a workout in the weight room and/or a position group meeting. But on this day, the players dress in their uniforms for team pictures. Nwokeji isn't the biggest fan of photo day, but he appreciates the fact that the photoshoot is in the morning and not in the middle of the afternoon, like last year.

Nwokeji and his other offensive linemen pose for a position group photo with offensive coordinator and offensive line coach Damian Wroblewski, who is known as "Robo" around the team. Then, after the big team photo and three individual photos are done, Nwokeji is free until position meetings.

## Preparing for practice

An essential part of each day for the football team is sleep. With some mornings starting as early as 6 a.m., and most evenings ending after 10 p.m., finding any time to get some rest is vital.

With the photo day over for Nwokeji around 10:30 a.m. — too late for breakfast but too early for lunch at Lakeside — he instead heads back to his apartment, napping and then eating before returning to the facility just after 1:30 p.m. to get ready for practice.

But because team photo day took up the morning, the position groups meet for an hour before a 30-minute warmup period that leads to practice at 4 p.m. The tight window means Nwokeji gets his ankles and thumbs taped at 2 p.m., a full two hours before practice begins.

Once in the meeting room, Nwokeji and most of the other linemen fight to use a foam roller to stretch their legs as Wroblewski goes over film from the last scrimmage. Throughout this talk, the coach will occasionally go off the rails, using all sorts of topics — such as journalism, morality, each player's career plan for after football and the internal human struggle between selfishness and selflessness — to talk about life and football.

As all five starters sit in the front row, the discussion transitions to the day's practice slate, where the team will be testing out situational plays. Wroblewski finds these to be



9:10 A.M.

## 9:10 A.M.

### SAY CHEESE!

Nwokeji and all of the football team goes out to the football field for Team Photo Day. As an upperclassmen, Nwokeji doesn't have to climb to the top of the steep risers, which the coaches and freshmen do. The seniors try to figure out which coach or freshman is most afraid of heights.

## 8:15 A.M.

### GOOD MORNING, Y'ALL

Junior offensive lineman Ikenna Nwokeji walks into Lakeside Dining Hall to start his day with breakfast, getting two plates. He joins four other football players at a table and laughs about the previous night's speaker.

## 10:30 A.M.

### ZZZZ...

With individual photos starting with seniors and ending with freshmen, Nwokeji is one of the first guys out of the facility after photos. He heads home to take a nap, as he finished up too early for Lakeside to reopen for lunch.

## 2 P.M.

### STRETCH IT OUT

Nwokeji returns to the facility and gets treatment for his ankles and thumbs. He also rolls his back on a foam roller as the position group meeting goes over the film from the last scrimmage.

# to step into key role

vital for fall camp.

“I want as many different looks as possible,” Wroblewski told his group. “Football is not stagnant, and football is constantly changing situations.”

The offensive line’s work tends to go unnoticed to the average fan’s eye, but the intricacies of their work is broken down bit-by-bit in these sessions, and Wroblewski knows his men aren’t going to receive great accolades.

“We don’t show up in the stat sheet,” he said.

Still, the craft is vital for the team’s success going forward, and Skrosky believes it is the position that has changed the most since he was hired in December 2013.

“I think we’re physically stronger, and we have more height,” Skrosky said. “Last year, we played three freshmen. They learned what Division I football is all about, and they understood what they needed to do in the off-season.

“We’re still relatively young, with potentially one senior starting, but there’s a lot of repetitions in that group. They’ve had a really good off-season, and there’s no question there’s much more cohesion in that room than there has been in the previous two years.”

## Examples in struggles

After two weeks of fall camp, Wroblewski was impressed with the offensive linemen for the most part. But on this day, multiple players struggle with drills.

“I feel like you guys got through today,” Wroblewski said. “You didn’t use this day adequately.”

While one day may not seem like much, he stresses how important it is to use each day to its fullest

sive lineman that, while he may say some harsh things to the players throughout the day, he’s trying to improve them. He goes around to each of the players he’s coached for at least one year, asking if they trust him. Each lineman responds with a, “yes,” which Nwokeji reiterates later.

“I have an insane amount of trust in Robo. He really knows exactly what he’s talking about — he’s so knowledgeable about football,” Nwokeji said. “When he talks, he

Riddle turns to the quarterbacks.

“Take care of these guys — they’re protecting you,” Riddle said. “Take them out to eat dinner. And not just to the dining halls, either. Pay for it.”

Sophomore quarterback Connor Christiansen heard Riddle’s message loud and clear, and finds comfort in the fact that they have consistency across the board.

“It’s definitely good to see familiar faces, because we’ve been learning to play together,” Christiansen said. “Going up there knowing that those five guys are going to be there again, and they work together, they eat together, they talk all the time, and they’ve become best friends. It’s awesome for me to see with the experience that is there and it’s experience at a young age. We still have a lot to learn and a lot of growing. I mean, Oli just turned 19. The future is looking good.”

The future is looking good, but the future needs to be now. Elon’s success on offense is predicated on it. But Nwokeji — and, frankly, everyone on the team — is ready for it.

“We’ve progressed a lot, and I know the young offensive line will progress even more,” Nwokeji said. “They’re going to be 10 times better.”

WE’VE PROGRESSED A LOT, AND I KNOW THE YOUNG OFFENSIVE LINE WILL PROGRESS EVEN MORE. THEY’RE GOING TO BE 10 TIMES BETTER.

**IKENNA NWOKEJI**  
JUNIOR LEFT TACKLE

capabilities.

“Our most valuable commodity is time,” Wroblewski said. “We don’t know how much of it we have, and we don’t know when it runs out. So the moment you step on a college campus, you’re getting closer to the end.”

As Wroblewski finishes the day, he tries to impress upon the offen-

talks with confidence. That confidence he talks with comes to us when we play, and when we play, we trust him because he knows what he’s talking about.”

Trust in the coach and trust in each other is vital, as is trust in the quarterback. As the clock strikes 10 p.m., and after he told the offensive linemen how important they are,



## 4 P.M.

### WORKING HARD

It’s time for practice, with Nwokeji’s least favorite drills being the sleds and run progression. He loves going one-on-one against the defensive lineman and the full team scrimmages, though.

## 7 P.M.

### OH, THE PAIN!

Nwokeji limps up the hill to Lakeside for supper after tweaking his groin during practice. It isn’t a major tweak, but he got treatment after practice and it’s slowing him down on his way to dinner. He will be one of the last people to eat in the dining hall.

## 8:15 P.M.

### LAUGH OUT LOUD

When asked by offensive coordinator and offensive line coach Damian Wroblewski who he aspires to be in journalism, Nwokeji says, “Ron Burgundy.” This leads to a laughing session as the team tries to picture Nwokeji with Burgundy’s mustache.

## 10 P.M.

### GOODNIGHT

Scott Riddle ‘11 finishes his speech by telling the football team how much they should enjoy the dog days of camp, because they’ll miss it when they’re gone. Nwokeji then grabs a snack and heads home, ready to do it again tomorrow.

# JOHANSEN A SYMBOL OF EXPECTATION CHANGES



JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer  
Senior Kimberly Johansen  
races for the track and  
field team in the CAA  
Championships on May  
7. Johansen is expected  
to lead the cross country  
team in 2016.



**Tommy Hamzik**  
Columnist  
@T\_Hamzik

Kimberly Johansen has been through a lot of change during her three years with the Elon University cross country team.

There was the coaching switch less than two weeks before her sophomore season, when Nick Polk took the helm. At the same time, Elon entered the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA).

Then Johansen dealt with a nagging calf injury her entire junior season, a frustrating twist after she earned All-CAA honors in cross country and was named CAA Most Outstanding Performer in track and field in her sophomore year.

Now a senior, right out of the best summer of her career, Johansen's a symbol of the evolving women's cross country team that's hungry to break through and win its first CAA championship.

"Having won two conference championships on the track, we are ever-so-thirsty to win one on the cross country course," she said. "That is definitely something Nick has driven into us, and

definitely something we're capable of doing."

This year, Johansen, along with fellow senior Shelby Cuddeback, is the anchor on a team that features seven freshmen. Elon opens its season Sept. 1 in the Elon Opener.

While she still managed All-CAA nods in both cross country and track last season — no easy feat — Johansen was hampered by a calf tear. She continued to run through the pain, saying it took a while to figure out what the actual issue was.

"It made me realize my limits," Johansen said.

Johansen responded by spending the summer at home in Chelmsford, England, not working but instead focusing on putting forth the best efforts in her training on a daily basis.

She took a class, but besides that, there were no distractions. Her father, a licensed chef, cooked her meals, and her boyfriend rode his bike alongside her during evening runs.

As a result, Johansen feels more prepared for senior year and all that it brings.

"When I first started coaching Kim, she immediately had a lot more success than she had ever had," Polk said. "That weighed on her heavily. ... I think

looking back, she looked at the races and thought everything felt good, felt easy. When it didn't come that second year, it was hard.

"This year, she sort of recalibrated and came back to a place where she understands it's not going to be easy. The expectations are still going to be high."

Elon finished third in the CAA Championships last season and second the year before. Last year's team earned the Phoenix its highest finish ever at the Southeast Regionals, placing seventh.

Juniors Brigid Brennan and Corey Weiss, along with sophomores Alicia DeCastro, Coralea Geraniotis, Carolyn Hopkins and Chelsea Smith, all return for Elon.

Polk says expectations have changed since he arrived, and he thinks he finally has the group that can win the championship.

Johansen understands that, too, especially after having the success on the track.

"It's just time," she said. "It's just time for us to step up and show everyone what we really can do."

## TOP MEETS

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 1**

Elon Opener | 6 p.m.

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 10**

Elon Invitational | 10 a.m.

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 16**

Adidas XC Challenge | All day

**SATURDAY, OCT. 29**

CAA Championships | All day

**FRIDAY, NOV. 11**

NCAA Southeast Regional | All day

## STATS TO KNOW



Elon's finish at NCAA Southeast Region race, its highest ever



Kimberly Johansen's time at 2015 CAA championships (6th place)



Number of freshmen on 2016 roster

**6**

All-Conference runners since joining CAA



JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer  
Sophomore Nick Ciolkowski (4647, second from right) will need to step up and lead a young team of cross country runners in 2016.

## CIOLKOWSKI WEIGHS LEADERSHIP AHEAD OF CAA TITLE DEFENSE



**Tommy Hamzik**  
Columnist  
@T\_Hamzik

Sophomore Nick Ciolkowski isn't the most vocal guy on the Elon University men's cross country team. And he didn't think that'd be an issue, particularly so early in his career.

That's what comes with success.

Ciolkowski leads a pack of untested, inexperienced runners on Elon's roster this season, and because of the team's makeup — three freshmen and four redshirt freshmen — he's being thrust into a leadership position a year after taking the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) by storm and winning its championship.

"I'm trying to be more outspoken and take more charge — it makes me uncomfortable," Ciolkowski said. "I guess it's the role I'm in after last year. It's definitely something I'm keeping in mind."

Elon opens Sept. 1 at the Elon Opener.

Head coach Nick Polk is confident in Ciolkowski's leadership. He sees similarities between the sophomore and former

All-American Luis Vargas, a comparison that shouldn't be taken lightly.

Polk said they both lead by example, rather than with words. They're both strong academically and athletically — Ciolkowski interned 40 hours a week this summer at a microbiology lab this summer, and is majoring in biochemistry. And they're both rigid in their training, which shows in their performance.

"I don't want that to get lost in a bubble," Polk said. "I want freshmen to see how hard he is working to get what he achieves."

Not only does Ciolkowski have to weigh the leadership role, but he must also manage the high expectations that come with being a conference champion during his freshman season.

In winning the meet last year in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, Ciolkowski became the first runner to be named CAA Athlete of the Year and CAA Rookie of the Year in men's cross country. His time in the championship meet is second only to Vargas' from the previous year.

Ciolkowski calls qualifying for nationals a "big, AAA gold standard goal," but he's also cognizant of the fact that he's a sophomore and has three full seasons left. It's still the same goal, but his smarts show when taking stock of

the situation as a whole.

"I'm trying to keep it all in the moment," Ciolkowski said. "I know from personal experience that the stress can get to me. Last year is last year — none of that matters. It's all behind me. I can't take CAAs for granted. I can't take regionals for granted."

"It's, 'This is what I need to do today to be successful,' instead of, 'Oh my gosh, I need to be conference champion again,' like it's the end of the world. I'm trying to keep myself focused and trying not to get my head too big."

Polk said junior Carlos Andino has stood out as a vocal leader, complementing Ciolkowski's leadership style. Elon also returns junior Justin Leopold and sophomores Josh Kruppa and Greg Paugh.

Coming off preseason camp, Polk is unsure of how the lineup shakes out after Ciolkowski at the top.

Elon's finished third at each of the last two CAA championships. As Ciolkowski breaks out of his comfort zone to lead the newcomers, while considering his own expectations, he knows that's not enough.

"I think we're frustrated with a third-place finish," he said. "Everybody's hungry to prove themselves and show what kind of role they're going to have on the team this year."

## TOP MEETS

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Elon Opener | 6:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 10**

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**FRIDAY, SEPT. 16**

Adidas XC Challenge | All day

**SATURDAY, OCT. 29**

CAA Championships | All day

**FRIDAY, NOV. 11**

NCAA Southeast Regional | All day

## STATS TO KNOW



Nick Ciolkowski's CAA-winning time (2nd fastest 8k time in Elon history)

### 2-FOR-2

Elon runners have won both CAA individual championships



Number of seniors on 2016 roster



Elon's team finish at both CAA championships



Sept. 3  
Home  
3:30 p.m.



Sept. 10  
Away  
6 p.m.



Sept. 17  
Home  
6 p.m.

Tribe

Sept. 24  
Away  
7 p.m.



Oct. 1  
Home  
3:30 p.m.



Oct  
Ho  
3:30



ENN  
SPORTS

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer  
(From left) Olisaemeka Udoh, O'Shane Morris, Alex Higgins,  
Connor Christiansen (12, front), CJ Toogood, Ikenna Nwokeji.



Oct. 8  
Home  
7 p.m.



Oct. 22  
Home  
3:30 p.m.



Oct. 29  
Away  
Noon



Nov. 5  
Away  
2 p.m.



Nov. 12  
Home  
1:30 p.m.



Nov. 19  
Away  
TBD



# FOOTBALL SCHEDULE 2016

# Depth, athleticism needed to turn corner in CAA

[GRACE BENNETT] IS AN OLYMPIC-QUALITY ATHLETE.

CHRIS NEAL  
HEAD COACH



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer  
Grace Bennett (17, left) pumps her fists to celebrate a goal Aug. 19. Elon won 2-0.

Alex Simon  
Sports Director  
@alexsimon99

As the Elon University women's soccer team enters its third season in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA), head coach Chris Neal says he knows what it takes to win in this conference.

Neal spent seven seasons as an assistant coach at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, working under head coach Paul Cairney as the Seahawks improved their CAA record from 0-4-1 in 2001 to 8-3 in 2006.

"I feel very fortunate that I have that experience," Neal said. "At the end of the day, it's a pretty simple equation. The CAA is a very, very athletic league and a skilled league."

The athleticism across the league overwhelmed the Phoenix in 2014, as it limped to a 1-8 conference record, getting outscored in its eight losses, 20-3. Neal described the season as "demoralizing" when Elon ended the year.

While the 2015 team's 1-7-1 record doesn't look much better than 2014, the Phoenix was markedly improved, losing twice in overtime — including a 1-0 defeat at eventual conference champion James Madison University. For Neal, the difference at the end of the sea-

son was noticeable.

"Were we upset? Sure," Neal said. "But we knew the gap had been closed, and there were a couple of those games that could have gone our way but did not. This year, we go in with a significant amount of optimism because I think we're a better team than last year, and I think the kids have continued to improve."

Elon's season is already underway, and the Phoenix has dropped three straight matches after opening the year with a 2-0 win over Charleston Southern University. But Neal anticipated that, with a lot of position changes and new faces, chemistry would be an issue early on.

"I think that's probably going to take a little bit longer than normal [this year]," Neal said. "We've been a little more black-and-white with the decisions that were right in front of us — it was a little bit easier in the past — but this year, we've got a little more depth and different types of players in each position."

"The chemistry's going to be a big part of it — finding out who plays well with each other, who coexists well in certain areas of the field together. That's a good problem, but that's a very difficult problem."

One of the big changes for the Phoenix comes from one of its captains, as junior Grace Bennett is moving from forward to a

defending midfielder spot. Neal made the switch in the spring, and says the "Olympic-quality athlete" has been effective so far. Bennett sees energy conservation as her biggest personal challenge for the season.

"Up forward, you have a lot more time to

**The women's soccer team has already played four matches in the 2016 season, winning its first match of the season but losing all three matches since.**

recover because you choose your time to make runs," Bennett said. "But it's a different recovery when you're playing midfield. You choose a time to defend or attack, but you also have to transition a lot more. It's a lot more running that's involved, so I trained a lot differently this summer than I usually have trained — more distance and short sprints."

With a strong first-step burst and good pace, Baliatico can beat defenders and keepers to loose balls near the net, which she did Aug. 21 for Elon's lone goal against High Point University. But Baliatico sees the depth developing around her as a big difference from last year.

"Our team has so much depth this year," Baliatico said. "We've gained so many great players that add to the athleticism. We now have players that have the same amount of pace as me up top, and we have Grace in the middle with the same pace."

The depth means that Neal has a lot of juggling to do before CAA play starts in late September. And while Bennett's stated goal is to "get to the CAA finals," Neal looks at the conference landscape and — while understanding the challenges ahead — finds a lot of hope.

"It is not an easy league to move up the ranks of — there are a lot of teams that have been here for 20-plus years that have never won anything," Neal said. "You've got some traditional powers that you have to be fully committed to knocking off that pedestal. It's not easy, because they have great leadership, too. I think our kids are doing all the right things, and they're closing that gap significantly."



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer  
Kennedy Little (8) gathers the ball as she tried to avoid a Charleston Southern forward Aug. 19.

# TOP GAMES



Sept. 15  
Home  
7 p.m.



Sept. 25  
Home  
1 p.m.



Oct. 7  
Away  
7 p.m.



Oct. 16  
Home  
1 p.m.



Oct. 23  
Home  
2 p.m.

## STATS TO KNOW



Number of freshmen from outside of the United States

**1.37**

Average number of goals per game in 2015

**5**

Shutouts for Taylor Mohr last year

Goals for Tori Baliatico last season, tied for team-high



# TOP GAMES

## RU

Sept. 17 | Away  
6 p.m.



Sept. 28 | Home  
7 p.m.



Oct. 22 | Home  
8 p.m.



Oct. 25 | Home  
7 p.m.

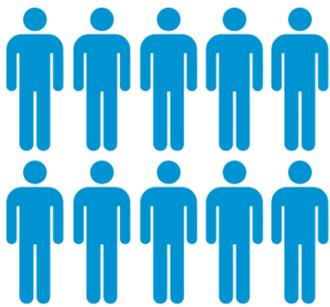


Oct. 29 | Home  
7 p.m.



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

# STATS TO KNOW



Number of last season's players who graduated

# 5

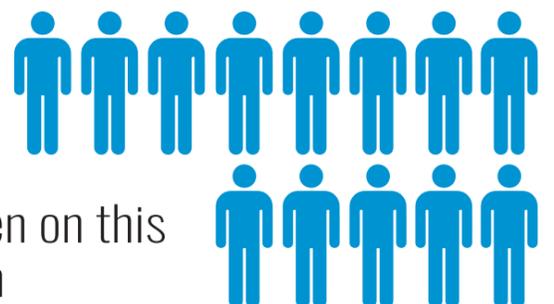
Goals scored by Jaiden Fortune last season, the most of any returner



NCAA Tournament appearances in the last five years

# 2

CAA teams that received votes in preseason NSCAA poll: Elon and Hofstra



13 freshmen on this year's team

# Loss in 2nd round motivating returners

Phoenix looks for younger players to step up this year

## Andrew Feather

Senior Reporter  
@AFeatherMVP

Last year, the Elon University men's soccer team jumped out to the best start in school history, winning its first seven games — including a victory at then-top-ranked Wake Forest University — and soaring into the top 10 in national polls.

**The men's soccer team has made the NCAA tournament in four of the past five seasons, and has advanced to the second round in 2013 and 2015.**

And though the Phoenix managed to capture the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) co-championship, it fell to University of Delaware on penalty kicks in the CAA semifinals. After a 3-0 win over Winthrop University in the first round of the NCAA tournament, Elon's season ended in disappointment with a 5-2 loss to Clemson University, the most goals the team had given up in a game since 2011.

"We started so brightly, but the feeling at the end of the season was one of despair and one of utter disappointment," said junior defender Jonathan Coleby. "We thought we could do better and we just couldn't get it done."

But according to redshirt sophomore goalkeeper Matthew Jegier, the team's goals remain as lofty as ever, and it will use last year's disappointment as motivation heading into the new season.

"Our goal is a national championship," Jegier said. "We want to end the season on a win, and that's the only way to do that. Obviously, [the Clemson game] wasn't the way we wanted to end the season, and, hopefully, we can use our disappointment and experience from last year to take the next step forward."

For Jegier, some of his motivation is coming from the CAA's preseason poll, where Elon was predicted to finish third in the conference.

"Elon's had a history of being underestimated and coming out and proving everyone wrong," Jegier said. "It's a little bit of a motivation. It's a dagger to the heart that no one believes in us, but it's a challenge, and we're going to show them what we got."

And though he said all games are important, Jegier said he has a circle in his calendar around Elon's matchup with Hofstra University on Oct. 29.

"That game was a blow to the heart last year," he said. "We play them at home, so I'm excited for that — especially because they are ranked first in the preseason polls. It's a chance for us to show how good we really are."

But Elon won't have it easy. The team graduated 10 players, including its three leading goal scorers — Eduardo Alvarez '16, James Brace '16 and Cooper Vandermaas-Peeler '16 — who combined to make almost half of the team's goals and several key pieces in a defense that ranked first in the CAA in goals allowed and shutouts.

"We've lost a lot, but that's the exciting

thing about coaching in college," said head coach Chris Little. "You get a new team every year, and we have lofty goals, but we've got a talented squad and a hardworking group of kids that are stepping up to try and achieve that."

Among those that are going to be counted upon to step up will be sophomore forward Jaiden Fortune, who was fourth on the team with five goals as a freshman and led with six assists. For a team that lost almost 70 percent of its scoring from last season, he'll be a key in making sure Elon's offense doesn't falter.

Also expected to compete for playing time are freshman defender Luke Matthews and freshman forward Tuki Tayali, a pair of 6-foot-4 imports from England who made a splash in camp over the spring and summer.

"They've given us competition and depth, which is what you want," Little said. "Their job is to make it difficult for us when we're picking the team and who's in the rotation. They're doing their part to make that difficult."

A big theme in the locker room is taking the program to the next level. After making the NCAA tournament in four of the past five seasons — including advancing to the second round in 2013 and 2015 — the Phoenix has its sights much higher.

"We hit the second round and got eliminated in the second round again, so that kind of sticks in your throat a little bit," Little said. "We feel as though we failed. We never took the program forward, and that's a hurdle we want to get over."



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer  
**Freshman forward Tuki Tayali (11) jumps for a header in an exhibition against the University of North Carolina at Charlotte Aug. 20.**

# Leadership, offseason to help volleyball in 2016

Tendler feels team with senior leadership will be better in CAA 3rd time around

**Emmanuel Morgan**

News Editor  
@EMorgan704

After its third straight sub-.500 season, Elon University's volleyball team is hoping to use its opening weekend momentum as a springboard to more success. The Phoenix is now 1-1, and optimistic about the road ahead.

**Last year, the Phoenix finished with a 7-23 overall record coupled with a 3-13 Colonial Athletic Association conference record.**

Last year, the Phoenix finished with a 7-23 overall record, coupled with a 3-13 Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) conference record. Elon ranked near the bottom of the conference in many categories.

But there's a sense of excitement this year as the Phoenix returns 12 players from last season, including four of its five leaders in kills and kills per set. Sophomore Kam Terry was a force during Elon's opening weekend, tallying 31 total kills in a win over Campbell University and a loss to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Head coach Mary Tendler, heading into her 14th season at Elon, said this offseason was devoted to improving both on and off the court for her players.

Redshirt junior setter Sydel Curry said the spring was the best this team has had since she's been at Elon because "you can just see how much [the team] improved in the weight room and in the court." Tendler is also confident for the 2016 season because this will be Elon's third season in the CAA, granting them familiarity with most of the teams they'll face.

"I feel like in our third season in the CAA, we'll be a lot better, and we're building rivalries with a lot of other teams," Tendler said. "I think it's definitely helpful that we're more of a CAA team."

**Scott's transition**

While the team collectively continues to conform to its relatively new conference, senior outside hitter Ebony Scott is progressively looking to assimilate to Elon as a whole. The Powhatan, Virginia, native transferred from Michigan State University last year and contributed for the Phoenix immediately, playing in all 30 matches.

The Spartans annually see great success on the volleyball court, so Scott is hopeful she can help build a winning culture for Elon this year. Even with the rapid shift from a power conference school to a much smaller one, Tendler said Scott adjusted well and is prepared for her "Super Senior Year," which Scott echoed.

"It was definitely strange from going from a big school to such a small, close-knit family, but it's been a good transition," Scott said. "I actually really like the smaller school — every-

thing is just so more personal here, and I love it. The sport is still the same, obviously, but the energy is really different."

**Senior leadership**

Another aspect that is vastly different for the Phoenix this season is being spearheaded by veterans. Elon will take the court this year with four seniors, lead by senior outside hitter Kayla Agae and school-senior but eligibility-junior Curry as team captains.

Tendler said Agae and Curry complemented each other extremely well, and also expects senior middle blocker Ally Karle to be a vocal presence, too. Karle said because of all the work she and her team exhausted in the offseason, she hopes to end her collegiate athletic career on a high note.

"I think toward the end of the season, I'll get more emotional. But, as of right now, I'm just really, really excited," Karle said. "I just want to play every game the best I can and leave everything on the court, because I know I only have a handful left."

Elon also brings back defensive specialist Morgan Maner, who's tied for the program record for aces in a Division I match (8).



JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer  
**Senior outside hitter Ebony Scott (8) jumps to swing at a ball against the University of Delaware Oct. 10, 2015. Scott is one of four seniors in 2016.**



JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer  
**Sophomore Kam Terry (16) was third on the team in kills in 2015, with 170.**

# TOP GAMES



Sept. 9  
Home  
7 p.m.



Sept. 23  
Home  
7 p.m.



Oct. 15  
Home  
7 p.m.



Oct. 28  
Home  
7 p.m.



Nov. 13  
Home  
2 p.m.

JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer

# STATS TO KNOW

**17** Kills by Kam Terry in season opener vs. Charlotte



Number of players returning

**1,235** Kills last year



Five-set matches won last year



Five-set matches won already this year

**4-18** Overall record in CAA

# ELON STYLE GUIDE TAILGATING



Cheer on the Phoenix by wagging an obnoxious foam finger.

Embrace your inner Southern Belle with an Elon-themed bow.

Load up on facepaint or stickers for the full effect.

Amp up your spirit with some pom-poms.

Rock the new Elon Phoenix logo with T-shirts to help pump up the team.

Seniors Zach Johnson and Sam Ash ramp up their tailgate style with clothing and accessories from the Barnes & Noble Bookstore.

HALEY LONGBOTTOM | Contributor

**Courtney Campbell**  
Lifestyle Editor  
@courtccamps

With the college football season kicking off, an activity that might be as exciting as watching the Elon University Phoenix play comes with it: tailgating. Getting pumped up outside Rhodes Stadium in maroon and gold with fellow students is one of the best ways to forget about the week before cheering on the team, no matter the score.

Though there isn't a wrong way to tailgate, there are a few things to consider to get the most fun hanging out in the parking lot during the day.

### DO bring enough food

There's nothing worse than reaching into a bag of chips and finding they're all gone. Create a potluck of burgers, dogs, beer (if you're over 21) and snacks to share with friends and fellow tailgaters.

### DON'T get dehydrated

The beginning of September in North Carolina is hot, and you will most likely be sweating out there. Be sure to bring extra water and ice to avoid having someone passed out in the parking lot.

### DO have games ready

Just like a good outdoor

party, a tailgate should always have something to help waste time before the game starts. Choose games that can get everyone involved through playing or watching, such as a table for pong or cornhole.

### DON'T leave a mess

It's common courtesy to clean up a bit before heading into the stadium. The host did feed you. So toss plates and empty cans to make the lives of the host and custodian staff a little easier.

### DO dress spirited

It's hard not to get amped seeing a parking lot that's been transformed into a sea of

maroon and gold. Get T-shirts and accessories from the Barnes & Noble bookstore to really live the maroon life.

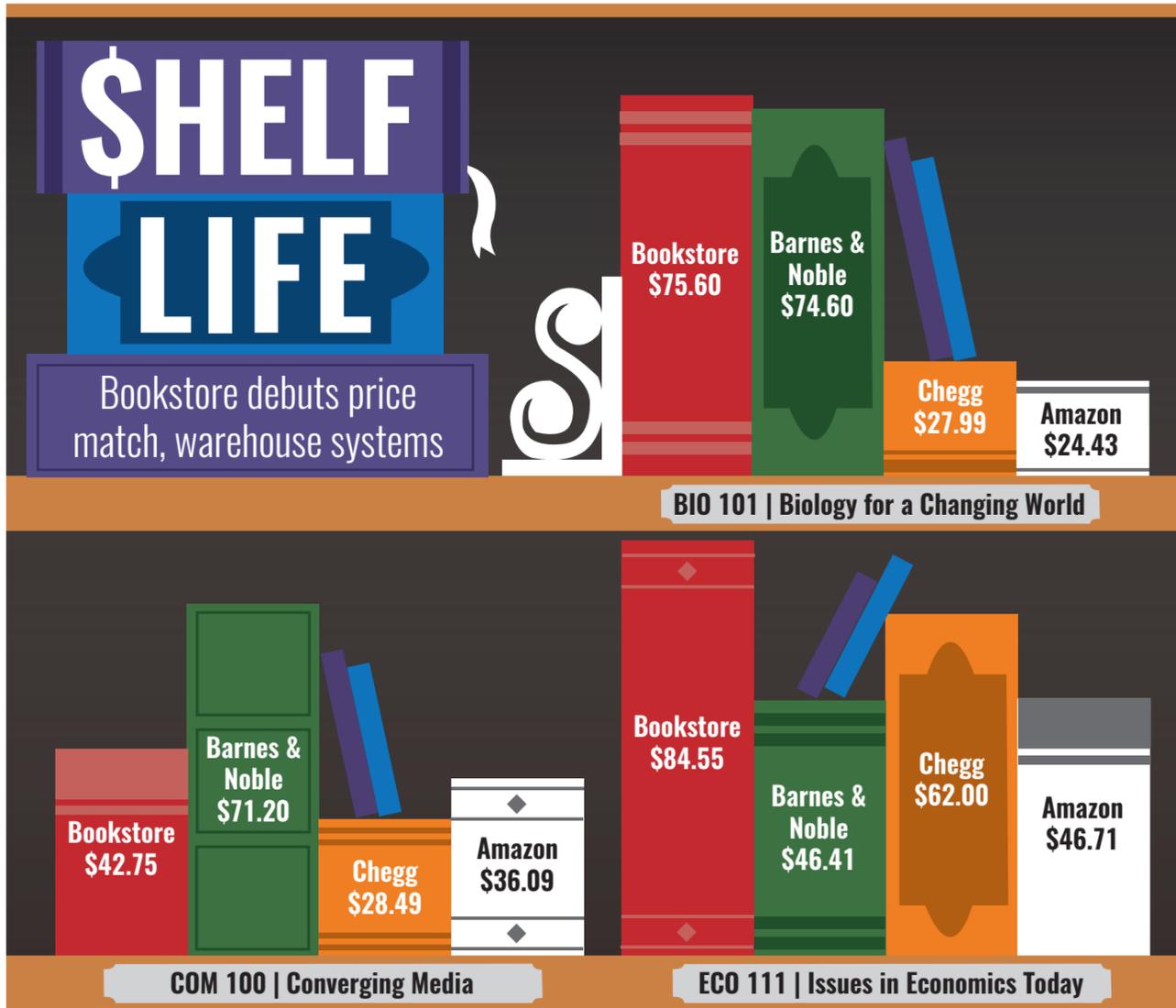
### DON'T overdo the alcohol

Remember to have fun but be safe if you're 21+. You don't want to end up missing the game from being too turned or making your friends miss it to take care of you.

### DO get so pumped your head might explode

Use every tailgate as a chance to have fun with friends while supporting the school. Get excited, take pictures with the Phoenix and get ready to watch Elon win (or lose).

# THE PENDULUM



**Kailey Tracy**  
Senior Reporter  
@Kailey\_Tracy

Even though it doesn't seem like it right now, Elon University Barnes & Noble manager Carly Mayer said there

is a method to the ongoing changes of ordering books.

In years past, students were able to walk in and order books in person. But starting this year, textbook orders can only be processed online. Mayer said that while this may seem hectic at first, the overall goal is

to create more efficiency.

"I think any time you change a process, people have their grumblings, and that's understandable," Mayer said. "In the past

See **BOOKSTORE**  
pg. 4

## Expanding the Elon nightlife

Alumnus to offer access to alternative nights out through bus sharing service

**Courtney Campbell**  
Lifestyle Editor  
@courtccamps

Since his opportunities for college nightlife were mostly restricted to West End Terrace, Tony's Pub-N-Subs and The Fat Frogg,

**Rally, a crowd-powered bus service, doesn't own buses but rather uses route-shuttling technology to connect bus companies to groups of individuals attending events.**

Adam Salaymeh '16 always wanted a way to explore the rest of the North Carolina nightlife scene.

After working at Rally, a crowd-powered bus service, Salaymeh wanted to bring additional nightlife to Elon students through ELONightlife Getaways. His hope is to bring large groups of students to different areas and events in a safe and cost-efficient way.

"I immediately thought of a weekend nightlife service, which is something I wanted for a long time, that would allow students the opportunity to get outside the Elon Bubble and explore North Carolina cities, like Raleigh and Greensboro or other colleges like Franklin Street in Chapel Hill," Salaymeh said.

Similar to Uber and Lyft, Rally doesn't own any buses, but rather uses route-shuttling technology to connect bus companies to groups of individuals attending events such as concerts, sporting events or political rallies.

"I really think it's the future of transportation," Salaymeh said. "In the United States — in the world — people are trying to be more efficient. The buses are there, but we're trying to make it so people can utilize it, but in a more efficient way."

Rally has a list of potential rides for events, but individuals can create their own. They will go anywhere as long as 25 people sign up for a ride, according to Salaymeh.

To create a Rally trip, individuals choose the location, the time of the event and how many people are attending. The creator can then share it to get others to attend and fill up the bus, a feature Salaymeh sees Elon students using.

The price per person varies with location, how soon the bus is reserved and how many people are attending. A full coach bus can cost as low as \$20 filled with 55 people or \$36 with the minimum of 25.

"It is a more affordable option than

See **RALLY BUS**  
pg. 7

# Sloan Hall gets historic facelift

**Alex Hager**  
News Editor  
@awhager

Students returning to campus this weekend were greeted by a renovated Sloan Hall after the interior of the dorm

**The changes include brand-new drywall to replace cinderblock, new floor tiles, new sink basins and renovated bathrooms.**

got a face-lift over the summer.

"I think the physical upgrades will help the students by providing a more comfortable space for them to live, study and build relationships," said MarQuita Barker, senior associate director of Residence Life.

The changes include brand-new drywall to replace cinderblock, new floor tiles, new stone sink basins and renovated bathrooms. On the first floor, murals painted by the Communications LLC in years past were



Freshman Kenny Vesey works in his room in Sloan Hall's Communications LLC.

replaced by dry-erase boards.

"It's just completely different, and I think it's a lot better, especially for incoming students," said sophomore David Flynt, who is living in Sloan for the second consecutive year.

Sloan, originally constructed in 1961, is the first building in the Historic Neighborhood to undergo renovations as part of a larger plan to upgrade the

campus' oldest residential buildings.

According to Barker, the plan is to renovate each of the residential buildings in the Historic Neighborhood over the next few summers.

"We recognize these buildings are older than Colonnades and Global, so we want to make sure the paint and furniture are updated on a regular basis," Barker said.

**NEWS**  
Solar-powered umbrellas come to Moseley **4**

**STYLE**  
Elon Eats: Redefinery & Co. brings trendiness to Burlington **7**

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Staff Editorial: Engage in supporting correct gender pronouns **6**

**THE PENDULUM**

A PUBLICATION OF

**ELON NEWS NETWORK**

Established 1974

Elon News Network is a daily operation that includes a newspaper, website, broadcasts and multimedia. Letters to the editor are welcome and should be typed, signed and emailed to [enn@elon.edu](mailto:enn@elon.edu) as Word documents. ENN reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of ENN and will not be returned. ENN is located on the third floor of the Elon Town Center on Williamson Avenue.

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**Elon aims to maintain faculty-student ratio**

**opinions**

**BROWN: 2020, you don't have to fit the Elon mold**

**lifestyle**

**Students volunteer time, cuddles at Burlington Pet Adoption Center**

**GAMES**

**CRIME REPORT**

**August 27 SOUTH WILLIAMSON AVENUE DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED**

An Elon man was charged Saturday with driving while impaired after being stopped by N.C. Highway Patrol troopers.

According to the Burlington Times-News, the man was pulled over at 12:18 a.m. and registered a 0.11 on a sobriety test. The legal limit is 0.08.

He was released on \$1,000 bond.

**August 25 WEST HAGGARD AVENUE, ELON LARCENY**

A Burlington woman reported to Town of Elon Police that her Samsung Galaxy 7 cellphone had been stolen from Tony's Pub-N-Subs.

According to a Town of Elon Police report, the victim left her cellphone in the bathroom and hasn't seen it since.

The case is open to further investigation.

**August 24 WADE COBLE DRIVE, ELON VANDALISM**

A Burlington man reported to Town of Elon Police that paint had been scratched on both sides of his vehicle.

A Town of Elon Police report states that the man believed someone had keyed his car.

The damage is worth \$800, and a follow will be conducted.

**August 10 FELONY BURNING PERSONAL PROPERTY**

A Haw River man was charged Thursday after being accused of setting fire to someone's 1997 Honda Accord.

According to a report in the Burlington Times-News, the man was being held under a \$20,000 secured bond.

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JACKIE PASCALE, PERRY ELYADERANI AND MAYA EAGLIN ARE BRINGING YOU THE NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW.

FOR RELEASE AUGUST 31, 2016

**Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle**

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16		
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58					59					60		
61					62					63		

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pervasive clown
  - 5 You, in Peru
  - 10 ABC drama about plane crash survivors
  - 14 Footnote notation
  - 15 Nary a soul
  - 16 Stuff in a dump
  - 17 Buried the hatchet
  - 20 Leafy Tolkien creature
  - 21 Boomers' kids
  - 22 Round gaskets
  - 23 Steely Dan album pronounced like a continent
  - 24 Move with effort
  - 25 Got on everyone's nerves
  - 33 Let in or let on
  - 34 Man with a code
  - 35 Prohibit
  - 36 They may be black or green
  - 37 \_ Waldo Emerson
  - 38 Ask for proof of age
  - 39 Street in "Freddy vs. Jason"
  - 40 \_ colony
  - 41 With "en," hot, in sports slang
  - 42 Showed disapproval
  - 45 Western tribe
  - 46 Remote cells
  - 47 Evening get-together
  - 50 Venus de Milo knockoffs?
  - 52 Stat for Chris Sale
  - 55 Type of auto found in the three other longest puzzle answers
  - 58 Fine spray
  - 59 Meathead's '70s TV mother-in-law
  - 60 Scintilla
  - 61 Bump on a lid
  - 62 Tony of "Who's the Boss?"
  - 63 Seemingly forever
- DOWN**
- 1 Kid's wheels
  - 2 Ruler of the Valkyries
  - 3 Get-up-and-go
  - 4 Mantra sounds
  - 5 Like zombies
  - 6 Rise dramatically
  - 7 Oodles
  - 8 Word with tight or loose
  - 9 Reduce to rubble
  - 10 Pretentious
  - 11 Writing on the wall, so to speak
  - 12 Complacent
  - 13 Bikini parts
  - 18 Joe Namath, notably
  - 19 Came up
  - 23 Without warranty
  - 24 Flowery, as prose
  - 25 Provide fare for an affair
  - 26 "A Passage to India" heroine
  - 27 Savory taste
  - 28 Some refrigerators
  - 29 "Interstellar" director
  - 30 Mav or Cav
  - 31 Things in a hold
  - 32 Fund, as an academic chair
  - 37 Got money for
  - 38 Team that hasn't won a World Series since 1908
  - 40 Fizzle (out)
  - 41 Elaborate spread
  - 43 French police force
  - 44 Steinway competitor
  - 47 Virtual citizens in a video game
  - 48 Doing the job
  - 49 Teeny
  - 50 Deuce follower, in tennis
  - 51 Cracker brand
  - 52 Chamber effect
  - 53 Drops from above
  - 54 Part of MFA
  - 56 Writer LeShan
  - 57 Farm female



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**UPCOMING EVENTS: AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 6**

3:30 P.M. | Student Employment Fair  
**31**

7:30 P.M. | The Second City comedy show  
**1**

7:30 P.M. | The Second City comedy show  
**2**

3:30 P.M. | Football vs. Gardner-Webb  
**3**

2 P.M. | Women's soccer at Western Carolina  
**4**

5:30 P.M. | Elizabeth Alexander: In Pursuit of Good Taste  
**5**

4 P.M. | El Centro Open House  
**6**

# TOP PHOTOS



DIEGO PINEDA | Photo Editor  
Emily Weller (left) helps her brother freshman Cory Weller (right) set up Cory's speaker system.



DIEGO PINEDA | Photo Editor  
Jane Shutt, J. Earl Danieley's daughter, speaks to Danieley Center Neighborhood freshmen residents about her father.



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer  
Freshman Dina Henderson checks into her dorm in Global. Henderson is looking forward to meeting new people at Elon.



STEPHANIE HAYS | Design Chief  
Freshmen roommates Hannah Taylor and Kristen Koch hug each other on move-in day. Taylor and Koch started talking over GroupMe and then met at Rising Phoenix Weekend before deciding to live together.



DIEGO PINEDA | Photo Editor  
(left to right) Heath Long, freshman Nik Streit, Lisa Streit and sophomore Tucker Reilly work together to loft Nik's bed during move-in day.

**BOOKSTORE**  
from cover

people have been able to just walk in, and I understand now they have to wait a little bit, but we're hoping that this makes the overall process a little less stressful."

Once students order their books, the store will bring them in from an off-site warehouse and email students when their books arrive, Mayer said. Orders placed in the morning will be ready in-store by 3 p.m. the same day, Mayer said. During peak times, such as

**Orders placed in the morning will be ready in-store by 3 p.m. the same day. During peak times, books will be ready by the next business day at the latest.**

the start of semesters, books will be ready by the next business day at the latest.

A need for space and efficiency prompted the staff to decide to move textbooks to an off-site warehouse. According to Mayer, the store doesn't want to reveal the location of the warehouse because they don't want students traveling there.

"[The warehouse] is more spread out, so we can have more people working to process books at any given time," Mayer said. "Students who are pulling online orders don't have to stop to help customers. We kind of have two forces. We have the customer-facing

# ORDERING TEXTBOOKS THROUGH THE BOOKSTORE



CHRISTINA ELIAS | Design Editor

team here and then we have the pulling and processing team [at the warehouse], so ideally, there's less wait time in the end."

The extra space allows for what Mayer called "flex space" to host events in the store, such as readings and de-stress events. It has also added room for two fitting rooms.

This "flex space" and the new textbook ordering protocol weren't the only changes the bookstore underwent this summer. Staff launched a price match system for textbooks as well.

According to Mayer, the bookstore thought the price match system "was an

opportunity to bring back some folks to the store," but there are stipulations to the system. The bookstore price matches with Barnes & Noble headquarters and Amazon as long as the book is sold directly by Amazon and not individual sellers. They do not price match with peer-to-peer sites like Chegg.

In addition, the price match textbook has to be in the same condition as the textbook at the bookstore. According to Mayer, the exchange has to be an "even trade-off."

Despite the price match's conditions, Mayer said several students have already come in and received refunds for textbooks.

While senior Mark Schenk hasn't personally used price match yet, he thinks the system is a good idea.

"It is a relevant and interesting approach to buying textbooks for today's college students," Schenk said.

With the changes, Mayer said she wants to remind students that the bookstore wants to be involved as an integral place in their college experiences.

"We want to be a fun place beyond just coming to get your textbooks. We want people to view us as a social hub on campus," Mayer said.

# Solar power comes to Moseley patio

## Powersol umbrellas act as outdoor charging stations

**Hannah Silvers**  
Managing Editor  
@hannah\_silvers

A group of transfer students sitting on the Moseley Center patio looked over to the table next to them and said, almost in unison, "What? That's so cool!"

The umbrella on that table had just been pointed out to them — the solar-powered, USB-charging umbrella.

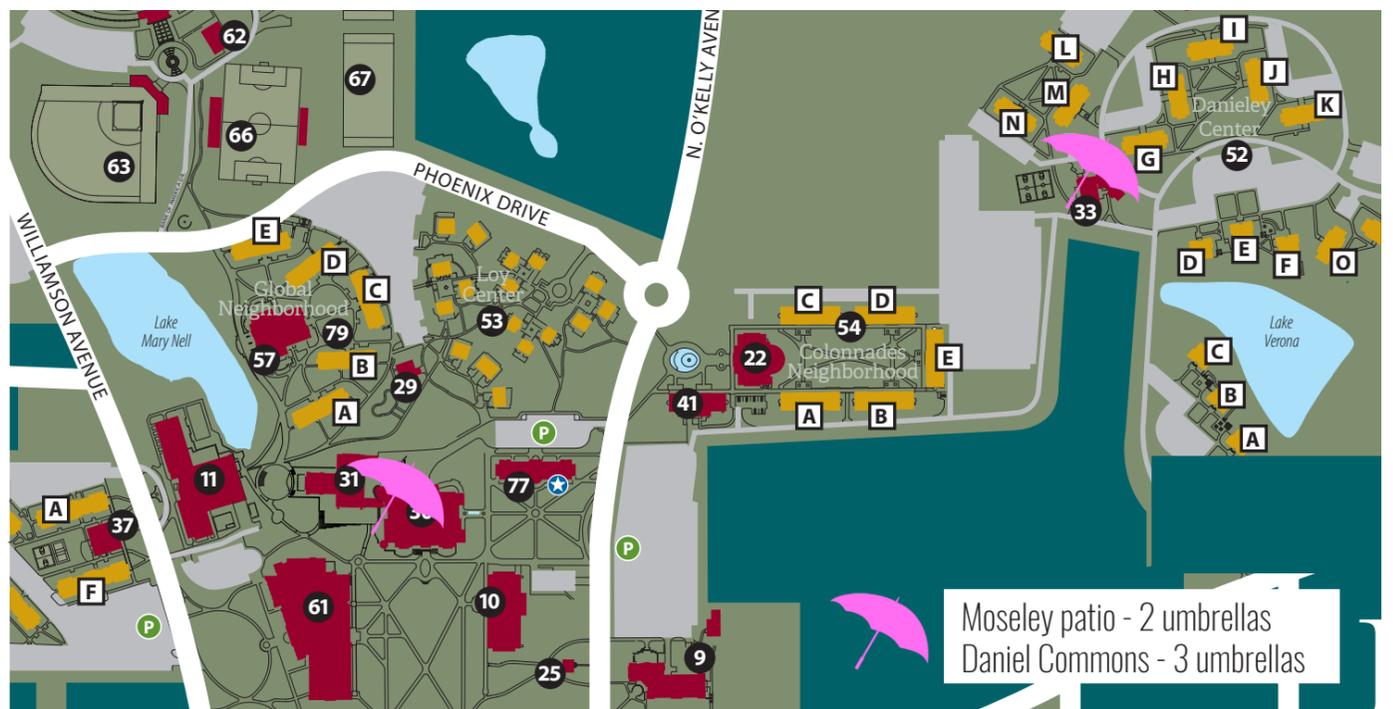
**The Powersol umbrellas can charge a phone or other USB device at the same rate as a wall outlet. Students just have to supply the charging cable.**

The charging station umbrellas, called Powersol, were created by Sarah Jordan Akin, founder of ZON Technology. According to the ZON Technology website, the Powersol umbrellas capture solar energy through the monocrystalline panels placed on top of the umbrella.

That energy is then transformed by the umbrella into electricity, stored in a dual-cell lithium polymer ion battery, which can be used to charge any device plugged into the three USB charging ports. According to the ZON Technology website, the Powersol umbrellas can charge a phone or other USB device at the same rate as a wall outlet. Students just have to supply the charging cable, and the sun and umbrella do the rest of the work.

The idea to install the solar-powered charging umbrellas at Elon University came out of a national conference for the Association of Physical Plant Administrators. Associate Vice President for Facilities Management and Director of Physical Plant Robert Buchholz attended the conference and brought the idea back to Elon.

"This is a test," Buchholz said in an



email. "We bought six, three at Moseley and three at Daniel Commons."

Since their installation in April 2016, one umbrella at Moseley has been damaged by the wind, Buchholz said. So that leaves five on campus now.

"We will see how much use they receive and how they stand up [before ordering more]," he said.

Freshman Will Van Burkleo, who was sitting at the table on the patio, said the umbrellas are really exciting. He plans to get a lot of use out of them, especially if some are placed in between academic buildings.

"I have a tendency to run out of battery on my phone a lot, so [putting them] on the tables in between academic buildings would be great."

Sophomore Will Bouhuys, also at the table, agreed, but he thinks putting umbrellas in more places like Moseley and Daniel Commons would be most useful.

"I also think it'd be cool, like this one, to be near places where you could get food and get a drink and relax for a while, just have it there when you're going to be sit-

ting down and chilling for a little while," he said.

Even though the umbrellas have been in place since April, many students still don't know about them. Buchholz even said he was "surprised" to not see news of the umbrellas spread on social media.

But aside from the solar panels and the small silver cylinders on the tables, the special umbrellas are hard to distinguish from the umbrellas that have been a staple of Moseley patio furniture for years. There isn't any signage to signify to students that some umbrellas can charge their phones.

Senior Jordan Solomon said she "had no idea" the umbrellas were there. She doesn't spend a lot of time around the two areas where the umbrellas are now, but she said she would use them if the university installed them elsewhere.

"Over by Tangent and The Root," Solomon said. "Especially when there's a wait at The Root."

As far as the technology itself, Solomon and Bouhuys said they weren't worried about convenience or safety. Students can check the amount of solar energy stored

## FIXIT DESK

**Phone Number: 336-278-5500**  
**Call if:** Students encounter problems with the Powersol umbrellas

by an umbrella at any time by looking at a series of LED lights on the base of the umbrella, similar to the row of LED lights on the side of a MacBook Pro, so they will always know if the umbrellas are ready for charging.

"I have zero concerns about [safety]," Bouhuys said. "I think it's super cool. I don't know what the wattage or voltage is, but if it's designed to charge a phone through USB, it's probably safe."

The USB ports on the Powersol umbrellas are "intelligent" ports. "Intelligent" USB ports, according to the ZON Technology website, "sense the type of device connected, allowing the battery hub to charge any USB device as fast as a wall outlet."

If students encounter problems with the umbrellas, Buchholz said they should call the FIXit desk at 336-278-5500.

 CHEAT SHEET

Want a complicated news story explained?  
Email [enn@elon.edu](mailto:enn@elon.edu) and find it in next week's Cheat Sheet

# Kaepernick takes a stand by sitting down



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Colin Kaepernick (7) scrambles away from a St. Louis Rams defender Dec. 1, 2013. Kaepernick's refusal to stand during the national anthem has elicited significant response, both criticism and praise, online.

San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick ignited a national firestorm Friday after he refused to stand during the national anthem before a preseason game against the Green Bay Packers.

The sixth-year player out of the University of Nevada told NFL Media his action was a deliberate protest in light of the nation's current divisive state in race relations. This comes after a summer marred by police brutality cases and continual inner-city gun violence. Five Dallas police officers were ambushed and killed after Alton Sterling and Philando Castile were controversially killed in July.

The 28-year-old biracial quarterback avidly uses his social media accounts to voice his displeasure with violence and social injustice while promoting #BlackLivesMatter. In this latest act in

the name of civil rights, Kaepernick joins NBA stars Carmelo Anthony, Chris Paul, LeBron James and Dwyane Wade as other notable professional athletes publicly stating the need for change this summer. Wade, who plays for the Chicago Bulls, personally experienced tragedy this week when his cousin, Nykea Aldridge, was unintentionally shot and killed by convicted felons while walking her child in a stroller.

Kaepernick said he was prepared for the inevitable backlash. Many accused him of being disrespectful and unpatriotic toward military personnel and the American flag. The NFL also released a statement saying players are "encouraged but not required to stand during the playing of the national anthem."

"I am not going to stand up to show

pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color," Kaepernick told NFL Media. "To me, this is bigger than football, and it would be selfish on my part to look the other way. There are bodies in the street and people getting paid leave and getting away with murder."

A number of Kaepernick's NFL peers, as well as politicians and celebrities, publicly lambasted him. Minnesota Vikings offensive lineman Alex Boone, a former teammate of Kaepernick, has a brother in the Marine Corps. Boone said while the 49ers quarterback has the liberty to express himself, he should have "respect for people who served, especially people that lost their life to protect our freedom." Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, known for his brashness, said he

followed the situation and thought it was a "terrible thing."

"Maybe he should find a country that works better for him, let him try. It won't happen," Trump said.

On Sunday, Kaepernick was hounded by reporters and addressed the controversy in-depth, ranging from road stops to the Presidential Election. He said that he meant no disrespect for his actions, only that he wanted to cause change.

"I'll continue to sit. ... I'm going to continue to stand with the people that are being oppressed," Kaepernick said. "To me, this is something that has to change, and when there's significant change — and I feel like that flag represents what it's supposed to represent, and this country is representing people the way it's supposed to — I'll stand."

 NEWS BRIEFS

## Alumnus, professors publish research at conference

Daniel Schneider '16, Assistant Professor of Computing Sciences Scott Spurlock and Professor of Computing Sciences Megan Squire, recently participated in the 12th International Symposium on Open Collaboration in Berlin, Aug. 17-19.

The three Computing Science scholars published "Differentiating Communication Styles on the Linux Kernel Mailing List," a paper describing how to use text and machine learning to identify differences in communication styles of the Linux kernel, a vital operating system for personal servers and computers.

The authors used the texts of more than 40,000 email messages over the span of 20 years and found they could distinguish between the writing styles of two individuals with 96 percent accuracy.

## Trumpet lessons offered for course credit

Elon University is now offering trumpet lessons for both music majors and nonmajors. Taught by Professor Wayne Bennet, the lessons are offered for either one credit hour or two credit hours.

The lessons meet once per week and can be added any time during drop/add.

## Elon receives 7 national rankings in 2017 Princeton Review

Elon University received seven national rankings in The Princeton Review's 2017 edition of "The Best 381 Colleges" guide, including a No. 1 ranking in the "best-run colleges" category.

The guide, which bases its rankings on a survey of 143,000 students nationwide, ranked Elon in the top 20 of seven categories.

In addition to the "best-run" title, Elon was ranked No. 3 for "Most Popular Study Abroad Program", No. 3 for "Most Beautiful Campus", No. 3 for "Best College Dorms", No. 3 for "Most Active Student Government", No. 3 for "Best Career Services" and No. 3 for "Best College Theater".

## Professor of Religious Studies invited to deliver lecture in India

Associate Professor of Religious Studies Amy Allocco addressed more than 100 undergraduate and graduate students in Chennai, India, as part of an invited lecture at Ethiraj College for Women.

In her lecture, titled "The Cauvery River in the Tamil Landscape and Hindu Ritual Imagination: Notes on Aadi Perukku," Allocco examined the themes of tradition, heritage and culture in the Hindu Aadi Perukku festival, which was celebrated before her presentation. Ethiraj College is one of India's most renowned women's colleges, encompassing 6,500 stu-

dents and nearly 300 faculty members.

This was the third time in the 2015-2016 Indian academic school year that Allocco was invited to India to deliver a lecture.

## Faculty and staff hold school supplies drive for local students

The annual school supplies drive took place this week, as Elon University faculty and staff collected items such as backpacks, bookbags, school supplies, and personal care items for students in the Alamance County area.

The drive began in 2011, when the Elon community gathered basic educational supplies for young children in Afghanistan. That initiative inspired the current drive, which helps students locally.

Collection efforts help meet the needs of Alamance Burlington School system students. As of the 2014-2015 school year, 57 percent of whom are eligible for free and reduced price meals, and almost 800 students were identified as lacking a permanent nighttime residence.

 **STAFF EDITORIAL**

## Name tags and forms are not enough to eliminate misgendering at Elon

### HOW WE SEE IT

Recognizing the importance of calling people by their correct gender pronouns is everyone's responsibility, not just the administration's

This year, Orientation Leaders (OLs) — clad in their signature beige shorts and white T-shirts — added something new to their standard uniform: a name tag that included their gender pronoun. This addition is accompanied by several initiatives led by the Gender & LGBTQIA Center (GLC) and its Trans Inclusion Squad, including RA trainings and the opportunity to include your own gender pronoun on your OnTrack profile.

According to Matthew Antonio Bosch, director of the Gender & LGBTQIA Center, these steps were a result of student need. He said it became increasingly clear that the number of students who identify as non-binary or gender queer are increasing, so the university took

measures to stop misgendering. This, he added, is part of their many efforts to help make all students at Elon feel “valued, victorious and validated.”

The institution took our student needs seriously, and it's important for cisgender students — many of whom may not realize the importance behind the idea — to reciprocate.

Not all institutions are this quick to welcome student needs and concerns. To simply add a gender-neutral option to the University of Vermont's information system in 2015, it took nearly a decade of lobbying and \$80,000 in staff time to create a software patch. Considering that LGBTQIA youth are more than twice as likely to attempt suicide as their heterosexual peers, according to the Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention, the damage behind assigning someone an identity they do not align with is not something to take lightly.

But to benefit and change overall campus culture, the message needs to reach a wider group of students — not just those with leadership titles like RA and OL, and other organizational affiliations.

If students don't have at least some knowledge of the identities to which these pronouns correspond or what it means to identify, an OnTrack form, a training and a name tag will hold little value. These initiatives need to be supplemented by further programming and opportunities for further questioning. The institution can't expect all answers to be contained in a resource guide that many students will not take the time to read.

But while they've done a lot, the GLC can't do it alone. Some trainings are open to all students, attend them. Start discussions on your own. Are

you confused by the OnTrack form? Talk about it with your peers. Think calling someone “they” is grammatically confusing? Practice it on your own — there are plenty of resources online. Bring these discussions back to the classroom.

And when you understand the importance behind being called your correct gender pronoun — which, on a fundamental level, is as simple to understand as any other identity marker — then help avoid further misgendering on this campus by sharing what you've learned with someone else.

It isn't mandatory for you to share your pronouns, but it is mandatory for you to recognize the importance of giving people the option of doing so.

While it's an incredible start, the university doesn't need to hand us a name card and an online form for us to recognize the importance of allowing people the freedom to be themselves. That's our responsibility.

## Recognizing my privilege and fear of misspeaking



**Maria Baretto**  
Columnist  
@barettom

Around three years ago, the #BlackLivesMatter movement began. And for the most part, I've stayed silent. I watch the news every day and continuously see acts of institutional racism, and yet say nothing about them. Sure, I've shared and liked videos on Facebook that others post, but that is the extent of my action. Or, I guess I should say, inaction. I hear these discussions of white supremacy, but refrain from saying a word.

I've been granted the luxury of silence. I've been able to watch the country I love crumble around me without it directly affecting me because of a single truth; I'm not black. And

while I am Hispanic, and therefore a person of color, my privilege appears in other aspects of my life. My privilege comes in the form of socioeconomic status. I usually tiptoe around the fact that I am in the upper middle class, but it's the truth and part of who I am.

My parents moved from a developing nation and started a business here, a very successful one, one that I could not be more proud of. They worked so hard and made so many sacrifices to give my siblings and me a better life and they succeeded. I recognize that, because of their efforts and our current status, I most likely have not encountered as much racism and injustice as someone of my color in a lower socioeconomic class would.

I've had this privilege for a while now and have used it to do nothing. I chose to not make a difference simply because I was afraid of misspeaking, of saying something ignorant, of using a wrong word or phrase and being

called out for my mistake. I believed it wasn't my place to speak out.

I questioned whether I would seem like too much of a hypocrite if I advocated for #BlackLivesMatter. I was under the false impression that because other people were talking about it, there was no need for me to speak out. This is where I went wrong.

I was so focused on remaining neutral and indifferent that I was blinded to the opportunity in front of me, the chance to take my privilege and use it to strengthen this movement and attempt to even the battleground.

We've gone way past the point where silence is acceptable. People who remain inactive can at times be just as harmful to society as the oppressors. If you're like me and have remained silent because you fear you are uninformed and afraid of saying the wrong things, ask questions. If you say something wrong, figure out why it was wrong, learn

from it and go on to teach others.

To those of us who have privilege and choose to do nothing with it, the time has passed for us to remain passive. The scales of justice are entirely too unsteady for us to not support the side that needs help.

The only way to get rid of the institutional racism that riddles our country is by having those difficult conversations about it, by bringing awareness to the issue until it is absolutely impossible to ignore.

The truth is that people with privilege, particularly white privilege, are heard much more than people of color. If you hear or see an instance of racial bias, don't think someone else has already said something about it. More often than not they haven't.

To all those who are too shy or afraid or have simply remained silent: It's time to step up and speak out. Ask questions. Be an ally. Make the difference that only you can.

## CAMPUS VOICES

Elon News Network is renewing its efforts to serve as a voice of the Elon University community. Each week, this space will feature writing from member of the community. Want to participate? Contact us at [enn@elon.edu](mailto:enn@elon.edu).

## Lessons in humility during times of struggle



**Reikan "Ray" Lin**  
Assistant Director for  
CREDE

Starting college is a fresh start, a clean slate, a blank canvas — but on your first day, you realize that the canvas given to you isn't blank at all. It's actually the canvas you've been painting on throughout your entire life, it's just that you didn't realize you've only been painting in one small corner this whole time. The rest of the canvas remains wide open. But you quickly realize that there's a lot more to it than you had thought.

On your first week, you start to notice that there are, in fact, several others painting alongside you, different techniques to learn, brushes to use, colors to choose and ideas to think about. It's simply overwhelming.

People are telling you about all the clubs you should join — all you want to do is not lock yourself out of your room on your first day. People are giving you tips on what to do and what not to do — all you want is to fig-

ure out where to sit in the dining hall. People are inviting you to all the events happening next week — and all you want to do is get through today.

But you'll get through it because of humility. All the preparation in the world will only take you so far because at a certain point, you admit that you don't have a full understanding of your new situation, your new environment or your new life. You're on your own, and you're in a new place, unsure of your footing. And that's ok. It feels uncomfortable and painful at times, but out of the struggle, you learn and grow from it. Your humility allows you to evolve.

Our nation desperately needs to learn from your humility, so that it, too, can evolve. Because it, too, is experiencing a time of stress, turmoil and conflict of a different scale. This summer, we experienced much pain from a deadly mass shooting in Orlando, Florida, the killings of Alton Sterling, Philando Castile and several others at the hands of police, the killing of police officers in Dallas and continuing movements and protests in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and across the nation.

These events have certainly stirred a lot of discussion about racism, oppression and injustice. But we aren't truly talking. Nor are we truly listening. Not with humility. We aren't admitting that we just don't have a full understanding of the problem as a nation. We're only talking about what's directly visible to us — the symptoms of a much greater, systemic problem. If we don't dig deeper into asking ourselves what is at the root of these events, then we must be prepared to face them over and over again.

Beyond the disproportionate police killings and brutality upon people of color is a much deeper problem than just a few rogue police officers. As these communities struggle to just avoid the crosshairs of the police, they are similarly targeted by our systems of education, health, finance, housing and every other institution in our nation.

Beyond the “bathroom provision” of House Bill 2 is a much more complex, political strategy to divide communities in order to keep racism, classism and discrimination in place. As transgender people struggle to just avoid being assaulted in public bathrooms, vulnerable individuals, families and

communities are under fire from provisions attacking anti-discrimination and minimum wage policies.

We have to embrace humility and admit that we don't understand everything. We have to have difficult conversations. We have to talk and listen with courage. We have to find some place to start.

At Elon University, one place to start is the Center for Race, Ethnicity & Diversity Education (CREDE). We provide spaces for students, faculty and staff of all identities and backgrounds who want to have courageous discussions on issues surrounding race, ethnicity and diversity.

It's a space for students to reflect on and deepen their understanding of racial, ethnic and other identities, including your own. We welcome you to come visit us on the second floor of the Moseley Center and find out how you can get involved. As a new Elon University student, you have the opportunity and the power to become a leader for meaningful social change, on campus and beyond. We all have a role to play.

Let's ask ourselves: What kind of picture do we want to paint for our nation?

**RALLY BUS**  
from cover

Ubering, and I think it's more fun having a group where everyone's excited," Salaymeh said. "It's more fun to be with 25 people on a bus than to go with 3 or 4 in an Uber."

Salaymeh plans on coordinating various nightlife events, such as a Friday night trip to downtown Greensboro, for students to choose from.

He also sees Rally being used beyond nightlife events. For example, the Phoenix Phanatics

could book buses for away games, club sports could use them for traveling and sororities could book buses for formals at a more affordable price.

"I'll look at potential trips, and I'll create the ones that are going to be of interest to students," Salaymeh said. "The dream is to really have students take the reigns and have their own trips and share these trips on social media through Facebook and get the word spread their own way."

Salaymeh has been promoting Rally to Elon students by posting in class pages. So far, he's got

ten significant interest in response to his posts. Each post has about 40 likes, and a few students have brought up the idea of going to Franklin Street for Halloween through Rally.

"I really didn't think it would get as much of a response," Salaymeh said. "I knew it was a good idea and I wanted it when I was at Elon. So it's something I've thought about for a while."

Senior Kelly Weiss has booked the first Rally-powered trip from Elon for a Luke Bryan concert at Walnut Creek Amphitheater in Raleigh on Sept. 2. Weiss reached out to Salaymeh to give him the

details and Salaymeh set it up.

"He was super hands-on during the whole thing," she said. "I just told him where and when and how many people we were going to have."

Because trips cost less per person the more people that go, Weiss will be traveling with a group of friends and friends of friends.

She said she would use Rally for another event in the future or for trips to explore Raleigh with a group.

"I think it's great," Weiss said. "I think it's a fun and safe way for students to get off campus and explore the area beyond Elon."

**RALLY BUS FACTS****25**

people minimum must sign up for a ride

**INDIVIDUALS CHOOSE:****LOCATION:** anywhere**TIME:** anytime**PEOPLE ATTENDING:** 25-55**\$20**

minimum cost of a full coach

STEPHANIE HAYS | Design Chief

**Elon Eats: Big-city feel in downtown Burlington****Redefinery & Co. offers trendy tapas and vibes****Courtney Campbell**Lifestyle Editor  
@courtcamps

Walking into Redefinery & Co., you're immediately hit with a wave of trendiness. The dimly lit space is open, with cozy couches, a few tables, vintage art and black-and-white films projected on the wall.

Patrons are casually sipping on classy cocktails and eating appetizers called tapas. It's like something out of New York City, but outside the window is Downtown Burlington.

"The idea came from not having any casual bar to hang out in Burlington," said owner Joe Coffey. "A place to go with friends and have drinks, something to eat. A lot of it came from our traveling to New York and bigger cities."

Located at 220 E. Front St., Redefinery & Co. opened July 10, and Coffey said the business has been overwhelming and packed almost every night. This "bar" gives a classier alternative to the typical West End Terrace, Tony's Pub-N-Subs and The Fat Frog scene.

After stepping into the establishment, patrons sit down at a table embellished with an old book crafted into a candleholder with dangling lights and terrariums overhead.

The menu is filled with specialty cocktails, ranging from the classic "Moscow

Mule" to the more adventurous "French 220," made of Tanqueray gin, squeezed lemon, lavender simple syrup and sparkling rose.

There is also beer on tap and an extensive wine list.

For those interested in munching, there is a list of tapas for sharing, such as pickled peach bruschetta, a hummus trio and smoked pimento cheese. Though serving sizes are on the smaller side, each bite is delicious and makes for a good pick-me-up.

Three tapas and four drinks came to about \$18 each for four people, which is reasonable for the high quality of food and service.

According to Coffey, 80 percent of the food is locally sourced using espresso from the Blend & Co., bread from the Village Bakehouse in Saxapahaw and local produce delivered by farmers twice a week.

"If they're locally grown, they're still more healthy than getting it from a distributor," Coffey said.

The seasonality of purchasing local allows for a changing menu, and patrons should see a transition to a fall menu around the beginning of October.

"Some of the things will stay," Coffey said. "We have some staples that people really like, but we're going to change the menu and drinks out seasonally for a drastic change. It keeps things interesting."

Since Redefinery & Co. doesn't sell enough food to be considered a restaurant or enough alcohol to be considered a bar, under North Carolina law it is technically a



COURTNEY CAMPBELL | Lifestyle Editor

**Tapas, or appetizers, such as the hummus trio and smoked pimento cheese, are available at Redefinery & Co.**

private club and requires a \$5 membership fee for the year.

But that \$5 is immediately taken off the first tapa ordered by each patron, so the member is reimbursed. The membership aspect also gives the place an exclusive feel.

New chill vibes coming from eateries

such as Redefinery & Co. and the Blend & Co. mark just the beginning of a revitalization of downtown Burlington.

"We were always trying to redefine the downtown with what we were doing and a wider winery, so we kind of just made up the name Redefinery and it works," Coffey said.

# New director looks to expand Writing Center

Bleakney invites all majors, interests to Writing Center

**Ashley Bohle**  
News Director  
@AshleyBohle

Elon University has welcomed more than 1,500 incoming students this week, but one new face has been here since the start of August: Julia Bleakney, the new Writing Center director in The Center for Writing Excellence.

**Each Writing Center location, at Belk, CREDE and KOBC, offers 15-, 30- or 45-minute consultations at any stage of the writing process.**

Her experience is vast. She received her undergraduate education from the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland. As an Ireland native, she decided to explore the United States and study abroad for one year at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota.

"I loved both [the United States and writing]. That's what led me to apply to Minnesota as a graduate student," Bleakney said.

After studying in Minnesota for that year, she said she already had her heart set on coming back to the United States. Bleakney then applied to graduate school at the University of Minnesota.

While there, she taught writing and composition. She said the writing center application process at the University of Minnesota was competitive, and in her final year, she was qualified to apply.

"I really liked the one-to-one individual work with students," Bleakney said. "I felt it was rewarding and very challenging for me because I had to find different ways

to explain concepts to students." Even with the same student, she would have to flesh out ideas in different terminology until the concepts clicked. But that challenge was the part she loved the most.

Most recently, she directed the Hume Center for Writing and Speaking at Stanford University for

four years after working at the center for four years prior.

Her decision to come to Elon was influenced by the writing commitment the school already had in place.



Julia Bleakney, the new Writing Center Director, hopes to help students improve their own writing through various goals and continue to improve her own.

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four years after working at the center for four years prior.

Her decision to come to Elon was influenced by the writing commitment the school already had in place.

She believes there's a strong commitment to instructing writing, improving writing and developing strong writers.

"I liked how widespread [the writing excellence initiative] was at the university and how it seemed like it was a conversation that was happening all over the university," Bleakney said.

In January, Bleakney interviewed for the position and she recalls hearing how collaborative faculty, staff and students are, and the emphasis on undergraduate research.

She said she was interested in helping students understand the value of the Writing Center.

"I always have a very simple goal, I think, for the Writing Center, which is that every student knows that they're welcome here and when they come here they're going to feel comfortable and welcomed, but also challenged by the consultant that they work with," Bleakney said.

She wants students to know that all are welcome. No matter the skill



Bleakney has multiple Elon writing center mugs. Before working at Elon she was the Director at the Hume Center for Writing and Speaking at Stanford University.

level of the student, consultants may challenge students to push them even further.

"And then of course students who feel like writing is not your thing, then consultants love to work with you too," Bleakney said. "So that whole range of students, relationships with writing, attitudes toward writing and beliefs toward writing, we want to welcome them all to the Writing Center."

Inclusiveness is one of her goals for the year. This includes having students studying different disciplines bringing their work to the center for guidance.

Rachel Branson, program assistant for the Center for Writing Excellence, believes Bleakney is a good addition to the writing community.

"She's transitioning extremely well," Branson said. "We're both seeing similar things we want long term for The Writing Center. So I think with her being so detail-oriented and eager, I think we're going to accomplish a lot of new, great things."

Bleakney plans to expand the Writing Fellows Program, where an individual consultant is assigned to work with a class throughout the entire semester. The consultant can work with the faculty member and each student individually.

The program began last year, but Bleakney has ideas to scale it up.

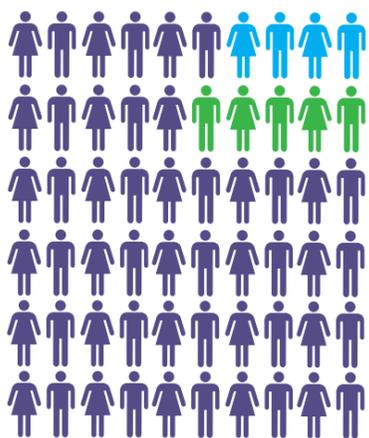
"She dove in immediately to all of our planning, to all of our upcoming projects and has been really eager since day one to become a member of the Elon community," Branson said.

Bleakney also hopes to use her time to develop undergraduate research projects out of the Writing Center, especially on how they

I ALWAYS HAVE A VERY SIMPLE GOAL, I THINK, FOR THE WRITING CENTER, WHICH IS THAT EVERY STUDENT KNOWS THAT THEY'RE WELCOME HERE . . . BUT ALSO CHALLENGED BY THE CONSULTANT THAT THEY WORK WITH.

**JULIA BLEAKNEY**  
WRITING CENTER DIRECTOR

## WRITING CENTER STATISTICS FOR 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR



THERE ARE **60** CONSULTANTS, INCLUDING **4** LEADS AND **5** WRITING CENTER FELLOWS

■ LEADS  
■ WRITING CENTER FELLOWS



OF CLIENTS WOULD RECOMMEND THE WRITING CENTER TO A FRIEND.

**TOP AREAS ADDRESSED IN WRITING CENTER CONSULTATIONS**

1. ORGANIZATION
2. REMAINING ON FOCUS

STEPHANIE HAYS | Design Chief

## WRITING CENTER HOURS

**Belk Library:**  
Mon-Th: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
Fri: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Sat: Closed  
Sun: 2-10 p.m.

**CREDE:**  
Mon, Tue, Wed: 1-3 p.m.

**KOBC:**  
Mon, Tue, Wed: 6-8 p.m.

benefit students. "From my perspective, I'm really interested in studies about writing centers at Elon and across the country."

Specifically, she is looking at where the evidence of learning is in a writing center by questioning how students learn about themselves as writers, about the writing they're doing and how they can improve as writers through writing center consultations.

Students from various academic disciplines, such as biology or chemistry, are also encouraged to become consultants.

Bleakney said those who are interested in writing will be drawn toward the space, and she hopes that students find a home around writing.

"I'm very excited," she said. "This is my fourth writing center I've worked in, in some capacity. I just love the space of the writing center because this has been my home for so many years. I just love when students start to see it as their space, too."