

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2018
ELON, NORTH CAROLINA

THE PENDULUM



2018 *fall sports* PREVIEW

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR AND MEGHAN KIMBERLING | DESIGN CHIEF

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TOP SPORTS GAMES

With the fall athletic year ramping up, the Phoenix will have important tests, big name games and redemption moments en route to CAA and national tournaments

JACK HALEY | Sports Director | @jackhaley17



FOOTBALL

AFTER FALLING IN THE 2017 FCS Playoffs to Furman University, Elon will get their shot at redemption on Sept. 8. In the first game this year at Rhodes Stadium, the Phoenix will take on the Paladins. This will be an important game following a tough road matchup against the Bulls of the University of Southern Florida. Depending on how the Phoenix fare in that game, they could either be faced with a must-win situation or be put in a dominant position going into their matchup the following weekend against the Tribe of the College of William and Mary on the road.

ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

Defensive players swarm to the ball carrier in practice to prepare for the upcoming season. Elon football opens the season, visiting USF on Sept. 1, 2018.

VOLLEYBALL

VOLLEYBALL HAS SEVERAL IMPORTANT matches for several different reasons this upcoming year. To start, the team will take on North Carolina A&T on Aug. 28 in the Schar Center. That match will be the first competitive event ever held in the brand-new, 5,100-seat arena. The team may face its biggest non-conference test when they welcome the Jayhawks of the University of Kansas and the Panthers of High Point University on consecutive nights. The two schools finished last year with RPIs of 20 and 44, respectively, while Elon sat in the No. 167 spot.

However, the season's most important meeting may come in the penultimate match of the year on Nov. 6 when Elon travels to Harrisonburg, Virginia, to take on the Dukes of James Madison University, the two-time defending CAA champions. JMU dropped Elon from the conference tournament last year after Elon gave the Dukes all they could handle, taking them five sets deep in the first-round matchup.

SAMANTHA STEINMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

In a split-squad scrimmage, two defenders try to block a kill attempt on the main floor of the Schar Center in preparation for their home opener.



FOR 2018-2019



MEN'S SOCCER

ELON MEN'S SOCCER HAS once again put together one of the most competitive schedules of any team on campus. They will match up against five teams that made the NCAA Tournament last year and three squads that finished in the top 25 (No. 5 Duke University, No. 11 University of Virginia and No. 24 Florida International University).

The game against the Blue Devils will be no easy task, not only because of whom they are playing but also because of the timing of the game. Elon will take a short reprieve from their conference schedule to face in-state foes in the penultimate game of the regular season. The game will come a full month after they begin CAA play.

Going out and stunning a top-ranked team or even putting up a good fight will surely give them confidence going into a very crucial last game of the year at James Madison University, a game that could have playoff implications. However, Elon could fall into a trap as they play Hofstra University just three days before their matchup at home with Duke. If Elon gets caught looking ahead to the perennial powerhouse, they could falter against the Pride.

ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

Freshman Asger Hausted Andersen passes the ball during soccer practice on Monday, Aug. 27.

CROSS COUNTRY

THE MOST IMPORTANT MEET for both the men and the women is the Elon Opener to start their seasons. The event, which saw the women take first and the men third this past year, is the team's only opportunity to run a familiar course, giving them a huge advantage. Last year showed just how important that home-turf advantage is as the Phoenix had a strong showing on the exact same course when they hosted the CAA Championships, seeing both men and women place third in the conference. This race is the chance to set the tone for the NCAA Pre-Nationals and the CAA Championships held later in the year.

ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

The women's cross country team practice on the intramural field on Monday, Aug. 27.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

THE ELON WOMEN'S SOCCER team will have their work cut out for them as they visit the Blue Devils of Duke University, who closed out last season with a record of 23-2-1 and finished undefeated at home across all 15 of their contests. Coaches Neil Payne, Paul Babba and Kim DeCesare hope the Phoenix to rise to the occasion and notch a win. The squad got off on the right foot in their season opener with a dramatic come-from-behind win when visiting Liberty University, capping off the rally 5-4 in overtime.

CORY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sophomore Carson Jones beats her defender and works back toward the goal.





Elon women's volleyball gets used to the home hardwood of the 5,100-seat Schar Center at practice in preparation for their home opener against North Carolina A&T Aug. 28.

SAMANTHA STEINMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elon volleyball may look for a spark from their new location in the Schar Center Arena

Jack Haley
Sports Director | @JackHayley17

No matter how this year plays out for the Elon volleyball team, they will write their names in the history books. The volleyball team has the honor of opening athletic competition inside the Schar Center on August 28 when they take on the Aggies of North Carolina A&T, a team they beat 3-0 in 2017.

Last year, Elon finished with a .500 record, closing out at 16-16. Their season finished at the hands of the James Madison University Dukes on the road in a roller coaster of a CAA quarterfinal match. But despite the tough loss to end their season, overall the team put on a good performance in the non-conference portion of their schedule. The team found success in the Charlotte Invitational, take two of three games, the Phoenix Invitation (which Elon hosted) saw Elon go a perfect 3-0 over the two-day competition, and at the Tussle in the Triad, Elon beat two very good teams in Navy and UNC Greensboro. Entering CAA play, the team was 11-5.

However, Elon would not fare as well against conference foes. The Phoenix saw their share of positive signs in conference play, but this was overshadowed by an inability to close out games.

Elon's greatest weakness was the inability to build from wins, never seeing more than back-to-back wins during the entirety of conference play. Both times Elon won two games in a row, they were stopped dead in their tracks by a shutout the next time on the floor.

But this season, the Phoenix have already gotten off to a fast start, winning their first three games during the Charlotte Invitational.

Elon swept through Presbyterian, Charlotte and USC Upstate to cap off their perfect start.

In a statement to elonphoenix.com after the match against USC Upstate, head coach Mary Tendler said, "We definitely have some areas to improve on in practice as we prepare for our first match in Schar Center on Tuesday night, but we're happy to be heading home 3-0 on opening weekend."

Tendler is in year 16 at the helm of Phoenix volleyball. She has had a tough time adjusting her team to life in the CAA, as last year's five conference wins were the most the team has seen since joining the conference, and the first time Elon has gone to a conference tournament since joining the CAA.

Elon brought in four freshmen this year and lost two seniors last year to graduation. One of those seniors is one of the best volleyball players to have ever gone through the school. Sydney Busa has now left to play professionally overseas in Finland, but she has left her mark on the program. Busa earned the team MVP award in 2017, along with top-ten marks in kills (1,361) and digs (1,147) in a career.

Numbers that are hard to replace. It probably won't be a single person trying to make up for the loss of Busa at outside hitter, but rather a team effort.

Elon got some major productivity out of young players last year. Rising sophomores Kodi Garcia, who was picked as an honorable mention in this year's CAA preseason all-conference team, and Isabella Seman both showed that they were capable of making the jump to the collegiate level with impressive freshmen campaigns. Couple their play with a capable showing from now-junior Nori Thomas, and there is some real light ahead for the squad.

The star of the show now must be Kam Terry. Crossing the thousand-kill mark early this season



Elon women's volleyball practices on the main floor of the Schar Center, trying to get used to their new 5,100-seat home.

SAMANTHA STEINMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

and with over six hundred digs to her name, the five-foot, eleven-inch Ohio native is going to be the centerpiece for this upcoming year. Being stationed at outside hitter, it is going to be imperative that Terry has a strong showing to make up for the loss of Busa at the same position.

With all of these forces combined, and reinforcements that we have not yet seen in the form of the freshmen newcomers, Elon should have the firepower to have a similar year to last year. The squad will face a near identical schedule from last year, adding Duke in a non-tournament, non-conference game in Durham, swapping the Midshipmen for the Jayhawks of Kansas, and attending the Wake Forest Invitational in lieu of the Liberty Invitational from last year.

Kansas will be a true test, as the Jayhawks finished last year with an RPI ranking of 20 in the nation, compared to Elon, ranked at 167. However, almost every other match is winnable for the Phoenix in the non-conference portion of their schedule. It will be imperative for the Phoenix to build up confidence

when they can before getting into conference play. If Elon hits the 10-win mark by the time their match against the College of Charleston rolls around on Sept. 21 to begin CAA play, they could be poised to finally make a run in the conference.

One of the biggest keys for a successful campaign this year will be finding ways to win on the road. The Phoenix have won just three road conference games since 2014, when they joined the CAA. Elon went 0-8 while playing as the visiting team last year, which simply won't cut it in this conference. If Elon were to suffer the same fate this year, it could be incredibly damaging to the mental toughness of the team. Elon starts with four straight games on the road, and if they cannot win at least one of those games, their season may very well be in jeopardy before they step on the floor at the Schar Center to open home conference play. If Elon can find a way to scrap together a few wins on the road, it is not unreasonable to see Elon advancing past the quarterfinals of CAA play.

VOLLEYBALL BY THE NUMBERS

5

Conference wins were the most the team has seen since joining the CAA

6

the teams highest projected finish since joining the CAA

Elon did receive a vote of confidence from their conference this preseason. They were voted to finish sixth in the CAA by the conference coaches, the highest they have been picked to finish since joining the CAA.

The biggest indicator of Elon's success this season will come October 4 through 7. Elon welcomes three CAA foes in four nights to the Schar Center for their first home conference matches of the year. They then go on the road to face William and Mary, who they split with last year, and then travel to North Carolina Central, a team they are 12-5 against all-time. If Elon is unable to take advantage during that stretch, they will put a lot of pressure on their other three-game home stand at the end of the month, October 24 through 28, when they welcome William and Mary, Hofstra, and Northeastern, teams that Elon had a combined record of 3-3 against last year.

Hopefully the new facilities will energize this team and grant the spark they have been looking for to take the next step in the conference. They have a lot of hungry, young talent who now have a feel for the college game and are ready to strike this season.

CONTINUED CONFIDENCE

Returning a host of starters has the Phoenix motivated to maintain an upward trajectory

Emmanuel Morgan
Executive Director | @emorgan704

During the last week of Elon University's football team's training camp, head coach Curt Cignetti did something different.

It was second-string quarterback Jalen Greene's 19th birthday Aug. 23, and the team granted him a wish he wanted. Most of his teammates wore a durag during practice, a piece of headwear worn commonly among African-Americans to keep their hair pressed down to create a popular hairstyle known as waves. Cignetti, a 57-year-old white man, also joined in the fad for the day to the surprise of many of his players.

"I didn't think he was going to do it," said starting quarterback Davis Cheek, the 2017 CAA Offensive Rookie of the Year who threw for 2,431 yards last year as a freshman. "I think it was good. He's going to put the durag on, and it was awesome to see."

If his team asked him to do something like that this time last year, they would have gotten a different answer. Back then, Cignetti was in the midst of establishing a winning culture. Doing something so lighthearted in the midst of an organizational rebuild may not have been effective.

In his first year as coach in 2017, Cignetti made it clear that Elon would no longer be the laughing-stock of the Colonial Athletic Association. Intense practices, demanding attention to detail and emphasizing the mental side of the game all translated into Cignetti's formula for reviving a program that

failed to produce a winning season in seven years.

And it worked, with Elon winning eight games and finishing third in the conference. Now in year two as coach, Cignetti said he can loosen the reins a little bit now that his players know what he expects out of them.

"When you've had a staff together for a year and a core group of guys that played a lot of football, there's relationships that have developed and familiarity and trust with one another," Cignetti said. "I think maybe I haven't been quite as vocal as I was in year one, but I think we sort of understand the standards. Now it's time to go out and play, and there's a lot of variables when you go out and play in the first game, and it will be obviously a big challenge."

Cheek said a big reason Cignetti is less vocal is because he trusts the leaders on his team. Last year's depth chart only listed five starters who were seniors. With that young team returning with a successful year of experience, Cheek said players on both sides of the ball know how a winning team is supposed to practice, making them more hungry to improve last year's results.

They also have some outside motivation as well.

The CAA preseason rankings picked Elon to finish fifth, with the Phoenix only earning one first-place vote. The CAA is largely considered the toughest conference in the Football Championship Subdivision, with six teams ranked in the Top 25 Athlon Sports Preseason poll (Elon was ranked 10th). But despite that competition, Cheek said he believes the Phoenix should have been ranked higher, even if they are just opinions.

"I felt like there was a little bit of disrespect there, but those kinds of things personally to me, they don't

they don't really matter," Cheek said. "I think the biggest thing is that our plan is to go in and beat everyone every single week. I mean we have to; we have to try to win games, and that starts with that first game."



good in camp. I'm excited to see him be on board."

On defense, Cheek said he feels confident in his teammates, with much of that unit having upperclassmen leadership, including senior Warren Messer, who was named a preseason All-American this year after averaging 9.5 tackles per game last season.

"They're going to be really good this season," Cheek said. "You can tell that they have really gelled."

As with any team, Cignetti said they will adjust as the season progresses. But as of right now, he said he is confident for the journey ahead.

"I think we've made a lot of progress in all phases," Cignetti said. "I think the older kids have gotten better. We've got some good competition from the freshmen. I think come next Saturday, you know, we should have everybody lined up ready to go."

STARTING LINE

9

According to CAA Football, Elon has 9 starters returning to the team for the 2018 season

PHOTOS BY ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

Above: Junior wide receiver Josh Ramseur extends the ball towards the 40-yard line while being tackled by sophomore defensive back Richard Gray.

Below: Senior Daniel Everett returns the ball after a punt return during football practice in Rhodes Stadium on Thursday, Aug. 23.





2018 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

**SOUTH
FLORIDA**

*Sept. 1
6 P.M.
Away*

FURMAN

*Sept. 8
6 P.M.
Home*

**WILLIAM &
MARY**

*Sept. 15
6 P.M.
Away*

**CHARLESTON
SOUTHERN**

*Sept. 22
6 P.M.
Away*

ENNN



NEW HAMPSHIRE	JAMES MADISON	DELAWARE	RICHMOND	RHODE ISLAND	TOWSON	MAINE
Sept. 29 1:30 P.M. Home	Oct. 6 1:30 P.M. Away	Oct. 13 3:30 P.M. Away	Oct. 29 1:30 P.M. Home	Nov. 3 1:30 P.M. Home	Nov. 10 Noon Home	Nov. 17 Noon Away



Redshirt freshman Owen Gaynor creates space between himself and a defender in front of goal during soccer practice on Monday, Aug. 27.

ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

Men's soccer faces a challenging upcoming season

With one of the most challenging regular-season schedules on campus, the 2018 campaign will be a test for men's soccer

Alex Hager

Elon News Network | @ahager

At first glance, a five-loss season looks like a phenomenal record for Marc Reeves' first year at the helm of Elon Mens Soccer, but six draws and a middling finish in the league table tell a more accurate story of the 2017 campaign.

For a program that rose as high as No. 8 in the national rankings and had an NCAA tournament win only three years ago, there's a precedent of recent success whose shadow looms over Rudd Field. Last year, the Phoenix found themselves frustrated towards the end of the season, despite posting some of the best defensive stats in the country.

With a year of experience under his belt, a core of four experienced seniors in his starting lineup and a stacked class of incoming freshmen, Reeves has an opportunity to bring Elon to the top of the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) and beyond. There's a daunting slate of opponents between the team and a tournament berth, but plenty of reasons to believe that the Phoenix can make a mark in 2018.

Leading the way with experience

Even with over a dozen new faces in the lineup, Reeves says he'll depend on returners to lead the way.

"They have the experience of college soccer and being a student athlete and so hopefully more maturity to handle the demands," said Reeves. "Freshman we believe have to earn their way into the team by coming in and committing to the program on a daily basis."

There's no shortage of talent among upperclassmen.

Redshirt senior goalkeeper Matthew Jegier will be returning for his fourth season between the pipes with an impressive resume. Fresh off a season that saw him named to the All-CAA first team, Jegier also holds the school's all-time shutout record. The previous holder of that title was Clint Irwin, who now starts in net Major League Soccer's Toronto FC.

Jegier and Elon's back line made Elon the best in the league at holding opponents from scoring, logging defensive stats that ranked among the top in the nation. Leading that defensive line was another player who will return this fall as an upperclassman. Junior defender Luke Matthews was integral to Elon's defensive success last year, and should be leading that charge again this fall.

"Senior leadership I believe will be one of the most vital keys to this group maximizing

its potential," said Reeves. "I think having been with them for a year we are more comfortable in sharing ideas and understanding program decisions. Firstly they must perform well individually and then also lead on a daily basis. It is a really great group of guys with varied paths to get to this point of their final playing season."

A look at the newcomers

There will be 14 new additions suiting up in the Maroon and Gold this fall, and only five of them are from the United States.

With members from as far away as Iceland and Hong Kong, this year's newcomer class hails from across the globe. They'll be joining a handful of international players already on the roster, bringing a diversity of playing experience to Elon.

Historically, freshmen haven't often cracked into the starting lineup, but have proven to be valuable contributors when called upon. Just last year, then-freshman Ronni Mleczkovicz earned a spot on the CAA all-rookie team with nine points in 16 appearances.

Schedule of opponents

Elon is no stranger to facing top opponents, with local competition often providing matchups against top-ranked ACC schools. Last year, the Phoenix hosted Wake Forest, ranked No. 2 in the country at the time.

The first tests came early on this season, when the John Rennie invitational at Duke matched Elon up against the University of Vermont and Florida International University. After falling 0-2 to UVM, the Phoenix cruised to a 3-0 victory over No. 20 FIU.

After a trip up north to play Big Ten opponent Rutgers later this season, the Phoenix has a stretch of four games in only 11 days against schools from across the state. Schools like UNC Greensboro and High Point are familiar foes for Elon and generally make for exciting matchups. The talent is fairly evenly matched and the proximity gives those matches the feeling of a local rivalry. The four in-state games will also be the last chance for the team to tune up before heading in to conference play.

The CAA will bring of plenty of fierce competition into Elon's crosshairs once the end of September rolls around.



Redshirt junior Jahmeil Curwen shoots the ball during soccer practice on Monday, Aug. 27.

ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

William & Mary finished first in the conference's preseason poll this year, taking the most first-place votes by a landslide. The Phoenix will take on the Tribe in a home game on Rudd Field on September 26. Elon will also have home field advantage against the UNCW, which was predicted to finish second in the CAA and represented the league in the NCAA tournament last November.

The Phoenix is perhaps saving the best for last, with a showdown against Duke slated for the penultimate game of the regular season.

"Our schedule both CAA and non-conference is incredibly challenging, but we believe that makes it exciting for our staff and players and hopefully fans," said Reeves. "Playing top competition makes you better and we want our program to consistently strive for success. We play some great programs and the way college soccer is you never truly know how a team will be

each season."

A return to former glory

Elon cracked the national top ten as recently as 2015, but has come up short of the same success in the last couple of years. Unlike football and basketball, college soccer's parity limits the sport to only a handful of perenni-

al powerhouses and leaves room for smaller schools like Elon to claw their way up to the top of national rankings.

There are a handful of reasons that this fall's squad could bring the team back up to that level of national prominence. Some of the team's best players will be taking the field with four years of experience and all of the cohesion that comes with it. The new members will have their work cut out for them trying to earn play time, but their sheer numbers mean that Reeves will have plenty of options off the bench. Anyone who looks dangerous in practice could be a valuable secret weapon when he needs fresh legs in a midseason game.

That last flash of greatness came during Elon's second-ever year in the CAA. By now, The Phoenix have had plenty of time to adjust to the new conference and its opponents.

Above all else, Reeves himself has proven he can take a small school's team to similar success. In 2015, he visited Rudd Field as the head coach at Radford University and later went on to steer the Highlanders to a national tournament berth at the end of that season.

"Being one of the top programs in the nation is where we consistently want to be. What it takes is a team-first attitude by all involved and true commitment to all aspects of maximizing a group's chances of success."

It takes a special kind of magic to bring a small school into the upper tier of college soccer, even just for a season. But Reeves has shown that he can work that kind of magic, and there's a chance that he and the Phoenix could be knocking on the door of the NCAA Tournament come November.



THEY HAVE THE EXPERIENCE OF COLLEGE SOCCER AND BEING A STUDENT-ATHLETE AND SO HOPEFULLY MORE MATURITY TO HANDLE THE DEMANDS.

MARC REEVES
MEN'S SOCCER COACH



getting their KICKS

CORY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Elon women's soccer team huddles together to discuss game tactics before a matchup under the lights at Rudd Field.

Women's soccer looks to accomplish its goals on and off the pitch

Erik Webb
Elon News Network | @erikwebbelon

The campus is quiet one Monday morning in August. It eagerly awaits the return of the students still relishing their last few weeks of summer vacation.

But the student-athletes for the various Phoenix sports teams have been back for more than a week, grinding during the preseason schedule and hungry for the fall season that approaches.

For the Elon University women's soccer team, it's no different.

"I think it's a new opportunity for everyone, so we're able to have a new environment and a new viewpoint on the game," said junior forward Taylor Paradoski. "It's always exciting to try something new and try something different. It's kind of like everybody is starting out fresh."

Every day comes with new information as the team tries to figure itself out following two preseason scrimmages.

"Although I wasn't concerned about the score, a lot of positives came out of those games," said head coach Neil Payne about the preseason scrimmages. "We've got to turn the good things we did and make them a little bit better. We've got to learn from some of the mistakes that we made."

Welcoming a new coach

Fast-forward to the present, the Phoenix's season is already underway. With it comes a new head coach who took the helm in February.

Spending the past three seasons as an associate head coach at Texas Tech University, Payne comes to Elon after helping coach the Red Raiders to back-to-back NCAA tournament bids and a Big-10 championship.

The first-year head coach inherits an Elon team that went 9-6-4 last season as he tries to bring them up to the same championship caliber he did at Texas Tech.

"With any sort of change, there's always certain feelings about it, and there's always a lot of things go-



Introductions of the starting 11 for the Elon women's soccer team.

CORY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ing on," said senior defender Jenny Riemer. "I think we've all come together, and we've just been very focused on our goal of getting ready for the CAA and getting ready for the season."

Each coach brings a different strategy when leading a squad of talented players. Changing from the style of one coach to another can be challenging, but the team says adapting hasn't been a problem.

If anything, it has made them stronger as a unit.

"I think the team has really just come together, and we've really focused on who we want to be as a team - who we will be as a team. Coach has really created an environment in which we can thrive in that," Riemer said. "I think the biggest thing that I've noticed about this year is just the amount of energy that this team has brought in day in and day out ... Everybody's stepped up and really been leaders this year, and I think Coach has really helped with that."

If you ask the leader of the team, he will tell you it's just about meeting his expectations - mentalities and skills that will last.

"I haven't really paid attention to what they've done in the past," Payne said. "This is about our standards, about what you need to achieve and

attain every day. It's about us looking forward - it's not going to happen overnight. We're trying to instill things that are going affective for us over the next two or three years."

Roster changes



WE HAVE GOT TO TURN THE GOOD THINGS WE DID AND MAKE THEM A LITTLE BETTER. WE'VE GOT TO LEARN FROM SOME OF THE MISTAKES THAT WE MADE

NEIL PAYNE
HEAD COACH

Since the end of last season, the women's soccer team has replaced half its team, including five starters.

To replace them, the Phoenix welcomes 10 in the freshman class - two of whom joined the team last spring.

The other players say they are already making a difference.

"They've really stepped up and risen to the challenge," Riemer said. "They make all of us better every single day by pushing each other. Our practices are extremely competitive, and we're all fighting for that spot on the field, but we're also all supporting each other."

The freshman class is contributing in games already, as two of the top three players with the most minutes this season are freshman Phoenix players in defenseman Kate McKay and midfielder Makenzie DePriest-Kessler.

To lead them and the rest of the team, Payne has relied on a smaller than normal senior class, consisting of forward Tori Baliatico, midfielder Lauren McKeever, Riemer and midfielder Nyah Spearman. He says the dynamic they have has helped the team immensely.

"The seniors have been fantastic - the culture has been excellent," Payne said. "It's been an inclusive approach from the seniors. They've bought into everything we've asked them to do, and I couldn't be more pleased with them."

Despite the differences in age and experience, Riemer says that each player is there to help the Phoenix succeed.

"Day in and day out, everybody's bringing energy," Riemer said. "Our bench is staying focused so they're ready to step on the field. The people on the field are staying focused and making sure that they're doing their job. Coach often says, 'Lead your own space.' So, as long as you're doing your job, your teammates will do their job and you'll support each other through that process."

The season ahead

With four games already in the books for the 2018 season, the Phoenix has captured a 1-1-2 record thus far.

During those four games, Elon has forced overtime in three. The few women playing their final season treasure the extra time, as each game boasts a greater sense of urgency than the last.

"I think as a senior, you're looking forward to every single game. You only have a couple left," Riemer said. "We take it day-by-day, and we take every game as important, and we treat every game like it's the championship."

Fourteen games separate the Phoenix from the Colonial Athletic Association championships at the end of October. Next up, Elon takes the road and makes the short trip over to High Point University to face off against the Panthers on Friday, Aug. 31.

Following the Triad matchup, the Phoenix opens a five-game home-stand over the first two weeks of September. Conference play begins Sept. 20, when the Elon team heads to the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. They will play a total of nine conference games, including a faceoff against the reigning CAA champion Hofstra University to close out the home slate before finishing the regular season with two road games against James Madison University and Drexel University.

When asked which games players were excited about prior to the season, you could hear their confidence talking about the upcoming season.

"They all lead to the championship," Paradoski said. "That's our goal right now because we can really see it in the future this time, and we're all excited about it."

With many games ahead, the Phoenix remains hopeful the season will culminate in that trophy.

hit the ground RUNNING

Building on last year's lessons and successes, cross country looks for a big year

CHRISTIAN GALVANO | Elon News Network | @chrisgalvano



Sophomore Bridget Kanaley runs on the intramural fields during cross country practice on Monday, Aug. 27.

ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

Women's and men's cross country teams kick off their season at home this Friday at 6 p.m. in the Elon Opener. This is the fifth straight year the Phoenix will host in-state foes, including Duke University, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Coastal Carolina University, North Carolina A&T and North Carolina Central.

SEASON OPEN

Cross country teams kick off their season at home this Friday at 6 p.m. in the Elon Opener.

This is also the second season for cross country head coach Kevin Jermyn. Jermyn is a former Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) and NCAA Southeast Region Coach of the Year. Jermyn brings nearly 20 years of high-level coaching experience. His distinguished background in the sport led the team to finish third in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) last season.

After the Elon Opener this Friday, the Phoenix will compete in the Winthrop Invitational on Sept. 15 in Rock Hill, South Carolina. After a week's rest, the team will travel to the Queens City Invitational in Charlotte, North Carolina, on Sept. 28. The Phoenix will close off the regular season the following month in the Pirate Invitational in Greenville, North Carolina, on Oct. 12.

The postseason starts on Friday, Oct. 26, at the CAA Cross Country Championships, which will be hosted by Hofstra University. Last year,

the Phoenix finished third overall while conference rival William and Mary captured its 18th consecutive league title. Despite being seven points shy of the runner-up, senior Chelsea Smith says she was happy with the results of last season and is ecstatic for the upcoming one.

"I'm ready for this year, and I feel like I have more confidence," Smith said. "This stems from being a senior but also realizing my capabilities I have."

Following the CAA Championships, the Phoenix will compete at the NCAA Southeast Regional Championships on Friday, Nov. 9, in Rock Hill. The cross country season concludes at the NCAA Cross Country Championships in Madison, Wisconsin, on Nov. 17, for all individuals and teams that qualify.

Senior Nick Ciolkowski also earned All-CAA accolades for the Maroon and Gold and will look to compete for individual medalist honors for the third time after a fourth-place standing last season. He also clocked the second-fastest time in school history in the 10K at the NCAA Southeast Regionals with a time of 30:34.2 and was later named 2017 CAA Runner of the Week on Oct. 17.

"I'm feeling ready to give this season everything I have," Ciolkowski said. "I feel that I'm in pretty good shape going into September, and that will only improve as the season progresses."

Ciolkowski fell short of his attempt to three-peat last year, as medalist honors went to JP

CROSS COUNTRY BY THE NUMBERS

1

The team placed first at the Phoenix Open. This was the best finish for women's cross country last year.

3.25

the average GPA of the combined men's and women's cross country teams



Trojan of William & Mary. After missing nearly the whole month of September due to a leg injury, he is ready to tackle his senior season for the Phoenix.

"I was happy with last year's CAA Championships, considering the hurdles I had to overcome to get there," Ciolkowski said. "I expect to be much stronger this October."

Redshirt junior Michael Germinario was 18th overall at last year's Elon Opener with a time of 19:31.9 in the men's 6K, and he is more than ready to compete again this year.

"I think I can run faster than I did last year at the Opener," Germinario said. "This is the team's first season under coach Kevin Jermyn, and the mix of high mileage, speed, strength work has made me fitter than ever. It is always a good confidence booster to run fast at the first race, but what really matters are the championship races at the end of the season."

Germinario also ran a season-best time of 26:39.7 in the 8K at the CAA Championships meet and was 21st overall for the Maroon and Gold. If everything goes accordingly, he expects a huge year for Elon cross country.

"I believe we have the talent to have the best team Elon has seen in the past decade," Germinario said.

For the women, senior Coralea Geraniotis also earned all-league honors in the 5,000-meters at the CAA Championships with a time of 17:18.21. Following that, she ran a season-best time of

“

I'M FEELING READY TO GIVE THIS SEASON EVERYTHING I HAVE.

NICK CIOLKOWSKI
SENIOR

16:52.91 in the 5,000-meters at the ECAC Indoor Championships last winter. Like many of her teammates, she is ready for the racing to begin.

"I have never come into the cross country season as strong as I am now," Geraniotis said. "I can't wait to see how that converts into racing."

Smith clocked the second-fastest time in school history in the 1,000-meters at the Liberty Kickoff last winter during the indoor season with a time of 2:54.31.

"I've always had a good attitude about the seasons and a lot of excitement, but this year I'm coming in more focused," Smith said. "I'm determined to crush all of my PR's, from the 6K down to the 800."

The team is anticipating a big year, according to Smith. She and the team are focused on being first in the league.

"I know we can fight to win the conference title," Smith said.

This is the cross country team's 5th year competing in the NCAA Division I Colonial Athletic Association.

STUDENT *BEFORE* ATHLETE

Elon student-athletes achieve a unique balance between athletic and academic success

Jack Haley
Sports Director | @JackHaley17

To even play at the Division I level, many athletes have already beaten the odds. Per the NCAA, male high school basketball players have exactly a one percent

chance to play in the top collegiate division, and women have a slightly better chance at 1.2 percent. The odds don't get much better, no matter what sport you play.

From there, the chances to make it to a professional league get even slimmer. Approximately 5,552 draft-eligible men's soccer players across the NCAA will compete for just 88 draft spots in Major League Soccer.

With these metrics, it is up to schools to make sure they are preparing student-athletes be-

yond the fields of play and into their fields of study. That is where schools like Elon shine.

Elon time and time again is recognized for its academic excellence, with its student-athletes being honored annually on multiple platforms.

Elon's men's and women's basketball, men's cross country, lacrosse and volleyball were all recognized with the public recognition awards for the most recent multi-year Academic Progress Rate (APR) achievement. This was the fourth time in five years that Elon had at least five teams earn the honor and the eleventh year in a row the men's basketball team scored a perfect 1,000.

Director of Athletics Dave Blank said in a statement, "This achievement demonstrates the commitment Elon student-athletes, coaches and administration consistently have towards strong academic performance."

Certainly, any school would be proud of this achievement, but

Elon should be particularly proud of showing that they can strike a key balance between work and play. Elon can showcase a women's basketball team that has dominated on the hardwood, winning their conference and making NCAA tournament appearances in back-to-back years, and that has achieved in the classroom. And this statistic doesn't even touch on individual academic awards.

Elon has not compromised its academic expectations for athletic excellence. Elon has been able to find a way to put student-athletes in a position to succeed in life and on the field, which is something that should be celebrated. In an age where schools have created fake classes to prop up student-athlete GPAs to keep them playing and collegiate players are forgoing a traditional four-year experience to peruse athletic domination, schools like Elon have been able to offer the best of both worlds to mid-level athletic talent and high-level academic talent, making sure to note the order in which "student-athlete" is written.

In 2014, Elon left the Southern Conference and moved into the Colonial Athletic Conference. This shift saw Elon's athletics take on a more national spotlight. The CAA allows for exposure to most of the eastern seaboard, ranging from as far north as Boston and to as far south as Charleston. The CAA has allowed Elon to travel like a major program, and that has been something they can offer to recruits.

It may be daunting having to go far away from home, but Elon can now offer student-athletes the ability to compete

STUDENT-ATHLETES BY THE NUMBERS

15

is the number of teams represented on the CAA Commissioners Academic Honor Roll

5

is the number of teams recognized for multi-year Academic Progress Rate excellence

188

is the number of student-athletes placed on CAA Commissioners Academic Honor Roll

1

percent chance of a high school basketball player playing Division I in college

265

number of student athletes named to AD Honor Roll

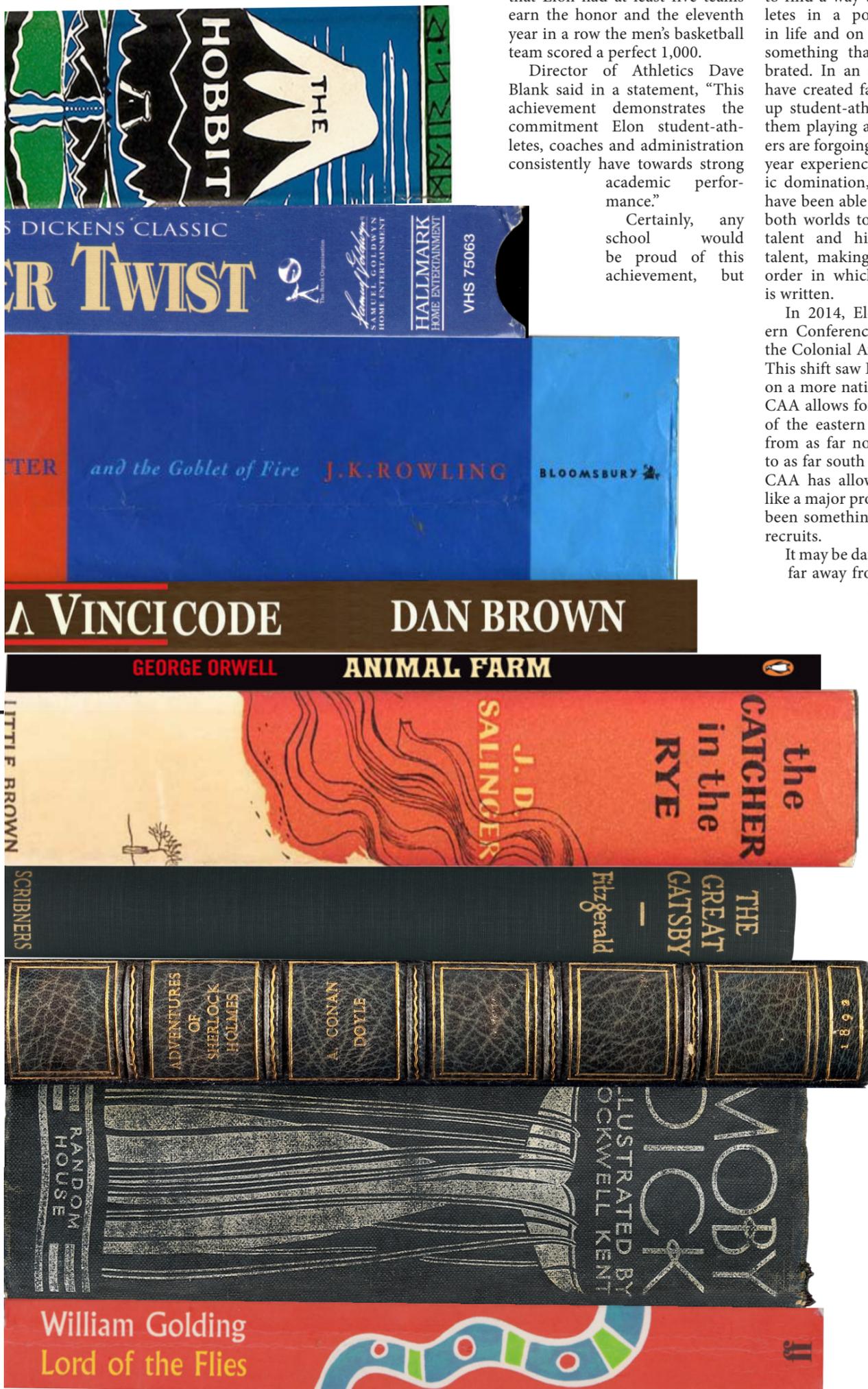
amance County.

With some teams struggling to find their footing in the new conference and the always competitive nature of athletics dictating that you do what you must do to win, it was probably tempting to the school to attempt to recruit student-athletes who may not cut it in the classroom but would make up for it on the field.

While that strategy may have been enticing, all the evidence has shown that Elon has stuck to its guns and recruited student-athletes who can perform academically and athletically. And with Elon continually climbing its way up the ranks academically, the Phoenix still shows the value of academics.

Now the value of the student-athletes is starting to show. Football had a strong 8-4 season, advancing to their second ever playoff appearance; lacrosse earned an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament in 2017; women's basketball made back-to-back trips to the NCAA Tournament in 2016-17 and 2017-18 after winning the conference both seasons; and baseball had a bounce-back year, winning 36 games and seeing two players drafted in the 2018 MLB Draft.

Elon has begun to demonstrate at the individual and team level they can perform at a high level. And the student-athletes that they choose to recruit reflect the school's priorities. Elon student-athletes are demanded to mind the order in which that title is written: "student" before "athlete." And while some schools may find it a challenge to attract the right fit to find that balance, Elon has begun to prove that it can find students that thrive academically and athletically.



SUMMER PROS

Elon alumni shine as they take their first steps beyond Elon

JACK HALEY | Sports Director | @jackhaley17

THOUGH THEIR TIME AT Elon may be over, a new adventure started this summer for some of our athlete alumni. The summer months yielded contracts and history makers, both abroad and domestically. These four Elon standouts have successfully made the jump to gaining professional recognition and will fight to continue on their legacy of athletic excellence at the next level.



SHAY BURNETT SIGNS PRO DEAL

On August 4, 2018, Burnett's new team in Sweden, the Norrköping Dolphins, announced that the five-foot, nine-inch guard joined the squad. In a statement, Burnett said she is very excited to begin this new chapter of her career, and extended a very special thank you to her former head coach. Burnett hung up her Maroon and Gold this past year, leaving Elon with top-10 rankings in assists and assists per season in a career. The Graham, North Carolina native joins the Dolphins who play in a 4,500-seat arena located about 100 miles from Sweden's capital of Stockholm. Norrköping competes in the Basketligan, Sweden's top league. The Dolphins have won the league five times, including this most recent season. Burnett was the first women's basketball grad to sign a pro contract since Ali Ford in 2013.

AJ MANDELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elon senior guard Shay Burnett goes up for the rebound while being contested by Drexel senior guard Hannah Nihill during the CAA championship game March 10.

SYDNEY BUSA IS FINLAND BOUND

First-team All-Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) honoree signed a contract to play professional volleyball with Nurmon Jymy, a team based in Seinajoki, Finland. The Leesburg, Virginia native was team captain her senior season for the maroon and gold. She also led Elon and the CAA in kills (518) and points (568) last season. Nurmon Jymy is one of nine teams in Finland's top division, and Busa is expected to start this September.

AJ MANDELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sydney Busa goes up for a hit against two North Carolina A&T blockers during a Sept. 28, 2017, match in Alumni Gym.

IKE GETS HIS SHOT

Ikenna Nwokeji, affectionately known as "Ike" around campus, got his opportunity to prove he has what it takes to play pro football when he was signed by the Pittsburgh Steelers. On April 29, Ike announced that after going undrafted, he had signed a free agent contract to join the Steel City team and attempt to make the roster. However on May 14, 2018 the 6-foot, 6-inch, 285 pound offensive lineman was cut, and officially dropped from the Steelers roster.

CORY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ikenna Nwokeji blocks a Furman defensive lineman during last year's playoff game.



SHUTT HEADS SOUTH

After finishing her time with the Elon Phoenix, Kara Shutt '18 entered the inaugural American Softball Association (ASBA) draft. Shutt was selected by the moh-BEEL! USA and went on to have a productive year for the squad, who finished with the best record in the league at 17-10. The North Carolina native batted a .269 and lead the team in doubles. Shutt's team fell in the first ever title game 3-1 to Outkast. Shutt was the first Elon softball player to ever sign a professional contract.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ELON SOFTBALL

Elon takes on Charlotte in nonconference softball action at Hunt Softball Park on Feb. 9, 2018.



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2018
ELON, NORTH CAROLINA

THE PENDULUM

WHAT NEXT?

Wave of new campus facilities reflects Elon's focus on development

ALEX HAGER
Elon News Network | @awhager

FOR YET ANOTHER SUMMER, Elon's expansion efforts have carried on at breakneck speed. A recent crop of sizable donations and a need for additional undergraduate housing led to the construction of new buildings all across campus.

See **EXPANSION** | pg. 5

ELON FRESHMAN PERSEVERES despite life's obstacles

From a young age, Elon student has faced down daunting responsibility and turmoil

Diego Pineda
Enterprise Coordinator | @diego_pineda19

Freshman Mason Curtis' earliest childhood memories were changing his younger sister's diapers, unpacking groceries and doing laundry. He was 5 years old. Instead of being in kindergarten and learning the alphabet, Mason had to step up and care for his 2-year-old sister, Lillie Potter, and himself because of their mother's substance abuse issues.



Mason Curtis

In their trailer home in Boone, North Carolina, Mason felt obligated to care for Lillie while their mother, Suzanne Potter, would leave them alone for days or weeks at a time battling alcohol and drug use.

"I was going to try my best to help my sister out," Mason said. "It sounds crazy even to me but the love I

had for my sister is what kept me going in that situation."

Mason's father, Richard W. Curtis, left him and Suzanne when he was only 3 years old. Mason says he could not move in with Richard since he was not financially stable enough to support him. Experiences like these affected Mason negatively in some of his mental, academic and social abilities. But they also helped him grow and become responsible at an early age. Mason never thought these experiences would help him become determined to better his life and overcome the hardships he was facing.

Twelve years later he was accepted to Elon University, his top choice school, as a part of the class of 2022 Odyssey Program. This is one of the most competitive and highly selective merit-based programs for incoming freshmen at Elon. This year, there are 38 new members in the Odyssey program.

"I am very surprised that I am here," Mason said. "When I was a kid, the environment and atmosphere that I grew up in set me up for failure."

Growing up in Boone

Because of Suzanne's inability to care for him, by the age of 8 Mason had lived with his paternal grandfather, Richard F.

“THE ENVIRONMENT AND ATMOSPHERE THAT I GREW UP IN SET ME UP FOR FAILURE.”

MASON CURTIS
FRESHMAN

Curtis, returned to Suzanne's for a bit after she had been to rehabilitation and then moved in with maternal grandmother, Beverly Church.

He describes his childhood as "chaotic." "I didn't have the opportunity to go to school," Mason said. "I was enrolled in an elementary school but I couldn't go because I was obligated to take care of my little sister."

Every move for Mason meant a new elementary school and lifestyle. It wasn't until 2009 when he decided to move in with his paternal aunt and uncle, Robin Curtis and Jim Alexander, in Atlanta. He considers this the best decision of his life besides coming to Elon.

See **CURTIS** | pg. 7



NEWS • PAGE 4
Political science professor breaks down Manafort trial



SPORTS • SECTION A
The Fall Sport Preview takes a look at what to expect this coming season

THE PENDULUM

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ENN seeks to inspire, entertain and inform the Elon community by providing a voice for students and faculty, as well as serve as a forum for the meaningful exchange of ideas.

Corrections policy:

ENN is committed to accurate coverage. When factual errors are made, we correct them promptly and in full, both online and in print. Online corrections state the error and the change at the bottom of each article. Corrections from the previous week's print edition appear on this page. Contact enn@elon.edu to report a correction or a concern.

CALENDAR

AUGUST 29

'What Happened Over the Summer?'
7 P.M.
McKinnon Hall

AUGUST 30

A Thursday Inspiration
9:50 A.M.
Numen Lumen

Fall Student Employment Fair

3:30 P.M.
McKinnon Hall

SEPTEMBER 1

Elon Tailgate - Elon v. USF Football
3 P.M.
Raymond James Stadium

SEPTEMBER 3

Art Exhibition Opens
All day
Gallery 406

Labor Day Concert with Kruger Brothers
7 P.M.
McCrary Theatre

SEPTEMBER 4

Register to Vote or Request an Absentee Ballot with Elon Votes!
9:40 A.M.
College Coffee

'Your Brain on Literature'
5 P.M.
Lakeside Hall

CONTACT

WHEN WE PUBLISH:

- The Pendulum**
publishes weekly on Wednesdays.
- Elon Local News**
broadcasts Mondays at 6 p.m.
- ELN Morning**
broadcasts Thursdays at 10 a.m.
- ELN Online Exclusive**
broadcasts Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m.

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GAMES

FOR RELEASE AUGUST 29, 2018

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Script deviations
- 7 Shallot, e.g.
- 11 "Wicked!"
- 14 Knitted shoe
- 15 "The African Queen" screenwriter James
- 16 Bird on Australian coins
- 17 Follow-up vaccination
- 19 Cul-de-__
- 20 Birth announcement abbr.
- 21 Montréal mates
- 22 Defeat soundly
- 24 Clip-on accessories, perhaps
- 26 Bit of equine trickery
- 29 Fax forerunners
- 32 Florida produce
- 33 Turkey neighbor
- 34 "___ news?"
- 35 Supreme leader?
- 36 Tall tale
- 40 Airline to Oslo
- 43 Shoot the breeze
- 44 Watts of "Twin Peaks" (2017)
- 47 Kind of illusion
- 50 Drive back, as attackers
- 52 Part of Ursa Minor
- 54 Mine, in Montréal
- 55 Justice Samuel
- 56 Organic fuel
- 59 Directional suffix
- 60 Tank or tee
- 61 Cheat at checkout ... and a hint to the circled letters
- 65 Birthday card number
- 66 Currency for 19 countries
- 67 Apartment dweller, typically
- 68 Barrett of Pink Floyd
- 69 Gas in a sign
- 70 Like the smell of a brewery

DOWN

- 1 Costello's cohort
- 2 Humdingers
- 3 How some scripts are adapted from novels
- 4 "___ go time!"
- 5 Software prototype
- 6 Appear to be
- 7 Operatic voices
- 8 "Gross!"
- 9 Zodiac sign
- 10 "You ___!": "Bingo!"
- 11 Make a comeback
- 12 Stockpiles
- 13 New title for Meghan Markle
- 18 Semis
- 23 "This Is Us" Emmy nominee ___ Cephas Jones
- 25 Feudal laborer
- 27 Word processing choice
- 28 "Have a sample"
- 30 A dozen ova?
- 31 Helpful courses for underachievers
- 34 Inquire
- 37 "Don't move!"
- 38 Campaigned
- 39 Diminutive Jedi master
- 40 Mozart works
- 41 Expression of regret
- 42 Like Ronald McDonald's sleeves
- 45 They may be precious
- 46 "My memory fails me"
- 48 Cousin of Gomez Addams
- 49 Selected
- 50 Lose sleep (over)
- 51 Sunday best
- 53 It may say "World's Okayest Cook"
- 57 ___ for help
- 58 Quaker pronoun
- 62 Shade
- 63 Conquistador's treasure
- 64 Actress Ortiz of "Ugly Betty"

Friday's Puzzle Solved

L	I	S	T	P	A	C	K	E	T	S	H	O	T				
A	R	C	H	A	S	S	I	S	I	C	A	T	T				
M	A	R	A	S	C	H	I	N	O	C	H	E	R	R	Y		
B	E	A	T	I	T			S	A	N	D	A	L				
		T	I	P		N	O	T	S		Y	A	W				
		A	C	T		U	N	C	O	L	A	R	I	A			
		W	H	I	P	E	D	T	O	P	P	I	N	G			
		T	A	P	S	A	T			E	R	O	T	I	C		
		A	K	A		H	O	T	F	U	D	G	E	E	T	A	
		J	E	D	I		R	I	S	E		G	R	A	B		
						F	R	U	I	T	S	A	U	C	E		
		D	E	A	C	O	N			H	A	M	P	E	R		
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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY - MCMICHAEL OPENS



Dalton L. McMichael Science Center remains standing 20 years after first opening its doors to students.

As students filtered into their first day of classes Aug. 28, this week 20 years ago marked a new beginning for the Elon University science department as students walked through the Dalton L. McMichael Science Center for the first time. The building was built as the new center of science and technology, established with the goal of raising the quality of the science programs to what they envisioned.

"At a liberal arts college, you want an equal balance between the arts and sciences, and it had gotten to the point where they just couldn't operate," said Rosalind Reichard, the dean of math and science at the time. "If you're going to be a quality school, you've got to have quality programs across the board, and you have to have quality programs in the arts and sciences."

The ground floor was built with the physical therapy program in mind, where students would be able to dissect human cadavers and practice sports medicine. The first floor of the building was built to serve the biology program, and houses various administrative offices and a library. The second floor of McMichael Science Center was home to the physics programs along with computer equipment and, finally, the top floor was dedicated to the chemistry department. Each room and floor in McMichael was designed to fit the needs of the various science programs at Elon that would allow students and faculty alike to push the boundaries and succeed.

NEWS BRIEFS

Grant awarded to human service studies course

The Alamance Community Foundation has gifted a \$5,000 grant to aid in the work of the "Designing and Assessing Human Service Programs," a human service studies course taught by Bud Warner, associate professor of human service studies and chair of the department of human service studies. The students of the course work to develop and write grant proposals in partnership with local community social service organizations.

The Alamance Community Foundation now joins organizations such as Learning By Giving Foundation, Alamance County United Way and the Frueauff Foundation to contribute to the funds dedicated to the course, for which the students then become a funding board. As students develop and form their proposals and hear those of their classmates, they then have to make decisions about which proposals ultimately become funded and seen through fruition.

Through the course, \$63,000 has gone into funding various grants for organizations such as Allied Churches, Boys and Girls Club, Family Abuse Services, Open Door Clinic and Benevolence Farm.

Elon College faculty recognized in excellence awards

The Elon University College of Arts & Sciences celebrated various faculty members for Excellence in Mentoring, Service & Leadership, Teaching and Scholarship on Aug. 20.

Buffie Longmire-Avital, associate professor of psychology, was highlighted for her work in mentoring students through undergraduate research and as coordinator of African & African-American Studies. Safia Swimelar, associate professor of political science and policy studies, and Paula Rosinski, professor of English and director of Writing Across the University, were recognized for exemplifying service and leadership. Swimelar was recognized for her work in coordinating the peace and conflict studies program and the International & Global Studies program, and Rosinski was recognized for her role in developing the Writing Across the University program.

Shannon Duvall, associate professor of computing sciences, and Polly Cornelius, senior lecturer in music, were recognized for their excellence in teaching. The award highlighted Duvall's achievement in using a teaching model in which students were able to choose their own learning strategies. Cornelius was noted for her dedication to individualizing her vocal instructions to students and the effectiveness of her teaching methods, evident in her students' accomplishments.

Finally, Chad Awtrey, associate professor of mathematics and associate director of undergraduate research, and Mina Garcia Soormally, associate professor of Spanish, were highlighted for their achievements in scholarship. Every year Awtrey published multiple research papers, often co-authored by students, in various disciplinary journals, and has repeatedly earned grant funding that allows him to collaborate with other educators and students. Garcia-Soormally is in the midst of editing a work relating to Social Injustice in Early Modern Spain and has signed another contract with the University Press of Colorado for a second book.

Freshman Charlotte Krimmel carries a mattress box with her roommate's younger sister outside of Carolina Residence Hall on Friday, Aug. 24.



ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR



JESSICA RAPFOGEL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Tres McMichael dances to be selected for Tom DeLuca's hypnotist show in Rbodes Stadium on Monday, Aug. 27.



ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

President Connie Book addresses the class of 2022 during her speech at New Student Convocation outside of West Hall on Saturday, Aug. 25.



Freshman Maddie Spence organizes photographs on the wall of her dorm room in Kenan Pavilion on Friday, Aug. 24.

ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR



Freshman Paige Wilson smiles during the "know your neighbor" exercise during New Student Convocation outside of West Hall on Aug. 25.

ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

CHEAT SHEET

EACH WEEK THE PENDULUM DEBRIEFS COMPLEX EVENTS BY INTERVIEWING RELEVANT EXPERTS

Paul Manafort faces charges for financial fraud

Elon political science professor speaks on the relevance of the trials

Nina Fleck
Copy Chief | @elonnewsnetwork

President Donald Trump's former campaign manager, Paul Manafort, was tried in a Virginia court on Tuesday, Aug. 21 for a total of 18 counts — none of which pertain to special counsel Robert S. Mueller III's ongoing investigation of Russian involvement in the 2016 presidential election.

In response to the question of whether the trials are grounds for President Trump's impeachment, New York Times reporter investigative reporter, Sharon LaFraniere, who spent 16 days covering the trial, said, "...No, that case was purely financial fraud charges. It had nothing to do with whether Russia interfered or tried to influence the Trump campaign in the 2016 election."

Manafort was found

guilty on five counts of tax fraud, two counts of bank fraud and one count of failure to disclose a foreign bank account. The judge declared a mistrial on the ten remaining counts due to the complicated nature of the cases.

"...Probably four of them didn't result in a conviction because it seemed like the bank itself was a co-conspirator. Manafort might have submitted inaccurate information, but the bank definitely seemed to want to give the loan. ... So the argument was that if the bank is willing to take the loan, where's the fraud?" LaFraniere said.

Manafort will be tried again on Sept. 24 on charges of conspiracy and money laundering, the Washington Post reported Aug. 28.

Dr. Kaye Usry, assistant professor of political science and assistant director of the Elon Poll, who specializes in American politics, public opinion and political psychology, spoke with Elon News Network about the implications of his trials for the U.S. as a whole and the Town of Elon and Elon University community.

Q: What are the potential consequences for the Trump administration? For the

United States?

A: At this time, it's too early to say what will happen to the Trump administration. National polls released this week suggest that President Trump's approval rating was not substantially impacted by these developments. Something I will be watching in the coming weeks is how Republicans in Congress respond to these revelations. If powerful, respected members of the party speak out, we may begin to see more negative repercussions for the Trump administration, and increased public pressure to hold impeachment hearings. I would also keep an eye on the upcoming 2018 midterm elections. Democrats will likely try to capitalize on these developments, in their campaign to gain control of the House and Senate.

Q: Is this relevant to Elon? Why should Elon students care about what's happening with the Trump administration?

A: This is relevant to the community of Elon, and to Elon students, in the sense that this is historically unprecedented. The president's former lawyer



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE
Former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort on hand as the New York Yankees play host to the Houston Astros in Game 4 of the American League Championship Series at Yankee Stadium in New York on Oct. 17, 2017. A federal judge ruled Friday, June 15, 2018 that Manafort will be jailed.

(Cohen), and now former campaign manager (Manafort) have each been found guilty of committing felony offenses.

Q: What can we take away from this?

A: These events could have lasting consequences for voters' views of the Trump

administration's legitimacy and cause further damage to the public's trust in government, which is already at a historic low. For many Elon students, the 2016 presidential election was the first they experienced as young adults. There is potential for these events to have a special influence on them.

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WHY JOIN:

“BEING A PART OF THE ELON NEWS NETWORK IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT ELON. I'VE GOTTEN TO KNOW SO MANY PEOPLE IN THE ELON COMMUNITY THROUGH ENN AND LOVE GETTING TO DO SO MUCH HANDS-ON WORK.”

GRACE MORRIS
JUNIOR

“JOINING ENN WAS THE GREATEST DECISION I HAVE MADE AT ELON. NOT ONLY DID I MAKE AMAZING FRIENDS, BUT I LEARNED ABOUT MYSELF AND MY FUTURE IN JOURNALISM.”

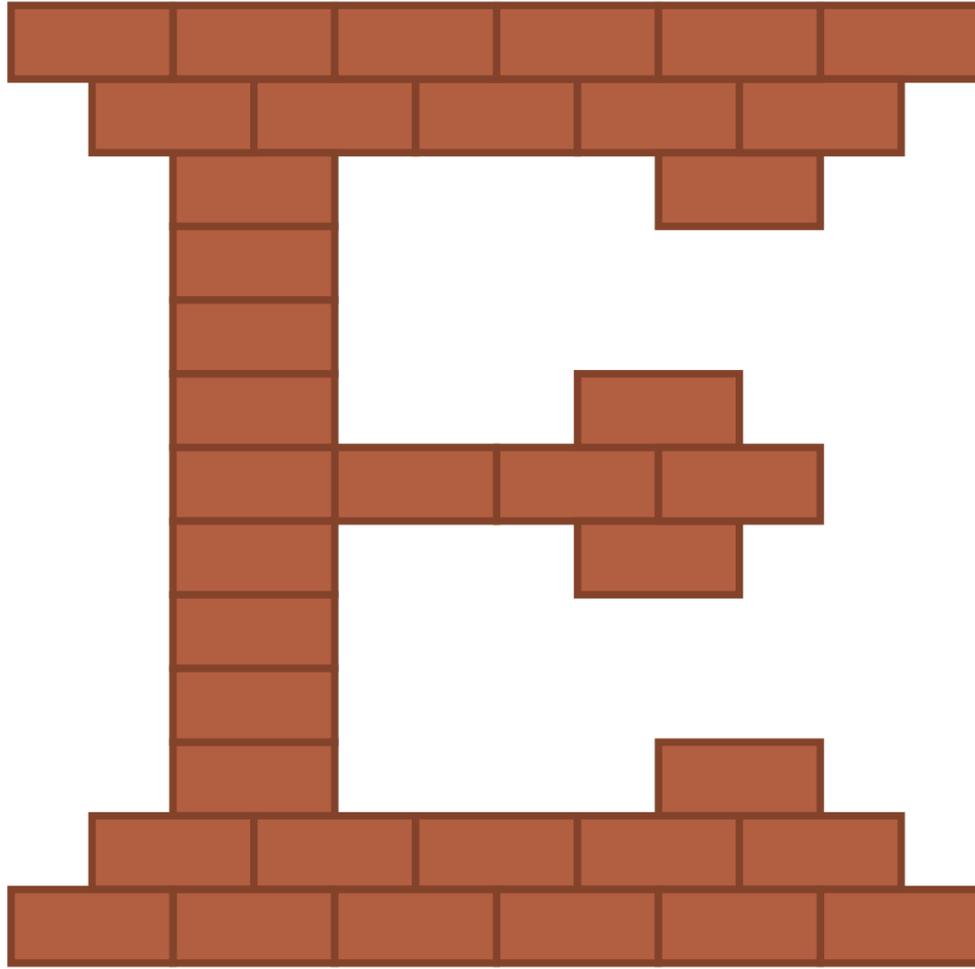
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ONWARD AND OUTWARD:

new buildings serve a growing population



HANNA MEYERS | ASSISTANT CHIEF COPY EDITOR

EXPANSION | from cover

Schar Center

The crown jewel of Elon's latest development wave is the Schar Center, a glistening attempt to elevate the school's athletics profile and event-hosting capabilities. The 5,100-seat arena has been under construction for two years, following the acquisition of a 19.5-acre swath of land in 2015.

Though the venue will serve as a center for Elon athletics, it is also designed for large-scale events and guest speakers. The horseshoe shape of the lower bowl will cater particularly well to convocation speeches, concerts and graduation ceremonies, which require a stage at one end. The unique layout design was lifted directly from an existing venue, the Jack Stephens Center at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

With a capacity of over 5,000, the new arena will serve as a considerable upgrade from Alumni Gym, the previous home of Elon basketball and volleyball. Opened in 1950, the on-campus arena was the seventh-smallest in all of NCAA Division I sports. By moving its teams onto a bigger stage, Elon makes another leap in increasing the visibility of its athletics program, the largest since moving into the Colonial Athletic Conference in 2014.

The Phoenix already have a marquee opponent to open the arena this fall. The men's and women's basketball teams will each be hosting the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Tar Heels in November.

Funding for the Schar Center came in the form of a \$12 million gift from Elon parents Dwight and Martha Schar, who also helped finance the construction of Schar Hall in the School of Communications. Their donation is one of the latest in a recent trend of multimillion dollar

contributions from the parents of current students.

East Neighborhood

For years now, each incoming freshman class has been bigger than the last. This year's freshman class of 1,703 students is 8 percent larger than that in 2017. With expanding class sizes, Elon's housing capacity has struggled to keep up with the influx of students. Now, in the largest housing development since the completion of Global Neighborhood in 2014, there's space for 350 more.

The three residential buildings are situated on the former site of East Gym and the Historic Neighborhood parking lot, adjacent to the Jimmy Powell Tennis Center. Each building has three floors of residential space with shared lounges and kitchens, amenities not unlike those in the Global Neighborhood.

East Neighborhood houses a handful of Living Learning Communities, including communities focused on civic and political engagement, leadership and natural sciences. These fall in line with the neighborhood's proposed purpose of fostering civic engagement and social innovation.

This latest residential development stretches further east than much of campus, but the university's recent acquisition of Elon Elementary hints at future expansions there.

McEwen Dining Hall Expansion

Elon's already long list of dining options is about to get even longer as a revamped McEwen Dining Hall will bring many new restaurants south of Haggard Avenue when it opens later this fall.

McEwen Dining Hall, not to be confused with the adjacent communications building of the same name, was closed all of last academic year for renovations. The original building was gutted and adjoined with a

new annex.

Food options in the new McEwen will be based around three main stations: Knead, a café serving coffee, sandwiches and desserts; Home & Away, dishing out homestyle and comfort foods; and Green & Grains, which offers a soup and salad bar.

Those stations will be joined by Village Juice Co., a Winston-Salem based company serving lighter health food and cold-pressed juices, and Pei Wei, P.F. Chang's' fast casual Asian food offering.

Even with the additional dining options coming to McEwen, it is perhaps an absence that is more notable. Chick-fil-A will not be returning. In a January statement from Gerald Whittington, senior vice president for business, finance and technology, Elon said Chick-fil-A requested more square footage than their previous location, which did not line up with Elon's blueprints for the space.

The project was slated to open in time for this school year, but construction delays mean the Elon community will have to wait until mid-September or early October to try out new options. The timeline for the McEwen renovation was pushed back a year from the original planned date. The university blamed the delay on "unprecedented" amounts of rain in a 2016 statement.

Sankey Hall

The Martha and Spencer Love School of Business has seen a 23 percent increase in enrollment across the past four years, and a new space is opening up to house classes for that growing population. After a donation from Elon parents Jim and Beth Sankey in 2016, the business school addition on North O'Kelly Avenue came together quickly.

According to business school Dean Raghu Tadepalli, the building provides much-needed space for offices and classrooms but also room to grow.

"The entire design of the building, with its many meeting rooms and open design, is designed to foster relationships not just between students but between students, faculty and staff," Tadepalli said.

He also explained how Sankey Hall will help integrate the business school with the rest of the university with a number of new workspaces that can be used by students from all over campus.

Koenigsberger Learning Center

Many developments are pushing Elon's footprint outward, but one brings a new building to the center of campus. Belk Library got extended following a gift from Elon parents Robert and Dilek Koenigsberger.

The Koenigsberger Learning Center will host Academic Advising as well as Tutoring and Disabilities Resources. These resources, as well as the Center for Writing Excellence and Teaching and Learning Technologies, will be brought under one roof for the first time.

Elon says the 11,000-square-foot center is an extension of the University's commitment to student academic success. The addition, which will pull together academic assistance resources from previously disparate locations across campus, marks the largest modification to the Belk Library since it opened in 2000.

South Campus Recreation Center

In Elon's latest move to shift campus resources across the tracks, the new South Campus Recreation Center brings 15,000 square feet of recreation space to the site of the existing South Gym. The building features a multi-purpose court for basketball and other sports, as well as bleacher seating for 100 spectators.

Much like the existing PARC Athletic Center in the Danieley Neigh-

BY THE NUMBERS

350

is the amount of residents the new East Neighborhood has space for

5,100

is the number of new seats in the new Schar Center

8

percent increase in freshman class size compared to 2017

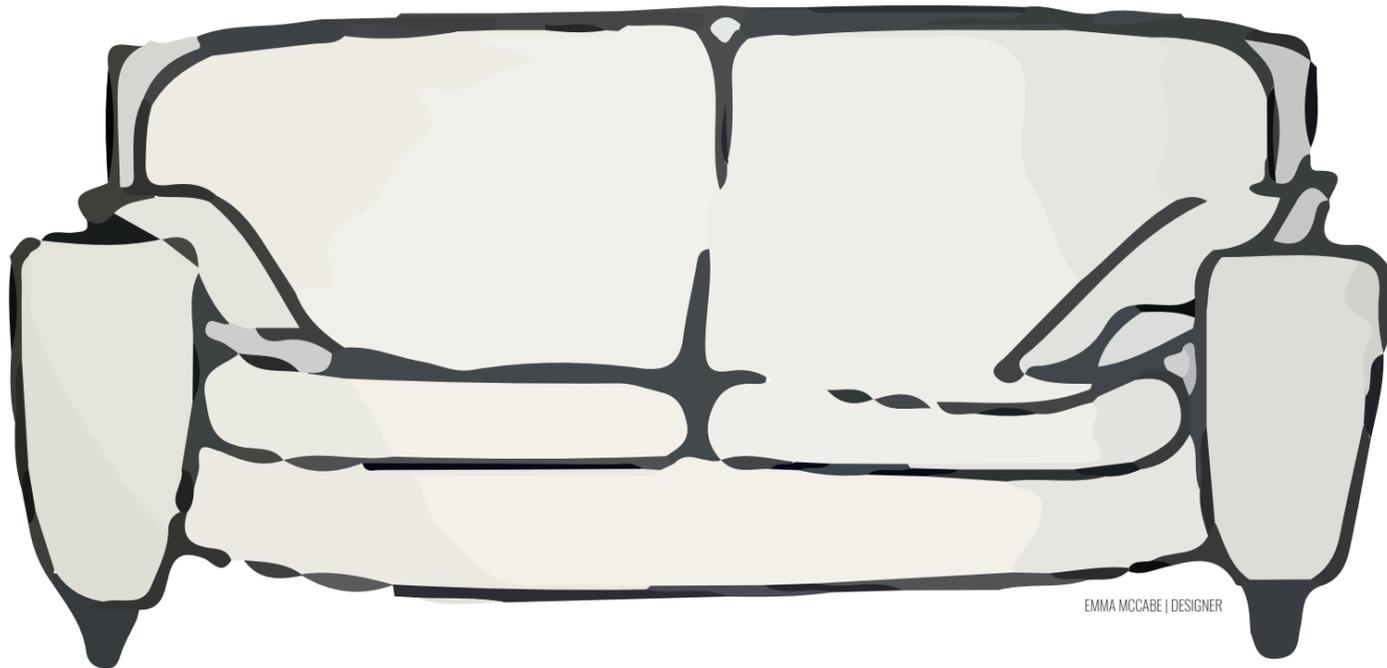
borhood, the South Campus facility will play host to intramural sports.

Still under construction: Hotel and LaRose Commons

Even with new developments opening across campus, there will still be plenty of the familiar green-tarped construction fencing around new developments. A planned 80-room hotel named "The Inn at Elon" is being raised on the far north end of campus, just past the Koury Business Center and part of the Colonnades Neighborhood.

Elon's oldest neighborhood, Historic, is getting an update too, with construction on the LaRose Student Commons underway. The new building is the planned centerpiece of a multi-year renovation of Historic that also included interior facelifts to decades-old living spaces as buildings like Sloan Hall and West Hall underwent renovations prior to last year. Smith Hall is the latest to undergo remodeling as the overhaul efforts make their way east across the neighborhood.

P • H • O • E • N • I • X



EMMA MCCABE | DESIGNER

STAFF EDITORIAL

Investing in spaces for relationship-building

HOW WE SEE IT

We should applaud the contributions of the many who create spaces centered on student engagement and sustainable design and construction.

Four years ago, the Global Neighborhood was fully opened for the 2014-2015 academic year. Two years ago, the new School of Communications facilities were under construction. Today, we are approaching the opening of the Schar Center, the future home of sporting events, convocations and speaking engagements.

Elon University's innovative architecture is part of a national wave to improve campus facilities. Colleges across the United States are finding ways to build more sleek, interactive spaces for student success. A New York Times article from 2016 highlights how innovative spaces can spark creativity among students who are preparing to take on employment opportunities.

We should laud the contributions of the many who create spaces centered on student engagement and sustainable design and construction. The generous donations of members of the

Elon community are not overlooked. But the risks these additions pose to the social wellbeing of the student body should not go unnoticed.

As Elon University continues to grow, improvements to on-campus facilities should parallel efforts to improve community life among students, faculty and staff.

An incident of vandalism from May 2018 at the Loy Center rock, which sits outside the on-campus Fraternity and Sorority Life dormitories, is a reminder of how spaces can foster unhealthy relations. As the campus gets bigger, relationship building among students may be at stake.

In the 2016 Elon University Presidential Task Force on Social Climate and Out-of-Class Engagement report, students acknowledge the impact their physical environment has on their social experience, with respondents requesting spaces for a

relaxed social atmosphere.

According to the report, the administration is taking steps to factor student life in future expansions. Strategies include improving transportation options, creating better late-night food options and investigating the feasibility of a new FSL residential neighborhood.

Geographic changes bring beauty, and beauty should translate into other aspects of strengthening community relationships. As the university expands, administrative efforts should go towards creating a central location for students to collaborate informally and to address pressing concerns on campus.

Establishing a large central space — perhaps an extension of the Moseley Center — to hold activities and discussions could contribute to a healthy campus environment. Future initiatives should also address how architectural changes influence disparities in relationship building among different demographics at Elon.

The beauty of campus architectural designs should reflect the voices of the student body. Departments on campus are dedicated to ensuring that students

receive resources to improve their social, mental and physical wellbeing.

But it's not enough for solely policies and task forces to change on-campus engagement and strengthen relationship building. It is also our responsibility as a student body to help make the interior parts of Elon resemble the exterior parts.

We can enable changes by responding to campus-wide surveys about social issues, respectfully reaching out to campus administrators and taking active stances on issues through on-campus involvement. More importantly, we can utilize innovative spaces to collaborate on social issues affecting members of our community.

Even while we experience the growing pains of a changing campus, we can hope our involvement will leave a lasting legacy for incoming Elon students.

As our campus evolves, it's important that our student body see improvement over time.

It takes people to build places: We trust that our university creates programs for our betterment, but we need to take an active role in shaping the spaces we use every day.

Take advantage and explore the community surrounding you



Hannah Benson

Columnist

@elonnewsnetwork

The summer heat is dwindling. The Target store in Burlington has been hit hard by the masses. A handful of new buildings have appeared on campus. These are signs that another Elon fall is underway. And for me, it's the final lap.

The thing I'm most excited for with my senior year is something I call the "last" mentality. I went abroad in fall 2017 with Semester at Sea and spent four months sailing the world, spending a week at a time in 10 different countries.

The whole idea was that when you were in transit to a country, you'd spend your days studying, sleeping

and hanging with friends — charging up for the week on land you had coming up where you'd have five days to see a country. The mentality here was that "we only have 100 hours to explore China, so let's see everything — who knows when we'll be back here again," which, as you can imagine, led to a lot of spontaneity and seizing the day.

As much as anyone would tell you that they wish they had more time in all these places, the truth is the longer you have somewhere, the more often you find yourself saying, "Oh, well we can do that next week." Next week comes, and you're pushing it off again. Ironically

enough, the longer we spend in a place, the less likely we will see it as a new adventure and the less likely we are to break our routine and do the cool things there.

Don't believe me? If you're reading this and have visited over five countries outside the United States, I can guess you've never been to Yellowstone National Park, Mount Rushmore or Niagara Falls. A study done by Conde Nast Traveler in 2016 showed that for every nation you've visited outside of your own, you are 20 percent less likely to see major landmarks in your own country.

But isn't that sad? We

become so consumed with our dreams and aspirations outside our bubble that we never get the chance to explore our own community.

College is four years. And while that may feel like a lifetime now, someday we'll be 80 years old, and four years will seem like four minutes.

So don't get too comfortable.

Don't get caught thinking to yourself, "Maybe next month I'll apply for the internship; maybe next semester I'll go to a meeting; maybe next year I'll ask her out," because before you know it, you're a senior. Before you know it, you have two semesters left before the

rug is pulled out from under you, and before you know it, you're standing on the edge of a cliff overlooking the bottomless chasm that is your future.

So take advantage of these opportunities and this time. I can't imagine I will be the first to say it, and I sure won't be the last — but there's a reason why so many people are urging you to do so.

The challenge here is to get all kinds of people, regardless of their year, to live like they're seniors. And if you start living like this now, then by the time you're a senior, you'll look around your kingdom and be proud of all your adventures.

finding DETERMINATION through ADVERSITY

CURTIS | from cover

“Everything skyrocketed from there,” Mason said. “They helped me to be the person that I am today.”

In the first five years of living in Atlanta, he heard from Suzanne twice through phone and saw her once.

“I used to think that the drinking problem was because of me,” Mason said.

Mason said he had to learn to deal with the blame he was placing on himself since that bothered him as he got older. During his freshman year of high school in 2014, Mason received a call from Church telling him that Suzanne was in the hospital. She was critically ill due to liver failure. After visiting multiple hospitals around the area, they all told her the same thing — that she was going to die.

When Mason was allowed to see Suzanne, he was stunned. He recalls having an image of Suzanne from the last time he saw her. But this time that image was completely different.

“Seeing her in that condition was terrible,” Mason said. “When I saw her in the hospital she was jaundice and bloated.”

Fortunately, Suzanne was able to recover. As she strived to get healthier again, Mason became more involved in his high school baseball team. He also decided to begin improving his grades. He went from a 2.9 GPA as a freshman and raised it up to a 3.45 by his junior year.

Mason’s drive to improve his academics stemmed from the motivation from Robin and Alexander and from his decision to make change.

Discovering Elon and Odyssey

Mason first heard of Elon when one of his cousins toured it. He recalls skimming through the Elon website during his col-

lege search and being amazed at the photos of campus and the business school. After learning more about the school and its programs, he made Elon his first choice and applied early action, knowing he would struggle to afford it.

Shortly after submitting his application, he attended an Elon admissions event in Atlanta where Courtney Vaughn, assistant director of diversity recruitment, told him more about the school.

“Courtney Vaughn drove it home for me,” Mason said. “The alumni and parents explained Elon in such a way that drove me to come here.”

During the presentation, Mason noticed the information about the Odyssey and fellows programs. There was a slide that included information of who was eligible to apply for this program. Some of the points included being a first-generation college student, having achieved success despite hardship or challenge, bringing cultural or socioeconomic diversity to Elon. These points and his conversation with Vaughn drove Mason to apply and go through the Odyssey application and interview processes.

“When I got that acceptance call in March,” Mason said, “it was completely life-changing.”

After being admitted to Elon and attending Rising Phoenix Weekend, Mason met some of the current Odyssey scholars and he quickly realized that was a group of people he was glad to be a part of.

“It felt like family,” Mason said. “I really wanted that feeling. I just didn’t want to go to a university and be a number. I wanted to be a part of something.”

Finding resilience through loss

The day after Mason graduated from Druid Hills High School in Atlanta in 2018 he was notified Suzanne was in the hospital again.

Mason’s last phone call with

Suzanne was about eight months before when he found out she had been charged with a DUI. Mason said she drove off the road with younger siblings Lillie and Max.

“My last phone call with her was me not being her son but me trying to help her,” Mason said. “But it was like firm love.”

Mason says he reminded her to stop drinking and to focus on raising his siblings, but he knew that decision was ultimately up to her. Though he hadn’t seen her in years he remembers she was bubbly and social.

“My mother was always giggly and would call me ‘mister man,’” Mason said. “She had something about her that was amazing.”

Suzanne died May 28, 2018 of liver failure due to alcoholism.

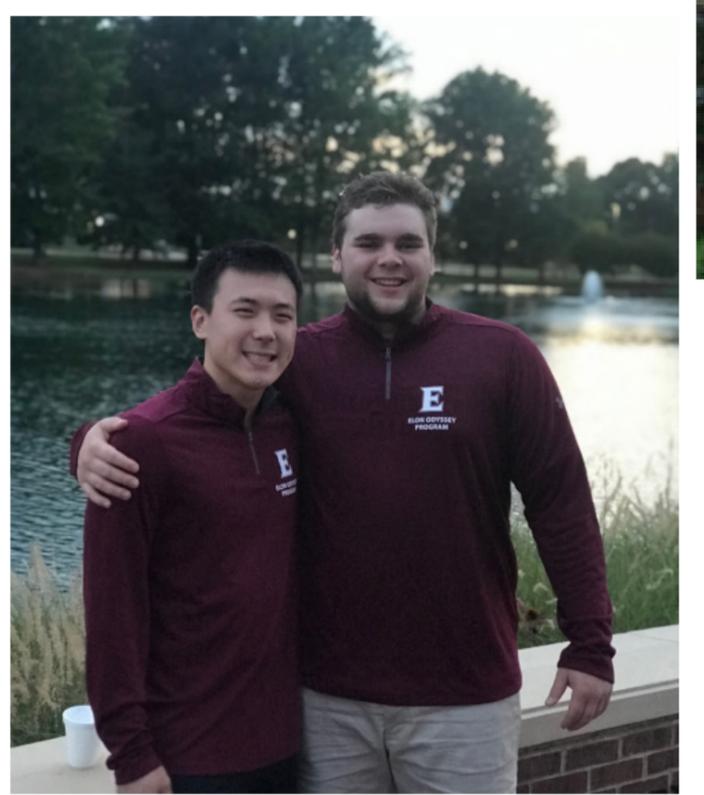
Mason traveled back to Boone for a celebration of life for his mother in June where he saw his siblings who he hadn’t seen in years. Suzanne’s loss was tough for him and his family. As he is still undergoing the grieving process, he says that coming to terms with her death and his childhood experiences make him feel at peace.

Suzanne’s passing has led Mason to a lot of reflection and finding value in communicating with others.

“I really value communication because my lack of communication with her really upset me,” Mason said. “I always extended my hand out to her but she didn’t receive it.”

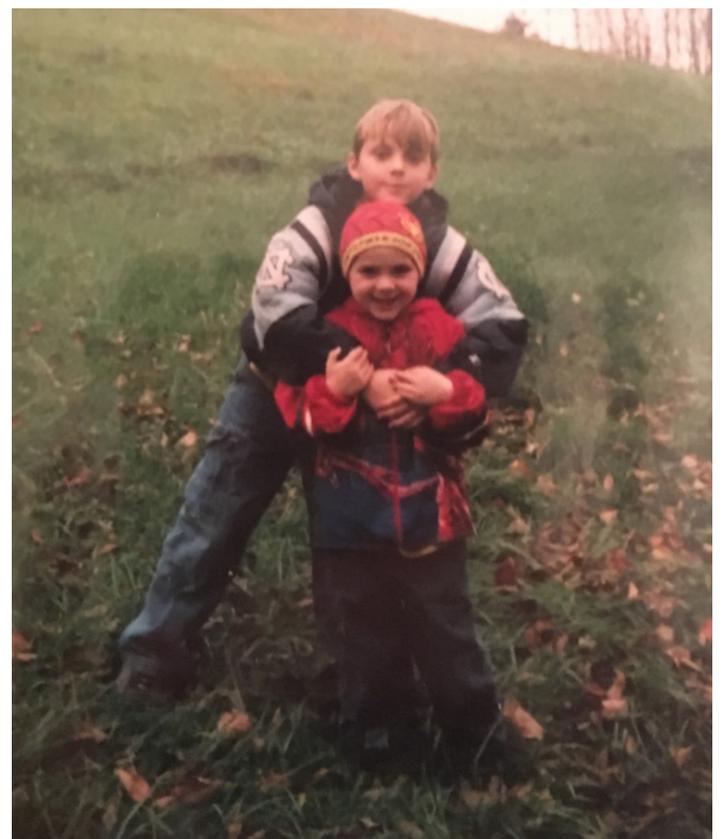
In addition to communication, Mason values his opportunity to get an education even more now. Suzanne did not go to college; Mason believes that if she had higher education she probably would have made different decisions in her life. This is one of the reasons Mason has found determination in taking advantage of the opportunities Elon can provide him.

“The loss of a loved one can also advance your persona,” Mason said. “I don’t plan to be idle here at my time at Elon. I’m as motivated as I’ve ever been.”



THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE CAN ALSO ADVANCE YOUR PERSONA. I DON'T PLAN TO BE IDLE HERE AT MY TIME AT ELON. I'M AS MOTIVATED AS I'VE EVER BEEN.

MASON CURTIS
FRESHMAN



DIEGO PINEDA | ENTERPRISE COORDINATOR
PHOTOS COURTESY OF MASON CURTIS

Top: Freshman Mason Curtis smiles in the Meditation Garden by Numen Lumen Pavilion.
Middle: Freshman Mason Curtis (right) stands with junior Nick Moon (left) in front of Lake Mary Nell during Odyssey Week.
Bottom: Older brother Phillip Curtis hugs freshman Mason Curtis when they were little.



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