



Elon graduate student loves photography and physical therapy

Elon students raise money and awareness by dancing 24 hours for Duke Children's Hospital

THE PENDULUM

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Construction projects impact Town of Elon

Melissa Kansky
Assistant News Editor

Construction projects throughout the Town of Elon influence university students in addition to Elon residents. Projects are not restricted to Elon University, but also involve the Town of Elon and the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

University projects include The Station at Mill Point, an expanding Moseley Center, the Global Village, the Multi-faith Center, additions to downtown Elon and a renovation of the newly-named Francis Center.

"The university pretty much let the town know several years ago that they did not intend to expand to the maximum it could and wanted to stay within 6,000 students," said Mike Dula, Elon town manager. "Mostly everything they have built has been on the property they have owned or next to the property they have owned."

University Drive north of campus and the railroad on south campus represent the confines of the campus, according to Dula. Nevertheless the university construction impacts the town, said Jerry Tolley, mayor of Elon.

"I think they go hand in hand," he said.

Dula sees the development of downtown Elon as testament to the connection between the school and the town.

"The idea was to develop the downtown where the students will use it and be welcome to use it, but it wouldn't just be for the students," he said. "I think that will only create interest for citizens in the town and the surrounding areas to visit the Town of Elon."

The construction on Williamson Avenue also benefits the town because of the expected revenue the retail stores will attract, he said. In previous years, Elon has been below average in Alamance County in terms of retail, but Dula said he predicts the new project will enhance the Town of Elon.

"Anything that generates retail sales, we get some retail tax off of that," he said. "It's

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Williams leads panel discussion of national challenges facing society for spring convocation



HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor

Brian Williams, managing editor and anchor at NBC Nightly News, moderated a panel discussion at spring convocation of pressing national issues including religious extremism, partisanship in politics and fiscal responsibility. Williams was joined by national leaders David Gergen, David Walker, Shirley Ann Jackson, Eboo Patel and David Levin, who each focused his or her responses about a specific theme, from the subject of education to the issues of national debt.

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Possible N.C. cell phone ban looks to eliminate handheld talking

Sam Parker
Senior Reporter

North Carolina lawmakers are debating a ban that would make talking on cell phones while driving illegal unless an individual is using a hands-free device, such as a voice-activated phone or a Bluetooth.

If passed, the ban would override North Carolina's current cell phone driving law, which allows individuals over the age of 18 to use handheld devices when driving a vehicle.

The proposed legislation would still allow individuals to use handheld devices in emergency situations, but if caught using one outside of an emergency situation, individuals would face a \$100 fine.

Chuck Gantos, director



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer

Sophomore Thomas Emery talks on his cell phone while driving. Lawmakers are debating a ban that would make these actions illegal, unless a hands-free device is used.

of Elon University's Campus Safety and Police, said cell phone usage while driving has not been a huge problem on Elon's campus, but rather the problem lies more in students

texting or talking on their cell phones and not paying attention when crossing walkways.

Gantos said he thinks the new legislation would prevent

many local fender-benders, as he has seen problems of talking while driving more in off-campus locations, since students are more prone to drive instead of walk.

Freshman Kelsey Harris, a North Carolina native, said she uses Bluetooth technology in her own vehicle while driving.

She said she believes the proposed ban is targeting the right idea by banning handheld cell phone usage instead of restricting both hands-free and hand-held devices, talking is allowed but Harris said she is hesitant about the law's potential effectiveness.

"I think, in theory, it will help," Harris said. "But I just feel like the police will have a hard time catching a lot of people on their phones because a lot of people do it, so maybe it won't make a big difference

at first, but maybe down the road it will."

Talking on hand-held cell phones is easily visible, Gantos said, and the proposed legislation would allow law enforcement to more easily ticket reckless drivers using their cell phones. He said if an individual is currently caught and proven guilty in North Carolina, he or she could face a fine between \$240-280.

Freshman Kimberly Edwards, a New Jersey resident, said she is accustomed to cell phone restrictions while driving because New Jersey passed strict legislation banning hand-held cell phone use by all drivers three or four years ago.

"As far as driving is

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Convocation panelists encourage students to do what they love

Caitlin O'Donnell
News Editor

Elon University students were encouraged to discover what they love and pursue it with passion at spring convocation April 7.

Brian Williams, managing editor and anchor of NBC Nightly News, served as a moderator during the event, which consisted of a panel of five national leaders.

The discussion centered around key challenges facing the world today including religious intolerance, partisanship in politics, education, fiscal responsibility and energy independence. The panel sought to not only explain these challenges, but suggest realistic ways to address them.

Williams was joined by David Gergen, adviser to four U.S. presidents and director of the Center for Public Leadership at the Harvard Kennedy School; David Walker, former U.S. Comptroller General and head of the U.S. Government Accountability Office; Shirley Ann Jackson, physicist and president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Eboo Patel, founder and president of the Interfaith Youth Core; and David Levin, co-founder of the Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP).

"The title of the discussion is 'we can be better,'" Williams said. "In this nation, in this day and age, we sure can."

The panel began with a conversation about the current state and future of religious understanding.

Patel, a Muslim American whose family immigrated from India, said the ugliness of religious extremism makes the American values of tolerance and pluralism that much more important. The composition of America, of one people from all corners of the earth coming together to build a nation, is one of its strengths, he said.

"I think the first thing we have to do is get back to the deep values of faith and action, of service and cooperation," he said. "As challenging as it might be and as natural as frustration and anger might be at what feels like irrational intolerance, the path I follow, the path of Islam, the path of the prophets, the path of America is a path of trying to show magnanimity in the face of intolerance."

On the topic of debt, and in the face of a potential government shutdown last weekend, had a budget compromise not been reached in Washington, Walker said the United States has strayed from some of its traditional principles and values.

"Today, Washington is arguing over less than 1 percent of federal spending," he said. "It's like arguing about the bar tab on the Titanic. Leaders of both parties need to put country over party



Eboo Patel discusses the importance of interfaith work in response to a question from panel moderator Brian Williams at Elon University's spring convocation. HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor

and progress over partisanship and need to learn from the past."

This means remembering that the nation was founded on the concept of opportunity, not entitlement, he said.

Williams also addressed the low international rankings of U.S. students in reading, science and math.

Levin runs KIPP, a national network of 99 schools located in low-income neighborhoods in 20 states. The schools have doubled high school graduation rates, tripled matriculation to college and quadrupled the college graduation rate in those areas, he said.

"People want to feel special and like they belong to something," he said. "As a society, are not taking the promises to our children as if they were sacred. We care about our own kids, but not anyone else."

Jackson addressed the United States' "addiction" to fossil fuels. Currently, the nation is 60 percent dependent on foreign oil.

Energy security also affects national and economic security, Jackson said, and the nation can learn to rely on fossil fuels less if it is smarter about how they are handled.

"The situation in Japan, the BP oil spill, Katrina, issues in the Middle East and North Africa all tell us that we are facing intersecting vulnerabilities that require a national conversation and more sophisticated, committed approach to dealing with energy solutions," she said.

These solutions include a transparent

and well-functioning energy market, consistency of regulation, a sound infrastructure and innovation, she said.

At a time when 66 percent of Americans are not confident in the future and believe the nation is in decline, according to an NBC and Wall Street Journal poll, Gergen encouraged the audience not to give into pessimism.

"The hope is you all, as students, won't buy into that and accept it as an answer," he said. "The call to the generation is whether you can rally this country and help revive and rebuild it."

Part of the problem, Gergen said, is the lack of response to issues as they arise. Instead of responding immediately, the nation tends to "let them grow and fester." To counteract this trend, it is necessary for people to put the good of the country first, he said.

"There are too many people who think of themselves as strong Democrats or Republicans first and foremost and the country is secondary," he said. "We need to get over that, we need to get your generation involved."

To find the will to address these challenges, Walker said people should focus less on today and more on building a better tomorrow.

"The country does not have a plan that is future-focused, results-oriented around threat, risk and opportunity," he said. "And all too frequently, we wait until there is a crisis at our doorstep before we act. We have to recognize this is a great country but we're not as great as we think we are. We need to have a

plan."

Jackson said solutions could come not only from the young people of today but also from those outside the realm of politics.

"We spend a lot of time talking Washington-centric things but the truth is, there are a lot of great people in the country," she said. "There are leaders in business, the non-governmental sector, academia and in government at multiple levels."

Although Williams admitted the future may look bleak, he encouraged students to stand up and change the world they are inheriting.

"Imagine what you can do with that Elon energy and Elon brain," Williams said. "You know the stakes, we just laid them out for you. Are we going to go forward and act the way we know we can? Are we going to get along or are we going to fight?"

Patel closed the discussion by addressing how it's possible to put the ideas into action.

"Ultimately, when it comes to who you are in the world, you have to do what you love to do," he said. "How do you find what you love to do and how do you give it away?"

MORE ONLINE: NEWS

Didn't make it to Convocation? Check out our website for videos and quotes of what you missed.

<http://bit.ly/TPOconvocation11>
Jeff Stern | Online Editor-in-Chief

Ban on use of handheld phones while driving possible

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concerned, I think a ban needs to be done because at home, before the ban was enforced, people were not taking it that seriously because you would just get a ticket and then sign off by paying a fine," Edwards said. "But, after the ban was enforced, you saw a lot of changes. I think that it's just a little thing, so why don't people wait until they get home or get to somewhere safe instead of endangering themselves and other people?"

Edwards said New Jersey's ban was passed before she began driving, so its enforcement was never debatable when she got her license. Her older brother experienced the transitional period before and after the ban, she said North Carolina residents could benefit just as he did.

"The ban was before I started driving because I'm only 19, but my older brother drove before the ban was enforced, and he never really listened to it," she said. "But after, he could see why it was that much more important because kids would get into accidents in the parking lot just from talking on their cell phones."

these states prohibit drivers from using handheld cell phones while driving.



*Maryland - all laws are primary enforcement, an officer may cite a driver for using a handheld cell phone without any other traffic offense taking place.

LUKE LOVETT | Graphics Editor

Town begins construction

CONSTRUCTION from PAGE 1

new project will enhance the Town of Elon.

"Anything that generates retail sales, we get some retail tax off of that," he said. "It's not tremendously significant, but it will help try to get the town more well rounded."

Construction on East Haggard also demonstrates the collaboration between the town and the university.

"On East Haggard some of (the projects) are university funded and the others are joint projects involving the university and other people," Dula said. "The sidewalk is a three partner project with the town, the university and the North Carolina Department of Transportation."

Dula predicts that the project will be completed by the end of the summer.

A sidewalk project along East Haggard would extend the sidewalk to Gilliam Road, in turn passing the new Gerald L. Francis Center, which will serve as the home of the physical therapy and physician assistant program.

The Town of Elon has had its own construction projects, too, including the addition to Elon Community Church and the widening of Cook Road, which, although not a university project, also influences students in addition to Elon residents.

"One of the main reasons for the Cook Road project was to create heavy traffic off Williamson Avenue," Tolley said.

Cook Road, which is off University Drive, will be expanded to four lanes. The project involves an expansion of the railroad tracks and the installation of a ramp.

"You don't have that big traffic coming down the middle of the town," he said, "and, of course, with all the students it's good to take that traffic off."

The widening of Cook Road is part of the state thoroughfare plan, and will develop a road connecting the more used roads, such as I-85, I-40 and NC-70.

"It will take traffic around the urban areas instead of through the urban areas," Dula said.

Despite the number of construction projects, Tolley doubts the construction will disrupt the functionality of the town.

"It's a lot of building," he said, "but each building area is just so focused."

Still, Tolley identified parking and traffic as a concern until the construction of the buildings and roads is complete.

"Any time you build something it's going to have an impact on what was there before, but it's a normal impact," Dula said.

Faculty express doubt about current foreign language requirements, propose increase

Melissa Kansky
Assistant News Editor

Increased international globalization has prompted Elon University to reassess foreign language requirements.

"The reality is that most Americans whose native language is English don't know any language other than English," said Scott Windham, associate professor of German. "Elon students can distinguish themselves by learning another language, as long as they do so with seriousness and commitment."

Proposed revisions to the general studies program reflect this belief.

As of 2005, students are required to have foreign language proficiency at the 122 level or above, which is equivalent to two semesters of foreign language studies. The new general studies program proposes students must complete a 221 level language course. If the general studies curriculum passes, students must also begin foreign language studies in their first year.

"I think we, as a university, have seen with increased globalization that all of our graduates are going to need to find their role in the world and part of finding their way is learning another language and



Sophomore Paolo De La Feld, senior Victoria Cuza and freshman Kacie Brennell practice their Spanish skills.

understanding other cultures," said Janet Warman, director of general studies.

Education regarding a foreign language translates to a better understanding of culture, according to Warman.

A 2009 survey of faculty indicated 44 of the 60 respondents believe a foreign language curriculum should be strengthened. The survey also showed that 91 percent of those 44 responses

supported an increase in language requirements.

"We have not moved our students to fluency," Warman said, "and some would question if they were even proficient."

The current level required does not adequately reflect the level of proficiency needed for a job or on a daily basis, Windham said.

"Taking the minimum requirement

of 121 or 122 isn't enough to claim a real proficiency," Windham said. "Studies show that it takes through the fourth-semester course to achieve a level of proficiency you can actually use in real-world settings."

Knowledge of one specific language does not make one a better job candidate, according to Windham, but skills pertaining to any language can be applied to professional experience.

"The best language for your resume is substantial skills in any language," he said.

While graduate preparedness factored into the decision to strengthen the foreign language program, Phi Beta Kappa requirements also influenced the increase in Elon's foreign language requirements.

In comparison to other Phi Beta Kappa institutions, Elon falls below average in terms of foreign language requirements. Approximately 60 percent of Phi Beta Kappa institutions have greater foreign language core requirements, including College of William and Mary, Trinity College, University of Richmond and Wake Forest University.

"We are always trying to be inline with schools that we aspire to be like or are like," Warman said.

Doherty scholar wins MIT Elevator Pitch Competition

Mariah Irvin
Reporter

Junior Brian Serow was one of three Doherty Scholars to travel to Seoul, South Korea last month for the MIT Global Startup Workshop, a three-day international entrepreneurial workshop for students and professionals alike.

The second day of the conference was most memorable for Serow. In a Elevator Pitch challenge, where conference attendees had 60 seconds to pitch an idea to a panel of judges in hopes of financial backing, Serow won the grand prize of \$1,500.

After being chosen as a finalist from a group of 47, Serow stood in front of three to 400 people to pitch his idea - an application for smart phones that identifies food ingredients at restaurants, an ideal app for anyone with a food allergy.

With 60 seconds on the clock, Serow finished his pitch in 54, he said.

For about two minutes afterwards, three judges, all notable entrepreneurs,

asked him a few questions.

"They asked me 'Why would restaurants be willing to participate in this?' and 'How does this make money?'" Serow said.

He responded that, as someone with an egg allergy, it is difficult to eat at restaurants because most employees don't specifically know all the ingredients that make up a certain dish.

With his app, Serow said he can guarantee that people like him would eat out more often, which could equal to billions of dollars more for the restaurant industry each year.

Gary Palin, director of the Doherty Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership, praised Serow's performance at the conference.

"Brian's one-minute pitch and answers during the Q&A were outstanding," he said. "The concept is innovative and Brian was focused, confident and poised as he presented in a clear and concise manner."

Palin is a founding member of the

MIT Global Startup Workshop Board of Advisors.

"It allows Elon students to build their global network and interact with over 300 entrepreneurial leaders, executives, next generation entrepreneurs and professors from across the globe," he said.

The conference has been held on six continents and has reached participants from over 70 countries.

Serow has been successful not only as a Doherty Scholar, but as the president of Student Entrepreneurial Enterprise Development (SEED) and in working with the Elon Job Network as well.

He said the center has had a great impact on him. The center trains students to think entrepreneurially through integration within the local and global business community.

"You're in an environment to step up and go at any time," Serow said.

In July, his winning pitch idea will be executed with junior Alex Carberry.

"You'll know what you're actually eating for once," Serow said.



Brian Serow will soon be developing his smart phone app, which identifies food ingredients at restaurants.

Religious studies professor channels Satan in new book

Jeffrey Pugh, a religious studies professor at Elon University, will give the annual Distinguished Scholar Award Lecture at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 14 in LaRose Digital Theatre, where he will read selections from his new book, "Devil's Ink: Blog from the Basement Office." The book catalogs fictional blog posts written by Satan as he critiques and encourages all corners of today's society.

Q: How did the concept for "Devil's Ink" come to be?

A: Essentially, the book is an exercise in teasing out some of the ways that evil becomes embedded within culture and society, in such a way that we not only accept it, but we come to understand it as necessary. We live in a culture that thinks about things individually. We think about everything individually, and we seldom step back and get the broader dynamic of what's actually out there, and we're struggling with it. It's a book of dealing with the problem of evil from a structural, not an individual, viewpoint.

Q: How did you come up with the format of blog posts?

A: The voice of Satan has been

Fast facts about "Devil's Ink"

- Page count: 193
- Number of blog posts: 81
- Satan's username: BLZBB
- Sample blog entry title: "Don't Hate the Playa, Hate the Game"

in human literature since the very beginning. Human beings, in their imaginative world, have always used this literary device to explain, or try to get at, the problem of evil. The human landscape is just filled with writers who have used that voice.

We don't use letters, we hardly even use email anymore. I thought this would be an interesting thing, to take that voice and put it into a blog. There's a different kind of fluidity, there's a different kind of structure than there would be in a book. It's non-linear. That doesn't mean that it's any less profound. It just means that it's non-linear. So I just thought, "Let's try that."

Q: How did you get into the "voice of Satan" mindset when you sat down to write?

A: I just took everything and looked at it from the opposite perspective. How has Satan been portrayed? From Dostoevsky to other writers, how is evil portrayed? And evil is the spirit of negation. It negates everything. Evil would be that which is destructive to human flourishing. Once I had that in mind, the rest is easy. You just write from the point of that which seeks to destroy.

Q: How do you find that the book has been received so far?

A: It's a little early to tell how it's being viewed. You would have to have a pretty good sense of humor. If you're easily offended, you're probably not going to like it. It's an offensive text because Satan is offensive. Sometimes books just get out there and they die, so you just don't know about this one. My expectation is that I would like to engage people in the ideas. I like ideas. I'm a professor because I think ideas are important, and I think ideas are the foundation on which we structure society. In that regard, the expectation that I hope for is that it will strike a nerve with a lot of people, and that they'll be willing to push back.



Jeffrey Pugh's book "Devil's Ink" addresses Satan's response to evil in the world through blogs.

Q: There is a website, devilsinkblog.com, that you are updating periodically, and it is an extension of the book. How do you pick and choose the topics you are going to blog about?

A: In the book, the topics were just things that emerged in my thinking as I was writing. We thought it would be an interesting thing to set the blog up so that people who read the book can interact. The way that things are coming

forth in the blog is that it's more topically related. So, for instance, I've been meaning to get to Terry Jones, the preacher down in Florida who's burning the Koran, and the sort of stuff that's causing. The last entry was about this guy up in Michigan named Rob Bell. In the Evangelical world, he's creating quite the stir with his book, "Love Wins." So I just thought I'd send him a little love.

-Compiled by Rebecca Iannucci, Copy Editor

Burlington nonprofit aids victims of sexual assault

Natalie Allison
Senior Reporter

Not a minute goes by in Alamance County when a crisis intervention volunteer is not waiting on the other end of the phone line for a victim of sexual assault to call.

For 35 years, CrossRoads Sexual Assault Response & Resource Center, a 24/7 nonprofit agency in Burlington, has provided resources to children and adults who are victims of rape or sexual assault.

The mission of CrossRoads is to provide guidance for victims. The way the agency achieves this is by acting as a liaison between victims, law enforcement officers, lawyers, doctors and representatives of other agencies, said Courtenay Pierce, communications director.

CrossRoads serves as a first response center for children, adults and families of sexual assault victims, but also provides counseling services and resources for victims during and after the initial process of contacting the appropriate agencies.

Pierce said the agency also assists victims with getting through their simple, day-to-day functions.

"If someone is having a severe panic attack and flashbacks, we teach them what to do in the short term," Pierce said.

CrossRoads typically schedules six to eight counseling sessions for victims, and after that, individuals may come for monthly meetings. Others come as often as necessary in order to return to their lives with "as much normalcy as possible," said Claudia Patterson, crisis response coordinator.

In the past two years, CrossRoads has added medical examinations to its in-house services in order to reduce the travel and additional trauma victims go through during medical and legal screenings. Previously, children who were victims of sexual assault would have to go on day trips to Chapel Hill for medical check-ups.

"This is a big step for such a small agency to provide," Pierce said.

CrossRoads minimizes the shock of the interview process with law enforcement and social services for children by allowing them to sit in a room with a single interviewer, while representatives from other organizations watch via camera.

Last year, CrossRoads provided services for more than

400 children and 198 adults who were victims of rape or sexual assault. The average number of people they help each month varies, and is often unpredictable, Pierce said.

"This is one of those fields where traffic depends on holidays, school vacations," she said. "In the summertime, our numbers are really up."

Of the cases the agency deals with, especially those involving children, Pierce speculated that about 75 percent of victims were assaulted by a family member.

Because sexual assault and violence are found in all socioeconomic classes, Pierce said CrossRoads works with victims from all types of life situations.

"We really see a diverse collection of people, from the extremely affluent to the families who have nothing," she said.

All services the agency provides are free and confidential.

"What that means, is we don't report to Elon," Pierce said.

Pierce, who has only been with CrossRoads for a few years but has always worked for nonprofits, said her job of raising awareness of a problem that is spoken of very little is not easy, but undoubtedly



MOLLY CAREY | Staff Photographer
Currently, seven students from Elon volunteer at CrossRoads Resource Center in Burlington.

rewarding.

"You try to get away from it, but you get sucked in," Pierce said. "It's amazing. It's rewarding to see what we can do to help these victims."

CrossRoads currently has seven volunteers from Elon University, along with community volunteers, nine full-time employees and two part-time doctors. The agency welcomes more help.

"As far as working the crisis line — it's open 365 days a year — holidays and weekends," Pierce said. "We would love to have 100 volunteers."

CrossRoads provides:

- Advocacy for victims of sexual assault/violence
- Ongoing counseling, support and resources for victims
- Presentations on rape and sexual assault at all public middle schools and some high schools in the county

Local school board fires 2 employees for inappropriate behavior

Becca Tynes
Senior Reporter

A coach and a schoolteacher in the Alamance Burlington School System (ABSS) were fired for conduct unbecoming of a teacher.

Michael Martin, a Western Alamance Middle School physical education teacher who had been suspended since September 2010, was fired March 30. Martin, who taught at Western Alamance Middle School since January 2008, was dismissed for viewing pornography

on school computers, failing to disclose convictions on charges of driving while impaired and attending school events after drinking alcohol, according to the termination letter provided by the ABSS.

But Martin wasn't the only ABSS employee who was dismissed. Robert Alfonzo Clapp, a Williams High School coach, was charged with one count of statutory sex offense against a person who is 13, 14 or 15 years old and one count of sexual activity between school personnel and a student March 23, according to a news release from

the Burlington Police Department.

He was placed in Alamance County Jail under a \$150,000 secure bond.

The news release stated that only one week later, Clapp was served an additional warrant for indecent liberties with a student.

The charge came from the continuing investigation into the incident at Williams High School and the identification of an additional victim.

Clapp received an additional \$5,000 bond in reference to this charge.

Educators and employees hold

the trust of children and families in the community, and it is the duty of all employees in the ABSS to uphold and model the highest standards of proper conduct and behavior, said Arasi Adkins, executive director of human resources in the ABSS.

"Students look to the teachers and other adults in their lives to be role models who provide guidance and set appropriate expectations for behavior," Adkins said. "If adult actions do not meet professional standards, students observe that, too."



Congratulations to Elon University's Phi Beta Kappa 2011 Inductees

Matthew Walter Baker
Andrew Taylor Black
Peter James Bock
Micah Peter Boomer
Meghan Elizabeth Braun
Amanda Leigh Clark
Gabrielle Louise Dean
Elizabeth June-Heline Dobbins
Hannah Mariel Dowling
Alexandra Marie Dunn
Amy Ruth Eubanks
Virginia Ann Fischer
Taylor Noel Foshee
Michael Christopher Giroux
Courtney Ann Graham
Victoria Elizabeth Hill
Anna Lunsford Hulett
Christopher Carleton Jarrett
Zachary Lewis Jordan
Megan Nicole Justice

Sara Alexandra Kaplan
Amanda Lee Ketner
AdleyMay Kloth
Katherine Elizabeth Lampe
Alexandra Pierce Lawrence
Elizabeth Ann Leman
Gregory Charles Mader
Stacey Allison Markham
Craig Elton Massey
Amanda Annette McBride
Marissa Anne Messiano
Kelly Rebecca Molin
Jana Elaine Murdock
KivaShiriNice-Webb
Amanda Rae Olmstead
Maggie Elizabeth Pahos
Allison Renee Parker
Rachel Marie Perron
Elise Margaret Post
AnnebelleJoy Preske

Joanna Natalia Rabiej
Anthony Melchior Rizzuto
Renee Dorothy Robinson
Danielle Hunter Schenk
Jaclyn Ann Seisman
Kaylyn Elizabeth Swankoski
Melissa Ruth Turowski
Arwen CloBellamy Varner
Melanie Veronica Woodward
Megan Elizabeth Wynn
Renee Katherine Zale

Autism Speaks U, Alpha Xi Delta join forces

Scarlett Fakhar
Reporter

Alpha Xi Delta and Autism Speaks U, a new organization on Elon University's campus, have teamed up to try to make a difference during Autism Awareness month. Both organizations have planned events to not only raise money, but also awareness of the illness that affects one out of every 110 children.

Junior Katy Burns, president of Autism Speaks U, has worked to bring the organization to campus since late October of last year. The national Autism Speaks organization is the largest autism science and advocacy program in the country.

Burns said it's been a slow start making Autism Speaks U an official organization at Elon, but she has begun to see an increasing amount of interest in the past few months.

So far, Burns said 35 people receive regular updates from the organization through e-mail and an increasing amount of students have been stopping by its booth inside Moseley Center.

Smith Jackson, vice president and dean of Student Life, and President Leo Lambert have also expressed their interest in the effort to support Autism Speaks U, she said.

In 2009, the national Alpha Xi Delta organization adopted Autism Speaks as its philanthropy.

Burns said a recent fundraiser held

Monday, April 18, Karaoke for a Cure, at 8 p.m. in Irazu Coffee, where groups can sign up to sing before a panel of celebrity faculty members for great prizes.

Tuesday, April 19, Stop by an enjoy dinner at Red Bowl, where proceeds will be donated to Autism Speaks.

by Design Forum Salon, Turn Your Hair-Do Blue, was very successful. The salon offered blue hair extensions for purchase to support the cause, and proceeds went to Autism Speaks.

Another successful event held was the Light it Up Blue event, in which sections of the campus were decorated with blue décor and lights.

"We also work with Elon Elementary and do hands-on projects," said senior Jasmine Nickerson, philanthropy chair of Alpha Xi Delta. "We will go in and help twice a week, every week, to help the teachers and the students."

In addition, Alpha Xi Delta held a bake sale this month and helped organize a profit share at YoZone, where it raised \$105 in donations.

"Autism itself, for whatever reason, has become much more prevalent in society," Burns said. "A lot of people don't realize the importance for everyone to be aware and understand something that is affecting many

people across the country."

Elon students aren't the only group of people that Alpha Xi Delta and Autism Speaks U are targeting in order to build awareness. Junior Jessica Phelan, vice president for Alpha Xi Delta, said the sorority just posted an article in The Burlington Times News that addresses upcoming events for Autism Awareness month. They have also been in touch with the Charlotte chapter of the sorority.

"There's a huge percent of the campus that gets involved, people get really excited for it," Phelan said. "In the past year, we have raised \$10,000 for Autism Speaks through campus activities."

Autism Awareness month has been celebrated since the 1970s and aims to educate the public about autism and issues within the autism community, according to the Autism Society.

"Students need to be more informed so that they can take action if they feel strongly about the issue," said senior Carolina Klara. "I think it's a great idea to support this cause because it spreads awareness of autism around campus and the community."

Both groups have been planning events for the month of April and are trying to get more people to join their cause. An information booth is located inside Moseley Center that offers pamphlets on autism, as well as blue ribbons for students to wear.

Professors, students reflect on the impact of recent Google technologies on education

Kate Riley
Copy Intern

What is Google capable of? The answer is simple: a lot.

Google, which began in 1996, has brought many technologies to the general public since its inception, including Google Mail, Google Chrome and Google Calendar, applications which are used daily around the world.

But in the past few years, Google has held its technological creations to an even higher standard, creating software that can display information about a person just from analyzing a photograph.

Google's new facial recognition software would enable users to take a picture of someone and allow them to access their name, email address and phone number from the photo.

"I am sure that it would appeal to some people because there is a novelty factor," said Harlen Makemson, associate professor of communications. "But the potential for abuse is immense."

According to a CNN interview with Hartmut Neven, Google engineering director for the image-recognition development, the pictures would be programmed to associate with pictures that are publicly available on Facebook or Flickr, but a person would have to check a box saying they allow Google to access

their information.

"I feel that it is too much freedom to be able to snap a picture of someone and learn all about them," said senior Lauryn Thomas, a psychology major.

The technology for such software has existed for a few years, but Google was weary to release it because of concerns

"I worry sometimes that technology can be a crutch for true understanding. I believe that education is based in learning why something is and how it came to be."

-BRADLEY MCCLURE
FRESHMAN

about privacy, like Thomas'.

"It takes away from selective socialization and begins to prematurely categorize people on another level," Thomas said.

Many of these safety concerns come from the idea that pictures could fall into hands that might misuse the information.

It is this skepticism of the facial recognition software, along with other

Google products, that brings students and professors alike to believe technologies could change the interactions of the younger generation, and ultimately, the face of education.

"You have to think about the purpose of the technology," Makemson said. "You have to think about what you are trying to solve with this technology that you can do otherwise. You have to think if you are doing it just to do it, or if it is actually going to help people learn."

Bradley McClure, a freshman teaching fellow at Elon, agrees after reading about other technologies in the making.

"I am ecstatic about the potential of these new technologies," McClure said. "But I must also say that I have some level of reservation of them in the world of education."

Although he believes that new technologies such as the facial recognition software are great for social networking, especially when considering jobs and internships, McClure said he feels Google's ideas will not benefit education.

"I worry sometimes that technology can be a crutch for true understanding," he said. "I believe that education is based in learning why something is and how it came to be. But if taught as a supplement and not as a primary way of learning, these technologies could be incredibly useful in stimulating education."

NEWS BRIEFS

Poster on the Hill to feature student research

Senior Drew Gardner will travel to Washington, D.C., this week to present his research to lawmakers about concussions in student athletes as part of the annual Posters on the Hill event sponsored by the Council on Undergraduate Research.

April 11 has been designated by the U.S. House of Representatives as Undergraduate Research Week. This spring, a total of 84 students and their mentors were invited to take part in a poster session before meeting with congressional representatives to discuss the significance of undergraduate research.

New majors available fall 2011

This fall, Elon University students will have the option to choose from four new majors. Early childhood education will be added to the School of Education's program, information science will replace the current computer information systems major in the Department of Computing Sciences, public health studies and arts administration will be available within Elon College, the College of Arts and Sciences.

Elon Alumna named N.C. Teacher of the Year

Tyronna Hooker, a 2009 graduate of Elon University's Master of Education program, was named the 2011-2012 Teacher of the Year for North Carolina. Hooker teaches at Graham Middle School.

She will spend the next year traveling the state as an ambassador for the teaching profession. She will receive an automobile to use during the year, an engraved vase, a cash award of \$7,500, a trip to the National Teacher of the Year conference, the opportunity to travel abroad and a technology package valued at more than \$17,000.

She will also serve as an adviser to the State Board of Education for two years.

Phoenix 14 News wins collegiate Emmy

Phoenix14 News, Elon University's weekly student-produced newscast, won first place last weekend in the Emmy Foundation College Television Newscast competition in Los Angeles.

Executive producer Kirsten Bennett accepted the award on behalf of Phoenix14.

Also in attendance at the awards presentation was Drew Smith, senior news director, Nick Ochsner, senior investigative reporter, Mallory Lane and Jasmine Spencer, both senior anchors, and Rich Landesberg, faculty adviser.

Elon student reports peeping tom

Elon University student Emily Fournier reported a peeping tom peering through her bedroom window on Westview Dr. at approximately 10 p.m. Sunday.

According to the incident report from the Town of Elon Police Department, Fournier had just stepped out of the shower when she saw the unknown subject. She described the subject as a balding white male in his mid 30's wearing a white tee shirt.

Officer James Turney said he circulated the area with other officers after speaking with Fournier about the incident, but the suspect was never located. The incident is still under investigation.

Calendar: April 13-19

April 13

- Responsiveness to Intervention: Its Promise and Problems, 7 p.m. in Whitley Auditorium
- "Brother, Outsider" film screening, 7 p.m. in Moseley
- "The Truth Isn't Sexy," 8 p.m. in Irazu

April 14

- Jeffery Pugh, "Devil's Ink: Blog from the Basement Office," 7 p.m. in LaRose Digital Theatre
- Theology of the Body Debates: Gay Marriage, 8:30 p.m. in Holt Chapel

April 15

- Bench Press Competition, 2 p.m. in Young Commons
- La Cuchara Hispana/Spanish Dessert Tasting at 3:30 p.m. in Carlton 114
- Pride Week Day of Silence and Barbecue at 5 p.m. at the grill behind McEwen Dining Hall

April 16

- DPT Open House at 8 a.m. in McMichael Building
- Charity Dodgeball Tournament to benefit Boy Scouts of America at noon in Alumni Gym
- SPECTRUM's Annual Drag Show at 7 p.m. in Oaks Commons 212

April 17

- Bachelor of Arts Thesis Exhibition opening reception, 1 p.m. in Arts West Gallery
- Sunday Worship: An Ecumenical Protestant Service, 10:30 a.m. in Holt Chapel
- Ajax, 2 p.m. in McCrary Theatre

April 18

- Elon Passover Seder, 6 p.m. in McKinnon Hall
- The Long-term Civic Impact of Youth Activism: The Curious Contrast between Freedom Summer and Teach for America, 7:30 p.m. in Whitley Auditorium

April 19

- MBA Open House at 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Koury Business Center
- Rethinking the Domestic: Rethinking the Carnival at 7 p.m. in Isabella Cannon Room
- Elon University Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. in McCrary Theatre

For more dates and information about campus events, visit the calendar on the Elon website.

Editorial

How The Pendulum handles rape cases

The official response to last week's Letter to the Editor

While it's almost taboo to openly discuss rape, how to handle rape coverage is a conversation that must take place in every newsroom.

In the April 6 edition, The Pendulum received a letter to the editor encouraging staff members to contact rape survivors (in the letter, the word "victim" was used but "survivor" seems more appropriate) and ask their permission before publishing an article about the incident.

Rarely does The Pendulum respond publicly to a letter. Instead, it is usually the hope of this organization that the community will engage in thoughtful and considerate debate and discussion. But with this particular case, The Pendulum staff wanted to explain to the Elon community exactly how a rape case is covered.

Most rape cases are brought to the staff's attention by an incident report. These public reports are written by police officers after every deployment regardless of the type of incident. The reports usually have the contact information for the accuser and any witnesses, along with a description of what the officer saw at the crime scene.

With rape incident reports, the situation is slightly altered. On campus, when a

rape may have occurred, Campus Safety and Police write the report as usual, but they withhold the name, phone number, birthday and address of the accuser on the public record. This is legally allowed by a North Carolina law exemption that permits officers to temporarily conceal the person's identity to protect his or her mental and physical well-being.

Theoretically and legally, after a number of weeks or even months, the name of the survivor should be released, but The Pendulum has never been able to access the name of a rape survivor from Campus Safety and Police.

If an alleged rape occurs off campus, the Elon Police Department handles the case. The Pendulum has requested rape incident reports on numerous occasions from the police department and has been denied access. The illegality of the department's action has done little to sway its decision not to release information.

When The Pendulum staff members have made requests to university officials for the names of survivors, they are denied on the basis of protecting privacy.

This is a very important point. The Pendulum staff is never given the names of rape survivors by anyone, not Campus Safety and Police, not the Town of Elon

Police and not university officials.

There are those who may celebrate or breathe a sigh of relief about this level of protection. But this practice is unacceptable.

Out of the strictest sense of morality and a desire to protect those affected, The Pendulum will never print the name of a rape or sexual assault survivor unless he or she wishes for his or her name to be published. The only reason staff members want the name is to contact the individual and ask for his or her side of the story.

In the interest of a balanced, comprehensive view of the situation, quotes and feelings from the affected are just as, if not more, important as the accused, the police officer who wrote the report or experts or officials giving their information about the situation.

If the police expect a fair account of crime on and off campus, they must be willing to meet us in the middle and trust us to do our job, as we trust them to do theirs.

MORE ONLINE: OPINIONS

You can read the full letter at: <http://bit.ly/TPOLetter>.

A college experience is about more than classes

The Elon University campus is in a registration-induced frenzy once again this week. After several weeks of meeting with an adviser, highlighting, underlining and maybe rearranging a class schedule a hundred times, students are officially logging into OnTrack, selecting desired classes and hitting the "Register" button, hoping we haven't been locked out of what we want or that OnTrack doesn't time out before we get the chance.

Every semester this dance repeats itself and we are, at least momentarily, forced to confront our futures. The requirements we need to graduate get more and more specific and the classes seem more and more daunting. We have to face the future and hope we are racing along the right track.

The ultimate goal for an undergraduate student is simple: graduate. Pass the right classes in the major you thought you wanted, and maybe still do, and get out with that pretty diploma and oak sapling.

But remember what you study in college may not end up being related to your career. It may not even be in the same field. Maybe you studied psychology but end up in a government office. That biology degree might not come in handy when you decide to open your own business. And graduating as a cinema major doesn't do much good when you're halfway across the world for the Peace Corps.

But that's OK.

Plans change. People change. The freshmen who moved on campus in August 2007 are not the same people who will graduate in fewer than two months' time.

Like it or not, formal college education is about fitting into a certain mold. Your major becomes the cookie cutter you



LIBBY MCGUIRE | Design Editor

shove your four years into. What you do other than your classes becomes the frosting, sprinkles or chocolate chips you add to that shape, and that is what makes you who you are as a person, not just a student.

College life, on the other hand, is as much about discovering the type of human being you want to be as it is what books you can read and what papers you can crank out. It's about discovering a love for philanthropic work, a passion for traveling, a desire to spend your life as a homebody or in a big city or in a hut on

the edges of civilization.

We would all do well to take a step back, breathe and appreciate just being in college. We get to exist in a place where there is education, friends, cultural events and more support and opportunities for growth than you will probably ever encounter again.

So don't let registration scare you. Don't let those four years be like a ticking time bomb, where at the end, you're supposed to know who you are and what you will spend your entire life doing. Rarely, if ever, does it work out like that.

MORE ONLINE: OPINIONS

With only a few weeks left until summer, five Pendulum staffers are still chugging along with their resolutions at: www.pendulumresolutions.wordpress.com

Do you have something to say about Elon? So do we. Read all of it on the Pendulum Opinions blog at: www.pendulumopinions.wordpress.com

Check out The Pendulum website for staff editorials and columns past and present. www.elon.edu/pendulum

THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

The Pendulum is published each Wednesday of the academic year. The advertising and editorial copy deadline is 5 p.m. the Friday before publication. Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be typed and emailed with a telephone number for verification. Submissions are accepted as Word documents. The Pendulum reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters or columns may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned. You can reach The Pendulum by email at pendulum@elon.edu. If you have questions or concerns about an article, contact a section editor. Please do not respond to reporters directly.

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TO COMMENT ...

We appreciate original responses to Pendulum articles. Feedback of 500 words or less can be sent in several ways.

Letters to the editor and columns can be emailed to pendulum@elon.edu or sent to 7012 Campus Box, Elon, N.C. 27244. Content will be edited for clarity, length and accuracy. All submissions must include a name and phone number.

A message board also accompanies each article online at www.elon.edu/pendulum where commentary can be quickly posted.

Opinions

Top songs lack originality but the public still keeps buying



Zachary Horner
Guest Columnist

I don't understand the hype behind the Billboard Top 100, particularly the top few songs on the list.

According to its official website, the Hot 100 is "the week's most popular songs across all genres, ranked by radio airplay audience impressions as measured by Nielsen BDS, sales data as compiled by Nielsen SoundScan and streaming activity data provided by online sources."

I'm fine with that, but what's really confusing me is the lack of creativity among what are supposedly the top 100 songs in the nation.

Let's look at the current No. 1 for the week of April 16: "E.T." by Katy Perry featuring Kanye West. The lyrics include, "You're from a whole other world, a different dimension. You open my eyes, and I'm ready to go, lead me into the light."

How is this considered original, creative or even good? Is it the beat? The instrumentals? And why do artists like Perry, who do nothing for the instrumentals, get all of the credit?

Rihanna's "S&M," No. 2 on the chart, is an admittedly catchy song, with lines such as "Feels so good being bad. There's no way I'm turning back. Now the pain is my pleasure cause nothing could measure."

Call me old-fashioned, but I feel like we've heard lines like these before. Not in this context of sexual roughness, but in a rebellious kind of way.

The sad thing is, Rihanna claims, "I don't think of it in a sexual way, I'm thinking metaphorically." I don't understand the metaphor here. Again, call me old-fashioned.

Then there's "Just Can't Get Enough" by The Black Eyed Peas, No. 3 on this week's chart. "My mind's dirty and it don't need cleanin'. I love you long time so you know the meanin'. Oh baby I can't come down so please come help me out. You got me feelin' high and I can't step off the cloud."

What a revolutionary picture of love. We actually take our time to listen to this stuff.

Songs like these make me wonder why we even listen to music with words at all. Jennifer Lopez's recent hit "On the Floor" with Pitbull, Ke\$ha's "Blow" and Britney Spears' "Till the World Ends" are all examples of songs with catchy beats, but lyrics that are dull.

This isn't necessarily the artist's fault, unless he or she actually writes the songs.

Bruno Mars' "Grenade" and "Just the Way You Are" are tracks with fairly original lyrics that actually mean something. Christina Perri's metaphorical "Jar of Hearts" delves into a girl who is dealing with the return of a Casanova-type love interest in her life. Why can't all songs be like those?

The answer is money. The old saying goes, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it," and the non-creative lyrics with snappy beats rake in the most green.

What happened to the '80s? Take 1985, for instance. Where did songs like REO Speedwagon's "Can't Fight This Feeling," Simple Minds' "Don't You (Forget About Me)" and Mr. Mister's "Broken Wings" go? They've been relegated to artists who work hard for their music, actually play the instruments and write the lyrics.

Artists such as The Script, Train and Zac Brown Band have songs creeping close to those top 20 slots, but are staying behind because of the crappy lyrics and hot beats of less-deserving songs.

Granted, I love a good beat as much as anyone else. But I find it sad that we stoop to requesting and buying songs with lyrics such as "Call me a goon or a goblin, I'm a monster, 'Cause I hit all the baddest women in the world, gangsta" (Pitbull's "Hey Baby" featuring T-Pain), while artists who write lyrics like "Now I'm falling in love as she's walking away and my heart won't tell my mind to tell my mouth what it should say" (Zac Brown Band's "As She's Walking Away" featuring Alan Jackson) are shoved in the background. They still sell tracks on iTunes, but the popular ones control the spotlight that should belong to these songwriters.

What a shame.

Fame has a price, so don't complain about backlash after viral videos



Ashley Fahey
Columnist

It seems there is a new viral video every day. Ordinary people become celebrities overnight once their video, whether for positive or negative reasons, goes viral on the Internet. And these videos have made a niche for themselves in pop culture.

But what impact does posting these videos online have? University of California Los Angeles student Alexandra Wallace, who posted a highly controversial rant about Asian

Americans, received harsh backlash, some of which she cited as harassment to her family and death threats. These actions purportedly caused her to drop out of UCLA.

While receiving death threats is extreme, so is Wallace's dropping out of college. Viral videos are like fad diets: they don't last long. It won't be long before another offensive video will go viral and receive the same reaction.

In time, people will not associate her name with the viral video phenomenon but for now, she is a college dropout and must cite the bullying that came along with her video as the reason for her decision. In a way, this decision could potentially prolong the association she has with her infamous rant.

Another example is Rebecca Black's "Friday" video, which received one of the strongest reactions in YouTube history. Parodies, remixes and social media uproar have accompanied the introduction of "Friday," which has received more than 80 million views on YouTube since its arrival on the viral video scene.

Black's video has more dislikes than any other YouTube video in existence, and the comments on her music video for "Friday" have been described by Black herself as "cyberbullying."

While 13-year-old Black's lyrics and auto-tuned vocals are silly and amateurish at best, does that really warrant the personal and malicious insults that have been directed at Black for the video? The answer is no.

The type of heartless name-calling and insults that have been thrown at the young teen will stay with her for the rest of her life and, to top it off, she has become a hallmark example of viral video fame, but not in a positive way.

But Black, her family and Ark Music Factory, the company that produced the video, willingly put her video on YouTube for the world to see. Although it was impossible to predict how much of a reaction "Friday" would have on the Internet, it is an understood fact that



Top: Rebecca Black's "Friday" video has the most "dislikes" in YouTube history. **Bottom:** Alexandra Wallace dropped out of UCLA after her anti-Asian rant went viral.

the Internet is an unregulated medium and that, because of our First Amendment rights, everybody has the freedom to say what they wish about any video posted online.

Uploading a video is like signing a contract: you take responsibility for that video, which includes all reactions that may or may not be offensive to you or to other parties. In a society in which practically everything winds up on the Internet eventually, it is easy to forget that consequences can and do happen to those who choose to expose their music, their thoughts and their actions to the world.

We should never condone harassment or cyberbullying, no matter how offensive or ridiculous a YouTube video gone viral may be, but the authors of the video should recognize the responsibility they take on when uploading a video online.

MORE ONLINE:

VIDEO: Check out a hilarious viral video mashup by Multimedia Contributor Derek Scully.

<http://bity.ly/TPOviral>

Warnings about correlation between GPA and alcohol use fall on deaf ears



Dawn Joyce
Columnist

Take a second and ballpark the number of alcoholic beverages you've consumed in the past week. Now estimate how many hours you've devoted to studying in the same week. Which number is higher?

Just as we've begun to toast in memory of the recent degradation of our beloved Four Loko, a new study has surfaced proving alcohol consumption is one of the best predictors of college grades. The study, out of

George Mason University, suggests the more time spent drinking, the lower the grades. Even students who earn good grades and spend a significant amount of time drinking could get better grades if they spent less time drinking.

But we don't need studies to prove this. Neither do our parents, teachers, therapists, local law enforcement officers and authority figures best known to harp on the social media addiction, Adderall abuse and alcohol consumption of our generation. Our culture's recent media stories are enough to confirm their worries.

A 2008 study conducted by a Dartmouth College alumnus recently resurfaced, declaring The University of Pennsylvania the "least cool" Ivy League school because it scored lowest on alcohol-related infractions.

Not only are we drinking more, but we're slacking more, too. In the 1960s, college kids studied 24 hours a week. In 2011, it slipped to 7.25 hours.

But this decline in study hours may also be a result of the multitude of extracurriculars students are involved in today. Researchers did see some differences

when drinking was complemented by other activities.

For instance, students who drank but also volunteered or were involved in some kind of extracurricular activity showed fewer negative consequences such as skipping class, failing assignments or blowing off work than classmates who spent time drinking but didn't participate in other outside activities.

The main value of this study lies in using the relationships between study time, alcohol consumption and academic success to predict student behavior so colleges can develop programs that target students in danger of falling behind. But is this really the best approach to combat alcohol abuse among college students?

Factors like peer pressure, boredom and curiosity are listed as reasons college students display problematic drinking behavior. But maybe blame is to be shared with our country's steep legal drinking age, which makes it difficult for students to familiarize themselves with alcohol before college.

Many freshmen begin their college careers without being exposed to an environment where alcohol is readily available, thus beginning the enamored relationship college students have with alcohol.

The results of this study only make our generation look irresponsible and push schools to crack down on rules surrounding alcohol use. But do we really mind?

Students are unwavering in their dedication to binge drinking. As long as report cards aren't taking too hard of a hit, old adages like, "You're not an alcoholic until you graduate" will never get old. Not until you find yourself drunk on a random Sunday night two years after graduation with nothing but the promise of an early morning at work and a nasty hangover, will this seem like an actual issue.

Until then, best of luck finding a college student who really cares.

UNCG



2011

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Style



Freshman student Addie Haney competes in a friendly competition on an inflatable game.



ALL PHOTOS BY WILL ANDERSON | Photographer
Elonthon raises money for Duke Children's Hospital and the Children's Miracle Network.



Hannah Headan and her father Alex speak to the dancers about how much ELONTHON means to them.



Dancers were allowed to squat, but not to sit during the entire 24-hour dance period.



Calisthenics kept the dancers moving and a Zumba instructor kept feet tapping as the day wound down.

ELONTHON Dancing 24 hours for medical research

Elonthon, the university's annual dance marathon, populated Alumni Gym the weekend of April 8-9 with hundreds of students raising money and wearing out their shoes to help fight childhood diseases.

The final fundraising amount will not be released until later this semester, but last year Elonthon donated more than \$100,000 to Duke Children's Hospital and Children's Miracle Network. Duke Children's Hospital is one of the premiere childhood disease research and treatment facilities in the country and Children's Miracle Network hospitals never turn away young patients who may not be able to

pay out of pocket.

Dancers pay \$12 for registration, and are encouraged either to fundraise \$250 or more, or provide the names of eight sponsors. All of the money raised goes toward the hospitals.

Dancers can choose to dance in six-hour increments, or for the whole 24 hours. Snacks are provided, as well as some breaks for rest — but no sitting allowed. This year's participants danced to the soundtrack of student DJs as well as participated in Zumba workouts and inflatable carnival games.

Elonthon celebrated its eighth year this semester and will be back next year, as always, for the kids.

MORE ONLINE: STYLE

VIDEO:

Check out highlights from ELONTHON in case you missed it.

<http://bit.ly/TPOthon>



MAGGIE CISSEL | Multimedia Editor

Texas fashion designer visits Mynt, shares love of colors and prints with Elon community

81Poppies designer, Michelle Weisman, collaborated with Mynt to create a trunk show of her spring collection. Weisman brought her new fashion line to the store and had one-on-one sessions with students April 7-8 to discuss which pieces of her line would look best and to get to know the people wearing her clothes.

Q: When did you decide that you wanted to go into the fashion field?

A: I have always known that I wanted to be in the fashion business. I have been doing anything I could. I have always read up on fashion, studied fashion and I worked at different stores. If I saw an opportunity that would allow me to work with any side of the fashion world, then I took the chance.

Q: Your mother is an artist and your father used to be a carpenter and worked on many interesting houses in the Houston area. Did having parents who were both visual and creative people help you enter the fashion field?

A: My parents were always encouraging, especially my mom. I always looked up to her. As an artist, she did all of these weavings and wall hangings that inspired me because of the print and the color. I really love color. Her work definitely served as an inspiration.

Q: You attended Pratt Institute and received your BFA in fashion design. How do you think that your time at the university helped you?

A: My years at Pratt Institute were really fun and I was glad I went to Pratt Institute instead of the Fashion Institute or Parsons. I got to have this college experience on an actual campus and I was inspired by many of the people that

I got to work with.

Q: After graduation you interned for Mint by Jodi Arnold and then worked as an assistant designer upon graduation. What did you learn as an assistant designer?

A: Because it was a small company, I got to gain experience in so many different aspects of fashion including sales, shipping and public relations. You really get thrown into so many different situations with a smaller company. I feel that at a bigger company, you wouldn't get all of the benefits that I got.

Q: After working with Jodi Arnold, you worked as the swimwear designer for Shoshanna. What was it like to work with swimwear?

A: In school, we had to learn lingerie and swimwear. It's very technical and all about fit and elements you don't think about. However, Shoshanna has a lot of prints. I love prints and colors, so I focused on that aspect. I don't know if I would go back and work with swimwear again, or create a swimwear line myself, but I learned a lot.

Q: Now you have a fashion line in Texas. Why did you go back to Texas? What is the Texas fashion aesthetic like?

A: I grew up in Texas and I wanted to be back closer to family. You get used to a lifestyle where you have space. You get used to having a house with a backyard instead of a 400-square-foot apartment in New York. Texas definitely has its own fashion sense, especially in Austin. It is all about being casual and comfortable. The name of my fashion label, 81Poppies, even has an association with Texas. I was born in 1981 and poppies are a flower



JULIA SAYERS | Staff Photographer
Michelle Weisman is the fashion designer and owner of the brand 81Poppies, which is being sold at Mynt. Weisman describes 81Poppies as a mix of girly and preppy with a little edge.

that grows wild in Texas.

Q: Where do you get your inspiration for 81Poppies?

A: I get inspiration from my travels. I have traveled to Italy, Israel, Amsterdam, Hawaii and Mexico. I am very lucky to have had the opportunity to travel. I also get inspiration from my husband, who is a painter. His paintings inspire me. His paintings are very colorful. I also love being outdoors and nature inspires me a lot.

Q: What brought you to Mynt and the Town of Elon?

A: I used to work with Justin, who works at Mynt, at Shoshanna. She was doing

public relations while I was there. When I started my line she was like, 'of course, we will carry your line.' She is someone I trust.

Q: While at Elon, you are giving one-on-one sessions with students. Do you think it is important to spend personal time with buyers?

A: I love helping people find the right style that works for them. Shoppers want a personal experience—it makes them feel special. I also like to get to know who is buying my clothes. It's exciting that they are wearing my clothes, I love that.

- Compiled by Rebecca Smith, managing editor

Two men and a camera: A new spin on Elon admissions video

Kate Riley
Copy Intern

Two Elon graduates are finding their voice through the creation of Elon's new admissions video for prospective students.

But this video is not a standard, sweeping view of campus, with inspirational music type of video.

Kaitlin Carlin, who graduated from Elon last spring and is now the admissions counselor for campus visits, watched other schools' videos to get inspiration and was surprised with the results.

"It seemed like every video was exactly the same," she said. "The same type of music, everything."

Carlin, with the help of Susan Klopman, vice president admissions and financial planning and the rest of the admissions department, brainstormed how they wanted the new video to stand out.

"We are hoping to show campus as an asset and not as the only reason students are coming to Elon," Carlin said. "We want to show how the campus plays into your own personal Elon journey."

This is where Max Cantor, Class of 2010, and Tim Johnson, Class of 2009, come in.

The two had worked together during their respective times at Elon, most notably on their video "What's My Reason" for the athletics department. This project, which is still used at sporting events, was a source of inspiration for the creators as they dove into their new project.

Johnson said he and Cantor, along with the admissions department, share a common

goal in how they want the video to portray Elon.

"They are setting up the whole project for an honest answer," Johnson said.

The honest answer Elon is searching for in the video is one that can only be provided by students who have experienced all that Elon has to offer, including the campus, academics and fellowship.

"We feel like we are in a unique position to make this video rather than an outside production company because there is so much intimate knowledge that you get from four years of being here," Johnson said. "You get an affinity for what the school can do for you and without going through that, I don't think that anyone can really do the project justice."

The video is currently being shot during the next week, with four to five shoots a day, Johnson said. He and Cantor have stayed in contact since graduation and collaborated via the web numerous times before coming back to campus to film.

Cantor believes that someone who has truly experienced it should portray the Elon story.

"There are very few things that are so hyped up and that you have all these expectations for like college does," Cantor said. "I think it is almost dishonest to presume that you can tell someone why they need to go somewhere. Everyone is so different."

Both Cantor and Johnson spoke highly of their experience at Elon as a time helped them begin their lives and that helped them achieve all that they've done thus far. It is this affection for the school that drives them



KATE RILEY | Photographer
Max Cantor, left, and Tim Johnson, right, Elon alumnus, film junior Katie Chung for the new admissions video that will be released next fall.

to create a video that will reveal the Elon story in depth.

"It's a simple idea," Cantor said. "It's that feeling of where you're at in your life where you have a bit of distance from what's just happened to you. It's the emotion of going through something and knowing that it went so well... it's a triumphant feeling."

In the recent past, Elon has been finding its way onto a national stage, and Cantor doesn't think that many people really understand why.

"It's the people. The people who we will show in the video are genuinely happy with their experience," he said. "They can tell you that it worked out for them and mean it and you know that they're not trying to sell you something."

Cantor and Johnson joke with each other and say they have an understanding of each



KATE RILEY | Photographer
They are filming over the course of the next week, doing four to five shoots per day.

other and their similar Elon experiences. They say they both have the same goal.

"I don't know where I would be without Elon," Johnson said. "I would be okay wherever I went, but the fact is that I came to Elon. I

can't tell many people what their experience will be, but we feel like it's our personal experience here that we can really attest to."

The new admissions video will be shown starting in the fall of 2011.



Ryan Mason is an amateur photographer and also attends Elon University's physical therapy graduate school. He keeps his disciplines separate, but says both are important to him.

HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor

Graduate student keeps passion alive

Ryan Mason balances lifetime hobby with demands of physical therapy program

Stephanie Butzer
Reporter

Students at Elon University have a lot on their plate. With nonstop classes almost every day, breaks are rare and most free time is spent doing various kinds of work in their programs.

But Ryan Mason, a second-year physical therapy student, balances his hard work in McMichael Science Building with a valued hobby: photography.

Mason has been practicing photography since he was in seventh grade. He realized he was interested in physical therapy later in life.

"I only realized I wanted to go into physical therapy when I was a junior in undergrad," he said.

After graduating from University of North Carolina at Asheville, Mason was accepted into the doctor of physical therapy program at Elon.

When it comes to combining these two, the chances are rare.

"I had a few opportunities when I was an undergrad to take pictures of physical therapists or to take pictures of certain tests that we do in the clinic, but it was never anything as creative as I would do for fun or in my free time," Mason said.

For the most part, physical therapy and photography stay separate.

"I almost laugh sometimes that I do these two things because they're so very different," he said.

At UNC Asheville, Mason studied abroad in Spain and managed to snap 80GB of photographs during his time there. He grew creative with his photographs, taking pictures of what he specifically thought

was interesting instead of having others tell him what to take pictures of.

Mason is completely self-taught.

"I've always been independent with photography stuff," he said.

He says he was not independent on purpose, but rather it just ended up that way.

"I had to make choices starting in middle school, that didn't get me into a photography class," Mason said.

Art classes often require a student to take 2D art classes, or art history classes, and Mason wanted to jump right into photography. He said he regrets this because he might have missed learning some of the technical aspects, but he is pleased with his choice because he has a freedom when he is photographing, without the stress of photography rules and laws.

Although Mason does all of his photos by himself, he has had some professor and community help.

"When I was an undergrad, I was in our honors program and the head of it knew I was really into it," he said. "So she, through the school, bought some of my prints and had them hung in one of the areas we use, kind of on a permanent display basis."

He also participated in several photo contests at UNC Asheville and professors have framed some of his pictures in their offices. In addition to competing locally, Mason has also entered international

contests.

"Back in 2008, I was one of about 50 people chosen from portfolio submissions all over the world to be featured in issue 60 of B&W Magazine, which is a global publication," he said.

Mason has also done work with Elon students. Joanna Rabiej, senior and past subject of Mason's work, remembers their shoot well.

"Ryan was extremely personable, professional and willing to do whatever my fiance and I wanted with the pictures," she said. "We shot a bunch of different shots, and he was always encouraging, funny and talking to us through the whole process."

Rabiej complimented Mason's work and his use of black and white. In addition, Rabiej noted how important it was for her and her fiance to look natural, adding that Mason nailed it perfectly.

"I think Ryan is a skilled photographer and does especially well at capturing the natural moments, and in my case, the affection and respect my fiance and I have for each other," Rabiej said.

Most of Mason's

MORE ONLINE:

Check out more of Ryan Mason's work on these websites:

- www.rgmphotography-online.com
- www.ryanmason.com
- www.etsy.com/people/RGMPhotography



experience in photography comes from trial and error, he said.

"A lot of books, a lot of being out in the field, a lot of trying stuff," he said. He partly relies on observing other photographers' works for inspiration.

"Take the style of that shot and apply it to something that's familiar to you," Mason said.

Mason said he has found his stress relief through

photography.

"Even when I thought I was going in a million other directions in my life, I always had the photography so it's always been kind of a nice creative outlet," he said.



PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY RYAN MASON

Israeli philosophy professor influenced by childhood, writes about personhood to understand Holocaust

Marlena Chertock
Design Editor

Yoram Lubling always wanted to write. His undergraduate major was journalism. But after graduating, he never went back to journalism.

"I thought the best way to write was to study what to write about," he said. "And the best way to do that was to study philosophy."

The Elon philosophy professor's motivation to write stems from a deep need to understand the events of the Holocaust.

"It still baffles and mystifies my sensibility," he said. "I want to understand the ability of people to do what they did and to continue to do very similar things."

To understand the terrible actions people take, Lubling said he needed to understand what the person is. His research and work focuses on personhood.

Dewey defines personhood for Lubling

Department Chair of Philosophy Ann Cahill said the Elon philosophy department is fortunate to have Lubling as a member of the community.

"His work reminds people of the power and promise of philosophy," she said. "Philosophy has an ability to illuminate hidden assumptions, clarify ethical problems and contribute positively to contemporary conversations."

Lubling refers to John Dewey's notion of personhood in his newest book, "The Person Vanishes: John Dewey's Philosophy of Experience and the Self." A person is not a spiritual, subjective idea but a scientific, empirical and natural organism, he said.

"Religions usually refer to persons as souls, entity-like or egos," he said. "But people aren't permanent and static."

Dewey is the most eminent American thinker of all time, according to Lubling.

Dewey's idea of a person, which emerged after modernism, said the person is engaged in an open-ended process.

"The person is transient, not a finality," Lubling said. "It can only be defined by a growing event that constantly changes, adopts, reinvents its characteristics and place in the world."

The shock of realizing who you are

The acts of Nazis and other people who engage in genocide shouldn't surprise people, Lubling said.

"We should never think that the unjust killing of other people is some kind of an incomprehensible event that has to do with some deep, mysterious failure in human souls," he said.

Lubling's idea of a just society

- Free expression
- Equal opportunities for employment, religious freedom and territorial freedom
- Public health
- Equal access to clean water and healthy food
- Ability to protect oneself
- More open ideas of property and ownership
- More general concern for the wellbeing of the group than individuals or specialized groups

When people react shocked to the Holocaust, they're not bewildered by how people could do that, but that they actually got caught.

"We do things like that and always did," he said. "The Holocaust exposed us to who we really are, both Germans and collaborators who did it, as well as the rest of the world who stood silent and allowed it to happen."

What scares people the most about the Holocaust is that it was done "by people exactly like ourselves," Lubling said.

Preventing violence through a just society

The kind of anger and violence that happened through the Holocaust can be expected to erupt out of the conditions of poverty, hunger, disjointment from other people and hatred that people lived in, Lubling said.

"We have to create communities and conditions that prevent the need for this," he said.

The only solution to reconstruct healthy persons is education and the just distribution of opportunities, he said.

"The world needs to be more available to average men and women," he said.

This would lower the amount of tension, envy and anger that groups of people feel toward each other.

"People think much better about life when there are opportunities to grow, be healthy and raise families," he said. "When you don't have these things, it leads to an extraordinary amount of violence."

Society also needs to get away from the caveman mentality of property and ownership, he said.

"As someone who was born in Israel, I felt on my body the curse of property and ownership," Lubling said. "Death and killing because of sand. Who owns the sand, who owns the rocks?"

Cultivated people should always be concerned with the welfare of others, according to Lubling.

"Not for religious reasons," he said. "But for the simple reasons to avoid conflict, hatred, resentment and



Professor Yoram Lubling researches personhood to better understand the actions Nazis and others took during the Holocaust and other genocides. His newest and second book is "The Person Vanishes."

ultimately violence."

He voiced these ideas in Labor newspapers during his time in Israel. He lived on a kibbutz, Kibbutz Hulda in central Israel, and agreed with the socialist, Labor-Zionist ideology. His father grew up in a Labor youth movement called Gordonia.

The Labor movement's ideology is that work is to build and be built, according to Lubling. Work is not just an activity — it creates you in the process.

"Many people came to Israel because they thought it could become a model for justice," he said. "The kibbutz was an example that it's possible."

Lubling left Israel for the United States in 1977. He won't return to Israel because the values and culture has changed, he said. Kibbutzim have become capitalist and young people have lost the passion of their parents' generation.

He studied in New York and came to Elon University 20 years ago as chair of the department of philosophy.

Lubling introduced Elon to the University of Haifa and a year later, study abroad opportunities included a program there.

He is teaching a course next fall under the new Middle Eastern studies minor, called "The Spirit of Israel." It focuses on the achievements of Israelis and Jews.

"It focuses on the unique contribution of Jewish thought throughout western history — its uniqueness in terms of the emphasis on community, peace, social contribution, welfare, environmental



Lubling lived on Kibbutz Hulda in his formative years, he said. He was influenced by the ideals of kibbutzim.

concerns and happiness," he said.

Despite Israel's need to spend 70 percent of its budget to protect itself, the country has made significant contributions to science, medicine, technology and other fields, he said.

"There's something to learn about the ability of people to do that," he said. "It brings the question of what Israel would've been able to contribute if it didn't have to spend so much energy and mind power on surviving."

What's in a relationship? SPARKS hosts student panel to find out

Kit Arbuckle
Reporter

What makes a successful relationship? It can be tough to tell where a hook-up ends and dating begins, or how to sustain a relationship among all the available people on campus.

"There's a lot of focus on the negative aspects, so we wanted to highlight the positives of healthy relationships," said Amanda Parker, a freshman member of SPARKS. "We tried our best to find a diverse assortment of couples."

SPARKS stands for Students Promoting Awareness, Responsibility, Knowledge and Success. Its purpose "is to advocate and facilitate healthy lifestyle choices, personal safety, and personal well-being," according to the organization's website. The group sponsors events to raise awareness for substance use, alcohol consumption, safe sex, and general mental and

emotional health.

As part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, SPARKS hosted a Q&A session with a panel of couples. These couples answered questions posed by a moderator, highlighting what made their relationships successful.

The panel included four couples and one young woman in a long-distance relationship. One couple had been dating for three days, one couple had been dating for more than a year and recently got engaged. There was an interracial couple and a couple who both ran for the Elon cross country team. Despite such diversity, they all had similar things to say about what made their relationships successful.

Most of the couples said that it was good to have friends in common, in addition their own separate groups of friends. Honesty, compromise and communication were also key, they said.

Some of the couples said when

they had an argument, to get all their emotions out first in order to have a calm conversation afterward. All the couples' attitudes made it clear that elements of fun and humor was necessary in a successful relationship, though a direct question never addressed it. All said they tried to accept what they didn't like about their partner, rather than change it.

"If you want to change who they are, it's not meant to be," said sophomore panelist Connor Mercurio. He also advised the men in the audience to accept that they'll never win an argument with a girl.

When asked what they did when they had an issue of dishonesty, every couple said they had yet to face such an issue in their relationships. If they did, each couple agreed that they'd talk through it and move past it. They also agreed on their answers when asked how they knew that they could trust their partner.

"It's something you feel, rather than acquire," freshman panelist David Ordog said. Another panelist added that any relationship is unstable without trust, not just romantic ones.

When asked if they ever got jealous of their partners' friends, most of the panelists said they did not. Those who didn't recommended getting to know the people that their boyfriend or girlfriend spent the most amount of time with, so they could see for themselves that there was nothing to be jealous about.

After the moderator finished his prepared questions, the audience got to pose questions to the panelists.

"It's helpful to listen to couples of different circumstance," said Sophie Bauers, a junior in the audience. She said the diverse perspectives gave her new insight on what goes into a successful relationship. "It's important to create an honest, open dialogue (about relationships)."



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Arangala is also the mentor of the Periclean Scholars class of 2012 in their environmental activism there.

Math professor by day, social activist by inspiration

Kellye Coleman
Reporter

When she was a graduate student, math professor Crista Arangala was not concerned with culture or travel. Instead, she spent her time on the soccer field, playing semi-professionally and coaching a high school team.

She was a bit of an anomaly, her passionate desire to teach unique from other numerical analysts headed to work in industry. When she met her husband, Sanjay, a fellow graduate student and teaching assistant, traveling to third world countries was far from her mind.

Since her arrival at Elon in 2000, associate professor Arangala has found that Elon's push for engaged learning has provided her with these opportunities that have challenged her to discover more about various cultures and have reminded her of the importance of service.

Birth of cultural curiosity

While attending graduate school at the University of Cincinnati, Arangala met Sanjay, a Sri Lankan student who had fled the country to escape the civil war taking place there.

When they met, Arangala had no intentions of traveling to Sri Lanka.

"I just wasn't cultured enough to really think about going to the third world," she said.

But in 2002, she got married and traveled there, and the challenges that come with meeting in-laws were made more difficult by the cultural barriers separating them.

Although her visit to Sri Lanka had an impact on her interest in the culture there, it was her assignment to teach a global studies course that really challenged her to take notice of "places outside of the states."

"I think teaching global made me start thinking more about culture and issues in the world," she said. "It also made me start thinking about what I could do in Sri Lanka."

It was the first Elon program to make its mark on her life.

Making an impact in Sri Lanka

Spring 2006 marked the beginning of Arangala's social activism in Sri Lanka.

A family visit to the North Carolina Museum of Life and Science sparked a unique idea - the creation of a traveling science museum. Students in Sri Lanka

sense of curiosity in the sciences or math," according to Arangala.

Seeing this need, she worked closely with Martin Kamela, an Elon physics professor, and several of her global studies students to create five science exhibits to be shown at schools in Sri Lanka.

And she returned to Sri Lanka - this time to have impact.

"Martin and I showed the exhibits at schools after making some connections with the University of Colombo," she said. "They helped us find schools to go to."

Her involvement within Sri Lanka grew from there.

Periclean Scholars project

It was during a six-month stay in Sri Lanka on a teaching sabbatical that Arangala began work with the Periclean Scholars, an Elon program that would change her life in unexpected ways.

Periclean Scholars is a four-year program in which a group of students participate in courses that lead to a social change project within a specific country.

In 2008, Arangala began work with a group of students who would focus on Sri Lanka. She served as their adviser, a move that would challenge and inspire her.

She has been forced out of her comfort zone on a continual basis, from spending significant amounts of time with students to working with students who differ from her in personality.

"I'm a mathematician," she said with a smile. "Traditionally, we are not extremely social beings."

Advising a class of driven students also proved to be a challenge. She remembers thinking, "Here are 30 fabulous students who have been all over the world. How do I take all of their qualities and put them together and use them to their best?"

Her students note she was able to accomplish this and much more. "She's really been more than a professor, more than a class mentor," said senior scholar Katie Dirks. "She's really taken a personal interest and a very large personal investment in both our class and our initiatives, but also in us as

"I think (the Periclean Scholars) looked to me for that motherly voice on occasion, and I didn't mind it so much. I think I also tried very hard to watch out for them."

-CHRISTA ARANGALA
MATH PROFESSOR



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Crista Arangala, an Elon math professor, created a traveling science museum project for her Sri Lanka social activism efforts. It wasn't until she met her husband, a native Sri Lankan, that she decided to travel there.

The 2011 Periclean Scholars decided to focus on environmental issues in Sri Lanka and, with the help of Arangala's contacts there, have been working closely with two rural schools, sponsoring an environmental education club at one school and building and stocking a library at another.

But it was the opportunity to host the Leaders in Environmental Advocacy Forum (LEAF), an environmental conference, that took Arangala back to Sri Lanka.

LEAF was a two-day summit hosted by the scholars, with the help of the University of Colombo. The conference provided the opportunity for Arangala and the scholars to travel to Sri Lanka for a month, hiking, eating, working and exploring together.

It was during the trip that Arangala began to see just how much she valued her relationship with her students.

"I definitely felt connected with all of them, which I thought was wonderful," she said.

The scholars dubbed Arangala "mom," and looked to her for support during their time in Sri Lanka. It was a nickname Arangala embraced.

"I think they looked to me for that motherly voice on occasion, and I didn't mind it so much," she said. "I think I also tried very hard to watch out for them."

She has come to value the relationships she has formed with these students, amazed to have watched them grow and learn during the past four years.

The experience has been just as rewarding for them. "She's definitely one of the most influential professors for me at Elon," Dirks said.

Her desire to continue to form deep relationships with more students on campus is just one of the ways her involvement in engaged learning has changed her perspective. She hopes to teach younger students next semester, which will provide the opportunity for her to develop relationships over time.

Continued involvement

As she prepares to watch the 2011 Periclean Scholars graduate, Arangala said she would like to continue what she has started.

underclassmen that might like to, at least informally, work on the project," she said.

Although the class will be graduating, her involvement in Sri Lanka is only just beginning. She hopes to pursue her own initiatives, such as establishing a pen pal program between her son's class and one of the Sri Lankan schools she has worked with over the past two years, continuing to cook Sri Lankan food for her family and creating a Sri Lanka table display for her sons' cultural day at school.

These kinds of activities were once far from her mind, but the past four years reminded her of what's important.

"I've talked a lot about how important serving people is to me," she said. "That was really important in my life as a youngster, and I think I got away from that." Arangala said her involvement with Periclean Scholars is a reminder of that.

A difficult decision

Arangala now finds herself in a place of transition.

"I think Periclean in itself has made a big impact in my life, and I'm trying to figure out where that fits in," Arangala said as she sits in her office, the walls covered with snapshots that represent unforgettable moments from the past few years.

Her colleagues want her to join them as they complete mathematical research, a prospect that is forcing Arangala to make a hard decision.

"I'm at a point in my career where I have to define who I am," Arangala said. "It is hard to be a full-time Periclean person and a full-time mathematician. I'd say before the end of the semester, I will have to sort of decide what it is I want to do in my career."

Regardless of her decision, there is no doubt that her involvement in engaged learning on campus has allowed Arangala to grow and has instilled in her a passion to help others do the same.

"I've been really trying hard not to just find my place, but also help my students, my children, and my family try to figure out where their place is here, on Earth, with people," she said.

She is an example of the way in which opportunities on Elon's campus not only impact students in an immense way, but faculty as well.

"I have to decide where I want to go, but Periclean has definitely made a

Softball takes weekend series, faces Samford

Meaghan Carey
Reporter

After coming into the game losing nine of its last 11 contests, the women's softball team rebounded to defeat the Georgia Southern University Eagles in a 2-1 series April 8-10.

In game one, the Phoenix was up 2-0, but the Eagles came back and scored three runs in the last four innings to get the first win of the series, 3-2 against Elon.

Although the Phoenix lost in Friday's matchup, Elon was still positive heading into the rest of the series.

"Even though we lost game one, we felt good about what we did, how we pitched and played defense," head coach Patti Raduenz said. "The win didn't come to us, sometimes that happens, but we felt confident and knew that we can show that we can play well in the Southern Conference."

Looking ahead:

Wednesday 4 p.m. at Charlotte

Saturday 2 p.m. at Samford

Sunday 2 p.m. at Samford

Game two started quickly for the home team, as the Phoenix scored first to make it 1-0 in the fourth inning. Elon had a chance to widen the gap in the bottom of the sixth inning with sophomore outfielder Tomeka Watson at bat and the bases loaded. But heavy rains settled in and game play was resumed on Sunday.

On Sunday, Georgia Southern tied the game in the seventh inning at 1. In the eighth inning, Elon took back the lead when senior infielder Caitlin McGowan's hit was bobbled by Georgia Southern, resulting in junior shortstop Danielle Lafferty's score that sealed the win for Elon 2-1 in extra innings.

The rain delay and continuation of game two Sunday did not play a major factor in the outcome of game two.

"We were fired up and we came out strong," said senior second baseman Jackie Gonzalez. "Both teams had to go through the game. Our head was in the right place today."

Sunday, the Eagles got to senior pitcher Lauren Taylor in the third inning, when Georgia Southern scored on a solo home run to left field. In the fourth, the Eagles made the score 2-0 off a double.

The Phoenix gained momentum in the fourth, when junior catcher Kaitlyn Piazzolla and Gonzalez scored for the Phoenix to tie the score at two. In the next inning, Gonzalez hit a single, bringing in Pam DelPizzo and giving Elon the win at 3-2.

"We just had to bring more energy, more fight, more desire and be more consistent from start to finish,"



Senior infielder Caitlin McGowan hustles to first in a game April 10.

Raduenz said.

The 2-1 series win for the women's softball team improves its overall record to 19-15 and conference record 4-8.

This week in practice, Taylor emphasized the things the Phoenix still needs to work on.

"We'll be focusing on hitting our spots, hitting the corners, having quality pitches and good defense," she said.

The Phoenix travels to Charlotte to play UNC Charlotte Wednesday and will travel to SoCon rival Samford University April 16-17 as the team begins the stretch toward the SoCon tournament.

"We continue to work on our attitude and our perseverance," Raduenz said. "It doesn't matter if we make a mistake, strike out or make the play. We trust the person behind us who is going to make that play. We trust each other."

pleased with the team's sweep, especially after dropping two of three games to conference foe UNC Greensboro the previous weekend, but he also knows that the team has areas for improvement.

"We don't care how we can win them, we just care that we can win them," Kennedy said. "But we are realistic to know that we need to play better."

Hitting had been a concern for the Phoenix, as the team had mustered five runs in its last 30 innings going into the series finale Sunday. After Kinsella's shot, the bats became hot for the team to the tune of eight runs, including four in the first inning.

"Sometimes we just put a lot of pressure on ourselves because we know the talent that we have," said freshman outfielder Eric Serra. "Once we relax and play our game, good things happen."

On the other side of the ball, the Phoenix has won its games this year with defense in the field and on the mound.

Playing right field for the first time in a game situation, Serra made several sliding catches in games Saturday and Sunday.

The pitching was formidable, as the Phoenix held the Terriers to 18 hits in 30 innings during the weekend. Junior pitcher John Brebbia, pitching

Looking ahead:

Friday 6:30 p.m. vs. College of Charleston

Saturday 6:30 p.m. vs. College of Charleston

Sunday 1:30 p.m. vs. College of Charleston

Tuesday 6:30 p.m. vs. High Point

Conor O'Neill
Senior Reporter

After losing three of its last four games, the men's baseball team came out against the Wofford College Terriers last weekend with a new mindset and three dramatic victories from Latham Park.

Facing a 1-2 count in the tenth inning of Friday night's game when Wofford led 3-2, senior shortstop Neal Pritchard hit a solo home run to left field. He then singled to score senior outfielder Harry Austin.

With Saturday's rain, the teams played four and a half innings before the game was suspended to Sunday. As play resumed Sunday, both teams had yet to score entering the bottom of the ninth inning.

That changed with one swing, as freshman catcher Ryan Kinsella drilled a pitch over the right field wall for the 1-0 victory.

"When I hit it I thought it was gone, and then I looked up and saw the right fielder running and I got a little nervous," said Kinsella after Sunday's action concluded.

The final game of the series featured more scoring and less drama, as the Phoenix closed out the Terriers with an 8-4 victory. With the win, the team moves to 22-12 overall and 12-3 in the Southern Conference.

Head coach Mike Kennedy was



Sophomore pitcher Kyle Webb throws to sophomore first baseman Grant McCoury to keep the runner at first.

out of the bullpen Friday and Sunday, picked up the win in the first two games of the series.

"I'm just kind of lucky," said Brebbia, 7-0 on the season. "Relievers are not wins and losses guys, they're getting holds, maybe some saves. I have been so lucky, when I go in these games the team starts hitting."

Defense and pitching will be important for the Phoenix's next challenge, as it hosts a three game series with the College of Charleston starting Friday.

The Cougars hold a 7-5 league mark and a 21-11 overall record. The team also brings the second highest team batting average (.294) to Latham Park.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Men's Tennis closes in for conference title

The Elon University men's tennis team is within one victory of clinching the Southern Conference title after a successful weekend. The Phoenix (16-6, 8-1) captured a 7-0 win against Wofford College Friday and followed that effort with a 6-1 win over Georgia Southern University.

With a win in its final game against Appalachian State University, the Phoenix will clinch the SoCon regular season title. Because of a March 29 victory over second-place College of Charleston, a team that has an equal 8-1 conference record, Elon owns a tie-breaker over the Cougars.

The team has been hot late, winning 10 of its last 11 matches. Phoenix players have also contributed to 10 straight doubles victories.

Spring game approaches

First year head coach Jason Swepson heads into his first spring game at the top of a program with Saturday's scrimmage.

Gates to Rhodes Stadium will open Saturday afternoon to welcome the Elon faithful for the fans' first view of the 2011 Phoenix.

Last season, the Phoenix started with a 2-5 record before winning its last four games to complete its fourth consecutive winning season.

Fans will get a chance to see junior wide receiver Aaron Mellette, who finished last season with 12 touchdowns and 1100 yards receiving. Also, the team gets a look at junior quarterback Thomas Wilson, who takes over the position for Scott Riddle, who finished his career with nearly every Southern Conference passing record.

Elon Athletics will hold a dedication ceremony for its new field house at 1:30 p.m.

Women's Tennis picks up historic victory

For the first time in school history, Elon University women's tennis team defeated Davidson College in women's tennis. The Phoenix gained a 6-1 victory with freshmen Frida Jansaker and Viviana Stravreva leading the way.

The team holds a 10-9 overall record and a 5-4 Southern Conference mark. Winners in three of its last four matches, the Phoenix has one SoCon match and one non-conference match before the conference tournament beginning April 20.

In its last SoCon match, the team will face UNC Greensboro. In the match against the Spartans last year, the Phoenix earned a 5-2 victory.

The Phoenix's SoCon schedule wraps up Thursday with a match today at the Jimmy Powell Tennis Center against the Spartans with a 2:30 p.m. start time.

Baseball gains sweep in dramatic fashion

Conor O'Neill
Senior Reporter

After losing three of its last four games, the men's baseball team came out against the Wofford College Terriers last weekend with a new mindset and three dramatic victories from Latham Park.

Facing a 1-2 count in the tenth inning of Friday night's game when Wofford led 3-2, senior shortstop Neal Pritchard hit a solo home run to left field. He then singled to score senior outfielder Harry Austin.

With Saturday's rain, the teams played four and a half innings before the game was suspended to Sunday. As play resumed Sunday, both teams had yet to score entering the bottom of the ninth inning.

That changed with one swing, as freshman catcher Ryan Kinsella drilled a pitch over the right field wall for the 1-0 victory.

"When I hit it I thought it was gone, and then I looked up and saw the right fielder running and I got a little nervous," said Kinsella after Sunday's action concluded.

The final game of the series featured more scoring and less drama, as the Phoenix closed out the Terriers with an 8-4 victory. With the win, the team moves to 22-12 overall and 12-3 in the Southern Conference.

Head coach Mike Kennedy was

Looking ahead:

Friday 6:30 p.m. vs. College of Charleston

Saturday 6:30 p.m. vs. College of Charleston

Sunday 1:30 p.m. vs. College of Charleston

Tuesday 6:30 p.m. vs. High Point

Still, Kennedy likes his team's chances to silence the Cougars' bats. "I think for the first time in a long time, our pitching has a chance to match up with their hitting," he said.

The Phoenix has the advantage of not playing a game during the week, giving the team a chance to complete a few full practices.

"I'm looking forward to this week because we don't play and we get a chance to have two, maybe three practices where we really get after it and try to get better," Kennedy said.

The Phoenix puts that practice to the test beginning with a game Friday, April 15 at 6.30 p.m.



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer

Senior Philip Nemeč served the ball against the Georgia Southern University Eagles on Sunday, April 10. Honored on Senior Day, Nemeč and three other senior tennis players led the Phoenix to a 6-1 victory. In the three doubles matches, the Phoenix only dropped three games. All three

doubles matches ended in 50 minutes or less, with Nemeč winning his 69th career doubles match which is the most in the school's Division I era. The Phoenix controls its own destiny as it takes on Appalachian State University on Thursday, April 14 for sole possession of the Southern Conference title.

The Masters

A weekend unlike any other

Jack Rodenfels
Sports Editor

On a weekend in early April, all eyes descend to Augusta, Ga., where the best golfers in the world compete in arguably the most historic and popular golf tournament in the world, The Masters.

Among the toughest ticket in sports, Masters tickets have not been available to the general public since 1972. At that point, a waiting list began that had to be closed in 1978, because of the exceeding demand of names on the waiting list. Only this year has the list reopened to the general public, with the public only getting the opportunity to purchase tickets when a previous ticket recipient is deceased.

Because of a string of good luck and a friend who had a connection, I was able to see Saturday and Sunday at The Masters, an experience and thrill I will never forget.

The tagline for The Masters is "A tradition unlike any other" — and the tournament certainly lived up to that moniker.

The grounds crew at Augusta National Golf Course worked tirelessly in the weeks leading up to The Masters to get the course in tournament shape. The course was in perfect condition. The flowers were in full bloom, the fairways and greens were perfectly maintained and the crowds were in full force to watch the Masters.

Legendary golfers Jack Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer, with 25 major championships between them, began the tournament Thursday April 7 as honorary starters, and the 75th Masters was underway.

Rory McIlroy, a 21-year-old golfer from Northern Ireland, led after the first, second and third rounds, respectively, but faltered on the back nine of Sunday to open the door for a slew of other players to capture the

coveted green jacket that goes each year to the winner of The Masters.

I started following Tiger Woods on the sixth hole, where he birdied a par-3, and continued following his next two holes, in which he shot birdie, eagle and finished the ninth hole with a par to shoot an unheard of 31 on the front nine. All of a sudden, Woods was back in the running to win, although he stumbled through the back nine and failed to make decisive putts necessary to win the major championship.

At one point on the back nine on Sunday, I looked up to the scoreboard and saw nine players on the back nine within two shots of the lead, preparing for one of the greatest — and most crowded — Masters finishes of all time.

The crowd was electric as I sat on 16 and watched player after player hit their iron shots on the short par-3 within inches of the pin, and go on to birdie 16, looking to extend that success while finishing their final rounds on 17 and 18.

It was truly anyone's major to win as there were so many golfers who worked so hard, focusing all week to win The Masters. In the end, little-known Charl Schwartzel from South Africa birdied his final four holes and won The Masters by one stroke.

His first win on the PGA tour and his first major championship, Schwartzel became only the second of the last 21 Masters champions to win not coming out of the final pairing. Additionally, Schwartzel became the 10th different player to win in the last 10 major championships.

With the win, Schwartzel etched his name forever into Masters tradition and lore, and being able to simply observe such an epic tournament etched one of the greatest memories I will ever have into my mind.

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Sports



FILE PHOTO
Jeffcoat caught more passes his senior season than his first three years combined.

The next step Jeffcoat among slew of seniors looking to play professionally

Jack Rodenfels
Sports Editor

After three years as a receiver for the Phoenix, senior Sean Jeffcoat amassed 801 yards and four total touchdowns. At his best, he was the third option for senior quarterback Scott Riddle in a pass-heavy Elon offense that averaged 31.4 points per game and 297.7 yards per game passing in Jeffcoat's first three seasons.

How a year can change everything.

In his senior campaign, Jeffcoat snared 72 balls for 1,025 yards and seven touchdowns.

Opposing teams, fans and scouts all began to take notice.

"Scouts began to come in during the middle of the season, and they wanted to talk to me," Jeffcoat said. "They actually wanted to know more about me and learn about my background. It was the beginning of an exciting new step in my life."

Following his senior season, Jeffcoat was elected to the FCS Senior Scout Bowl where he returned a kickoff for a touchdown.

Jeffcoat described his months since the season ended in one word — hectic.

"Since the Senior Bowl to this point, I've been extensively training," Jeffcoat said.

For six weeks, Jeffcoat went to Greensboro to train with his friend and four-year teammate, Riddle, who is also training and working out for teams in hopes of catching on with an NFL team.

"The only person that has been throwing to me through the whole process has been Scott," Jeffcoat said. "We've been through it all together."

Jeffcoat and Riddle aren't alone in their pursuits to play professionally, as defensive lineman Brandon Ward, offensive lineman John Rubertone and linebacker Travis Greene have been actively training in hopes of being invited to different NFL camps, according to Jeffcoat.

Representatives from the Arizona Cardinals and the Philadelphia Eagles have come to Elon's campus in the past month to witness Riddle and

Jeffcoat on the field and in the weight room. Jeffcoat's big break came when he attended the North Carolina State University Pro Day March 23, where he and Riddle were able to throw passes and compete in front of multiple teams.

"There were some good things and bad things from the Pro Day that I already knew that I had to work on," Jeffcoat said.

Among those areas of work that Jeffcoat has been developing through training include flexibility in the ankles and hips needed to make quick turns up field and shed blockers, as well as overall conditioning.

His strengths he said include size, speed and elevation. Measuring at 6 feet 2 inches and 200 pounds, Jeffcoat's vertical jump was measured at 36 inches at N.C. State's Pro Day, giving him the ability to jump over smaller defensive backs, a plus at the next level.

Additionally, his 40-yard dash time ranks in the high 4.4-second range on a track, and was measured at 4.53 seconds on grass at the Pro Day.

While the NFL Draft start commences April 28 in New York City, Jeffcoat is going to continue to stay busy in the upcoming weeks.

"It's become a waiting game. I'm just waiting for Draft Day," Jeffcoat said. "From Pro Day to Draft Day, you'll get calls to fly out somewhere for a visit, so you can work with the different franchises."

With a possible NFL lockout in the future, Jeffcoat is unsure of exactly what his future will hold. A possibility of the lockout would include NFL franchises with the inability to sign free agent rookies, therefore limiting some possible outlets to the NFL for Jeffcoat.

Throughout the whole process, Jeffcoat has embraced his unclear football future, while doing his best to prepare for whatever may come next.

"I've learned that you have to be mentally tough balancing this element of football with school," Jeffcoat said. "I've learned not to take anything for granted. Even if I don't get to play in any league, I'm still happy because I got the chance to get this far, and a lot of people can't get this far."



FILE PHOTO
Riddle and Jeffcoat have trained together with the hopes of both playing in the NFL one day.



FILE PHOTO
Jeffcoat goes for one of his six catches and team-high 111 yards receiving against Duke Sept. 4.