

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019  
VOLUME 44, EDITION 29  
ELON, NORTH CAROLINA

# THE PENDULUM

## REFLECTING FROM AFAR

See PG. 6

The Elon and Burlington multifith communities come together in the wake of the New Zealand terrorist attack

'WE ARE NOT ANGRY

WE ARE NOT AFRAID'

# THE PENDULUM

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**The Pendulum**  
publishes weekly on Wednesdays  
**Elon Local News**  
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## COMIC

DON'T GET CROSS



## CORRECTIONS

**NEWS**  
In the article titled “Campus grieves loss of professor,” Elon News Network incorrectly named the university at which L.M. Wood earned her undergraduate degree, which was Minnesota State University Moorhead. Elon News Network regrets the error.

**LIFESTYLE**  
In the article titled “Breaking norms in the field,” Elon News Network printed the story twice in the same section on the page. Elon News Network regrets the error.

In the article titled “Dean Ford approaches end of first year in position,” Elon News Network misstated Ford’s list of degrees. Ford holds a graduate certificate from Harvard University. Elon News Network regrets the error.

## GAMES

**How to Play:** Guess the missing word in the five clues, then find them in the word search below. Words can be found backward, diagonal, etc.

1. SGA recently passed the “Free the \_\_\_\_\_” initiative that offers free menstrual products on campus. *See Page 5 for answer.*
2. Jack \_\_\_\_\_ has been named as SGA president-elect. *See Page 5 for answer.*
3. Shane \_\_\_\_\_ is Elon’s Muslim Life Coordinator. *See Page 6 for answer.*
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Valley Pipeline has plans to establish in Alamance County. *See Page 7 for answer.*
5. Tanner Mead, also known as Jessie Iris, studied abroad in \_\_\_\_\_. *See Page 9 for answer.*



## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY – SOPHOMORE ON-CAMPUS HOUSING REQUIRED

**MARCH 19, 1998.** During their annual spring meeting, the Board of Trustees voted in favor of requiring on-campus housing for all sophomore students.  
According to research from Elon College, then-Assistant Director of Housing Operations Mark Harris said students who live on campus

for two years are more likely to stay on campus for all four years, and this leads to higher graduation rates.  
“We don’t see residence halls as just a place to sleep. Learning happens in all areas of our campus and community. In campus housing, students learn about group dynam-

ics, team building and themselves. It is also a place where freshmen and sophomores and upperclassmen learn from each other’s experiences,” said John Barnhill, then-assistant to the dean of students.  
Elon still gives freshmen and sophomores priority housing on campus.

## CALENDAR: MARCH 20 – APRIL 10

<div>DEREK ALDERMAN: MAPPING CIVIL RIGHTS MEMORY   5:30 P.M. LaRose Digital Theatre</div> <div>20</div>	<div>THE NAVY BAND SEA CHANTERS   7:30 P.M. McCrary Theatre See more at <a href="https://bit.ly/usnavyband">bit.ly/usnavyband</a></div> <div>22</div>	<div>CLINICAL TEACHER LUNCH &amp; LEARN   12 P.M. Oaks 212</div> <div>28</div>	<div>PAULA STEPHAN: “HOW ECONOMICS SHAPES SCIENCE”   5 P.M. LaRose Digital Theatre</div> <div>2</div>	<div>PAOLO ANDRE GUALDI PIANO PERFORMANCE   7:30 P.M. Whitley Auditorium</div> <div>2</div>
<div>SPRING 2019 CONVOCATION   3:30 P.M. Alumni Gym Get tickets at Center for the Arts box office</div> <div>4</div>	<div>HOLI CELEBRATION   4 P.M. Speaker’s Corner</div> <div>5</div>	<div>FIRST FRIDAY INDIAN SHABBAT   7 P.M. McBride Gathering Space</div> <div>5</div>	<div>DRAGSTRAVAGANZA &amp; DANCE PARTY   10 P.M. College TapHouse</div> <div>5</div>	<div>BURLINGTON FOOD TRUCK RODEO   12 P.M. Grandaddy’s Antique Mall</div> <div>7</div>





Elon University sophomore third baseman Ally Repko makes contact against The University of North Carolina at Greensboro at Hunt Softball Park on Sunday, March 17. The Phoenix eventually fell to the Spartans 4-1.

JESS RAPFOGEL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Charlie Cheema, SGA executive vice president, hugs junior Jack Johnson to congratulate him on his win as student body president.

SEE MORE SGA ON  
PG. 5



KIERAN UNGEMACH | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

Award-winning journalist Hedrick Smith speaks to students in a Communications in a Global Age class on Thursday, March 14.



ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

Junior infielder Joe Satterfield attempts to pick off University of Maryland outfielder Sebastian Holte-Mancera on Tuesday, March 19. The Phoenix eventually fell to the Terrapins 11-4.





# FALSE ALARM

Last year, the Elon Fire Department responded to 254 fire calls on campus — though none were caused by flames

**Selina Guevara**

Elon News Network | @selinaguevara

It's a scene that's all too familiar at Elon University — students seeking refuge outside because an alarm went off in their dorm. As floors of residents gather outside, fire trucks sound off in the distance while their red lights flash on the way to campus.

It happened in the dead of winter to freshman Sydney Schapel, who lives in East Neighborhood Building B.

"When we had that really huge, awful snowstorm, I was just laying in my bed one night and had the lights off, and all of a sudden, this blinding light went off in my eyes, and the fire alarm was going off," Schapel said.

At first, she thought someone had simply taken a photo of her. But then came the noise.

"The alarm went off, and I was like, 'Oh cool. Time to grab as many clothes as I can so that I can run out into the cold,'" Schapel said. She said her hall mates would come outside wrapped in towels, fresh from the shower and trying to stay warm in the freezing temperatures. The fire trucks came, but the cause of the alarm ended up being excess steam from a resident's shower.

None of the fire alarms that went off in buildings on Elon's campus in the 2018 calendar year were caused by actual flames. Fire Chief Alva Sizemore said the Elon Fire Department responded to 254 fire calls overall on campus. Ten of those were malfunctions in the system, and the rest were because the alarm was set off by something else — burnt popcorn, extra crispy bacon or an especially steamy shower.

Sizemore read through some recent incident reports. "We respond-

ed to a fire alarm. When we got there, Campus Security was already there. Light smoke was in the residence, and the alarm showed a kitchen detector," Sizemore said. "Burnt food was the cause, so security reset the alarm, and we cleared the scene."

The Elon Fire Department spends most of its time responding to medical calls instead of fire. Sizemore said that's just because of the demographics of the area.

He said he spends the bulk of his resources on preparation — training the team, making sure the buildings are up to code, having working sprinkler systems and making it easier for the team in the case of a real fire. Fire alarms are set off by smoke detectors when they sense something in the air, and Sizemore said because of the strict standards, they go off more often than he would like.

"But we have to treat every fire alarm like it is a structure fire cause we don't know. It's a very big deal because where you've got a lot of students and a lot of people, you've got to treat it as a structure fire until we can get there and verify that hey, it's not a structure fire," Sizemore said.

For every structure fire alarm, the initial dispatch is two fire engines and one ladder truck from Elon's fire department. Assistant Fire Chief Charles Walker said because the fire departments here are so small, they engage in a mutual aid program with other local engines. Trucks from Gibsonville and Altamahaw-Ossipee are also dispatched upon the sound of an alarm. That brings the total to at least five trucks and seven people for every single building alarm, but Walker said they do it because they don't want to lose any time.

"They don't know if it's just a false alarm or if it's an actual fire. So that's why we have to treat it," Walker said. "If it's in a dorm or there's a few hundred students in that dorm, you

know, we have life safety to be concerned about, a property loss. So we have to stay ahead of the eight ball, as we say, as much as we can."

Walker said since the Gibsonville and Altamahaw-Ossipee fire departments are a bit farther away, a lot of times the Elon Fire Department can arrive on the scene and immediately confirm that it's not a structure fire and the students are safe. Those trucks can turn around before they get there, but they still are initially getting ready when they're dispatched.

"The fire service as a whole across the nation tends to run on very low manpower or very low staffing," Walker said. Still, that staff responds to every single alarm.

The budget for Elon's fire depart-

ment is \$2,359,700 for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, which runs from July 1 to June 31. That is 32 percent of the town's general fund. Last year, 13 percent of all calls the department responded to were on-campus buildings where someone set off an alarm by mistake.

Emily Sharpe, one of the five members of Elon's governing town council, the Board of Aldermen, said the town's full-time residents foot most of the bill.

"Our fire department, our police department and all of the services town-wide are funded mostly by the residents of the town of Elon who pay taxes to the town of Elon," Sharpe said.

"I don't think it's fair," Sharpe said, but with the caveat that the universi-

ty does bring life to the town. Sharpe said going forward, the university should have more discussions about who takes responsibility for the costs.

Elon does contribute \$137,000 to the town's general fund every year — but that's less than 2 percent of the budget. Vice President for University Communications Dan Anderson said in an email the money goes toward downtown projects and construction, and it comes from the university's operating budget.

If a student does set off a fire alarm accidentally, Director of Residence Life MarQuita Barker said in an email, "There are no repercussions other than an educational conversation about how to prevent it in the future."

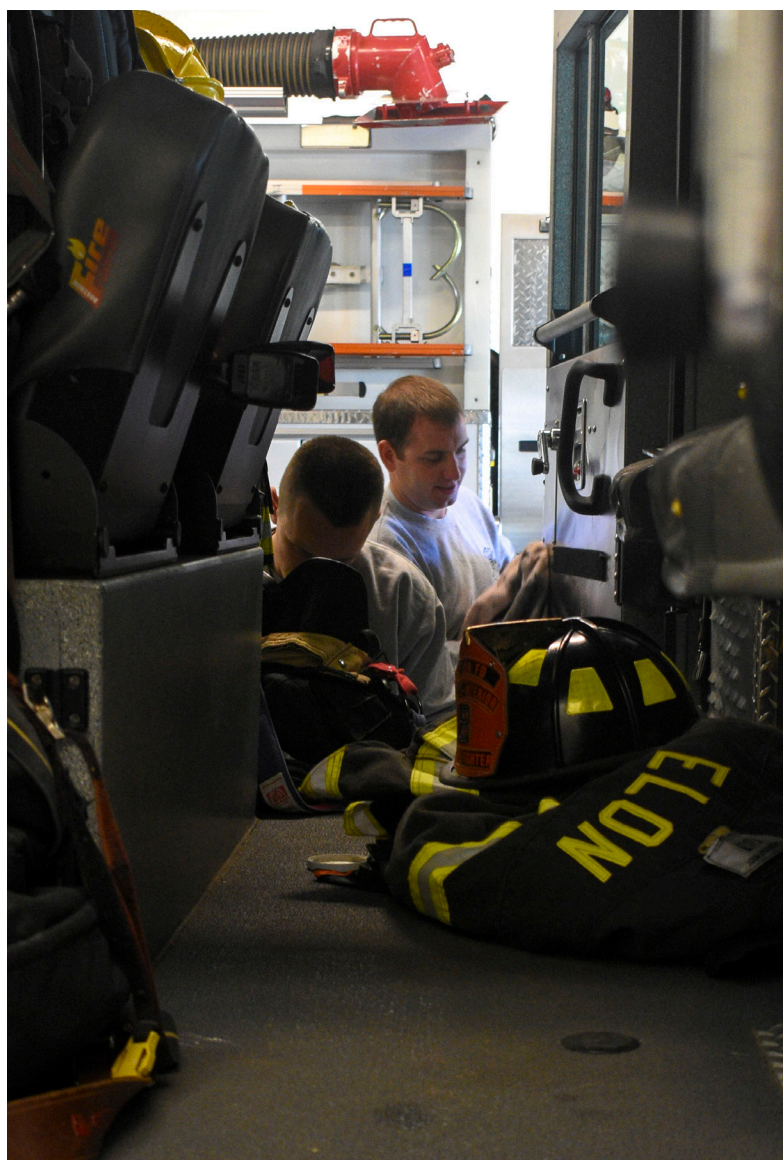
Sharpe said she's more worried about having limited resources than money.

"I hope too that they're not called out on an accidental situation where as student is burning popcorn or the shower is too hot and it takes them away from a real emergency," Sharpe said. "I think that's my biggest concern."

Jack Kaps has been a firefighter in the town of Elon since 2007. He said he's had his fair share of alarms and he tries to avoid being complacent at all costs.

"I'd rather respond to a smoke alarm from a shower or whatever than the real thing because first and foremost, I want people to be safe, but you still have to go all out for it," Kaps said. "I know sometimes they can be aggravating and be a little bit of a nuisance, but they're in place for a reason. I just wish people knew how to be smarter with their cooking sometimes."

Walker said he just hopes students will be safe in the future and, instead of being annoyed by the mistaken alarms, people can appreciate the work the fire department goes through to prevent fires.



PHOTOS BY SELINA GUEVARA | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Top:** Uniforms hang in individual cubbies inside the garage of Elon Fire Station No. 8.

**Left:** Firefighters clean the truck during one of their standard 24-hour shifts.



# SGA holds final meeting of the year

SGA approves three special allocations in last business meeting of the legislative year

**Maggie Brown**  
Politics Editor | @maggieabrown\_

SGA held its final business meeting of the 2019-2020 legislative year following its election announcements. To wrap up the year, the senate approved three special allocations and approved two pieces of legislation. One piece gave women more access to hygiene products, and the other educated the body about environmental concerns in Alamance County.

The senate approved legislation for the pilot program “Free the Flow” for the next two years, a program that puts menstrual products in female and gender-neutral bathrooms across campus. \$11,000 was given to this program for the next two years for Elon University Physical Plant and SGA both to restock products in over 15 locations on campus.

Sophie Zinn, class of 2019 senator, has spearheaded the “Free the Flow” initiative as chair of the Student Issues Committee.

“We as members believe that a woman’s natural cycle shouldn’t interfere with her access to her education,” Zinn said. “And we want to seek to ensure that products are available across campus for female students.”

The senate also approved three special allocations at the meeting. A total of \$4,000 was given to Elon’s chapter of the Beta Theta Pi Fraternity for a charter event in Chapel Hill; more than \$2,000 was given to the Latin Hispanic Union for a conference at Western Carolina University; and over \$1,600 was given to a Dance and Choreography project. The funding for these special allocations comes from SGA’s rollover fund.

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I DON’T THINK IT FALLS ON SUPPORT OF THE STUDENTS TO FUND AN EVENT OF A VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATION.

**LIAM COLLINS**  
JUNIOR CLASS VICE PRESIDENT

The most discussion was raised over funding for Beta Theta Pi. Jana Lynn Patterson, faculty advisor to SGA, said it is not unprecedented for student government to fund a social fraternity for a special allocation, but it isn’t a regular occurrence. A few senators felt as if the request from Beta Theta Pi was extraneous.

“I don’t think it falls on support of the students to fund an event of a voluntary organization,” said Liam Collins, junior class vice president.

But an organization like Beta Theta Pi can receive funding from student government though it is a closed organization because of how special allocation funds are granted. Any organization or individual can request funding for any project or event by asking for a special allocation, according to Executive Secretary Maxwell Pivonka.

Overall, support for the legislation passed by a 22-2-2 vote. Two senators abstained and two voted against.

The senate also approved legislation for student government to take a stand against the Mountain Valley Pipeline, a gas pipeline company with plans to establish in Alamance County. Legislation from SGA said the pipeline would be six miles from campus.

“We, the members of the Elon University Student Government Association, are opposed to the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline Southgate extension entering and being installed in Alamance County,” SGA wrote in its approved legislation.

Many organizers and environmentalists in Alamance County have spoken out against a pipeline in area. In September 2018, the Alamance County Board of Commissioners unanimously opposed the pipeline.

The university has not yet commented about the pipeline.



Jack Johnson celebrates winning the SGA presidential election with Noor Irshaidat, who will be the next class of 2020 president.

## SGA announces 2019-2020 election results

The newly elected winners for the next academic year will take office after spring break

**Maggie Brown, Hannah Nelson & Kieran Ungemach**

Junior Jack Johnson won the SGA executive presidential seat this week by 280 votes — a 10.59-percent margin.

During his campaign, Johnson made ambitious promises, such as adding a new senator position to represent the National Panhellenic Council and creating a town hall during each SGA meeting.

Johnson said he wants to begin these initiatives by reforming SGA’s bylaws.

### CHANGES TO COME

Johnson’s campaign objectives included reforming SGA bylaws, adding a new senator position and implementing a town hall approach to SGA meetings.

“First senate meeting out, my hope is that I can work with my vice president and the rest of the executive board to really push through some amendments that make SGA more accessible to students,” Johnson said following his win.

The other students who ran for executive positions ran unopposed. Junior Louisa Sholar is now the next executive vice president, junior Julia Field is the next executive

secretary and junior Amanda Yaffa is the next executive treasurer.

Noor Irshaidat is the class of 2020 president. Laura Rossi won the seat of 2020 vice president, and the treasurer’s seat for the class of 2020 is vacant. Student government will need to search for someone to take this seat. Katie Harford will be the class of 2020 secretary. The next two senators for the class of 2020 will be Katie Wakiyama and Steven Klausner.

Brandon Veal won the seat of class of 2021 president and Robbie Miley won the seat of class of 2021 vice president. Kyra Letsinger is the next class of 2021 secretary. The senators for the class of 2021 are Jubitz Figuerroa and Yamai Pedraza.

The next president for the class of 2022 is Lauryn Adams. Ireland Horan won the seat for the 2022 vice president. Austin Moore is the next secretary for the class of 2022 and Josie Williams won the seat for the class of 2022 treasurer. The next senators for the class of 2022 are Hailey Jurgens and Anna Sheinberg.

The School of the Arts and Sciences senators will be Jonathan Stettler, Sydney Corker, Jessica Flacksenburg and Alexis “Lexi” Will.

The School of Education Academic Council will now include Katherine “Katie” Park and Paige Knapke.

The Love School of Business Senators will now be Kaitlyn O’Donnell and Jovani Mendez-Sandoval.

Both Ellie Cook and Victoria “Tori” Favorito are now the School of Communications Senators.

## SGA rules in favor of free menstrual products

The pilot program has been added in buildings across campus

**Emery Eisner**  
Elon News Network | @eisneremery

Senior Class Senator Sophie Zinn and Senior Class Treasurer Rebecca Fliegel have finally seen their vision realized after Elon University’s SGA passed legislation to provide free sanitary napkins and tampons in bathrooms around campus.

Two years ago, the women imagined an Elon in which a woman wouldn’t have to worry about “getting her period in the middle of a school day and not having the appropriate funds” to buy a hygiene product from a dispenser — an Elon in which a woman can avoid the “emotional stress” of having to take class time to find a pad or a tampon.

Aside from their council duties, Fliegel and Zinn also co-chair the Student Issues Committee together. The legislation follows a one-month trial period in which the committee replenished the supplies while gathering data in a Google Forms survey.

“We had over 330 responses, which is awesome, and there was no one saying that they didn’t support the program,” Zinn said.

Fliegel said students even left comments about how much they enjoyed the dispensers.

“The only people who didn’t write ‘yes’ wrote ‘other,’ like ‘This idea is amazing,’” Fliegel said. “There was no one that said ‘no.’”

SGA decided to allocate \$5,500 per year for two years to the project unanimously. Executive Secretary Maxwell Pivonka said the legislation “is a great use of funds.”

The funding for the menstrual products comes from the SGA rollover fund, according to



Senior Class Treasurer Rebecca Fliegel stocks tampons and sanitary napkins in the Moseley Student Center bathroom as part of SGA’s “Free the Flow” initiative.

Pivonka, which means the program “will not have any adverse effects on other organization or program funding opportunities.” Student government funds are given to Physical Plant, who will order the products and stock the bathrooms, according to the Senate bill.

Fliegel said Physical Plant has been “so supportive” of the project, and working with them has built “a nice partnership.”

The funds will provide 1,500 tampons and 750 sanitary napkins each month to academic buildings and dining halls across campus, according to the bill. Most of the bathrooms stocked with the products will be women’s restrooms though some gender-neutral restrooms will also be included in the measure.

“Anyone, no matter what they identify as, can use them if they need to,” Fliegel said about the dispensers.

As Elon is already an “inclusive community,” according to Zinn, so providing free men-

### SGA FUNDS ALLOCATED

\$11K

was given to the program for the next two years for Elon University Physical Plant and SGA to restock products.

15

locations on campus will have bathrooms stocked with free sanitary napkins and tampons.

strual products to a student body that is 60-percent female seemed appropriate.

“It’ll definitely move Elon forward to continue in that inclusive direction,” Zinn said.

The legislation only allocates funding for the project for two years. In the recent election, the student body voted to pass an

amendment dissolving the Student Issues Committee. The senate decided this because student government should not have to have a committee to know what students need, according to the amendment. But Zinn and Fliegel have high hopes the program will be renewed or expanded after two-years.

“Ideally, we’d love to have the university administration take over funding this initiative,” Zinn said. If the positive feedback the project has been getting continues, Zinn said, more possibilities might open up.

Zinn and Fliegel have been working with Jessica Flacksenberg, the new School of the Arts and Sciences senator, and Louisa Sholar, the new executive vice president, who are both excited to take the reins on the project. They hope Flacksenburg and Sholar can oversee the project after they graduate in May.

“It’s nice to be able to leave a mark on Elon like this,” Fliegel said.



# LOCAL COMMUNITY REACTS TO NEW ZEALAND TRAGEDY

Multifaith leaders on campus and members of the Burlington Masjid Mosque reflect on tragedy abroad

Alexandra Schonfeld & Mackenzie Wilkes

Religious leaders from across campus came together Monday afternoon to show their support for the Muslim community in the wake of the terrorist attack in New Zealand, where a gunman killed 50 people and injured 50 more at two mosques. Nearly every seat was filled in the Numen Lumen Sacred Space to reflect, pray and support one another.

Down the road in Burlington, the Burlington Masjid Mosque also hosted a gathering for the community Sunday afternoon. As soon as the tragedy began to unfold on Friday thousands of miles away, the Burlington Masjid — the only mosque in the county — started receiving calls from members of the community sharing their messages of support and concern. Representative Mark Walker and University Chaplain Jan Fuller were just two of the many people in attendance Sunday.

Amal Khdour, head of the Women's Committee at Burlington Masjid Mosque, said the event brought about mixed feelings.

"It was very, very, very hard. It could be any one of us," Khdour said. "And it's not necessary to be Muslim, it is for any human being, just like to see that, to me, this is something that is not acceptable at all. It doesn't matter, whoever done it, it doesn't matter what is their reason for done it. This soul it is given from God, and is the only one who can take it is God — not anyone else."

The Burlington Masjid Mosque opened about five years ago and now has close to 200 members. Khdour said their congregation is a diverse group hailing from various countries. Since even before the mosque opened its doors, Khdour said there has always been a strong relationship with Elon University. She said each week there are multiple students who attend services.

Javed Masoud is a member of the mosque as well as one of the doctors who serves at the Al-Aqsa Community Clinic, which is run out of the Mosque and provides free healthcare for people who do not qualify for health insurance. He has been a supporter of the mosque for as long as Khdour.

"I think we are sad," Masoud said. "But there is a good support from local churches — Jewish synagogue, Christian churches. With the support system, we feel better. We are not angry. We are not afraid. Because with anger and fear, you cannot solve any problems. So as long as the community is together, we can work out a solution."

Shane Atkinson, Muslim life coordinator, said the Chaplains are "always available" to students and this service was a way for the community to support Muslims on campus.

"We wanted to give people a space they could come together, support each other and help each other move toward healing," Atkinson said.

With offering support to those in the Elon community, Atkinson recognizes that Muslims can feel uneasy after tragedies such as the one in New Zealand.

"I think Muslims across the country are on edge and worried," Atkinson said. "And some people feel traumatized, you know, especially if you look. If people can look at you, if you're visibly Muslim, then you would definitely be more on edge because there's always concerns that people are going to start copycat incidents of this."

Atkinson said even his own children were concerned about a shooting, recalling they had trouble sleeping Sunday night after seeing the police at Sunday school.

"The seven year old was wondering if someone was going to come shoot me, so you know it's real to be concerned that these acts



PHOTO COURTESY OF REP. MARK WALKER



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE



ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

may spread," Atkinson said.

Leading the congregation at Numen Lumen in prayer Monday afternoon, Atkinson recited in Arabic the opening prayer located in the first chapter of the Quran. The crowd began saying the prayer in English as it was repeated again.

Along with prayer from the Muslim faith, Jewish and Christian religious leaders offered prayer in solidarity with the Muslim community.

Rabbi Sandra Lawson recalled the gathering of friends that took place in fall 2018 after the shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue. She said she prayed "that this is the last time we will have to gather."

The crowd rose, and heads bowed as Lawson recited the Jewish Mourner's Kaddish.

Fuller also offered a message of love and unity at the gathering of friends, reciting a prayer from the Christian faith.

Junior Noor Irshaidat, who identifies as Muslim, said the event helped to try and process some of the emotions she has been feeling.

"There is a lot of pain that we feel," Irshaidat said. "And that I feel especially as a Muslim student away from home. There aren't a lot of us here. But it was really good to see the community come together to process what happened and try to emphasize the common things that we share and support each other and be there for each other and see how we can go forward from here."

According to the Elon University Factbook, 17 undergraduate students identify as Muslim. Irshaidat said moving forward, she hopes to continue to spread awareness about her own religion and traditions.

"It's mostly trying to be ambassadors of our tradition and showing people, raising aware-

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WE WANTED TO GIVE PEOPLE A SPACE THEY COULD COME TOGETHER, SUPPORT EACH OTHER AND HELP EACH OTHER MOVE TOWARD HEALING.

SHANE ATKINSON  
MUSLIM LIFE COORDINATOR

**Top:** Members of the Burlington and Elon communities, including Elon University Chaplain Jan Fuller, gathered Sunday, March 17, at the Burlington Masjid Mosque.

**Above left:** Members of the public react in front of the Masjid Al-Noor Mosque as they fear for their relatives on March 15, 2019, in Christchurch, New Zealand.

**Above right:** Shane Atkinson, Muslim life coordinator at Elon University, after he led a group in prayer and reflection Monday, March 18, in the Numen Lumen Sacred Space.

ness that Islam is not about hate," Irshaidat said. "It's about love and about peace and trying to highlight that, share our knowledge with other people and see how we can help and be the best ambassadors we can be for our tradition."

During the service, Atkinson offered a message of hope to those in attendance, telling them to stay faithful and keep to their morals. He said good and evil were not equal and encouraged everyone to do good.

"Love is the way of God. Love is the way of faith. Love is the way that will prevail," Atkinson told the crowd.

Rachel Ellis and Hannah Massen contributed to the reporting of this story.



# Students react to tougher noise ordinance policy

A petition gained thousands of signatures in opposition of the recent policy change

**Christian Galvano**  
Elon News Network | @cgalvano17

The town of Elon Police Department received a total of 411 noise complaints in 2018. Out of those 411, only one resulted in a citation. Since January, town police have already issued five citations from 140 complaints. That's five times as many citations as last year, and it's only March.



Logan Marcus

The increase in citations comes from a new ordinance: police officers are no longer required to give a verbal warning on their first notification when dispatched to a noise complaint under the town of Elon Code of Ordinances. The change in the noise ordinance was voted into effect this January.

Elon University junior Logan Marcus started a petition to

change the town of Elon noise ordinance, but he did not expect it to gain more than 500 signatures in the first hour. The call to action circulated through social media with thousands of signatures, now at more than 4,500 as of March 19.

He read an article published by Elon News Network last week and said it motivated him to rally the community to stand up against this ordinance change.

"The article that I saw sort of resurged my interest in it, and I figured it was a perfect opportunity for someone to bring it to the larger community's attention," Marcus said.

The petition claims the ordinance "effectively punishes the act of partying around the Elon University campus" and will "end off-campus weekend social events."

Emily Sharpe — one of the five members of Elon's Board of Aldermen, who unanimously voted the ordinance into effect — said students are taking the change out of context.

"I think that we tend to read the headlines and not the details," Sharpe said. "The only thing that changed was that now the police department is not required to give a warning. Does that mean

they're not going to give a warning? No."

Though only one citation was given out last year, one house received more than 30 noise complaints, and not a single citation was issued. This sparked the col-

“

OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT IS VERY REASONABLE. THEY UNDERSTAND THIS IS A COLLEGE TOWN, AND I THINK THAT THEY ARE GOING TO DO THEIR BEST TO BE FAIR.

**EMILY SHARPE**  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEMBER

lege town to do something about the noise complaint ordinance that was not fixing Elon's noise problem.

"I think it will just give the police department the flexibility that if there is a repeat offender or someone who is being excessive-

ly loud and obnoxious that they don't have to be given a warning," Sharpe said. "Our police department is very reasonable. They understand that this is a college town, and I think that they are going to do their best to be fair."

There is still lingering student concerns this week. Freshman Dave Quill believes in the long run that more noise citations could negatively affect Elon admissions.

"It hurts the school more than anything, in my mind. If word gets out to potential new parents and new students, people might not want to come here because — I'm going to be frank here — kids won't stop partying," Quill said.

In an on-camera interview with ENN last week, Marcus said though he is a member of Elon's chapter of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity, the petition is not just about fraternity parties.

"Most organizations on campus have off-campus parties, so it's really not just about the fraternities. It's about the social scene of the university as a whole," Marcus said.

Sharpe said she's had several students reach out to her on Facebook and by email with their concerns about the petition. She said she's happy to talk with students

## RESPONSE & COMPLAINTS

4,610

is the number of people as of March 19 who have signed the petition started by junior Logan Marcus in opposition of the town of Elon's new noise ordinance.

140

complaints have been filed to the town police since January but have resulted in only five citations.

and thinks everyone could be better off by having the students interact and understand each other's points of view.

"I think it's all about respect," Sharpe said.

As for Marcus, he said he's urging his friends to get more involved in local government issues.

"I just don't think students really realize that we can go to the meetings and speak our minds," Marcus said.

The next Board of Aldermen Agenda session is scheduled for April 1.

# SGA votes against proposed pipeline in Alamance County

Elon and Alamance County unite in opposing a potential gas pipeline installation

**Cate McCahill**  
Elon News Network | @cmccahill21

Elon University's SGA voted to oppose a potential gas pipeline installation projected to come within six miles of Elon University's campus. This resolution passed by a vote of 26-1-4.

The Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) "Southgate" project is a natural gas pipeline system that would span 72 miles between southern Virginia and central North Carolina. The pipeline would cross the North Carolina state border in Rockingham County and end in Alamance County.

Elon's Sierra Student Coalition, a student-run organization dedicated to environmental protection and preservation, drafted the resolution and presented it at SGA's final business meeting of the year.

During SGA's discussion of the resolution, many senators stressed the importance of standing with Alamance County in their opposition.

Junior Louisa Sholar, newly elected SGA executive vice president, was involved in the presentation of the resolution.

"It added the voice of the Elon student body to others in opposi-

tion of the pipeline," Sholar said. "The proposed extension isn't defeated fully — it helps to have a lot of groups voice their concerns."

On Sept. 4, 2018, Alamance County Commissioners had unanimously voted to approve a resolution opposing the MVP Southgate project, which was originally proposed in April 2018. But it usually takes between two and three years for the private company to obtain permits and begin construction. During that buffer time period is when most opposition comes in, according to Elon's Sierra Student Coalition.

The Sierra Student Coalition created a petition as a way to increase awareness and get students involved in making a change in the community.

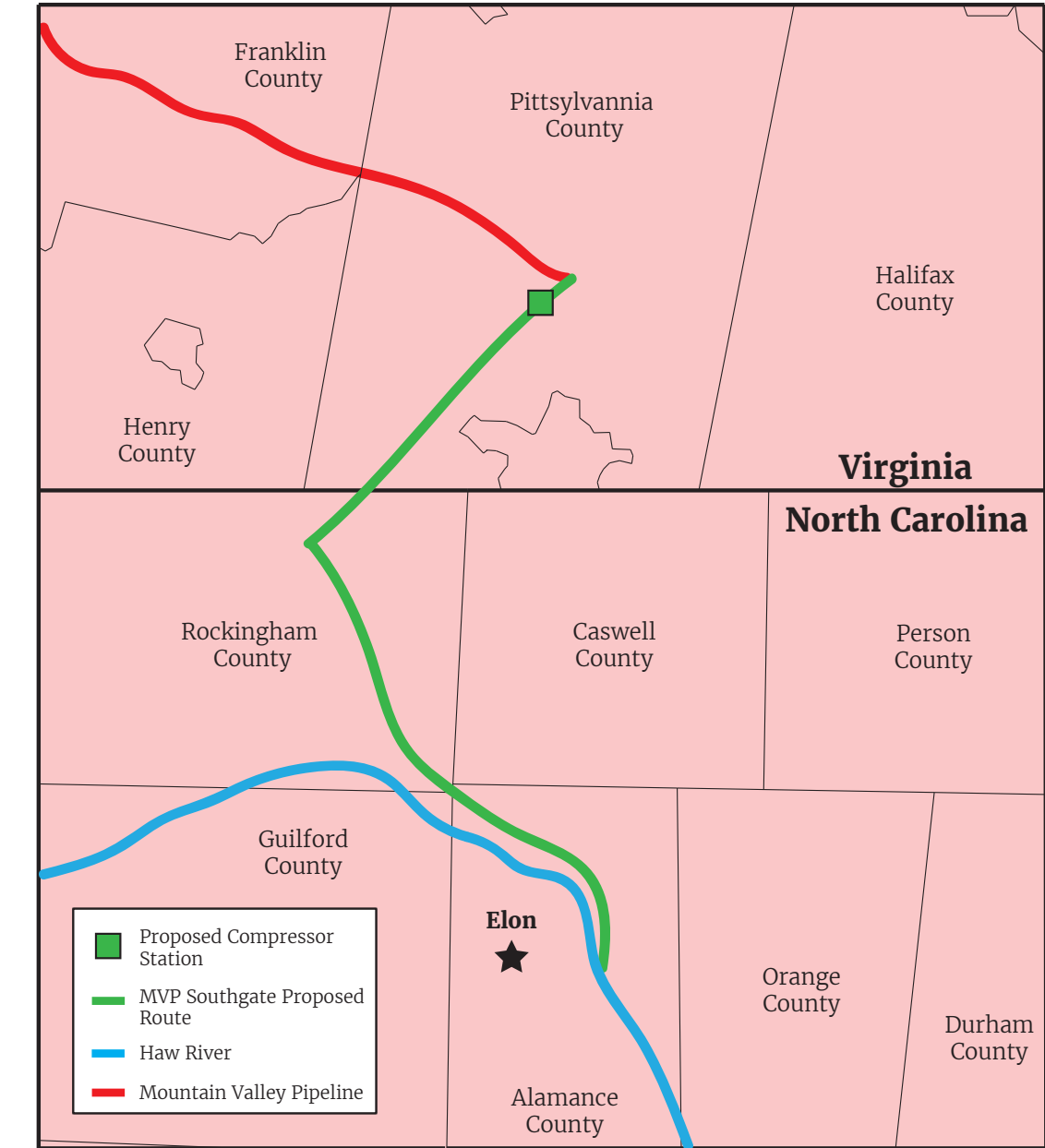
The petition was released on Feb. 28, 2019, and has received 270 signatures as of March 18.

"It would be great to have a petition to inform students more about what's going on," said senior Miki Salamon, historian of Elon Sierra Student Coalition. "It's good to show numbers and support as well."

SGA was also concerned about the consequences the community would face if the pipeline was installed.

Members of the Sierra Student Coalition explained many ways in which the community and their environment could be affected by the pipeline project.

The pipeline would essentially be a gas fracking system, in



Map shows the proposed path of the Mountain Valley Pipeline, which SGA voted to oppose by a vote of 26-1-4.

which the pipeline must dig into the underground water tables to extract the gas.

The MVP Southgate project is projected to loop under the Haw River twice.

"It would be impacting a lot of the local watershed and also just water quality because it's disrupting the natural process," Salamon said.

During the meeting, senior Hannah Greenfader, secretary of the Sierra Student Coalition, warned that gas fracking has led to major issues with water pollution in some areas.

"There were cases in Michigan and Wisconsin where there have been gas leaks due to fracking, and people can't drink their water because they can literally light

their water on fire," Greenfader said.

If the pipeline is installed, Elon and Alamance communities and their environment could face multiple hazards by the end of 2021.

Even with Elon and Alamance County's joint opposition, the ultimate decision rests with the Federal Regulatory Commission.

“

THERE WERE CASES IN MICHIGAN AND WISCONSIN WHERE THERE HAVE BEEN GAS LEAKS DUE TO FRACKING, AND PEOPLE CAN'T DRINK THEIR WATER BECAUSE THEY CAN LITERALLY LIGHT THEIR WATER ON FIRE.

**HANNAH GREENFADER**  
ELON SENIOR

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MEGHAN KIMBERLING | DESIGN CHIEF



# OPINIONS

CAMPUS VOICES

## The real national emergency is not at the border



Michael Asch  
Columnist

Murderers. Rapists. Invasions. Drugs. Chaos. This is the scene that President Donald Trump has been painting of our southern border. But this is far from the truth.

The president just issued his first veto, which rejected Congress' resolution to overturn his emergency declaration to fund a wall along the southern border. The resolution was passed 59-42 in the Senate, with a dozen Republicans going against their party to vote yes.

Trump has been using fear mongering to try and get support for his wall even though 60 percent of Americans don't support significant new construction at the border, according to Gallup. The American people recognize Trump's lies and exaggerations and understand that there is no emergency.

Illegal immigration at the southern border has been decreasing over the past

couple of decades, dropping from more than 200,000 people apprehended in 2000 to just more than 40,000 in 2018, according to the U.S. Customs and Border Control. Most illegal immigrants in the United States are here because they overstayed their visas — an instance recently brought to the forefront of media attention by rapper 21 Savage.

Also, illegal immigrants commit crimes at a lower rate than U.S. citizens, so Americans aren't in any more danger than they normally would be. Border cities, such as El Paso, are some of the safest cities in the United States. Trump claims this is because of fencing along the border, but there is no evidence to suggest crime rates went down after the fences went up.

Most drugs that enter the country are brought through ports of entry. Criminals who

want to come to the United States will not be deterred by a wall.

Not only is there no emergency, but his declaration is also a clear violation of the Constitution.

Article I states that it's Congress' job to appropriate money for the Executive Branch to spend. Trump originally asked Congress for \$5.7 billion for a border wall. When an agreement could not be reached, the United States went through the longest government shutdown in its history, which lasted 34 days.

President Trump finally backed off, agreeing to a deal that gave money towards border security but no money for a border wall. Trump then declared a national emergency.

The only reason Trump declared a national emergency is because Congress refused to give him the

money he wanted. When announcing his declaration in the Rose Garden, he said, "I didn't need to do this, but I'd rather do it much faster."

Trump's move sets a terrible precedent. Congress specifically did not give him the money for his wall. Presidents should not be allowed to abuse their power and go around Congress for money. His emergency declaration is a power grab that spits on the principle of checks and balances.

Republican Sen. Mitt Romney decided to vote for the resolution to overturn Trump's emergency declaration. "This is a vote for the Constitution and for the balance of powers that is at its core ... for the Executive Branch to override a law passed by Congress would make it the ultimate power rather than a balancing power," Romney said.

After Trump's veto, Senate

Minority Leader Chuck Schumer said, "It is no surprise that the president holds the rule of law and our Constitution in minimal regard. There is no emergency. Congress has refused to fund his wall multiple times; Mexico won't pay for it; and a bipartisan majority in both chambers just voted to terminate his fake emergency."

An expensive border wall would be ineffective, and there is no emergency at the southern border. Trump's emergency declaration violates Article I of the Constitution. Congress only needs 8 more Republican senators to overturn Trump's veto; otherwise, it'll have to be beaten in court. Sixteen states are currently suing to stop Trump's declaration. We cannot allow this president to violate the Constitution anymore. The real national emergency isn't at the border — it's in the Oval Office.

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STEPHANIE NTIM  
OPINIONS DIRECTOR

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MACKENZIE WILKES  
COLUMNIST

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# LIFESTYLE

## AN IRIS IN BLOOM

Tanner Mead, whose debut album “Iris” was released in August 2018, performs as Jessie Iris alongside the band Small House at The Oak House on March 8, 2019.

PHOTO COURTESY OF IAN KUNSEY

Elon senior Tanner Mead tries to make a living as Jessie Iris, his musical alter ego

**Alex Hager**  
Elon News Network | @awhager

JESSIE IRIS WAS BORN in Florence, Italy, in spring 2018. Now just a year later, he’s performing as a headliner on local stages, and his album “Iris” is racking up thousands of streams online.

But Iris isn’t a real person — he’s the musical alter ego of Elon University senior Tanner Mead. Raised far away from Italy in Burlington, New Jersey, Mead was a theater kid growing up. But he

### WHAT’S IN A NAME?

Tanner Mead appears on stage as “Jessie Iris,” a name born out of his experience abroad.

found his rhythm and inspiration while studying abroad last spring. Troubled by doubts about his path as a musical theater major, he set off for Tuscany, open to transformation.

“Florence was my way to get out of that and put myself in a completely new setting where I knew no one,” Mead said. “And I didn’t know the language, and it’s a whole new lifestyle. And just to see, who am I? Who is Tanner, and who is going to come out of this experience?”

And what came out was Jessie Iris. Somewhere between a nickname and a stage persona, the pseudonym is mashup of Mead’s favorite movie character and the flower that symbolizes Florence. Just as the iris has left its stamp on Florence — adorning the surrounding hillsides with a vibrant springtime purple and finding its way onto the crest of the local soccer team Fiorentina — Florence left its stamp on Mead.

The city of cobblestone streets and striking terra-cotta rooftops is steeped in a creative energy that’s been humming since its central role in the Renaissance. Mead says he felt that energy through the people he met there. He recalls one moment in particular — an intimate gig at a friend’s photo exhibition — where he felt a deep connection with his audience.

“There were like 20 people there,” Mead said. “But it was the best crowd I’ve had. Because every person was being personally affected by the song. I could play a show of 1,000 people, but I don’t actually know if anyone’s listening to what I’m saying. And I think that’s really the big difference between Italy’s artistic culture and the U.S.”

Mead, who mostly dabbled in covers of popular songs before his artistic rebirth abroad, joins the modern legion of genre-bending independent artists whose music doesn’t fall into a natural category. He says it leans in the direction of R&B but draws from a disparate variety of influences that have melted into something entirely unique.

His songs blend the plucky bounciness of old-school funk, the playful synths of early-2000s pop and a healthy dose of sultry crooning that wouldn’t be out of place in a romantic indie ballad. In his lyrics, Mead waxes romantic about the vignettes and feelings that defined his time in Italy, and he says he tries to use his writing to explore the depths of the emotions he felt.

Whether he’s painting a rosy memory of a romantic fling or venturing into that emotional abyss, Mead has chosen to do it all through Jessie Iris. He talks about Jessie in the third person and says he’s almost like an imaginary friend who’s always by his side.

“Jessie is the best form of myself,” Mead said. “I have days where I’m really open and I’m really eager to meet people and I’m really eager to create things. That’s the version I really want to be. And I’d say 90 percent of the time I’m Tanner — I’m introverted, and I’m in my room and don’t have the best outlook on the day. But every once in a while, Jessie will come out, and I always feel better after that. I’d say since I’ve created Jessie, I’ve had him come out a lot more.”

Mead describes Jessie as a mask, something he can hide behind when he’s on stage. If he’s assuming an alter ego while performing, he can pass some of the blame for his missteps onto someone who will take them in stride.

“If Jessie goes up and flubs on

“

I HAVE TO BE MY OWN BIGGEST FAN. I HAVE TO BE THE PERSON WHO’S GOING TO KICK MYSELF IN THE BUTT, AND I HAVE TO BE MY OWN MANAGER.

**TANNER MEAD**  
JESSIE IRIS

### FIND JESSIE IRIS ONLINE

Jessie Iris’ music can be found on Spotify, SoundCloud, Apple Music and Amazon Music.

lines, that’s not my fault — that’s Jessie. And also Jessie doesn’t care. Jessie can make every mistake in the book, and he would come back swinging the next day.”

Jessie Iris came to life in a world of European adventures — long nights with friends fueled by Italian wine, spontaneous romances and the types of experiences that make the perfect kindling for songwriting. But once that semester in Florence ended, Mead had to find a way to keep Jessie Iris alive in the soulless New Jersey suburbs, and he is still fighting to find ways to keep him alive here at Elon.

“There was actually a couple of months when I stopped writing again and had to pick myself up by my bootstraps,” Mead said. “That was another big learning moment. I have to be my own biggest fan. I have to be the person who’s going to kick myself in the butt, and I have to be my own manager.”

And now, he’ll have to put that self-motivation to the test. After graduation, he’ll be taking a great leap of faith — moving to Nashville, Tennessee, and trying



PHOTO COURTESY OF IAN KUNSEY

Jessie Iris performs with the band Small House at The Oak House on Friday, March 8.

to pursue a career as a musician. It’s uncharted territory for Mead, but he’s setting reasonable expectations for what those next steps might entail.

“I think Nashville is my proof to myself,” Mead said. “If I’m really dedicated to this, I have to just make the decision, and whatever comes along comes along. I’ll get a coffee shop job. I’ve been a barista for awhile. I’ll be the classic musician.”

In Nashville, a city whose reputation as a springboard for country music artists has attracted aspiring musicians of all kinds, Mead will be joining his friend and producer Zach Manno. Since meeting through theater in high school, the pair have been musical collaborators. And since the birth of Jessie Iris, Manno has been a pivotal behind-the-scenes part of bringing Mead’s songs to life.

“Without Zach, I could not be doing this,” Mead said. “I’m not a good enough engineer — I’m just getting good enough to play my own instruments. I’ve always heard it in my head, but he’s been my outlet.”

Manno, who just finished a degree in audio engineering at Belmont University in Nashville, is also making a foray into the uncertain life of making music for a living. But he gives high praise to Mead and says that the process of working with his longtime friend is an energizing first step.

“It’s an absolute blast because Jesse Iris — this whole project — brought us together making music again and we picked up right where we left off,” Manno said. “It’s a ton of experimentation, a ton of creativity, just completely uncensored. It’s really great.”

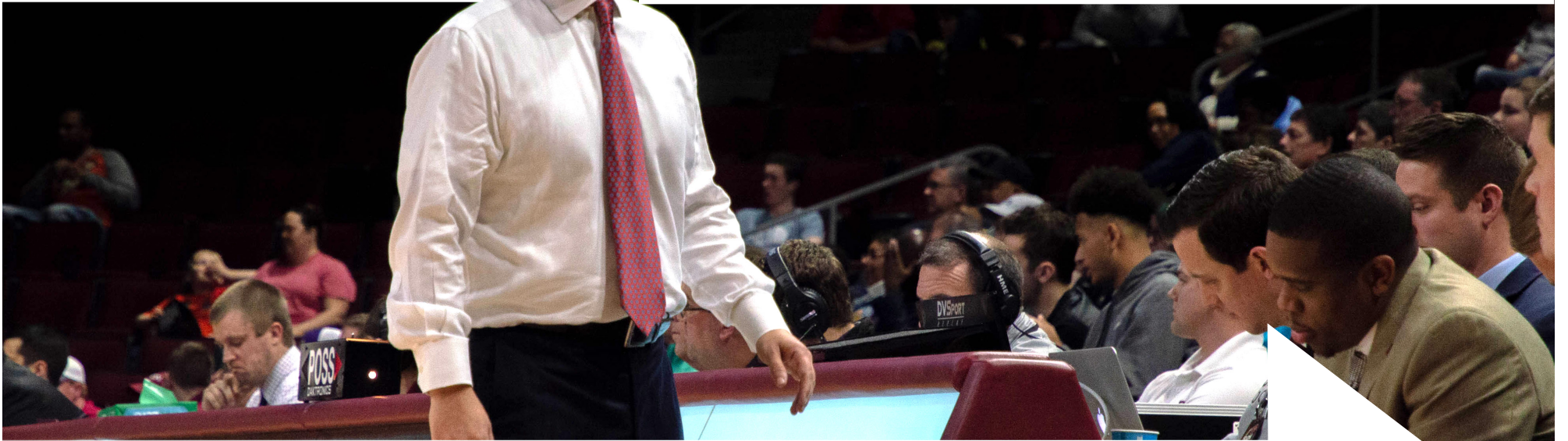
In just a few months, Mead will be heading to Tennessee and making a leap into the great unknown. But he’ll be doing so armed with a collaborative relationship with his producer and a head full of steam from his time abroad and the efforts he’s made to stay creative at Elon. Even as the road ahead is full of challenges, Mead says his music will help him push through.

“Even if it’s really terrible experience, I can make a song out of it,” Mead said. “I can turn anything into a positive now.”



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# SPORTS



## WHAT'S NEXT FOR ELON MEN'S BASKETBALL?

ZACH OHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

### SPORTS COLUMN

After Matt Matheny departs from Elon, who will take over as head coach?

**Jack Haley**  
Sports Director | @jackhaley17

After a decade at the helm, men's basketball head coach Matt Matheny was fired on Monday afternoon. This followed an 11-21 (7-11 in CAA) season and a fourth straight exit from the Colonial Athletic Association in the first round. Matheny guided the Phoenix into its new conference five years ago as it transitioned from the Southern Conference into the CAA today.

Matheny is leaving Elon ranked third all-time in wins as head coach, just 10 wins behind Graham "Doc" Mathis. It is still so clear that Elon's program struggled as half of Matheny's seasons finished with losing records, yet he was still one of the most successful coaches at the helm.

So now that Matheny is gone, what options does Elon have to fill his role?

#### Tony Shaver

Shaver coached 16 years at fellow-CAA school The College of William and Mary before meeting the same fate Matheny did at the end of the season. He had some moderate success in the CAA over those 16 years. Not only does Shaver lead the Tribe in all-time wins, but he also coached the team to two National Invitational Tournament (NIT) berths in his time in Williamsburg.

A hire from within the conference could do a lot of good for the Phoenix, who would benefit from someone coming in with a great amount of in-depth knowledge about the league. Shaver posted three straight seasons with 20 wins from 2013-14 to 2015-16 and had five straight winning seasons before being handed his pink slip. It seems like someone who had found

success may not want to pass up the offer to return in-conference and show the team that fired him they made a mistake.

Taking Shaver off the market may be self-serving for the Phoenix as well. Shaver is 8-3 over the last five years against the Phoenix, including beating Elon twice in the CAA Tournament.

#### Maurice Joseph

A name probably not familiar to those outside of fans of George Washington University, Joseph got just three seasons into his tenure with the Atlantic-10 team before he was kicked to the curb. Granted, the team had a dismal 9-24 record this year, so it may very well have been justified.

But Joseph was able to lead the Colonials to a 20-win season his first year and a respectable 15 wins last year. He even won a conference tournament game this year, something the Phoenix had not done since 2015.

Coming from the A-10, a very similar conference to the CAA in terms of its standing as a mid-major and both of their reliance on a deep recruiting class rather than a four- or five-star recruit to lead the way, Joseph may be a nice fit for Elon.

One of the things Joseph will bring to the table is an understanding on how to recruit in crowded areas. Coming from the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, Joseph needed to find a way to lure away recruits from places like Georgetown University, the University of Maryland and even the slightly farther-reaching Virginia Tech and Virginia Commonwealth University. Joseph would meet a similar challenge in the over-saturated basketball state that is North Carolina.

While he wouldn't have to compete with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Duke University for recruits, Joseph would certainly have to compete with the likes of Davidson College, both University of North Carolina Greensboro and Wilmington, Furman University and Wofford College, among

#### MATHENY BY THE NUMBERS

151

is number of wins Matt Matheny earned at Elon all-time, ranking third in program history, just 10 wins away from second all-time.

1

is the number of Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Tournament wins Elon had Under Matt Matheny.

16

is the number of seasons Tony Shaver coached at The College of William and Mary before being fired after the 2018-19 season.

others.

With someone who was able to build and coach a team in a dense city that was able to compete within its conference, Elon may not be a bad stop for Joseph.

#### Rick Pitino

For those unaware of Pitino's background, it is certainly one of both highs and very, very lows. If Pitino's life stopped at the edge of the hardwood, he would be one of the most revered coaches to ever hold the position. But

unfortunately, his off-court antics led to a tsunami of poor decisions.

Pitino is the only head coach in NCAA history to lead three different teams to a Final Four appearance, including winning a national title once in 1996 with the University of Kentucky. He also won with the University of Louisville in 2013, but that's where things took a turn. In 2017, Pitino was suspended for five games by the NCAA for lack of oversight in a 2015 scandal involving prostitutes. He was also later implicated in an investigation into recruits being bribed to play for Pitino.

While morally flawed, Pitino's coaching abilities are unquestionable. He is currently in Greece coaching Panathinaikos B.C., a far stretch from where he was even five years ago. Pitino may well want to return to college basketball, and Elon could be a viable place for him to do it. If Elon could win him over and get him to come coach the Phoenix, it could be mutually beneficial.

Elon would get instant media exposure and an increased recruiting edge because of who Pitino was before all of the reprehensible actions were brought to light. Elon would get an undeniably good coach and maybe even the boost they need to really be taken seriously. And Pitino would get a fresh start.

Though it would be a frenzy, the media storm would calm down eventually, and Pitino

**Top: Former Elon University men's basketball head coach Matt Matheny paces along the bench after ripping his jacket off during a game against James Madison University on Dec. 30, 2018.**

**Above: William & Mary head coach Tony Shaver instructs his players during the second half against Drexel University at Kaplan Arena in Williamsburg, Virginia, on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014.**

would get the chance to coach again. Elon would keep a very tight leash on him and a watchful eye to make sure nothing happens under his tenure, and Pitino's hypothetical stint as a head coach for the Phoenix would be seen as a rehabilitation stop on the road to what could be a triumphant return.

Could this happen? It's not at all likely. Should this happen? No. Probably not. But with how dark the past week has looked for Elon men's basketball, why not take a second and ask the silly questions that may yield silly answers?

Shaver seems to be the runaway favorite for this job — at least he makes the most sense on paper as long as the money is right. But this hiring is going to be critical because of who they need to replace. Matheny, though he struggled on the court, was the right guy for this job. He was a leader, a teacher and a mentor for the kids who played for him. Elon needs to find the right fit for the institution.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE



# Understanding the NCAA Transfer Portal

What is the new system meant to help players leave their current institution?

**Jack Haley**  
Sports Director | @jackhaley17

Many fans of the Elon University Phoenix have recently been introduced to the new process of transferring after three men's basketball players entered their names into the NCAA Transfer Portal. How does it work?

## NO MORE BLOCKING

Before the Transfer Portal, schools had the power to block which schools could talk to athletes looking to transfer.

The first thing to know is that a player entering their name into the Transfer Portal does not guarantee they will transfer. When the portal was launched on Oct. 15, 2018, it was designed to create more transparency between schools and players looking to leave their current institution.

Before it was put in place, players had to be the ones contacting schools to see what the market for their services was like. Now, once a player gets granted a release, other schools can contact them about their interest. This helps players get a better understanding of all the options they would have, not just

dealing with whatever school they contact.

This also gives a bit more power back to the players. Before the portal was put in place schools and athletic administration had more power over who was able to contact players to talk to them about transferring.

But there are caveats. A school is under no obligation to hold a player at the institution. While this can be advantageous for situations where both a player and an institution are

unhappy, it can also become a bargaining chip for schools. Institutions are not required to hold scholarship money for a player once they enter the transfer portal. An institution, should they want to, can take away a scholarship from a player as soon as they enter the portal.

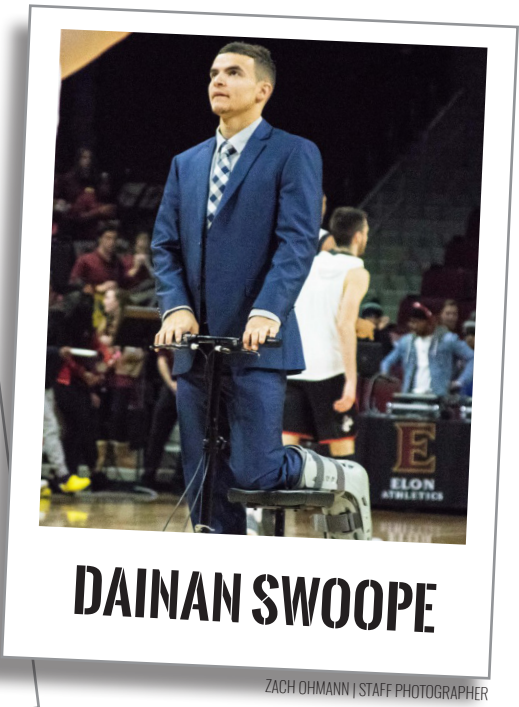
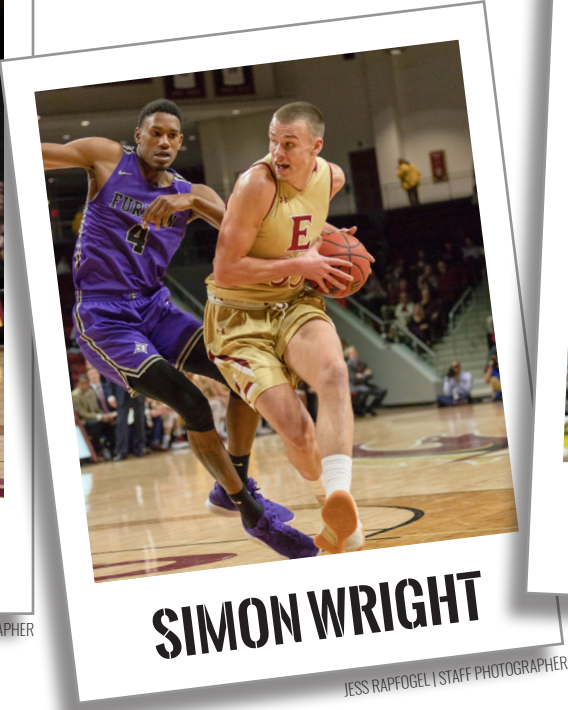
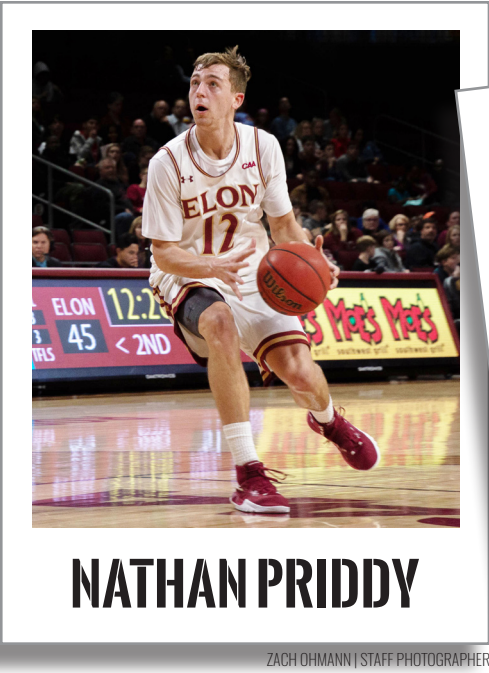
If this were to happen, a player could be stuck paying for the rest of their semester because they entered the portal while still enrolled at a school. And because it is not a guar-

antee that a player transfers at all, a player may end up getting nothing out of the process except a tuition bill.

There is some question as to whether or not the departure of men's basketball head coach Matt Matheny will change the minds of those who entered the portal or if they want out for a different reason. And that's the beauty of the new process because the power has tipped in the direction of the players

and given them the power to control where they spend their college career.

If the three players had been granted a release and the sole reason they were leaving was because of who was at the helm, then they would have been out of luck and would have been forced to transfer under the old system. But the more options given to the student-athletes, the better off the NCAA will be.



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