

THE PENDULUM

SWEEPSTAKES CAFES OUT OF LUCK

The Burlington Police Department is cracking down on sweepstakes cafes after a string of criminal activity

Brian Rea
Event Coverage Coordinator | @brianrea

FROM THE OUTSIDE, IT may look like a dollar store — or at least it did to a group of Elon University students walking by. But on the inside is a virtual Las Vegas, illuminated by the light from computer screens displaying tempting internet games.

Dollar Doz-It is a sweepstakes cafe less than two miles from campus. Patrons pay to play online gambling games to win cash prizes.

Because of the dangers of online gambling, the Burlington Police Department (BPD) is starting a crackdown on sweepstakes cafes such as Dollar Doz-It beginning Oct. 15. This action comes following a string of crime including a murder in 2017.

On April 8, there was an armed robbery at Gone Fishing Sweepstakes on North Church Street in Burlington.

According to records from the North Carolina Court System, four people were charged with a variety of felonies between April 8 and 18 in 2017 as a result of the incident.

Lieutenant Alan Balog, a member of the criminal investigation division at the BPD, says sweepstakes cafes are a magnet for crime.

See **SWEEPSTAKES** | pg. 4



Community members back on campus with Life@Elon

Seniors continue their education beyond the classroom

Anton L. Delgado
Managing Editor | @antonldelgado

Four sons and Elon University.

That's what Cynthia Ward had left after her husband Max, a former trustee at Elon University, died. Following her loss, Ward knew she had to continue giving back to the community that had meant so much to her husband.

Together with a small team of faculty and community members, Ward helped welcome the Life@Elon program to the community. The program offers non-credit learning opportunities to people age 50 and older.

The importance of providing a way for older members to stay mentally engaged is something Ward has been preaching throughout her entire life.

"I've said all along



Cynthia Ward cheers on the Phoenix during the Family Weekend football game against the University of New Hampshire, Sept. 28.

that continuing education doesn't need to be in a formal classroom, it can take another form," Ward said. "Even with it being outside of the formal classroom, education can be diverse, interesting

and challenging." With this mindset of creating a diverse, interesting and challenging learning environment, Life@Elon hosted its first two classes in fall 2011. This first semester was

considered to be a huge success with almost 100 participants in each class.

"I was so privileged to be a part of the first Life@Elon class here at Elon," Ward said. "It involved so many of the leaders in



I'VE SAID ALL ALONG THAT CONTINUING EDUCATION DOESN'T NEED TO BE IN THE CLASSROOM.

CYNTHIA WARD
LIFE@ELON MEMBER

the Alamance community and brought together such a wide variety of professions and interests."

Since then, the classes and the senior student body have continued to grow each year. Now in its eighth year, there are four Life@Elon classes with a total of 491 participants.

These weekly classes cover a range of topics, many of which have been suggested by students within the class.

At first, Ward was unsure if some of these top-

See **LIFELONG** | pg. 11



NEWS • PAGE 7

The decision behind homecoming performers



LIFESTYLE • PAGE 13

Second-annual Merge art show hosted in Graham



SPORTS • PAGE 14

The Phoenix rolls over UNH on Family Weekend

THE PENDULUM

A PUBLICATION OF
ELON NEWS
NETWORK

Established 1974
Volume 44, Edition 12

Elon News Network is a daily operation that includes a newspaper, website, broadcasts and multimedia. Letters to the editor are welcome and should be typed, signed and emailed to enn@elon.edu as Word documents. ENN reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of ENN and will not be returned. ENN is located on the first floor of the McEwen School of Communications.

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

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

CALENDAR

OCT. 3

Lunch and Learn: Go Virtual with WebEx
12 P.M.
Koenigsberger Learning Center 125

OCT. 4

Cathy Hubbs, 'What Makes Us Vulnerable to Data Breaches?'
4 P.M.
McKinnon Hall

Biko Mandela Gray: 'On Not Standing a Chance'
7 P.M.
Yeager Recital Hall

Fall Piano Recital - Dmitri Shteinberg
7:30 P.M.
Whitley Auditorium

OCT. 5

Get on the Bus: Fall Friday Service Opportunities
3 P.M.
Inman Admission Center

'El futuro perfecto,' film screening
5:30 P.M.
LaRose Digital Theatre

La Habana
10 P.M.
College Street Taphouse

CONTACT

WHEN WE PUBLISH:

The Pendulum publishes weekly on Wednesdays.

Elon Local News broadcasts Mondays at 6 p.m.

ELN Morning broadcasts Thursdays at 10 a.m.

ELN Online Exclusive broadcasts Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m.

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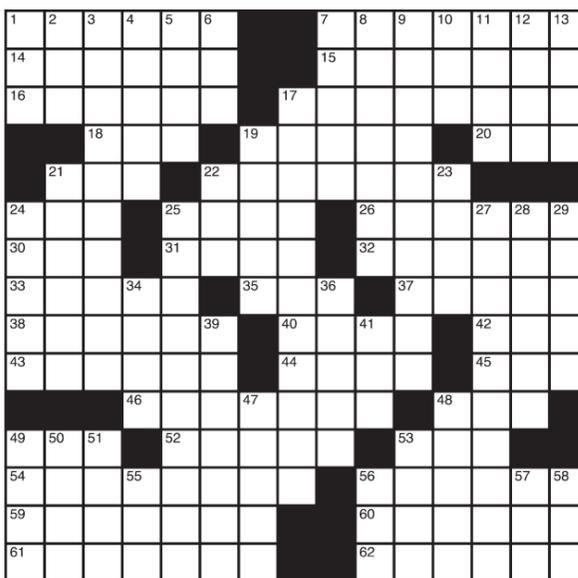
Elon News Network misspelled the name of Lehigh University on Page 8 of the Sept. 26 edition of The Pendulum. Elon News Network regrets the error.

GAMES

FOR RELEASE OCTOBER 3, 2018

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

- ACROSS**
- 1 Party with a piñata
 - 7 Tin alloys
 - 14 Online icon
 - 15 Expo entry
 - 16 Begrudge
 - 17 31-day month
 - 18 Jabber
 - 19 Surge protector?
 - 20 ___-Cat: winter vehicle
 - 21 "That wasn't nice of you"
 - 22 Italian tenor Andrea
 - 24 Cricket club
 - 25 Went down
 - 26 Dander reaction, perhaps
 - 30 1979 Hockey Hall of Fame inductee
 - 31 Shakespearean bad guy
 - 32 ___ the line
 - 33 Word with dating or skating
 - 35 Airport NW of LAX
 - 37 Egged on
 - 38 Strainers
 - 40 2018 Stanley Cup champs, familiarly
 - 42 Yard tool
 - 43 Swear (to)
 - 44 Tennis immortal Arthur
 - 45 "Fareed Zakaria GPS" network
 - 46 Took the helm
 - 48 Revolutionary icon
 - 49 Butter square
 - 52 Marmalade morsels
 - 53 Feathery accessory
 - 54 Marine animals named for flowers
 - 56 Nabokov novel
 - 59 Athletic shoe
 - 60 Island group that includes São Miguel
 - 61 Italian Riviera resort
 - 62 Triple Crown winners
- DOWN**
- 1 Many miles
 - 2 "Now ___ seen it all!"
 - 3 "Life of affluence
 - 4 It might be rare
 - 5 Fail big-time
 - 6 "The creation of beauty is ___": Emerson
 - 7 Complaint
 - 8 Show a real talent for
 - 9 "Specialty
 - 10 "Humble and Kind" singer McGraw
 - 11 Falls back
 - 12 Nothing, in Quebec
 - 13 Texas ballplayer, to fans
 - 17 *Magician's riffled prop
 - 19 Years (for)
 - 21 La Brea attraction
 - 22 Barnyard bleat
 - 23 Bakery employee
 - 24 ___ nova
 - 25 *Swimming option
 - 27 Perches for tots, and what the answers to starred clues literally contain
 - 28 Common soccer score
 - 29 Nash who wrote "Parsley / Is Gharsley"
 - 34 Big nights
 - 36 Desert refuges
 - 39 "Revolution From Within" writer Gloria
 - 41 Prof.'s degree
 - 47 Month after 17-Across, south of the border
 - 48 ___ scheme
 - 49 Bridge call
 - 50 LPGA golfer Nordqvist
 - 51 Video game rating
 - 53 Nincompoop
 - 55 Spoil
 - 56 "Well, ___-di-dah!"
 - 57 Ball holder
 - 58 Pack animal



By Craig Stowe

10/3/18

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



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9/27/18

NEWS BRIEFS

McEwen Dining Hall set to open Oct. 25

The first floor of McEwen Dining Hall, which will include the all-you-can-eat options such as a salad station and a fresh pasta station, will open its doors on Oct. 25. The opening date has been confirmed by Bob Shea, associate vice president for business, finance & technology. According to Shea, the second floor of McEwen will open later on Nov. 7. The second floor will be home to Pei Wei and Village Juice Company.

The opening of the dining hall is more than a year overdue. Casey Clafin, guest experiences manager, attributes the delay to the weather.

"I know we had Florence ... [and] construction days just along the way. But the hurricane definitely did not help," Clafin said.

While these dates have been confirmed by both Shea and Clafin, they could still change.

"It depends on the construction wrapping up by then and then the inspections, but I can say that we are very close," Clafin said.

Elon part-time Uber driver loses car to fire

Anthony Cox, a resident of the Town of Elon and part-time Uber driver, lost his car over the weekend after it burst into flames following a technical malfunction. The fire began early Sunday morning after Cox finished an Uber shift in Durham. The passenger side of the vehicle began to smoke and eventually caught fire.

"I was depressed, I was truly depressed," Cox said. "I worked hard for this, and this is my moneymaker because basically everything I make through Uber pays my way through college."

Cox is currently earning Master of Business Administration online through Colorado Technical University. He is currently trying to raise money for a new car through the crowdfunding platform GoFundMe. There have been two open recalls on Cox's 2013 Ford Fusion, including one that could potentially cause a fire to start from a cylinder head crack. Currently, there has been no confirmation as to the cause of the fire Uber was unavailable for comment.

The first Finance Mock Super Day

Eighteen students participated in the Elon's first Mock Super Day on Sept. 28.

A super day is a finance term commonly referring to the final round interviews for first year employees working at investment banks, consulting firms, or other financial firms.

Assistant Professor of Finance Kate Upton first thought of the idea of hosting a mock super day after receiving feedback from her students.

"Each year I have a large number of students asking myself and other finance faculty for help in preparing for the interview process," Upton said. "Many students are invited to a super day or on-site interview and have no idea what to expect. I thought having an experience on campus that simulated what that process is like would be invaluable for them."

The event was hosted by the William Garrard Reed Finance Center and the Porter Family Professional Development Center.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY - BOB ORR VISITS ELON



PHOTO COURTESY OF NCICL

Bob Orr, then-North Carolina Supreme Court Justice, spoke to Elon University students in 2002.

As the Senate continues the process of finding the next Supreme Court justice, this week in history commemorates the then-North Carolina Supreme Court Justice Bob Orr's visit to Elon University.

During his visit on the first week of October in 2002, Orr was seeking re-election against rival Bob Hunter. At Elon, Orr spoke about the growing divide between the Democratic and Republican parties.

Orr said issues of accountability and independence came into conflict and he would rather judges be accountable to the people.

"The legislature is so bitterly divided on party lines, on ideological lines, that people are going to get caught in the meat grinder," Orr said.

Orr also discussed the struggles judges encounter during the election season. Orr says state Supreme Court members must find a balance between money, endorsements and their role as upholders of the state constitution.

Prior to his visit to Elon, the Democratic Party called for the investigation of Orr's involvement in a political rally for Elizabeth Dole in June.

According to the Democratic Party, Orr violated the Code of Judicial Conduct. The panel investigating the matter closed the case without action.

Orr went on to defeat Hunter in the 2002 elections and remained in office until his retirement in 2004.

Family Weekend welcomed many students' relatives for the home game tailgate on Sept. 29.



LIAM O'CONNOR | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



CORY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

President Connie Book welcomes Robert Koenigsberger before he speaks to the audience at the dedication of the Koenigsberger Learning Center, Sept. 28.



ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

Evelyn Piazza, recounts details of the life of her son, Timothy Piazza, Sept. 27 in Alumni Gym.



ZACHARY OHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cole Taylor outruns a University of New Hampshire defensive back, Sept. 29



AUSTIN KREEGER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gina Chavez, folk-pop singer, sings in McCrary Theatre during Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 27.

Local sweepstakes cafes forced to close

SWEEPSTAKES |
from cover

“What we’ve experienced on our end are shootings, stabbings, armed robbery and murder across an extended period of time at a wide number of these establishments,” he said. “They started to become a real problem as it relates to armed robbery in 2017.”

According to the American Gaming Association, internet sweepstakes are estimated to earn \$10 billion a year, “with games that closely mimic the experience of a traditional slot and video poker machines.”

Internet sweepstakes are particularly prevalent in North Carolina. One supplier of sweepstakes technology, Figure Eight Technologies of North Carolina, claims to have equipment at 2,000 cafes in the state.

According to Balog, there are currently 25 sweepstakes operating in Burlington. But by Oct. 15, all must be shut down.

“Starting Oct. 15, the police department will fully enforce the gambling statutes which involve the ones related to internet sweepstakes and fish games,” he said. “And then at that point, anybody who operates an illegal gambling establishment would face criminal prosecution.”

North Carolina General Statute 14-306.4 prohibits “electronic machines and devices for sweepstakes.” Depending on the person’s criminal record, violators could face a Class 1 misdemeanor for a first offense or a felony for second or third offenses if they are running a sweepstake cafe.

Inside Dollar Doz-It in Burlington, owner Rodney Medley hangs a sign on his wall outlining the compliance of his cafe with the statute, arguing that his games are “skill-building.” Medley’s sweepstake model has patrons pay for internet time, in order to play games for the chance to win a cash prize. He claims one specific game — which his cafe doesn’t have — is what brings in the crime.

“The main concern is really these places that got Fish Tables,” Medley said. “That’s what’s bringing in the crime because they take in a lot of money and they pay out a lot of money. Criminals know that.”

According to the rules of Ocean King, a fish table game, players go head-to-head in a race against each other to catch as many fish as possible. To play, patrons



BRAIN REA | EVENT COVERAGE COORDINATOR

BURLINGTON SWEEPSTAKES

25

According to the Burlington Police Department, there are currently 25 sweepstakes cafes operating in Burlington. But by Oct. 15, all must be shut down.

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

On April 8, 2017, four people were charged with:

1. First degree murder
2. Assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill or inflict serious injury
3. Robbery with a dangerous weapon

pay into a cash slot to buy credits. You use credits to buy ammunition and shoot at fish with ranging point values. Every time you catch a fish, its point value is added to your credit, making it easy to rack up a lot of points — and in turn a lot of money.

Dollar Doz-It doesn’t have Fish Tables, and Medley says he’s never had to call the police to his business.

“I don’t have Fish Tables, and I don’t get that type of customers come in here,” Medley said. “They know we don’t have them, and they get on out of here. [The police] have to punish the ones with the fish tables and leave other people alone who don’t have tables. My store ain’t bothering nobody.”

Medley’s cafe is down the street from three retirement homes. The majority of his customers are in the older age range.

“They come here and they enjoy it,” Medley said. “You can’t tell somebody how to spend their money. All this is going to do is send our customers farther away.”

Though the police department is cracking down on the owners, Balog said they’re not out to get citizens — at least for now.

“We don’t have any initial intention to go arrest these people that go to the sweepstakes,” Balog said. “Our objective is really to improve public safety, not to write somebody a ticket for using a gambling machine.”

Balog and his department are committed to closing down sweepstakes. Their crackdown was inspired by the Greensboro Police Department, where there are currently no known operating cafes of this nature.

“We know that sweepstakes are attracting violent crime,” Balog said. “Our intention is to deal with the folks who are providing or operating the gaming establishments.”

Medley considers himself a local business owner. He’s been in and out of the sweepstakes business for about 16 years and helped build Dollar Doz-It from the ground up.

“When I opened this business, I didn’t open it with illegal gambling money,” Medley said. “I opened it with my hard-earned money that I actually saved and bought the place with.”

He believes the police crackdown is merely a scare tactic. In time, Medley knows businesses will reopen again.

“It’s like planting a garden every year,” Medley said. “You know what’s going to happen in the spring, someone’s going to go plant a garden and it’s going to

open up and grow. That’s what these sweepstakes are — shut them down, they go dormant and then boom, it pops open again. And they run as long as they can until the law shuts them down again.”

Medley plans on closing Dollar Doz-It’s doors at midnight on Oct. 15. As for his plans for after

closing his business, he doesn’t know.

“I reckon they’ll tell me something else to do,” Medley said. “I’ll hold off and shit.”

But for the next 12 days, he’ll keep doing his job.

All records of criminal activity were obtained from the Alamance County Courthouse.

Computer screens line the walls at Dollar Doz-It, reflecting the many gambling games patrons can play.



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Elon begins early stages of new strategic plan

With the current strategic plan almost complete, Elon looks to the future.

Victoria Traxler & Paloma Camacho
Elon News Network | @victoriatrax and @elonnewsnetwork

The administrators of Elon University are preparing to write the 2030 Strategic Plan, which will direct the school's actions in the upcoming decade.

The plan's creation is a four-phase plan. Its initial stage, invitation to participate, has just begun. This stage will be followed by drafting, fine tuning and lastly, implementation in 2020.

Chief of Staff Jeff Stein, who is also the co-chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, said he hopes to collect as much input from the community as possible during the first phase.

Currently, there are 46 members on the Strategic Planning Committee, including students, alumni, professors, trustees, chair of the Board of Trustees, President Book and faculty and staff.

"It's extremely important that we get ideas from everybody," Stein said. "Elon's strength in strategic planning has been including the entire community."

The first stage will include presentations and listening sessions at various organizations and around campus to collect community feedback, and an additional survey will also be sent out early November.

"When I say different groups, that's student organizations, that's faculty meetings, that's staff council — these are just some examples — that's different departments that would be willing to invite us in," Stein said. "We would try to go as broadly as possible and [to] anybody who would allow us so we could get as much feedback as possible."

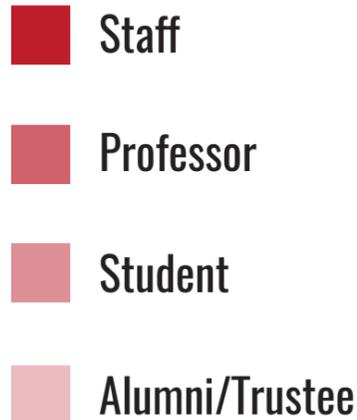
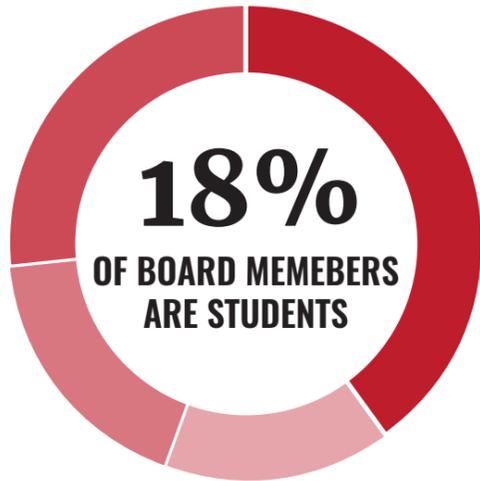
The upcoming Strategic Plan has been influenced by four predecessors, according to Stein. The first was the plan for the 90s (1991 to 1993), followed by the Elon Vision (1994 to 1999), then the New Century at Elon (2000 to 2009) and the Elon Commitment (2010 to 2020).

"We're a very 'plan-ful' institution," Stein said. "So typically, we have a strategic plan, then every department and division on campus, when they write their annual goals, they write them connected to the strategic plan."

Stein said he believes having a plan allows the university to progress and look further into the future.

"The strategic plan is really a document that outlines where

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBER BREAKDOWN



SOURCE: Elon Strategic Planning Committee
Ted Thomas | Designer

PLAN COMPLETION

95

The 2010-2020 strategic plan is 95 percent complete, according to Elon's Strategic Plan Progress Report.

ELON'S ENDOWMENT

\$230M

The University has been working to increase endowment from its \$82 million in 2009 to its projected goal of \$246 million by 2020.

ENERGY CONSERVATION

33

According to Elon's Strategic Plan Project Report, energy consumption per square foot per degree day is down by 33 percent since 2004-2005. Elon is working toward carbon neutrality by 2037.

Elon Commitment, is 95.8 percent complete. House aims to get as close to 100 percent as possible before the new plan begins in 2020.

Though he said he knows certain goals will not be completed, such as having a top-100 law school or a Rhodes Scholar recipient, many landmark achievements occurred during the course of the Elon Commitment.

Some of these accomplishments include increasing staff diversity from 12.5 percent to 17.7 percent, becoming a top-50 business school according to Bloomberg Businessweek, expanding the Odyssey Scholars program, building Sankey Hall and creating the Student Professional Development Center.

"I'm a scientist, so I love to dream and create things. One of the things as a scientist, [not] everything you create [will] work," House said. "In truth, there is no old or new Elon. Each year, there's a new set of challenges, and the university — in the spirit of its namesake, the phoenix — reinvents itself in response to those challenges."

Like Stein, House said he believes some of the challenges during the planning process re-

sult from the need to think into the future.

"Well, 2020 is very different than 2010," House said. "The world has changed; students have changed."

House said he believes that Elon is able to continue being a dynamic institution by constantly asking the community for ways to improve and aiming for specific goals.

"We are a very, very fine institution that is always striving to be better," House said. "And that's what the next plan will be."

Experts in specific areas such as finance and technology are also expected to be brought onto the team once the themes are finalized.

"One of the reasons this committee is so large is that you want people from every background and every part of the university," Stein said. "But also in most processes, you will bring in experts. We haven't decided who those will be, but you bring in folks who are thinking about the future."

Myrta Santana, sophomore and Odyssey Scholar, is one of five student representatives who were chosen to be on the Strategic Planning Committee.

"I was asked by my program director if the dean could put my name on the list of recommended students," Santana said. "During Hurricane Florence, I got a call from President Book saying I was selected."

Santana said she believes the Strategic Plan is very important to Elon and hopes to build on more of what was seen in the last plan.

"Everyone who's on it plays their own part," Santana said. "Giving the students freedom to attend the events is amazing."

While Santana said she hopes things such as diversity inclusion, scholarships, and programs similar to the Odyssey Scholars program continue to improve, she thinks the plan is valuable for students and benefits from student input.

"Students should know that even though there is an official committee, their voice matters and that the events occurring for the next year is their way of voicing their concerns," Santana said.

“

IF WE'RE THINKING ABOUT HOW WE ARE PREPARING STUDENTS IN 2030, WE DEFINITELY NEED TO KNOW WHAT THEY ARE GOING TO BE FACING IN 2050. ANY STRATEGIC PLAN IS TRYING TO CONSIDER NEEDS 10 YEARS OUT.

JEFF STEIN
CHIEF OF STAFF, CO-CHAIR OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

we want to go and what our big goals are for the future," Stein said. "Elon has been prolific in terms of creating strategic plans so that as much as we are focused in the moment on the university and every day, we always want to be thinking at least 10 years down the line."

The surveys and presentations around campus will gather initial feedback that will be used by the committee to help develop themes for the 2030 strategic plan. The plan will then be drafted in the generative phase starting in spring 2019.

"If we're thinking about how we are preparing students in 2030, we definitely need to know what they are going to be facing in 2050," Stein said. "Any strategic plan is trying to consider needs 10 years out and what are going to be the needs and issues and context past that."

Provost and Executive Vice President Steven House served on the last Strategic Planning Committee and is Chair of the Long-Range Planning Committee, which is responsible for advising the university president on the direction and priorities of the university.

"You get to create a whole new university in response to all these challenges," House said. "The tough part is you can't do everything; you have to prioritize."

House said he anticipates many of the ideas incorporated into the upcoming Strategic Plan will come from listening sessions and conversation.

"Already, the president has chatted with more than 2,000 individuals since she arrived on March 1," House said. "That allowed them to do the first run-through of what might be things that we would focus on, and now she's going to be listening and listening."

According to the university, the current strategic plan, The



A Bobcat excavator parked outside McEwen Dining Hall, Elon's newest renovation on campus. The first floor is set to open on Oct. 25.

ALEC MANDELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MOURNING PARENTS

CAMPAIGN FOR HAZING LEGISLATION



Evelyn and Jim Piazza speak on behalf of their son, Tim Piazza, who died in a hazing incident in Feb. 2017.

ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

Parents of Timothy Piazza speak to Elon students about the dangers of hazing

Brian Rea

Event Coverage Coordinator | @brianmrea

From the day he was born, Jim Piazza imagined celebrating his son Tim's 21st birthday. They would go to their house on the Jersey shore and celebrate the monumental day with beers on the beach. Tim and his brother would cheer with his first legal drink at Zeno's Pub, the popular bar at Pennsylvania State University.

But instead, Jim celebrated his son Tim's 21st birthday by speaking to a crowd of college students about his death.

Tim's death was the result of hazing in February 2017. He was a new pledge of Beta Theta Pi fraternity and partaking in a hazing ritual called the Gauntlet, where he was tasked with consuming 82 alcoholic beverages in 18 minutes.

After the drinks, Tim fell down a flight of stairs leading to the basement of the fraternity house. His fraternity brothers then left him on a couch, pouring water on his face and slapping him as they attempted to wake him up.

His fraternity brothers didn't call 911 until the next morning.

Hope Koene, an Elon University senior and team leader in the Students Promoting Awareness, Responsibility, Knowledge and Success organization, was friends with Tim in high school. Koene said she can't imagine her senior year of high school without him.

"This kind-hearted, always-laughing guy who would do absolutely anything to help a friend was left to die at the hands of people who called themselves brothers," Koene said in her speech last Thursday. "And it's heartbreaking to know that all we can do is imagine what it would be like if he were here today."

Koene is one of the three program coordinators dedicated to organizing National Hazing Prevention Week. She said her goal is to open the eyes of students at Elon so nobody will have to lose a friend like she did.

"The most dangerous thing for students, whether or not you're affiliated with Greek life, is not talking about hazing," Koene said. "It becomes this taboo topic where if nobody talks about it then things can go to those extreme measures and someone could die, which is so horrible, but it's a reality."

According to a study by the Economist, 41 people have died as a result of hazing in the past decade.

In their speech, the Piazzas said nobody tends to care about hazing

until someone dies. They want their son to be known as more than a statistic and a tragic death.

"He was just a great guy," said Evelyn Piazza, Tim's mother. "He was funny, but he had a temper on him. If he wasn't winning a board game, that board game was destroyed. He liked playing sports but he got frustrated when it wasn't going well."

Jim said his son liked to be a protector for his friends and family, but it wasn't until after his death that the Piazzas realized how much of an impact Tim had had on the lives of others.

"The week between when he passed and when we had the funeral, [we] had a lot of his friends over the house," Jim said. "One of the girls that lived next door to him [at Penn State] knew him for not even a year and said to me he had been the nicest person she had ever met in her life."

Tim's parents said they are sorry their son had to be the one to suffer. Every day they grapple with themselves over why it happened and, more importantly, why it was allowed to happen.

"I'd like to understand why they killed our son, why they didn't call for help," Evelyn said. "Why nobody, ... all the people in that house ... guys and girls ... nobody picked up a phone. You just can't comprehend that. They knew he was hurt."

Jim recalled having a bad feeling about Tim rushing Beta Theta Pi.

He had rushed previously but didn't get bids. Jim remembers the

moment vividly. They were standing in the Rose Bowl watching Penn State take on University of Southern California in 2017 when Tim said he was going to rush again the spring semester of his sophomore year.

"I was like, 'I really don't see the fit, but whatever makes you happy; just be smart.'" Jim said. "I regret



THIS KIND-HEARTED, ALWAYS-LAUGHING GUY WHO WOULD DO ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING TO HELP A FRIEND WAS LEFT TO DIE AT THE HANDS OF PEOPLE WHO CALLED THEMSELVES BROTHERS.

HOPE KOENE
SENIOR

every day that I didn't have a more direct, definitive conversation with him."

Evelyn suspects he didn't get any bids before because he wasn't willing to give up his schoolwork or health for new member events. She still doesn't understand why Tim needed

to rush in the first place.

"He had his girlfriend, he had his roommates, he had his friends — it's not like he needed that," Evelyn said. "He had such good experiences in high school with being a part of a select group that I think he was looking to recreate that and just have some sort of tight-knit brotherhood."

That brotherhood is what Matt Stranzl, president of the Elon chapter of Beta Theta Pi, was looking for when he rushed in February 2016 — a year before Tim's death.

As a fraternity brother, Tim's death sent a shockwave through all chapters of Beta Theta Pi.

Stranzl recalled the reception of the news at Elon. "You never expect something like that to happen," he said. "It was just really an unfortunate series of events that led to what happened."

To Stranzl's knowledge, there has not been an incident of hazing in Elon's chapter of Beta Theta Pi. Regardless, he realizes the importance of facilitating the conversation.

"The most important thing is that everyone needs to be on the same page," Stranzl said. "I can only be in one place at one time and I don't always know what all 80 people are doing. Having conversations about what the pledge education process is gonna look like ... and explaining that we can never budge on doing certain things is the most important thing."

As part of a legally binding agreement with the Piazza family,

Beta Theta Pi national is requiring all houses to be completely substance-free starting in 2020. Additionally, all pledge education programs must be approved by advisers.

Even though Stranzl said he can't recall a hazing incident in his chapter of Beta Theta Pi, Greek life at Elon has been disrupted by hazing before.

The Pi Kappa Phi and Sigma Pi fraternities were suspended in Spring 2015 for allegations of hazing until Spring 2018.

Also in 2015, Kappa Sigma fraternity's new member events were suspended after pledges were found in a Virginia cemetery in the early hours of the morning. But those are only the reported ones.

The Office of Student Involvement declined to comment on the incidents.

Jim urged student leaders, such as Koene, to step up and put a stop to hazing.

"You need to put in place strict rules and you need to enforce them," Jim said. "Rules without enforcement, they're not followed. You need to be aggressive in your enforcement. The student leaders, they need to learn to say, 'No, not on my watch. This isn't going to happen. I'm not going to take that risk. I have a lot of future ahead of me that I don't want to jeopardize.'"

Despite what happened to their son, the Piazzas are diligently working to carry out his legacy.

The Timothy J. Piazza Foundation has raised over \$400,000 in a year and a half, according to the Piazzas. The foundation funds mobility technology to help build prosthetics for those in need. It was inspired by Tim's dream. Tim was studying engineering and ultimately wanted to build prosthetics for children.

The Piazzas are also pioneering anti-hazing legislation. If passed, their bill will make hazing a felony punishable by up to seven years in prison and a fine of up to \$15,000. It will also create tiers of misdemeanors based on the level of hazing.

"Tim, even though you're not with us you are making an incredible impact in the country," Jim said. "I know he's making an incredible impact. And I hope he's proud of us."

Evelyn Piazza says every day she wakes up and goes to bed thinking of her son.

"I love him. I'm proud of him and I miss him," Evelyn said.

"Tim, even though you're not with us you are making an incredible impact in the country," Jim said. "I know he's making an incredible impact. And I hope he's proud of us."

Evelyn Piazza says every day she wakes up and goes to bed thinking of her son.

"I love him. I'm proud of him and I miss him," Evelyn said.



A group of fraternity brothers stand underneath a banner that says "these hands don't haze" to support the Piazza parents in their fight for hazing legislation.

ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

Concert breaks records but brings up new concerns

A look at the decision that is bringing Quinn XCII, Sean Kingston and Jesse McCartney to campus

Alex Roat

Video Production Manager | @alexandra_roat

Jesse McCartney, Sean Kingston and Quinn XCII will headline Elon University's 2018 Homecoming Concert on Nov. 3. This will be the first concert held in Elon's new Schar Center and the largest concert held at Elon.

"This is a huge year for our university," said Colton Cadarette, concerts director for the Student Union Board. "We have a new president, a brand new arena and we really wanted to create a marquee event."

Cadarette said the three performers were chosen based off results from a survey sent to students last spring, combining the most requested music genres: pop and hip-hop. Jesse McCartney, who just began his 2018 tour, was the first performer booked and the rest of the concert was designed to create a "throwback" experience.

"It's good for alumni because everyone listened to these songs when they were in high school," Cadarette said. "Even for the freshmen, they listened to them when they were in middle school. ... It's a good trifecta that is popular in that people will know every single song that they perform."

SUB originally planned to have one major performer headline the concert. But with a budget of \$130,000 – after a special allocation of \$65,000 from SGA – SUB realized the cost of the performer, the pricier production costs of the Schar Center and a 4 percent North Carolina performance tax would make hosting a single big-name performer unaffordable.

In the spring, SGA voted unanimously on granting SUB a one-time allocation of \$65,000 to support a larger performer in the new venue. The allotted money is being strictly divided between the three performers.

The majority of the production costs will go toward constructing a stage, but in comparison to the former Colonnades parking lot venue, Schar Center requires a production team to rig lighting and sound equipment. Estimated operational costs for the concert, which come directly out of SUB's original budget, are estimated to be over \$50,000.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STUDENT UNION BOARD

The Student Union Board posted hundreds of posters around to campus to publicize the upcoming Homecoming Concert performers.

Not only does Schar Center require more production elements, but with a bigger venue comes larger security challenges.

"Schar has so many doors and when you look at that building and you just think about it, there's too many entrances and exits," Cadarette said.

SUB predicts a bag policy will be put into place, limiting the size of bags carried inside the venue or only allowing clear bags.

"We want to make sure that it's safe but also a relaxed and fun atmosphere," Cadarette said. "Expect bag checks, expect to be wanded ... we want to overdo it so that people feel safe but not overdo it to the point where people are uncomfortable."

Schar Center usually seats 5,100, but with the addition of a stage, the venue's capacity will be divided into sections to spread out those in attendance.

"SUB discussed a revenue-generating model because Schar Center would allow more seats, more opportunities to draw in

bigger names and more opportunities to sell tickets to people from surrounding communities," said Max Pivonka, executive treasurer of SGA.

When reserving tickets, students and staff members can choose floor, which will be mostly students in a standing room area, lower bowl or upper mezzanine seats.

Within the first 24 hours of announcing the event, on Sept. 26, over 2,700 student tickets were reserved on Phoenix Connect, breaking Elon records as well as national university concert ticket records, according to SUB.

Freshman Luke Stoddard expressed his excitement for the concert lineup. "It's really cool that we got Jesse McCartney and Sean Kingston. ... It's a throwback that I can appreciate," Stoddard said.

Tickets are free for students on Phoenix Connect until Oct. 17, and the price per ticket for students will be raised to \$20 on the day of the concert.

"We can do this show if we charged for zero tickets," Cadarette said. "It's about sort of incentivizing to make sure students are picking up their free tickets and also making it clear, like we want you to be here, and we were giving you this opportunity, so take it."

IF YOU GO...

Who: Jesse McCartney, Sean Kingston and Quinn XCII

What: Homecoming Concert presented by SUB & SGA

When: Nov. 3

Where: Schar Center

SUB BUDGET

\$130K

SUB's budget went up to \$130,000 after a special allocation of \$65,000 from SGA.

Alumni can register to pick up tickets via the Office of Alumni Engagement, and tickets will become available to the public for \$30 beginning on Oct. 10.

With the new concert venue, SUB hopes to continue diversifying the concert audience to reach the greater Burlington and Elon community as well as to continue welcoming friends of students and alumni to the concert with guest tickets.

2017



Jon Bellion performed at the Colonnades Parking Lot for the 2017 homecoming concert on Nov. 4, 2017.

2016



Indie duo Matt and Kim headlined the 2016 Homecoming concert.

2015



The 2015 Homecoming concert was booked with "The Summer Set" and "Throwback Time Machine," after Andy Grammer canceled.

2014



Ludacris and DJ Infamous were the acts for the 2014 Homecoming concert.

FILE PHOTOS BY ELON NEWS NETWORK

CHEAT SHEET

EACH WEEK THE PENDULUM BREAKS DOWN COMPLEX EVENTS BY INTERVIEWING RELEVANT EXPERTS

According to the U.S. for Venezuela, “all options are on the table”

Associate history professor Michael Matthews breaks down the Venezuelan crisis

Maria Ramirez

Elon News Network | @mariaramirezu

Venezuela is currently going through a humanitarian, political and economic crisis driven by hyperinflation, rising crime rates and shortages in food and medicine. During the United Nations' General Assembly last week, United States President Donald Trump told reporters “all options are on the table” when it comes to aiding Venezuela. Michael Matthews, associate professor of history, explains the many facets of Venezuela's crisis.



Michael Ramirez

Q: Can you summarize what is happening in Venezuela in terms of the humanitarian crisis?

A: There's a political revolt, which has been ongoing in some ways since Chavez came to power in 1998. It has really gotten strong and more vociferous and more active and more widespread since Maduro's come to power for a number of reasons. There are fairly widespread protests against the Maduro government, its mismanagement of the economy, its over-reliance on petroleum and the petrodollar, as well as what is a pretty obvious government corruption.

Q: How has Venezuela's



Aaron Covino from Barinas, Venezuela, camps out with his family at a tent city in Bogota, Colombia, home to more than 200 Venezuelans. PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUTE NEWS SERVICE

crisis influenced other nations in Latin America?

A: One is the impact of the migration that's happening, the millions of people that have moved out of Venezuela to Colombia, Peru, Brazil and Ecuador. So that's one impact that it's had, and we've seen some of the responses you may think are sort of common when you have mass migration of people coming into a country, which is racism and xenophobia. So, we have seen a sort of nativism or anti-immigrant sentiment emerging in neighboring countries.

The other one goes back to the Chavez revolution. Chavez was the leader of this pink tide movement that led to a rise of South American cooperation among nations

that wanted to provide an alternative to what they viewed as U.S. imperialism and dominance in the region. We saw this with very like-minded leaders that were in power more or less around the same time, like Lula in Brazil, Chavez in Venezuela, similar leaders in Bolivia and Ecuador.

Q: What has made Venezuela's regime stay in power for so long when other nations have switched governments and moved past this mindset?

A: One is the illegitimacy of the opposition to a vast majority of the population that is the poor and the working class. Beyond that, Ledezma, the mayor of Caracas, and other opposition leaders have called

for the military to remove a democratically elected president. And for all the problems of the Maduro and Chavez regimes, they were all democratically elected, and they've won 12 of the past 15 elections, both presidential and regional and national assembly elections. So it's hard to say they're undemocratic, so I think it's hard for people to want to support somebody who's calling for a military overthrow of the nation.

It's hard to get those working class and poor Venezuelans to agree to go back to how it was in the 90s. So they don't really have an alternative. I think they recognize the problems with the Maduro and Chavez socialist party, but they also don't see an alternative with the other party, who really their only message so far

has been regime change, and they need to offer something more than that.

Q: What is the role of the United States in this crisis?

A: The U.S. has had a long history in Latin America that is not a pretty one about regime change, involvement in government, overthrowing democratically elected governments and that sort of thing. There's also been a great deal of economic control by the U.S. in Latin America especially since World War II.

The other thing the U.S. has been involved in is the sanctions in Venezuela, which only ever end up hurting the poorest of the poor and the people not the regime.

Q: The current administration has said all options are open when it comes to Venezuela. What impact can this have?

A: It's a terrible decision by the administration, in terms of foreign policy and the U.S.' role in the world in general. But in terms of Venezuela, if you really want to create a democratic movement, which ousts Maduro in the ballot box, it's going to have the opposite effect. It's going to delegitimize the opposition.

So by using that language, by referring to all options being on the table and suggesting that the U.S. would want to work with the military of Venezuela to oust a democratically elected government, is just part of that longer trajectory of the U.S. being seen as sort of an imperial power in Latin America, and again it just undermines the opposition's credibility.

Reflecting on Hispanic Heritage Month and what's next

Looking back on all that's passed and all that's to come for the Hispanic community

Perla Salazar-Rangel

Elon News Network | @psalazarrangel

The reflections on Hispanic Heritage Month have been of pride and representation. Having his various identities honored was important to Elon University sophomore Daniel Castillo.

CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE

Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated nationally from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. At Elon, the celebrations start as early as Sept. 3.

puts so much effort into Hispanic Heritage Month.”

Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated nationally from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. At Elon, the celebrations start as early as Sept. 3 and go on throughout the rest of the semester.

Sylvia Muñoz, associate director for the Center for Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity Education (CREDE) and director of the

Spanish Center, said the events are not limited to the time span of Hispanic Heritage Month.

“We do not do just a month; we keep on going for the whole semester,” Muñoz said. “We finish with the tailgate. We do not just want everything to be within the month because the Latino community is part of the whole Elon community, and we should not feel like we have to hide once the month is over, so we keep going.”

Muñoz said all of the events included are supposed to be fun, but there are some that involve food and music and others that are meant to start and continue conversations around the Latino/Hispanic identity.

The Office of Cultural and Special Programs has helped the Latino/Hispanic community by making sure both the fun and meaningful events occur. They were able to bring in Latina folk-pop artist Gina Chavez for a performance and a lunch with Elon students.

“She shouted out El Centro a lot,” Muñoz said. “She actually cared about the students and wanted to know all of their names, and she talked a lot about intersectionality. They are intentional about who they bring because they do not want just the performance, but also someone engaging with the people in a different way.”

Castillo said he appreciates events like these as he was able to



Sophomore Daniel Castillo warms up the crowd before the acts begin in the oratorical contest at The Oak House on Oct. 2. ZACHARY OHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

attend the Chavez concert and is grateful that the students are given a voice themselves.

“My favorite event is the oratorical contest,” Castillo said. “I really like the event because so many students will share their voices and thoughts on so many things, which is huge. They have songs and poems that show emotions behind the essence of Hispanic Heritage Month as well as a lot of what Latinx students go through.”

For both Castillo and Muñoz, the next step is involving the Alamance community.



IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT TO BRING THE COMMUNITY HERE. I SEE THIS AS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY.

SYLVIA MUÑOZ
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF THE CREDE

“I want to see all cultures represented in a festival where we invite the Alamance community,” Castillo said.

Muñoz believes the “Elon bubble” needs to be opened to those around the university.

“Elon is so isolated from the community,” Muñoz said. “It is really important to bring the community here. I see this as my responsibility to give back to the community. The Latino identity is very complex. The only way we can learn about each other is by attending these events and really engaging in these programs.”



STAFF EDITORIAL

Your digital profile could come back to haunt you

HOW WE SEE IT

People should take better care of what their social media platforms say about them to the rest of the world.

The shares of social media users that consist of 18- to 29-year-olds may surprise you. According to the Pew Research Center, 88 percent of the 18 to 29 age demographic use at least one social media site. The most popular platform is Facebook, followed by Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter.

Our engagement on social media has far-reaching effects on the image we share with the rest of the world. Staying engaged on these websites may lead to a job or internship. And conversely, a simple Google search of your name may produce information that disagrees with the portrait you want to share with future employers.

At Elon University, social media websites are important platforms for clubs and organizations to share information with their members about upcoming meetings and events. They allow students to maintain

relationships with others who study abroad or participate in Study USA programs. But they can also distract members of our community from engaging with significant experiences both on and off campus.

As our community continues to grow in this information age, it's crucial that our online selves complement our real-life aspirations for personal, academic or professional growth. We should be aware of how social media poses a real problem for the spread and misuse of information.

The interface between user and programmer is not always transparent. An overflow of information exists on the Internet, and not all sources offer valid or factual information. Moreover, sensational media online may lead you to make misinformed decisions. With recent headlines about privacy risks on Twitter, Facebook and other social

networking sites, it's important that you understand how to protect your digital self.

There are several measures you can take to protect your online profile. The Elon Technology Blog offers the following tips: only reveal personal information to trusted sources, minimize the personal information you share on social media sites and stay updated on privacy policies. The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission recommends that we modify our privacy settings before posting any information, minimize the amount of biographical information others can view, never give financial information on a social media website, pick a "strong" password and change it frequently, use caution with public computers or wireless connections and make sure our devices are password protected. You should also stay informed on social media privacy laws based on the state or country in which you reside. Certain states have protections that forbid employers to access applicants' social media accounts.

People are taking significant steps to change their online presence. For instance, amid national concerns

over Facebook's involvement with the spread of "fake news," the Pew Research Center confirms that U.S. adults have adjusted how much time they spend on Facebook. A survey conducted from May to June of 2018 revealed that 54 percent of U.S. adults adjusted their privacy settings, 42 percent took a break from checking the site for several weeks and 26 percent deleted the app from their phone.

Whatever you decide on how frequently you wish to engage with the site, we as a student body should collectively strive to be responsible Facebook users because of the major role it plays in how we communicate with each other. For instance, when you scroll down your feed, avoid sensationalist headlines that provide links to information originating from unreliable sources.

No matter your year at Elon, managing your social media activity should be of high priority. It is on us to avoid untrustworthy sources that spread misinformation. Take the precaution of protecting your digital self before your real self suffers unfortunate consequences because of your decision making.

A vacation shouldn't be at the expense of someone else's tragedy



Maggie Brown
Columnist
@maggieabrown_

Like many coastal North Carolina students, I watched the national news coverage of my hometown follow the storm that was Hurricane Florence slowly taking apart pieces of my home from a distance. I watched camera crews from CNN, the Today Show and NBC drive through the most familiar streets I know, showing fresh tragedy and destruction.

It is all surreal —

to watch your home be torn apart by an uncontrollable force on a screen. But it's even worse to watch it become a laughing stock.

Thousands of students left Elon University the weekend of the storm to their homes in the Northeast, to see their family and friends. Posts with captions such as, "Thank you Hurricane Florence!" frequented my social

media feeds after Jon Dooley, vice president for Student Life, suggested students return home. I tried to ignore these comments, knowing that many students were too oblivious to understand the seriousness and closeness of the tragedy.

Elon University is only three hours from the coast. These students treated the beginning of semester break like a vacation, posting polished

photos of how great their six-day trip was. But only a couple hundred miles from their school, communities were losing all they have.

I watched my peers relish in a vacation while my hometown was pulled apart. My neighbors, community and family are now deeply hurting because of this disaster.

It seems trite to remind Elon students that they are a part of the

North Carolina community while they are here. The entire state — their state — is hurting from this disaster. Rather than using this natural disaster as a cute caption on your Instagram post, as an excuse fly to your untouched home, use it as a chance to empathize with those around you. See being a temporary North Carolina resident as a privilege and opportunity to serve the state during its loss.

CAMPUS VOICES

Do not silence sexual assault survivors



Melissa Beck
Columnist
@elonnewsnetwork

I could feel myself audibly exhale as I read the news about the sexual assault allegations against Brett Kavanaugh last week. It seems like the Harvey Weinstein allegations and the President Trump allegations are just a few of hundreds of sexual assault allegations from this year.

There is something disheartening about reading that men with so much wealth and power can stoop so low. The worst part about this story and many others is hearing about the backlash from the public. According to the Skimm, Christine Ford, the woman making these accusations against Kavanaugh, now has to relocate from her home due to death threats.

How can this be? A woman who is coming forward about a damaging part of her life is being threatened by the public. A

woman who is coming forward and standing up for herself is being reprimanded. Shouldn't we be angry at the person who caused her pain? This reaction from citizens perplexes me as it is something I've seen on countless occasions with stories just like this.

In the alcohol and sexual assault education that Elon students are all required to take upon arrival, we are quizzed on what to do if someone you know has been sexually assaulted. I can distinctly remember one question that asked, "What do you not say to someone who has been sexually assaulted?" and the answer was, "Sympathize with the aggressor." I'm sure a lot of us thought, "Duh," but then real-life situations come around, and we see people defending the person at fault. Now, we don't know if these allegations

are true, but what if they are? Ford had to be relocated from her home because she no longer felt safe after speaking out. Ford is the victim, yet she is the one who is fearing for her life.

According to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, one out of every six American women is a victim of either attempted or completed rape. One in six women has been a victim of this assault, and we wonder why more of them don't speak out about it. It is disgusting that there is this type of backlash to someone who just wants justice to be served but instead is punished.

We've seen this on college campuses as well, where schools try to silence women and men who have been assaulted because it's bad publicity. These victims are ridiculed and reprimanded for standing

up for themselves, and I just can't understand why. It might be because I am a woman and would hope that if something like this ever happened to me, my friends, family and strangers would support me in doing what I feel is right. Or it could simply be because I was raised knowing that sexual assault is not something that should be taken lightly.

All I know is that I feel empowered by the women in the President Trump, Harvey Weinstein and now Brett Kavanaugh cases who finally decided to stand up for themselves. Even though they knew the public may not believe them or support them, they couldn't stay in the dark any longer. We, as the community of Elon and of the world, should stand behind these women and men who have the courage to come forward and speak their truth.

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Accepting the rights to one's opinion



Mackenzie Wilkes
Columnist
@elonnewsnetwork

My brother and I are very alike. We watch the same shows, listen to similar music and have a lot of the same mannerisms. Apparently, if I buzzed my hair off, I would look exactly like him. Even though he's eight years older than me, our similar interests have allowed us to have a close relationship.

When I had a political awakening and started forming my own ideology, I was surprised to find out my brother did not agree with me. It was frustrating to think that he did not have the same views as I did. I began to realize that not everyone, even people close to you, are always going to agree with you.

Because of these differences, I had to become comfortable with people disagreeing with me. This new understanding has taught me to be comfortable with the uncomfortable. I am not saying you should be complicit, but people should have more understanding when it comes to those who differ from them. It's okay to be frustrated, but it's what you do with that frustration that counts. Seeing someone else's side and then communicating your own makes for valuable discourse.

While I call the Historic Neighborhood home, I did not see the National Rifle Association flag hanging out the window of Smith Hall. I did, however, hear buzz about it in the dining halls and before classes. The debate about gun control is one that is relevant in American society today. So the controversy surrounding the flag and the organization that it represents is understandable. According to Gallup Inc., 42 percent of Americans have unfavorable opinions towards the NRA. With such a narrowly split view on the organization and what it stands for, disagreement is bound to occur.

If items hanging outside windows wasn't a violation of Residence Life policy, those students would have a right to display the NRA flag. Just as anyone would have the right to display a flag of their own ideology. We have to be respectful of the rights of others, but we do not have to accept the message conveyed by those rights. Even though I do not agree with the NRA, I respect the rights of those students who want to share their opinion because I would want to share my own.

LIFESTYLE



CORY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

At Life@Elon class "The Brand YOU: Principles of Advertising Communications," lecturer Hal Vincent speaks on the importance of advertising and marketing communications on Sept. 25.

lifelong learning

LIFELONG | from cover

ics would interest her at all.

"When I read about the classes offered, the very programs I thought were going to be questionable as far as my own interests were the ones that blew me away," Ward said. "Now, I don't even look anymore. I just come. There will always be something that I have not experienced, that I have not seen, that I have not known."

The constant surprise in the classroom is one of the main reasons why Ward loves the program.

"The way the program is set up makes the classes so inclusive that we just continue to have this innate curiosity about what's next," Ward said. "About how we can expand our horizons and about how we can have a greater world view of things."

Program Coordinator Kathryn Bennett is in charge of running the Life@Elon program and keeping each next class as interesting as the last.

The task hasn't been too difficult for Bennett because of the mentality many of the members bring to class.

"These people just have that desire for lifelong learning," Bennett said. "They want to keep learning, they want to keep finding out what was going on."

This desire is what makes working with the Life@Elon members so enjoyable for Bennett.

"They are so grateful to be here and they really get that what Elon is doing is worthwhile and that Elon students are incredible and the future of the world is in good hands," Bennett said.

LIFE@ELON BY THE NUMBERS

74

years old is the average age of a Life@Elon member.

491

total participants enrolled in the Life@Elon program.

While the future of the world may be in the hands of Elon students, the future of Life@Elon is in Bennett's hands. Currently, the program is in the midst of a strategic planning process, the goal of which is to find new ways to continue enhancing the program.

The team behind the program is discussing the possibility of creating more special interest groups. This semester, Life@Elon is running three special interest groups, the Book Club, the Wine Tasting Club and the No Boat Yacht Club. Bennett would love to increase this number in order to give more Life@Elon members to explore their interests.

All of these improvements to the Life@Elon program come at the request of dozens of community members currently enrolled that want to see the program grow.

But the program isn't the only thing that has been changing.

By working with some of the same community members throughout the last few years, Bennett has seen a change in the way many of the members view life.

"Before this program, I was so



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHRYN BENNETT

Henry Johnson and Susan Doolittle chat at Life@Elon's welcome table before class on June 28, 2017.

“

PEOPLE ALWAYS SAY I SHOULD THINK ABOUT WRITING A BOOK. MY ANSWER TO THAT IS, 'I'M TOO BUSY LIVING, I HAVE CLASS TO GO TO.'

CYNTHIA WARD
LIFE@ELON MEMBER

tired of hearing people use the phrase, 'Kids these days' ... What has been so incredible is seeing the community members meet students and learn that 'kids these days' are incredible," Bennett said. "It is so nice to see the Life@Elon members grow to appreciate the knowledge and the skills Elon students have. I absolutely love bringing the generations together."

One of the Elon students Life@Elon members interact with the most is one of Bennett's student coordinators, senior Nicole Galante.

While she spends most of her time organizing the classes, the interactions Galante has had with these senior citizens have been inspiring.

"They have taught me that the key to staying young is to stay

young in the mind," Galante said. "Aging is so scary for young people, and it has always been one of my fears, but then I see more of these people who are in their 70s and 80s, and they are the most interesting and active people I've ever met."

Ward, who will be celebrating her 87th birthday later this year, practices this active lifestyle every day and is looking forward to attending Life@Elon classes for as long as she can.

As Ward keeps herself busy balancing class, bible-study and Sunday school, a common conversation she has with those she is with, is that she wants her legacy at Elon to be.

"People always say I should think about writing a book," Ward said. "My answer to that is I'm too busy living, I have class to go to."

The newest edition to the Elon Police Department

Spartacus, a K-9 Dutch Shepherd, paws closer to finishing training

Jacob Berman
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

The Elon Police Department has a new officer on the beat, and he has four legs.

Spartacus is a 2-year-old Dutch Shepherd from Mexico City whose strong work ethic and drive made him the perfect addition to the department.

Officer Ditra Graves is Spartacus' handlers, and she has enjoyed working with him because he embodies her same hardworking personality.

"You want a dog that fits your personality," Graves said. "I'm a hard worker, and I have a lot of drive, so I was looking for a dog that wants to work just as much as I do."

Spartacus has already put his best paw forward.

"He had his first vet trip the other day, and he actually got three shots and still worked all day," Graves said.

Spartacus is currently undergoing an intense eight-week training program run by NC K-9 out of Burlington.

"It's a Monday through Friday class, typically runs anywhere from eight to 10 hours per day," Graves said. "It's a combination of things, so we're trained on how to do narcotic detection, tracks for missing persons [and] articles, open area searches, things of that nature."

Once Spartacus finishes his



Officer Ditra Graves hugs Spartacus, a 2-year-old Dutch Shepherd and the Elon Police Department's newest K-9.

JACOB BERMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

training he will become certified in tracking and trailing human scents, narcotic detection and criminal apprehension.

Spartacus was imprinted as a puppy, which means he was introduced to the scent of marijuana, cocaine and heroin at a young age, in order to learn their scents and be raised as a future police dog.

When he graduates K-9 school, Spartacus will spend the majority of his time on patrol with Graves being utilized to alert the scent of narcotics in a vehicle during traffic stops.



I'M A HARD WORKER, AND I HAVE A LOT OF DRIVE, SO I WAS LOOKING A DOG THAT WANTS TO WORK JUST AS MUCH AS I DO.

DITRA GRAVES
ELON POLICE OFFICER

The Elon Police Department is hoping to be able to purchase another K-9 unit in July if the budget allows.

"K-9s have a unique ability to detect a wide range of people and things, so much of the things they can do, humans can't do," said Assistant Chief James Perry, who was the first K-9 handler at the department. "More K-9s will help keep both people and our officers safe."

Buying a K-9 and training it costs around \$15,000, not including other expenses such as veterinarian bills, food and toys. But the expenses

were worth it, according to Perry, who can't wait to see Spartacus on the field.

"We are really excited to have Spartacus come on board," Perry said. "Ditra and Spartacus are going to work well together."

Graves expressed the same excitement about beginning to go on patrol with her new four-legged partner.

"We have a good bond going on, but we're working on making it better. It's a process," Graves said. "We're going to make an awesome team though."

Woofstock Festival embraces downtown Burlington

The Humane Society of Alamance County hosts annual pet adoption festival

Victoria Traxler
Elon News Network | @victoriatrax

Many are familiar with the infamous music festival Woodstock. Not as many know about Woofstock, the spinoff festival with music, food and most notably, dogs.

The Humane Society of Alamance County just completed its annual Woofstock event for its 21st anniversary on Saturday, Sept. 29.

Woofstock is a community-based event with about 40 vendors that include food, crafts, other rescue organizations and local businesses, according to HSAC Community Coordinator Pamela Notchey.

"This is really our big event of the year that we put together by ourselves for ourselves," Notchey said. "It's usually end of September, beginning of October every year."

After having been in City Park for 19 years and Graham last year, Woofstock took place at the Burlington Depot for the first time.

"I feel like we got a little more interest in it being in downtown Burlington, which was nice," Notchey said. "The setup was very



People mill around during the 21st annual Woofstock Festival hosted by the Humane Society of Alamance County on Sept. 29.

VICTORIA TRAXLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

different; we're a little more closely packed together, which gives it a more festival feel."

Susan Townsend, with the Alamance Kennel Club, has been attending Woofstock for the last seven years.

"One of the neat things about it has been the evolution of adding more performances, and having a live band and having the food trucks have been great," Townsend

said. "I really love this location a lot. It feels a little more compact; you have more face time with people."

Townsend appreciates the work of the HSAC, their continued growth and the growth of Woofstock.

"They are doing a great job; they are going to continue adding great opportunities for dog events and new demonstrations and that

sort of thing," Townsend said. "Just getting the word out and letting people know how cool of an event it is and how important it is to support your community."

Notchey also agrees community outreach is important not just for the future of Woofstock, but for the future of HSAC and the Burlington area.

"We really try to spread our presence inside the community to

WOOFSTOCK VENDORS

40

vendors were at the event, including food, crafts, other rescue organizations and local businesses.

inform them of all of those animal welfare laws and resources available," Notchey said.

The HSAC was founded in 1971 as a way to help overpopulation of pets. By volunteers partnering with veterinarians they were able to help pets in the community get fixed.

"We started as a spay and neuter organization where our volunteers would pick up people's pets in the community that maybe couldn't get them to their appointments to get fixed," Notchey said.

Since then, the HSAC has been present in the community for 47 years and has expanded to focusing on five major programs: Low-Cost Spay/Neuter program, Rescue and Foster Program, Pet Pantry, Community Education and Emily's Fund, a medical assist program.

Notchey has embraced the student involvement and volunteers from the Elon community. Many fosters of animals within the HSAC have come from Elon University.

"We really try to support our Elon community," Notchey said, "especially students because they really do so much for us."

Notchey hopes to have continued community involvement in raising awareness and volunteering.



E-MERGE-ING ARTISTS

The Independent Artist Movement hosts its second annual art show in Graham

Anton L. Delgado

Managing Editor | @antonlidelgado

GRAHAM — Kevin Hardin can usually be found in a classroom readjusting a projector or fixing a computer. But he is more than just an IT guy — he's an artist.

Many examples of Hardin's artwork will be featured for the second time at the Independent Artist Movement's (IAM) Merge Pop-up Exhibition on Thursday, Oct. 4.

Hardin's favorite pieces to be featured at the show were inspired by events in his everyday life. He said he is excited to share more of the expressive side of his personality, a side that doesn't come out at work.

"When it comes to fixing technology, there is no real way to express yourself. You fix it or you don't," Hardin said. "Whereas with art, you are able to express yourself and show emotion."

Along with 32 other local artists, Hardin will be sharing his work at the exhibition from 6-10 p.m. at 110 N. Main St.

"Art gives me another avenue in life other than dealing with broken technology," Hardin said. "I'm able to make something beautiful, rather than just make something work."

In addition to his work on display inside, Hardin was asked to paint the storefront in order to catch the eyes of passersby.

"I was given a blank window, and I was able to create an entire piece of art," Hardin said. "That's why art is one of things I love because you are able to create something out of nothing."

Elon University senior Alexis Vondran's art will be on display as well. Like Hardin, Vondran said art gives her the opportunity to show the world a different side of her personality.

"I take risks in my art that you might not really see if you met me in person because I am a little more shy," Vondran said. "My art is where more of my extrovert personality comes out."

At Elon, Vondran can usually be found in her room with a paintbrush in hand, working on commissioned pieces

IF YOU GO...

What: Merge Pop-up Exhibition
Where: 110 N. Main St., Graham, N.C.
Who: Independent Artist Movement
When: Thursday, Oct. 4, 6-10 p.m.

for friends. In the week leading up to the exhibition, she said she is working on a piece featuring an outdoor social gathering.

"I love working on commissioned pieces because they make me try new things, like for this piece: I love the colors and the people and the moment," Vondran said.

This will be the first time Vondran will have her art on display for the community outside of Elon, and she said it's a step outside of her comfort zone.

Two of her favorite pieces will be included in the exhibition: one of an ocean and the other of a bowl of tangerines.

"I love the process of making art that makes people feel a sense of comfort," Vondran said. "But getting my art shown makes me a little nervous, but when I dropped off my work at Merge, I saw a lot of similar work on display and felt so welcome."

The person in charge of curating all of the art for the show is Audrey Garton, the founder and president of IAM.

Garton's dream of organizing an art show came true last year.

More than 400 people came to see the work of more than 50 artists at last year's

Merge Exhibition.

"I wanted to have an art show with just a few artists, and it ended up snowballing into this huge event," Garton said. "I had never thrown an art show like that before, and I was unsure if people would come, but people did and in the hundreds. It was such a fun night."

The success of her first show is what inspired Garton to continue hosting the Merge show — something she hopes will become an annual event.

"In the art show last year, it felt like you were just transported into a different place," Garton said. "And that's especially important in Graham, a small city

FEATURED ARTISTS

33

local artists will be featured at this year's Merge Pop-up Exhibition.

where there isn't a whole lot of nightlife."

In anticipation of a similarly sized crowd this year, Garton moved the location of the exhibition to a space almost twice the size so artists could share more of their work.

"I just want the people who come to Merge to see what the art does for other people," Garton said. "People may not realize how big of a deal it is for artists to show their work and how good it feels."

Hardin said he is excited, too.

"I can't wait to see all of the local artists getting exposure," Hardin said. "A lot of artists work full-time jobs, and while art is a passion, it's not their jobs."

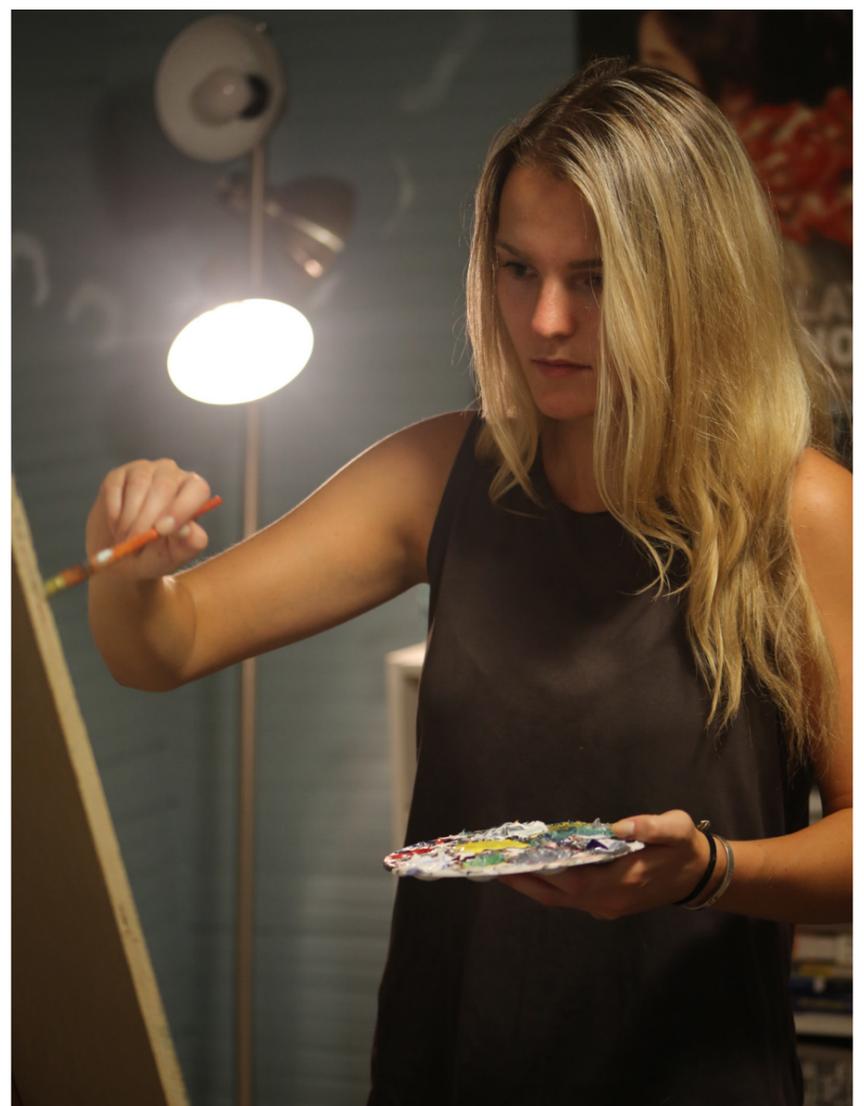
Even though Hardin knows he'll soon be back to fixing classroom technology, he can't wait to feel that sense of pride Thursday night.

"Getting your art out there and seeing your art on the wall is something else," Hardin said. "It is so satisfying because of all the work you put into it."

PHOTOS BY ANTON L. DELGADO | MANAGING EDITOR

Above: Kevin Hardin, a local artist, paints the front window of the Merge Pop-up Exhibition space on Sept. 29.

Below: Senior Alexis Vondran works on a commission painting in her room on Sept. 20.



“

ART IS ONE OF THINGS I LOVE BECAUSE YOU ARE ABLE TO CREATE SOMETHING OUT OF NOTHING.

KEVIN HARDIN
LOCAL ARTIST



PHOENIX OVERPOWER WILDCATS

ZACHARY OHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sophomore quarterback Davis Cheek (No. 17) and junior defensive back Greg Liggs Jr. (No. 21) lead the Elon football team on to the field for their game against the University of New Hampshire on Sept. 29.

Kortez Weeks hauls in a career-high 14 catches in win against UNH

Jack Haley
Sports Director | @jackhaley17

ELON UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL (3-1) got its third win in a row, outscoring the winless University of New Hampshire (0-4) team 30-9 on Saturday, Sept. 29, in front of the home fans and their parents.

Elon wasted no time getting on the board early in front of the families in the stands. After receiving the opening kickoff, Elon marched down and capped off the 75-yard drive with a play action fake to junior running back De'Sean McNair, allowing sophomore quarterback Davis Cheek to score the touchdown.

"We went down the field, and we were able to execute some throws. Cheek and Kortez kind of got it going; we kept our tempo up," said head coach Curt Cignetti.

Sophomore wide receiver Kortez Weeks was one of the key players in the win, hauling in a career-high 14 pass completions for a total of 165 yards. With very little pressure being put on Cheek, the two were able to connect just like in practice.

"He scrambled out of the pocket a lot; we worked on that in practice. He executed on those plays, which made the game the way it was," Weeks said.

Cheek called Weeks "a great player" and said, "He really opens things up for us. When you get him going, it gets a lot of other things

going. You want it to be everyone, but this week, it was Kortez."

After Jason Hughes of the Wildcats brought the score to 7-3 with a field goal, the two teams struggled to move the ball for the rest of the first quarter. Two punts a piece was how the quarter ended.

The Phoenix opened up the second quarter by marching 70 yards in six plays on the back of several big throws by Cheek. A 21-yard touchdown run by senior running back Malcolm Summers completed the drive.

The Wildcats answered right back with a solid drive of their own. The Wildcats used three plays of more than 15 yards on the drive to make their way into the end zone. The march was punctuated by a jet-sweep by red-shirt-freshman Sean Coyne scampering across the goal line to make it 14-9. UNH missed on a two-point conversion attempt and left the deficit still at five.

New Hampshire tried to mount a scoring drive to bring the game within one score at the end of the first half. Instead of going for the field goal at the Elon 25, the Wildcats opted to go for it on fourth and four. But junior defensive lineman Kadrien Darity made a great defensive play, batting down the pass and forcing a turnover on downs.

Elon made use of the turnover by taking just five plays to go 75 yards in 38 seconds. The New Hampshire defense struggled, giving up 30 yards to face mask and pass interference penalties. This gave Elon great field position, and they were able to end the drive with a 7-yard touchdown run by sophomore Jalen Greene. This put Elon up 24-9 at the half.

New Hampshire took the opening kickoff of the second half.



ZACHARY OHMANN | ELON NEWS NETWORK

Sophomore quarterback Jalen Greene stares down junior corner back Prince Smith Jr. attempting to make a move on Sept. 29.

With some big plays moving the ball downfield for the Wildcats, Elon used two sacks in a row to move New Hampshire out of field goal range. The Phoenix fielded a punt inside their own five-yard line to start their first drive of the second half.

Summers, who had been quiet in the first half, broke off a career-tying 54-yard run to move the Phoenix down into the red zone. This rush helped Summers eclipse the century mark for the game. Elon went 95 yards on their opening drive of the second half, but they were unable to get into the end zone. Elon had to settle for an 18-yard chip shot and an 18-point lead.

The teams traded turnovers at the end of the third quarter. Elon first got an interception from junior Greg Liggs Jr. off a trick play from the Wildcats. The initial handoff turned into a pass from New Hampshire wide receiver Neil O'Connor that was pulled down by the Elon cornerback.

On the ensuing Elon possession, Wildcats senior linebacker Jared Kuehl forced and recov-

ered a fumble. However, the stout Elon defense held the Wildcats in check, forcing a punt.

Liggs Jr. wasn't done yet, he got his second interception of the game, picking off UNH quarterback Christian Lupoli at the Elon 39. But try as they might, Elon couldn't get the ball in the end zone, which forced them to settle for another field goal. This put the Phoenix up 30-9 with 7:02 left in the fourth quarter.

Elon compiled 451 yards of total offense on the day. The disciplined squad showed very few signs of breaking, committing just two penalties in the game. Elon was able to keep its defense well-rested, and the defense saw the field for less than 24 minutes.

"I don't think we did anything special. We just lined up, and we played the best football we can," Cheek said. Junior defensive end Marcus Willoughby was a terror on defense. He had eight total tackles, including 4.5 tackles for loss.

"Last year they [were more physical than] us, and it showed

on the scoreboard. So this year, this week in practice, we had the mindset to make sure we come out to play every down, every play," Willoughby said.

Cheek echoed just how vital a guy like him is to the team. "Glad to have him on this team, that's for sure," Cheek said.

Elon now faces the Goliath of the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA), the James Madison University Dukes in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Elon has never beaten the Dukes in the team's five chances. The 1:30 p.m. kickoff will come as one of the biggest tests of the season. The game may very well decide the fate of who comes out on top of the CAA.

"It's not about who we play; it's about how we play. So that's the mentality going into it," Cheek said.

The Phoenix will play their next two games on the road, visiting the University of Delaware Blue Hens the weekend after their matchup with JMU, before welcoming the University of Richmond Spiders to Rhodes Stadium on Inauguration Weekend.

FOOD, FAMILY AND FOOTBALL: THE 7 A.M. TAILGATE

SPORTS BRIEFS

Men's soccer goes winless for two games

The Elon men's soccer team was unable to secure a win this week. The team tied 1-1 in double overtime against the College of William & Mary on Wednesday, Sept. 26. The game started far behind schedule due to a lightning delay. Elon gave up a crushing goal with just nine seconds left in the first half to enter the break down a goal. Junior forward Iñigo Bronte netted his team-leading fourth goal of the year to draw the match level in the 61'. Two overtimes couldn't separate the two sides and Elon settled for a draw.

Elon fell to Northeastern University on Saturday, Sept. 29, in Boston, Massachusetts. Senior goalkeeper Matthew Jegier turned aside all six shots he saw in regulation. His only misstep came in overtime as the Huskies' Alec Supinski scored in the 93' to give Northeastern the win. Elon (3-5-1 overall; 0-2-1 CAA) is winless in Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) play and has not come out on top of a match since its 2-1 victory over High Point University on Sept. 8.

Women's soccer splits at home this weekend

Elon women's soccer dropped its Thursday match against the College of Charleston at home 1-0. The only goal of the game came in the 17' from the foot of Laura Ortega. From there on out, the Cougars dominated play, putting more than twice as many shots on goal as Elon did in the match. The match was also a physical one, which Elon has struggled with in the past. The Cougars had 16 fouls in the game and three yellow cards, compared to nine fouls and just one yellow card for the Phoenix. Elon got back in the win column for the first time since Sept. 2 on Senior Day, Sept. 30, against Towson. The matchup featured a shut-out from sophomore keeper Valentina Estrada, recording even saves along the way. Taylor Paradoski notched her fourth goal of the season in the 60', and Kate McKay pitched in her first goal of her career to give Elon a much-needed insurance marker. Though Elon came out victorious, they were still outplayed by the Tigers. Towson outshot Elon by 10 and had more corner kicks than the Phoenix.

Volleyball's slide continues

Elon volleyball has had a less-than-ideal start to its Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) portion of the schedule. Elon is 0-3 since hitting the road to visit the College of Charleston Cougars on Sept. 21. The team was swept by the Cougars as well as the Hofstra University Pride. The team was given some extra days off when its trip to the University of North Carolina Wilmington was postponed as the Seahawks continue to deal with the aftermath of Hurricane Florence. Elon played Northeastern University tight, forcing a fifth set on the road, but again, Elon fell for the third straight time in conference play. This continues Elon's trend of struggling as the away team in CAA matches. Elon has won only five road matches in-conference since joining the CAA in 2014. Elon will have a chance to get back to the winning ways they were accustomed to in the beginning of the year when they get their first home conference test against Towson on Thursday, Oct. 4.

2017 David Glenn tailgate of the year shows the game before the game

Jack Haley
Sports Director | @jackhaley17

On the day of an Elon University football game at home, there are a few constants: The sun will rise, the stands will be filled with fans and the Elon 7 a.m. Tailgate group will have the grills going as they cook up some mighty fine food.

Since its creation in 2011, the Elon 7 a.m. Tailgate group has yet to miss a home game. Attracting family, friends and alumni, the group gathers in the Ingold Parking Lot in the early hours of the morning.

The tailgate is dotted with televisions, speakers, smokers, side grills, preparation stations, tents, sides and a lot of fun. The welcoming and inclusive atmosphere makes people feel as if they are a part of something bigger. It's about more than just food or football – it's about family.

Nothing embodies this feeling more than the Oakley family. While dad Dave Oakley is on the grill, his children, wife and parents are at home in the atmosphere that they have become used to over the better part of the last decade.

"He doesn't cook at home," said Sarah Oakley, Dave's daughter. "It's either Mom cooks or we eat out; this is saved for Saturdays."

When they were asked what the best food served at the tailgate is, a near fight broke out. Boston Butt, ribs, beef tenderloin — it was hard to choose from. But Dave's mom, Carol Oakley, summed up the general consensus from the crowd: "We like anything."

This entire effort was started by a group of men united by their love for the university.

The tailgating group went to many games before they officially became a group. They all worked in the area and they loved Elon. Brian Martindale, the group's social media coordinator, said, "We said 'Ah, let's just tailgate.' And so we tailgated,



Fans enjoy food and entertainment before entering Rhodes Stadium to watch Elon beat the University of New Hampshire 30-9 on Saturday, Sept. 29.

ed, and a few years later, we got introduced to David Oakley, and we joined together, and we been doing this since seven years ago."

They started across the street in the Hunt Softball parking lot, but when Elon saw the group was drawing a crowd, they were invited closer to the action. With the crew now even more visible, located right next to the stadium, the group rarely goes unseen on game day.

Martindale has only missed two games. One was the day after he had surgery, but he will contest to fellow pre-game revelers that he was still there, though heavily medicated.

"It was elective surgery, and I was heavily medicated, but I did drive by, so I officially showed up," Martindale said.

Other individuals' excuses for missing tailgates include events such as a daughter's wedding and a once-in-a-lifetime golfing trip to California. But the

group has never missed a home kickoff.

The groups hard work and commitment has paid off (though they said they aren't doing this for the accolades or the recognition). In 2017, the David Glenn Show's "Big Tailgate Tour" named the morning crew the best tailgate of the year in the state. Though that disqualified them from ever winning the title again, it is something that the group holds near and dear to their hearts.

"That was a big deal last year when we won," said Mike Cross, chair of the Phoenix Advisory Board and a member of the tailgate. "We finished second the year before [to N.C. Central]."

With close to 50 games now under their belt, the tailgates have come with their share of surprises.

When Hurricane Matthew bared down on the east coast Oct. 7, 2017, Elon's contest against the University of New Hampshire was moved up 24 hours earlier to a Fri-

day kickoff. Without fail, the 7 a.m. crew was still out on the pavement grilling up some food and listening to music. A class day for most students, marked the beginning of a three-day weekend for the tailgate crew.

Elon's 2013 game against Appalachian State also stood out to the group. That Sept. 21 meeting still holds the record for the largest crowd at Rhodes Stadium when more than 14,000 people squeezed onto the bleachers. The group estimates that they fed close to 100 fans during the tailgate.

Though the team regularly feeds between 110 and 130 people during home games now, five years ago, it was a big deal to break triple digits.

Though debates will rage on about the music selection, the best food or football across the country, the debate over who is having the most fun on game day starts and ends with one answer: the 7 a.m. Tailgate crew.

KORTEZ WEEKS

Kortez Weeks had a career day against the University of New Hampshire Wildcats on Saturday, Sept. 29. Weeks reeled in a career-high 14 catches for 165 yards for the Phoenix. His longest reception came on a catch along the sidelines as sophomore quarterback Davis Cheek rolled out of the pocket. Weeks was also instrumental on the final drive of the first half. With 1:09 left in the half, Elon University got the ball on its own 25-yard line. Cheek and Weeks connected three times on the drive for a total of 32 yards as Elon was able to fully swing momentum to its favor, giving the team a 24-9 lead going into halftime. Weeks has been a crucial part of a balanced Elon offense that has had a strong start to the year. Weeks has had 28 catches for 371 yards in four games this season. The only thing missing from Weeks' statistics sheet this year is a touchdown. Weeks has proven to be much more of a set-up man than a finisher so far in his career as a Phoenix as he only has two touchdowns in his career despite starting 16 games.



Sophomore wide receiver Kortez Weeks gets back to the line of scrimmage after making a catch against the University of New Hampshire on Sept. 29.

STATS VS. UNH

RECEPTIONS: 14
YARDS PASSING: 165
LONGEST PLAY: 28 YARDS
TARGETS: 15

**RIISING
PHOENIX
OF THE WEEK**

Jack Haley
Sports Director | @jackhaley17

ABOUT

SPORT: FOOTBALL

POSITION: WIDE RECEIVER

HOMETOWN: MT. ULLA, N.C.

HIGH SCHOOL: WEST ROWAN HIGH

CLASS: SOPHOMORE

WEIGHT: 173 LBS

HEIGHT: 6'0"



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