

# THE PENDULUM

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## Would you like a hashtag with that?

*#ElonDay uses social media to connect Phoenix from around the globe*



Clockwise from top: Elon University students said hello to people who tuned in to Global College Coffee. Cake was provided in celebration of Elon Day. Many students showed their school pride by wearing maroon and gold. President Leo Lambert and his wife Laurie participate in Global College Coffee.

JANE SEIDEL AND HALI TAUXE-STEWART | Photo Editor and Staff Photographer

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Caroline Fernandez  
News Editor

The hashtag #ElonDay connected thousands of Elon University students, faculty and alumni from around the world Tuesday in celebration of the school's founding and in hopes to surpass last year's total of more than \$100,000. "Last year it was a big change for us because we used to cele-

brate Founder's Day," said President Leo Lambert. "Elon Day is a new generation of Founder's Day. It tries to bring in everyone from around the world. It's a day to remember why we love Elon."

Donors presented challenges to other givers with the promise of matching gifts.

Chris Martin '76 and his son Nick '13 gave \$25,000 to Elon because more than 500 new alumni

contributed a gift before the start of College Coffee.

Kerri Anderson '79 doubled all gifts up to \$100,000 between College Coffee and midnight Tuesday.

Cindy and Rob Citrone P'17 challenged that if 2,500 people made a gift by midnight, all gifts would be matched one to one. As of print deadline at 8 p.m. Tuesday, 1,814 people gave to Elon.

The second annual Elon Day, formerly celebrated as Founder's Day, centered around current students, alumni and friends of Elon. Members of the Elon community took to social media with the hashtag #ElonDay to share Elon-related anecdotes and photos in celebration of the universi

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## History comes to life in Alabama

*Elon students march alongside thousands in Selma 50th anniversary*



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSEPHINE GARDNER  
Josephine Gardner was among the five students at the 50th commemoration of Bloody Sunday.

Leena Dahal  
Assistant News Editor

Five Elon students wedged themselves between thousands of people packed onto Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Bloody Sunday, the attack on voting rights marchers.

Among the students retracing the historic steps of Selma to Montgomery protesters was

sophomore Josephine Gardner, who was one of more than 20,000 people marching for further social progress. From signs advocating for Asian-American rights to women standing for equality, Gardner said the 50th anniversary created a platform for several minority communities and social classes to stand against oppression.

"The 50 anniversary wasn't just a black movement anymore,"

Gardner said. "It encompassed so many social groups—it was a march for civil and citizen rights for all."

The experience was made possible by GST 224 Nonviolence and Civil Rights course, a spring semester offering that explores how civil rights leaders and activists employed theories and tactics of nonviolence to chal

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## Kappa Sigma new member activities suspended

Caroline Fernandez  
News Editor

All new member activities in the Lambda-Lambda chapter of Elon University's Kappa Sigma have been suspended, according to an email from Smith Jackson, vice president for student life.

Jackson said the suspension was a response to an investigation involving new members in the

fraternity who were found by police in a Virginia cemetery early in the morning March 4.

When the students were approached, they told police they were there to pay their respects.

The cemetery in Abingdon, Virginia — a town of around 8,000 people located approximately three hours northwest of Elon — is home to one of Kappa Sigma's founders.

Jackson said the group did not damage property but was cited for trespassing in the cemetery.

This marks the third Elon fraternity-related incident in four months.

In November, Sigma Pi was issued a three-year suspension for hazing, and Pi Kappa Phi is currently under investigation for alleged hazing.



LANE DEACON | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
New member activities for Kappa Sigma were recently suspended.

# Fellows Weekend interrupted by storm



Rachel Zain and Graham Goslin talk to prospective students during Fellows Weekend about summer programs offered for new students.

Leena Dahal  
Assistant News Editor

With pristine, clear blue skies and radiating sunlight, Elon University successfully avoided the comeback of last year's ice storm this Fellows Weekend. But Mother Nature still had a few tricks up her sleeve: a winter storm overwhelmed much of Eastern United States, affecting many of the 600 visiting families.

Nationwide, 4,892 flights were canceled and another 4,000 were delayed Thursday — a whopping delay of 20 percent of all flights in the U.S. While some visiting families escaped Thursday's horrendous weather, others were caught in the middle.

Some prospective fellows turned to the Class of 2019 Facebook page to arrange dinner plans with their peers, while others united in their shared concerns of how the inclement weather conditions have thwarted their travel plans.

J.T. Carroll, a prospective Honors or College Fellow, was one of those students. After returning home from school Thursday, he was informed his flight to Greensboro was canceled.

"I left school early in anticipation," he said. "My parents spent hours on

hold looking to reschedule the flights, but nothing was available until Friday."

The next day, his family tried again. After arriving at the airport at 5 a.m., they were informed of another cancellation. Following a series of more delays and cancellations, his family finally caught a 7:30 a.m. flight from Boston to New York and arrived in Greensboro nine hours later. Despite his travel blunders, Carroll said the ordeal was definitely worth it.

"The opportunity to compete with hundreds of similar students, especially out of the multiple hundreds of applications, in itself made the trip worth it," he said.

Other students caught in the storm had to seek alternative means of travel. Many students were forced to abandon their flight plans and drive through 8 to 10 inches of snow to reach North Carolina. Tess Harkin, a prospective Communications Fellow, was originally scheduled to fly out of New York Friday at 6:30 a.m. but decided to make the 10-hour drive from Connecticut because of the endless cancellations.

Other students bore greater distances. The winter storm gave an especially hard-hitting homecoming to Hannah Schmidt, a prospective Leadership Fellow traveling from her home in Frank-

furt, Germany, where she currently lives. Landing in John F. Kennedy Airport at 11:30 a.m. after her ten-hour flight, Schmidt and her father had no choice but to drive all the way down to Greensboro, with only one stop in Washington D.C.

"She was jet-lagged as well but wasn't complaining," her father, Tim Schmidt said. "She was just excited to be able to make it to campus and get a feel for what Elon is all about."

Aside from some travel delays, the Fellows Weekend went smoothly for many families. The event welcomes hundreds of families every year to compete in a selective process for seats into one of Elon's six fellows programs: honors, college, business, leadership, teaching and communications. The weekend's activities included interviews, group meetings, information sessions and written exams.

Kevin and Marilyn James, the parents of prospective Leadership Fellow Faith James, said they were especially impressed by the warm environment created by faculty, staff and students, as well as President Lambert's charisma.

"Elon was already a high possibility, but coming here has just made us so much more confident," Kevin James said. "I'm ready to go to Elon myself."



# FELLOWS WEEKEND EXPERIENCES

## Claire Gaskill Business and Leadership

*"I was accepted to Elon early decision, so I already love the school, but the weekend as a whole made me love Elon so much more. I had the opportunity to meet and learn from students, alumni and faculty as well as meet some of my potential fellow classmates."*

## Colton Cadarette Communications

*"When I visited this summer, I knew from the moment I came to campus that Elon was a special place. Meeting so many talented and like minded people helped me to understand that I'm not alone, that I'm in good company and has only intensified the passion and excitement I have for the next four years."*

## Megan Jurnak Honors and Communications

*"As for highlights, the faculty in general were amazing. Dr. Adamson and I, in particular, really hit it off and that was so exciting. Dr. Copeland, who interviewed me, is probably the most relaxed and down to earth person that I've ever met. I went in ED, came out ED and proud!"*

## Alex Mahsigian Communications and Leadership

*"I had such an amazing time! I really loved the receptions on Friday night, and the class seminar was really interesting — mine was about the American Revolution and whether or not it was justified. The people were my favorite part — everyone was so sweet and welcoming. I applied ED, and I just fell in love more."*

## Kiley Rush Honors and Communications

*"Just listening to [Communications Fellows] talk about everything they had the opportunity to do made me fall in love with the school more. I actually had already decided to go to Elon before coming down this weekend, despite my dad's wants for me to wait to hear from the other schools I applied to, but this weekend made me and my parents 110 percent confident that I made the right choice in schools."*

## Tres McMichael Leadership

*"Prior to coming to campus I was 95 percent sure that I was coming to Elon. After all of the fun I had this weekend and being accepted into the amazing music theater major, now I am 99.9 percent sure I am coming to Elon. Even though I applied to nine other schools, Elon has been my top choice from the beginning."*

## Tess Harkin Communications

*"I'll admit to being worried about the type of student who attends Elon, or at least the impression I get in that particular area. However, being able to talk to current students and prospective students helped to alleviate some of those reservations. I'd say my favorite part was probably that — just getting to meet other students. I wish more time had been built into the schedule for that specifically."*

# ELON DAY from cover

ty's 126th birthday. "Social media has made it so people can give while they are telling their story," said recently hired social media manager Adam Constantine. "People can share why they are giving."

Constantine said the strategy behind Elon Day's social media campaign was to send out all the information regarding Elon Day and let responses roll in organically.

But there was concern about whether people would engage with the hashtag and join the conversation. According to Constantine, a danger with social media is apathy. But this year that was not an issue.

"It shows how rich Elon's history and culture is," he said. "It shows the different ways that Elon has impacted people."

The use of the hashtag spiked during Global College Coffee, which was a spin on the traditional College Coffees usually hosted every Tuesday morning.

Global College Coffee was live-streamed to make it available for people around the world to tune in and take part.

"We decided since College Coffee is such a great tradition at the university and so many alumni relate to it that it'd be a good way to bring everyone together around that tradition," said Dan Anderson, vice president of communications.

Decked out in maroon and gold, students, faculty and staff enjoyed birthday cake — along with the traditional coffee and orange juice — to celebrate Elon.

"It's a good reason for Elon students who don't usually go to College Coffee to gather as a community," said senior Alex Goeldner.

Elon pride was felt far outside of the walls of Alumni Gym.

Students studying abroad were able to take part in Elon Day through social media and the Global College Coffee livestream.

"It's really cool to join in from abroad and watch the livestream," wrote sophomore Christina Casillo. "I felt connected to everyone back at campus all the way from Morocco."

Junior Margaret Holland celebrated Elon Day by appreciating the opportunities the university has provided her.

"Experiencing #Elonday while I'm in London was bittersweet because although I'm away from my second home, Elon has given me this incredible opportunity to experience the world," Holland said.

While many students showed their school spirit by tweeting and wearing Elon apparel, not all Elon Day participants bled maroon and gold.

"Definitely the cake made me want to come out," said freshman Kaz Colquitt. "This day didn't make me feel any more Elon pride."

The day did not just celebrate Elon's roots — the university celebrated its 126th year as a college in 2015 — but it also pushed for all students, alumni and friends of the university to make a gift to Elon.

Global College Coffee was highlighted by the announcement that Kerri Anderson '79, former president and CEO of Wendy's, would double all gifts up to \$100,000 made to the university between College Coffee and mid-

night. Kerri Anderson, who grew up in Elon and went on to attend Elon College, remained connected to the university long after she graduated.

In 2008, she served as the commencement speaker, and in 2010, challenged donors, especially young alumni, to give back to Elon with the IGNITE Challenge.

"The IGNITE Challenge was about increasing alumni participation and allowing people to understand the impact they can make," Kerri Anderson said. "This time, I was excited about this new opportunity because this is a special day for Elon, and for me, an opportunity to be a part of something so impactful to the university."

During March 2012, young alumni gifts plus Kerri Anderson's matches brought more than \$490,000 to Elon.

Kerri Anderson said she feels that she has gotten a lot back from what she has given to Elon and wants to continue investing in the institution.

"I know you have to reinvest in things to make them continue to succeed," she said. "I feel like I am getting a great return on my investment in Elon."

Leading up to Elon Day, campaigns and challenges were held to encourage people to give to Elon.

It was announced Sunday that Board of Trustees member Chris Martin '76 and his son, Nick Martin '13, would give \$25,000 to Elon if 500 or more new alumni donors contributed a gift to the university before College Coffee on March 10.

The donation — met and surpassed before the start of College Coffee — was made out of a desire to inspire people to give back to Elon, according to Nick Martin.

"We hope our gift inspires people, especially young alumni, to give not only money but also their time back to the university," Nick Martin said. "In the end, it's not just about money raised but also participation."

Chris and Nick Martin, both bankers in New Jersey, have long been tied to and supported Elon, most recently funding the renovation of the Martin Alumni Center.

Nick Martin said he enjoyed seeing Elon Day tweets and posts from around the world.

"I'm all over social media today," he said. "It's great to see everyone re-engage and reconnect with each other over social media."

## Raising the bar

About 60 Elon students, faculty and staff and more than 700 alumni volunteers worldwide worked to orchestrate Elon Day.

"President Lambert wants this to be the single largest day of giving in our history," said John Barnhill, assistant vice president for university advancement.

A total of 1,013 donors gifted a total of \$116,867 to Elon last year. Barnhill said Elon hoped to double, if not exceed, the amount of donors this year.

Students saw Elon Day as an opportunity to come together as a community and celebrate their school.

"It's a good time to make sure we are sharing what we have in this community," said senior Junji Tsunomura.

*Additional reporting by Leena Dabal, Assistant News Editor; Brett Gubitosi and Tanza Loudonback, Senior Reporters*

# Students speak out about Elon Day



**Doug DelPizzo '17**  
"I love it. I am the second person to go to Elon and as a family, we just felt connected to the day. My mom texted me this morning telling me she's looking for me in the crowd."



**Hunter Purvis '16**  
"It's kind of like how my actual birthday is. I just ate cake and asked for a bunch of money."

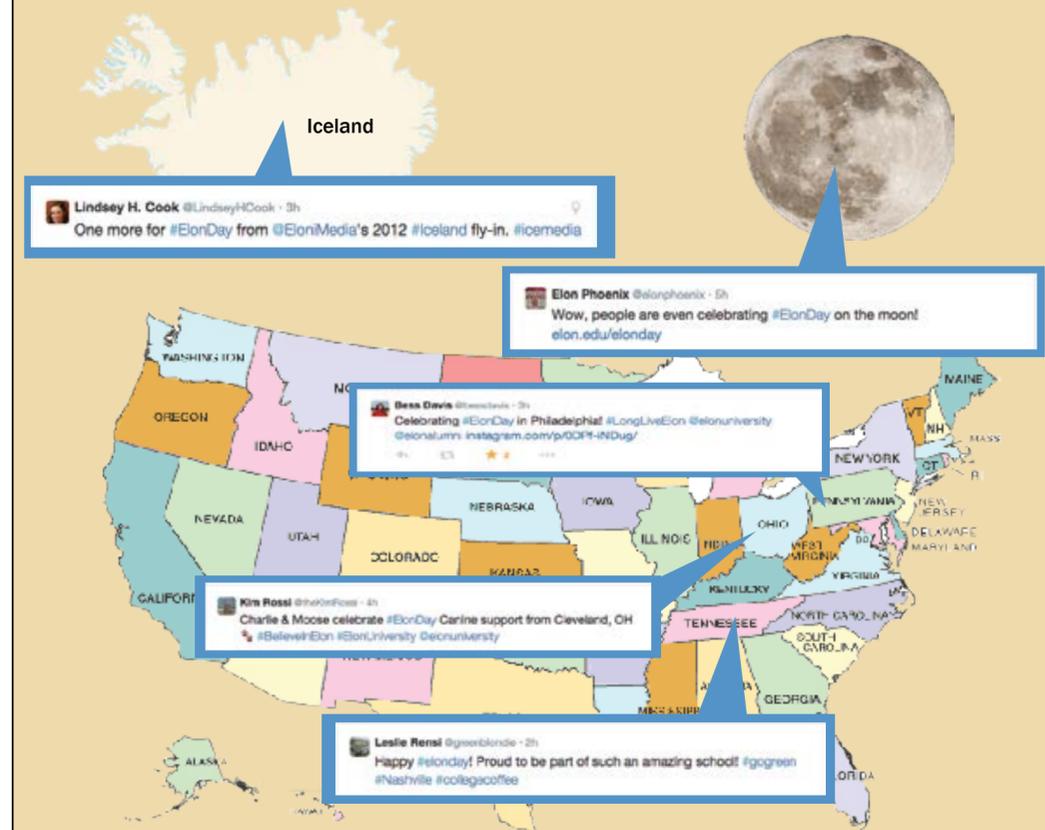


**Natalie Betts '17**  
"I love Elon Day because I like the fact that everyone comes together and I love being around people who love Elon."



**Kaz Colquitt '18**  
"Definitely the cake made me want to come out. This day didn't really make me feel any more Elon pride."

# #ELONDAY AROUND THE WORLD



# Identities collide: LGBTQIA Christians speak

Diana Stancy  
Senior Reporter

In order to increase discussion about LGBTQIA Christians, the Truitt Center brought two religious leaders that identify as gay and lesbian to Elon University to lead an conversation, "Intersecting Identities: Faith, Gender and Sexuality."

Timothy Kane, associate director of inclusive initiatives and coordinator of the LGBTQIA Resource Center at George Washington University, and Rev. Jocelyn Cadwallader, interim associate minister at Western Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C. visited Elon to highlight various journeys of LGBTQIA Christians and facilitate a dialogue so students of various beliefs feel more comfortable about entering these discussions.

**"THE BIBLE, DEPENDING ON TRADITIONS, CAN BE WIELDED AS A WEAPON OR A SACRED TEXT."**

**TIMOTHY KANE**  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF  
INCLUSIVE INITIATIVES AT GEORGE  
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

"No matter our group or no matter our theology, we all have students who are struggling with their sexuality," said Joel Harter, associate chaplain for Protestant life at Elon. "I just want to provide our community with an opportunity to interact with people who

are gay and Christian."

Jan Fuller, university chaplain, said it's important to realize there are many facets of Christianity. Each person's faith may manifest itself in different ways.

"One thing that I like to keep saying... is there's no right way to do this. There's no one right way to be a Christian," Fuller said. "You can be a Christian and be a gay or lesbian person."

The planning of the event began in November 2014, shortly after some of Elon's religious leaders attended an interfaith and community service conference in October.

At the conference, Kane and Cadwallader were panelists for a workshop focusing on LGBTQIA topics and multifaith work.

Harter decided after the workshop that he wanted to bring Kane and Cadwallader to Elon.

"They did a good presentation on what it's like to have these intersecting identities," Harter said. "I think that's something we're still learning how to talk about at Elon."

March 5, Kane and Cadwallader engaged in an open discussion about their personal experiences with their intersecting identities and how Elon's core values can promote inclusivity of LGBTQIA Christians.

Kane used the analogy of a rubber band ball to describe individuals' identities. Some of the rubber bands are present on the exterior and are visible to others, but then other rubber bands are hidden on the interior.

"There are all these identities that make me who I am on the inside that are not visible," Kane said. "I think of my spiritual and religious identities on the inside of the ball."

Kane said the same was true for his sexual orientation.

"It's very interesting to think about the identities we bring, the minority and majority ones," Kane said.

Cadwallader thinks about identity by accepting a progressive approach to the Bible. To her, the Bible should be read by looking at the big picture, rather than in individual



Timothy Kane discusses with sophomore Emily Collins how the Honor Code can be applied to LGBTQIA and religion, not just books or what most associate its regulations with.

segments.

"The Bible, depending on traditions, can be wielded as a weapon or a sacred text," Cadwallader said.

To illustrate her point, Cadwallader referenced the book "To Kill a Mockingbird." Now, if she had just read the two sentences out of the book describing the mob that attempts to kill Tom Robinson, she would have thought the purpose of the book was different from actuality.

"I would think that the book has an entirely different meaning because then I would think that the book was holding up white supremacy," Cadwallader said.

This is her approach to looking at Scripture, too. She noted that verses from Leviticus should be put into context in relation to the rest of the Bible.

"That, for me, is how I need to go back and realize that I'm reading this particular piece of Scripture as a part of a whole," she said.

Different views about accepting LGBTQIA Christians were also addressed.

Cadwallader shared how her partner comes from a traditional background. Her partner's family strives to be accepting and to not discriminate while also holding onto some "level of theology."

According to Cadwallader, it is not possible for the two to coexist.

"It's difficult to hang on to a theology that upholds exclusion of some of God's children and say that you love all of God's children," Cadwallader said.

Toward the end of the event, Fuller said Christians have many sexual orientations and there is support in the Truitt Center for those who identify as LGBTQIA.

"We aim to help all of us understand our spiritual commitments, and as they relate to other commitments and identities," Fuller said. "Can Christians also be gay, lesbian, bi, or queer? Yes."

# Global neighborhood raises money for computer for refugee family

Leena Dahal  
Assistant News Editor

After various fundraising events led by Global Neighborhood residents, the Kwitonda Family, a refugee family originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo, left Lakeside conference room with a life-long change: a desktop computer.

Their gift represents seven months of community fundraising by Global Neighborhood residents who have been visiting the Kwitonda home to help their family acclimate to the U.S. through English and basic computer skills lessons. It was during one visit when Emmanuel Kiwtonda asked Global Neighborhood Service Initiative leaders Omolayo Ojo and Alexander Ball for a computer of their own.

Little did they know, their simple request would galvanize the community to unite in raising funds, awareness and support for the gift throughout the year.

The Kwitonda family spent the past 17 years living in a Rwandan refugee camp prior to their arrival to Greensboro on Aug. 28, 2014. The family was "adopted" by the Global Neighborhood as part of their "First-Friends" service partnership with North Carolina African Services Coalition. The initiative seeks to help the immigrant family adjust to their environment in North Carolina by providing them with support in their settlement process. Every other Saturday, residents have been visiting the family and helping them acclimate to their surroundings by teaching English and basic computer skills through activities and games.



The Kwitondas pose with Global Neighborhood student leaders, Alexander Ball and Omolayo Ojo, during the last neighborhood dinner.

Ojo, the Global Neighborhood's lead student mentor, said the new computer will play a vital role in their adjustment.

"For a family that is new to the U.S. who are still trying to perfect their English and cultural acquisition, good grades in school can make a big difference," she said. "Emails, word documents and all the glorious things that computers and the Internet give us access to will be vital to our [their] acclamation."

She noted that students who currently visit the family every Saturday will further their lessons on basic computer skills while

the family members will now be able to practice at their convenience.

While the funds for the gift came from a host of activities, including a crepe fundraiser during National French Week and office donations, the Global Neighborhood Penny War played a significant role in unifying the community. The "Penny War," an initiative led by first-year student Alexander Ball, challenged students to put spare change in buckets placed in each of the Global Neighborhood houses with one small catch: coins added positive points and bills added negative points. Houses competed against each

other by placing bills each others' buckets. Through simple change, the neighborhood raised around \$200.

"It was all down to the Global Neighborhood residents," Ball said. "It just showed how the community could come together to make a change."

He stressed that the relationship has been mutually fulfilling.

"I've learned so much from them and I always look forward to seeing them again," he said. "It's easy to feel like you're a part of a bigger family."

## SELMA from cover

lunge the institutions of segregation in the American South.

Gardner said the course moves beyond the contributions of well-known figures such as Dr. Martin Luther King and amplifies the voices of other shapers of the civil rights movement.

"The movement in Selma was made possible by so many different leaders and [their efforts] are not always recognized," she said. "This course looks at the many personalities of that moment in history and their contributions."

According to Frances Ward-Johnson, the course instructor and associate department chair of the School of Communications, the class also instills in students a deep appreciation of the tactics of nonviolent, direct action and allows for a closer understanding of its strategic advantages as well as its shortcomings.

Nonviolence played a central role in Bloody Sunday. History was written into Selma's landscape when peaceful voting rights activists attempting to march to the state capital of Montgomery were met with billy clubs, tear gas and various other forms of brutality administered by Alabama state troopers and Sheriff Jim Clark's officers. The incident plays a defining marker in U.S.

civil rights history and spurred the Voting Rights Act.

Half a century later, the memories of the Selma Foot Soldiers, those who participated in the series of Selma to Montgomery marches, are still very much preserved. Gardner said reliving history through their voices was another aspect of the experience that struck her.

"The fact that we were able to cross the bridge and almost feel everything they felt as people who stood for something they believed in, was so moving," she said. "It was just a very inspiring experience."

Rev. Benford Stellmacher, an activist and well-known civil rights leader from Atlanta, was among the many figures Gardner was given the opportunity to speak to personally.

"He shared how he was brutally beaten to the ground during one of the marches for equality which led to him being in a wheelchair," Gardner said. "His story was especially powerful."

Ward-Johnson said the travel is one of the most rewarding aspects of teaching the course as the students can move beyond concepts learned in class and read in textbooks and explore in the real world.

"History really comes to life for students," Ward-Johnson said. "Many of them have never heard of much of the civil rights history taught in the class and are moved by the people and events."

# Animal outreach finds Elon home with the Animal Protection Alliance

Max Garland  
Reporter

Animal activism at Elon University now has an organized voice through the Elon Animal Protection Alliance, a segment of the volunteer-oriented S.H.A.R.E. program. It will begin its first official group meeting and other on-campus events in the coming weeks.

While S.H.A.R.E. focuses specifically on animal interaction in Alamance County, the APA aims for a broader approach.

"We're trying to expand what S.H.A.R.E. does through advocacy and activism in a social aspect," said

junior APA organizer Clare Farrow. "We're going to cover a wide variety of issues and work with all species, not just cats and dogs."

Planned events for members include field trips to The Conservator's Center and the Piedmont Wildlife Refuge, along with circus protests and lobbying for anti-tethering legislation. The club is flexible in the issues it tackles.

"We cover animal issues that club members feel passionate about," Farrow said. "So while I'm particularly passionate about farm animals, I also want to tailor things to what the club wants as a whole."

The APA is also involved with



Ashley Bohle, Emanuel Obi, Elon Staff member Jamane Yeager, Kenneth Obi, Kira Hood and Professor Frances Ward-Johnson joined over 200 thousand marchers during the Bloody Sunday 50th commemoration.

Originally offered as a winter-term course and usually reserved for Leadership Fellows, this was the first time GST 221 was offered in the spring.

"When I teach the course during Winter Term, there is always a travel component," Ward-Johnson said. "I also wanted to include a travel component in the Spring Semester. The Selma trip was perfect."

Following the recent killings by police of unarmed citizens of color including Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo., and Eric Garner in Staten Island, the commemoration situates itself in a difficult period for race-relations in the

U.S. President Barack Obama, among hundreds of other political leaders, alluded to the difficult period in race relations in the current social atmosphere during his address to the public.

Garner said hearing the President address issues of social importance to her was especially powerful as she noted that being able to vote for him was a direct result of the efforts by men, women and children during Bloody Sunday.

"The fact that I was able to vote for Obama for his second-term and then hear him speak about all the social issues I'm passionate about was so mov-

ing," she said. "For him to address how the criminal justice system targets young black men was very important and very near to my heart."

While the context of the movement for equality has changed as many social barriers have been knocked down by the generations of activists who have voiced for freedom, its essential spirit of demanding for further justice and standing against oppression has prolonged through decades.

"The march will never be over if we continue to marginalize people," Gardner said. "We need to always keep marching and working towards further equality."

"This is a great place to start if you're new to animal activism, but it's also a great place for those with years of experience," she said. "It's a way to be a voice for animals."

Animals are not going to be the only beneficiaries, according to Far-

row. Several leadership positions will be available, including an event planner and photographer.

"There are plenty of opportunities here to gain real-life experiences that you can put on a resume," she said. By filling a niche that Elon didn't have before, the APA hopes its activism will have a lasting impact on campus.

"People need to help animals in some way or form, and that may be as easy as signing a petition, or sharing a link on your Facebook," Farrow said. "I'm looking forward to inspiring people to become activists."

**The founding of APA on Elon's campus will play a pivotal role in contributing to the national discourse on animal rights violations for entertainment purposes particularly, the movement against Ringling Bros. The circus has come under national scrutiny after several animal rights violations.**

## THE FUTURE OF CIRCUS ELEPHANTS

**1796:**

The first elephant was brought to the United States.

**1882:**

P.T. Barnum purchases the circus' first elephant, Jumbo.

**2011:**

Ringling Bros. was fined \$270,000 for Animal Welfare Act violations.

**2012:**

The Humane Society of the United States paid Feld Entertainment \$15.75 million in a settlement after a 14 year legal battle over Ringling's treatment of elephants.

**2015:**

Protests were held Greensboro in order to raise awareness for Ringling's reported mistreatment of elephants.

**2018:**

Ringling Bros. will phase out all elephant acts and retire their elephants.

## Basketball, volleyball courts built outside Global

Elizabeth Elder  
Senior Reporter

Elon University Planning, Design and Construction Management has recently completed the construction of a new volleyball court in between the Global Neighborhood and the Loy Center.

Originally intended to just be a continuation of the parking lot, Student Residential Life thought that volleyball and basketball courts would be of better use to the students living in both the Global Neighborhood and in Loy Center.

According to Brad Moore, architect and director of Planning, Design and Construction Management, the project only had a couple snags that caused delays.

Because Elon selected two different contractors for construction on the Global Neighborhood itself and for the court project, construction on the volleyball and basketball courts had to be delayed until construction on the Global Neighborhood had been completed.

Additionally, the recent snow storms that have hit Elon caused a few delays in the original plans.

"So they have been working on it through the fall and the weather has put a little stress on it," said Moore. "They started in September and October and they've worked since then."

Elon students are excited about the new addition. However, most are just waiting until the weather is warm again to be able to use it.

"It'll definitely be fun when it's warm and we can tan outside and just hang out when it's sunny," said freshman Global Neighborhood resident Lizzie Griffin.

The new courts will certainly be a welcome addition when the weather is warm and students want to spend more time outside.

Looking forward, Moore says his team's main focus is on the current construction in Danieley, as well as some construction in Arts West.

"We're working on two projects over at Danieley Center," said Moore. "A new recreation building in addition to work on Danieley Commons, along with the additions to Arts West."

The new additions to the Violet Hoffman Daniel Commons Building will include neighborhood offices, a demonstration kitchen, an outdoor patio, a larger common room and an Einstein Bros. Bagels.

Moore and the rest of the construction management team are also working on a recreation center that will hold a fitness center, staff offices and a new recreation space.

These are welcome additions for the current freshmen who are set to live in Danieley next year.

"A lot of sophomores have to live in Danieley now, so it's really nice that there'll be more options close to them," said Griffin. "I've heard the walk from Danieley is pretty bad, so if I end up living there I'll definitely be happy to have a gym and more food options close by."

While University Planning, Design and Construction Management get to work on these future projects, students are just getting ready to put the new volleyball and basketball courts to good use.

## Rail deaths spike in Alamance County

Tommy Hamzik  
Managing Editor

Senior Patrick Wheeler recalls a night when he and a friend were walking near the railroad tracks on W. Trolling Avenue. They heard a train coming.

But they didn't stop for the train to go through.

"We decided to get right across," Wheeler said. "We beat it, but if we would have tripped, that would probably have been the end right there."

In the past 10 months, there have been four fatalities on the railroad tracks in Alamance County, including two in Elon. It's one of the highest numbers among counties in North Carolina, despite Alamance being the 18th largest county in the state.

For perspective, there were 26 fatalities on tracks across North Carolina in 2014. Three of them, or 12 percent, were in Alamance County, an area that accounts for less than 2 percent of the state's population.

Measures are being taken to improve rail safety, but it all boils down to the same simple message: stay off the tracks.

According to Paul Worley, the director of the Rail Division at the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), walking on the train tracks outside a designated crossing is legally trespassing. Most rail deaths involve individuals who are trespassing.

"It's unsafe, and it's also illegal," Worley said. "Part of the message we want to get out to people is that trains can come as fast as 79 miles per hour. It takes thousands of feet for a train to stop that's moving at a high rate of speed. That's certainly not a situation you're in if you stay away from the tracks."

Worley said many of the incidents involve alcohol and a lot appear to be suicide, but sometimes it's unclear if a person doesn't leave a note. For that reason, Worley said NCDOT works with suicide prevention task forces across the state.

When someone is killed on the tracks, the driver of the train often asks for a period away from the job.

"We continue to try to stress the need for trying to stay away from the tracks, and how it impacts other people, and how it's more than just one individual that's involved," he said.

The most recent death on the tracks in Alamance County occurred Jan. 27, when Franklin D. Gwynn, 25, was struck by an Amtrak train near the Fisher Street overpass, not far from the Burlington Amtrak Station.

In December, Doris Miles Pinnix, 80, was in her Dodge Caravan on the railroad crossing at East Washington Street in Mebane when the van was hit and she was killed.

On May 20, 2014, Malcolm Cornelius Sims, 22, was struck while walking on the train tracks just west of Elon's campus. Justin Lamar Swanson, 27, was killed two weeks later while standing on the tracks at the crossing by Gilliam Road and Park



JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor

There have been four train track-related deaths in Alamance County since May 2014.

Road Extension at the border between Elon and Burlington.

The last Elon student killed on the tracks was James Michael Elzar Foreman when he was struck on the crossing at Oak Avenue in April 2007.

Senior Matt Albers crosses the tracks every day when walking to campus from his Mill Point apartment while wearing headphones. He trusts himself, but he also acknowledges the possible dangers.

"I think that's the biggest danger is when a kid's walking around with his headphones in," Albers said. "They're going to get hit when they don't even hear it."

The tunnel connecting North and South campus was completed in April 2010 and cost approximately \$2.2 million, funded by Elon University and the North Carolina Railroad Company.

"It's quite a public investment," Worley said of such tunnels. "You have to do everything you can to get people to use that."

Albers thinks more safety measures like the tunnel would benefit in the area on the west side of Williamson Avenue.

"I would figure there'd be more than a bit of fence that's maybe 4 1/2 feet tall," Albers said. "It shocks me that it's so easy to walk across."

In its March Rail Report, NCDOT announced that Dual Matrix Vehicle Detection Radar systems will be implemented at nine new locations in the state during the next two years, including three in Alamance County — Oak Avenue in Elon, Elmira Street in Burlington and 3rd Street in Mebane.

The systems detect vehicles as they cross the tracks, evaluating how effective a simultaneous gate drop is in deterring drivers from going around the gates hoping to beat a train. If a vehicle is in the crossing when a gate starts to drop, the lowering of the gate is slightly delayed to give the car a clear way out. The systems also have video cameras which give continuous footage of the areas.

These are being funded through FHWA Section 1103(f), Freight Rail & Rail

Crossing Safety and Highway Safety Improvement Program.

They were tested at three locations — on Williamson Avenue in Elon and another on 5th Street in Mebane. The spots were chosen, according to Worley, based on geometrics and how complex the crossing is.

Worley said the main purpose of the radar systems is to cut down on violations where people speed through to beat the train, sometimes trying to swerve around the crossing itself. But they also sense where vehicles are on the tracks, so they prevent cars from being trapped when a train is coming through.

"They went through quite a bit of testing," Worley said. "It raises the effectiveness of the four-quadrant gate and gives added security."

NCDOT's BeRailSafe program is constantly trying to inform the public and law enforcement officers on safety precautions regarding the railroad tracks. In 2014, BeRailSafe worked with Amtrak on First Responder training sessions, partnered with CSX Transportation, North Carolina Operation Lifesaver and NASCAR on a railroad crossing safety event and conducted a number of crossing blitzes, during which workers deliver safety information to motorists when they're stopped at a crossing.

BeRailSafe's goals for 2015 include working with School Resource Officers to bring its messages to children and to increase its outreach to university campus radio stations.

"It doesn't only work as far as public outreach and the individual contact with citizens, but there's also an effort there to coordinate with local emergency forces so they have a better understanding," Worley said. "There may be a percentage of things that you can't reach, but you try to reach what you can and you try to strive for zero incidents."

## Elon service in Africa draws mixed reactions

Bryan Anderson  
Assistant News Editor

Junior Laura Conroy returned home from a busy schedule filled with classes, homework and sorority activities and glanced down at the small calendar she bought while studying abroad in Ghana. As the memories of delivering soccer balls and helping out local Ghanaian communities returned to her mind, she realized she got more out of the trip than the Ghanaians who had received her help.

"We provided [the Ghanaians] with material goods, but I think they provided us with a lot more because I walked away still with their faces in my mind," Conroy said. "I'm not sure if they think about us, but I definitely still think about them."

Although Conroy said she benefited from the experience of giving back to the local community she had visited, some like Heidi Frontani, professor of geography, think offering aid does more harm than good.

"[By giving handouts], you create dependent communities that are just sitting there waiting for the next group of people to come through and give them things," Frontani said. "That's not what people want. Nobody wants that anywhere in the world."

In order to ensure students have productive experiences while studying abroad, Elon offers several opportunities for students to practice global citizenship through service. As founding director of Project Pericles, a program designed to provide students with a sense of social responsibility and civic concern, Thomas Arcaro has led several service trips to Africa.

According to Arcaro, providing meaningful aid is not as easy as people think.

"Service isn't easy if it's done right," Arcaro said. "If it's done in a partnering, not patronizing, way, it's really a lot of work. It's rewarding as hell, but it's a lot of work."

The key to providing effective aid through service is to spend money wisely, he added.

"There's a huge cost of going [to Africa]," Arcaro said. "That cost has to be more than offset by the value added of what we would do in country 'X' or 'Y' or whatever that country is."

While some students choose to spend a semester abroad, others like Conroy go abroad during Winter Term, which can be a major expense.



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY NATALIE BROWN

Junior Natalie Brown works in a village near Dodoma, Tanzania. Many students engage in service during study abroad trips.

The most recent cost, credit and prerequisites chart shows that the 2016 Winter Term study abroad costs range from \$3,750 to \$8,100.

People choosing to do service in Africa independently would pay more than \$1,000 in airfare alone. With other costs of travel, such as food and shelter, a round trip experience to the continent could easily exceed \$2,000.

In order to offset the cost of traveling to Africa with the value added of doing service in a country, Arcaro urges students to develop a deep understanding of the place they are visiting. He and Frontani also hope more people will eliminate some of the common misconceptions and stereotypes about Africa before they make travel arrangements. According to Frontani, most students don't realize Africa is made up of 54 countries with both urban and rural regions.

Because of the short length of Winter Term trips compared to a semester abroad, Frontani said students need to

return to the places they visit.

"We have so many students going on J-Term," Frontani said. "I think J-Term's a great thing to do, but I would love to see a lot more follow up where a student would maybe do J-Term in Ghana, spend the time with the group, get acclimated a little bit and then already have planned at that point to stay on for the spring."

Though Conroy said she got more out of her experience than the people she helped, she believes it's important to visit the places you're trying to help rather than sending money.

"When you get to hand a child their first soccer ball or their first real notebook, it's a moment you'll never forget because you realize that you're actually touching a human life, not just a piece of paper that you sign a check to," Conroy said. "I think it's really important for people to see who they're donating to and what kind of cause you're helping."

## Elon conference ties together threads of diversity

Leena Dahal  
Assistant News Editor

Anysa McMillan joined 50 other women in writing hurtful preconceptions and labels commonly associated with their identities on large sheets of paper. Then, in a symbolic act of breaking away from stereotypes that plague their identities, they collectively tore each strip of paper into miniscule, meaningless shreds.

The women, representing African-American, Latina, Asian, Native American and Multiracial (ALANAM) backgrounds, gathered in Elon University's Oaks 212 Saturday with one shared goal: to inspire, empower and motivate.

ALANAM Women's Institute, a conference seeking

to provide a space for women to celebrate their common thread of diversity, was previously recognized as Women of Color Institute.

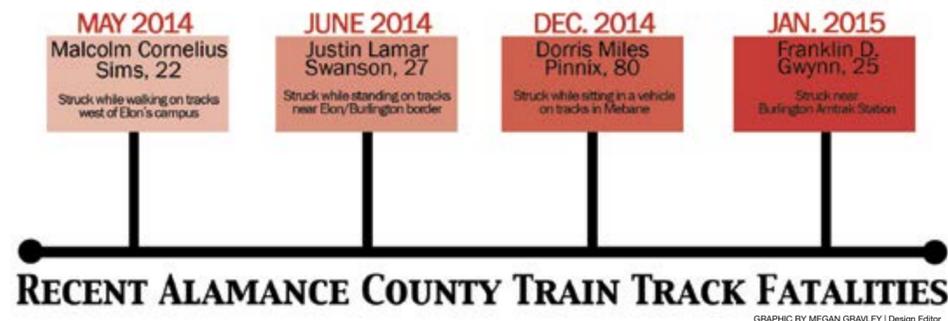
But the phrase "women of color," did not fall well with many students who felt isolated by the terminology. In alignment with the Center for Race, Ethnicity & Diversity's (CREDE) goal to broaden the spectrum of diversity in its programming, the name was changed to ALANAM earlier this year.

"We recognized that some students, particularly international students, didn't necessarily identify with the term 'women of color,'" said Jamie Butler, assistant director for CREDE. "So we wanted to support CREDE's mission to advocate for ALANAM students as it is the terminology that we, as a center, have decided to encourage."



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ANYSSA McMILLAN

Delaney Hinnant and Tatyana Louis shred stereotypes written on sheets of paper as part of ALANAM Women's Institute.



# Cheat Sheet: Hillary Clinton email scandal



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



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE  
Hillary Clinton is under investigation for missing emails from her personal account and allegations that it shouldn't have been used at all.

Hillary Clinton has a bigger problem than cleaning out her email inbox. Clinton is under investigation for using a private email account when conducting official state business and not immediately handing over records to the government.

In 2014, more than a year after she stepped down from her position of secretary of state, Clinton turned over 55,000 pages of emails from her personal account that the department didn't have previously.

## What's wrong with Hillary's emails?

There are month-long gaps in the email records Clinton submitted, and those gaps have raised concerns. In October 2011, a photo of her on a C-17 going to Libya went viral. In the iconic photo, she has her cell phone in her hand, but there are no emails on record from that trip.

## Can't government officials have private email accounts?

It is not uncommon for senior officials to use private email accounts in addition to

an official government email. This practice is acceptable under Obama Administration policy and the Federal Records Act if officials forward federal emails that are federal records to their federal accounts.

Instead of using a government email or even an email host such as Google or Yahoo, Clinton used a self-hosted email system — personal email [hdr22@clintonemail.com](mailto:hdr22@clintonemail.com) and private domain "clintonemail.com."

An early March 2015 investigation by New York Times reporter Michael S. Schmidt found that, during her time as secretary of state, Clinton exclusively used her personal email account and did not even set up an official government email.

As a result, records of her work-related email correspondence weren't appropriately archived while she was there. Instead, they were turned over just last year.

## What's the legality behind all of this?

Technically, all emails and correspondences which involve public and governmental affairs are considered federal re-

ords.

So, any of Clinton's emails that contained federal record-worthy content, whether it was one sentence or five paragraphs, needed to be archived.

According to 44 U.S. Code Chapter 33, "records" includes all books, papers, maps, photographs and other documentary materials made or received by an agency of the U.S. government or in connection with the transaction of public business as evidence of the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations, or other activities of the government.

## What's the latest?

Republicans in Congress have begun an investigation into Clinton's use of private email. They are focusing on whether she appropriately turned over all sent or received emails about government business to the State Department.

# News Briefs

## Executive intern applications open

Applications are now available to become an Executive Intern at Elon University for the 2015-2016 school year.

The program provides 4 to 8 rising juniors or seniors with the opportunity to work with mentors from the university's senior staff in departments such as the Office of the President, Office of University Communications or the Office of Admissions and Financial Planning. The goal of the program is to provide an apprenticeship experience in the field of higher education.

There are two parts to the internship program. During Winter Term 2016, elected students will intern 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday and will shadow their mentor and complete projects.

In the spring, they will present their projects, attend campus events and continue to meet with mentors.

Applications are due March 20, 2015.

## Former Elon basketball player hired as new Elon social media manager

Elon alumnus and four-year men's basketball team letter winner Adam Constantine '10 found his way back to Elon University, but this time as the university's new social media manager in the Office of University Communications.

Constantine will coordinate and share stories, photos and videos across Elon's primary social media channels, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn. He will also oversee the creation of any new Elon social media accounts.

Before returning to Elon, Constantine worked in downtown Raleigh at a digital marketing firm called Live Work Play. While there, he worked to raise the profile of businesses by helping them build their brands and audiences via social media channels.

## University of Oklahoma cuts ties with fraternity after racist incident

The President of the University of Oklahoma severed the school's ties with national fraternity Sigma Alpha Epsilon Monday after a video of the fraternity taking part in a racist chant surfaced.

The video shows several people on a bus participating in a chant, which included a racial slur, references to lynching and indications that black students would never be admitted in Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

President David Boren said he was sickened after learning of the video Sunday afternoon.

National leaders of Sigma Alpha Epsilon confirmed that members took part in the chant and said the university's chapter would close.

The national group said it was "embarrassed" by the "unacceptable and racist" behavior.

Boren said members had until midnight Tuesday, March 10 to remove belongings from the fraternity house, and the university will also be looking into further punishments for individuals.

"This is not who we are," Boren said at a news conference. "I'd be glad if they left. I might even pay the bus fare for them."

## Job & Internship Expo to be held Thursday

Elon University will host the Job & Internship Expo March 12.

Freshmen, sophomores and juniors can explore career paths and gather information about internship programs, while seniors, graduate students and alumni can seek information about full-time and permanent employment opportunities.

# Editorial

## Collecting donations too central to Elon Day

The Pendulum 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.

The hashtag elicited countless pictures of dogs wearing t-shirts and people clad in maroon and gold, as well as astronomical numbers of donations.

But #ElonDay should go deeper than that. As the occasion stands, the crux of Elon Day is an appeal for donations. The birthday of Elon University is

certainly something to be celebrated. But the university's history and accomplishments should come first.

Donations are critical to Elon's financial success, and there's nothing wrong with emphasizing them. But the event's marketing relies too heavily on accumulating donors.

The underlying goal, enticing people to donate, is thinly veiled by attempts to generate a world-wide community celebration via social media and alumni networks.

This year's campaign asks students, alumni and friends of the university to show they believe in Elon.

But Elon isn't Santa Claus. We already believe. We can feel the bricks with our own hands. Pleading with us to throw more money at the school won't make it more real.

Undoubtedly, a considerable amount of effort and planning went into Elon Day. Those responsible should be commended for what they achieved, given the pressure to exceed last year's total donor turnout of 1,013 people and total donations of \$116,867.

And the orchestrators of Elon Day certainly aimed to outdo last year's shindig. Not only did they up Elon Day's presence on social media and employ a live stream of the day's many (22) celebrations, but they assigned 60 faculty and staff members to the task of making the day spectacular. Assistant Vice President of University Advancement John Barnhill said last year only seven or eight people were responsible for Elon Day.

Elon Day should be less about tallying totals and more about appreciating the experience and the people who have made it what it is.

It's not that we don't want to celebrate Elon — we do. It's our home for four years, and we're proud to say that. But nothing spoils an occasion like throwing yourself a birthday party and specifically requesting that people give you more presents than last year.



JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor  
President Lambert spoke to students, faculty and staff at Tuesday's Global College Coffee event for Elon Day.

# Retarded is much, much more than a word

My sister is an 18-year old petite blonde with a disarming sense of sarcasm. She's a varsity athlete,



Michael Bodley  
Columnist

a devout Catholic and a self-admitted chocoholic. She's become too cool for reading and a bit bored with high school. She just picked up a new, older boyfriend who I'm more than a little worried about.

And she's really sick of you calling her retarded.

On Halloween night in 1996, Caroline Elizabeth Bodley entered the world — along with an extra chromosome — joining 6,000 others born in the United States each year with Down syndrome.

And they're really sick of you calling them retarded.

So is that teacher — "that question was so retarded." So is that cafeteria worker — "What is she, retarded?" So is your "retarded"



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM MCCARTHY JRL, CATHOLIC REVIEW  
When Caroline is in the pool, nothing much else seems to matter.

of the 535 members of congress supported.

It's a start — but it's not enough. It's not enough when I can't spend a day on this campus without hearing someone toss the word around like candy. It's not enough when Lebron James, Lady Gaga, Jim Roddey and Joe Flacco have all done the same. It's not enough to settle for ignorance.

It's not enough for "Glee" star Lauren Potter or Olympian Karen

Gaffney, who received an honorary doctorate. It's not enough for me, and it shouldn't be enough for you.

So, tell me it's just a word. But before you do, come sit in my living room around 5 p.m. on almost any given school day. Be a fly on the wall when Caroline bounds on in.

Some days, she'll be laughing and hollering and searching for the mom-hidden chocolate chip cookies. Some days, for all the world, nothing looks wrong.

But I want you to see a sad day.

Caroline will traipse in, head down, shoulders slumped. Her 5-foot-2-inch frame will somehow seem smaller when she slides to the floor. And she will cry and cry and cry. You'll ask her what's wrong. She won't answer. She'll stay like this, who knows how long. Sometimes it will be 10 minutes, and others it will take an hour.

This is the kid who can't walk pass someone in a wheelchair without asking how they're doing. This is the swimmer who made the team howl with laughter by imitating the coach after a nasty practice. This is the sister to whom

you can do no wrong, despite what mom says.

And yet, this is the sobbing mess played across the floor. If you sit there long enough, the story will come out. She was in the lunch line when someone snickered something about "the retard."

She didn't say anything. She didn't know why. But it stuck.

By definition, Caroline has mental retardation, and there is no getting around that. Things we take for granted are hard for her, like buttoning a coat or reading a book or riding a bike. But these things don't define her. Caroline has Down syndrome — it does not own her.

She texts too much, stays up too late and pushes my parents to their last nerve. Hospitals and doctors freak her out, and don't mention the dentist. She never gets sick of Taylor Swift, and she just got over her Justin Bieber phase.

Caroline is every bit as wonderfully flawed as any other teenager in the world.

And she's really sick of you calling her retarded.

# CRIME REPORT

## ASSAULT

Elon police officers responded to an incident involving a male student who was assaulted by three to four males believed to be at a fraternity party the student had tried to get into Saturday at 3 a.m. The student was transported to Alamance Regional Medical Center for treatment of his injuries. According to the report filed by Lt. Mike Brewer, the student "had lacerations about his face and was very bloody."

## CAR CRASH

Town of Elon Police responded to a crash Monday involving multiple vehicles and a school bus at the intersection of North Church Street and Stellars Mill Road. The bus, which had just picked up students from Broadview Middle School

and Cummings High School, was making a left turn onto North Church Street when a 2006 Ford F-250 struck it. The F-250 then hit a stationary 1996 Honda Accord. Minor injuries were reported for the driver and passenger of the F-250. Estimated damages total \$36,000, including \$15,000 to the bus, \$20,000 to the F-250 and \$1,000 to the Accord.

## CAR COLLISION

A minor collision involving two vehicles occurred Sunday on South Williamson Avenue. As one car was turning left onto Green Street, a driver not paying attention to the turning vehicle struck it from behind.

## VANDALISM

A vandalism car case of vandalism was closed after leads were exhausted. The incident occurred Saturday on Woodale Drive, where an offender broke a driver-side mirror.

## DRUG ARREST

Burlington police executed a search warrant at 430 N. Main St. Tuesday after a three month investigation involving drug manufacturing from this location. One of the two individuals arrested was placed in the Alamance County Jail under a \$50,000 secured bond while the other received a \$350 secured bond.

# Don't execute UNC shooter

Since the fatal shooting of three Muslim students from Chapel Hill nearly a month ago, details have remained relatively scarce regarding the circumstances behind the attack. Accused shooter Craig Hicks, who confessed to the murders of University of North Carolina Chapel Hill dental student Deah Barakat, his wife Yusor Mohammed Abu-Salha and her sister Razan Mohammed Abu-Salha, now faces the possibility of the death penalty.



Tim Melton  
Columnist

Although there hasn't been an execution in North Carolina since 2006, the death penalty is still integral to the state's legal structure. According to the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, there are 150 offenders currently on death row, and four instances of capital punishment were issued in 2014.

There will be some who readily support Hicks' execution, labeling it a matter of justice. But those who support the death penalty for Hicks without learning the true intent behind his actions are focusing too

much on avenging the fallen and not enough on preventing future instances of hatred and injustice. With so little information about the nature of the crime, our time would be better spent respecting and honoring the victims and those affected by this tragedy than speculating on what factors may have contributed.

A key to examining this crime is determining the perpetrator's intent, and the reasons the crime was committed in the first place. Currently, there is little that can be said about the intent that can be absolutely accepted as truth.

Initial police reports indicate the shootings were a result of prior disputes over parking between Hicks and the victims. But many have interpreted the attack against these Muslim students to be a tragic demonstration of Islamophobia in the United States. Hicks' ex-wife, Karen Hicks, has defended him, saying in a press conference last week that, "[Hicks] believed that everybody should be treated equally and fair." But Hicks' Facebook page contains numerous posts supporting anti-theism.

Islamic Association of Raleigh chairman Mohamed Elgamal, told the Huffington Post, "We're not out there looking for revenge. Our focus is more constructive — to continue the

legacy of these three people."

Elgamal speaks to the heart of the matter: we are so caught up in the hypotheticals of the situation — whether Hicks was

intentionally targeting a religion or is just a raging lunatic — that we forget the most important matter is what actually happened and those who were actually

affected.

Submit a letter to the editor at [eltonpendulum.com](mailto:eltonpendulum.com)



Craig Stephen Hicks, 46, enters the courtroom for his first appearance Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2015. PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

# DOCTORS' ORDERS FIGHTING OFF EARLY-ONSET SENIORITIS



Lauryl Fischer & Frankie Campisano  
Columnists

It's a disease you survived once before, probably around four years ago.

In polite company it's referred to as Adult Onset Senioritis. We're dangerously close to the halfway point in this spring semester, and you elderly and wisest seniors are getting hit with increasingly severe cases.

We can't really blame you. You did put up with Elon for three and a half years, which is a lot of Smith Jackson and Eric Townsend emails to ignore. You probably spend most of your days in class clenching your jaw, wondering what more Elon could possibly want

from you. The answer is (even more of) your money, but we think the staff editorial explains that better than we could, so take a look at that to better prepare yourself for the Elon Days of the future. #ElonDay.

But what could Elon want from you now, when you're no longer a potential customer and not yet a potential return investment?

Absolutely nothing. You're washed up. Remember Fellows Weekend last week? And those Phoenix Fridays? And all those campus tours? You're old news, at least until graduation, when we can all cry over how proud we are of you.

Seniors, you're getting replaced with newer, shinier versions of you. Just like when you upgrade your phone or delete those middle school Facebook friends, you've become out-of-date overnight, even more so if you forgot to reset your clocks this past weekend.

Some day soon, you might find that the only way to recapture some of that collegiate nostalgia will be to throw even more money at the school until

the pain goes away. But just like those bright young students replacing you, you in turn will be replacing the last vestiges of the Baby Boomers in the workforce. Lucky you.

Those of you who suffer from apathy, one of the side effects of Adult Onset Senioritis, may look forward to making the transition.

Other symptoms of this particular strain include Facebook stalking your friends, ignoring internship and job deadlines, bouts of existential panic followed by binge-eating Dorito chips and forgetting how to spell your own name.

Others of you suffer from the more nostalgic strain, and you're probably crying as you read this column — or at least feeling insulted that there's nothing more you can give to your beloved school.

Look, you're a lame duck. Or a lame phoenix. Lame squirrel? Whatever you are, it's time to seek greener pastures, though it's highly unlikely the next pasture you settle in will be as green as this actual botanical garden. Underclassmen and juniors can, for now, avoid their

**Rx PRESCRIPTION**  
Doctor's Orders is a weekly satirical column in which two unprofessional, definitely fake doctors offer up prescriptions for their Phoenix patients.

im-pending futures by taking a stroll around this beautiful campus.

You don't have that opportunity because you still need to get a job. Why are you even reading this column? Haven't you read about the economy these days? Shoo. You should be working on your resume or, more likely, catching up on Netflix while pretending to diversify your portfolio.

Here's our prescription for all of you, whether you're hopeless or you don't care: do it for the Vine. And then, more importantly, do it for yourself. Ace your remaining classes, work hard to find a job you enjoy and do your best to live a fulfilling life. Put yourself first. And drop a great mixtape if you've got the chops.

# Oakley: freshman, singer, superstar?

Meghan Mahoney  
Senior Reporter

He only packed one change of clothes.

When freshman Lowell Oakley traveled five hours to Washington, D.C., to audition for NBC's "The Voice," he was expecting the trip to be a one-day affair.

So when he got a callback three days later, he had to bring in reinforcements. His mom brought clothes from their home in Durham to the nation's capital, where Oakley and thousands of others were waiting for a chance at stardom.

"She brought me a suit," Oakley said. "I did well at the callback and a little this, a little that, and now we're here. Now we're Team Pharrell."

Almost nine months later, Oakley's friends and classmates watched him on TV as he joined Pharrell's team on season eight of "The Voice."

Three days after his last high school exam, Oakley and his friend drove more than four hours from Durham to Washington, D.C., for "The Voice" open call auditions.

"I kind of wanted to try something crazy," Oakley said.

At that audition, 45,000 people stood in line for the chance of a lifetime. While his friends celebrated graduation at the beach, Oakley was waiting for his turn to sing.

When he was younger, Oakley and his family watched shows like "The Voice" and "American Idol." Oakley thought he could make it and decided to take a leap of faith.

Oakley's grandfather shared some words of wisdom to help Oakley survive the day: "Success is often created in inconvenience."

His words certainly applied to the situation.

"This was super inconvenient," Oakley said. "I didn't want to work, I just wanted to play."

## A well-kept secret

Oakley couldn't tell anyone what he was up to in the fall of 2014, his first semester at Elon University. Every two weeks, he left his college life for a secret trip to Los Angeles to film "The Voice."

"It was hard," Oakley said. "You're trying to focus on creating some friendships, you're not really trying to focus on this other crazy thing that is happening that you

have to be quiet about."

His new friends could only speculate about what was going on. One freshman, William Henderson, said it took him a while to piece things together before he finally guessed correctly.

"I just couldn't tell anyone," Henderson said.

Despite the constant traveling, Oakley managed to immerse himself into Elon culture by becoming a member of all-male a cappella group Rip\_Chord.

"I was thinking of going Greek, but there's no way I can juggle 'The Voice' and being in a fraternity," Oakley said. "But an all-male a cappella group — it's a brotherhood whether it's Greek or not."

Because Oakley had to keep his involvement in "The Voice" quiet, it was difficult to explain why he consistently missed Rip\_Chord practices.

Senior Jacob Light, a member of Rip\_Chord, said Oakley's excuses were more vague than the group wanted, but they had heard rumors of him being on "The Voice," so they deemed the absences acceptable.

"When he's going to California for weeks at a time his freshman year, he's missing things, and his passion is music, and you hear whispers," Light said. "When he put ['The Voice'] cover photo up, all of us were super excited for him."

## Keeping one foot on the ground

The first memory Light has of Oakley is his passionate audition for Rip\_Chord and his callback.

"You could see a sense of urgency in his eyes that he needed to learn the music we were giving him," Light said. "He is the kind of talent you don't see. He's unfathomable. There's no talent like him."

Light believes Oakley can stay personable and genuine, despite his celebrity status.

"It couldn't happen to a better person," Light said. "He's so humble, and he's so genuine that when you hang around him you don't think this is a celebrity. He's like any other kid."

Henderson refers to him as a "pretty boy."

"He's a great person, he's got great character, but he's also very concerned with his appearance," Henderson said. "He has an image



Freshman Lowell Oakley is competing on "The Voice" but still performs with his a cappella group, Rip\_Chord. RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer

to upkeep, and I understand that."

Although Oakley gets constant questions about Pharrell and the competition, he tries to avoid the spotlight that comes with discussing the show to keep his Elon experience as normal as possible.

"It gets to the point where I don't want to be there to be hanging out with Lowell the celebrity, because he was just Lowell my friend first," Light said.

## Making a choice

Oakley's family flew to Los Angeles to watch his blind audition before the judges. They were there for support, but he said that brought more pressure.

"What if you go all the way over there and don't turn a chair?" Oakley said.

As he was singing, both Pharrell and Adam Levine spun their chairs around, leaving Oakley with a tough decision.

He was speechless when Levine compared him to Tony Bennett and Frank Sinatra. But when Pharrell said, "You're not the same, you're different, you're other," Oakley knew he had to go with him.

"I went back and forth in my head so many times trying to figure out who to go with," Oakley said. "Initially, I was thinking my first



Oakley (second from left) and Rip\_Cord perform at the Make-a-Wish concert. RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer

pick would be Adam because he's a lot like me. Or rather, I'm a lot like this legend. I try to be."

Oakley even admitted that his favorite song to sing in the show is Maroon 5's "Sugar." But even though he was a fan, he decided to go with Pharrell.

Oakley has followed Pharrell since he worked with Justin Timberlake, Oakley's idol, and is drawn to his image and creativity.

"Pharrell comes out with this stuff that sounds like nothing you've ever heard before," Oakley said. "If I can work with something like that, I thought that would make me a better human being. I thought that would take my soul to a whole new level."

Light agrees with Pharrell's description of Oakley.

"It's to a point where it's special," Light said. "I've seen people who can replicate others, I've seen people who can train to become like another person, but I've never seen somebody who's so raw and unique that they're not copying and trying to be like someone else. It's an entirely new genre."

Henderson agrees that Oakley's talent is unique and said he has the potential to make it all the way.

"He's got a very mature voice for his age that you don't find in a lot of

**NOW SHOWING: ELON'S BEST WORK**

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Rob Marnell '06 Joe Long on "Jersey Boys"	Katherine Southard '07 Miss North Carolina	Christopher Wood '10 Kai Parker on "The Vampire Diaries"	Grant Gustin DIDN'T GRADUATE Barry Allen on "The Flash"

GRAPHIC BY TORI LABENBERG | Design Editor



JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor

## Students, faculty discuss stigmas of tattoos on campus

Hannah Silvers  
Copy Chief

Sophomore Tory Taylor has blonde hair and pearl earrings. The bright-eyed girl with a big smile is an InterVarsity Small Group leader and an aspiring early childhood education teacher. She is also inked.

"I am not a tattoo person," she admitted. "If you looked at me, you wouldn't think I have a tattoo."

But on her wrist she does: a white ink dove enclosed by a circle. The tattoo doesn't just shock her classmates — the owner of the tattoo parlor Taylor visited in Washington, D.C., thought she and her mom were lost when they stepped into the shop.

At Elon University and around the country, the taboo surrounding tattoos isn't what it once was. Taylor is just one example. Ink has become more of an expression of individuality or a connection to a personal philosophy than a mark of unemployment or street cred. Outdated assumptions about the kind of people who get inked are dying out — but they're not dead, especially in certain areas of the job market.

An aspiring teacher, Taylor is worried her tattoo may harm her career. She knows many elementary schools have dress codes prohibiting teachers from showing tattoos, and the wrist is a difficult spot to cover.

Lynn Huber, associate professor of religious studies, got a triple spiral tattooed on her left shoulder in 2004, after her undergraduate years. She recalls the negative stereotypes applied to people with tattoos during her time in college.

"It was a lot more edgy to get a tattoo or a piercing, to express yourself," she said. "We thought we were strange if we had a strange haircut."

Huber waited until she had established herself in her career before she got a tattoo. She had just received her doctorate and secured a job at Elon in the religious studies

department, an area within academia thought to be more accepting of her tattoo.

"I think there's probably more acceptance of things like body modification and tattoos among academics and especially in the field of religious studies," she said. "So, it's not unusual for people in my field of work, in my professional field, to have piercings or tattoos. But I know in other fields that that's sort of an issue."

That conservative mentality in the workplace might be on its way out. According to Sara Shechter, assistant director of career services for the College of Arts and Sciences, negative perceptions of tattoos are fading because of the popularization of body ink in the past 50 years.

"I think there are more organizations that are more open to having people with tattoos now because there's also more of a culture of that," she said. "More and more younger people are getting tattoos, and so that's more common. I think that generally what we tell people is that it's not like if you have a tattoo, you're not going to get a job."

The job market itself is not inherently anti-ink. Shechter said it is the older generation of people in high positions, the people who grew up in a culture that stigmatized body modification of any kind, that have negative opinions on ink.

"People who are much older, like my grandfather who's 89, would probably freak out if I one day went over to him and was like, 'Guess what? I just got a tattoo,'" she said. "His generation I don't think [isn't as tolerant], but I think people who are younger are more accepting of that."

According to Shechter, as older business owners retire and make way for a younger and generally more liberal and accepting generation, the workplace will follow suit, allowing these tattoos to be displayed.

Growing acceptance of ink in the workplace is good news for inked students about to dive into the world of applications and interviews. But Shechter cautions students that attitudes about tattoos don't change overnight.

For applicants concerned their tattoos will affect their employment chances, particularly during the interview stage, they should research the company. Often, company policies will be posted on the website, including any dress code.

If students discover a strict dress code policy or a more conservative atmosphere, covering a tattoo for the interview isn't a bad idea, according to Shechter.

But as important as it is to land the job, she also asks that students consider their personal values.

"Clearly you got this tattoo for a reason, so it's a part of who you are, a part of your identity," Shechter said. "So if the place you're interviewing with is not going to accept that, is that really the kind of culture that you want to be in?"

### Needled with symbolic ink

Taylor's tattoo is her way to celebrate the life of a close friend and role model. Designed to represent the Holy Spirit, the white ink tattoo is dedicated to her soccer coach of seven years, who lost the battle to thymus cancer.

"Through the whole thing, he was just really strong in his faith — which I can't even imagine, because he was basically on his deathbed," she said. "There was no cure. So, when I thought of him, I thought of the Holy Spirit because I saw it working through him."

Taylor and her mother went together to the tattoo parlor, and they both left with the same tattoo. They couldn't be happier with the result.

"Every time we see it, we think of what an amazing person he was and how strong his faith was," Taylor said. Senior Holly Smith also sports a tattoo dedicated to the special people in her life.

"On my forearm, I have my mom and dad's initials and mine in an equation," she said. "So, my dad plus my mom equals mine. My dad actually passed away when I was a year old, so it's just symbolic to me."

Smith's tattoo is a way for her to honor her father's

memory as well as her mother's influence on her life. After all, she said, she couldn't just get a tattoo for her father. "I had to get them both on there [so] my mom [wouldn't be] like, 'Where's my tattoo?'" she said.

Senior Rachel Lewis' tattoos are reminders of her loved ones and her beliefs. Her first tattoo connects her to her sister. The two got matching ink on their ribs during Winter Term 2013, when Lewis was a sophomore. Lewis got "inhale" and her sister "exhale."

As a positive reminder, on her collarbone she has tattooed the words "I belong deeply to myself," a line from a poem by Warsan Shire, written backwards in cursive.

"[It's] a reminder at face level that I do belong to myself, that I need to make decisions for myself and focus on myself a little bit more than I usually do," she said. "And it's reversed so I can read it in the mirror, which is important to me."

Another one of her tattoos, the word "shine" written five times on the back of her neck, comes from the poem "Don't You Wonder, Sometimes?" by Tracy K. Smith.

"I think that was just kind of a cool reminder to me," Lewis said. "Not to be cheesy, but you are alive, and you should do something with it and remain a part of whatever it is you're a part of."

### Acceptance at Elon

Inked students enjoy a general acceptance among their peers, especially from other students with tattoos. Lewis said she thinks this growing tolerance has an easy explanation: prevalence. The more students with tattoos, she said, the less shocking it is to have one.

"When I see someone with tattoos, I get really excited about it — especially if it's a big, visible one," Lewis said.

With this visibility comes conversation. Many students see their tattoos as a way to share their stories and encourage others to ask and to start a conversation.

As Huber explained, a person with a tattoo knows the ink is a symbol to the people they meet. There's a reason people decide to put their tattoos on display, and often, the reason is to share the story.

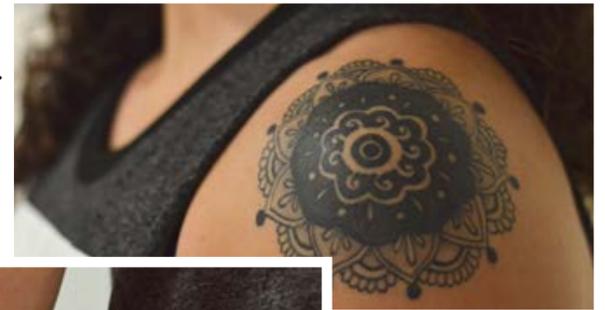
Smith said people regularly ask her about the tattoo on the back of her arm, a line drawing of a hand forming the words "I really love you" in sign language.

"The tattoo in sign language on the back of my arm is always a conversation starter. I'll just be in line somewhere, something like that, and [I'll hear], 'Excuse me, what's on your arm?'" Smith said. "People want to know what it means."

Taylor got her tattoo for herself, but she likes being asked about it too.

"It's just a cool experience because I get to share the story every time someone asks me about it," she said. "None of my friends were judgmental about it. And some of them probably have forgotten because it's so subtle."

Holly Smith's three tattoos were inspired by her family, her passions and her own personality. All photos by JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor



Even though ink has become more prevalent and more discussed on campus, Huber would like to see more students express their individuality through tattoos and other body modifications.

"I think it's sad that there aren't more tattoos and more piercings and more people who embrace alternative ways of looking and being at Elon," Huber said. "Sometimes I think it would be great to see more variety in how people present themselves."

### To ink or not to ink?

For students considering getting their first tattoo, inked students have some advice.

"Thinking is the main recommendation," Lewis said. "For a long time. At least six months."

Taylor also cautioned against impulsive tattoos. She recommended meditating on the meaning of the tattoo and making sure it matches your personal values.

Lewis couldn't agree more. "I feel like you have to be really set on the kind of person you are," she said. "Because for me, again, tattoos are reminders of things. They are connecting you to an ideology that you value. So I'm always really hesitant of things that are very clearly linked to one train of thought or way of thinking about things."

A tattoo's placement and size are also important factors that merit consideration.

"Think about how big you want it," Smith said. "If you ever decide that you don't like it, will you be able to cover it up?"

For students worried about interviews and careers in fields that might not be as accepting of tattoos as others, placement is a big deal.

Students should also stay clear of cheap, sketchy tattoo parlors. According to Taylor, going to an untrustworthy parlor can result in a bad tattoo or even a dangerous infection.

"Do your research," Taylor said. "Don't just go and pass by the first tattoo parlor you see. I think that if I had just found the first number that came up on Google, then maybe I wouldn't have had the same good experience where it didn't get infected or anything like that."

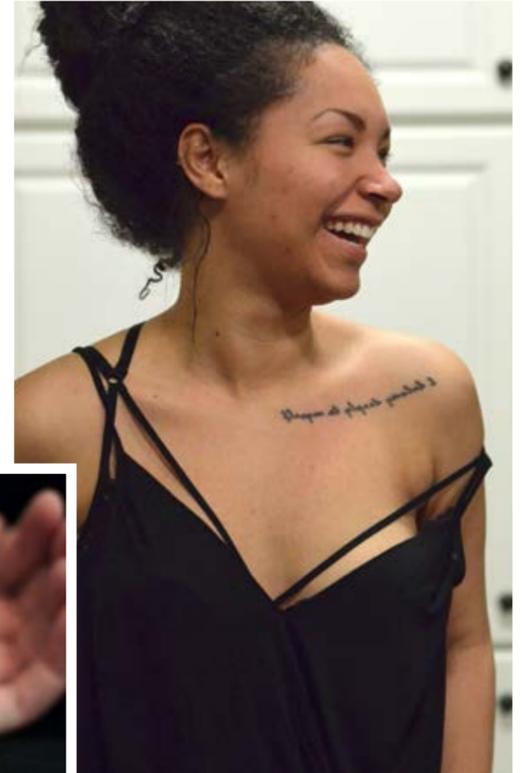
For those a bit nervous to get inked on their bodies, Huber had some words of encouragement.

"I think they're a good thing, and I think they can be a good experience," she said. "Even though the actual physical process might be painful or uncomfortable, I still think that it's an important, memorable experience and something to go through. I wouldn't change the fact that I've gotten a tattoo."

Lewis' collarbone tattoo reads backward, "I belong deeply to myself."



Rachel Lewis' neck tattoo was inspired by a poem by Tracy K. Smith.



Tory Taylor's tattoo is the symbol of the Holy Spirit in honor of her longtime soccer coach.



Lewis got this tattoo with her sister. The word reminds her to take a breath and relax.

# Pattani pants bring comfort to Elon

Brett Gubitosi  
Senior Reporter

Locked out of Daniele A on a cold September night, sophomore Ashlyn Vogelsang panicked. None of her roommates were home, and she desperately needed to get inside. Moments later, her savior appeared: sophomore Ben Kleiman. When Kleiman let her into the building, neither knew this chance encounter would lead to a business partnership.

Over time, the building-mates developed a friendship. The two, both entrepreneurs, often joked about starting a business together in their free time. One semester later, the first order of Pattani Clothing lounge pants shipped.

The idea of starting a pants company dawned on Kleiman while studying abroad in Thailand during Winter Term 2015. On his trip, he noticed both Thai men and women wore long, billowy palazzo-style pants adorned with exotic patterns.

Kleiman wondered if these pants would sell in the United States.

"I thought I could bring a style back," he said.

An idea popped into his head: he would ship the pants from Thailand and sell them here. When he returned, he proposed the concept to Vogelsang, who saw potential in the idea and agreed to partner up. With \$800 invested, they started Pattani Clothing.

Pattani Clothing isn't Kleiman's first foray into clothing entrepreneurship. Last year, as a freshman, he worked with two other freshmen to develop Coastal Prep Collection, a preppy clothing brand.



Pattani pants strive to become a popular fashion trend at Elon among male and female students, as seen on customer Indiana University sophomore Savannah Harper.

Kleiman handles the finances and maintains the website he built while Vogelsang handles the marketing and researches current fashion trends for future design ideas.

"I think we make a good team because both of us are always motivating each other to work on something, whether it is the website, advertising or doing competition research," Kleiman said.

Pattani Clothing's official website launched last week. It offers 15 pant styles, each made in Thailand. There have

only been six orders so far, but popularity is expected to grow.

Pattani pants sell for only \$15, while other brands of palazzo pants, such as New York and Company, sell for \$30-\$50. According to Vogelsang, this cheaper price does not affect the quality.

"We're trying to appeal to people who don't want to spend too much money on clothes but still want to look good," Vogelsang said.

According to Vogelsang, Pattani pants' seams stay intact and, most importantly, the

lighter-colored pants are not transparent.

Pattani pants appeal to anyone who is not afraid to be adventurous in style but still wants to enjoy the comfort of pajamas.

"Pattani is all about providing the most comfortable lounge pants and expressing yourself anyway you want," Vogelsang said.

Vogelsang has a few style suggestions. For girls, Pattanis go best with loose long sleeve shirts or crop tops, while guys can match their colorful pants with a loose t-shirt.

Although the brand's focus on fashion may attract more women, the team is trying to appeal to men by marketing the pants as active wear. They plan to satisfy this demographic by making the pants more durable through double-stitches.

The brand just started selling, but it has a clean, professional look. Each pair has hand-sewn tags and comes with washing directions and maintenance advice.

Vogelsang and Kleiman are using a combination of social media and grassroots methods to advertise Pattani.

They admit improvements, such as updating the website and creating clever names for patterns, will be necessary to keep the brand alive. Vogelsang and Kleiman did not expect launching Pattani to require so much work, but they said the experience has definitely been worth the effort.

Palazzo pants are an emerging market in Thailand but haven't funneled into mainstream culture in the United States. Vogelsang hopes Pattani's unique design and comfortable feel will eventually be integrated into mainstream fashion.

"I feel confident and relaxed wearing Pattani pants," she said. "Hopefully one day when I'm a lawyer, they can be considered professional wear."

# Positive farewell

*Phoenix loses productive senior class, returns plenty of experience*

Tommy Hamzik and Miles Garrett  
Managing Editor and Sports Editor

BALTIMORE — As his career at Elon University came to a close, a perhaps more merciful one than for players in years past, senior guard Austin Hamilton didn't want to talk about any shortcomings, defeats or downfalls.

There were plenty of those during his four years on the men's basketball team, even during this past season. Instead, the often-smiling Hamilton wanted to be happy.

"It's tough, man," Hamilton said after the Phoenix lost 72-59 to top-seeded College of William & Mary in a Colonial Athletic Association Tournament quarterfinal. "I just try to think of the positive stuff. I like to look at the positive things and kind of dwell on that."

The loss to William & Mary was the last game for Hamilton and senior guard Kevin Blake. Fellow senior Ryan Winters

walked off the court for the last time in January, punctured by a back injury that caused him to miss the last 13 games of his senior year.

So the Phoenix will move forward without their contributions, their work that's turned in 69 wins, the most of any senior class in Elon's Division I history.

"I'm really proud of the way our guys fought for the last three weeks," said Elon coach Matt Matheny. "A huge credit goes to Austin Hamilton, Kevin Blake and Ryan Winters, who led us off the mat."

But Elon isn't at ground zero.

The Phoenix battled through injuries during its inaugural venture into the CAA, largely with the help of a talented freshman class whose benefits were recognized from the onset.

The Phoenix lost 11 of 12 games during one stretch in CAA play but was able to string it together to win four straight at the tail end of the season — the last being a 74-69 overtime victory against Towson University in the opening round of the CAA Tournament.

In its last game of the regular season, Elon dashed the University of North Carolina at Wilmington's hopes of locking up the No. 1 seed in the CAA Tournament. The Phoenix upset the former conference

leaders by 19 points in Alumni Gym in what would be the last home game for the departing seniors.

"I will think of this year a lot when it comes to how we responded to the adversity we went through," Matheny said after the season-ending loss to William & Mary. "I said to them in the locker room after the game, 'We will never forget this year. We will always talk about this team and what they did.'"

Elijah Bryant went on to earn CAA Rookie of the Year honors while averaging 14.2 points, 4.2 rebounds and 2.7 assists per game. Dmitri Thompson shot 46.9 percent while coming off the bench and averaging 18.8 minutes per game, minutes that produced 6.1 points per game via strong attacks to the rim and breakaway dunks.

Collin Luther and Jack Anton each provided fruitful minutes off the bench and proved capable of standing their ground.

In addition, Christian Hairston, who'll be a junior next year, transitioned from being a wing player into a post role, where he had some struggles but held his own against teams like Duke University and UNCW.

And, Elon will regain sophomore guard

Luke Eddy, who led the Phoenix in scoring at 13 points per game before tearing his ACL in late December.

"Luke Eddy is on target," Matheny said. "He had successful surgery in late January. Every report is that he had very successful surgery and his rehab is going good."

On the contrary, sophomore forward Brian Dawkins, who missed all season with a knee injury, isn't in good shape.

"Brian Dawkins still has pain in his knee that we can't dissipate," Matheny said. "It's subsiding a little bit. I'm concerned about him. It doesn't hurt as much, but it's still there."

Elon's left with juniors Tanner Samson and Tony Sabato as its lone scholarship seniors for next season. Samson started all 33 games this year, while Sabato started 28 of them.

But experience isn't what will matter. Neither are known for their leadership or vocal motivation.

"Kevin, Austin and Ryan will carry the torch until they graduate," Matheny said. "And then they'll turn around and hand it to Tony and Tanner. But Tony and Tanner need to take over right now during spring workouts and lifting."

A familiarity will be present in 2015-2016 for Elon, not only with its league opponents but its roster, too. There won't be any reinventing the lineup or restructuring the plays.

Rather, the Phoenix can feel a level of cushion it didn't have this year.

# Ready.Set.Go!

*Spring concert features high energy dancing*

Ally Feinsot  
Senior Reporter

Tapping, swinging and gliding on the stage, Elon University's Department of Performing Arts presents its spring dance concert, titled "Ready.Set.Go!"

The concert will feature six contemporary pieces choreographed by Elon faculty and guest choreographer Sumi Clements of Summation Dance, a New York City-based dance company.

Although each piece is contemporary, the concert will also showcase ethnic pieces such as "Enter to Exit," a fusion of African and modern dance choreographed by assistant professor of dance Jason Aryeh. Other pieces are centered around athletic movement and incorporate pilates, yoga and contemporary ballet.

Director Lauren Kearns, dance professor and professional choreographer for more than 25 years, has a vision for the concert that matches the title: high energy, athleticism and intense movement.

"I thought it would be interesting to ask all the choreographers to design a piece around the theme of energy, movement and psychological tension," Kearns said. "All of the pieces are very different and unique, but they share this contemporary 'now' feel."

Sophomore dancer Hallee Bernstein interpreted the title as a representation of the

dance company's prowess.

"The title shows that we as a company are ready to take off in terms of our artistic ability," Bernstein said. "Each and every piece shows us off as artists and really proves to the audience how physical and athletic our department is."

Casting for "Ready.Set.Go!" began in September, when the dance department holds its seasonal auditions for the fall, spring and Black History month concerts. There are four nights of auditions designed to prepare the dancers for the audition process in the professional world.

After auditions, 45 total dancers of every year were chosen to perform in the concert. The rehearsals for some pieces began early in the fall, while others started the first week of spring semester.

Every Winter Term, a guest artist teaches a dance repertory class for which dancers must audition. Clements taught this year's repertory class, and alumna Allie Lochary '09, who is a company member of Summation Dance, assisted in choreography.

Kearns chose the choreographer because she thought Clements would challenge Elon's dancers, but she also wanted to have Lochary so the dancers could work with an alumna.

"I love Summation Dance's work but ultimately decided to pick them because we have an alumni dancing in the company,"

Kearns said. "I know Sumi loves the way that Allie moves, and she trained with us, so I knew that she would really enjoy working with our dancers."

Working with Clements both sharpened Bernstein's skills and reaffirmed her decision to move to New York City after college to pursue dance.

"Working with Sumi was incredible and life changing," Bernstein said. "The choreography was incredibly challenging and different than what we are used to here at Elon, so we all had a nice challenge picking up the work. Sumi is so detail-oriented and really pushed us past our limits."

Senior dance majors have been juggling preparation for this performance with work on their senior thesis concert, which they will perform in May. Senior Kate Phinney, a dance major, said these two performances sum up her Elon experience.

"The Elon dance community is really great and very familial," Phinney said. "It gives you a home away from home. I have grown a lot as an individual, and it has really challenged me to not only be the best dancer and choreographer, but also the best version of myself."

Catch the movement and energy with shows March 13-15 in McCrary Theatre.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**MARCH 12**  
Urban Doxology Project  
McKinnon Hall | 8 p.m.

**MARCH 13-15**  
'Ready.Set.Go!' Elon Dance  
Company Spring Concert  
McCrary Theatre | 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

**MARCH 16**  
Dr. Gregory A. Petsko,  
'Targeting Protein Trafficking:  
A New Approach to the Treatment  
of Alzheimer's Disease'  
McCrary Theatre | 7:30 p.m.

**MARCH 17**  
Jon Levenson, 'The Binding  
of Isaac in the Three  
'Abrahamic' Traditions: The  
Jewish-Christian-Muslim  
Debate'  
LaRose Digital Theatre | 7:30 p.m.

**MARCH 20-30**  
Spring Break  
Begins after classes end

GRAPHIC BY MEGAN GRAVLEY | Design Editor



Clockwise from left: Elijah Bryant dodges a pesky opponent while driving to the hoop, pushing Elon to victory. Brian Dawkins, Sam Hershberger, Wes Brewer and Tony Sabato salute their teammates after a senior night win over UNCW. The Phoenix gather in huddle prior to its final regular season game at Alumni Gym. Elon finished 15-18 after the CAA Tournament.

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

# James Madison commands CAA pack

## Dukes are clear favorite heading into women's basketball tournament

Miles Garrett  
Sports Editor

As the Colonial Athletic Association Men's Basketball Tournament comes to a close, it is time to look forward to the CAA Women's Basketball Tournament held in Upper Marlboro, Maryland March 12-15.

A number of teams ranked in the middle of a crowded CAA pack that all yielded similar conference records. James Madison University put together the most impressive season by far with only one conference loss all year. The Dukes also managed to upset No. 23 UCLA in their first game of the season.

The seeding of the rest of the teams in the CAA Tournament are as follows:

**No. 10 NORTHEASTERN (1-17)** — The Huskies (4-24 overall) earned their only CAA win against the University of North Carolina at Wilmington Jan. 16. They have performed poorly in all other games, ranking near the bottom of all offensive statistics in the CAA throughout the season. Their defense hasn't been much help either — the Huskies rank last in the conference in blocked shots, steals and turnover margins.

**No. 9 COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON (3-15)** — The Cougars (5-24 overall) have struggled almost as much as Northeastern this season with two of its three wins coming against the Huskies. They have the worst offense in the CAA, scoring an average of 55.4 points per game, and also have the fewest assists, with only 304. With a .349 average from beyond the arc, they yield the worst 3-point shooting percentage of any CAA team.

**No. 8 TOWSON (6-12)** — The Tigers

(10-20 overall) have had an up and down season in the CAA. Prior to losing its final six games of the regular season Towson had a respectable 6-6 mark in CAA play. With the exception of an overtime loss to UNCW Feb. 22, Towson's five other losses have not been close, losing by an average of 10.3 points. Towson is still the worst field goal shooting team in the CAA with a .358 percentage, and the Tigers also struggled at the free throw line, ranking last with a .639 average.

**No. 7 DELAWARE (8-10)** — The Blue Hens (13-16 overall), similar to Towson, lost their last five games of the season. Sophomore guard Erika Brown and junior guard Courtni Green rank in the top five in the CAA in scoring after averaging over 13 points per game. Sophomore forward Hannah Jardine has helped Delaware lead CAA in 3-point field goal percentage while also leading the same field in individual statistics.

**No. 6 WILLIAM & MARY (9-9)** — The Tribe (15-14 overall) comes into the CAA Tournament riding a three-game winning streak after dominant performances against College of Charleston, Northeastern and Towson. After getting off to a slow start at the beginning of the year by losing its first five conference games, the Tribe started to put things together toward the middle of the season to secure a respectable standing in the CAA. William & Mary performed well defensively this season, leading the conference in steals. Senior guard Jazmen Boone and sophomore forward Alexandra Masquel both rank in the top five in the CAA in steals with a combined 140 this year alone.

**No. 5 UNCW (10-8)** — The Seahawks

(14-15 overall) are coming off a signature 76-75 victory over Hofstra on March 4. The win was the team's fourth straight leading into its tournament opener against Elon. UNCW has done well getting rebounds this season through the efforts of sophomore guard Naqaiyyah Teague and sophomore forward Ryan Flowers who both rank in the top five in the CAA in scoring. Senior guard Kelva Atkins has led the Seahawks in scoring throughout the year and currently ranks second in the CAA in scoring with an average of 17 points per game.

**No. 4 ELON (11-7)** — The Phoenix (18-11 overall) has made an impressive debut in its first season in the CAA. Elon ranks second in the conference in scoring with an average of 67 points per game and also is the best field goal shooting team with a .425 percentage. The Phoenix has received production from a variety of its roster, as freshman center Malaya Johnson, sophomore guard Essence Baucom and senior guard Zora Stephenson all rank near the top of the CAA in field goal percentage, assists and 3-point field goals. The team has been sporadic throughout the year, winning and losing conference games without consistency.

**No. 3 HOFSTRA (11-7)** — The Pride (18-11 overall) has been good all year in scoring defense and scoring margin, ranking near the top in the CAA. Prior to losing its final two games of the regular season against Elon and UNCW, Hofstra was in the midst of a five-game winning streak that included an impressive win against No. 23 James Madison. Freshman guard Ashunae Durant has been a bright addition for Hofstra. She ranks second in the CAA in offensive rebounds while junior guard Darius Faulk

ranks second in the CAA in assists with an average of 5.3 per game.

**No. 2 DREXEL (14-4)** — The Dragons (20-9 overall) come into the CAA Tournament as the hottest team in the conference with six straight wins. The worst loss Drexel suffered this season was against No. 1 seed James Madison Feb. 8. The loss was a blip on an otherwise successful season. The Dragons yield the best scoring defense, free throw percentage and 3-point field goal percentage on defense. Junior guard Rachel Pearson has led Drexel, shooting .392 from beyond the arc and making an average of 2.6 3-pointers per game. Pearson has played the second most minutes in the CAA, averaging 37.4 in every game.

**No. 1 JAMES MADISON (17-1)** — The Dukes (26-3 overall) are not only first in the conference but also in almost every other statistical category. Before losing to Hofstra Feb. 22, James Madison had not lost a single game since Dec. 29 in a close loss to Southeastern Conference foe Vanderbilt University. They have won the rest of their games in dominating fashion. Led by junior guard Precious Hall, who ranks first in the CAA in scoring with an average of 21 points per game, and redshirt senior center Lauren Okafor, who leads the CAA in rebounding, the Dukes have been unstoppable in almost every facet of the game. With their regular season performance, the CAA Tournament is James Madison's to lose.

# One last time in Alumni

## Women's basketball plays final home game before CAA Tournament

Kyle Lubinsky  
Senior Reporter

Alumni Gym was crowded as the Elon University women's basketball team took the floor against the Delaware University Blue Hens. The game marked the final home game of the season for the Phoenix. It also marked the last home game ever for this year's senior class.

Seniors Zora Stephenson, Sam Coffey and Shannen Cochraham came onto the floor to thunderous applause from the crowd. The night was capped off with an overtime victory, securing the Phoenix No. 4 seed in the Colonial Athletic Association tournament.

"The wins and the losses, the running, the practices, the games, all of it has impacted me in some way, and to go

out with a win is awesome," Stephenson said. "I love this place, I love this school, I love this team. Elon will always be in my heart."

Stephenson, a guard from Vienna, Virginia, has been a stronghold for the Phoenix during her time on the team. As a freshman during the 2011 to 2012 season, she made 42.3 percent of her shots beyond the arc, a new single-season record at Elon.

As a sophomore, she made a total of 46 shots beyond the arc, the eighth most in the Southern Conference. Fans and opponents know her best for her devastating 3-point shot that allows her to take control of games. Against College of Charleston this year, she made seven triples and finished the game with 27 points.

Coffey, a Greensboro native, plays both

guard and forward and has been a factor since day one for the Phoenix. She played in all 30 games as a freshman and started 26.

As a junior, she led the team with 6.3 rebounds a game and 42 blocks in the season, and was named to the All-Southern Conference team. Coffey is known for her offensive prowess, too, scoring 19 points against College of Charleston this year, as well as a 16-point effort against the College of William & Mary in which she made all of her shots from the floor.

"I have a wonderful group of seniors," said head coach Charlotte Smith. "I'm proud for everything they've done for the program over the last four years."

Cochraham, from Alexandria, Virginia, has played in 26 games this season. At 6 feet 3 inches, she gives the Phoenix a force

in the paint.

She is known for her rebounding, averaging 3.4 boards per game as a junior. She is also known for offensive efficiency. Against Hofstra University, she had eight points after only playing 18 minutes. She scored 80 points this season and shot 55 percent from the field, adding yet another offensive weapon for Elon.

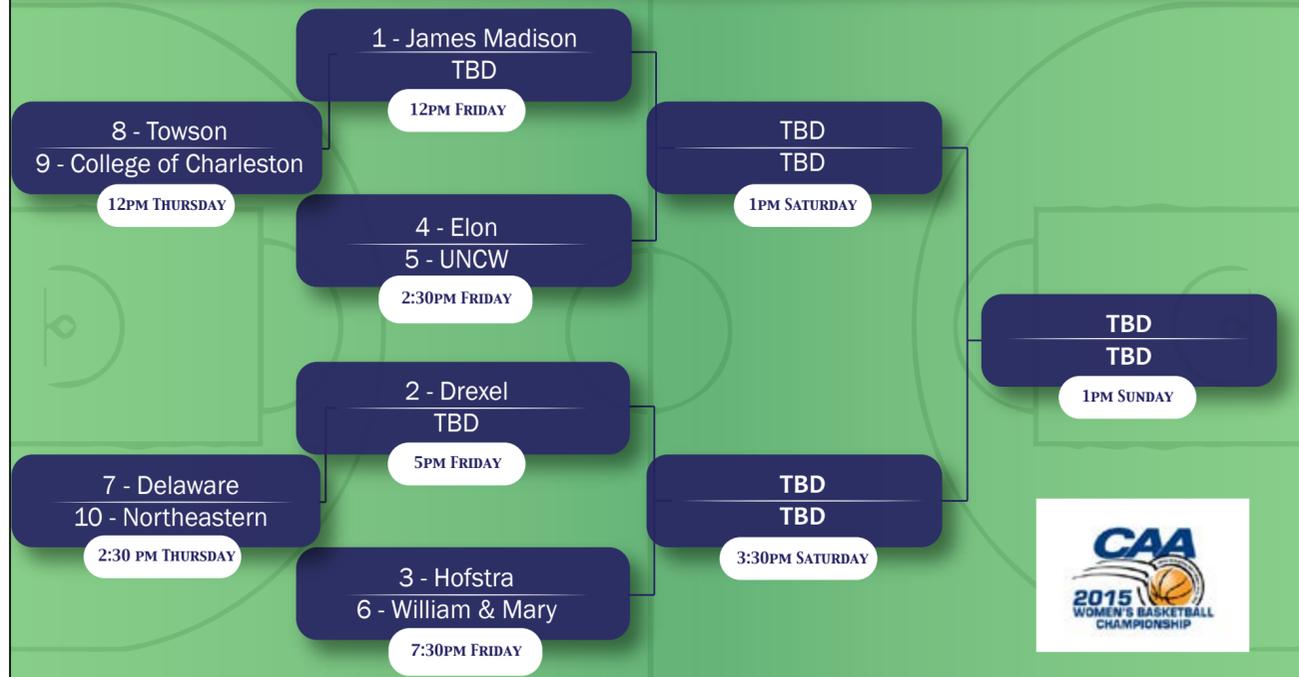
With the CAA Tournament starting March 12 against the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, the seniors relished the time they have spent in front of their home crowd. When asked about going to overtime, Stephenson grinned.

"We just wanted to play a little more," she said. "Some senior nights are blow-outs, some are overtime close like this. I'm just glad we won."



Clockwise from top left: Elon warms up prior to its game against Delaware; Junior guard Autumn Carter attempts a layup through coverage from Delaware defenders; Shay Burnett drives in the paint for a layup.

## 2015 CAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



GRAPHIC BY HALEY LONGBOTTOM

## Sports Briefs

Baseball readies for Wake Forest and East Carolina

This upcoming week, the Phoenix will take on Wake Forest University for the second game of its annual series against the Demon Deacons March 11. Last year, the Phoenix lost a 12-inning game to Wake 3-2.

Afterward, Elon will host a three-game series against East Carolina University starting March 13.

Senior first baseman Casey Jones has raised his batting average to .409 in the last six games for the Phoenix. Last year, Jones hit .418, which ranked him nationally in the top five.

Senior outfielder Quinn Bower has stolen six bases this season to move his career total to 57, ranking him ninth in Elon history. He now trails Chuck Lindsey '79 by two for eighth place.

Women's track and field travels to Coastal Carolina Invitational

The Phoenix will take part in its first outdoor meet of the season March 13 when it travels to Coastal Carolina University.

The team concluded its indoor season at the Eastern College Athletic Conference Indoor Championships last weekend in Boston. The Phoenix sent 10 athletes and finished 21st overall.

Sophomore Kimberly Johansen broke her own school record time in the 800-meters event with a time of 2:09:01 in the preliminary round. In the finals round of the race, Johansen took fifth overall with a time of 2:09:80. Junior Sydney Griffin finished fourth in the 60-meter hurdles event with a season-best time of 8.72. Redshirt sophomore Elyse Bierut set a personal best in the 3,000-meter race, finishing

in 12th with a time of 9:39:51.

Women's tennis falls to Liberty

In its last match Saturday, the Phoenix fell to Liberty University 5-2. The loss snapped a four-game winning streak for Elon.

Freshmen Erica Braschi and Olivia Lucas both won their matches in the loss. So far, the singles team has a winning record with six members all above .500 in the season.

RACHEL INGERSOLL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Thursday, March 12**

Men's tennis vs. Longwood, 3 p.m.

**Friday, March 13**

Baseball vs. East Carolina, 4 p.m.

Softball vs. NC Central, 5:30 p.m.

Men's tennis vs. Winthrop, 2 p.m.

Women's tennis at UNC Wilmington, 2 p.m.

Women's track at Coastal Carolina

Women's track at NCAA Division I Indoor Nationals (Fayetteville, Arkansas)

**Saturday, March 14**

Baseball vs. East Carolina, 2 p.m.

Women's track at Coastal Carolina Invitational

Women's track at NCAA Division I Indoor Nationals (Fayetteville, Arkansas)

**Sunday, March 15**

Softball at UNCG, 1 p.m.

Baseball vs. East Carolina, 1:30 p.m.

Women's tennis vs. George Washington, 1 p.m.

Men's tennis vs. George Washington, 2:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 17**

Baseball vs. Maryland, 4 p.m.

Softball vs. Rider, DH 4 p.m & 6 p.m.

# Freshman Luck quietly winning for Elon

## South African earning key victories for Phoenix

Jordan Spritzer  
Assistant Sports Editor

Soft-spoken Josh Luck is more likely to be seen than heard on the court, though the freshman is still making plenty of noise, winning four of his last five singles matches for the Elon University men's tennis team.

Luck won his fourth straight March 7, defeating North Carolina Central University's Jamal Hoyte in straight sets at No. 5 singles. His streak looked like it was going to continue later in the day when he took on Georgia Southern University's Kyle Hoffman at No. 4 singles. Luck took the first set 6-2, but dropped the next two to bring his winning streak to an end.

"[Hoffman] stepped up his game," Luck said. "I dropped off, and the next thing I knew it was tied and anything could happen in a third set."

Head coach Michael Leonard wants Luck to embrace the team aspect of college tennis, "Wins are not enough," he said.

"He's sort of a reserved kid," Leonard said. "He doesn't really understand the atmosphere and the energy you have to bring to it."

Luck never thought he needed high en-

ergy to play well, but Leonard thinks it can give Luck a boost even if it's not his own energy.

"He needs to learn how to feed off the rest of us a little bit more," Leonard said.

Luck said his teammates encourage him to become more vocal on the court. He said it will come in time when he gets used to the more team-oriented style of college tennis.

"It's generally an individual sport, so I have to get used to playing for a team, playing with other guys and worrying about other courts," Luck said.

While he was briefed in the fall about the differences of dual matches, Luck said he just needed matches under his belt to fully understand what to expect.

"Hopefully by the end of the season I can be playing my best tennis," he said.

Senior Stefan Fortmann has seen Luck begin to come into his own.

"Since he's arrived where he is now, he's definitely improved character-wise," Fortmann said. "That might be why he's been winning so much recently."

Fortmann, a fellow South African, knows the difficulties Luck faces adjusting to life at a U.S. university and as a college tennis player. He says sometimes changes

are necessary.

"Coming into college myself, I wasn't a vocal guy, but it's something you have to pick up because it's a part of college tennis," he said.

Fortmann added he and Luck share a unique bond as South Africans, but the two were hardly raised in the same neighborhood. Luck hails from the city of Cape Town on the west coast, while Fortmann was raised almost 1,000 miles away in the town of Wartburg.

While Luck continues to improve as a vocal leader, Leonard wants the rest of the team to follow suit. Leonard attributes the program's success the past few years to the intensity players brought to each match.

"As a group we have to get hungrier. It's disappointing as a coach because I don't think I've had teams in the past that are like that," Leonard said. "We're missing that competitiveness and drive."

After winning three straight matches for their first wins of the year, Elon has lost two of its last three matches.

The Phoenix will look to get back to winning Thursday, March 12 when it hosts Longwood University at 3 p.m. at the Jimmy Powell Tennis Center.

# Softball thrives in early going

Robbie Nanna  
Senior Reporter

After the Elon University softball team returned from the Citrus Classic in Orlando, Florida, it went nine days without playing a game because of inclement weather.

This length of time in the middle of the season with no games or consistent practice regimen can often get the better of a team and cause it to crumble, especially since softball relies on repetition and constantly practicing different skills.

"The team loves to play games," said junior infielder Emily Cameron. "It's why we're here. We live for the competition, so when we do come together, we don't skip a beat and we are ready."

Although the team had to cancel five games in the past two weeks, players have proven on the field they didn't get rusty.

This past week, the team took advantage of the favorable weather. The Phoenix rescheduled a game against Campbell University March 3 and played the Elon Opening Tournament March 6-8.

These made up for most of the rescheduled games, and the team showed promise.

In its past 10 games, the Phoenix has won nine, four of which were shutouts.

"The big thing about this group is they're going to work hard against anybody," said head coach Kathy Bocoock. "This group wants to win. They're competitive and they're going to do all it takes."

Of the 26 games that remain, exactly half of those will be home games at Hunt Softball Park. While the team clearly thrives when playing at home, having lost only one contest there, the unpredictable weather is a nuisance when heading into conference play.

Elon has not even begun play in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) — these games often require a degree of traveling, as far as New York, and rescheduling these games is not easy.

Even so, the players are focusing on

staying game ready instead of worrying about weather.

"I have been taking practice as if I was in a game situation," said freshman pitcher Kiana Mitchum. "I've been thinking about what pitches I would throw to get the job done and focus on the results I want to get."

The Phoenix currently sits at 12-5 on

the year with five more games until its first CAA matchup at the College of Charleston March 21. Until then, the Phoenix looks to its next contest as it travels to Charlotte to challenge the University of North Carolina at Charlotte March 11.



Senior first baseman Sarah Little swings against Lafayette March 6 for Elon's 10th win of the season. The Phoenix beat the Leopards twice last weekend, 8-0 and 2-0.

# Top Photos and Top Tweets at Elon



Left to Right: Junior Aidan Dyer jams with prospective students Clive Stampf II, Nikki Manderico and Madeleine McCarthy during Fellows Weekend March 6.



Senior Kristin Ruffe celebrates Elon Day at the first Global College Coffee March 10.



Freshman Kara Shutt and sophomore Carey Million high five during Elon's game against Lafayette College Friday, which the Phoenix won 8-0.

## Top Tweets

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**Elon Phoenix**  
@elonphoenix - March 5  
It's official: @ElonMensHoops' Elijah Bryant is the 2015 #CAAHoops Rookie of the Year!

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**Maryn Hayward**  
@marynhayward - March 4  
The only place where you can break the gender ratio is at Qdoba @Only-AtElon #heyboys

---

**CAA Basketball**  
@CAABasketball - March 6  
What a game. @ElonMensHoops wins in OT, 74-69, over Towson.

---

**allison p.**  
@allisonosity - March 8  
I just read Sylvia plath's journal entry on procrastination as I'm procrastinating my own homework

---

**Leo M. Lambert**  
@HeadPhoenix - March 8  
Song lyrics to get stuck in your head: "...happy birthday dear Elon, happy birthday to you!" 126, but don't look a day older than 100. 3/10

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