

THE PENDULUM

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HOPE feeds the hungry

2014-2015 Elon tuition to increase

Michael Bodley and Stephanie Lamm
News Editor and Assistant News Editor

With the passing of the 2014-2015 fiscal budget, Elon University reaffirmed its commitment to a slow growth model, increasing tuition by 3.69 percent and bringing the total cost of an Elon education to \$41,914 per year for students living on campus. Students living off campus can expect to pay \$30,848.

Gerald Whittington, senior vice president for business, finance and technology, said part of the problem is the university's endowment, currently valued at \$183 million. Though the university plans to triple it by 2020, the funds still pale in comparison to schools such as the University of Richmond — one of Elon's main competitors — which boasts an endowment valued at just over \$2 billion.

"There are certainly some challenges to being a tuition-dependent institution," Whittington said. "If you're growing slowly instead of really fast, you can get a double effect of covering the cost of education because you grew some and the tuition rate went up some."

Whittington said a 4 percent increase is a "line in the sand" that media outlets have publicized as being too much. Over the last four years, Elon has kept its tuition increases below the line.

But Gabriel Noble, a senior who was almost unable to graduate due to cost, asked when the university should stop expanding and settle for what is here now: a "perfect campus." Thanks to a Change.org petition, Noble will graduate this spring through donor contributions and grants.

"I know they have to raise the tuition for everything they're adding on," he said. "When I got here, Elon was enough for me to be happy for my whole four years. At what point does the administration decide we're good — we



CAROLINE OLNEY | Photo Editor

Barbara Davis and other community members volunteer at the Allied Churches of Alamance County, which receives support from Elon's HOPE organization.

Elon sophomores establish charity to benefit local food pantries

Morgan Abate
Senior Reporter

A student-led nonprofit founded by Elon University students to raise funds for needy food pantries will serve its first meals in Alamance County through four local restaurants March 7.

Co-founder and sophomore Jensen Roll worked with food pantries and homeless shelters before coming to Elon. He noticed these pantries ran out of food quickly, did not have enough volunteers and lacked funds for facilities and incidentals. His observations prompted him to take action and find a solution: Helping Other People Eat (HOPE).

Starting this coming Fellows Weekend, HOPE and its "HOPE-certified" partner restaurants will give customers the option to round their bills to the next dollar or to add a custom donation. The funds raised will be distributed by HOPE to local food pantries.

The organization scheduled its debut around Fellows Weekend because of its potential to reach prospective students and to show their families how Elon engages with the local community.

The first pantry to benefit from HOPE is Allied Churches of Alamance County (ACAC), which serves 300 to 400 people daily.

"The opportunity is there," Roll said. "The

need is there."

ACAC is dedicated to helping the impoverished by providing shelter and food for individuals and families, among other services. But since Loaves and Fishes, the county's only food pantry, suddenly closed in August, ACAC has struggled a great deal.

In September of last year, a month after Loaves and Fishes closed, ACAC opened a new food pantry. The addition of the unexpected program put an extra burden on the organization. ACAC slowly slipped into debt for a few months after starting the program.

Despite these recent hardships, Executive

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MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			February 26 Spring Organization Fair 5 p.m. Moseley Center	27 Men's Basketball vs. Wofford 7 p.m. Alumni Gym	28 SUBLive: Kevin Mac Irazu 8 p.m.	March 1 Baseball vs. High Point 12:30 p.m. Latham Park
2 Softball vs. Coppin State 2 p.m. Hunt Softball Park	3 Daniel Asia, "The Act of Creativity" 6:30 p.m. Numen Lumen Pavilion	4 Mardi Gras Celebration 5:30 p.m. Numen Lumen Pavilion	5 Sudhir Venkatesh, "Unusual Economic Lessons from Inner City Life" 7:30 p.m. Whitely Auditorium	6 Moscow Festival Ballet, "The Sleeping Beauty" 7:30 p.m. McCrary Theatre	7 Baseball vs. Minnesota 1:30 p.m. Myrtle Beach, S.C.	8 Softball vs. Radford 1 p.m. Hunt Softball Park
9 Men's Tennis vs. Davidson 1 p.m. Jimmy Powell Tennis Center	10 Truitt Center 'whirlwind tour' of world religions 4 p.m. Numen Lumen Pavilion	11 "Incendies" film screening 7 p.m. LaRose Digital Theatre				

THE PENDULUM

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The Pendulum is a daily operation that includes a newspaper, website, magazine and multimedia. Letters to the editor are welcome and should be typed, signed and emailed to pendulum@elon.edu as Word documents. The Pendulum reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned. The Pendulum is located on the third floor of the Elon Town Center on Williamson Avenue.

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CHARITY

from cover

Director Kim Crawford expressed her gratitude for HOPE.

“We’re really excited to partner with HOPE,” she said. “It is a unique and innovative way to raise awareness as well as to provide funding.”

HOPE co-founder and sophomore Steven Cobb has been volunteering with the food pantry at ACAC since fall semester. He said ACAC wants to expand, but it has staffing and infrastructure challenges to overcome first.

The founders of HOPE said their organization can give ACAC the financial stability it needs to care for the people of Alamance County and to expand its operations.

“Our goal is to raise awareness on campus of food insecurity in Alamance County,” Roll said.

Roll said the program will help take some of the burden off of ACAC and market local businesses as socially responsible. It is also a chance for Elon students to become more involved with the surrounding community.

HOPE officially launched last fall. Cobb

said the closing of Loaves and Fishes helped move HOPE from an idea to reality.

“I don’t think [Loaves and Fishes closing] was the spark, but it was fuel,” he said.

HOPE started to pitch its mission in local entrepreneurial competitions last semester.

The group of sophomores entered and won the Triple Impact Challenge sponsored by the Doherty Center for Entrepreneurship in October. The Challenge invited students to propose solutions to social ills on campus or in the broader Burlington community. A panel of professors and local leaders judged the competition.

“By winning this challenge we gained a new sense of accomplishment and excitement that this is an idea worth pursuing,” Roll told E-Net after the competition.

In November, HOPE entered the Start-Up Weekend competition that was held at Elon. Start-Up Weekend is a 54-hour event where innovators and entrepreneurs share ideas and form teams. Business leaders, angel investors and marketing and advertising agencies help concretize the teams’ ideas for several days, leading up to a formal presentation on the last day.

Once again, HOPE fared well. It placed

second but received a package of services including logo and branding consultation, sustainability workshops and office space.

But Roll, Cobb and the other co-founders said they are careful to make any projections or have expectations in case it fails. HOPE needs to be well-received by Burlington, partner restaurants and the Elon community

before it can be called a success.

According to Crawford, HOPE will be a “pleasant surprise” for the people of Alamance County. She said there will be reluctance from the community to participate at first because it is new, but it will be embraced.

“Most people will understand it and will get on board,” Crawford said.



(From left to right) Michael Holland, John Robinson, Kathy Bailey and Ed Toyer work in the kitchen of ACAC. The program, which feeds 300 to 400 people everyday, will begin to receive help from HOPE March 7.

CAROLINE OLNEY | Photo Editor

New study shows benefits of education still outweigh the costs

Simone Jasper
Senior Reporter

Nationwide, rising tuition costs create headaches for many college students. But the results of a Pew Research Center study published Feb. 11 show the economic benefits of a college education still outweigh the costs.

The study, “The Rising Cost of Not Going to College,” found that college graduates of the millennial generation were economically superior to their peers who had less education. When data from millennials was compared to data from other generations, the disparity between educational attainment and economic success is greater now than ever before.

The study was based on a nationally representative survey of more than 2,000 young adults in 2013. The study focused on people ages 25 to 32 after most participants completed their formal educations. It also analyzed U.S. Census Bureau economic data

from people of other generations when they were between the same ages.

The Pew study found that millennial college graduates who work full-time make more money than full-time millennials who only have a high school education. The gap between the average incomes of these educational groups is greater than it was for previous generations, with millennials who only finish high school making 62 percent of what typical college graduates make.

Greg Lilly, associate professor of economics at Elon University, said studies always find an income gap, but economists haven’t come to a consensus about why the income gap is increasing. He pointed out that another study finding that having more millennials attending college than previous generations has economic benefits.

“There’s a reason why college graduates make more money than high school graduates,” Lilly said. “You develop more skills and abilities, which gives you an advantage in

the labor market. Employers will be willing to pay you more money. It’s always good for the economy if people in the workforce have more skills and discipline.”

The study found that millennial college graduates have other advantages over their peers, including lower unemployment rates, higher likelihood of full-time employment and better preparation for careers.

But some Americans argue higher education costs too much. Many colleges and universities, including Elon, are increasing tuition for the 2014-2015 school year.

Lilly said anyone who wants to go to college can afford it. He said financial aid allows students who demonstrate need to get college education at low costs, even if these might not be the institutions students want to attend.

“That’s often pointed out as a reason why Americans don’t go to college,” Lilly said. “High tuition might deter students from going to a specific college.”

The findings suggest people who are worried about economic success should be willing to pay and consider majors that make the most money.

Dan Anderson, vice president of university communications at Elon, said many prospective students don’t consider how much money they will make when they select colleges.

“Students might not think about making money when choosing schools,” Anderson said. “Students who see these studies shouldn’t think that the college choice is only financial.”

Anderson pointed out that students choose to attend colleges and universities for other aspects.

“[These studies] attempt to take a college experience and put a dollar amount on it,” Anderson said. “For most people, the college experience is so much more than that. It gives people the tools to enjoy life, and you can’t put a value on that.”

TUITION

from cover

don't need more? At what point do they stop expanding?"

Growing slowly in terms of students, tuition

As a private institution, Elon does not differentiate between in-state or out-of-state tuition rates. For the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the North Carolina Board of Governors has proposed no increase for in-state students, but out-of-state students are facing a 12 percent increase in fees.

An email sent by President Leo Lambert emphasized that Elon's tuition continues to fall below the national average and is almost \$10,000 lower than most universities in the Northeast.

"I wasn't surprised by the increase," freshman Katie Quick said. "I assumed it would increase each year, and the increase wasn't a lot compared to other schools in the area. Elon's tuition isn't that bad to start with compared to schools up North."

But junior Connor Cavanaugh said he hasn't seen much in return for the tuition increases hurting his wallet.

"This is my third year here, and it's gone up every year," he said. "With all the increases, I haven't seen a difference in the quality of the university and the experiences I've had here."

The cost of expansion

Elon ranks in the top 8 percent in size among private universities. As the university grows, the administration is taking care to ensure Elon has enough resources and space for everyone on campus.

Elon aims to increase enrollment by about 100 students this fall.

"We are not a small school anymore, but we are looking to grow slowly so that we will not feel crowded," said Steven House, vice president of academic affairs and provost at Elon.

But freshman Elena Sparacio said she is concerned the university will run out of space for students who want to live on campus.

"I worry it's going to be crowded with more freshmen on campus next year," Sparacio said. "They'll need to build more housing."

On average, 300 students are off campus studying abroad or interning in a given semester. House said increased study abroad opportunities, along with the new Global Neighborhood will hopefully free up space for the incoming freshmen.

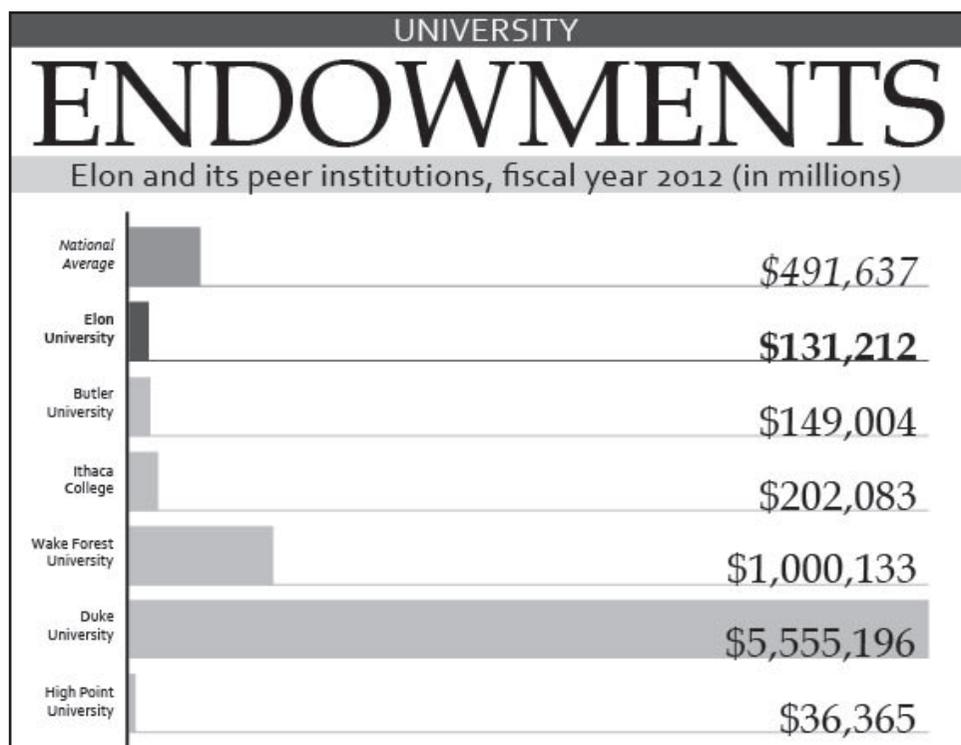
The school plans to add 400,000 square feet of new buildings in the next few years, including the Global Neighborhood buildings, a new School of Communications and an admissions welcome center. The budget also

get will go toward professor pay increases. Professors' raises will depend on performance evaluations — typically one a semester.

"We want to reward the best professors we have here at Elon by offering them a financial incentive to stay," House said.

Funding for study abroad programs and undergraduate research will also increase in an effort to connect faculty members with students.

"We are committed to small class sizes.



CAROLINE OLNEY | Photo Editor

allocates funds for renovations in the Historic Neighborhood in the coming years.

Elon's Writing Excellence Initiative will receive major funding from the 2014-2015 budget. More freshman English classes will be offered to reduce class sizes, and the Writing Center will be renovated and expanded

Pay increases to reward promising professors

House said in order to prevent increasing class sizes, the university plans to hire 16 new full-time faculty members. This should maintain the 12-to-1 student-faculty ratio and help the university reach its goal of no more than 15 percent part-time faculty members.

The largest portion of the 2014-2015 bud-

We have a teacher-scholar-mentor model, which means we have to give professors time for scholarship and the resources to mentor students. Elon cares about close personal relationships between faculty and students. In order to do that we have to fund the Elon Experiences," House said.

The cloud: computing from behind the scenes

Though class sizes and professor salaries can be measured in definite terms, the increases to tuition will also go toward behind-the-scenes technological advancement — that which can't be so easily seen with the naked eye, Whittington said.

"A lot of the technology you don't see is

behind the wall," he said. "We're having to make some significant improvements behind the wall. You turn on the light switch, and the lights come on, but you don't think about the process."

Just as students don't think about how the lights turn on, Whittington said, neither do they consider the jumble of wires and electrical impulses that allow them to surf the Web or check their email. The university plans to expedite that process even more by increasing bandwidth speeds to 100 megabytes per second (mbps) over the next several years.

One-hundred mbps per second is the fastest publicly-available speed, save Google Fiber, a blazing fast fiber-optic service that may be coming to the Triangle soon, according to a report released last week by the technological market heavyweight.

Whittington said he would be thrilled by the possibility of bringing Google Fiber to campus, but in the meantime, the university plans to act where it can: cloud computing. He said the university plans to gradually migrate its servers to the cloud, with physical storage spaces spread out in several locations from Raleigh to Chicago.

The fiscal reality of financial aid

Ideally, Whittington said, any student from the lower class to the upper echelon who qualifies academically should be able to come to Elon, but that's just not a fiscal reality, given the endowment's size. House and Whittington both said the largest portion of the incoming funds from the tuition hike should go to financial aid, particularly need-based aid.

"That would really help those who are in the middle class who otherwise couldn't even think about coming to a private institution like Elon University," Whittington said.

A "country club" approach to amenities over academics may hinder the future of the institution, Noble said. Though the senior praised Elon for providing him with a quality education, he said it could be improved.

"I think Elon does its best to provide the best academic atmosphere possible," Noble said. "I'm a much better person and a student because of that, but why do we need to place a coffee machine in the library when most people can make their own? If these amenities are at the expense of students coming in, then it's really not right." §

Voter ID laws challenge out-of-state voters

Katy Canada
Managing Editor

Junior political science major Niki Molinaro has voted in every election since she came to Elon University. But new North Carolina voter identification laws may keep her out of the voting booth.

Although she considers Elon her home, Molinaro, an official New York resident, must present a North Carolina identification card at the polls if she wants to continue voting in North Carolina.

The bill, passed August 2013, does more than require voters to show a government-issued ID at the polls. It also shortens the voting period by one week and ends same-day voter registration.

This is particularly a problem for university students who use their college ID cards as a form of identification at the polls. Beginning in 2016, they will no longer be considered acceptable.

“I think the new law is meant to keep certain groups of people out of the elections,” Molinaro said.

Republican officials in the North Carolina General Assembly argue that voter identification laws are structured to combat voter fraud and save the state money by shortening the voting period.

An Elon University Poll conducted November 2013 showed 65 percent of North Carolinian voters supported the requirement of government-issued identification at the polling precincts. Among Republicans, 96 percent are in favor of voter ID, but only 36 percent of Democrats support the requirement.

Elon political science professor Kenneth Fernandez said any number of circumstances, including requirement of ID, could deter people from voting.

“Even the tiniest barrier to voting will affect voter turnout,” he said. “So we think that making it difficult to vote is going to have an impact, especially on younger people.”

Fernandez said most older and middle-aged people often vote in many elections in a row, having established a routine and level of comfort in their voting duty.

“Young people have social lives, they have

school, they have part-time jobs, and so barriers to voting may affect younger people more,” he said. “And younger people have been in a different location for a shorter period of time.”

Students from out of state will feel a deeper impact, Fernandez said. Although North Carolina state law allows people from outside the state to get a free North Carolina ID card, the process of obtaining one is a barrier in itself — particularly for students.

“You have to go to the DMV to get one, which is a hassle. But [getting an ID card] also means that you are a resident of North Carolina, so if you have a vehicle, you have to register it,” Fernandez said.

But North Carolina’s voter ID laws have the potential to increase voter turnout, according to Fernandez. He said creating barriers could motivate people to vote more than they would ordinarily want to.

“By putting barriers in front of people, you actually make it a salient issue,” he said. “People are debating about voting and who should vote. It makes people think about it. It reminds them to register to vote.”

Fernandez said voter ID laws might decrease voter turnout initially. But in the long run, he said, they will stimulate voter turnout by drawing attention to issues of voting rights.

For Elon students from out of state, Fernandez recommended using an absentee ballot through organizations like TurboVote.

“If you want to vote, you can vote,” he said. “What political science has found — and people hate when I say this — is that the probability of your one vote making a difference is pretty small.”

Fernandez said most people who do vote in elections believe voting is their civic responsibility. Only 50 percent of eligible

voters actually turn out to vote in elections. With voter ID laws, minority voters among this 50 percent will face additional challenges because obtaining an acceptable form of identification is more difficult.

These are challenges former North Carolina Senator Ellie Kinnaird fought to reduce during her time in office. She resigned shortly after the signing of the voter ID law.

When Kinnaird took office in 1997, the senate had a large margin of Democrats.

“I was feeling that this was a pretty good place. I could do a lot of things that I wanted to,” Kinnaird said.

When Democrats became marginalized in the Senate, she said, much of the legislation she worked to

enact was overturned. “Last year really did away with all of my [legislation enacted]. I was thinking ‘I’m not very effective here,’” Kinnaird said.

Since her resignation, Kinnaird has teamed up with Democracy North Carolina to work on The NC Voter Project, aiming to register as many people to vote in North Carolina as possible.

Kinnaird has found people are eager to protect their voting

rights. She said that students are largely affected because the law removes same-day registration for voting.

“Students aren’t paying much attention because they’re very involved in papers and exams, and all of a sudden, the election is upon them, and they haven’t registered to vote 25 days before,” she said. “That means that a lot fewer students are going to be able to access the elections.”

Molinaro suggested the right to vote is a cornerstone of America’s democracy.

“It’s one of the greatest gifts we have as United States citizens — that we have the ability to affect the way our government rep-

resents us,” she said.

The votes of the younger demographic have been considered a dividing factor in recent presidential elections. In 2008, Barack Obama received 60 percent of the vote from people under 30 — 24 points higher than Mitt Romney — according to the Pew Research Center. Even so, 77 percent of people nationally favored voter ID requirements in a study done in 2012.

The study found that one-third of young voters identified their political views as liberal, while 41 percent said were moderate and 37 percent said they were conservative.

Molinaro plans to take her vote to the North Carolina polls in 2016, even though she voted in her home state in 2012.

“It’s important to stay up on the issues and to know what you’re voting for,” she said. “I’d vote in North Carolina because it’s a swing state, so it’s a more important vote.”

“EVEN THE
TINIEST
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AFFECT VOTER
TURNOUT.”

KENNETH FERNANDEZ
ELON POLITICAL SCIENCE
PROFESSOR

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Snow days force professors to revise curriculum

Michael Papich
Assistant News Editor

While a three-day snow break may feel brief in retrospect, for classes planned months in advance, even one missed day can have a resounding impact for the rest of the semester.

Paul Parsons, dean of Elon University's School of Communications, said at some point, too many missed classes can have a real impact when students lose face time with teachers. In the past, Elon has created make-up days for classes missed during Winter Term, when there is even less time with a professor.

But with new technology available for teaching, make-up days have become less necessary to keep students in a class.

"I've been teaching a long time now, and before the Internet, when you lost a day, you couldn't do anything," Parsons said.

Parsons said professors can use email and direct class tools like Moodle to engage with students to develop contingency plans, but other professors at Elon used new technology to bring classes into students' rooms.

"Missing three days of class created many opportunities for faculty to be cre-

ative, not only with schedule adjustments, but also with uses of technology, including screen casting for teaching online when classes could not meet," said Susan Manning, chair of the management department at Elon.

For students, the snow days do not impact what they think they will get out of class.

"My teachers still had the same assignments and were able to get them to us," said Halley Gartner, a senior at Elon. "We missed three days. It's not the end of the world."

Sharon Eisner, an adjunct communications instructor at Elon who teaches two-credit hour classes like Public Speaking, said the impact of a missed day is intensified when it comes to half-semester courses.

"We have 12 to 14 classes, depending on the semester, and the students usually speak for half of them," Eisner said. "So I have six or seven classes to do all my teaching and lecturing. Losing one of those classes is kind of a big deal."

By shortening the length of the final speech or reducing lectures in other two-credit hour classes, Eisner said she is able to keep things moving.



PHOTO BY JANE SEIDEL

Though the snow days disrupted teachers' class plans, students enjoyed the days off from school. Emmie Potter and Kelsey Johnson joined a snowball fight that took place on the lawn outside Colonnades.

"I appreciate that it happened in the beginning because I feel like it's possible for us to get back in the rhythm. I think if it had happened at the end, it would have been a disaster," she said.

When it comes to creating new syllabi with the remaining days, Parsons said most professors try to look at two main factors.

"There's a balance of two concepts: What they consider to be essential content

and what can be done off of campus," Parsons said.

Eisner added that canceling class because of snow is a preferred reason for missing a day.

"It's better than other reasons that classes could have been canceled. At least no one on campus got hurt," she said. "But it does affect the class and we have to have changes."

Journalist-turned-activist talks 'broken immigration system'

Morgan Abate
Senior Reporter

More than 11 million immigrants in the United States remain undocumented. In 2010, they contributed more than \$11 billion in state and local taxes. According to the Center for Immigrant Studies, more than 774,000 undocumented immigrants have been deported in the past two years.

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Jose Antonio Vargas shed some light on undocumented immigrant experiences in the U.S. and urged the audience to advocate for the rights of immigrants at the Intersect Leadership and Diversity Conference at Elon University Feb. 22.

"We are living in this age of intersec-

tionality," Vargas said. "You don't have to be gay to fight for LGBT rights. You don't have to be a woman to be a feminist. You don't have to be Latino or black to care about Latino or black issues."

According to Vargas, the only way to change the politics of any of these issues is to change the culture surrounding it. Vargas has worked to enact that change through his Define American project and his documentary, "Undocumented," which will air on CNN this summer.

The Define American project was created by Vargas to start discussion on the "broken immigration system" and to encourage people to tell their stories.

"Silence is not acceptable anymore," Vargas said. "Action is necessary."

Throughout his speech, Vargas used clips from "Undocumented" to show the different views on immigration held by both immigrants and U.S. citizens.

Vargas localized the immigration issue, acknowledging Alamance County sheriff Terry Johnson, whose office was sued by the U.S. Department of Justice under accusations of racial profiling.

"I would love to come back here to show the film," Vargas said. "And invite the sheriff, perhaps."

Vargas gained international attention when he decided to speak the truth about his life as an undocumented immigrant in The New York Times Sunday Magazine June 22, 2011.

In the piece, Vargas details how in 1993

his mother sent him to America from the Philippines to live with his grandparents. When he turned 16, he went to the DMV to get his license. The official who looked at the green card told Vargas it was fake and not to come back.

He spent the next 14 years working at media outlets such as the Philadelphia Daily News, The Washington Post and The New Yorker.

Vargas said he was most surprised by the "stunning silence" after he announced his immigrant status. He even called the White House while filming "Undocumented" to ask why he had not been deported.

"I know who you are," a White House official said to Vargas.

First upper-level study abroad GST to be offered next January

Morgan Abate
Senior Reporter

Next Winter Term, Elon University will offer its first upper-level General Studies course abroad and its first in Austria.

The course, entitled “Sex and Violins: The Lives of the Great Composers” will allow students to explore how the music of the Eastern European nation has influenced culture and society and understand global issues through an interdisciplinary lens. Students will visit castles, the Alps, polka halls and Viennese coffee houses.

The course is a 400-level GST course, which means it will be writing intensive. Students will also conduct independent research as part of their Capstone project.

Kristina Meinking, who has taught upper-level GST seminars before, said a writing-intensive course like a GST Capstone could be challenging to do in three weeks, but feasible.

“It depends on how the course is structured and designed,” she said. “I’m curious to see what faculty and students learn from it

and how it develops after its first iteration.”

Matthew Buckmaster, associate professor of music and education, who proposed the Winter Term course, wants to “heavily utilize” the regular pre-departure course to help students prepare for cultural differences.

“It will be more intense than the average prep class,” Buckmaster said. “It’ll be a lot of content, less logistical.”

Once students arrive in Austria, the assignments will be more interactive, Buckmaster said. They will keep blogs and travelogues with pictures, videos and music clips.

Sophomore Megan Sweeney said the course can work if students are properly prepared beforehand.

Sweeney recommended students go into their prep class with a good idea of what they want to research and where.

“Look into locations and sites to have a rough idea of what will be most valuable to you,” Sweeney said, who has been involved in her own research endeavors at Elon.

Buckmaster said the syllabus has undergone substantial revisions. He has received

input from German language professors on campus, as well as students who have traveled to Austria.

“I’m thrilled. I’ve been to Austria twice, but I’ve studied all my life,” he said. “This is a musical mecca. If there is any place you go as

a musician, it’s Vienna.”

Though the course will be challenging to teach, Buckmaster said he can’t wait.

“I think there is something for everyone,” he said. “It will be a truly transformative experience for anyone who is a part of it.”



Vienna is the home of composers like Wolfgang Mozart, Ludwig von Beethoven and Johannes Brahms. FILE PHOTO BY JONATHAN BLACK

Elon hosts first TEDx event for ‘ideas worth spreading’

Hannah Wolfe
Senior Reporter

At Elon University’s first TED (technology, education and design) event in Whitley Auditorium, speakers imparted their knowledge of the direction of innovations in technology in the coming years.

TED is a nonprofit organization dedicated to “ideas worth spreading.” The organization aspires to bring people together through speakers and events.

TEDx events are independently organized TED events that promote the mission of “ideas worth spreading” at a local level. Carolina Howland, a senior communications student at Elon, was responsible for coordinating the event.

Howland conceived the idea for an Elon TEDx event about a year and a half ago. In the time since, she got the school on board and coordinated speakers. The event finally came to life Feb. 22.

“We wanted an array of subject matter,”

Howland said. “We had to have a smaller scale event because of licensing but still wanted to reach as many people as possible.”

The first guest, Leanne Gluck, is the Director of Social Impact at 3D Systems. Her message focused on the prominence she thinks 3D printing will hold in the future.

3D printing technology involves scanning photographic images of an object to create a 3D replica. The technology is currently in the experimental phase.

“I think that 3D printing shows a lot of potential,” sophomore Ned Cooley said. “But I don’t think people have thought through the ramifications of making a bunch of plastic models that eventually get thrown into a landfill someday.”

Although there are many negative possibilities such as replicating keys or weapons, and copyright implications, this technology of the future could entirely change the way the industrial market operates.

“There are negative implications with any new innovation,” Gluck said after the event.

Jeffrey Rusick, of the NASA Glenn Research Center, and Jim Demarest, director of Microbiology Strategy at ViiV Healthcare, were also featured speakers.

Rusick spoke of NASA’s accomplishments and obstacles in sending rovers to other planets that can send data back to Earth.

Most rovers are solar-powered, yet there is not enough sunlight on planets beyond Mars to power these systems. Additionally, NASA has not yet discovered the technology to combat radiation in the solar system in order to send humans to unexplored planets.

Demarest was a major contributor in the development of the vaccines and treatments to combat HIV. He spoke to the audience about the effects HIV has on an infected person and the way the vaccines slow the progression of the disease but don’t cure it completely.

Both Rusick and Demarest had similar messages: the technology to combat the major problems in their respective fields has yet to be developed.

Rusick and Demarest are both optimistic that a discovery of an HIV cure is possible. New inventions of this nature will change the future in terms of science and medicine.

The final speaker at Elon’s TEDx event was Eric Henry, a Burlington local who is President of TS Designs.

Henry’s company manufactures clothing and is based on the idea of local sourcing. All the materials used to produce the clothing are local, as is the distribution of the final product.

“We get too infatuated with the price that we never ask any other questions,” Henry said. “Local manufacturing keeps money in our own community.”

Henry said the importance of locality and transparency is greater than getting materials for the cheapest possible price.

“I think local sourcing is extremely important,” said Quentin Pagnier, a visitor who attended the event. “It cuts out the need to transport things long distances, and it’s better for the environment and the community.”

NC Superior Judge blocks state school grant program

Michael Papich
Assistant News Editor

After initially being asked by the state to dismiss the case, a North Carolina Superior Court has blocked a new state law that allocates taxpayer money to fund grants for private primary and secondary schools.

The grants, totaling around \$10 million in state funds, would have been given to North Carolina families to pay for tuition for private schools, particularly religious private schools. The guidelines for families receiving the grants are that they must qualify near the level for federal free or reduced lunches. These grants would have started for the 2014-2015 school year.

Wake County Superior Court Judge Robert Hobgood ruled Feb. 21 for the plaintiffs — made up of the North Carolina School Boards Association and the North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE) — who argued that the law violated the state constitution.

“It is the position of the plaintiff that the particular legislation violates the state constitution, namely the public purpose clause,” said Bob Orr, attorney for the school boards association and a former North Carolina Supreme Court justice.

Orr referred to Section 2, Article V of the state constitution, saying that taxpayer money must be spent on the “general public good.”

“If the money is going to a private school, how does that meet the general public interest?” Orr asked.

While the grants currently total around \$10 million, with a maximum of \$4,200 per grant, NCAE General Counsel Ann McColl said the plan is for that program to grow.

“We know that the expectation is that [it] will grow and every year, that will be more money that goes out of the public schools that goes to pay for private education without any real accountability,” McColl said.

According to an April 2013 Gallup Poll, 58 percent of Americans said they would vote for a program to give government-funded vouchers to students for private and religious education.

Jason Husser, associate professor of politi-

cal science at Elon University, said the poll and legislation show how many Americans feel about public schools.

“There is discontent about public education, and that’s exacerbated whenever there’s a study that says the U.S. lags behind China and India,” Husser said. “So it’s a fairly ripe opportunity for conservative legislators to reform public education while the public has these feelings.”

Husser added that there are particular problems involved when state money goes to grants for religious education. Alongside the state defending the law in court was a family who once had their children enrolled in a religious high school before their financial situation required they switch to public school.

“Money is fungible, so even if it goes to, say, hire a biology teacher, that is money the school now no longer has to spend on that teacher and can pay for further religious en-

deavors,” he said.

Additionally, parochial schools tend to encourage the retention of childhood religion, although Husser added that it is difficult to know how much of that is selection bias.

Part of the argument in court from the NCAE is that grants are going to private education when funding for public schools in North Carolina is being cut.

“[Those funds] would be a substantial help in our textbooks and resources supplies, which have been cut by about 75 percent in the last couple years,” McColl said. “Professional development used to be funded at \$3 million, so that could help fund professional development for teachers, which, right now, has been zeroed out. Another \$3 million was the teaching fellows program, which provided a way to get some of our best college students into teaching.”

With other public education reforms in North Carolina in the past year, including an end to teacher tenure and a new system for pay increases that do not include those with more experience, Husser said legislative action on this issue comes in part from some who would like to strengthen private education in the state.

“There’s an organized part of the Republican Party that feels that private schooling can do a better job of educating,” Husser said.

McColl said this outlook fits in with the law the Superior Court judge blocked.

“It has all the appearances of being part of a plan that is devaluing public education and the people that work for public education,” she said.

Applications for the grants opened Feb. 1, with more than 2,000 children in the lottery. The lottery’s winners would have been announced March 3.



Controversy over school grants reached the Supreme Court in 2002, where it ruled allowing grants for religious schools does not violate the 1st Amendment.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Senior arrested on drug charges

A noise complaint on East Haggard Avenue resulted in the arrest of senior Nathan Fisher for drug-related charges.

On Feb. 19, the Elon Police Department was responding to a noise complaint at Fisher's apartment when a strong smell of marijuana prompted the officer to search the apartment.

The officer seized 4.5 grams of cocaine and 35 grams of marijuana from the student's apartment. Fisher was arrested for possession and intent to sell.

Warrants filed for teacher on arson charges in Graham

The City of Graham Police Department has filed a warrant for the arrest of a Graham High School teacher in connection with a fire set in the school's auditorium Feb. 19.

Michael Shannon, a theater arts teacher, will be charged with two felonies for burning a school house and impeding the

investigation.

Police say Shannon interfered with the investigation by directing students not to divulge information about the fire.

Graham police Capt. Steve McGilvray said Shannon set the fire to cover up an earlier, accidental fire.

The Pendulum originally reported live from the scene in Graham Feb. 19, when school officials said the cause of the fire was then unknown.

Seminar room formally dedicated to Elon history professors

The George and Carole Troxler Seminar Room, located on the ground floor of Linner, was formally dedicated Tuesday, Feb. 25.

The two Troxlers, both emeriti professors of history, have published several books on North American History, and they boast decades of teaching experience to their names.

Carole was one of the first scholars to

study the lives of black British loyalists following the American War of Independence.

George was head of cultural programs at Elon from 1985 to 2010 and wrote the first book on Elon University's history, "From a Grove of Oaks: The Story of Elon University," in 30 years, which is set to be published in March.

Troxler has spent the last three years researching the book, which has been called a "seminal history" of Elon's founding from a grove of oaks.

Longest serving US Representative stepping down

The longest serving member of Congress in United States history announced he would be stepping down when his term comes to an end this year.

John Dingell, D-Mich., first took office in 1955 in a special election after his father, who held the seat since 1932, died.

Dingell said he was leaving Congress because the climate has become too parti-

san, making his job "obnoxious."

Over the course of his career, Dingell voted for historic pieces of legislation like the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the provisions of the 1965 Social Security Amendments that created Medicare.

Secretary of Defense proposes shrinking military

United States Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel proposed shrinking the nation's active-duty Army to pre-World War II levels Monday, Feb. 24.

The reduction of troops comes with President Obama's 2015 budget plan, which will be unveiled to Congress next week.

Hagel said an army of between 14 and 16 percent fewer troops reflects the realities of shrinking budgets and a more dangerous world that requires a nimble military to navigate.

The 2015 budget proposal also adds \$26 billion to the \$496 billion military budget Congress approved in January.

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Jonathan Black at jblack10@elon.edu or
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the Elon Town Center.

Elon doing 'whatever it takes' to welcome transfer students

Students who transfer into Elon University come from a wide array of backgrounds. Some come from community colleges, others have completed a full year at another four-year institution, while some transfer after only one semester.

With more than 100 transfer students joining the Elon community each fall, those in charge of the orientation process have realized a need to revitalize the way Elon welcomes these students to the campus.

Transfer students pose a unique problem for orientation leaders, because unlike the incoming freshman class, many of these students have at least one semester of college under their belts. Mixing them into the standard orientation process for freshmen would not be beneficial.

Compared to state schools in the area such as North Carolina State University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Elon is a firm believer in allowing transfer students to have a voice in how their orientation is conducted. This progressive idea enables transfer students to have a more focused orientation process.

Many universities do not take the time to analyze their incoming transfer students because they think transfer students know they want to be at their new school, while many freshmen are still unsure. Additionally, transfer students have already adjusted to college, which leads many universities to falsely believe they do not need an orientation process designed specifically for them.

Opting to break that false belief about transfers, Elon has taken the time to re-envision the orientation process so that transfers not only feel welcomed, but they want to attend various orientation activities.

Unlike freshmen, most transfers come to Elon already adjusted to college life. Despite not enjoying their first college experience, they have the skills of time management, how to sign up for courses and how to do their laundry. Keeping that in mind, Elon has now set up a system that directly benefits transfer students.

By making orientation lectures more Elon-specific, such as how Phoenix Cards work, transfer students are able to get the



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY AL DRAGO AND KRISTEN DEMARIA

information they need without having to listen to lectures they have already heard at their prior institutions. Combining this with a more casual setting such as holding a transfer orientation meeting in Irazu Coffee Shop, instead of a classroom, transfer students are more likely to seek out these programs instead of avoiding them out of fear of being repetitive.

In past years, the students who lead orientation groups (informally known as OL's) were not trained to cater to the needs of transfers. As a result many transfer students were forced to figure out the layout of the campus on their own. Realizing that transfer students need more help merging into the Elon community, the university has thrown out traditional orientation ideas in pursuit

of a more effective means to help these new students transition to Elon smoothly.

For many who enter Elon as transfer students, the biggest challenge they face is meeting new friends and finding their identities on campus. To avoid transfers feeling isolated on the campus, the university is now making an effort to bring the transfer community together. Events such as cook-outs and informal gatherings on campus aim to bring these students closer together. This will allow for students to share their experiences while the orientation leaders gain valuable insight on how to better their plans for the coming semester.

The most valuable aspect of the transfer orientation Elon has tapped into is utilizing current students who came into the

community as transfers. Using these former students to welcome new transfer students creates a nurturing and welcoming environment from the very start of the orientation process.

College is too expensive and goes by too quickly not to be happy where you go to school. It takes a great deal of courage to pursue change.

Unlike other schools who sit idly by as all their incoming students go through the same orientation, Elon has decided to move in a different direction. This not only provides a strong platform for transfer students to pursue success but, it allows the university to get to know its student body and how it can better assist incoming students as they transition into life at Elon.

Why the United States needs a female president now

Since our country was founded in 1776, we have had 44 presidents. 43 have been white, one has been black and none have been women.

Michele Bachmann recently said our country is not ready for a female president, especially not Hillary Clinton, because the voters elected an African-American president out of guilt and there is no guilt to elect a female president. She could not be more wrong.

Not only is our

country ready for a female president, we desperately need one. Men, white men more often than not, have dominated politics in Washington, D.C., for too long, and our country has suffered as a result. We are currently stuck with the most ineffective Congress in the history of our nation. My generation has been sucked into two major conflicts, and thousands of young Americans have paid the ultimate price.

Men have had their chance and have not fared well. It is time to let women lead our



Nick Foley
Columnist



Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has not announced whether or not she will run in the 2016 election. PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

country. At the very least, they could not do worse. A recent study from Business Insider found that when compared to men, women have higher levels of overall leadership in the workplace. It also showed that women outpaced their male counterparts in almost every category. Initiative, integrity, honesty and mentoring were just some of the categories of workplace leadership in which women had a firm upper hand over men.

This study was not a fluke, nor was it created to promote a feminist agenda. In fact, it was undertaken by two male academics. Over the course of a decade, the researchers collected data from leading business organizations worldwide. With more than 45,000 men and women in their data pool, this study paints a clear picture of the difference between men and women in the workplace. The outcome puts women ahead of men as leaders.

This study shows that, although our country has never had a female president, women are primed and ready to lead the country. The fact that women greatly outpaced men in the “integrity and honesty” category of the study could indicate that they would be better suited to serve in the White House. The office of the president has been plagued with a deep mistrust from the citizens of the U.S. This could only change if we pursue an option that has never been explored before — putting a woman in office.

Germany, Australia, South Korea and Costa Rica all have females occupying the highest office of power in their respective countries. Israel had Golda Meir, a renowned leader in young democracy struggling with wars; England had its famed Iron Lady, Margaret Thatcher. Where is the United States, the beacon of democracy throughout the world?

As we move closer to 2016, I am cautiously optimistic that this election cycle will yet again bring us a first — the first female president in the history of the United States. Voters are fed up with wars, gridlock and rudeness caused by their leaders. The country needs a new way of thinking and behaving. Let's give a woman a chance.

Boston marathon bomber deserves life in prison, not death penalty

Few could have predicted the events of April 15, 2013, during the annual Boston Marathon. The nation was shocked when

Chechen brothers, Tamerlan and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev set off two pressure cooker bombs, killing three people and injuring 264 others.

When the FBI released surveillance video and photographs of the two brothers three days later, a massive manhunt ensued that led to a shootout

in Watertown, Mass. The shootout left an Massachusetts Institute of Technology police officer dead as well as the eldest of the two brothers, Tamerlan.

Dzhokhar was injured during the firefight

and apprehended a day later after being found taking refuge in a boat belonging to a Watertown resident. He was then taken to a hospital and charged for a number of crimes.

Now we come to the question of what to do with him? Here is an individual, a terrorist in every sense of the word, who attacked the people of Boston. We, the people of the United States and especially the victims of this attack, have the power to decide his fate.

Dzhokhar's trial starts in November, and prosecutors have chosen to pursue the death penalty, yet a recent poll in the state of Massachusetts indicates that the majority would prefer him to spend life in prison.

Many people are proponents of the “eye for an eye” approach. They argue that he and his brother killed three marathon runners and a police officer, so the only logical option is to put him to death.

Supporters for Dzhokhar spending the

rest of his life in prison, as with any argument against the death penalty, said that he would be better punished spending his days with the blood of his victims on his hands. The death penalty, relatively quick and painless, can be seen as the easy way out. Let Dzhokhar die, and you ultimately let him get away with what he did.

Life in prison provides the opportunity for guilt to set in. Not only is he responsible for the death of four U.S. citizens, but also the death of his brother and the injury of more than 250 people. All of this death and destruction could weigh heavily on anyone's mind, but particularly on that of a young adult who is already said to have been brainwashed by his older brother. Dzhokhar, if given life in prison, will have to spend the rest of his days thinking about the life he could have had.

Practical arguments aside, will death

bring closure to his victims? Or will it martyr him and inspire future atrocities against the American people?

In the end, killing Dzhokhar won't accomplish anything. He will be silently put to sleep, without pain and without much of a fuss. His victims will live on with their injuries and the absence of their loved ones, hoping that the fact that their tormentor is dead will give them some closure.

But when the media announces his death, and the distasteful celebrations die down, they will still have to live with their pain just as they would if he were alive.

Killing Dzhokhar isn't the answer, and we as society cannot dictate this is the right course of action. He should be left to spend the rest of his days in isolation, dealing with the consequences and the sheer weight of what he and his brother have done in the hopes that one day he may ask for forgiveness.



Joshua O'Neill
Columnist



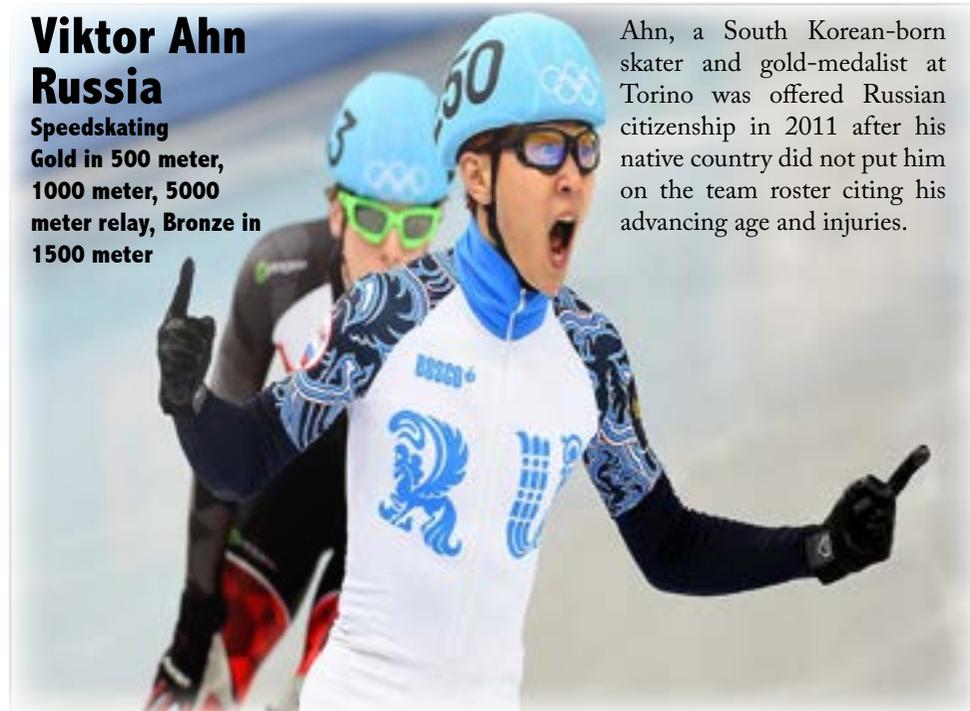
SOCHI 2014 RECAP

A LOOK BACK AT THE PEOPLE AND MOMENTS THAT DEFINED THE WINTER GAMES



Mikaela Shiffrin
USA
Alpine Skiing
Gold in Slalom

At 18, Shiffrin became the youngest American to win gold in an alpine event and the first American to win the slalom event in 42 years.



Viktor Ahn
Russia
Speedskating
Gold in 500 meter,
1000 meter, 5000
meter relay, Bronze in
1500 meter

Ahn, a South Korean-born skater and gold-medalist at Torino was offered Russian citizenship in 2011 after his native country did not put him on the team roster citing his advancing age and injuries.

Photo Courtesy of MCT Campus

Photo Courtesy of MCT Campus

American Mikaela Shiffrin races in the giant slalom. She placed fifth in this race but took gold in the slalom.

Russian Viktor Ahn crosses the finish line, winning gold for his team in the men's 5000 meter relay.

Olympic mascot blows out flame as Sochi games come to a close

Kaitlin Dunn
International Editor

After 17 days, the Winter Olympics in Sochi officially drew to a close Feb. 23.

The ceremony concluded with the traditional handing of the flag to the next host city's mayor, Lee Seok-rai of Pyeongchang, South Korea. Then as the world watched, one of the mascots for the game — a giant stuffed bear — blew out a symbolic flame inside the stadium as the real flame was extinguished in Olympic Park.

International Olympics Committee president Thomas Bach gave a speech praising the athletes and Russia.

“By living together under one roof in the Olympic Village, you send a powerful message from Sochi to the world, a message of a society of peace, tolerance and respect,” Bach said.

The producers poked fun at the botched Opening Ceremonies in which one of the Olympic rings did not fully open. Dancers forming the shape of the rings deliberately posed as a not fully opened fifth ring before finally opening

up.

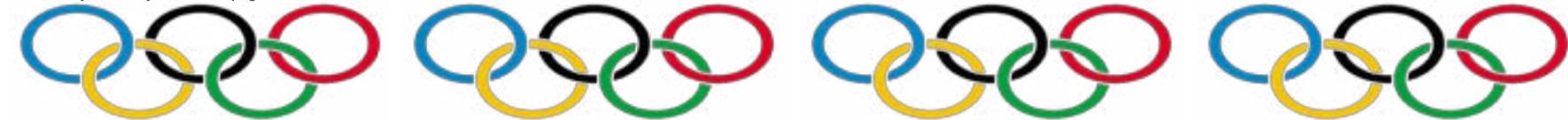
As in all Olympic closing ceremonies, the athletes marched out together, not divided into nations as in the opening ceremonies.

The rest of the ceremony included a tribute to Russian art, literature and ballet. Russian pianist Denis Mastuev performed while portraits of Russian authors such as Leo Tolstoy and Vladimir Nabokov decorated the stadium floor.

“This is the new face of Russia: our Russia,” said Dmitry Chernyshenko, head of the Sochi organizing commit-

tee. “And for us, these games are the best ever.”

The ratings for the televised ceremony on NBC hit an all-time low for Winter Games. With a household rating of 8.7/13 and only 15 million people tuning in to watch, the ceremony now holds the record for lowest household rating for an Olympic Games Closing Ceremony. It was also the third lowest household rating of the Sochi Games, finishing behind primetime on the 21st and 22nd of February.



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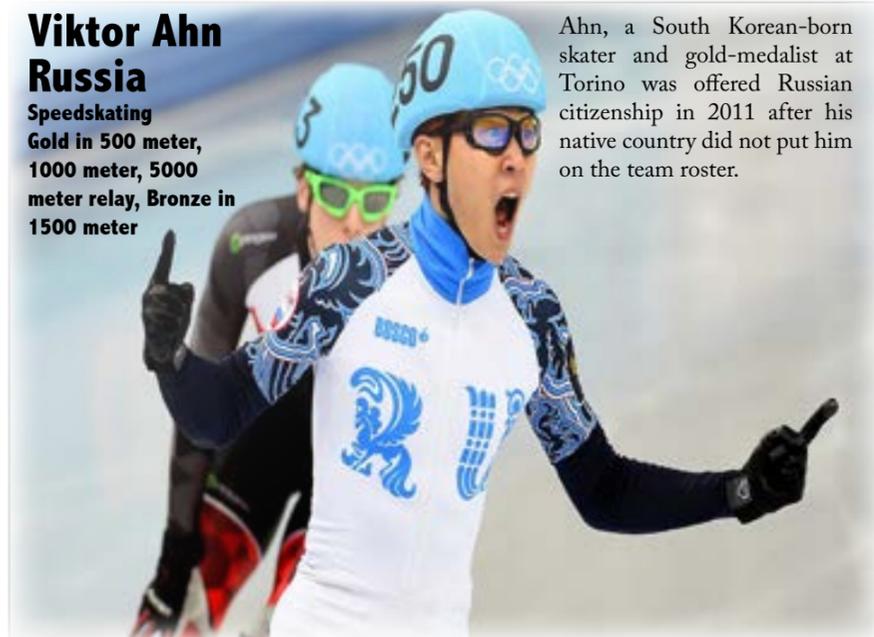


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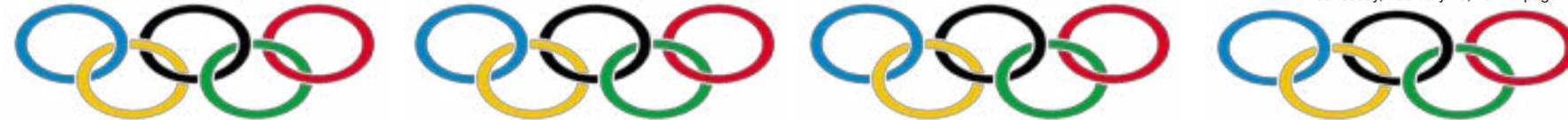
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The three American men dominated slopestyle skiing, sweeping the podium in the Olympic debut of the event.

Joss Christensen, Gus Kenworthy, Nick Goepper
USA
Slopestyle Skiing
Gold, Silver and Bronze, respectively

Photo Courtesy of MCT Campus

Gold medalist Joss Christensen practices a trick prior to the competition.



When Bjoerndalen won his 13th Olympic medal, he became the most decorated Winter Olympian of all time.

Ole Einar Bjoerndalen
Norway
Biathlon
Gold in Men's Sprint and Mixed Relay

Photo Courtesy of MCT Campus

Sochi is the fifth Olympics that biathlete Ole Einar Bjoerndalen has competed in.

BY THE NUMBERS

- 98 Total events in the games
- 60 Degrees Fahrenheit- Average temperature during the games
- 33 Total Medals won by Russia- the most of any country
- 28 Total medals won by the United States of America
- 23 Medals won by the Norwegian speedskaing
- 22 Athletes forced to withdraw from competition due to injury
- 5 Medals won by Dutch speedskater Ireen Wust - the most by an individual athlete

Graphic by KAITLIN DUNN | International Editor

Adelina Sotnikova
Russia
Gold in ladies' singles



17-year-old Sotnikova defeated reigning Olympic champion Yuna Kim of South Korea.

Photo Courtesy of MCT Campus

Russian Adelina Sotnikova skates her way to gold.

Paralympics to begin March 7 in Sochi

Kaitlin Dunn
International Editor

After two weeks of competition, the Olympic Games in Sochi have ended, but there are still 72 competitions ahead in the Paralympics which begin March 7 with the Opening Ceremony.

The Paralympics are a series of competitions designed for athletes with physical disabilities. The classifications of disabilities in the Winter Paralympics include Amputee/Dwarfism/Other, Blind/Visually Impaired, Spinal Cord Injury/Paralyzed/Wheelchair User and Traumatic Brain Injury/CP/Stroke.

There are five different sports in the Paralympics, alpine skiing, biathlon, cross-country skiing, ice sledge [sled] hockey and wheelchair curling. Athletes from all the disability categories compete in alpine skiing, biathlon, and cross country skiing, while curling and sled hockey do not have participants from the blind/visually impaired category.

The United States is sending 74 athletes and six guides to Sochi. Among the athletes are 32 returning paralympians.

Allison Jones, a seven-time Paralympian has been on every U.S. team, winter and summer, since 2002. She is a cyclist and skier who was born without a right femur.

“I like that it’s not the same thing over and over again, but I can take my competitive nature and apply it year-round,” Jones said. “By the time I’m getting tired of one sport, I start the other one.”

The most decorated athlete on the team is Tatyana McFadden, though none of her 10 medals come from winter Paralympic Games. Her last three gold medals were won in London in wheelchair racing. She is making her winter debut in Nordic skiing this year.

The carrying of the torch begins Feb. 26 in the Pacific port city of Vladivostok and will finish on March 7 in Sochi. More than 1500 torchbearers, including 300 people with disabilities, will carry the Paralympic Flame across Russia.



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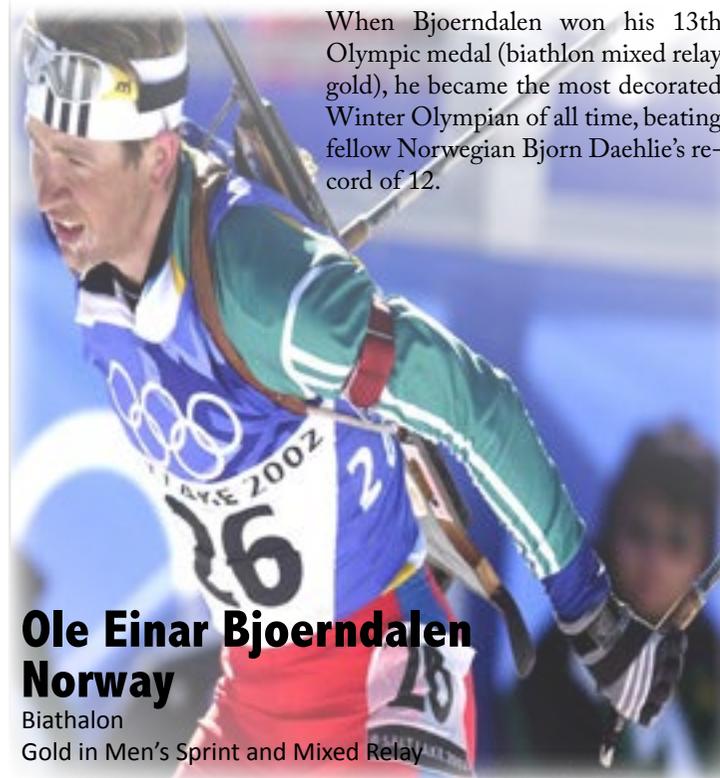
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When Bjoerndalen won his 13th Olympic medal (biathlon mixed relay gold), he became the most decorated Winter Olympian of all time, beating fellow Norwegian Bjorn Daehlie's record of 12.



Ole Einar Bjoerndalen

Norway
Biathlon
Gold in Men's Sprint and Mixed Relay

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Photo Courtesy of MCT Campus

Photo Courtesy of MCT Campus

Gold medalist Joss Christensen practices a trick prior to the competition.

The three American men dominated slopestyle skiing, sweeping the podium in the Olympic debut of the event.



Joss Christensen, Gus Kenworthy, Nick Goepper

USA
Slopestyle Skiing
Gold, Silver and Bronze, respectively

Photo Courtesy of MCT Campus

Gold medalist Joss Christensen practices a trick prior to the competition.

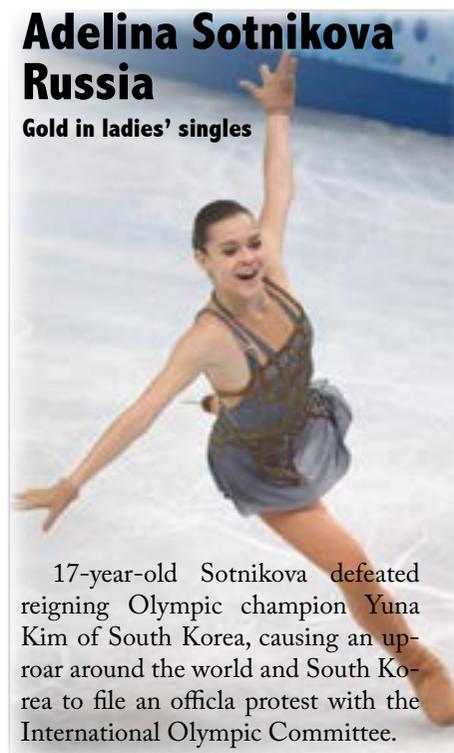
By the numbers

98	Total events in the games
60	Degrees Farenheit- Average temperature during the games
33	Total Medals won by Russia- the most of any country
28	Total medals won by the United States of America
23	Medals won by the Norwegian speedskating team
22	Athletes forced to withdraw from competition due to injury
5	Medals won by Dutch speedskater Ireen Wust - the most by an individual athlete

Graphic by KAITLIN DUNN | International Editor

Adelina Sotnikova

Russia
Gold in ladies' singles



17-year-old Sotnikova defeated reigning Olympic champion Yuna Kim of South Korea, causing an uproar around the world and South Korea to file an official protest with the International Olympic Committee.

Photo Courtesy of MCT Campus

Russian Adelina Sotnikova skates her way to gold.

Grandfather passes love of cinema

Iconic video of Viet Cong execution inspires

Abby Franklin
Senior Reporter

“There was so much blood.” This is a phrase Elon University sophomore Emma Vo heard her grandfather utter repeatedly into the phone as he told her, for the first time, the story of standing witness to one of the most iconic events of the Vietnam War.

“He’d never talked to me about this,” Emma said. “I asked him about it when I was writing a paper last year, but he never thought it was something to share with a teenage girl.”

Emma’s grandfather, her ong noi, Suu Vo, was born and raised in Vietnam. By the time war broke out, the event he witnessed on Jan. 30, 1968, was his reality. What he didn’t know was the extent to which his story would shape history.

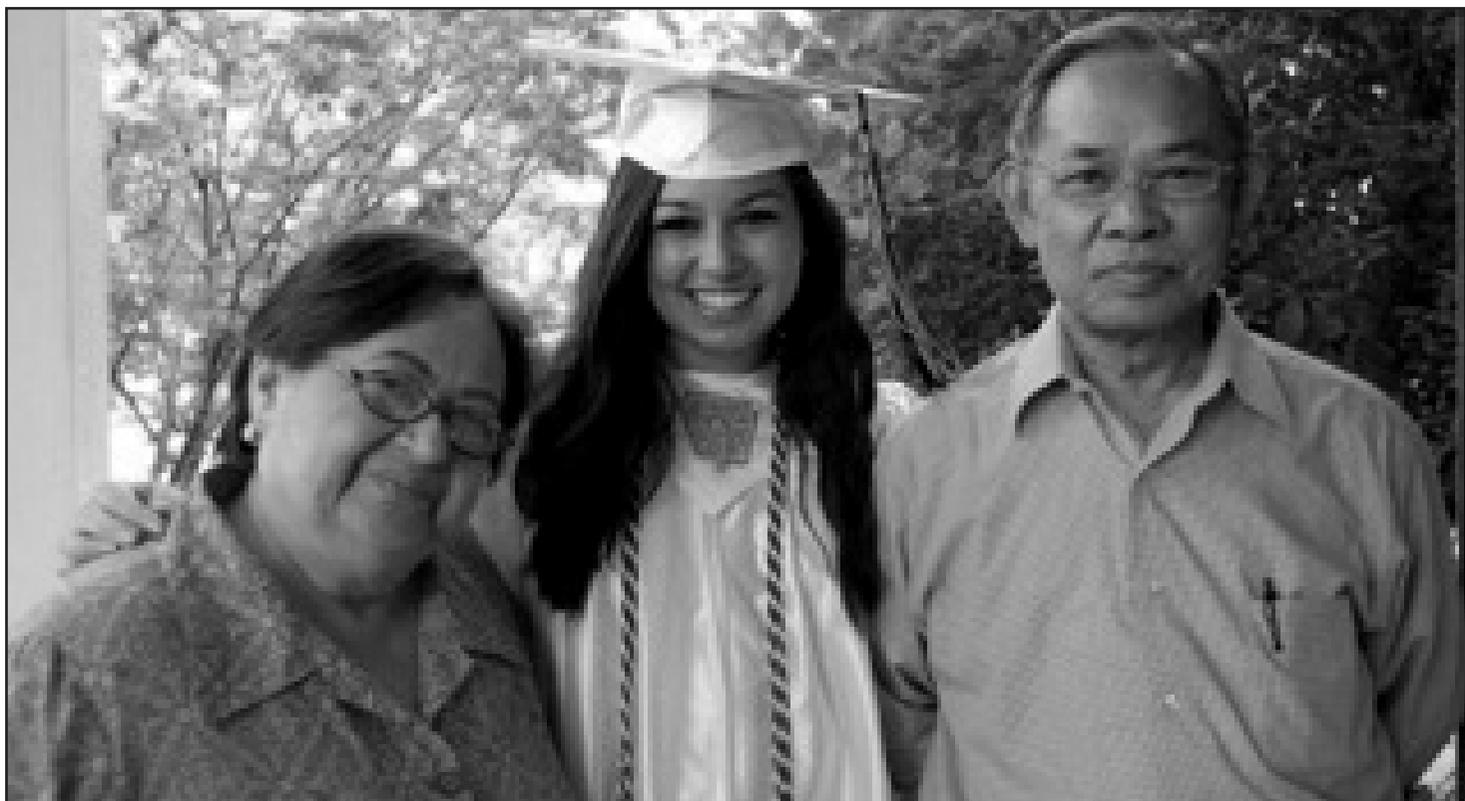
Moment in history

It was early on in the Tet Offensive. The war had been on for 12 years, and Gen. Nguyen Ngoc Loan, the South Vietnamese chief of national police, had had it. He picked up a pistol and impulsively sent a bullet through the skull of his enemy, a Viet Cong prisoner, in the middle of a Saigon street. The moment Loan pulled the trigger was not the moment history was made. It was made when Emma’s grandfather hit “record” on an NBC Studios video camera, capturing the execution on film.

Emma said Suu and his partner Eddie Adams, the photographer, had just left NBC Studios.

“They were just walking, and they heard all of this ruckus down the street, only a block away from where they were stationed,” she said. “When they turned the corner, they saw General Ngoc Loan holding a Viet Cong prisoner hostage. He took him to the corner, and that’s when Eddie Adams took the pictures and my grandfather caught the footage. They didn’t know he was going to execute him right there on the spot.”

In the shocking turn of events, the trained



Emma and her grandparents celebrated her high school graduation together two years ago. Her grandfather, Suu Vo, is pictured right.

PHOTO COURTESY OF EMMA VO

journalists knew what to do.

“[NBC Correspondent Howard] Tuckner kept whispering into Suu’s ear, ‘Keep rolling, keep rolling,’” George A. Bailey and Lawrence W. Lichty wrote in a 1972 edition of *Journalism Quarterly*. “Eddie Adams was snapping many photographs. Later Adams wrote that as Loan’s hand came up so did his camera and he just snapped by instinct ... Tuckner and Adams were the only Westerners in sight. Tuckner feared their film would be confiscated or worse. He signaled to Suu to quickly change film magazines and hide the exposed footage.”

Emma vividly remembered hearing her grandfather speak about what happened next.

“Many Americans have been killed these last few days, and many of my best Vietnamese friends,” Loan told Suu after he fired the pistol. “Now do you understand? Buddha will

understand.”

Video’s impact

In America, a countercultural movement was gaining attention, and the Vietnam War had fallen out of focus — the U.S. population thought the situation in Vietnam was under control. Then Suu’s video footage was aired.

“These images were among the first indications for my parents and many others that all was not going as well as the military would have had us believe,” said L.D. Russell, religious studies professor at Elon. “I did not understand what was happening or why, yet I could sense my parents’ revulsion, especially my mother’s, and somehow we sensed that something was terribly wrong.”

The nation saw, in black and white, that the violence had reached a different level. A man

was assassinated at point-blank range without any form of trial, and it was so public American cameras could capture it at the same range.

Adams, in an interview with the Associated Press, recalled dropping off the film of the execution and going to lunch.

“I thought nothing of it,” Adams said. “It was a war. I had seen so many people die at that point in my life ... It’s not nice, but he was a prisoner and [Gen. Loan] shot him. I might have done the same thing.”

Once the footage aired, it swept the nation. In the same interview, Adams said he received reports of the photo’s impact while in Saigon and never understood it. Like Emma’s grandfather, it was his reality — it was nothing special.

In the U.S., the footage was thought to be so violent the question became one of media ethics: Is this footage too graphic to be shown

to granddaughter by sharing story

Elon sophomore's passion for cinematography

on television?

"Suu was very calm. His hands did not shake as he kept the camera rolling and zoomed into the side of the dead man's head where blood spurted out like a fountain," Howard Polskin wrote in a 1983 article about the footage.

The amount of blood Emma's ong noi described over the phone cannot be exaggerated when captured in real-time. And according to an academic journal by Mark D. Harmon, on TV Networks during Vietnam 20 million viewers saw the blood.

"NBC got a lot of letters in the mail complaining about it, saying, 'You shouldn't put that on air, it's too graphic,'" Emma said, recalling details from her grandfather's story. "I'm in Media Law and Ethics right now, and we've been talking a lot about what you can show on TV and movies ... But, to me, it's the truth. It shouldn't matter. It's news. It happened. You've got to show it."

Although news stations were faced with hard decisions in regards to ethics during the war, both U.S. officials and the media were forced to ask themselves, what is our true aim?

"Being confronted up close with such brutality led people to see major problems with the war," said Safia Swimelar, Political Science and Policy Professor at Elon. "Many have said that photo and video also just illustrated the moral ambiguity of the war, since it showed that both sides were engaged in violence and possible war crimes."

Regardless, the video and photo's impact from that day is indisputable.

"Eddie Adams said that he felt he 'killed' the General Loan with his camera," Swimelar said. "The photo and footage ruined his life and reputation, and he always felt bad about it. [Adams] saw [Gen. Loan] actually as a hero and not a murderer."

A second generation of cinema

At Elon, the girl on the other end of the phone-line was changed.

"My grandfather saw history before his eyes, through his camera, and that's what I want to do in filmmaking," Emma, a cinema major, said. "I don't want to do really out-there stories, I want to do stories that mean something in today's world — showing people the truth, even if it's gruesome or graphic, so they form a connection and do something about it. The same way America felt they needed to do something in Vietnam after seeing my grandfather's footage."

Suu spent 10 years in Vietnam covering the war for NBC Studios (1965-1975). He and his family left the country April 22, 1975, eight days before the Fall of Saigon.

Emma thanked NBC Studios and, by extension, a video camera, for her and her family's lives. She plans to spend the rest of hers seeking the truth latent in bloodshed, the same way her ong noi did nearly 50 years ago.

"I don't know if my dad's family would've left Vietnam if my grandfather didn't work for NBC news," Emma said. "That was their way out, that was how they escaped from the war, being in a family that was connected with an American employer."

Now Emma said she cherishes the opportunity to bring up her ong noi, her inspiration.

"When I tell people about why I want to go into media, I always talk about [the execution footage] and ask them if they know of it, and most people say yes," she said. "That's pretty cool. My grandfather still doesn't realize how commonly known it is he is." §



PHOTO COURTESY OF EMMA VO

Emma (second from left) is currently studying cinema in Los Angeles with Elon in LA. Her grandfather's work in Vietnam inspired her to study cinema at Elon.

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Elon senior leaves lasting impact on campus by creating Girls to Empowered Teens organization

Kathleen Harper
Managing Editor of The Edge

Kylee Bushway is a sucker for “Criminal Minds,” but she hates scary movies. She will eat any kind of vegetable that is put in front of her, she’s a die-hard Patriots fan and she loves country music. If asked what her favorite color is, she’ll reply purple in a heartbeat. A former soccer star and current Elon University senior who sports long brown hair and a “110% Sigma Kappa” pin, she loves to laugh and is often seen with friends. But below the surface, there aren’t many college students like her.

Bushway has always been drawn to something different. Helping people and educating them is what gives her true satisfaction and joy.

“I want to be a women’s health nurse practitioner,” Bushway, a public health and psychology major, said. “A little bit of education goes a long way — that’s what got me most. Women are powerful if you give them the chance, and that’s why I’ve become so passionate about women’s health, because I think we have this potential that no one’s really touched upon.”

The people who know Bushway best have only wonderful things to say. According to her loved ones, there’s a warm essence surrounding her that’s undeniable. Her laugh is welcoming, and her friends know her to be comforting and trustworthy.

Creating a program

Because she discovered her passion for medicine and public health early in life, Bushway said she decided to dedicate her time and energy to igniting an enthusiasm for life in others through health education.

Bushway received her first opportunity to make a difference during her freshman year at Elon.

“I got wrapped up in this program, Girls in Motion, and I really loved it,” Bushway said. “I became a mentor who helped fourth and fifth-grade girls in Ala-



Her junior year, Bushway traveled to India and heledp children there during Winter Term. PHOTO COURTESY OF KYLEE BUSHWAY

mance County with body image, self-esteem, nutrition and healthy lifestyle habits. It was amazing, and I really learned a lot from the girls.”

Girls in Motion is a health program that matches young girls with college women to promote confidence and health and wellness education.

Liz Bailey, lecturer in health and human performance at Elon, began the Girls in Motion Elon chapter in 2006 after seeing it implemented at other schools.

“[Girls in Motion] is where I can put some of the stuff I teach into action — try out some techniques that motivate people to be physically active, to change behavior,” Bailey said. “It’s really an opportunity

to have students and me implement what we practice and preach in class in a real life setting.”

Bushway said she loved the idea of teaching young girls how to live healthily and responsibly, so she immediately put her heart and soul into the program. Bailey soon became a mentor figure for Bushway, and the two worked together to enhance the program.

The following year, when Bailey asked Bushway to facilitate the program, Bushway noticed room for improvement in a big way. Girls in Motion, although successful, catered only to elementary school-aged girls. Once the same girls entered middle school, their healthy habits started

to slip because of new social pressures.

“We see good benefits from Girls in Motion. Self-esteem goes up, body image improves and the girls become more physically active,” Bailey said. “But if we followed up a year later, we started to see regression in those same girls.”

Inspired by her middle-school-aged cousins and her younger sister, Bushway proposed starting an additional program for sixth- and seventh-grade girls in order to ensure healthy and smart habits were being adopted by students.

She said watching her cousins and sister encounter peer pressure in middle school reminded her how hard encountering peer pressure can be.

“There’s not a lot of guidance that goes into it. I think that’s what drives my strong passion for it,” she said. “My mom and the women in my family have always been so open and supportive and have given me guidance when I needed it. I want to be able to give these girls what I got because I know that an open line of communication isn’t typical in every family.”

Over the summer, Bushway worked hard to develop a new program, similar to Girls in Motion, called Girls to Empowered Teens (GET). GET’s motto is “Get kind, get fit, get smart,” and Bushway was instrumental in developing everything in the program from lesson plans to funding to the logo.

“I knew that I could count on her to do this program. I saw something in Kylee,” Bailey said. “She’s athletic and active and has a bit of a kid in her, but then she’s also this serious student. And that’s a combination that stands out in my opinion — someone who’s approachable on a number of different levels. Taking on a mentor role is natural for her.”

Bushway said her favorite part of being a mentor for young girls is having the privilege of witnessing “ah-ha” moments — what the girls experience when they finally understand a concept. Bushway said it was amazing to watch the girls’ growth throughout the seven-week program she helped build. For her, the reward of bet-

tering a person’s life is all she needs.

“If I commit to something then I do it to the end,” Bushway said. “I always try to be kind and considerate of people. I try to have my worldview be very broad and vast so that I can understand everyone’s opinions, because everyone is different.”

Following her passion

It was her adventurous spirit and generous nature that led Bushway to India during Winter Term 2013. During her trip, Bushway solidified her plans to pursue public health as a career.

“If you can get the public to eat healthy and make good choices, then you can dramatically change the health of the whole community,” Bushway said. “I saw it work in India, so that made me realize that it’s more than possible to do it here.”

She got hands-on experience in preventative healthcare by working with Comprehensive Rural Health Project (CRHP), an organization that brings healthcare to the poverty-stricken of India.

She said she still remembers the incredible feeling she got while working with these communities. Bushway and other Elon students on the trip went into villages that requested the help of CRHP. Together, they trained one woman from the lowest caste system in each community to be a health expert or nurse. Once the women they helped returned to their communities, they ended up changing the entire area for the better, all because of some education and assistance, she said.

“You need to empower the people of the village to make a sustainable change instead of going in as an outsider and telling people what to do,” Bushway said. “Once you remove that outsider and train one of their own, they will listen and change on their own. You educate one woman, and you improve the quality of life in the village tenfold.”

Junior Katie Umbdenstock joined Bushway in India. Umbdenstock and Bushway share a passion for helping others and for public health.

“We all really wanted to do something meaningful and use what we learned in India to help people in the U.S.,” Umbdenstock said. “We had this bond. We knew what we were doing was hard. We knew it was difficult. But doing it together was what made it so meaningful. Being able to share these experiences was a really great bonding experience.”

Living in the moment

Umbdenstock, like Bushway, is also involved in Girls in Motion and GET. After Bushway graduates in the spring, Umbdenstock will take over the GET program.

“It’s going to be hard for me to let it go because [the GET program] is my baby, but I know I’m leaving it in good hands,” Bushway said. “I have faith in the students who go here, and, if anything, I know that it’ll get better, not worse. It’s going to be sad to leave but I’m not worried.”

With graduation just a few months away, Bushway said she looks back favorably on the past four years while remaining optimistic and excited about what’s to



Bushway graduated from a community based preventative healthcare program in India. PHOTO COURTESY OF KYLEE BUSHWAY



While in India, Bushway spent some time with preschool students in a small village. PHOTO COURTESY OF KYLEE BUSHWAY

come.

As Bushway walks through campus, whether it be on her way to work at the Student Professional Development Center, to attend an event for Sigma Kappa, of which she is president, or even just to one of her many biology classes, it’s clear her college experience has been a fulfilling one. She is constantly greeted by smiling faces and hellos, which is not only a nod to Bushway’s popularity, but to her spirit and her kind heart.

The love for life that runs deep in Bushway’s veins is desirable, contagious and something she credits her family for. Bushway said that they have been, and continue to be, the biggest positive influences in her life.

“My mom, she’s very selfless, and I’ve seen her do so much good for other people,” she said. “My dad is very driven and determined. He taught me to reach further than you would ever expect. The combination of both of these outlooks helped create who I am today.”

Bushway is a true “people person.” She finds joy in interacting with others. Not

every college student can say the same.

As she forges ahead into unknown territory, there is one thing that is certain — she’ll always be surrounded by supporters and loved ones.

“As a person and a friend, Kylee is one of the most kind, compassionate, dedicated, understanding and hardworking people I know,” said Maddy Rooney, Elon senior and one of Bushway’s best friends. “She always puts 100 percent of herself into everything that she does, whether it is schoolwork, her leadership roles or her friends. She is also always willing to take on new experiences and challenges, and, although stressful at times, Kylee never quits or backs down from anything she is committed to. She goes into it all with full force, as they say.”

Most importantly, Bushway is the kind of person who doesn’t see limitations, she only sees potential. It’s this rare trait that will propel her in life, allowing her to both her careers and dreams centered on helping others and making people happy. And if you ask anyone who knows her, no one is better suited for the job. **§**

A way with words: Elon senior prepares to push her poetry beyond graduation

Stephanie Butzer
Senior Reporter

Elizabeth Purvis, known to her friends as Liz, could read when she was three years old, something most children don't master until they're five or six.

"I know that because my sister was born when I was two and a half, and I was reading in the waiting room of the hospital," she said.

Now, as a senior English major at Elon University, literature and creative writing are what she does best. She has her plate full as the managing editor of *Colonnades Literary & Art Journal*, an Elon College Fellow and the vice president of the Elon chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the international English honor society.

When Purvis first came to Elon, she thought she was going to major in literature and professional writing and rhetoric, not creative writing. By her sophomore year, she said she was not happy sitting at a computer for four hours at a time.

Instead, she decided to revisit some of the creative writing talents she briefly explored in high school. Just one class — Introduction to Creative Writing — was enough for Purvis to drop her professional writing and rhetoric major and pick up a creative writing concentration.

Winter Term of that year, Purvis embarked to Ireland in a study abroad program, where she studied Irish literature, culture and history. During her travels, the class read a poem titled "Quarantine" by Eavan Boland, an Irish poet.

"It was really, really beautiful and terrible and gut-wrenching," Purvis said. "And I thought that was awesome. I don't know what she did, but I wanted to read more of that."

The poem told a story of a sickly couple during Ireland's potato famine years. They were kicked out of one workhouse and later died in the snow in front of another.

That piece solidified Purvis' passion for poetry.

"It's the love poem that's not super mushy because there's no time for that in this — they're sick and dying and her feet were against his breastbone," she said. "The last gift he gave her was his last heat. That's just beautiful and sad. It just did something for me."

With "Quarantine" in the back of her mind, Purvis returned from Ireland determined to throw herself into poetry. When she told her friends from home that she was now writing poetry on a regular basis, they told her they already knew.

"They were like, 'yeah, of course you write poetry. That's a thing. What do you mean you didn't know?'" she said. "It took me longer to realize than the people around me."

When her high school AP Literature class introduced creative writing prompts at the end of her senior year, Purvis said she was enthusiastic about the project, while most of the class didn't enjoy it. Purvis said one assignment was to read James Joyce's "A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" and then write an imitative piece: a portrait of the blank as a young blank.

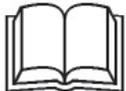
"Mine was 15 pages," Purvis said. "All my classmates hated me, in a loving way."

questions. I'm thinking, "This is an editor-to-be."

During her junior year, Purvis started looking seriously into attending graduate school.

"The whole grad school thing came when I realized I would like to write poetry," Purvis said. "So, how do I write poetry and feed myself and not live at home? I also love workshop [the process of editing peers' work]. I love sitting in a group of people and doing the critiquing and marking up and showing what line I love and what line is weak. I love that. That's what MFA programs — Masters of Fine Arts creative writing programs — are."

3 Fun facts about Elizabeth Purvis

- 
|
Delivered a paper at the American Conference for Irish Studies in Rochester, N.Y.
- 
|
Presented literature research in Paris at the Euro-American Conference for Academic Disciplines
- 
|
Will present at national Sigma Tau Delta conference in Savannah, Ga.

KRISTEN DEMARIA | DESIGN CHIEF

Her school's English department ended up making a special English award for her work.

Kathy Lyday, an English professor at Elon, as well as Purvis' academic advisor and Fellows advisor, said because Purvis is such a good reader she was asked to be a beta reader — somebody who critiques a work and edits for grammar and style — for the final draft of a novel Lyday is working on.

"She has very, very keen editing skills," Lyday said. "Out of all the readers we've had so far for our novel, she is the one that has found the most things and asked the most pointed

Her roommate and friend, senior Kiley Brandt, said she likes Purvis' writing because there is a personal part of Purvis in all of her work.

"She's working through her thoughts in creating these poems," Brandt said. "They aren't always what she feels exactly, but something that's been nagging at her or something she wanted to express. They're truthful as an expression of her, but it's kind of a warped truth that you can't take at face value sometimes."

After months of research and applications, Purvis waited hopefully to hear about accep-

tances. She ended up applying to seven graduate schools: the National University of Ireland at Galway, Hollins University, University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, North Carolina State University, University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Vanderbilt University.

The first school she heard back from was the National University of Ireland in Galway. Because of financial concerns, she reluctantly declined the offer.

"There was a spiral of, 'What am I going to do?'" she said. "There's a 1 percent acceptance rate in MFA schools. It's a 600-people-apply-for-six-spots kind of situation at most of the schools that have MFA programs."

The wait continued.

Brandt, who was by her side throughout the process, said she expected Purvis to get into graduate school.

"I think Liz will write some amazing poetry and become one of those elite people at literature and poetry panels who have become the expert in their field," she said. "She's directly involved in making her ideas a reality. If she has one foot in a dream, then she has the other moving toward it."

Then, Feb. 12, an email appeared in Purvis' inbox from N.C. State's MFA Creative Writing Program. It was from Dorianne Laux, a poetry professor in the school's MFA program. She asked Purvis if she'd still like to be on the waiting list. But Purvis could barely get over the fact one of her favorite poets had directly emailed her.

"I freaked out. I was like, 'Oh my goodness, I put one of your poems on my blog, and I love it, and I stare at it, and I was reading it yesterday, and you just emailed me,'" she said. "I said, 'Yes, of course I want to be on your waiting list. I would be so honored to be accepted into N.C. State's program.'"

Two hours later, she received another email. "[Dorianne Laux] emails me and is like, 'We have two more spots open so you've been moved to the acceptance list. Congratulations. It's fully funded.' You're going to get an official letter from so-and-so soon," Purvis said. "I was freaking out: I did a happy dance in the snow. I told my roommates I got accepted, and it started snowing."

As somebody who likes to be prepared for everything in a field full of disheartening rejection, Purvis can finally breathe easy as she waits to hear from the other schools.

"I'm actually going to get to go to grad school next year and that's really, really cool," Purvis said. "I know what the next two years are going to be."

Knockout Perez bursts onto Elon music scene

Kelsey Higgins
Senior Reporter

At the beginning of this year a new band hit the Elon University music scene, and although they are young, Knockout Perez is making a big splash.

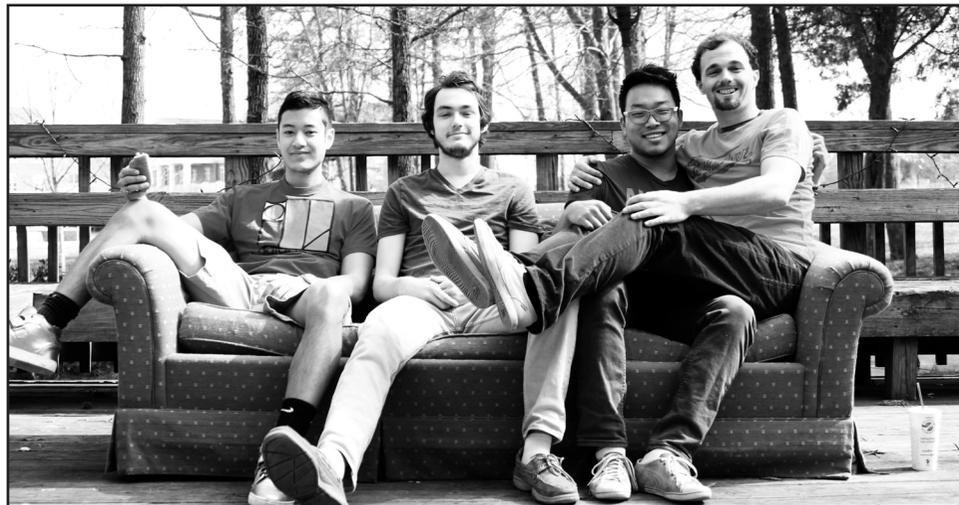
“The first time we practiced together earlier in this school year we instantly realized this was going to be insanely fun,” said junior Dylan Fitchett, lead guitar and vocals. “Basically we realized that we were all proficient at playing the proper instruments to start a band. So we did.”

The group plays Fitchett’s original tunes and covers audience favorites with juniors Patrick Gunning on drums, Will Lee on guitar and Sean Lauwers on bass.

“We play covers that we know people will enjoy, and maybe we do that in order to get away with the jam sessions,” Lee said. “I think we all just like to put on a good show.”

As far as the name goes, Fitchett said it started as a private joke, but they thought it had a ring to it, so they rolled with it.

As a solo artist, Fitchett is signed with



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Knockout Perez plans to reach out to the community in hopes of performing at Elon’s bars and venues.

Limelight Records, Elon’s student-run label. Limelight was instrumental in helping the band, which is not formally signed, find some casual gigs last semester.

“I got involved with Limelight at the beginning of my sophomore year,” Fitchett said. “They had open auditions, I auditioned on a

whim and happened to get in. I’m so glad they signed me because they’ve been my biggest supporters ever since.”

The group has already undergone some changes this semester because Lee and Lauwers are currently studying abroad.

“Luckily we all knew two people who would

be ideal to fill in for them for a semester,” Fitchett said. “Luke Lovett plays bass and Ryan Mandelkehr replaced the second guitar with a trumpet. This chemistry is still fantastic, and we’re getting new material down fast.”

As soon as the new lineup is ready, the band plans to reach out to Elon bars and anyone who wishes to book them.

“We like to get paid, but we play for free most of the time just because we enjoy it so much,” Fitchett said. “At this point there’s really no show that we won’t play, but nothing concrete is coming up at this point.”

The group will revert back to the original members next semester, but they plan on keeping the newly generated material.

Some of Knockout Perez’s original songs are available for free at SoundCloud.com, and some of their live performances can be found on YouTube.

“We work hard to put on a good show, and it’s all worth it when it goes well,” Fitchett said. “I don’t speak for everyone, but I think a live band is much more fun to watch and dance to than a DJ.”

Jazz Festival works to nurture musicians, preserve musical heritage

Casey Brown
Senior Reporter

Elon University’s Center of the Arts opened its doors to amateur and professional jazz musicians alike for the 18th Annual Elon University Jazz Festival. The festival, run by music professional and jazz ensemble director Matt Buckmaster, provides an opportunity for Elon musicians, as well as young musicians from middle and high schools in the area, to learn from the best.

The first step in making a festival come to life is choosing the right clinicians to come in to work with the students, a job Buckmaster took very seriously.

“I wanted to look for a player in rhythm section and an instrumentalist,” Buckmaster said. “We try to get as big of names as we can that can also teach well. We want players and educators. The clinicians need to work with high school, middle school and college students.”

This year’s clinicians were Craig Whitaker and Jeff Phillips. The two worked with

various groups throughout the weekend. For music department chair Jon Metzger, the festival gives the department a chance to reach out and nurture younger musicians in their passion for music.

“It is a wonderful opportunity for community outreach,” Metzger said. “The directors of the [middle and high] school bands are grateful because we’re reinforcing their teachings and providing this service. These students are also being adjudicated by internationally known artists.”

Brandon Mitchell, a sophomore who plays the vibraphone for the jazz ensemble, was one of the students who helped run Friday’s workshops for the high school and middle school bands.

“I think it is a great experience for both us and the high school kids to interact with each other in this new language of jazz that we are all students of and are learning to play,” Mitchell said. “Jazz is something that has been played and studied for nearly a century and through all of its evolutions, it still is jazz as we may know it.”

The festival’s culminating concert reaches out directly to the Elon community.

But the festival is more about the students and Metzger, as much as any student, understands the need for festivals like this for young and aspiring jazz musicians.

“Events like this mean the world to me,” Metzger said. “It was wonderful to get that encouragement, to play next to the pros, rubbing elbows. It made me a better player. I started like this at these festivals. I know the value of [experiences like this] because I lived it first hand.”

The festival, held on Feb. 21 and 22, may come to a close eventually, but the music department will continue to hold the festival for the foreseeable future because, as Buckmaster said, it is important to continue the tradition of a genre so closely tied to our cultural heritage.

“The main point [of the festival] is to share the passion of music, and jazz especially,” Buckmaster said. “Jazz is a specific musical vernacular, and a piece of our heritage. People on a stage who can play jazz can

communicate on a deeper level. We hope our festival can offer a little taste of that.”



CAROLINE OLNEY | Photo Editor

Elon’s Jazz Festival took place on Feb. 21 and 22.

Phoenix gaining balance at crucial time

Tommy Hamzik
Sports Editor

It was clear entering the season what the star-studded senior class could do for the Elon University men's basketball team.

The sharp-shooting abilities of guards Jack Isenbarger and Sebastian Koch were zoned in on by opponents' scouting reports. Same with the post-presence forwards Lucas Troutman and Ryley Beaumont bring to the table.

But could there be a balance between the veterans and their backups on the bench?

As the Phoenix has been learning, there most certainly can be.

The core group of seniors has been consistently providing a mix of production throughout the season, but Elon's bench has come up in a big way in recent games.

"I like our bench right now," said Elon head coach Matt Matheny. "I feel confident putting guys in games."

After a midseason stretch in which the Phoenix failed to have its subs play meaningful roles in games, the bench has begun to take charge. This is coming at a time when Elon is already seeing a full, balanced output from its five starters.

"We're hitting our stride right now," said Elon senior guard Jack Isenbarger. "We've had guys fulfilling their roles. We're playing within ourselves, within our offense, within our system. That's the reason we've won seven straight games."

Elon's five starters — the four seniors plus junior guard Kevin Blake — all registered double-figure scoring totals in games against Samford University and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Since Matheny switched up the starting lineup in the end of January, Elon is 7-0 and the starting five have been clicking on all cylinders.

"It's our guys being confident," Matheny said. "It's really just a confidence."

That confidence has come forth in the bench players as well. Sophomore guard Tanner Samson, who started the team's first 21 games, has provided a nice touch to the backcourt when Koch or Isenbarger needs a break. He's nine of 21 (43 percent) from 3-point land in the last four games.



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Elon guard Jack Isenbarger has been an asset for the Phoenix during his four years and has recently moved into first place in Elon history for 3-pointers.

Samson and junior guard Austin Hamilton both started early in the season, but have settled into new roles coming off the bench. The seven-game winning streak began after Matheny juggled the rotation.

Additionally, the freshman class has been playing a heightened role after going nearly unnoticed during a midseason funk.

Matheny praised guard Luke Eddy and forwards Christian Hairston and Brian Dawkins in particular following wins against UNCG and Georgia Southern University.

"Christian Hairston gave us a great minute at UNCG," Matheny said after the Georgia Southern game, "Here we are, we need him in the second half on the road in a tough environment, in a tough situation, and he responded very, very well. I like what we have from our bench."

Dawkins and junior forward Ryan Winters saw their playing time increase after Troutman was hit with a bout of the flu that caused him to miss Elon's game against Georgia Southern Feb. 8. The two forwards took advantage, and that carried into the UNCG game Feb. 19. Matheny said they "bailed us out of a stretch in the second half where we weren't playing really well."

That increase in playing time might have to continue, as Koch left the Georgia Southern game Feb. 22 late in the first half with an apparent knee injury.

Troutman said he felt comfortable enough with the way the bench is playing that he's not worried when he checks out of a game.

"Whenever I'm out, to know I have someone to come in that can help out and contribute and to be able to have good minutes is great," Troutman said. "It goes the same for all the other players. The guys coming off the bench are putting in good minutes, shooting good shots, not forcing things and not overreacting to certain situations."

With the Southern Conference tournament and the end of the season in sight, Matheny and the team realize the importance of each game and each minute played. The Phoenix will host Wofford College Feb. 27 before a rematch with first-place Davidson March 1 in Alumni Gym. Elon beat Davidson, 87-85, in overtime Jan. 16 in their first meeting.

As of Feb. 23, Elon stands alone in second place in the conference. The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga lost two games in the past week — to Georgia

Southern and UNCG — while Wofford lost to Davidson, shooting the Phoenix up in the standings.

For the seniors specifically, it's about how they want to end their careers and be remembered in program history. Koch said after the UNCG game about how good it was to see the four seniors all playing well right now.

"It's good because we want to go out with a bang," he said. "It's nice if we all can contribute in the same way. It shows we have plenty of weapons and options in our offense."

Isenbarger went one step further, proclaiming the bench's efforts while realizing the end is near.

"We're deeper than we've ever been this year," Isenbarger said. "We have a deep bench, and that's fun. To be able to sub out your starters and not lose anything, that's the goal. In our last four games here, we want to leave it all out there. We want to finish and look back and say we gave maximum effort."

For full coverage of Elon men's basketball and all Phoenix Athletics, please visit elondependulum.com

Elon looks for right lineup heading into SoCon play

Matt Mallian
Senior Reporter

With Southern Conference play right around the corner, the Elon University women's tennis team is still trying to find the perfect lineup combination. The Phoenix has worked all eight players on the roster into the lineup this season, all part of the plan to be ready for conference play beginning March 1.

One staple of the lineup over the past few seasons has been the doubles pairing of seniors Jordan Johnston and Frida Jansaker. Heading into the spring season, the two had a doubles record of 42-4, a testament to their chemistry. To start the season, Johnston and Jansaker were paired together at No. 1 doubles, but a slow start forced head coach Elizabeth Anderson to make a change.

Elon opened play against top-tier competition, with all of their first four opponents ranked No. 55 or higher in the nation. After Johnston and Jansaker's first doubles match went unfinished against No. 54 Virginia Tech, the pair lost three consecutive matches against No. 3 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, No. 4 University of Georgia and No. 55 Kansas State University. When it came time to play its first unranked opponent in North Carolina Central University Feb. 8, the Phoenix made a change at No. 1 doubles.

Each with new doubles partners, Johnston and Jansaker have found different levels of success. Jansaker and her new partner, junior Maria Camara Ruiz, have won three straight doubles matches heading into the team's Feb. 26 match against the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Johnston was paired with sophomore Taylor Casey for two matches, going 1-1, and junior Barbara Lazarova, whose lone match together against Radford University Feb. 22 went unfinished. Johnston said although playing without Jansaker is different, it will benefit the team in the long run.

"It's what's best for the team, and we're just trying new things out," Johnston said. "We're mixing it up just to spread it across the board for all three doubles teams."

With a team of four seniors and two ju-



Lineup changes, namely splitting up the No. 1 doubles pair of Jordan Johnston and Frida Jansaker, have proved to be beneficial for Elon. The Phoenix has won three straight and hosts Georgia Southern March 1.

CAROLINE OLNEY | Photo Editor

niors, Elon is an experienced team that can shuffle the lineup without missing a beat. Since the lineup changes took place, the Phoenix is 3-0, defeating North Carolina Central, the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and Radford University.

"We have a team that's very deep, so we've got a lot of flexibility there especially if there's some injuries or people need a rest," Anderson said.

This exact predicament came into play against Radford Feb. 22, when Jansaker suffered a minor injury during doubles play that forced her to sit out her singles match. Without issue, Lazarova jumped up to the No. 2 singles position, Jansaker's usual spot, and won her match. At the bottom of the lineup, senior Viviana Stavreva entered the lineup at No. 6 singles and also picked up a victory in a 7-0 win.

Perhaps the brightest spot in the Phoenix lineup has been the play of freshman Tolley Rice. Rice, a five-star recruit out of

Pawleys Island, S.C., saw her first action of the spring season against North Carolina Central, winning a third set tiebreaker over Lynsey Cover. Rice followed this performance with a dramatic win against Hamilton Lovett of UNCW and a sweep of Radford's Taylor Fay.

After Rice's match-clinching win over UNCW, Anderson spoke of the experience that Rice gained by playing in that situation.

"I was really happy for Tolley that she was able to clinch it as a freshman," Anderson said. "To be able to be in that situation and come through will help her confidence a lot in the future."

Rice is just one of many Elon players who have stepped into the lineup and produced right away. Whether it be an injury or a simple lineup change that forces a player into the lineup, Elon players are not asking questions, but going out and leaving it all on the court.

At this point in the season, Southern

Conference play is in the forefront of the minds of the Phoenix, but the team is trying to just take it one match at a time.

"I think as a team we're really starting to get into the conference mindset," Johnston said. "We're starting to get on a roll and using each match as a building block for the next one."

Expectations were high heading into the season, and Johnston said those expectations remain, regardless of who is on the court.

"I think we have grown a lot in the past few years, and I know the seniors are looking forward to starting conference play and earning our title," Johnston said. "I think the hunger and desire for it is more now than it ever has been before, so I think we are right there and ready to do it starting [March 1]."

For all score updates and news regarding Elon athletics, please follow @pendulumsports on Twitter.

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Phoenix continuing to find consistency

Kyle Maher

Senior Reporter

Twelve games into its season, the Elon University softball team has shown signs of great potential. At the same time, there have been flashes of inconsistency.

The Phoenix went its first four games without losing, going 3-0-1 at the Charleston Southern Tournament while averaging more than eight runs per game. In the next tournament, hosted by Stetson University, the Phoenix experienced both highs — namely beating Bethune-Cookman University twice, once on a walk-off double by freshman Alaina Hall — and lows. In Elon's other two games, it was outscored 12-0 and could only muster a combined seven hits in 12 innings of play after tallying 17 hits in its two wins.

Despite struggling offensively, head coach Kathy Bocock said she saw a lot of promise in her team at both tournaments, but particularly in the tournament at Stetson, where the Phoenix faced a group of highly-talented

opponents.

"We set up our schedule to start kind of against teams like us and then build and grow [with] better competition," Bocock said. "I saw some really good things in where this team is going, and if we can stay on task, I think we'll be successful."

Freshman pitcher Alli Burdette looked back on the two early season tournaments as opportunities the team used to grow and develop in all aspects of the game.

"I thought we played well in both tournaments," Burdette said. "It was valuable to play in those games. Our pitchers got good experience pitching against good teams, and our hitters faced tough pitching. It was good to kind of see where we were against other good teams. I thought we put up a good fight."

Despite the dip in production, the Phoenix still has a dynamic offense when it's clicking on all cylinders. The Phoenix has four players hitting over .300, led by sophomore Emily Cameron and freshman Alaina Hall, who are both hitting .371. Cameron is

the team's leader in home runs and runs batted in, leading a group of four Phoenix with five or more RBIs.

Unsurprisingly, with all the firepower her team has at the plate, Bocock said she is not concerned about her team's offensive production. In fact, she's excited to see her inexperienced starters continue to grow and develop at the plate.

"We've got some young kids in the lineup, and they're just starting to build their confidence," Bocock said. "They're beginning to be more comfortable up there and getting some big hits for us. If they can continue that then when someone is having a bad day, it's okay because we're not going to fall apart."

In the circle, the Phoenix has counted on Burdette and juniors Caitlin O'Shea and Chelsea White to log significant innings while other pitchers are continuing to grow and develop into reliable options.

Burdette and White have both had their share of ups and downs this season, particularly Burdette, a freshman who is adjusting to college softball on the fly after being used

in the starting lineup from the get-go.

"I think I've done pretty well, especially as a freshman adjusting to this level," Burdette said. "There's always room for improvement. You can always do better than you are, and I'm working hard to get better every day, but I've been doing pretty well."

In the Phoenix Opening Tournament, it was much of the same for Bocock's team. The Phoenix went 3-1, but could easily be undefeated, or, if they were unable to get clutch hits and walk off with both of their victories, winless.

Bocock said she is proud of the way her team has competed against their talented guests.

"You can only prepare for so many things at practice," Bocock said. "Certain situations happen in a game when you're playing talented teams, and when they do, we talk about them with the kids. These are big games for us, and I think we're playing really good. There are still things we need to work on, but I've seen a lot of good things in every game."

Sports Briefs

Men's basketball holds on for seventh straight win

Playing its second of a five-games-in-11-days stretch, the Elon University men's basketball team held off a second-half comeback from Georgia Southern University to earn a 66-61 win Feb. 22. The Phoenix led 34-27 at halftime, but Georgia Southern cut the lead to a single point when senior guard Brian Holmes hit a 3-pointer. It remained a one-possession game until 23 seconds were left in the second half when Elon junior guard Kevin Blake scored on a dunk, and the Phoenix pulled away with free throws.

Elon will conclude the regular season with two pivotal home Southern Conference games against Wofford College (10-4) Feb. 27 and Davidson College (13-1) March 1. Elon can still earn a share of the SoCon regular season title or fall all the way to the No. 5 seed in the upcoming conference tournament.

Women's hoops earns critical win on Senior Day for Harris

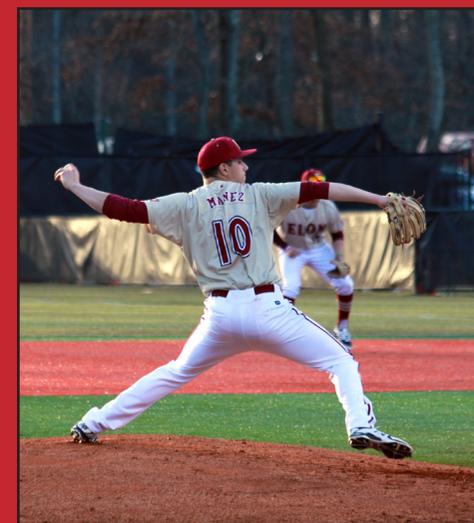
Saturday, Feb. 22 was Senior Day for Elon University women's basketball guard Kelsey Harris. She scored 18 points, enough to push her over the 1,000-point mark for her four-year career. Harris' team-high 18 helped the Phoenix cruise over the visiting Wofford College Terriers, 82-59. Elon jumped out to a 12-point lead in the first half with 7:11 remaining, but Wofford reeled off an 11-0 run to cut the lead to one with three minutes left. Elon led by five at halftime, but an 8-0 Terrier run made the score 43-42 with 17:12 to go in the game. That span provoked Elon to go on a 14-0 run over next four and half minutes.

Elon upped its conference mark to 9-6 with the win. Two games remain for the Phoenix, both on the road at undefeated University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and at Samford University. Elon could finish anywhere from second to sixth in the final SoCon standings.

Baseball breezes by Wagner

Two strong pitching outings coupled with offensive explosions gave the Elon University baseball team a pair of wins over Wagner College Feb. 21 and 22. Sophomore pitcher Michael Elefante made his first career start in the series opener and scattered four hits over six innings of one-run baseball. Offensively, junior designated hitter Chris King launched a fourth-inning grand slam to break the game open and Elon rolled to a 14-2 win. The next day, junior pitcher Lucas Bakker struck out nine Wagner Seahawks and allowed only one run over seven innings of work. Junior first baseman Casey Jones had three RBI as Elon scored 11 runs on 15 hits in an 11-1 win. Elon completed the sweep with a 7-3 win Feb. 23.

The Phoenix visits North Carolina A&T State University Feb. 26 before hosting the Elon Invitational the weekend of Feb. 28-March 2. St. Joseph's University, High Point University, and Gardner-Webb Univer-



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Elon pitchers held Wagner to just six runs in three games during a weekend sweep of the Seahawks.

sity will visit Latham Park during the three-day tournament.

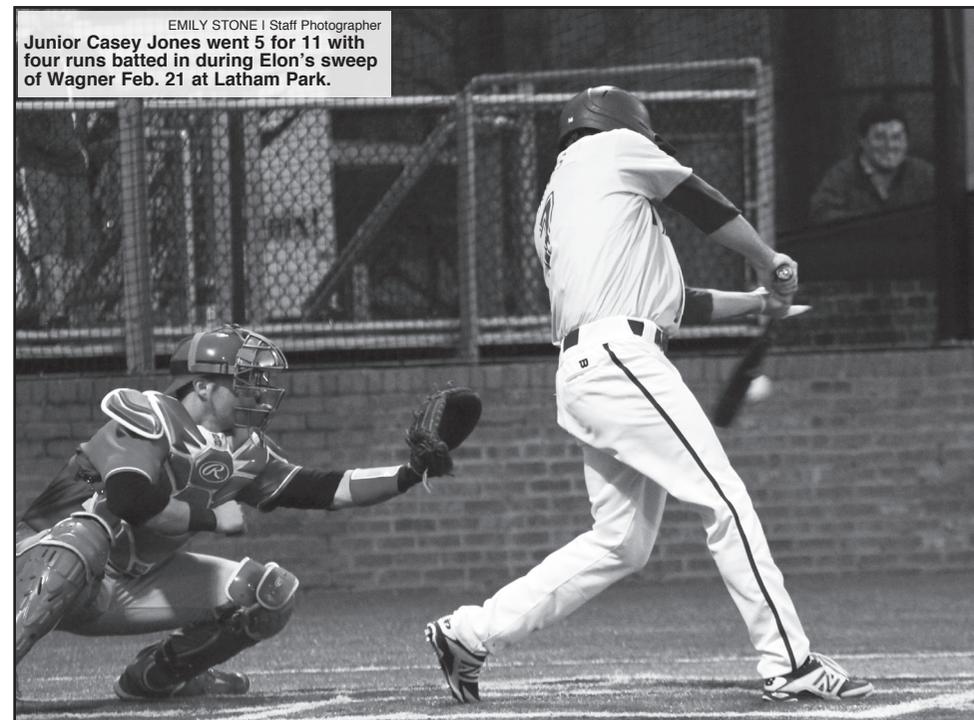
For full game recaps please visit elonpendulum.com

EMILY STONE | Staff Photographer
Lexi Caruso, sister of sophomore Kayla Caruso, hands freshman Alaina Hall a bat during the Feb. 22 game against Niagara University. Hall scored the game-winning run during extra innings.



JANE SEIDEL | Staff Photographer
"Saturday Night Live" star Kate McKinnon performed Feb. 19 in front of a packed McCrary Theater.

EMILY STONE | Staff Photographer
Junior Casey Jones went 5 for 11 with four runs batted in during Elon's sweep of Wagner Feb. 21 at Latham Park.



CAROLINE OLNEY | Photo Editor
Student soloists were spotlighted during the 18th annual Elon Jazz Festival, which took place Feb. 21 and 22.



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