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THE PENDULUM



New men's basketball head coach Billy Taylor speaks at a press conference hosted by Elon Athletics on April 19. Taylor comes to Elon from the University of Iowa as the former assistant basketball coach to the Hawkeyes.

Taylor comes to Elon with NCAA tournament experience, extensive coaching background, but will need to pick up the remains of Elon men's basketball

Nyah Phengsitthy | Managing Editor | @nyahphengsitthy

A RESIGNATION, SEVEN TRANSFER PORTAL entries and a nationwide search for a new head coach all transpired in the span of 10 days for Elon University men's basketball program. The intense period eventually turned in a new direction when the team found its next leader: Billy Taylor. Beginning in the 2022-23 basketball season, Taylor will replace former head coach Mike Schrage, making him Elon's 19th men's basketball head coach. Schrage, who was with the Phoenix for

three years, resigned April 5 to serve as special assistant to head coach Jon Scheyer at Duke University. Taylor comes from the University of Iowa as the former assistant basketball coach to the Hawkeyes. The national search for a replacement began the day of Schrage's resignation and just 10 days later on April 15, Elon announced that Taylor would fill the role. In a press conference hosted by Elon Athletics on April 19, Taylor said he's excited to begin his new journey at Elon.

"It's been so enjoyable to get to this point and to be excited about a place that I feel is a perfect fit for us as a family, for Elon, for our student athletes, and really a culmination of all the travels that we made, the people the relationships we've built along the way to get here to this point," Taylor said at the press conference. Elon University's director of athletics Dave Blank introduced Taylor at the press conference and said although the search for a new coach brought in a lot of national interest, Elon kept finding

its way back to Taylor during the hiring process. "Everybody has told me Billy gets his work done in practice. He likes his players to perform when they play in games," Blank said. "There's something to be said for that level of maturity in the coaching profession, that he has the right formula and knows how to do it."

See **BASKETBALL** | pg. 8

Prices across campus, downtown businesses increase due to inflation

As inflation increases, local businesses adjust their prices accordingly

Margaret Faust
Elon News Network | @margaretf Faust5

When junior Maddie Volp ordered a vanilla iced coffee from The Oak House on March 21, the barista repeated her order back to her, wrote it on a cup, passed it down the assembly line and said, "That'll be \$3.84." If Volp had placed this order before spring break, she would have spent 21 cents less. The increase in prices is a result of the high inflation rate for the U.S., which is 8.5% in 2022 — the highest since December 1981 according to the U.S. Department of Labor. The most recent Consumer Price Index Summary from the department also reported that inflation rates have hit record 40-year

highs for the fifth consecutive month. Consumer prices rose 8.5% in the last year, and take out food has even risen 6.9% in the last year. At The Oak House, customers are paying about 20% more for coffee now than they did before spring break. Owner of The Oak House Phil Smith said this is because the business is paying higher utility bills and spending more money on ingredients and supplies. "We haven't done it in about four years, and as time goes on, prices go up — the cost of raw materials is going up, the cost of plastic cups, lids and sleeves," Smith said. "We had not done it in a long time, but as I had gone around to other shops, either buying or seeing their prices, I realized we were behind the curve about doing those increases." Smith said he wanted to continue to pay his employees well and saw raising prices as the only way to do this.

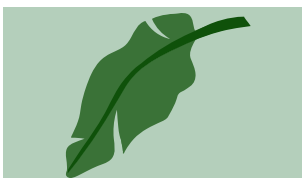
See **INFLATION** | pg. 4



Senior Grace Contino orders a coffee at The Oak House, realizing the price change of her regular order due to inflation.



NEWS • PAGE 4
Understanding how Russia's war is viewed on TikTok



LIFESTYLE • PAGE 7
Elon celebrates Earth Week, campus-wide sustainability



SPORTS • PAGE 8
Softball coach Kathy Bocock reaches 500 career wins

THE PENDULUM

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KYRA O’CONNOR
Executive Director of Elon News Network

NYAH PHENGSIITHY
Managing Editor of The Pendulum

BAYLOR RODMAN
News Director of Elon Local News

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Lifestyle Editor

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Sports Director

RYAN KUPPERMAN
Enterprise Story Coordinator

Ted Thomas, Anna Topfl, Abby Reed, Sydney Koopman and Ranya Russo contributed to the design of this edition. Ellis Chandler, Katie Everitt, Gram Brownlee, Abigail Hobbs and Madalyn Howard contributed to the copy editing of this edition.

EDITORIAL POLICY:

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

CORRECTIONS POLICY:

ENN is committed to accurate coverage. When factual errors are made, we correct them promptly and in full, both online and in print. Online corrections state the error and the change at the top of the article. Corrections from the previous week’s print edition appear on this page.

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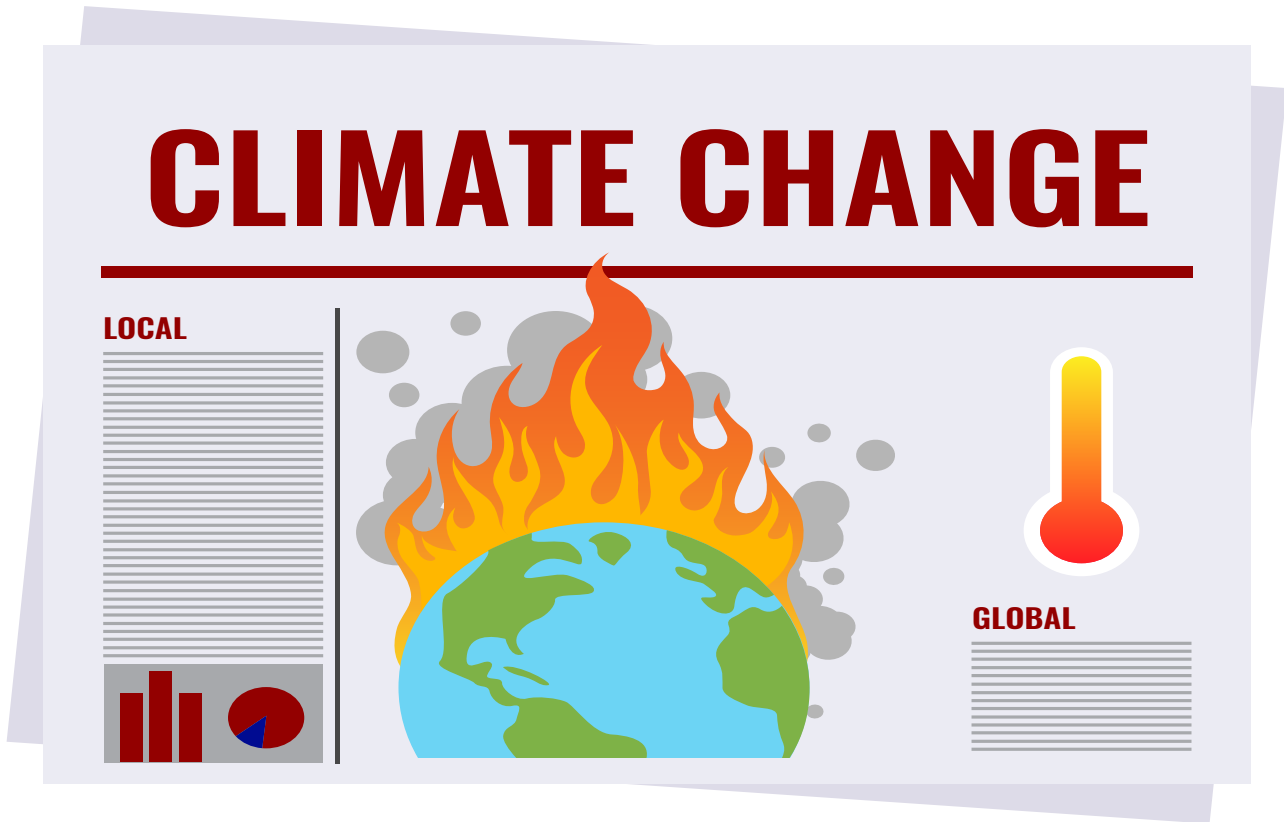
CORRECTIONS

There are no corrections for the last edition of The Pendulum.

CHEAT SHEET

THE CHEAT SHEET IS AN INTERVIEW WITH A RELEVANT EXPERT TO EXPLAIN COMPLEX TOPICS

Understanding the connection between climate change and pollen



CAROLINE MITCHELL | DESIGN CHIEF

Professor of environmental studies discusses how climate change led to pollen increase

Avery Sloan
Politics Editor | @averylsloan

North Carolina allergy season is from March to June and tends to peak in April, according to environmental studies professor Amanda Chunco. This year and in recent years, studies, like done by the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, have shown that allergies have gotten worse for people and may be because of climate change.



Amanda Chunco discusses why climate change is causing an increase in the length and severity of allergies, as well as why people have a reaction to pollen in general.

This interview has been edited for clarity.

A study done by the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences said the pollen season has gotten worse in recent years, and that it could be linked to climate change and rising temperatures. Can you explain how that is possible?

“One of the best lines of evidence for biologists that climate change is happening is changes in what’s called phenology. This means the timing of life history events and lifecycle events — so frogs are breeding earlier, birds are migrating at different times, eggs are being laid at different times, monarchs are moving at different times and trees are flowering at different times than they used to. Pollen is just the reproductive parts of plants, so they start releasing pollen in the spring, and they’re cued by temperature, so they don’t want to start making seeds when they’re not going to be able to grow. It governs when flowers and trees put out pollen.

Because it’s getting warmer and it’s getting warmer earlier, the pollen season’s starting earlier. The trees are like, ‘it’s spring now, it’s time to release pollen,’ and they’ll release that pollen, all the way through until temperatures get too high. It’s lengthening the period that they’re producing pollen, and it’s starting earlier, so folks who thought that they had until

April to start taking Claritin now have to start in March — and in some cases even February. Things are starting to get bad.”

Does that then affect other things going on, like plant cycles?

“One of the big concerns I have as a biologist is that for all of evolutionary history, phenologies are linked together. Birds lay their eggs around when insects are going to be most abundant, so that they can get the most food for their babies when the babies are hatching. Insects are all born when the leaves are coming out, so that when their babies are born, they have leaves to eat. So the challenge is that some organisms are responding to climate change in really different ways. Insects have very short lifespans, and they complete their whole life cycle in a year because they go through evolution a lot faster. They can respond really differently than birds who might not even lay their eggs until they’re like four or five years, so they’re responding more slowly. It’s really challenging. The other thing that is really hard is that some animals and plants are cued by day length. So it’s not temperature, but it’s the length of the day, which often correlates with temperature, and now doesn’t as much. So you have some birds relying on temperature to decide when they’re laying their eggs, so all the insects may have hatched and moved on before the bird babies are even hatched.”

Does that mean some plants and animals are in the wrong cycle?

“They’re all out of sync now. Now, it’s harder for birds to have enough food to feed their babies. It’s causing disruption all the way up the food chain.”

How would an increase of pollen affect people’s health?

“The biggest examples are cases of allergies going up. More people are having allergies, and that probably has to do with more biological things. But for those folks who have allergies, now they’re getting more severe. So the seasons last longer, often more severe, which means taking more medication that can have side effects that are unpleasant. The allergies are also unpleasant. A whole bunch of other human health things that are happening because of climate change. Pollen and allergies are one of those things.”

Why are allergies also increasing?

“In general, there is this theory called the hygiene hypothesis, and that is as we get more developed, we spend less time outside and we spend less time in the dirt

and less time with plants and animals in particular. Our immune systems, which for all of evolutionary history have been primed to protect bacteria, and viruses, and parasites and all these things that we’re surrounded by, but now we’re not so much. There’s not as many things for our immune system to attack. An allergy is basically an immune reaction to a foreign body that your body thinks is bad — you think pollen is bad, pollen is not bad. But your immune system doesn’t have intestinal worms anymore, you’re not carrying fleas like people did for most of evolutionary history.

In terms of human history, most people didn’t have indoor plumbing until 100 years ago, so almost everyone had tapeworms until the 1950s. Now we don’t have tapeworms and we are taking more antibiotics, which kind of destroys our internal microbiota. There’s a whole bunch of reasons that our immune systems are more reactive. In general, more people are responding to pollen than they used to. If you have lots of children, you’re less likely to have allergies. If you send your kids to daycare, they’re less likely to have allergies. There’s all these weird correlations.”

I have heard a lot of people who are not from North Carolina are experiencing “North Carolina allergies” for the first time. Are North Carolina allergies worse than other states, or is it just different?

“It’s just different. There’s a lot of people moving into North Carolina that grew up in, like, Arizona; your body’s used to certain pollen and things that you grew up with. There’s different species here, so your body is more likely to recommend that it’s foreign. There’s this really interesting thing that things you’re exposed to as a little kid, you’re less reactive to things your body understands they’re normal. If you’re from upstate New York, or you’re from South Florida or you’re from Arizona, this is all new to your body.”

Do you have any advice for students that are suffering right now from pollen?

“It’s such a personal question. My doctor recommends neti pots, I’ve heard they’re really effective at cleaning out the pollen that’s accumulating in your nose. If they get really bad, talking to an allergist can be helpful, but for most folks Claritin works really well. The other thing I’ve heard is that taking honey can be really good for allergies because it contains a lot of pollen and can get your body used to it.”



Students at North Carolina A&T State University watch U.S. President Joe Biden give his remarks on Thursday, April 14, in Greensboro. Biden discussed his “Building a Better America” plan.

RYAN KUPPERMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



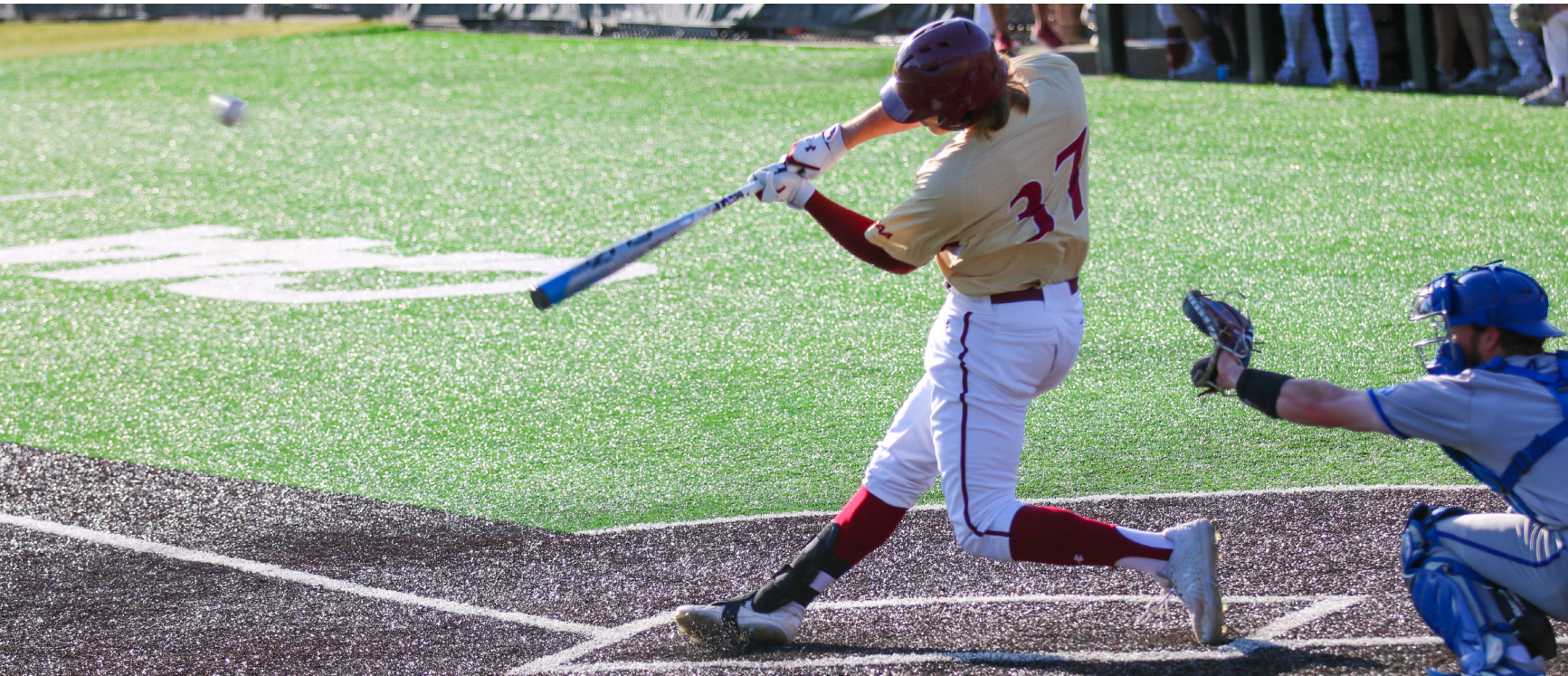
JACOB KISAMORE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Junior Annabelle Ackroyd hits a chip shot from short of the 18th green at the Reserve Club at St. James in Southport, North Carolina, during the final round of the CAA Women’s Golf Championship on April 17. Ackroyd tied for 11th in the tournament.



ABBY REED | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

From left: Freshmen Sitare Sadeghi and Tara Venkataraman perform a dance at Medallion Plaza for the Sri Lankan New Year celebration on April 13.



CELSEY MCMAHON | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sophomore first baseman Cole Reynolds hits a ball during Elon’s game against UNC Asheville on April 15. Elon won 6-3.

TURNING TO TIKTOK

Social media app provides new perspective to Russia's war on Ukraine

Ellis Chandler
Elon News Network | @ellis_chandler

Freshman Cece Guyader gets most of her information about Russia's war on Ukraine from her TikTok "For You Page." She said the 15 to 60 second videos are the first place she gets her headlines for the day. But as she scrolls through her feed, she's inspired to check out other sources for information if she wants to know more.

"I like to then read a news article from whatever account it's from if it's a news platform, I'll go read whatever they're saying and then another article from a different source to make sure it's not biased," Guyader said.

Like many others around the world, Guyader has watched the war unfold through their phone screen since Russia began its invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24. Countries with open access to social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook and YouTube are able to receive instant news updates about nations overseas. Now, TikTok is changing the content and context of social media — especially on how people view Russia's war on Ukraine.

According to a 2021 Pew Research study, about half of Americans regularly get their news on social media. Half of the 18 to 29 age group from the survey get their news from TikTok, and it's popular among Elon students as well.

Freshman Ellie Boyd said she gets the majority of her daily news from TikTok, even though she's aware it may not be all that trustworthy.

"I'll ask my family about what I see because they're closely following the war too," Boyd said. "I don't trust a lot of what I get on TikTok, but that is where I see most of what I know about it."

Political science professor Safia Swimelar said the war is the first time this generation of college students have had a large amount of access to viewing a conflict through the lens of social media.

"It's allowing young people to get involved and to learn about what's happening through social media in a way that, back in the 1990s or so, we wouldn't know what's happening," Swimelar said.

Hashtag variations of #standwithukraine and #ukrainewar have over 1 billion views on TikTok, while the #ukrainewarfootage has over 8 million views. The tags are used as a way to collect videos in one



LUKE JOHNSON | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Photo illustration: A student looks at Ukrainian TikTok content based on the current war. Since Russia began its invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24, countries with open access to social media platforms have received instant news updates about nations overseas.

place, and posts including them are used to show support or first-hand accounts from those in Europe.

Swimelar said seeing people injured or fleeing from Ukraine in real time puts college students closer to the conflict and creates a competition of narratives.

"People will pay attention more and maybe care more because they're hearing about it more," Swimelar said. "But it also shows that all sides are using digital technology and media to communicate and actually to fight the war in the digital realm."

TikTok was even used as a political tool by the White House on March 11, with approximately 30 TikTok influencers like Kahlil Greene attending a modified news briefing via Zoom to discuss the latest in Ukraine. The creators in attendance were chosen because they already make political content. The event was also designed to teach the content creators how to combat misinformation so they can relay the information from the briefing to their larger audiences.

Journalism professor Amanda Sturgill said the issue with getting news from social media is that platforms deconstruct it. She said social media posts often choose to select facts from the news and present it in a format where everything looks the same, and it's harder to determine a post's credibility with something like a Twitter feed or Instagram post.

"When you don't know the sources, you don't always know why

people are giving you a particular piece of information," Sturgill said.

A multistep test is what Sturgill encourages those consuming news via social media to use when they come across information in their feeds.



WHEN YOU DON'T
KNOW THE SOURCES,
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ARE GIVING YOU A
PARTICULAR PIECE OF
INFORMATION.

AMANDA STURGILL
JOURNALISM PROFESSOR

"The first thing is, 'Does it make me feel really strongly?'" Sturgill said. "If it makes me feel really happy, or really angry, or something like that, there is a chance that it's been deliberately created in a way to get a reaction out of me to get me to share it. That's sometimes a clue that information can be false."

Other steps include asking where the source of the information is from, who else is sharing it and why the user might be seeing it to begin with.

On March 6, TikTok announced its plans to suspend new video uploads from Russia in an effort to curb the pro-war content being posted. The plans include partnering with independent fact-checking organizations like Politifact and adding digital literacy tips to videos. This comes after a Russian false information law passed on March 4. The plans were made in an effort to protect its users and employees. The law would impose a jail term of up to 15 years for those who spread intentionally "fake" news about the Russian military.

TikTok's content is censored in Russia because of a new Russian false information law. This wouldn't be the first social media application to face restrictions from the government.

According to NPR, the Russian court previously banned Meta, the parent company of Facebook and Instagram in March. An exception was made for the messaging service WhatsApp. Twitter is not currently banned, but Russian users were facing increased difficulty with the app that officials said they were working to fix.

According to TikTok and since the March announcement, the app's safety team focused on the war in Ukraine removed over 40,000 videos that violated the app's policies against "harmful misinformation." This includes content that incites fear, hate or prejudice to the viewer, causes harm to the viewer's health,

promotes hoaxes or phishing attempts or misleads the viewer about elections or other civil processes. Hundreds of thousands of fake accounts were removed in both Russia and Ukraine and fact-checking prompts have also been added to videos.

When it comes to apps like TikTok, Sturgill said people often look at having video as proof that something is real and true. She said taking information out of context from a video and posting it is more common than advanced techniques like framing and audio manipulation.

The scrolling element of TikTok also makes users more vulnerable to misinformation because of the amount of content they're consuming. Sturgill said this numbs any kind of filters your brain might put up, but she cautions students to think about the content itself as well as the source.

"Just because information comes from someone who's in a position of power doesn't mean that it's information that's not being used to manipulate you," Sturgill said. "People who give speeches, politicians, important business people, spokespeople, those kinds of things — they've learned manipulation techniques to make the messages kind of carry the way that they want."

Even with its shortcomings, TikTok is proving to be a crucial platform with more than just trendy dances and funny animal videos.

Downtown Elon businesses increase prices on their items after spring break

INFLATION | from cover

Senior Grace Contino said she immediately noticed the change in prices when her regular order got more expensive.

"My first emotion was confusion, and my second emotion was kind of just, 'This is how it is.' Kind of just acceptance," Contino said. "I still like to come here to do homework and socialize with friends, so it wasn't really going to impact if I came or not."

While other local restaurants in downtown Elon, such as The Root

and Tangent, haven't increased their prices in over a year, a few doors down from The Oak House is Pandora's Pies, and only one item has gotten more expensive: chicken wings.

Two weeks ago, eight chicken wings cost around \$14. Now, the same order costs \$17. Kaitlynn Utley, one of the managers at Pandora's, said the chicken wings are one of the most popular items on the menu.

Utley said Pandora's had to increase the price of chicken wings because the store's vendor increased the wholesale price, another

result of the high inflation rate. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Retail report, chicken wings are costing more in stores across the country.

Sophomore Josh Cafaro was surprised when he learned how much his order of wings would cost him.

"That's concerning high for not a lot of food," Cafaro said.

However, Cafaro said the chicken wings are so delicious that the price increase is worth it.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the next inflation update is scheduled for



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WAS KIND OF JUST,
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GRACE CONTINO
SENIOR

release on May 11, offering the rate of inflation over the 12 months leading up to April 2022.

As inflation becomes visible across the county, Smith said he believes it's important to maintain the atmosphere of his business — even if it means a price hike.

"It's called the hospitality industry for a reason," Smith said. "The last thing we want to do is say, 'Oh sorry, I'm gonna take a little bit of your money for providing the service, this product, this hospitality.' It's kind of counterintuitive to offering what we offer, and it's also necessary."

Alamance County’s first contested sheriff race in 12 years

Democratic challenger Kelly White and Republican incumbent Terry Johnson vie for the position of sheriff. White is running a campaign of rebuilding public trust and Johnson is focusing on improving public safety.

Avery Sloan | Politics Editor | @averylsloan



COURTESY OF KELLY WHITE

KELLY WHITE

KELLY WHITE COMES TO the Alamance County sheriff race with over 20 years of experience serving in law enforcement. White said he is running because it’s time for change in the county, including the role of sheriff. “Just time for a new administration to work to unify the law enforcement community to increase transparency in the public, and the public trust in Alamance County,” White said.

“

THERE’S SO MUCH THAT HAS HAPPENED ACROSS THE NATION THAT HAS CAUSED PEOPLE TO DISTANCE THEMSELVES FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND ALSO IN SUPPORTING LAW ENFORCEMENT AS WELL.

KELLY WHITE
SHERIFF CANDIDATE

White plans on bringing Alamance County together and building back trust in the community through law enforcement. He said his plans are to meet people where they are at and understand what community members are looking for in a new sheriff. “There’s so much that has happened across the nation that has caused people to distance themselves from law enforcement, and also in supporting law enforcement as well,” White said. “Here in Alamance County, there’ve been a few incidents that drove a wedge between community

members and law enforcement. ... In order to move Alamance County forward, we have to have the community’s support.” White also plans on strengthening Alamance County’s Stepping Up Initiative, a mission organized to help reduce the amount of people with mental illnesses in the criminal justice system. This program provides services and support for people with mental illnesses and decreases arrests for small offenses. White said he recognizes the mental health issues on college campuses, and he hopes to improve the relationship between law enforcement and students through mental health support. He said he plans on doing this through having trust talks, which he said includes sitting down with students and setting expectations for their expectations of law enforcement. “The key is communicating with the community, with the Elon University students, their concerns, and how we can modify what we were doing to make it apply to what needs to work, or how we can modify what we’re currently doing and make it better,” White said. White currently serves as Winston-Salem University’s deputy chief of police and said his experience in law enforcement has shaped his values. He said focusing on his own experience has been his strategy throughout his campaign and that his experience in different law enforcement and management positions throughout his career has helped to prepare him for this role. “As the chief of police, my core values of treating people fair, honest and equal regardless of their race, ethnicity or beliefs prepares me to serve in this position as the people’s sheriff,” White said. White said he plans on bridging gaps within Alamance County between people who have different preconceptions of law enforcement by working with local law enforcement agencies and hearing from residents to understand what they are looking for. “I call my office the people’s office,” White said. “Not so much the sheriff’s office.”



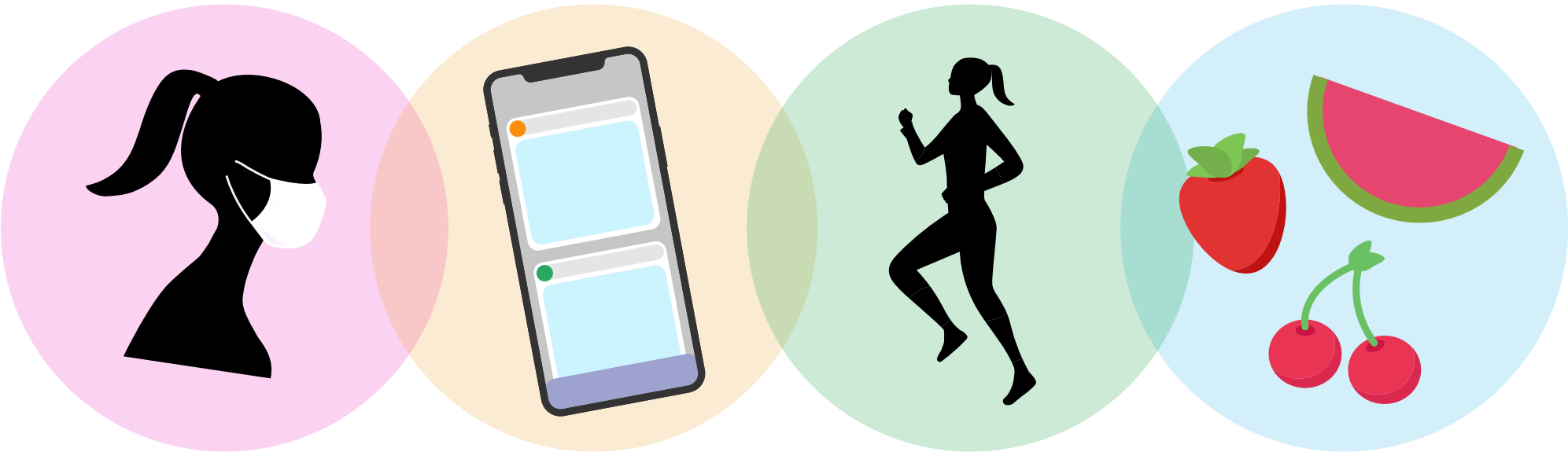
AVERY SLOAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

TERRY JOHNSON

AFTER 20 YEARS OF serving as the Alamance County’s sheriff, Terry Johnson is running for reelection in the county’s first contested sheriff race in 12 years. Johnson has 50 years of experience in law enforcement, but his first term for the Alamance County sheriff began in 2002 when he said he wasn’t pleased with the level of training for law enforcers. “The criminal justice system is getting more lenient than what it should be in a lot of cases,” Johnson said. “My men and women here work day and night, sometimes 24, 48, 60 hours without sleep, and then you go to court, and they let them plead and walk out.” Today, his main goals are to make Alamance County safer and to improve diversity. Johnson gained national attention in 2020 during the Graham protests surrounding the 30 foot tall monument of a confederate soldier located in front of Graham’s courthouse. People were protesting for the removal of the confederate monument, following national protests after the death of George Floyd. Making national news at the time, Johnson said he didn’t think his office’s response of pepper-spraying and arresting protesters was wrong. “We handled everything the way it should have been handled,” Johnson said. “I also believe, with the First Amendment, if they want to use that they have a right to, but you don’t have a right to throw water bottles at opposing opponents. You don’t have a right to be running gasoline generators. ... We are going to enforce the law, period.” Despite the negative media attention Johnson said he received, what matters to him more are the opinions of people who work with him and know him. Johnson also said those who know him understand that he values diversity within his office and is working to improve diversity of gender, race and educational background in the Sheriff’s Department. If he is elected, Johnson said he plans on

increasing mental health resources for the county. Mental health became a personal story for him, in which the first call he received as a deputy in 1972 — Johnson watched a man, who had been in and out of a psychiatric hospital, commit suicide in front of him. “I’m a REPUBLICAN, BUT WHEN I WIN SHERIFF, I’M EVERYBODY’S SHERIFF. POLITICS SHOULD NOT COME INVOLVED.” TERRY JOHNSON
SHERIFF CANDIDATE Today, Johnson said he is now an advocate for better mental health resources because of this experience. Johnson plans on creating a mental health diversion center, so people who are continually arrested for low-level crimes have another option. The goal of the mental health center is to get people back on track, rather than focus on punishment. Instead of being arrested and then released within 30 days with no assistance, Johnson said people should attend the mental health evaluations and medication. He said he plans on having this open in one year. Johnson said that while these are his goals for reelection, his main priority is to serve everyone across party lines. “I’m a Republican, but when I win sheriff, I’m everybody’s sheriff,” Johnson said. “Politics should not come involved.”

Understanding eating disorders in college settings



CAROLINE MITCHELL | DESIGN CHIEF

Professor of psychology Ilyssa Salomon discusses her research on eating disorders in college

Abigail Hobbs
Elon News Network | @abigailhobbss



Ilyssa Salomon

The COVID-19 pandemic caused an increased use in social media, which is linked to an increased amount of diagnosed eating disorders.

In 2020, there was a 15% increase in diagnosis of eating disorders, according to the British Journal of Psychiatry, with links to the COVID-19 pandemic. Emergency department visits for girls with eating disorders in the U.S. doubled during the pandemic, according to a study from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

According to the National Eating Disorder Association, in 2015 95% of girls say they have seen an onslaught of negative appearance critiques on social media, including comments, photos and videos — with 72% seeing them at least once a week. Of people diagnosed with eating disorders, 95% are between the ages of 15 and 25, according to Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital.

Professor of psychology Ilyssa Salomon discusses her research on the prevalence of eating disorders and the proposed reason behind them. Salomon's expertise is developmental psychology, adolescence, social media use, body image and sexual harassment. She primarily studies the effects social media has on social and emotional development and is not a clinical psychologist.

This interview has been edited for clarity.

Do you typically see an increase in eating disorders in teenagers, more specifically college students?

"I've seen some mixed findings from research investigating the prevalence of eating disorders. Some have shown that diagnoses in adolescent populations haven't necessarily increased for certain eating disorders. Some in college populations or older adolescents have shown that they are. I think I've seen some research more recently looking specifically at during the pandemic, and there was an uptick in the amount of people seeking treatment, but there are also a number of reasons people may not be seeking treatment for eating disorders.

There's also a number of people who may be suffering but still not meeting the threshold for a diagnosis with an eating disorder. I think we always have to take those prevalence statistics with a grain of salt, knowing that we get those by who is seeking treatment and people who are receiving official diagnoses."

What are some outside factors that can contribute to an eating disorder?

"I think at least in the realm that I usually examine in my own research, I look at the impact of media, particularly social media. So theoretically, I use socio-cultural theory of body image as a lens through which I approach research, and it definitely suggest that media can play a role in setting societal body standards, and when those body standards are very unattainable and hard for a lot of people to reach, that can lead to negative body image which for some people can escalate into eating disorder symptomology or put them at risk.

During the pandemic, we've seen that people are using a lot of social media. ... I think social media use, particularly if you are exposed to a lot of content that reinforces the importance of physical appearance, a very particular standard of physical appearance, may increase your risk of experiencing some of those symptoms and of developing negative body image.

There are also individual differences in who is susceptible to these messages, who is internalizing these messages. Some of us internalize those body standards more than others, so there are a number of factors that can place individuals at a greater risk. I just tend to focus on my own work, social media use and some individual characteristics.

So far, I've found in my work in young adolescents and older adolescents that girls are usually at a greater risk of experiencing that relationship between social media use and negative outcomes for body image and individuals who are higher in a variable called self-monitoring, which is essentially susceptibility to peer pressure, or how much are you paying attention to those around you. How aware are you of these social norms? And how willing are you to modify your own behavior to sort of meet those norms?

What social media have you found contributes to this?

"In my previous work, I actually created a variable called objectifying social media use and looked not at specific platforms, but rather, behaviors that people were doing on those platforms. So where are you posting photos? Where are you posting photos and asking people to rate them? That was something that was kind of common at that time on Instagram.

More recently, on a paper I'm looking at, I'm finding that TikTok and Instagram are two that I find these negative associations pop up. Given the visual nature of these platforms, that's understandable.

If we're thinking that mechanism is the imagery that they're seeing, the videos that they're seeing are reinforcing those cultural body standards. They're reinforcing the ability for you to change your body in extreme ways through behavior, like dieting behavior, like exercising. I think TikTok and Instagram are two that I focus on quite a bit."

What resources do students who may be suffering with an eating disorder have?

"I know on campus we have our counseling services, so that would be a great place to start to speak with someone and make an appointment if you are suffering, and there's also online resources. I know the National Eating Disorder Association has a hotline that you can call, ... it's listed online if you want to speak with someone. Certainly I think taking advantage of the counseling services on campus would be a great start."

Is there anything else you would like to add about the study of eating disorders today?

"I promote intentional use: becoming aware of what social media and how it makes you feel when you use it, because I think we're kind of hard pressed to say, 'All adolescents or young people should stop using social media.'

It's become such a large part of many people's lives, how they stay connected with one another that it's similar to abstinence-only approaches, it's not always the best to just tell young people to stay off of social media. So usually, I like to promote a more intentional use, being aware of how social media makes you feel and potentially taking breaks if you'd like, or being more careful with how you curate the content that you're consuming."

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If you have reason to believe that students on campus continue to operate as though they make up a recognized chapter of Pi Kappa Phi, please alert the Dean of Students office and Student Involvement Office or contact Pi Kappa Phi National Fraternity.

LIFESTYLE

Earth Week aims to spread sustainability campus-wide

Elon University’s Office of Sustainability recognizes week with schedule of events

Sophie Rosenthal
Chief Copy Editor | @sophrosenthal

Freshman eco-rep Molly Ruiz considered herself a “rookie to sustainability” before coming to Elon.

She was eager to learn about the potential impact students have on the environment, and through participating in campus-wide sustainability events — similar to those offered this Earth Week — she became fully immersed in Elon’s sustainability efforts.

“I just vaguely learned about sustainability in high school through a bio class, but I noticed that there was an actual way to get involved on campus,” Ruiz said. “As soon as I learned a little, I just wanted to keep learning more and see how it applies to my life.”

An active member of Elon Outdoors and

the Outdoors Living Learning Community, Ruiz also serves as an eco-rep, a student who works to educate peers on environmental issues and sustainability. According to Ruiz, the Office of Sustainability defines sustainability as “preserving the needs of our present without compromising the needs of our future.”

Ruiz said this is only possible when everyone is aware of what they can do as an individual. As such, eco-reps also plan and promote sustainability events on campus to spread awareness. Senior Alissa Kapp oversees the eco-rep program as an intern for the Office of Sustainability and said hosting events is a great way to show people how the environment affects them.

“There’s so many things that fall into the category of sustainability,” Kapp said. “The purpose of us having events on campus, obviously, is to promote sustainability and educate people more on stuff that they might not know about. But it’s also cool to see how

“PEOPLE NEED TO REALIZE THAT IT IS SOMETHING THAT AFFECTS EVERYONE, AND JUST GOING TO ONE EVENT AND LEARNING ONE NEW THING CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LIFE.”

ALISSA KAPP
OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY INTERN

sustainability can fit into so many different parts of your life.”

During Earth Week, there are 11 sustainability events open to all students. Kapp said she hopes people who don’t always think about sustainability each attend just one event.

“I think a lot of people don’t go because they’re like, ‘Oh, I’m not a sustainability major, environmental person. It doesn’t apply to me,’” Kapp said. “People need to realize that it is something that affects everyone, and just going to one event and learning one new thing can make a difference in your life.”

While Elon celebrates Earth Week now, Ruiz said what students learn now could be more important in the long term.

“What I’m hoping most students get out of it is education on where waste goes, how they can preserve their waste, how they can reuse things,” Ruiz said. “Because those are all really easy things that you can change by yourself but don’t take much effort.”

EARTH WEEK EVENTS

 APRIL 19 - 24 

Wednesday, April 20

12:30 - 1:10 p.m. | The Elm Dance: Honoring our Grief for the Earth and for Ukraine (McBride Sacred Space, Numen Lumen)

Students can gather in honor of grief for the earth and for the war in Ukraine. During the gathering, students can view a ceremonial circle dance, as well as hear the story connected to the grief ceremony, which has roots in the Chernobyl disaster of 1986.

9 - 10 p.m. | S’mores with Outdoors (Beck Pool Patio)

Join Elon Outdoors and the eco-reps for a special Earth Week S’mores with Outdoors.

Thursday, April 21

12:30 – 5 p.m. | Pop-Up Swap Shop (First Floor Moseley)

Bring clothing you no longer wear it to the Pop Up Swap Shop to trade it for new-to-you shirts, pants, dresses and more.

5 - 7 p.m. | Party for the Planet (Global Neighborhood)

The party will have free food, activities and live entertainment, as well as a thrift shop where students can trade their gently used clothes for new (gently used) clothes.

Friday, April 22

2 p.m. | Potluck for the Planet (Elon Community Garden)

Head over to Elon’s own Community Garden to try fresh greens and meet with other students interested in sustainability.

3:30 p.m. | Wellness Walk (Meet at Elon Community Garden)

Enjoy some time in the sun with a relaxing wellness walk around campus. The walk will end at Elon’s Loy Farm for a time to reflect and de-stress.

4 p.m. | DIY Nature Tote Bag (LaRose Commons)

Join the Office of Sustainability and Historic Neighborhood in learning how to make ‘sun prints’ using beautiful spring foliage and DIY your own nature-inspired tote bag.

Saturday, April 23

11 a.m. | Carolina Farm Stewardship Association Farm Tour (Registration Required) (Meet in front of Center for the Arts)

Visit three local farms to learn about food production in Alamance County and try some local foods along the way.

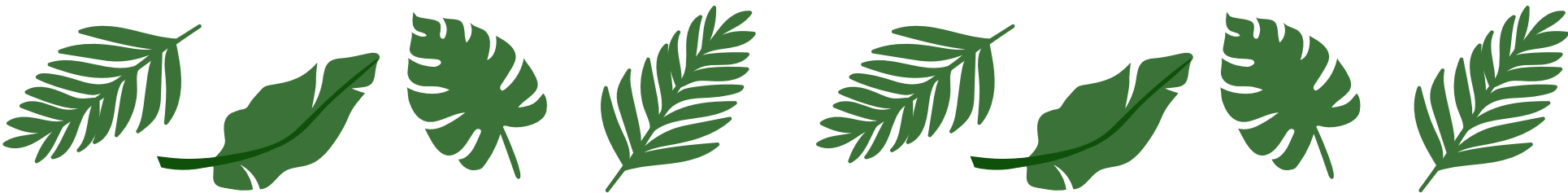
Sustainable Weekend of Service (Registration Required)

Sunday, April 24

11 a.m. | Carolina Farm Stewardship Association Farm Tour (Registration Required) (Meet in front of Center for the Arts)

Visit three local farms to learn about food production in Alamance County and try some local foods along the way.

Sustainable Weekend of Service (Registration Required)



SPORTS

Taylor to pick up men’s basketball program after Schrage’s resignation

BASKETBALL | from cover

Road to Elon

Before his time at the University of Iowa, Taylor’s head coaching experience started at Lehigh University from 2002-07. He continued as head coach at Ball State University for six seasons from 2007-13 but was fired after the team lost to University at Buffalo in the Mid-American Conference tournament in 2013. Taylor had a presence in North Carolina when he served as the assistant coach of UNC Greensboro from 1999-02 and the head coach at Belmont Abbey College from 2016-19.

Taylor’s first stint with University of Iowa began in 2013 when he served as the Director of Basketball operations until in 2016. In 2019, returned for his second stint as the assistant basketball coach to the Hawkeyes.

Elon football head coach Tony Trisciani worked at Lehigh University the same year as Taylor, and although he didn’t work directly with him, he said he’s excited about how far Taylor will take the men’s basketball team.

“I’m excited for coach Taylor and the opportunity that he has here at Elon, I think he’s going to be a great fit,” Trisciani said.

What’s left for Elon

Going into the 2022-23 season, Taylor will have to pick up pieces of what remains for the Elon men’s basketball: seven players have entered the transfer portal since Schrage’s resignation. Though the players have entered their names, it is not a guarantee they will leave Elon. It does, however, grant a release so that other schools may contact them about playing for their teams next season.

Only six players from last season’s roster have not entered the transfer portal and will not graduate this offseason. Elon University Athletics and members of the men’s basketball team

declined to comment on this story.

The news of Schrage’s resignation also led two incoming players to decommit from Elon — Devin Carney and Nick Martinelli.

“We’ve been hit by it, and we’ve got a lot of guys in the portal currently. ... Navigating the transfer portal is unique because there are programs that try to do it all in the transfer portal and they neglect the student athletes we have here,” Taylor said at the press conference. “I don’t believe in that. I believe we have something here. We have some special talent in our program currently. We need to enhance that with some help from the portal to replace some guys we’re losing, and we need to still recruit our high school student athletes.”

Trisciani, who’s familiar with Taylor’s ability to coach, said he hopes that those on the basketball team who entered the transfer portal will reconsider leaving and remember the student-athlete experience on campus.

“Give coach Taylor a chance,” Trisciani said. “I think he’s a guy they’ll enjoy playing for and they’ll continue to develop the culture that’s been building here.”

Rebuilding on and off the court

Cheering in the stands at every game is sophomore Kassidy Puckett, vice president of Phoenix Phanatics. Puckett said Elon’s student spirit group was in the middle of building a stronger relationship with Schrage before he left. Now that the new coach is announced, relationship building will need to restart.

“We were kind of developing a relationship with coach Schrage,” Puckett said. “He attended one of our meetings at the beginning of the year and was interested in building a relationship. It’s going to be different trying to rebuild that relationship with the new coach.”

Puckett said she is personally excited for this new chapter for



COURTESY OF EMILY WANGEN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Coach Billy Taylor cheers from the side of the court during a game against the University of Illinois on Sunday, March 8, 2020, at the State Farm Center in Champaign, Illinois. The Hawkeyes lost to the Fighting Illini, 78-76.

Elon men’s basketball, despite the number of changes that occurred within the team over the past two weeks.

“I’m excited to see where this goes. I’m still going to root for the Phoenix no matter who’s coaching,” Puckett said. “It’s just a period of rebuilding it seems, but I’m excited to see what happens.”

Bill Bride ‘85 has been supporting Elon athletics since he graduated, and after hearing about Taylor, he said he was impressed with Elon’s choice because of the variety of roles Taylor has held throughout his career, including his four-year letterwinner at Notre Dame, where he was recruited by Digger Phelps and started 79 career games.

“What’s important about this hire is he has experience and is taking teams to the postseason,” Bride said. “That’s something Elon hasn’t had ever since they’ve gone to Division I.”

Bride recently purchased his season tickets for men’s basketball and said he is looking forward to

what Taylor will bring to Elon, but healing the team should be one of the first priorities.

“The first thing he needs to do is get to work on keeping some of the players that are in the transfer portal at Elon and re-recruit them,” Bride said. “Then, he has to go out and fill any spots that are left over from players who have already left.”

Despite these challenges after immediately joining the program, Bride said he thinks Taylor’s experience with past NCAA tournaments and championships will be beneficial to the Phoenix. Over the last three seasons at Iowa, Taylor and the Hawkeyes placed in national rankings and the NCAA tournament, including their win in the 2022 Big Ten tournament championship. Back in 2004, he took Lehigh University to the NCAA tournament when he served as head coach.

“He’s familiar with winning,” Bride said. “It’s a great hire for Elon — he’s young, he’s 48. So the hunger is there.”

Elon basketball has been a Division I program since 1999 but has not attended a NCAA championship. Schrage was closer to this goal than any previous coach at Elon, but he did not accomplish it, leaving Elon with a 33-52 record in three seasons and having led the team to the 2021 Colonial Athletic Association Championship game. Elon men’s basketball went 10-22 this season and finished with a 7-11 conference record.

Going off of the Phoenix’s record this past season, Taylor hopes to take the team on a journey toward winning and help the Phoenix rise.

“We can win in the Colonial, we can become regionally relevant. We can go into national prominence and that’s what we want to do,” Taylor said at the press conference. “That’s not a short journey. It takes time. It takes a lot of work. These young men are going to commit themselves and they’re going to put in a lot of effort to get us there. But I’m excited about that journey that we’re going to take.”

Softball coach Kathy Bocock inspires team after 500 career wins

Kathy Bocock is close to becoming Elon’s all-time winningest coach

Sammy Johnson
Elon News Network

Elon University head softball coach Kathy Bocock strives to have a positive influence on the lives of her players on and off the field. For senior center fielder Rebecca Murray, Bocock fulfills that goal and is a role model to the team.

“She has meant a lot to me,” Murray said. “Even going back to my recruitment process, she was the only one who took a chance on me. That’s always meant a lot to me and always has been something I’ve kept in the back of my mind for my four years here.”

While Bocock serves as a daily role model for her players, she became more inspiring to the team when she hit 500 wins as a softball coach during their victory against College of Charleston on April 9. Reaching that 500th win has now placed her as one of the most successful coaches in the history of Elon softball.

The milestone came over a decade into Bocock’s time at Elon. When she joined the Phoenix in 2010, she was the assistant softball coach and then went on to serve as the interim head coach in 2012.

She was then named head coach the following season and has been leading since.



JACOB KISAMORE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Softball coach Kathy Bocock reached 500 wins as a softball coach during their victory against College of Charleston on April 9. She joined in the Phoenix in 2010 as the assistant softball coach and then went on to serve as the interim head coach in 2012. She was then named head coach the following season.

She had 24 years of coaching experience coming into Elon, having spent 15 years as the softball and women’s basketball coach at Averett University.

For Bocock, the 500th win meant more than a milestone; it was a stepping stone to the Colonial Athletic Association tournament, which will be held at Elon’s Hunt Park in May.

“I was just excited to get the win because we needed the win for the conference,” Bocock said. “Every win is important to me because of

what it does for my players.”

While Bocock said she enjoys winning and the competition of each game, that is not the main reason for why she coaches. The bonds she forms with players is the most important to her.

“That’s why I coach. I love the relationships, and I want to make a difference in somebody’s life,” Bocock said.

Prior to their game against Charleston this season, the team was fully aware of Bocock’s

potential milestone. Senior catcher Carley Davis said being able to celebrate this moment with their coach was something she cherished.

“We worked really hard this season to give her this accomplishment,” Davis said. “To be able to give this to her with all that she’s given to us means a lot to me.”

Bocock said she was especially happy to get this accomplishment with this group of players. With the pandemic cutting off seasons for juniors and seniors, she said she’s aware of the road athletes have taken during this time.

“They’ve worked so hard to get where they are now,” Bocock said. “With the pandemic for the past few years, it’s been hard for some of the juniors and seniors, so it’s special to do this with a group that’s been through a lot.”

Bocock currently has 256 wins at Elon and is just 12 away from tying former volleyball head coach Sue Leonard for second most in Elon history and 23 away from tying former softball head coach Patti Radunez for the most.

“It means a lot for me because everywhere I go, I like to make an impact on the game and all the people I come in contact with,” Bocock said.

While the team loves helping Bocock climb up the all-time Elon win list, Davis said they consider Bocock to be more than just a coach.

“She has always been one of the biggest supporters in my life,” Davis said. “She’s not only a softball coach, she’s a life coach.”