

THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015 • VOLUME 41 EDITION 6

facebook.com/thependulum www.elonpendulum.com @elonpendulum

Elon flies into CAA Tournament

Phoenix riding high on three-game winning streak entering postseason

INSIDE:

Former Israeli soldiers come to Elon

Two veterans share their experiences on the battlefield pg. 2

Elon Aviation

New startup looks to the air for customers pg. 5

Wicked Mojo Bar and Grill and Mel's Good Times Cafe

New Orleans style restaurants provide dining and jobs for Elon students pg. 11

Junior Tanner Samson broke Elon basketball record

The record was snatched from Jack Isenbarger after only a year pg. 13



In a dominant performance, Elon dispatched UNCW with ease at home Feb. 28.

Tommy Hamzik
Managing Editor

The thought elicited some wide-eyed facial expressions, a chuckle or two and most certainly some brainstorming to see if it was really true.

Alas, it was. After nearly an entire season of serving as the doorman in the cellar of the Colonial Athletic Association, the Elon University men's basketball team had something to pride itself on.

So coach Matt Matheny threw the almost-jarring proposal onto the table.

"You can write that we're the hottest team," Matheny said. "Does anyone else have a three-game win streak?"

No, no one else does. It's just Elon, riding a three-game winning streak into this week's CAA Tournament in Baltimore.

Elon will be the No. 8 seed in the CAA Tournament, and will take on No. 9 Towson University on Friday, March 6 in the tournament's opening game. Should the Phoenix win that game, it'll face top seed College of William & Mary the next day.

"We can build off this," senior guard Austin Hamilton said, "and learn from the mistakes we're making. Hopefully, we'll make a run in this tournament.

Elon ended its season on Saturday, Feb. 28 with a dominant 74-55 victory against the Univer-

sity of North Carolina at Wilmington in what was perhaps the best performance in all season. Should UNCW have won, the Seahawks would have clinched the CAA regular season title and the No. 1 seed in the league tournament.

Two days prior, Elon beat another league contender in Northeastern University, attacking early and holding on for a 72-65 triumph.

Group those two with an 85-79 victory over William & Mary on Jan. 8 and Elon has wins against the CAA's top three teams in its arsenal. The Phoenix is the lowest seeded team to hold that accomplishment.

Elon, despite a season-ending ACL injury to sophomore guard Luke Eddy, had momentum entering CAA play, and added to that with a 77-67 trouncing of Drexel University in its league opener and the victory over William & Mary less than a week later.

But that disappeared

See **CAA TOURNAMENT**
page 13



Is NC ready for Hillary?

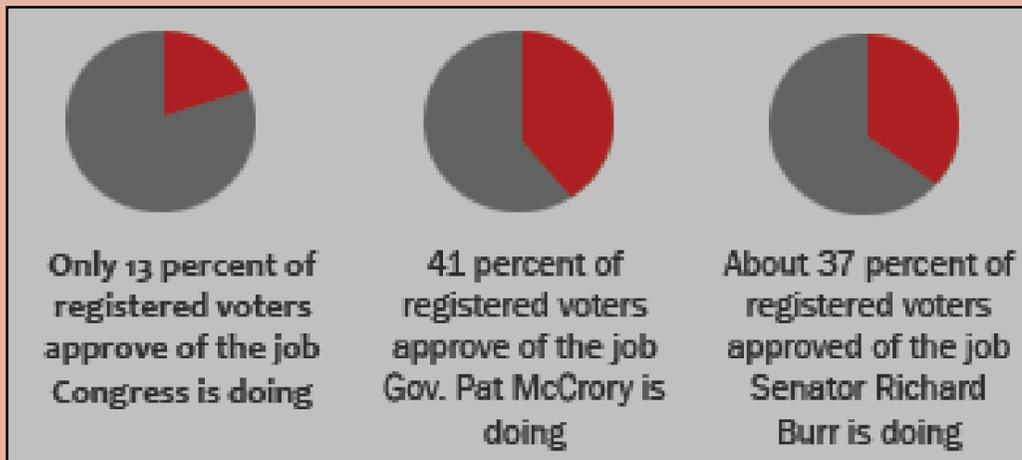
Latest Elon University Poll finds low approval of congress, stillness on social issues and little confidence in direction

Michael Bodley
Editor-in-Chief

Looking ahead to 2016, and despite Republican strides made in the midterm elections, more North Carolina voters would like to see Hillary Clinton in the White House instead of Jeb Bush. Though they've remained mostly consistent on social issues and congressional approval ratings, the shift represents a desire across both sides of the aisle for real change in the federal government, according to Elon University Poll officials.

Though the presidential election is still a few years away, more voters are keying in on what potential candidates are peddling and are already formulating opinions, according to

See **ELON POLL**
page 3



GRAPHIC BY TORI LABENBERG | DESIGN EDITOR

ASHLEY KING | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Defining tenure and faculty promotions

Leena Dahal
Assistant News Editor

From “permanent job contracts” to “holiday tickets,” a tenure status has been assigned many labels. But not all are true.

Attaining tenure status grants faculty an enhanced level of ac-

FACULTY GRANTED TENURE IN 2015

Dr. Amy Allocco*
Dr. Joan Barnett*
Dr. Olivia Choplin*
Dr. Sarah Glasco*
Dr. Kimberly Pyne*
Dr. Alan Scott*
Dr. Michael Smith*
Dr. Amanda Sturgill

*Also promoted to associate professor
(Sturgill already holds associate professor rank)

FACULTY PROMOTED TO PROFESSOR

Dr. Crista Arangala
Dr. Mathew Gendle
Dr. Charles Irons
Dr. Janet MacFinn
Dr. Paula Rosinski
Dr. Megan Squire
Mr. Kirby Wahl

FACULTY PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Mr. Enrique Armijo
Dr. Scott Buechler
Dr. Sarah Glasco
Dr. Sirena Hargrove-Leak
Dr. Ryan Kirk
Dr. Tonya Train

GRAPHIC BY MEGAN GRAVELY | Design Editor

ademic freedom. The status essentially functions as a form of “job security” — it grants faculty the ability to challenge administrative decisions without fearing the termination of their job. According to the Elon University Faculty Handbook 2014 - 2015, only full-time faculty with “tenure track appointments” a fixed probationary period of 4 to 6 years where appointments are of a fixed term length with no guarantee of reemployment. Basically, professors on tenure track are those who have been recognized as possible tenured faculty.

The Elon Board of Trustees, who makes the final decision on tenure statuses, seeks to appoint and maintain a faculty that is 85 - 90 percent tenured/tenure track.

Tenure Status Myth vs. Reality

Myth: Tenured professors can never get fired.

Reality: The University can only fire tenured professors if they can present evidence that the professor is incompetent, behaves unprofessionally or whose actions have led to significant levels of conflict. For example, a tenured professor in Marquette University was dismissed last week after he wrote a controversial blog post that admin-

istrator characterized as “inaccurate and irresponsible.” But to fire a tenured professor is purposefully difficult. According to the National Education Association (NEA), only about two percent of tenured faculty are dismissed in a typical year.

Myth: After being granted tenure, professors are exempt from teaching duties and usually do not work as hard as they did before.

Reality: It is difficult to gain tenure status. Tenured professors must show unprecedented dedication to, scholarship, teaching and service. Surveys administrated by the NEA found that tenured professors generally publish more work, serve on more committees and teach more than their untenured colleagues.

Myth: Tenured professors can say and do whatever they want.

Reality: Technically, the first amendment grants everybody the right of free speech but the tenure status does, to some extent, gives faculty the independence to challenge the administration on issues of academic, political or social importance without the fear of losing their positions.

Fourteen faculty members were also promoted to elevated ranks. The table describes faculty ranks as per the Elon University faculty handbook 2014-2015.

Faculty Emeritus Status	-Retired faculty whose service to the institution has exceeded the expected norm of performance, and who were members of the faculty at Elon University for at least 10 years are eligible for this position. -To achieve this status, faculty members must be formally recommended by -The provost forwards this recommendation to the president who makes the final decision.
Professor	-To be eligible for promotion to the rank of professor, faculty members are expected to have a terminal degree and at least six years of experience as an associate professor. -Should have established sustained records of teaching, professional activity and institutional service that surpass the standard for faculty in other ranks.
Associate Professor	-Associate professors should have a terminal degree and at least six years' experience as an assistant professor -Should be actively engaged in teaching, advising, service and scholarly activities of a high quality. -Should expect to serve six years in rank, of which at least four are at Elon.
Assistant Professor	-Applicants have a terminal degree and, typically, some teaching experience or significant professional experience. -Assistant professors are expected to be effective teachers, advisors and departmental members and to be engaged in serious, continuing scholarly study, which will permit them to increase competence in their fields and/or other fields. -Should expect to serve six years in rank (four must be served at Elon) before becoming eligible for promotion.
Senior Lecturer	-In order to be promoted to this position, faculty members are expected to have established ongoing records of excellent teaching and significant service to the institution, as well as other professional activity that promotes professional development. -Senior lecturers will not be considered for promotion to the ranks of assistant, associate or full professor.
Lecturer	-The appointment for persons who have the master's degree -Expected to be effective teachers who are actively engaged in service to the institution, and to participate in professional activities. -In order to stand for promotion to senior lecturer, lecturer should expect to serve six years in rank, of which at least four are at Elon University. -Lecturers will not be considered for promotion to the ranks of assistant, associate or full professor.

GRAPHIC BY MIRANDA SIWAK AND STEPHANIE HAYST | Design Editors

Elon Pro-Israel organization brings former IDF soldiers to campus

Caroline Fernandez
News Editor

A recently formed Elon University cultural organization called Israel Dialogue, Education and Advocacy (IDEA) brought two Israeli reservist soldiers to campus Friday through the national non-profit organization Stand With Us.

IDEA, created by senior Maia Szulik, officially became an Elon cultural organization in November 2014.

Szulik said the organization strives to foster dialogue, education and advocacy about Israel and the Middle East.

“We want to offer a space on campus for healthy conversation on issues that may be controversial, and we also want to have events that highlight Israeli culture and life while clarifying many misconceptions that people have on a very complex situation,” she said. “We stand for a just peace and a secure Israel that can live in peace with its neighbor, side by side with a Palestinian state.”

The organization was formed with the support of Stand With Us, a 13-year-old California-based non-profit organization that focuses on educating people of all ages, from high school to everyday citizens, on issues in Israel and the Middle East.

IDEA partnered for this event with Stand With Us, to bring the two military reservists, Gal and Yehuda, to campus.

For two weeks, Gal and Yehuda traveled up and down the east coast — from Palm Beach, Florida, to D.C. to Elon — and spoke to students on their experiences as Isra-

eli Defense Forces (IDF) soldiers.

They were selected by Stand With Us' Israeli office and then brought to the United States courtesy of the group.

In Israel, there is a mandatory military service, requiring men to serve three years and women serve two years.

For Gal, a 25-year-old Israeli female whose grandfather was a colonel in the IDF, the idea of one day serving in the military didn't scare her.

“For me, joining the army wasn't something I had to do but something I wanted to do,” she said. “It was a way for me to give back to my county.”

During her time in the IDF, Gal became a basic training commander, which required her to teach new members how to throw grenades and shoot M16s.

She said her service in the army empowered her as a woman because it involved her serving and leading alongside men.

“Since we were little girls, we were shown through women in the military that we could do anything,” Gal said. “I am confident that my gender will never be something to hold me back.”

Yehuda served in the IDF as a member of the border police and monitored checkpoints between Israel and Palestine, a job, he said, that while taxing also gave him pride.

“I wanted this position because of my ideology and desire to be a part of Israel's history,” he said.

A main purpose of the checkpoint Yehuda said is to eliminate any damage that could be done to citizens from people willing to be



Gal and Yehuda speak to Elon University students on their experiences as soldiers in the Israeli military.

killed for causes, whether they be suicide bombers or travelers with explosives and knives.

Every vehicle and person entering Israel needs to stop at the checkpoint, even the many Palestinians who use the hospital systems in Israel.

Even if the medical attention needed is dire, the vehicle and people in the vehicle still must go through a routine check at the border.

In one instance when Yehuda was on duty, he heard screams coming from a car.

“There was a child passed out in a car and the family was yelling,

“There's a child who is going to die,” he said. “The family needed to get to hospital, but it was rush hour.”

After the family's car was checked at the border, the Israeli army escorted the family to the hospital.

“I wish we could have waved them through right away, but many times people sneak things through mothers and children,” Yehuda said.

He said that because of his time as an IDF soldier he has learned how important coexistence and peace throughout the world is.

“I hope and wish the younger

generation will live side by side and bring the needed peaceful life to the Middle East in the near future,” he said.

He saw the mandatory military service as a benefit to Israel's society and culture and a pathway to possible peace.

“I believe the Israeli army is a good starting point [for understanding and peace],” Yehuda said. “[Mandatory military service] is why it's so easy to integrate into society, because everyone starts at the same level.”

“Gal and Yehuda's last names were not solicited at the event for privacy purposes.”

ELON POLL from cover

Kenneth Fernandez, director of the Elon University Poll.

“Although most voters are not spending much energy thinking about the 2016 presidential election, the survey results from October and February show that voters respond to new information,” Fernandez said in a statement.

The swing in Clinton's favor comes to no surprise for some students who hail from more liberal-leaning states than North Carolina.

“I'm not from North Carolina — I'm from Maryland, where it is

common to see Democrats take the lead,” said sophomore Allie Bennett. “So, to see people in favor of Hillary isn't a shock. I think it's interesting because they're both from political families so maybe people are paying attention to them because of their family's reputation.”

In the latest poll, conducted in February, opposition on social issues such as gay marriage and abortion rights continued to outweigh support.

That may not be changing anytime soon, according to senior Matt Albers, a senior supervisor for the Elon University Poll who helped write the report.

“North Carolina, I still think,

despite turning a little bit more purple, is still pretty solidly red — at least in the social aspects of it,” Albers said.

Pockets of the state may still be swinging in the aftermath of Amendment One and its being found unconstitutional in October 2014. At Elon — considered by many more progressive than most of the state — the opposition still raises some eyebrows.

“That's a little too high, judging where we are as a country as being more accepting of gay marriage today compared to in the past,” said junior Brett Levenson, of 47 percent of the state opposing gay marriage.

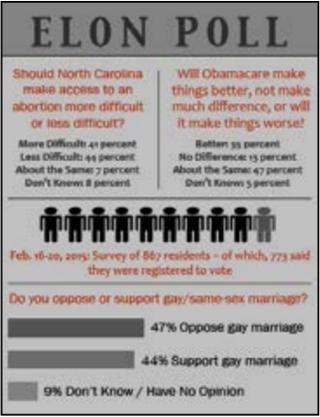
North Carolinian's approval of

congress also does not appear to be changing a whole lot, though it has increased to 13 percent from a 2014 all-time poll low of 9 percent.

Among Republicans, congressional approval inched up slightly, and there was a corresponding slight downturn among Democrats. Albers attributed the changes to the success Republicans enjoyed in the midterm election.

“[Congress] has become such a polarizing figure between both parties that people feel like there's nothing of substance coming out,” he said.

News Editor Caroline Fernandez contributed reporting.



GRAPHIC BY TORI LABENBERG | Design Editor

Students challenged to redirect sustainability initiatives

Bryan Anderson
Assistant News Editor

Whether students take car pools or use reusable water bottles, they belong to a nation using nearly one-fourth of the world's natural resources. The overlooked key to a greener future: linking social justice and sustainability.

Julian Agyeman, a professor of urban and environmental policy and planning at Tufts University who coined the concept “just sustainabilities,” visited Elon University's LaRose Digital Theatre Feb. 24 to argue sustainability is about so much more than the environment — it's also about human equality.

“Wherever environmental degradation is happening in the world, I defy you to find a place where it's not about social injustice,” Agyeman said to a large group of Elon students.

Bringing sustainability to Elon

According to Agyeman's website, just sustainabilities can be defined as “the need to ensure a better quality of life for all, now and into the future, in a just and equitable manner,

whilst living within the limits of supporting ecosystems.” After introducing this concept, Agyeman expressed his frustration with how the sustainability agenda is construed around green issues.

Before coming to Elon, Agyeman examined the mission statements of some sustainability organizations on campus. He concluded many organizations focus on addressing the environment or social responsibility, but there are no coalitions formed between the different groups.

Shannon Temlak, a senior political science and policy studies double major and Eco-Reps coordinator, said coalitions should form between different sustainability organizations on campus.

“I've noticed on this campus that we have a lot of student organizations that do have a mission that is to promote certain sustainable-related issues,” Temlak said. “We have all these great organizations that all tie into sustainability, but currently, we're not doing that great working together.”

For example, one portion of the Sierra Club's mission is to “practice and promote the responsible use of earth's ecosystems and re-

sources.” Enactus, an international nonprofit organization, works with leaders in business and higher education to develop “skills to become socially responsible business leaders.”

Similarly, the Eco-Reps Program is “dedicated to promoting sustainability and environmentally responsible behaviors. This program raises awareness of sustainability-related programs by working with Residence Life and Greek Life and delivers lessons to Elon 101 and COR 110 courses as requested.

Collaborations between these organizations could help promote the idea of just sustainabilities, according to Agyeman.

Getting a fair share

Agyeman listed off five themes to what just sustainability should look like in practice: environmental space and fair share, well-being and happiness, urban agriculture and food justice, planning for agricultural societies and spatial justice.

Data from the CIA shows the United States has the world's largest coal reserve and accounts for 27 percent of the world's total. An article from 24/7 Wall Street, a Delaware corporation that runs a financial news and opinion company with content delivered over the Internet, named the United States the second-richest country in the world in terms of resources — Russia ranked first. Other wealthy countries include Australia, China and Canada.

Because of this disparity in available natural resources between wealthier, more powerful nations and poorer ones, Agyeman advocated for a more equitable allocation of resources. He also said government cannot be trusted to make cutbacks for the greater good of other nations.

“Do you envision American government policymakers cutting back on our nation's resources within the near future?” Agyeman asked. “If not, who has to be accountable for lowering that 25-5 percent gap?”

While he was specifically skeptical of the federal government, he noted there is hope for local governments to bring change.

Alamance County in action

Budget cuts have become increasingly prevalent in counties throughout the United States. Alamance County is no exception.

The county's Planning Department site says it oversees a number of community activities ranging from water and sewer projects to land development in rural Alamance County. As the planning department's director, Libby Hodges has witnessed a sharp decline in her department's activities because of recent budget cuts.

“Most of the funding that we've gotten from the past has come from state or federal,” Hodges said. “[Securing those funds nowadays] requires someone from our department applying for the funds, and we don't have the staff to apply or manage the funds once they're in place.”

Despite this problem, departments try to remain optimistic about their existing sustainability efforts.

“A lot of the municipalities and colleges and universities are trying to do more with water control,” said Phil Ross, head of the Soil and Water Conversation department.

Ross also points to the county's recycling program as another step in the right direction.

“Greg Thomas [the county's solid waste director] has an excellent recycling program through the landfills,” Ross said. “That would be one thing we're doing well in Alamance County.”

But Agyeman said that while these efforts promote sustainability, they do little to address social justice.

Food for thought

Agyeman is a firm supporter of buying fresh local food, but encourages students to stray away from their traditional definition of local.

“I want to develop a notion of local that is not seeing local as a geographic concept but is seeing local as a cultural concept,” he said. “Buy local, buy fresh usually means geographic food. It doesn't refer to what other people want.”

At Elon's farmers market on North Williamson Avenue, local farmers cater to members of the Elon community. But members of the Elon community come from a variety of backgrounds. More than 80 percent of Elon students live out of state. Because students come from a wide range of geographic regions, local food may refer to food from their hometown rather than an Elon farmers market.

Within Alamance County itself, residents have different cultural roots. According to data from the 2013 census, 19.3 percent of county residents are black or African-American while 11.8 percent are Hispanic or Latino. To define what is local, Agyeman urges farmers to consider the diversity within the community and make products for minority groups as well.

Bridging sustainability and social justice

When stringing together his final thoughts, Agyeman challenged students to expand their minds beyond conventional scientific research.

“We have the science of sustainability, we know what we need to do, but we're not doing it,” he said. “This is where social science [psychology, sociology, anthropology] comes in.”

Agyeman concluded his speech by urging those in attendance to critically examine how to promote both environmental justice and social justice.

Improving parks as an attractive option for people to congregate, constructing streets for people to talk rather than roads for drivers, bringing more diversity into the work force and promoting human potential through a better educational system were among the many ideas he hoped would generate future discussion on campus.

Art history department celebrates 10 years

Caroline Fernandez
News Editor

In honor of the art history department's 10-year anniversary, discussions on transhistories of the visual echoed through the halls of Elon University's Koury Business Center during a two-day symposium.

Between, Among, and Across: Transhistories of the Visual was the theme of the two-day on-campus conference Friday and Saturday.

Approximately 50 Elon students, faculty and staff members as well as visiting guests attended

the event, which featured 17 lecturers and presentations.

Alumni of the department and nationally accredited and acclaimed scholars gathered to share their research and opinions.

Erin Day '11 presented Friday on the topic of "The Corporeal and the Contemporaneous: Screen Dance and the Matter of Media." She said she was pleased to see how the art history program made strides and hosted a symposium.

"A conference is so essential to discussion," Day said. "It's how scholarship happens."

Melissa Spencer '09 said it's

great Elon is doing something as big as a two-day symposium.

"It's good to see people from outside of Elon [come and speak]," Spencer said. "Having an art history speaker is another key perspective for students and scholars."

Dr. Jill H. Casid, professor of visual studies in the Department of Art History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, presented the keynote address, "Art History on the Hyphen," Friday evening.

Her presentation was based on the idea that the history of art is positioned on an altering and transitive hyphen.

Casid demonstrated how re-versings of a Roman imperial text's metamorphic scenes across a range of media work relate to the transformative properties of hyphenation.

"I think it was fruitful to see [Casid] talk," Day said. "It had a good overarching statement about the discourse of art theories."

Kirstin Ringelberg, Elon professor of art history who co-organized the event, said the speech was a great example of a challenging art history talk.

"The ideas were complex and far from easy and within the talk was a challenge to art historians to rethink the way we do what we do — to be more directly engaged with the interconnections between and across our normal 'tidy little boxes' of categorization and method," Ringelberg said.

Casid received her B.A. with honors from Princeton, her M.A. from the Courtauld Institute of Art at the University of London and her Ph.D. at Harvard. She went on to serve as the first director of the Center for Visual Cultures at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her academic background impressed many of the event's attendees.

"Dr. Casid is one of the early developers of the study of visual culture in our country — she's a major international figure in that regard — so it was also exciting to have someone on our campus with that stature supporting our curriculum's and discipline's self-critical questioning," Ringelberg said.

An art history minor was for-

mally introduced to Elon in the 2004-2005 academic catalog. In 2007, an art history independent major graduated, and the first official art history degree was received in 2008.

In the past 10 years, the department has graduated 40 majors and more than 60 minors.

The department has also dramatically changed the curriculum from teaching primarily Western-focused surveys to teaching almost exclusively discussion-based classes and seminars that look at more than just one continent.

Ringelberg said she sees the student involvement in the program as a key to success.

"We also really enjoy our program — we love our students, we all get along really well and we think art history is both complex and exciting — so we have a good energy that I think students really do respond to," she said.

Ringelberg added that a demand to grow will not decrease the rigor of the department's coursework.

"We refuse to lower our standards in terms of the quality of our classes and undergraduate research projects to make ourselves more popular, however, and we know that means we might not always satisfy the drive for greater numbers," she said. "That's a chance we're willing to take, but we're of course also looking at ways to grow."

"We believe that, ultimately, you need that political transition to effectively defeat and destroy ISIS," Korkor said. "For us, transitioning the government in Syria is a key part."

But this political transition will be difficult to accomplish, considering the demographic composition of Syria and its treatment of minority groups, especially women, Korkor



Dr. Jill H. Casid, professor of visual studies in the Department of Art History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, spoke about the idea that the history of art is positioned on an altering and transitive hyphen.

Elon's engineering program grows

In place of 3-2 system, school looks to keep students at Elon for 5 full years

Diana Stancy
Senior Reporter

A five-year engineering program at Elon University is in the works. The new program will allow students to stay at Elon for the entirety of their engineering degree, rather than transfer after three years, which is how the program works now.

Elon's engineering department currently operates under a dual-degree program: students complete three years of their degree at Elon and two years at a partner institution. But not for much longer.

Sirena Hargrove-Leak, assistant professor of engineering, has been with Elon since 2004. She has witnessed the maturation of the dual-degree engineering program, which began in 1999.

Because of her background with the engineering program, Hargrove-Leak has been especially involved in the formation of the five-year engineering program at Elon. She summarized the five-year program as a "continuation" of the dual degree program — except that the entirety of the program would be completed at Elon.

"We think that it offers students more options for their engineering studies," she said.

Elon originally based the dual-degree program off a model from Jacksonville University in Florida. Elon's adminis-

tration saw that its engineering program was successful and recognized it attracted strong math and science students.

"Seeing that success, the administration here at Elon thought it would be a great addition to the program here," Hargrove-Leak said.

While the dual-degree program has seen growth since its inception, the decision to incorporate the five-year engineering program at Elon was ultimately based off feedback from current engineering students. Hargrove-Leak said an overwhelming number of responses from a survey indicated most engineering students would prefer to continue their education at Elon.

"That's the hardest thing — having to leave after only three years, the way our program is currently structured," Hargrove-Leak said.

At the moment, it hasn't been determined when the five-year engineering program will go into effect. New facilities need to be built to accommodate the extensive engineering labs required for the five-year program.

Additionally, Elon will need to complete an accreditation process. Hargrove-Leak noted that once that process begins, the department will be able to determine a timeline for the expansion of the program. Elon will also need to hire more faculty members to accommodate the new

curriculum.

"Clearly, we have a lot of work to do, and it requires resources," Hargrove-Leak said.

A new engineering faculty member that specializes in biomedical engineering has already been hired and will begin teaching in fall 2015.

Scott Wolter, associate professor of engineering, has also been contributing to the five-year program. He participated in a committee last year to determine the future of the engineering program at Elon.

"We evaluated several peer and aspirant engineering programs around the country and considered the types of degree offerings which would best fit our strengths at Elon," Wolter said. "Subsequently, we proposed biomedical, environmental, computer and general engineering degrees as those that we felt would best fit our strengths and capabilities at Elon and our student's interests."

With the five-year program, degrees in biomedical, computer and environmental engineering would be available to Elon students.

Currently, the dual-degree program offers six concentrations, including these three areas of study. If future students would like to pursue the other areas of engineering currently offered as concentrations, including engineering physics,

engineering mathematics and chemical engineering, then they would continue on the current dual-degree track.

Options for students who would like to complete the five-year program in four years will be available to students, and the dual-degree program will continue to be a possibility. The goal is to provide students with more options and flexibility as they earn their engineering degree.

"My sense is that as the engineering program continues to grow, our engineering students will have opportunities to positively impact our world," Wolter said. "I believe there are additional opportunities to interact with the school of business and entrepreneurship program at Elon as the engineering faculty develop their research programs."

Hargrove-Leak is looking forward to the benefits for students, such as internship opportunities that may present themselves as a result of the new program.

"I am always student-centered, so I'm just excited about the possibilities that this change holds for our students," Hargrove-Leak said.

Taking down ISIS, one step at a time

Diana Stancy
Senior Reporter

Over the past several months, one name has been making headlines all across the world: The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria.

Oubab Khalil, chief of staff for the National Coalition of Syrian Revolution and Opposition Forces' Representative Office, and Bassel Korkor, U.S. counsel to the Syrian's Coalition's Washington and United Nations offices, both visited Elon Feb. 25 to speak about the impact of ISIS in Syria and solutions for the future in McKinnon Hall.

Last week, they both attended the Summit on Countering Violent Extremism in Washington, D.C. where more than 60 countries were in attendance and efforts were made to eliminate extremist forces like ISIS.

At the summit, President Barack Obama addressed the teamwork between countries needed to move forward to combat the escalating tension.

"And when all of us, together, are doing our part to reject the narratives of violent extremists, when all of us are doing our part to be very clear about the fact that there are certain universal precepts and values that need to be respected in this interconnected world, that's the beginnings of a partnership," Obama said.

Korkor and Khalil agreed that multiple tracks are available, including using social media efforts to counter the current narrative of how ISIS is portrayed in the United States.

Additionally, military efforts are being evaluated and at the moment, there is a plan percolating for the U.S. to train and equip forces in Syria.

"The goal of this army is not fighting," Korkor said. "The goal of any kind of army should be peacemaking."

But military efforts are only one part of the equation to combatting ISIS, according to Korkor and Khalil. More importantly, a political transition within Syria needs to take place before any lasting progress can occur.

"We believe that, ultimately, you need that political transition to effectively defeat and destroy ISIS," Korkor said. "For us, transitioning the government in Syria is a key part."

But this political transition will be difficult to accomplish, considering the demographic composition of Syria and its treatment of minority groups, especially women, Korkor



Oubab Khalil, chief of staff for the National Coalition of Syrian Revolution and Oppositions Forces' Representative Office, and Bassel Korkor, U.S. counsel to the Syrian's Coalitions Washington and U.N. Offices, spoke about the impact of ISIS in Syria and solutions for the future Feb. 25.

noted. "Right now, the opposition needs to look at its inclusivity," Khalil said. "The process of reaching out to those groups as a part of the opposition will naturally involve some policy development. That's good."

Senior Nicole Molinaro, a political science and international studies major and president of Model United Nations, also agreed that the diversity of Syria could pose challenges in establishing peace.

"The ethnic and religious diversity in the country is going to make the conflict almost impossible to solve," Molinaro said. "I don't see a solution in the near future, but I like to think that people can't be at war forever."

Matters in Syria to combat ISIS are complicated because of the internal unrest that had previously existed prior to ISIS's upris-

ing. The opposition forces in Syria may need to work with President Bashar al-Assad's regime. But stability is currently lacking in this arrangement for effective measures to actually function.

"One of the main concepts of the opposition's transition...is the idea of reintegration of rebel forces with the Syrian Army," Korkor said. "What it needs is some structure."

Korkor and Khalil elaborated on these efforts because contrary to what some may think, immediate solutions will not destroy ISIS. They also said the people who typically join ISIS are not poor — they have resources and are relatively well off. As a result, those interested in joining ISIS often possess a "gangster mentality" and are trying to find power and a place in society.

This is an intriguing arrangement to many and has and has generated members from all over the world. Approximately 5,800 Europeans and 100 Americans have joined ISIS's forces.

To many Americans, the fact that other Americans are joining forces with ISIS is frightening.

"I think that ISIS in a lot of ways is the scariest terror organization that we've seen in a while," Molinaro said.

Korkor and Khalil are certain that the terrorist organization needs to be abolished.

"This is a group that has demonstrated who they are and [that] they need to be destroyed," Korkor said. "ISIS is neither Islamic nor a state."

Taking flight at Elon Aviation

Michael Bodley
Editor-in-Chief

The latest addition to the Triad's aircraft industry, Elon Aviation, looks to get more would-be pilots into the air and capitalize on growing local demand.

After longtime FAA-certified flight instructor Chris Whittle struck out on his own to launch the business last December, the startup has already expanded in hiring another instructor and is considering adding two more planes to its current couple-sized fleet.

Calling his biggest challenge "the fear of stepping out into the unknown," Whittle has sold about a half-dozen students on his personal flying philosophy, which requires singular focus, then drilling and drilling until a maneuver is mastered.

One of them, Raleigh resident Joe Clarke, pegged the cost of obtaining his FAA-certified private



Two of Elon Aviation's planes. A couple more are to be added soon.

pilot's license at \$8,000 — \$1,000 more than Whittle estimated for an average price tag of \$8,000. To Clarke, the price tag is well worth the feeling of flying that "nothing else compares to."

"It was expensive, and I knew it would be," said Clarke, who works at Cisco Systems. "It's actually cheaper the more you fly, because the more you practice, the quicker it is you can get your certification because things stick you become more comfortable, and you end up

requiring less lessons."

Elon Aviation — which also rents out both of its four-seat planes at \$138 per hour — is quick to point out the potential savings with flying a family of four privately, as opposed to commercially.

"When you look at the cost of a small airplane, and even renting a small airplane, when you put a family of four in that and do an average trip, it's really competitive with airline fees," Whittle said. Launching in the dead of win-

ter presented its difficulties for Whittle, but the timing was quite intentional.

"It was a good move for the time, and it made a good break at the start of the year," Whittle said. "That would give me a couple months when things were looking a little slow, so when spring time came around I'm already going full steam."

As springs swings into season, demand for the business has exceeded early expectations. To capitalize on the promise, Whittle has established a monthly meeting of the IMC Club, an international organization of pilots, both private and commercial ones. The first meeting is set for March 5 at 6 p.m. at Elon Aviation.

Fostering a sense of community is important to Whittle — both for the business benefits and more simply to shoot the breeze with his fellow pilots, one of his favorite pastimes.

"One really important thing that's working well for me is that I'm really trying to establish a sense of community with the aviation population around here," he said.

So far, Clarke is a fan of the approach, but he said Whittle's standards can be tough ones to meet, ones that require hours and hours of practice to do and do right.

"He wasn't kidding when he said, 'Most people would rather fly with the FAA examiner than with me because I'm much more pedantic,'" he said.

The ability to fly solo is earned, not given, according to Whittle. But once it's earned, it's the pilot's to keep — barring an in-air incident that requires FAA intervention.

"I look at flight training as an investment," he said. "It's a skill that you'll have forever. They don't take it away."

Cheat Sheet: Israeli Defense Forces

Want a complicated news story explained? Email pendulum@elon.edu and find it in next week's Cheat Sheet

Who are the Israeli Defense Forces?

The Israeli Defense Forces are the military forces of the State of Israel. They were founded shortly after the state's est. in 1948. The group's security objectives are to defend the existence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the State of Israel, deter all of Israel's enemies and curb all forms of terrorism. The October 2014 issue of Business Insider Magazine listed the IDF as the most powerful military in the Middle East and the world's top air force.

Males serve for three years and females for just less than two years. Israel also has one of the highest recruitment rates in the world — nearly 80 percent of those who receive summons serve. People from all over the world, including Thailand and Indonesia, have served. Those who are exempt from service include most minority groups, those who are not physically or psychologically fit, married women, women with children, religious males who are studying in an accredited Jewish Law institution and religious females who choose to pursue national service and community work.

Recently, the IDF's dropout rates have come under media attention. Currently, one out of every six men drafted into the IDF drops out before completing his three-year term. Almost 50 percent of soldiers who drop out of the army do so for psychological reasons. In an effort to get a dropout rate of less than 13.5 percent for men and 4.5 percent for women, IDF has recently added provisions to what is defined as "mentally unstable to serve" and have increased services available for soldiers during their service.

What about leadership?

After 38 years of service, Lt. General Benny Gantz recently finished his term as the IDF chief of staff. A new chief is to be appointed within the coming weeks.

In recent news?

Who serves?

Israel is the only country in the world where military services make it compulsory for both males and females to enlist. Women constitute approximately one-third of the conscripts and close to 20 percent of the standing professional army.



All Israeli men and women are required to serve in the Israeli Defense Force, which was established after Israel was founded in 1948.

CRIME REPORT

Feb. 28	Mar. 1	Mar. 2	Mar. 2
BURGLARY AND ASSAULT ASHLEY COURT, ELON A 33-year-old male allegedly broke into his ex-wife's home, entered the residence and put his hands around the neck of his ex-wife's boyfriend. He then laid on him and reportedly stole his wallet. The man was charged with burglary-forcible entry and simple physical assault.	DWI BURLINGTON A 31-year-old male was charged Sunday by the Burlington Police Department with driving while impaired and failing to comply with a license restriction. The man was asleep in the Cook-Out parking lot and collided with another car when he awoke. He then refused a breathalyzer test. His bond was set at \$3,000.	POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA BURLINGTON A 21-year-old male was charged by the Burlington Police Department with a felony possession with intent to sell marijuana. His bond was set at \$4,500.	MAIL AND WIRE FRAUD E. HAGGARD AVENUE, ELON On Feb. 11 an Elon University student allegedly accepted a job posted on Craigslist by someone from a fabricated company and under a fake name. On Feb. 13, the offender asked the new employee to send \$2,000 to a client via Western Union. The Elon student reported he was the victim of a Craigslist scam to Town of Elon Police-March 2.

GRAPHIC BY MEGAN GRAVELY | Design Editor

News Briefs

Tuition increases for North Carolina universities

The North Carolina state governing board ended a one-year tuition freeze Feb. 27, which will lead to an increase in tuition and fees during the next two years for students at in-state public universities.

Requests were approved to raise the core cost of attendance for in-state undergraduates by an average 4.3 percent, or \$266, next year and an additional 3.7 percent for 2016-2017.

The North Carolina School of the Arts will still be the most expensive campus in the state, with tuition and fees tagged at \$8,500 next year. The cheapest will be Elizabeth City State University at \$4,656.

Votes from the board of the 16-campus University of North Carolina system was divided 18-9 on the raise, which is unusual considering most of its public decisions are made unanimously.

North Carolina state universities are still among the cheapest in the country, but have increased average tuition by about 50 percent since 2007-2008, when the national recession impacted cuts in taxpayer funding.

Elon Day scheduled for March 10

Elon University will celebrate Founders' Day Tuesday, March 10.

The celebration, which is annually one of the biggest days for gifts to the university, will include several events to honor the occasion.

A special Global College Coffee will be held at 9:40 a.m. on Scott Plaza and will be broadcast online. The Elon baseball team will host Wake Forest University at Latham Park at 6 p.m.

The Class of 2015 is invited to a special Toast For Elon event at 9 p.m., where students can make a gift toward the university's future. All students are welcome in the Moseley Center at 10 p.m. for an Elon Day Birthday Party.

All are encouraged to use the hashtag #ElonDay on social media throughout the day.

Live Oak Communications wins Addy Award

Live Oak Communications, Elon's student-run strategic communications agency, recently won a gold ADDY award for its work with EarthShare North Carolina at the Triangle Advertising Federation's 2015 American Advertising Awards gala in Raleigh.

The agency received the award for the "Giving Tuesday" campaign it created for the nonprofit last fall. It was judged in the student category for digital advertising/social media work, and the team will now move on to a regional competition.

Nine students attended the gala Feb. 20, including senior Marisa Moody, creative director for the campaign, and junior Ingrid Frahm, who is also the design chief for The Edgeh, creative content producer for the campaign.

This was the first year Live Oak entered the awards competition, which was open to all students from universities in the Triangle area.

Editorial

I'm sorry, Smith Jackson, I am for real Don't shoot the messenger, or emailer, of snow day decisions

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

With one notable exception, Elon University has made the right decision when it came to closing school for weather over the last couple of weeks. But students have harshly misdirected their bellyaching about these decisions toward Smith Jackson.

Please, lay off. It's not his fault.

Jackson, vice president for student life, is a single cog in a complicated mechanism that has the power to declare a snow day. That power is great. But it is also distributed among individuals at the top tier of Elon's administration.

While the majority of students and faculty members are still tucked into bed with spoons under their pillows, it's not uncommon for University Provost Steven House to hop in his car and test out the streets leading to Elon. At the same time, Physical Plant workers fight through the night against the plague of snow, sleet and ice sent down upon the people of Elon by The Big Phoenix in the Sky.

Gerald Whittington, senior vice president for business, finance and technology also weighs in on the decision.

Together, Jackson, House, Whittington and Physical Plant make up a Fantastic Four. But, like the rest of us, they're not perfect.

With great power comes great responsibility. When sidewalks are a mess and streets have yet to be plowed, staying open for business is a big mistake.

The decision for Elon to remain open Feb. 24 was a smear on the record of the Fantastic Four. As a wintry mix pelted down throughout the morning, Elon administrators made the decision to stay open. This led to at least one hospitalization and reports of other minor injuries. It also prompted an outcry from students that leapt out of

social media feeds and into the classrooms of disgruntled professors and students.

To be fair, the snow last week caught much of the state by surprise. The wintry weather didn't even make the weather for the evening news the night before. But university officials should have adapted and closed campus early in the morning.

That being said, Jackson deserves neither your

finger-wagging nor your admonition. Sure, he sent out the email notifying you that the day would continue as usual despite the North Carolina tundra surrounding campus. But he didn't cause the snow, and he certainly didn't make the final call. So cut him a break.

Don't shoot the messenger. The decision to cancel school is not an easy one. Safety remains a large concern, as does adhering to the academic calendar.



The night before classes were canceled for Feb. 26, students ventured outside their residence halls to frolic in the snowy drifts.

JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor

I am not a cat, do not call me like one

Smith Jackson, vice president for student life, sent an email Jan. 23 about an incident in which two males shouted racial and sexual slurs at a female Elon University student as they drove past her. The university sponsored two events to inspire a campus-wide discussion of racial intolerance.

The lack of tolerance demonstrated by this incident is an issue in its own right, and it fully deserves the attention it has received and will hopefully receive in the future. But there was another component to the incident: the Elon student was also harassed because of her gender.

The incident described above was a case of street harassment — an unwanted interaction in a public space between strangers motivated by a person's actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, or gender

expression. These interactions can annoy, anger, humiliate and scare the victim and are ultimately a form of sexual harassment that takes place regularly on Elon's campus.

This type of sexual harassment typically occurs between a man — or, more often, a group of men — in a car and a woman walking on one of Elon's sidewalks. Sexual harassment happens regardless of what the woman is wearing or the time of day, though of course it happens more frequently on weekend nights.

Men shout anything from "Hey!" to profane sexual comments as they pass. The women are left on the sidewalk, probably giggling nervously to cover their discomfort because they don't know how else to respond to a shameless act of male aggression.

That's what this is: men forcing women to accept unwelcome comments and driving away before there can be any backlash. It's cowardly, and it reveals that these men know what they're doing is wrong. Safe inside their cars with their five best frat buddies, catcallers feel comfortable enough

to say whatever they want because they know there will be no consequences.

There are worse offenses in the world than catcalling, but it is an issue at Elon that no one — including the university administration — seems to have made enough of a priority.

But a lot of people seem to recognize catcalling as a serious issue. According to a study by StopStreetHarassment.org, 99 percent of women have experienced some sort of street harassment.

If 99 percent of women got food poisoning from a bad shipment of meat, grocery stores, food distributors and the appropriate governmental agencies would take drastic action to solve the problem. It would seem that since there is little legislation protecting a woman's right to walk down the street, 99 percent of women don't actually need protection.

By not addressing the issue, we're saying that it's perfectly acceptable for women to be shouted and leered at. We're saying that it's expected. We're saying that, by stepping outside their homes, women are exposing

themselves to unsolicited and distressing comments.

My own experiences with catcalling at Elon range from the ridiculous — "You look like Taylor Swift," — to the disturbing — "If I run behind you, does that mean I'm chasing you?"

Every incident leaves me feeling uncomfortable in a place where I should feel completely safe. Every incident makes me angry that there are people who think their opinion of my appearance is more important than my right to walk to Acorn without being harassed. I've been catcalled more here on my "safe" college campus than I have walking around downtown Atlanta.

Shouting, "Hey, girl!" at someone walking down the sidewalk on Williamson Avenue may not feel like an excessively threatening act, but if it's meant to be a compliment, why do you have to shout it from a passing car? There are correct ways to give compliments, and shouting them from a moving vehicle is not one of them.

THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

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.

Editor-in-Chief

Michael Bodley

Managing Editor

Tommy Hamzik

Editor-in-Chief of The Edge

Lindsey Lanquist

Adviser

Colin Donohue

Section Editors

Caroline Fernandez, News

Katy Canada, Opinions

Courtney Campbell, Style

Miles Garrett, Sports

Jane Seidel, Photo

Hannah Silvers, Copy Chief

Sophie Pearson, Social Media

Sophia Asmuth, Multimedia

Cameron Jackson, PR

Sam Shanry, Business Manager

Bryan Anderson, Asst. News

Leena Dahal, Asst. News

Katherine Blunt, Asst. News

Hannah Durbin, Asst. Style

Lauren Phillips, Asst. Style

Jordan Spritzer, Asst. Sports

Copy Editors

Janat Bashir

Carolyn Braganca

Sarah Mulnick

Design Editors

Stephanie Hays

Haley Longbottom

Miranda Siwak

Megan Gravley

Victoria Labenberg

College substance abuse should be taken seriously

Overconsumption of alcohol, drugs and other dangerous substances is a long-standing issue in college environments. I came to Elon University with the perception that substance culture is not an accurate reflection of Elon's standards. Rather, I thought it persisted as the unfortunate minority.



Tim Melton
Columnist

But what I found when I arrived at Elon is that issues of alcohol and drugs were apparent in the broader social spectrum of the campus. Recently, Elon's local bar and coffee shop The Oak House was exposed for selling an alcoholic drink to a minor on at least one occasion.

Since, owner Phil Smith has confirmed staffing changes and plans to better educate staff on serving alcohol in order to prevent future mistakes.

Still, this indicates that underage drinking quite prevalent on campus and off.

There may be some who are ready to dismiss the issue as a singular occurrence, a case of poor judgment on the part of the bartender.

But by refusing to tackle the subject of substance abuse potential head-on, we encourage the same sort of behavior, only with offenders taking more care not to get

caught. Colleague substance abuse is a serious problem and one that is not strictly confined to Elon.

Wesleyan University of Middletown, Connecticut made news during the past two weeks as 11 students were hospitalized for drug overdose. Although most of these students have since been treated, four students were charged with providing access to various mixtures of narcotics and prescription drugs the students took.

While it may seem rash to draw a direct comparison between a single instance of selling alcohol to a minor and the hospitalization of 11 students, the possibility exists that substance culture at Elon could someday become as prevalent a threat as it is at Wesleyan.

Of course, Elon has taken numerous measures during the past few years to curb the issue of substance abuse on campus. One of the most prevalent is AlcoholEdu, a training program for alcohol safety that has been a requirement for incoming freshmen and transfer students since 2007.

In addition, the program BASICS (Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students) is an option for students to examine the role of alcohol in their lives in order to reduce risk of abuse. The university's "Substance Education" page has many other important facts and resources on the various types of substance abuse and how to prevent them.

Clearly, there are services that are available to students that are there to educate us on safe behavior. Still, what matters is how we apply what is taught by these services in our everyday lives.

It's the equal responsibility of all Elon citizens to maintain public safety for everyone, and as such, we are all to blame for the persistence of substance culture, especially among minors. While it may be easy to let the university handle substance education, those programs are practically meaningless if we treat even a single breach of the rules as if it were nothing.

Correction

In the Feb. 25 editorial, "Housing prices should reflect quality," it was incorrectly reported that Danieley, Global and Colonades have disparate laundry facilities. The article has been corrected online to show that each location provides laundry services, but they require payment for each use. Stand-alone singles in Global and Colonades C, D and E provide free laundry.

The article has been amended to show that Oaks and Danieley require students to purchase a meal plan through their sophomore year. The Pendulum regrets the errors.

Submit a letter to the editor at elonpendulum.com.



Local bar and coffee shop The Oak

House

DOCTORS' ORDERS

HOW TO BECOME A MEME AND INFLUENCE PEOPLE: A GUIDE FOR ELON'S LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD



Lauryl Fischer & Frankie Campisano
Columnists

Be proud, Elon. One of our own has officially made it and was seen on hundreds of thousands of screens across the United States on one of the biggest nights of the year. No, we're not talking about Lowell Oakley. Or Grant Gustin. Or that freshman who fell out of the tree (Does anyone know if he's okay?).

It's 2015. No one cares if you're on national television. The people want memes. (If you're unfamiliar with the concept of memes, there's nothing we can do — seek professional help.)

We're talking about Little Red Riding Hood, forever immortalized during the Oscars. At this point, she's more culturally relevant than the original fairy tale.

Little Red Riding Hood, this column is for you. We called you into this appointment because we want to make sure that moving forward, you take care of yourself. Fame can be stressful, and your fans are going to ask a lot

of you because you really set the bar high with that Oscar trick, you stinker.

Luckily for you, we have some high-brow connections at the Meme Actors

Guild of America, and we can provide you, Miss Fame Seeker, with some advice from your fellow memes.

You're going to need to get an agent because memes like Ridiculously Photogenic Guy and Grumpy Cat actually have real live agents. We're not even making this up for the sake of humor — that's a real thing. There are agents for people like you. Or are you even people anymore? You've transcended mortality after all, and reached the higher plane of existence as Little Red RidingMeme.

You are going to make so much money, probably more than Elon's endowment — which, granted, isn't hard, since Elon's construction bill is bigger than its endowment any day. But still, it's impressive to us lowly plebeians.

To snag the best agent, you're going to need a new trick to garner some buzz. Only the strongest memes survive, so you must follow in the footsteps of the great memes of our time and evolve. Oh, and this time, you have to hit multiple social media platforms.

See, your caper was big on the Twitter-sphere, but it needs to cross-over to other platforms, like Tumblr. White-Gold-Black-Blue Dress started on Tumblr, and that's changed the face of science as we know it. It spread to Facebook, to major news publications, started a few wars and

destroyed friendships. It also was dead in the dirt less than 12 hours later, so you need to aim for having the punch of White-Gold-Black-Blue Dress and the staying power of a more traditional meme, like Grumpy Cat, who got her very own

Christmas Special. She's also voiced by Aubrey Plaza, which might just be too much power for one cat to have over the world.

After they've Tumbled you, you'll need to leech your way to Facebook. Here you can capitalize on the older, less hip webservers and maybe book some daytime television appearances. Then, you might want to set your sights on traveling the world, meme-ing all over the planet. People want to hear about how you strategically placed yourself in the background of photos with the Great Pyramids, the Eiffel Tower, the Statue of Liberty or the Alamance Fountain. You might want

to buy as many of those red jackets as you can. It's kind of your thing now.



Sophomore Alyssa Shiller sports the "Red Riding Hood" coat she wore at the Oscars.

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

Elon's very own ice princess

Sophomore leaves 'Disney on Ice' for Elon education

Elizabeth Pattman
Reporter

Sophomore Viktoria Chiappa has stepped off the ice and glided onto Elon University's campus.

Chiappa's life has been filled with competitive figure skating and theater performances that have instilled a strong love of ice skating and performing in her.

"There is something about being on the ice," Chiappa said. "It's the closest you'll get to flying."

Chiappa was introduced to the competitive skating world at an early age. Her older sister Chelsea began skating first, and as the two grew up, they hoped to make it to the Olympics together.

They have yet to make it that far, but Chiappa and her sister have both had the honor of

skating for the Hungarian national team.

Ice skating gives Chiappa artistic freedom and allows her to truly express herself, and she has translated her passion for performance to the stage in the form of musical theater.

"Skating and theater are both challenging, but she is tough, and I know she will accomplish anything she sets her mind to," Chelsea, Chiappa's sister, said.

Chiappa has grown professionally and taken on more challenging roles since her first role as a sunflower.

In high school, Chiappa acted in "Alice in Wonderland," "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" and "The Sound of Music." One of her favorite roles was Alice in "Titanic."

This performance earned her a nomination for Best Supporting Actress at the Connecticut High School Musical Awards in 2012.

"[The role] allowed me to connect to an actual person, versus a simple character, which is why I perform — to connect to actual people," she said. "It's that rawness and real emotion that makes it so intriguing ... I feel whole when I'm on stage."

The highlight of Chiappa's career was her work with "Disney on Ice presents Princesses and Heroes." This experience gave her the opportunity to combine her passions for skating and musical theater.

Chiappa spent a year working with "Disney." During that time, she was a mermaid, a flapper, a waltzer and, most notably, an understudy for Tinkerbell. She performed four or five shows as the famous fairy.

"I'm a Tinkerbell fanatic," Chiappa said. "Being on 'Disney' was an experience which shaped who I am today, and I wouldn't trade

that for anything."

While skating for "Disney," Chiappa was able to travel across North America from Jackson, Mississippi, to Winnipeg, Canada. She hopes to travel the world, be a member of the London Theatre Company and perform on Broadway and at the Sydney Opera House.

Though she loved working with "Disney," Chiappa knew she needed to leave the show to focus on her education and continue her professional growth.

"I knew if I stayed, I would have never left," she said. "It was one of the hardest decisions to say no to."

Chiappa is taking a break from competitive skating while at Elon, though she's keeping her skills sharp by coaching children at the Greensboro Ice House in her free time.

"Disney" gave Chiappa more than fond memories. She was introduced to communications during her time with the show when she was able to do some work in public relations.

Now, she is combining her love for performance and her newfound interest in communications into a double major in broadcast journalism and liberal music studies, with an emphasis on vocal performance. Chiappa is also furthering her media experience by working with Elon Local News, where she is learning to entertain the public in a new way.

After graduation, she hopes to rejoin the theater world by moving to New York City and auditioning for Broadway shows.

"Most importantly, I want to be an employed and working actor," Chiappa said. "I want to wake up every day and find myself on the stage. To be on stage is to be home."

HBCUs offer students diverse opportunities

Danielle Deavens
Senior Reporter

When Geleana Drew Aston made plans for life after high school, she only had one goal: to move away from home.

Neither she nor her parents planned on her attending a historically black college or university (HBCU). Now a doctor of philosophy, she can speak of her diverse experiences at an HBCU, a predominantly white institution (PWI) and a Hispanic serving institution (HSI). Last week, she brought her story to Elon University.

"True Life: I'm Thinking HBCUs for Grad School" was one of five programs hosted by Elon University's chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (AKA) Feb. 23 in Oaks Commons.

The event was arranged similarly to a college fair. Students walked around to tables run by AKA sisters who had done significant research on graduate programs at various HBCUs. Institutions covered included Hampton University, Howard University and Tuskegee University.

This was followed by a discussion led by Aston, a member of AKA at East Carolina University.

"She told her personal stories and gave insight to the pros and cons of attending a PWI, HBCU and HSI," said junior Cassidy Stratton, a member of AKA at Elon.

Aston started by talking about her positive graduate experience at North Carolina A&T State University, an HBCU she attended

after getting her undergraduate degree from East Carolina, a PWI.

"I think that us being black or African American was a commonality, a starting point for our relationships to blossom," she said. "At an HBCU, that is appreciated in a different way than it is at PWIs."

She believes attending an HBCU is a viable option for black students today, even though only 9 percent of black students enrolled in college attend an HBCU as of 2011.

"[Now, if] I were a student graduating from high school, I would be going to an HBCU," she said.

At the same time, Aston appreciated her undergraduate experience at a PWI. She feels it gave her the understanding to develop an appreciation for diversity.

"If I had gone to an HBCU for undergrad, I honestly don't know that I would have the attitude I have about culture differences," she said.

Aston admits HBCU graduates often have not been prepared for the lack of diversity they are almost guaranteed to encounter upon entering their career fields.

"There needs to be a different type of preparation for the reality check that's going to happen," she said. "If you went to a black high school, then you went to a black college, then you graduate, and you're the only black in your office or in your department, that's a culture shock."

Despite this, she still believes black communities need the option of a supportive institution.

"In today's time, with the issues that exist for black people, HBCUs

need to be here," Aston said. "We need to stop and think about if we are contributing to our max potential when it comes to our surrounding black communities. Sometimes the only thing separating the institution and the community is a fence."

Although the conversation seemed aimed at students currently attending HBCUs, Aston emphasized that HBCUs can benefit from the help of all black Americans and that the problems HBCU schools face can turn into problems for black communities, as well. She urged Elon students to support HBCU community events.

"When more and more people

support the institution's efforts for community support, it helps illuminate the good of the institution," she said.

Stratton agreed. "Historically black colleges and universities were created as gateways to provide education to black people when other institutions would not permit their enrollment," she said. "Although becoming more diverse over the years, HBCUs still foster development, especially in the black community."

Since she has attended three schools that all offered different ranges of diversity, Aston has heard the full variety of misconceptions students have about the differences

between PWIs and HBCUs.

"Students think that, when you come to an HBCU, the educational rigor will be easier, that you don't have to respect some of the faculty because the credentials are not equal, that you'll have issues with financial aid," Aston said. "These are just some of the crucial conversations that exist."

Aston said combating these negative, false stereotypes requires black students to acknowledge and appreciate the equally valuable experiences that can be had at both PWIs and HBCUs.

"Just as you all can learn from them, they can learn from you," she said. "It starts with an open mind."

HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

- An HBCU is a historically black college or university established before 1964 with the principal mission of educating black Americans.
- There are 100 HBCUs in 19 different states, the District of Columbia and the Virgin Islands.
- 51 of these HBCUs are public schools, and 49 are private.
- HBCUs consist primarily of black students, but they admit students of other races as well.

Facts from the National Center for Education Statistics

GRAPHIC BY STEPHANIE HAYS | Design Editor

The humans behind ‘Humans at Elon’

Caroline Perry
Senior Reporter

A person, a picture and a quote. These are the elements of “Humans of Elon,” a photo collection of people on Elon University’s campus started and run by freshmen Ben Driscoll and Mercedes Kent.

The founders decided to collaborate on the project before fall classes started. While most freshmen were frantically gathering dorm and school supplies, these two were beginning a project to document the people of their new campus.

The Leadership Fellows first met at a retreat for their cohort, where they instantly connected and decided to make a name for themselves on campus.

“I actually did a ‘Humans’ of my high school, and I thought, ‘Why don’t we have this here?’” Driscoll, who is a member of The Pendulum’s PR team, said. “I proposed the idea to [Mercedes], and she loved the idea, so we started it.”

The two have different academic interests and their talents complement each other. Driscoll, a strategic communications major, interviews the subjects, while Kent, a biology major, photographs them.

“I was thinking of ways to exemplify her photography because I think it’s excellent,” Driscoll said.

The “Humans of Elon” photo collection is the perfect place to do just that.

The project is based on “Humans of New York,” a photography project

started by Brandon Stanton in 2010 that has more than 6,000 portraits and 12 million likes on Facebook. Driscoll said that both “Humans” are similar in that the projects aim to capture the diverse set of people each area encompasses: one a city, the other a campus.

“Our intent is to exemplify the Elon campus and community, whether that be staff, students, teachers — anyone that’s on campus, really,” Driscoll said. “My favorite one was this guy — he’s from Haiti. We were expecting to ask him a simple question, and he had this really touching quote.”

His name is Elisson Adrien, a 23-year-old sophomore.

“I’ve always wanted to be a pediatrician and work with kids because I have unfortunately seen a large amount of kids die,” he told “Humans.”

“I think that a lot of kids could have been cured, but there are very few pediatricians in Haiti. I want to be able to help people.”

“There are so many interesting stories behind all the faces of Elon,” Kent said. “I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to learn from all the people we meet.”

The pair typically spends a few hours finding people to document and ends up posting only seven or eight pictures at a time. Currently, they have 33 posts and have accumulated 501 followers on their Instagram page and more than 1,200 likes on Facebook.

“I would really like to reach out



Elisson Adrien, a sophomore from Haiti, told the “Humans of Elon” team he wants to be a pediatrician someday.

and diversify ‘Humans’ even more,” Kent said. “We have done a few faculty and staff members, but I would like to do more.”

For those looking to be in the spotlight, the “Humans of Elon” selection process has no method.

“We go around to all of campus, whether it be going to Acorn and Oak House or going into Irazu, KOBC, seeing people in those hammocks — anything,” Driscoll said. “We go to people who seem approachable.”

While Driscoll and Kent remain focused on steadily gaining the support of the community, they also have a bucket list in mind for

this project: targeting the “celebrities” of Elon.

“We would really like to get a more candid photo of President Lambert, maybe at graduation, convocation or another event this year,” Kent said.

The team is also discussing promoting different organizations, as long as they fit into the original goal of the project: sharing stories.

“I’ve talked to my friends who are a part of a few different organizations, but we don’t want to force publicizing these different organizations,” Driscoll said. “We want to work on a way to publicize these organizations while still maintaining

integrity of the ‘Humans’ template.”

For now, Driscoll and Kent are focused on maintaining a strong base and expanding their project.

“My favorite moment, besides taking the pictures, was when our Facebook page hit 1,000 likes.” Kent said. “I remember looking at Ben and saying, ‘Look we made it, we’re real!’ It was such a confidence boost to keep going and that the Elon community was interested and would support this photography project.”

Keep up with “Humans at Elon” by liking them on Facebook or following them on Instagram: @HumansofElonUniversity.

Students, staff strive for sustainability

Caroline Perry
Senior Reporter

The BioBus, water bottle refill stations and composting options are just a few of the sustainable efforts Elon University has implemented to make the campus more eco-friendly, but students don’t always take advantage of them.

The Office of Sustainability has been hard at work making Elon more eco-friend-

ly since the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) created the Sustainability Master Plan in 2006.

Currently, Elon has 19 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)-certified structures. According to the U.S. Green Building Council, LEED buildings save money and resources, have a positive impact on the health of occupants and promote renewable, clean energy.

Elon has three neighborhoods — The

Station at Mill Point, Colonnades and The Loy Center — that contain LEED-certified buildings. The Global Neighborhood is currently LEED-registered, meaning it is in the process of being certified.

“Elon has a long history of implementing energy and water conservation,” said Elaine Durr, director of sustainability.

Elon’s energy usage per square foot has decreased 28 percent since 2002. During this same period, the square footage of buildings on campus has increased 95 percent and student enrollment has increased 42 percent.

But even in light of these positive statistics, there is a lot more students and faculty can do.

Durr said there are three easy actions students can take.

First, students can take the Sustainability Pledge and look at the Sustainable Living Guide on the Office of Sustainability’s website. The guide includes tips such as using a desk lamp or natural light, rather than overhead lighting, when possible.

A second action is to visit the “Take Action” section of the office’s website for additional ways to promote sustainability, such as calculating carbon footprints, joining the Sierra Club or taking the four-week sustainability challenge, which tracks how much energy individuals use and waste.

Lastly, students can stay connected with the Office of Sustainability through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Students also have the option to team up to be more eco-friendly.

The spring Phoenix Cup seeks to educate participants on overconsumption and engage them in ways to reduce waste. Students and staff can form teams and go through the checklist on the Office of Sustainability’s website to be entered into a drawing for

prizes. “[The Phoenix Cup] is a good way for students, faculty and staff to learn about and participate in waste reduction,” Durr said.

Students can also look to their peers to get involved.

The Eco-Reps Program is made up of students who educate their peers about sustainability issues. One Eco-Rep, sophomore Samantha McCabe, said she enjoys being involved in sustainability because of the impact she can make on others’ choices.

“One of the reasons why I think it is important to educate about sustainability in college is because people can find these strong connecting values that exist between sustainability and their major and other interests,” McCabe said.

Sophomore Devon Johnson, another Eco-Rep, focuses on sharing helpful tips that can make a difference with students. She urges students to take advantage of the BioBus as a way to save money and be eco-friendly.

“The BioBus can take you pretty much anywhere you would want to go, including off-campus residential areas, Alamance Crossing and the co-op,” Johnson said. “And it’s a great alternative to driving, is easy to use and totally free.”

The Eco-Reps raise awareness about sustainability programs on campus through informal conversations. Professors can also request formal lessons for Elon 101 and Global Experience classes.

Students are moving to be more eco-friendly. But there is still a long way to go.

“People tend to think of sustainability as something they can do every now and then, or when people tell you to recycle,” Johnson said. “However, every little decision, purchase and flip of a light switch matters.”

Revamped restaurant attracts foodies, students

Brett Gubitosi
Senior Reporter

As they walk into the space shared by Mel’s Good Times Cafe and The Wicked Mojo Bar & Grill, customers are transported to New Orleans.

Bright colors, the smell of Cajun food, a nine-foot projection screen playing live sports and a signed pair of Muhammad Ali’s boxing shorts give the space an aura of authenticity and uniqueness that sets it apart from the rest of Burlington’s restaurant scene.

The Wicked Mojo Bar & Grill, a sports bar with authentic sports memorabilia, occupies 8,000 square feet with Mel’s Good Times in the Holly Hills Mall in Burlington.

Hunt Ward, president of Wicked Mojo’s Entertainment Group, Inc. and cook, purchased the cafe Nov. 1 from the owners of the Good Times Cafe. Since then, Ward has been working to develop a restaurant for Elon University students that has a high-energy atmosphere and a satisfying menu.

Ward said Mel’s Good Times’ build-your-own burger menu features more than 400 customizable combinations. Atypical topping choices include jambalaya, Louisiana crawfish, Black Forest Ham and shrimp. Customizable burgers are common in large cities such as New York City, but Mel’s Good Times is the only restaurant in Burlington to offer such a menu.

Ward spent a month perfecting the seafood burger, which is made of fresh ground catfish, scallops and shrimp. To keep the ingredients together, he cooks the patty on a 400-degree flattop grill. These handmade burgers include visible pieces of shrimp.

“I want you to know what you’re eating,” he said.

Ward’s goal is to make the appetizer menu just as diverse. He wants to go beyond the standard cheese fries, nachos and onion

rings. He recently began selling alligator bites, and they have sold out each night since. The success of this uncommon dish could lead to his adding alligator — and maybe even chicken — bites to the appetizer menu as regulars.

As a world traveler, Ward finds inspiration in the cuisines of the 32 countries he has visited. A visit to Australia inspired him to make the catfish and shrimp burger, and his other experiences abroad have prompted him to take a risk and introduce new flavors and styles to the Burlington culinary world.

“I try to create what doesn’t exist,” he said. Live music also adds to the adventure. Three nights a week, musicians from the area perform anything from classic rock to acoustic and country. Customers can share their own vocal talents at karaoke each Friday night.

Students might be attracted to Mel’s Good Times for its menu selection and entertainment, but they’ll visit regularly for its prices. Most entrees cost less than \$10.

Mel’s Good Times’ employees have noticed the restaurant’s uniqueness attracting success. Waitress Hollie Boggs said business and customer satisfaction have both increased since Ward took over.

“Our business has almost quadrupled,” Boggs said. “It’s more upbeat. We connect to every table we serve.”

Sophomore Haley Back has dined at Mel’s Good Times. She commended the service and food and said the revamped restaurant was much improved compared to the old Good Times restaurant.

“[Ward] was so friendly and came and talked to each table,” she said. “The food was super delicious. You could tell it was hand-prepared.”

The restaurant’s interior complements its upbeat atmosphere. Ward collects sports



Owner Hunt Ward and his wife Julia serve food from a diverse menu at Mel’s Good Times Cafe.

memorabilia as a hobby, and his personal collection adorns the walls of the Wicked Mojo Bar. This includes a pair of signed Muhammad Ali shorts, an original animation cell from the movie “Space Jam” and a signed LeBron James Cavaliers Rookie of the Year jersey.

Ward’s roots lie with Elon, and he hopes its students will help the business grow.

His father graduated from Elon in 1947 and served on the Board of Trustees from 1977-1993. Ward graduated in 1982 and has served on the Board of Visitors at Elon for 24 years, and his daughter graduated from Elon in 2011.

Ward is offering job positions to students and graduates. He also wants to eventually provide internship opportunities in sales, marketing and communications for Elon students.

“What’s a better group than energetic and innovative college students?” he asked.

To make the restaurant even more appealing to college students, Ward is planning to institute a designated driver policy. The policy would allow the designated driver in groups of five to get a free meal. He still needs to solve a few logistical problems, but he hopes the policy can help the restaurant stand apart.

In the past two weeks, he said Mel’s Good Times has turned over a new leaf in terms of image and popularity. He attributes this newfound success to Elon’s Live Oak Communications team, which has been working on the restaurant’s website and social media presence.

The restaurant is a new endeavor, but Ward believes the franchise might expand to regional locations and strip malls nationwide with the help of Elon students.

“We are now in virgin territory,” he said. “It’s up to us to decide our future from here.”

‘Bearwallow’: a book and a banjo

Alumnus Jeremy Jones brings performance, history to campus

Miranda Siwak
Senior Reporter

Elon University alumnus and local author Jeremy B. Jones ’04 captures a piece of his home in his book “Bearwallow,” a collection of nonfiction essays about his life in the Appalachian Mountains.

“Bearwallow” tells the story of my return to my family’s land in the Blue Ridge Mountains, of my attempt to reconnect with a place I’d kind of run from,” Jones said. “It explores the identity of that region, trying to understand how those

mountains shape the people there, how they shaped me.”

Jones describes his home as glorious and complicated. “Bearwallow” aims to capture the wonder of the region and relay its beauty to readers.

The story starts at the beginning, when he moved back to his former home and began teaching at the elementary school he attended as a child. Jones paints a complete picture for the reader of what his life in the mountains was like.

By contrasting Appalachia with other places he has lived, Jones uses

his book to explain how the region impacted his life.

This reflection has deepened his relationship with his home.

“Bearwallow Mountain was a mythical figure in my childhood,” Jones said. “My family’s land sits in the valley beneath it, so I spent much of my early life staring at it. It was one place that I felt fully connected me to my home.”

Jones has fond memories of his hometown, but the ever-changing mountain region has begun to impact the surrounding communities in a new way.

“I think Bearwallow Mountain is a metaphor for a lot of landscapes and communities in Appalachia,” Jones said. “It’s being changed quickly, and we ought to be thinking about how these changes might affect the people there.”

Growing up, Jones became enchanted with the rich stories of the Appalachian people. The stories guided him through his writing process and served as a template for him to build on.

Although “Bearwallow” is a memoir, it focuses on something more than just the author — it pays close attention to Appalachia and the people who populate it.

“The book is my own history in that place,” Jones said. “But it is also my personal accounting of the his-

tory of the region.”

By combining historical accounts, folk songs and cultural artifacts, Jones brings his home and its past to life. To keep these themes connected, he weaves in his own story of returning to the mountains.

To enhance these connections further during readings, Jones plays the banjo, an instrument rich in history and popular in the area. It gives the audience a greater insight into Bearwallow Mountain and his relationship with it.

Upon Jones’ return to the mountains, he learned to play the banjo to help him reconnect with his home and his surroundings.

Jones’ past at Elon also helped shape his story. A double major in English and religious studies provided Jones with the opportunities to improve his writing.

“I taught him for beginning creative writing when nonfiction wasn’t taught,” said Cassie Kircher, professor of English. “He somehow found out about it and took it upon himself to practice.”

Jones and his banjo are returning to Elon March 10 for one of Jones’ unconventional readings.

“When [‘Bearwallow’] came out, everyone in the English department was really excited,” Kircher, who helped coordinate the event, said. “We decided to create a fund to



Author Jeremy Jones grew up near Bearwallow Mountain in North Carolina. The experiences he had in the area as a child inspired his book’s title.

SUSTAINABILITY AT ELON

- Emissions per square foot have decreased 18 percent from 2008-2014.
- Since 2008, 250 tons of food waste and biodegradable servicerware have been composted.
- 82 solar panels prevent 49 tons of carbon emission each year.
- BioBuses run on 20 percent bio-fuel and 80 percent ultra-low sulfur diesel.
- Elon conserved more than 820,000 kWh during the POWERless competition from spring 2008-spring 2014.

GRAPHIC BY MIRANDA SIWAK | Design Editor

Logjam at top of CAA

4 tie for regular season title as teams vie for NCAA Tournament berth

Miles Garrett
Sports Editor

The regular season has come to a close for teams in the Colonial Athletic Association. As teams prepare for the conference tournament, their focus lies with the potential of earning an NCAA Tournament bid.

The CAA Tournament, held in Baltimore, will feature four teams with identical conference records at the top — University of North Carolina at Wilmington, College of William & Mary, James Madison University and Northeastern University. The teams are seeded as follows:

No. 10 COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON (3-15) — The Cougars (8-23 overall) only earned three conference wins all season, with two of them coming against Elon. They defeated No. 1 seed William & Mary on Feb. 5. Since then, they are 1-7, losing by an average of 13 points per game. The Cougars offense ranks near the bottom in almost every statistical category in the CAA, which includes them scoring 58.9 points per game and having a -3.9 rebound margin.

No. 9 TOWSON (5-13) — The Tigers (12-19 overall) got off to a hot start at the beginning of season with a 7-1 record against non conference opponents. But Towson lost 10 of its next 11 games, extending to CAA play. They earned two victories each against Elon and the College of Charleston while also managing a win on a trip up Hofstra Jan. 31. Free throws and 3-point shooting have been a sour spot for the Tigers, as they rank last in the CAA with a .658 and .316 percentage, respectively.

No. 8 ELON (6-12) — The Phoenix (14-17 overall) seems to be getting hot at

the right time. It finished the regular season with three straight wins against Delaware, Northeastern and UNCW, with the latter coming in dominating fashion. Up until its win over Delaware, the Phoenix was in the midst of a seven-game losing streak during its first CAA season. Freshman guard Elijah Bryant ranks in the top 10 among CAA scorers with 13.9 points per game while junior guard Tanner Samson leads the CAA in 3-point field goals made.

No. 7 DREXEL (9-9) — The Dragons (11-18 overall) have been hot and cold throughout the season. They had a dominating stretch when they reeled off six straight wins against the College of Charleston (twice), Northeastern, UNCW, Elon and Towson. Predictably, their losses came against teams with better records than them. Junior guard Damien Lee is the X-factor for this team, leading the CAA in scoring with an average of 21.4 points per game and 578 total points this season. Lee, a preseason first-team All-CAA pick, also has been a defensive asset for the Dragons while averaging 5.2 rebounds per game.

No. 6 DELAWARE (9-9) — The Blue Hens (10-19 overall) struggled at the beginning of the season, earning their first win in their 11th game against St. Bonaventure Dec. 30. Once they entered conference play, the Blue Hens gained momentum with a solid distribution of scoring from senior guard Kyle Anderson, freshman guard Kory Holden and sophomore guard Cazmon Hayes. Holden ranks second in the CAA in assists with 139. They won both games against top-seeded William & Mary, while also splitting UNCW and Northeastern. They come into their first game of the CAA Tournament with a two-game

winning streak over Drexel and Towson.

No. 5 HOFSTRA (10-8) — The Pride (19-12 overall) features two scorers who rank in the top five in the CAA, junior guards Juan'ya Green and Ameen Tanksley, who both average more than 15 points per game. Hofstra leads the conference in 3-point field goals made, and also boasts the best scoring offense and scoring margin with 78.1 points per game. One of the Pride's affective strategies is their distribution of the ball. They lead the league in assists with 15.3 per game. Their biggest win of the season came against UNCW on Jan. 3.

No. 4 JAMES MADISON (12-6) — The Dukes (19-12 overall) enter the CAA Tournament as one of the most dangerous teams, winning six of their last seven games. Rebounding has been a problem for this team throughout the season, and they rank in the bottom third of the CAA in offensive and defensive rebounds. Junior guard Ron Curry averages 13.8 points for the Dukes while sophomore forward Yohanny Dalember leads the CAA in field goal percentage at .591. James Madison had some ups and downs this season, with all of its losses coming only against the three teams that rank ahead of them in the tournament seeding.

No. 3 NORTHEASTERN (12-6) — The Huskies (20-11 overall) were picked as the preseason favorite to win the CAA after returning six of its top seven scorers from last season. They boast one of the best field goal-shooting teams in the country, ranked 19th with a percentage of .481. Northeastern has been one of the steadier teams in the CAA with its style of play. Their offense, led by senior forward Scott Eather-ton, has been average as the Huskies rank

fifth in scoring. They hold the tiebreaker over James Madison for the No. 3 seed after beating the Dukes twice this season.

No. 2 UNCW (12-6) — The Seahawks (17-12 overall) took the CAA by storm this season after being picked to finish ninth at the beginning of the year. UNCW has been one of the strongest defensive teams in the league, holding the top spot in steals and 3-point field goal percentage on defense. Leading scorer and senior guard Addison Spruill racks up 14.5 points per game while senior guard Freddie Jackson is second in the CAA in steals with 48. Before their loss against Elon in their last regular season game, the Seahawks were set to secure the No. 1 seed in the tournament.

No. 1 WILLIAM & MARY (12-6) — The Tribe (18-11 overall), led by pre-season CAA Player of the Year senior guard Marcus Thornton, earned the No. 1 seed in the conference tournament after Elon's upset against UNCW. Thornton ranks second in scoring in the CAA with 19.4 points per game. His dominating play this season has overshadowed junior guard Terry Tarpey, who leads the league in steals, rebounds and blocked shots. William & Mary ranks sixth nationally in field goal percentage and won both games it played against UNCW and James Madison this season. The Tribe has lost three of the last five games it has played, so an upset bid for either Elon or Towson will be at stake on Saturday, March 7.

CAA TOURNAMENT

from cover

quickly. After beating the Tribe, the Phoenix went on to lose 11 of its next 12 games.

Elon ended what had become a seven-game losing streak by topping the University of Delaware 83-75 on the road in overtime on Feb. 21, only setting the stage for Elon to eventually beat Northeastern and UNCW.

Before last week, Elon hadn't won back-to-back games since winning four straight in late December and early January.

"We're playing a lot better," Matheny said. "The wins are great. Isn't it great to get that reward? Victory tastes sweet. But I like the play better. We are playing better. We're not where we need to be yet. We're playing better, though."

UNCW went 0-for-14 from 3-point range against Elon, the first time the Phoenix has held its opponent without a 3 since doing the same to Marist College on Nov. 10, 2013. The 23-point lead Elon had in the second half is the largest it's held against a Division I team all season, and the margin of victory was also the biggest against a Division I team.

If anything, that was a suggestion about how far Elon has come since its downtrodden path traveled in late January.

During the last week of January, Elon went to Wilmington and was handed a ruthless beat-down by UNCW, a loss where the

Phoenix trailed by as much as 30 in the second half. Three days later, Elon trekked to Boston only to take an 80-61 loss to Northeastern.

Not only has Elon matured as a team, but the Phoenix has shown that it's able to learn from its mistakes and grow together.

"I don't know if it's becoming something else," sophomore forward Christian Hairston said. "I just think that all of our hard work has started to come together. We're continuing to work hard, and we're continuing to play hard. Eventually, the chips are going to fall. Things are starting to come together for us at the right time."

Matheny always talks about being at your best in late February and early March, just in time for the postseason.

The last two performances could very well be indicators that Elon is reaching its peak.

No need for snickering, second-guessing or even deep thinking. Elon is hot at the right time.

"We asked our players to make a statement with the remaining time we have," Matheny said. "The statement we want to make is that Elon guys are tough. Elon guys are resilient. We get off the mat. The message after [UNCW] is that you are making a statement. You haven't made a statement yet. You're not done. But we're making a statement."

Samson takes single-season record from old teammate

Robbie Nanna
Senior Reporter

Only one season after his graduation from Elon University, former single-season 3-point field goal record holder Jack Isenbarger was outdone by former teammate, junior guard Tanner Samson.

Samson has trumped the previous record, 82 three-point field goals made, making 98 of his own this season. The statistic has gained him national recognition. With his current number, Samson is ranked first in the Colonial Athletic Association and fifth nationally for 3-point field goals made. When asked about his accomplishment, Samson gave credit to his teammates.

"My teammates have done a good job finding me when I'm open, especially when I'm hot," Samson said. "Not just the guards, but the big men setting good screens to get me open as well."

On a broader scale, he still has time left in the season to advance in the charts.

The forward needs only two triples to pass George Mason University's Donald Ross and College of William & Mary's David Schneider for fifth in league history.

For Elon, Samson sits at fourth all-time in career 3-pointers with 234. He sits eight away from another former teammate Sebastian Koch, who had 242 in his career. At the top of the list are two former single season three-point leaders: Chris Kriger (259) and Isenbarger (264).

"He's been a joy to coach. He's a great person, and he's a great shooter," said head coach Matt Matheny. "He's been consistent every year, and he's worked hard to improve every aspect of his game."

Since arriving at Elon, Samson has made his presence known to opponents. In his rookie season, Samson played in 32 games, averaging 7.1 points per game and shooting 90.9 percent from the free throw line. He scored in double figures in 10 games.

Elon reached the Southern Conference semifinal that season, but lost to the College of Charleston. Following his rookie season, Samson improved his numbers, raising his points per game average to 9.4 and sinking 79 3-pointers.

Now a junior and with two full seasons under his belt, Samson has decided to lead by example on the court. This season, he ranks first in

3-point field goal percentage, rebounds, steals and minutes played.

"[His teammates] see him with his feet set and they start saying things," Matheny said. "I don't know what they're saying, but they're so confident in his ability. It's like the whole team is in there with him."

While the team posted a regular season record of 14-17 and a conference record of only 6-12, it has earned a No. 8 seed in the CAA Championship tournament in Baltimore. Elon has won its last three games and has defeated two of the top-ranked teams in the conference: Northeastern University and University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

"Winning a few games in a row here at the end feels great," Samson said. "Getting hot at this time, you got people playing well and you want your best basketball in March."

While the team is still focusing on finishing strong this season, Matheny spoke of his vision for Samson in the future.

"We rely heavily on our seniors for leadership," Matheny said. "Tanner's not waiting for his senior season to be a leader, but when the torch is passed down to him, he's got to carry it high."

2015 CAA TOURNAMENT BRACKET



GRAPHIC BY HALEY LONGBOTTOM | Design Editor

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

This summer, earn 10 credits while you gain valuable work experience as an intern.

Complete coursework that is relevant to your future career—and apply that knowledge directly in practice.

- Arts & Culture
- Business & Management
- Communication
- Graphic & Web Design
- International Studies
- Politics, Public Policy & Law
- Psychology Research & Practice
- Public Health & Social Policy



BOSTON UNIVERSITY SUMMER STUDY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

MAY 18–AUGUST 14, 2015

Learn more.

617-353-0556

bu.edu/summer/internship

Boston University Summer Term

Sports Briefs

Women's basketball

The Elon University women's basketball team plays its last regular season game Wednesday, March 4 before the Colonial Athletic Association Tournament against the University of Delaware.

Elon's win over Hofstra University last Sunday marked its first victory of the season over an opponent ranked higher in the CAA standings.

Wednesday will also be senior night for three Elon players: Shannen Cochran, Sam Coffey and Zora Stephenson in their final game in Alumni Gym.

Baseball

After canceled games this past week, the Elon baseball team will have a road game at Davidson University March 4, and a three-game series at The Citadel March 6-8 before returning to Latham Park March 10 for a game against Wake Forest University.

Last week, Elon picked up a 7-3 victory over former Southern Conference rival University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Sophomore starting pitcher Matt Harris picked up the win for the Phoenix, matching a career-high in strikeouts with eight.

Men's tennis

The Elon men's tennis team will have three matches this week at the Jimmy

Powell Tennis Center against the University of North Carolina at Wilmington (March 5), North Carolina Central University (March 7) and Georgia Southern University (March 7).

Softball

The Elon softball team returns to action after all of its games were canceled or postponed last week.

The Phoenix will have consecutive matches against North Carolina State University on March 4 and North Carolina A&T University on March 5.

Freshman Hannah Olson was named the CAA Player of the Week Feb. 24 after helping the Phoenix sweep its games at Citrus Classic in Orlando.

Women's track and field

Nine members of the Elon women's track and field team will travel to Boston to compete in the Eastern College Athletic Conference Indoor Championships Thursday, March 5.

The athletes are: Elyse Bierut (3,000 and 5,000-meters), Shelby Cuddeback (one-mile), Jen Esposito (400-meters), Sydney Griffin (60-meter hurdles), Bryanna Hames (shot put), Kimberly Johansen (800 and 1,000-meters, one-mile), Megan Kirschling (high jump), Tereza Novotna (one-mile) and Bre'anna Warren (shot put).

Wednesday, March 4

Softball vs. NC State, 5 p.m.

Baseball at Davidson, 6 p.m.

Women's basketball vs Delaware, 7 p.m.

Women's tennis vs UNCG, 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 5

Softball at North Carolina A&T, 4 p.m.

Men's tennis vs. UNCW, 2:15 p.m.

Friday, March 6

Baseball at The Citadel, 6 p.m.

Womens track at ECAC Indoor Championships (Boston)

Women's tennis vs. Liberty, 2:30 p.m.

Mens Basketball at Towson (Baltimore) 6 p.m.

Women's lacrosse vs. Coastal Carolina, 6 p.m.

Saturday, March 7

Women's Track at ECAC Indoor Championships (Boston)

Baseball at the Citadel, 2 p.m.

Men's tennis vs. North Carolina Central and Georgia Southern, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Sunday, March 8

Women's track at ECAC Indoor Championships (Boston)

Baseball at The Citadel, 1 p.m.

Monday, March 9

Men's golf at Cleveland Golf Palmetto Intercollegiate

Tuesday, March 10

Baseball vs. Wake Forest, 6 p.m.

Men's golf at Cleveland Golf Palmetto Intercollegiate

Elon seniors go out on high note

Senior night highlights accomplishments, tribulations for men's basketball

Kyle Lubinsky
Senior Reporter

The seniors on Elon University men's basketball team had to say goodbye this past Saturday.

One of the most successful senior classes in the school's Division I tenure played their last game at home to a packed Alumni Gym Saturday, Feb. 28. It was an emotional night, capped off by a win against the University of North Carolina at Wilmington — one of the top teams in the Colonial Athletic Association.

With 53 seconds left in the game, senior guards Austin Hamilton and Kevin Blake left the court for the final time to a standing ovation from the crowd and a chant of "Thank you, seniors!" from the student section. That was directed to Ryan Winters, too, who was on the bench with a back injury.

"I was hoping I didn't cry," Hamilton said. "If I had looked at my mom, I would've probably started crying."

The class of 2015 has amassed 68 regular season wins during their time at Elon, including a 21-12 record during the 2012-13 season. That season, they advanced to the SoCon Tournament semifinals, where they lost to College of Charleston. The year marked the Phoenix's first post-season appearance in Division I play, as it was invited to the 2013 CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament.

A native of Herndon, Virginia, Hamilton made an immediate impact for the Phoenix as a true freshman during the 2011-12 season, averaging 9.2 points and 2.8 assists per game in 25 appearances. This year, Hamilton has averaged 8.5 points, including a career day where he scored 31 against CAA opponent University of Delaware.

Hamilton's career hasn't always been easy. He suffered a season-ending knee injury his sophomore year in a game against Western Carolina University, but he has proved resilient, making the team's current three-game winning streak heading into tournament play even sweeter.

"It's a great feeling," Hamilton said. "I've enjoyed my time playing here in Alumni Gym. It's been something I've dreamed of. I've gone through my share of injuries, and to end on this note is very special."

Blake, who hails from Toronto, has averaged 8.1 points a game and 3.4 rebounds per game in 30 starts for the team this year. Affectionately known as "Air Canada" by fans and teammates alike, Blake is known for his high-flying dunks.

Despite his relatively small size — he stands at 6 feet, 3 inches — Blake regularly challenges the biggest players on opposing teams. As he walked onto the court to the roar of the crowd on senior night, the announcer referred to him as one of the toughest players to ever don an Elon jersey.

"A lot of credit has to go to Austin and Kevin, and Ryan [Winters] being verbally a leader," said head coach Matt Matheny. "What [they] are doing to lead this team, to keep us upbeat, to keep us focused, to keep us competitively tough, is a testament to them being great leaders."

Ryan Winters has also had a big impact on the team, but in a different way. Winters, a forward who hails from Denver, has battled back injuries throughout the year, last seeing action Jan. 22 in

Elon's 53-51 loss to Towson.

It has forced Winters to take the role of an emotional leader off the court. For senior night, he came to court in dress clothes rather than his uniform. Before the injury, Winters was averaging 5.7 points a game and 4.8 rebounds per game, giving a Phoenix a force in the paint, both offensively and defensively.

With the 74-55 victory against the Seahawks, Elon moves into the CAA tournament on Friday, March 6 with three consecutive wins. They're peaking at the right time, and the seniors have played a crucial role in the team's last three games.

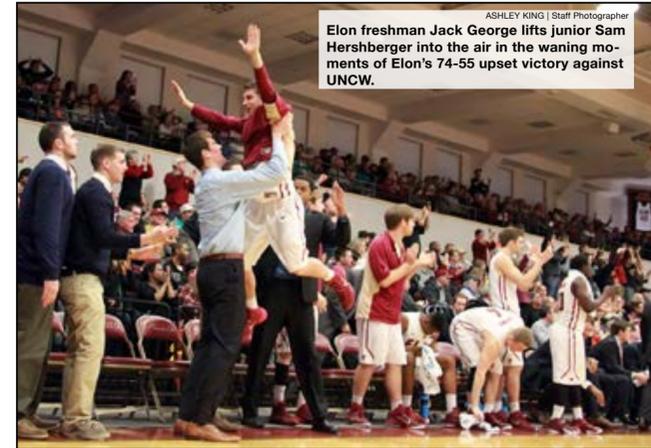
Hamilton and Blake have both been at the top of the Phoenix box scores against UNCW, Northeastern University and Delaware. Hamilton scored an average of 13 points in those three games while Blake scored 18 points against Delaware.

"I've been through a lot here," Hamilton said. "It's helped me to become who I am today, so there's definitely a lot of emotions. I'm proud of this team and happy that we were able to get this win."



Senior guards Austin Hamilton and Kevin Blake have played big rolls in Elon's last three wins.

Top Photos and Top Tweets at Elon



Elon freshman Jack George lifts junior Sam Hershberger into the air in the waning moments of Elon's 74-55 upset victory against UNCW.



Sophomore Natalie Betts and junior Nicole Bloom model for the fashion editorial spread for The Edge, the magazine of The Pendulum.

Top Tweets

- 

Only At Elon
@OnlyAtElon - Feb. 27
It wouldn't be a Friday night at Elon without the classic unmanned campus security car on Haggard.
- 

Lowell Oakley
@LowellOakley - Feb. 24
All of the support I've received over the past 24 hours has been AMAZING. I feel so blessed and am SO excited for the Battles!
@NBCTheVoice
- 

Jessie Bond
@jessieb007 - Feb. 26
The fact that Elon uses actual, literal tractors to clear snow from the parking lots never ceases to amaze me.
- 

Elon Sass
@ElonSass - Feb. 25
Let the storm rage on; Smitty J never bothered me anyway.
- 

Tyler Ash
@TyAsh34 - Feb. 28
UNREAL defense by @ElonMensHoops, holding UNCW to 1 assist (NOT a typo) and 0 three-pointers (NOT a typo) #livethemeroonlife #ThisIsOurHouse



Freshmen Zack Hrinuk, Carly Hudson, Emory Sharplin, and Mary Nickson celebrate the beginning of a snow day by making a snowman in the Colonnades quad.

SPORTS SCHEDULE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4 - TUESDAY, MARCH 10

The Vapor Girl: Burlington's New FULL SERVICE Vape Shop!

Shoppes @ Waterford: 1205 University Drive

Bus Route:
University Drive Line
Lowes Food Bus Stop

i VAPE -200+ Organic Nic E Liquids
-Starter Kits to Building Supplies
-20' Vaping Bar for E Liquid Tasting
-Spacious Lounge for Relaxing or Building
-Friendly Service from Trained Personnel
-Tutoring Sessions ALL Skill Levels
-On Site Certified Coil Technicians
-Beautiful, Artistic Environment

With the VaporGirl.com

OPEN 11AM - 8PM Monday Thru Saturday (336)-447-4693
Find our other 4 Local Locations online at www.TheVaporGirl.com

PROVENCE AND EVELLIEN

Provence at 807 East Haggard and Evellien at 223 Lawrence Street
THE ONLY FOUR BEDROOM townhouses & apartments locally owned and managed in Elon
Tours provided every weekend and during the week as needed, call 336 266-6666

**TRULY DESIGNED & APPROVED
FOR UP TO 4 STUDENTS!**

**LARGE CLOSETS
LAUNDRY ROOMS
HIGH CEILINGS
SPACIOUS ROOMS**



~~3~~ **2 places
left for next
year and
going fast!**

**Call for a visit,
336 266-6666 and
see where you
could be living!**

WWW.EVELLIEN.COM