

THE PENDULUM

BEST OF

2019

— ACADEMICS —

— FOOD —

CAMPUS —

NIGHTLIFE —

— TRAVEL —

— RECREATION —

SHOPPING —

— STAFF PICKS —

THE PENDULUM

A PUBLICATION OF
**ELON NEWS
NETWORK**

Established 1974
Volume 44, Edition XX

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

EMMANUEL MORGAN
ALEXANDRA SCHONFELD
MAYA EAGLIN
MAEVE ASHBROOK
SAMANTHA CASAMENTO
BRIAN REA
CARRIE CARLISLE
JACK HALEY
NINA FLECK
HANNA MEYERS
STEPHANIE NTIM
SOPHIA ORTIZ
LAUREL WIND
COURTNEY WEINER
MEGHAN KIMBERLING
GRACE TERRY
ABBY GIBBS
ELISABETH BACHMANN

Executive Director of Elon News Network
Managing Editor of The Pendulum
News Director of Elon Local News
Breaking News Manager
Event Coverage Coordinator
Event Coverage Coordinator
Social Media Coordinator
Sports Director
Chief Copy Editor
Assistant Chief Copy Editor
Opinions Director
Video Production Manager
Analytics Director
New Member Coordinator
Design Chief
Assistant Design Chief
Photo Editor
Public Relations Coordinator

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

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

WHEN WE PUBLISH:
The Pendulum
publishes weekly on Wednesdays

Elon Local News
broadcasts Mondays at 6 p.m.

ELN Morning
broadcasts Thursdays at 10 a.m.

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

ENN Radio Podcast
publishes Friday afternoon

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:
Facebook
Elon News Network
Twitter/Instagram/Snapchat
[@elonnewsnetwork](https://www.instagram.com/elonnewsnetwork)
YouTube
Elon News Network

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

New year, new issues



Alexandra Schonfeld
Managing Editor
[@aschonfeld096](https://www.instagram.com/aschonfeld096)

THIS YEAR, ELON NEWS Network (ENN) has faced a few unexpected challenges. There have been changes in leadership, extreme weather and discussions about the future of ENN — after myself and the other seniors on staff graduate and take our next steps in May. But like with most things, there are constants, and with its second installment — ENN’s “Best Of” has become one of our constants. Our second annual “Best Of” edition celebrates our readers’ favorite things in and around Elon’s campus.

The reason we at ENN do what we do everyday is for our readers — the Elon community. We strive to keep our audience as informed as possible every day through our website, weekly paper, shows and new podcast. But, that doesn’t always have to come in the form of breaking news or investigative stories. This edition is us handing the mic over to our readers and hearing from you. This is a compilation of what our readers voted for in polls varying from favorite food to favorite Instagram spot.

After three and a half years at The Pendulum, and now ENN, I am writing for the first time as the Managing Editor of The Pendulum. I take over the position from Anton L Delgado, who has led with enthusiasm and fervor that will be hard to match.

I am so looking forward to leading the team of talented reporters, designers, photographers and copy editors as we take on this new challenge together and am so grateful for the opportunity to do so.

10 YEARS AGO...

In this day and age, entertainment season seems to be every season. Blockbusters such as , Avengers: Endgame, Star Wars: Episode IX and The Lion King, are planned to be released in 2019.

Audiences around the world can look forward to movies hitting theatres soon such as Avengers: Endgame, Captain Marvel, Shazam!, Toy Story 4 and others. But we decided to look back and see what the top charts were a decade ago.

With the news also being a dominant part of entertainment today, take a look at the top five news stories from 2009.

TOP 5 MOVIES

1. Avatar
2. Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen
3. Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince
4. The Twilight Saga: New Moon
5. Up

TOP 5 SONGS

1. Boom Boom Pow — The Black Eyed Peas
2. Poker Face — Lady Gaga
3. Just Dance — Lady Gaga ft. Colby O'Donis
4. I Gotta Feeling — The Black Eyed Peas
5. Love Story — Taylor Swift

TOP 5 NEWS STORIES

1. America’s Economic Crisis: Now for the Non-Recovery
2. Afghanistan: Can the U.S. Avoid a Quagmire?
3. Iran’s Tumultuous Election and Its Aftermath
4. The Divisive Debate Over Health Care Reform
5. Massacre at Fort Hood: The New Face of Terrorism?

GAMES

How to Play: Guess the missing word in the five clues, then find them in the word search below. Words can be found backward, diagonal, etc.

1. The best place to get vegetarian food, _____, is located on the second floor of Clohan Dining Hall. *See page 10 for answer*
2. Voted the best performance put on in the Center for the Arts, _____ opened in October. *See page 16 for answer*
3. One of North Carolina’s and Elon’s most beloved hiking spots is _____. *See page 13 for answer*
4. The aerobic fitness program known as _____ was voted Elon’s favorite fitness class. *See page 16 for answer*
5. _____ is the name of Elon’s favorite late-night food venue. *See page 12 for answer*

Y F F S J Q Y O V D S G O C B
U D A B M U Z C L O Q Y B Y D
U U J Z Y J J R O F F S Y D L
S Y B U X W O Z F N H S O E A
C N Z C G W M L D A T T D Y O
L L F T N V G F N Y Y N O C C
X Y J E U M U G K E O U V J O
F K E R M O I G N A A X L R J
W R P N O N K E C E Z Q Z O A
G R G Z G G E O H C F K Y W M
M D W R Y W A W O F C U L K E
G Z O N S K X Y N C H J H J G
K C Y P U L A Y T H R G A M F
K W F D U J O H S A N C L D P

SPORTS CALENDAR: FEB. 1 – FEB. 9

WBB V. DREXEL
| 7 P.M.
Schar Center

01

MBB V. DREXEL
| 7 P.M.
Schar Center

02

WBB V. DELAWARE
| 2 P.M.
Schar Center

03

MEN’S TENNIS V.
CAMPBELL | 2 P.M.
Jimmy Powell Tennis
Center

05

WOMEN’S TENNIS V.
RADFORD | 1 P.M.
Jimmy Powell Tennis
Center

09

ACADEMICS

BEST STUDY ABROAD

Grace Terry
Assistant Design Chief | @gfterry9

FOR ELON UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, the London study abroad program offers unique opportunities that are just as exciting as the history of the city.

According to Shanna Van Beek, communications manager at the Global Education Center, the program gives students the opportunity to take a Core Capstone class with an Elon faculty member, participate in a full-time internship for six weeks, join the London Leadership Team, get a transportation pass and receive various discounts to places such as Pottermore.

London is one of four Elon Center Study Abroad programs - the other three being in Shanghai, China; Dunedin, Australia and Florence, Italy. These programs are unique because students are typically accompanied by Elon professors.

The largest of the four programs is Florence. London is second with around 100 students, according to Van Beek.

One of the Elon students that took part in the London program last fall was senior Kendall Kynoch. Her favorite part of the experience being the six-week internship.

"I learned a lot from this experience, mostly how privileged I am," Kynoch wrote. "I am so grateful to have had the chance to have such an immersive, attentive program (one of my British professors is still in touch with me and will occasionally proofread papers for me) in the best neighborhood in London."

LONDON, ENGLAND



ALEX ROAT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

STUDY ABROAD-BOUND

Location: Global Education Center in Global Commons
Hours: Wednesdays 2-4 p.m. and Thursdays 9-11 a.m.
Cost: Total cost varies

LAST YEAR'S WINNER

The Best Study Abroad Trip of 2017 was the trip to Florence, Italy.

A ferry drifts under the Tower Bridge in London, England, one of the cities most beloved landmarks.

BEST CLASS

Hannah Massen
Elon News Network | @massenhannah

ONE OF THE VERY first classes most students intending to major in the School of Communications take is "Communications in a Global Age." The class, also known as COM100, was voted the best class for 2019.

The course is designed to provide an overview of different forms of media, including newspapers, magazines, radio, television, advertising and public relations. It is also meant to provide students with the tools they need to be media-literate and understand the role of media in modern society.

Associate Professor of Communications Lee Bush, who taught a section of the class in fall 2018, said the course helps students decide if the communications field is the right fit for them.

"It lets them dip their toe into each form of media a little bit deeper, and they can see what is of most interest to them and what further study in that major would look like," Bush said.

Last semester, Bush's students came into her class ready to learn. Through group projects and in-depth discussions, her students had plenty of opportunities to be engaged and share their diverse perspectives with their peers.

"It's not just about me teaching them. It's them teaching me, it's them teaching each other, it's them engaging daily in different aspects of media and examining those with a critical eye," Bush said.

Though she plans to keep the class focused on the structure and history of media, Bush incorporates emerging trends in the communications industry into her COM100

COMMUNICATIONS IN A GLOBAL AGE



AMANDA GIBSON | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jane O'Boyle, assistant professor of communications, refers to the board while teaching her section of "Communications in a Global Age" during Winter Term.

curriculum.

"The media industry is evolving daily, and that's one of the things that I love about teaching this class because the content is always new with changes in our culture and

our technology," Bush said. "It's important to learn the history and structure of different media forms to determine how we got here and how media has shaped our society and how media is shaped by our society."

LAST YEAR'S WINNER

The Best Class of 2017 was "Journalism in a Free Society," taught by Associate Professor of Communications Anthony Hatcher.

FIVE PROFESSORS TEACHING COM100 THIS SPRING

1. Janna Anderson
2. Lee Bush
3. Tom Nelson
4. Rich Landesberg
5. Jane O'Boyle

BEST PROFESSOR

Nina Fleck
Copy Chief | @ninamfleck

TITA RAMIREZ

AFTER 17 YEARS OF teaching creative writing for Elon University's English department, Associate Professor Tita Ramirez can't imagine her life without the job.

"Even if I won the Pulitzer Prize tomorrow and ... made a million trillion gazillion dollars and got an amazing 10-book deal where you never had to have a day job again, I would still have some kind of teaching," she said.

Writing, reading and teaching are her passion.

"I'm very passionate about what I do and I'm not embarrassed to say that," Ramirez said. "I'm not ashamed to say that, it's something that my students tell me a lot, and I own that. I think you should be. If you're not, go get another kind of job, you know?"

Her passion shows in her work, according to junior Mary McDonald, who took Ramirez's intermediate fiction class last spring.

"Not only does she know what she's teaching, and clearly has a passion for it, but it's obvious that she cares for her students and wants them to succeed," McDonald said.

But Ramirez thinks being voted best professor has less to do with her personality and more to do with the style of her class. Creative writing classes are typically run as workshops and treated like studio art classes.

"The environment of a studio art class — a class where people are bringing in their own work and sharing it with each other and sharing their ideas just produces an environment that can be very, very rich and rewarding," Ramirez said.

She says the workshop setting helps both her and her students grow as writers.



PHOTO BY DREW PERRY

Tita Ramirez works at her home in Greensboro as she takes Winter Term off to prepare for the spring semester.

"The vibe that tends to develop in our classes is such a positive, nurturing, creative, interesting — well, hopefully it's creative," Ramirez said with a laugh. "We end up with such a positive vibe in our classes oftentimes because of [students]."

TIPS ABOUT TITA

Ramirez is writing her first book, "Tell It to Me Singing," which she is sending to a book agent this week.

LAST YEAR'S WINNER

Associate Professor of Communications Tom Nelson won Best Professor.

BEST STAFF MEMBER

Emily May
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

RUDOLPH SINGLETON

RUDOLPH SINGLETON, A CUSTODIAN who works in The Global Neighborhood's Building A, was voted the best employee of 2019.

Elon current and prospective students alike rave about how beautiful campus is and so much of that can be attributed to the people who work for physical plant and custodial services. The Global Neighborhood was voted this year's best residential neighborhood, which resident Olivia Jordan describes as "a little bit luxurious."

Elon University's website says "custodial services help maintain a clean and safe environment of all campus academic, administrative, athletic and residential buildings." People like Singleton are who help to keep this campus going.

Aidan Vaughan, a junior who lives in Global A, has interacted with him many times and is a huge fan of him.

"Mr. Singleton is a very kindhearted individual," Vaughan said. "It is clear that he works hard and does his job well without expectation to be thanked or recognized."

Vaughan lives in the same building as Singleton's office, making their run-ins more common.

"I like that whenever he and I cross paths he goes beyond the usual hello and asks to see how you are doing. It feels like he's really looking out for everyone and wants people to be happy."

Singleton's kindness is contagious and it shows in all his interactions with students.

"I think it's that he is so sincere in his words and actions that people recognize the person he is and can't help but like him he always tries to brighten people's day," Vaughan said.



PHOTO COURTESY ELON UNIVERSITY

WHERE TO FIND HIM

Who: Singleton
Location: Global A

LAST YEAR'S WINNER

Ms. Judy, who works in Qdoba, won Best Staff Member of 2017.

CAMPUS

BEST APARTMENT

Kait MacIntyre
Elon News Network | @macintyrekait

IT IS NOT UNCOMMON for Elon University students to call the school home. Each neighborhood has its own unique attributes, but students have voted The Station at Mill Point as Elon's Best Apartment for the second year in a row.

The residence houses mostly junior- and senior-level students in four-person apartments in the iconic 24 brightly colored houses.

"[Mill Point is] a vibrant, social and academic community of Elon juniors and seniors living in a premiere residential neighborhood focused on life after Elon," said Billy Baker, the community director for the Station at Mill Point.

Baker also outlined a number of amenities unique to Mill Point.

"Some of the features in Station at Mill Point that students enjoy revolve around the amenities within the neighborhood," Baker said referring to the apartments pool, fitness center, hammock stands and outdoor grill.

Coupled with the vibrant colors of the houses is an equally colorful community experience. Mill Point hosts an exciting variety of events throughout the year, and these come in addition to those held by the neighborhood's two Living Learning Communities: the 1889 House and the Interfaith House.

Such events hosted by Mill Point throughout the year include the Welcome Home Celebration in August and Community Trick-or-Treat in October. There are also a number of weekly and monthly events held for Mill Point residents.

The Station at Mill Point not only offers relaxation and engagement for the residents, but it also contributes to preparing them for the future after Elon. The neighborhood promotes independent living while it still offers easy access to Elon's campus, ultimately providing a balance that can be personalized by each student.

THE STATION AT MILL POINT



KAIT MACINTYRE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

LIVING AT ELON

For more information about housing, visit the Residence Life Office.

Location: Global C 103
Hours: 8 a.m. – 5p.m.

BACK-TO-BACK

This is the second year that The Station at Mill Point was voted Best Apartment.

The colorful houses and spacious living area is what made The Station at Mill Point Elon's Best Apartment of 2019.

BEST HOUSING

Samantha Casamento
Event Coverage Coordinator | @samcasamento

THE GLOBAL NEIGHBORHOOD HAS been named the best neighborhood on Elon University's campus.

Built in 2013, the Global Neighborhood includes classrooms, study rooms, kitchens on each floor, personalized thermostats and access to Lakeside Dining Hall and Global Commons.

The amenities were a major factor for freshman Olivia Jordan, a Global resident. When signing up for housing, she prioritized comfort, non-communal bathrooms and spaciousness.

"Global and Colonnades were the two neighborhoods that ended up meeting that criteria, but I ultimately picked Global as my first choice because of its beautiful view of the lake and well-kept landscaping," Jordan said.

Jordan said the Global Neighborhood rooms resemble those found in hotels.

"The spacious rooms, non-communal bathrooms and community kitchens allow every student that lives here the opportunity to feel a little bit luxurious while getting the hang of the independent lifestyle," Jordan said.

There are five dorms in Global that house up to 595 students, with more than half being first-year students, according to Elon's website.

Jordan said the neighborhood is well-liked among the freshman class. "It has a great balance of being both social and comfortable," Jordan said. "I don't find myself struggling to sleep at night due to copious amounts of noise or disruption, but if I'm looking for a friendly face to chat with, there is always someone there."

This past October, the board of trustees renamed Global Buildings B, C and D to commemorate former professors Russell B. Gill, G. Smith Jackson and Nan P. Perkins, respectively.

Global houses six Living Learning Communities this year, including African Diaspora: Explor-

GLOBAL NEIGHBORHOOD



FILE PHOTO BY ELON NEWS NETWORK

An aerial view of the Global Neighborhood, which was voted Elon University's best neighborhood of 2019.

ing Blackness across the Globe, ASHES (Alcohol and Substance Free Housing for Elon Students), Creative Arts, International, Performing Arts and Polyglot (World Languages).

Though the East Neighborhood is newer, it's the modern feel and global engagement initiatives of the Global Neighborhood that makes it the best neighborhood.

AMENITIES

1. Full classrooms in each building
2. Study rooms on each floor
3. Kitchens on each floor
4. Personalized thermostats
5. Global Commons (Great Hall, Argo Tea)

BACK-TO-BACK

The Global Neighborhood was also voted the Best Housing of 2017.

BEST TRADITION

Hannah Massen
Elon News Network | @massenhannah

THE FESTIVAL OF HOLIDAY Lights, affectionately known as Luminaries, offers Elon University students a night of joy and celebration just before the end of the fall semester.

Each year, hundreds of luminaries line the brick paths on Young Commons, each commemorating an Elon alumnus or donor. The evening also features holiday lights, hot cocoa, live music and a visit from Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus.

Event preparations start months in advance as university chaplain Jan Fuller and her team coordinate with Physical Plant and Technology Services to design and execute the festival. Lights are strung along buildings and trees beginning in October, and luminaries are dedicated well in advance. Though the festival retained its essential elements this year, Fuller and her team chose to place inclusivity at the core of this year's lighting.

"Everybody who was involved went back to square one to figure out what we needed to do, how we needed to do this, where we needed to do this," Fuller said. "We all came to agreement in June of what we needed to do. Then various groups of people made it happen."

This year, the festival reflected a theme of light, both literally and figuratively. Fuller asked a student speaker from various world religions to deliver a speech on how light is celebrated in their culture. She said the theme spoke to the university's commitment to global education and understanding.

"We can all agree that the world needs more light," Fuller said. "You don't have to be from that tradition to realize the good that

LUMINARIES



PHOTO BY CAROLINE BREHMAN

Elon University's campus lights up with luminaries and holiday cheer for the annual Festival of Lights at the end of the fall semester.

tradition does for our world."

While the timing of the event provides a much-needed study break for students, Fuller said the Festival of Holiday Lights is "extravagantly beautiful."

BACK TO BACK

In a resounding victory, Luminaries won Best Tradition for the second year in a row.

RUNNERS-UP

1. College Coffee
2. Convocation
3. Homecoming

BEST INSTAGRAM SPOT

Hannah Massen
Elon News Network | @massenhannah

ELON IS KNOWN IN part for its beautiful campus, but two of the university's fountains, Chandler Fountain and Fonville Fountain, provide an additional element of attraction.

Though Chandler Fountain is the larger of the two, Fonville Fountain's simple beauty and historic location has earned it the title of Elon's Best Instagram Spot.

Fonville Fountain is located directly in front of Alamance Building, one of the university's well-known landmarks, which was built in 1923. The fountain features a wide pool with several jets and a wide, brick ledge with room for sitting, studying or catching up with friends.

The fountain's humble aesthetics and renown make it a popular place to take pictures. Moments in front of Fonville Fountain have included the Festival of Holiday Lights, senior graduation photoshoots, sorority formal photo sessions and more.

Freshman Kendall Boone took an Instagram picture in front of Fonville Fountain to commemorate the start of her college career at Elon.

"I took [a picture there] after I finished my first month of college," Boone said. "That was during Parents' Weekend, and my dad wanted a picture of me in front of the fountain."

Fonville Fountain is always visible on a 24-hour webcam, allowing Elon students and faculty to check in on campus from anywhere, and perhaps plan their next picture to post on social media.

This is a special year for Fonville Fountain because it also won this year's category for Best Fountain, dethroning last year's winner, Chandler Fountain.

FONVILLE FOUNTAIN



SAMANTHA CASAMENTO | EVENT COVERAGE COORDINATOR

EXCITING NEW CATEGORIES

Elon News Network is always looking for new categories for the Best Of edition, such as Best Instagram Spot. If you have new ideas, email us at enn@elon.edu.

RUNNERS-UP

1. Under the Oaks
2. Lake Mary Nell
3. Chandler Fountain

Waterworks at the Fonville Fountain make for beautiful entertainment at what many consider the heart of Elon University's campus.

BEST FOUNTAIN

Samantha Casamento

Event Coverage Coordinator | @samcasamento

THIS YEAR, THE FONVILLE Fountain beat reigning winner Chandler Fountain for Elon University's best fountain.

While Chandler Fountain can be found in front of the Koury Business Center, Fonville Fountain sits in the space in front of Alamance Building, one of the most recognizable spots on Elon University's campus.

Sophomore Kate Wenzler likes the fountains which she said draws people to campus.

"The grounds of Elon are so beautiful, and that's a big reason why a lot of people even find out about Elon," Wenzler said. "The campus is just so incredible, and our fountains are kind of a statement piece of Elon because it's not very common on college campuses to have such elaborate fountains."

Wenzler believes Fonville Fountain won because the it is in a more central location and doubles as a great meeting spot.

"I just love the Alamance Fountain because I feel like it's a great place for people to reconnect after classes because that's where most of our academic buildings are," Wenzler said. "It's a place where people just sit around and enjoy and meet up with their friends and fill each other in on their days."

On warm days, people often sit on the side of the fountain and work on homework, read a book and chat with friends. It is rare to walk by between classes and not see someone taking a picture of the fountain in all its glory.

In the spring, many seniors take part in one of Elon's most popular traditions: jumping in the fountain before graduation.

FONVILLE FOUNTAIN



JARED BUNDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

LAST YEAR'S WINNER

In a gripping turn of events, Fonville Fountain dethroned Chandler Fountain as the best fountain on Elon's campus.

GRADUATION TRADITIONS

In 1986, Elon seniors began a new tradition by jumping into Fonville Fountain the day of graduation.

Voted the Best Fountain of 2019, the Fonville Fountain proudly sits in front of the Alamance Building, one of the iconic landmarks on Elon University's campus.

BEST STUDY SPOT

Samantha Casamento

Event Coverage Coordinator | @samcasamento

THE INMAN READING ROOM in Lindner Hall was voted the Best Study Space on campus, and it's no surprise considering the sheer essence of this secret spot.

This room has been nicknamed the "Harry Potter Room" among students and is located in the center of Lindner Hall. It is a fully silent study environment with long, lamp-lit tables and leather couches.

One step into the room, and you know you'll get all your work done in no time. This is often the case for freshman Lilly Rothschild, a resident in the Historic Neighborhood.

"If I'm writing or reading, I need almost pure silence," Rothschild said. "If I go in the Reading Room, it's usually very quiet, and I like that."

Elon has many study spaces around campus that are open 24 hours a day and are accessible to all students with a Phoenix Card. Rothschild likes that she can always count on the space for studying at any time of day.

"I could be here late at night, working early in the morning or on the weekends, like a Sunday, and it's usually pretty calm," Rothschild said.

Rothschild said it's definitely a popular spot during finals, but usually people are quiet.

"If you're fine with being around people and aren't easily distracted by people coming in and out, then it's the perfect spot," Rothschild said.

INMAN READING ROOM



ABOUT THE INMANS

Elon trustee William J. Inman and his wife, Patricia, made a \$500,000 gift to support the construction of Lindner Hall in 2009. In recognition of their generosity, the reading room was named in their honor.

RUNNERS-UPS

1. Koenigsberger Learning Center
2. Belk Library
3. Global Commons

Freshman Maddie Johnson concentrates on her homework in the Inman Reading Room, which was voted the Best Study Spot of 2019.

SAMANTHA CASAMENTO | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FOOD

BEST OFF-CAMPUS RESTAURANT

Alexandra Schonfeld

Elon News Network | @aschonfeld096

FOR ELON STUDENTS, THERE are not very many options when it comes to off-campus dining walking distance from campus. But, the options that do exist never cease to satisfy hungry students. There's Pandora's Pies, which offers fresh pizza and salads and is owned by Elon alumnus Peter Ustach. The Oak House and Acorn Coffee Shop serve up coffee and pastries for those morning pick-me-ups before class and just around the corner on West Lebanon Avenue, students can find the two restaurants that tied for 2019's Best Off-Campus Restaurant: The Root Trackside and Tangent.

The Root and Tangent, both owned by Chris Brumbaugh '98 and Lynn Terrell '97, offer fresh, delicious eats when you're looking for something different from dining hall fare. Tangent offers unique tacos with flavor splashes ranging from chicken and waffles to Korean steak. All tacos ring in at under \$4. And with a drink menu to match, it's no surprise that students favor this Elon staple.

The Root has been around since 2011 when Brumbaugh and Terrell first opened the restaurant's doors. The Root offers a menu full of burgers, salads and tasty daily specials that keep Elon students coming back year after year. The Root has a more elevated dining experience than some of the other restaurants walking distance from campus — perfect for a first date or your best friend's birthday.

General Manager and partner Quinn Ray says he likes being a part of students' Elon experience and feels like he is impacting the community.

"Hopefully we are providing a utopian space for people to come," Ray said. "They're memories that students will graduate and [say] 'remember going to The Root and Homecoming?' They're like, 'I have got to have my truffle fry fix.' I really enjoy the fact of helping make memories for people in a space."

THE ROOT/TANGENT



PHOTO BY CAROLINE BREHMAN

FUN FACTS

Both The Root and Tangent are owned by Elon alumni Chris Brumbaugh '98 and Lynn Terrell '97.

THE ROOT: BACK TO BACK

Last year, The Root Trackside won Best Overall Restaurant and Best Burgers/Hot Dogs.

The Root is still an Elon University favorite eight years after its opening in 2011.

BEST ON-CAMPUS RESTAURANT

Grace Terry

Assistant Design Chief | @gfterry9

QDOBA

THOUGH QDOBA IS TUCKED away in the Daniele Center Commons, it is still a favorite among Elon University students. The distant location has yet to deter students as it was voted Best On-Campus Restaurant for the second year in a row.

Qdoba offers a variety of Mexican food, including burritos, nachos, tacos and quesadillas, all of which are customizable based on extra toppings or dietary needs. Toppings include pico de gallo, grilled vegetables, corn, queso, sour cream, guacamole and more.

For sophomore Daniele residents Maddie August and Jordan Bielanin, it is the location and the food that makes it so appealing.

"I go about five times a week," August said. "It is close to my dorm and I like the food."

Bielanin enjoys not only the wide variety of options that accommodate her dietary restrictions but also the fast service. "Although the line can get pretty long, the wait time is always relatively short," Bielanin said.

The two Qdoba fanatics also attribute the restaurant's popularity to its late hours. The restaurant typically stays open until 10 p.m. while other dining locations on campus typically close two hours prior.

Guest Experiences Manager Casey Claflin attributes the restaurant's award to their focus on freshness. In order to ensure this freshness the restaurant uses fresh ingredients and makes food in small batches.

Claflin says the Qdoba team is very excited about the award as the crew works very hard every day to make the students happy.

As for next year, the Qdoba's team goals are to continue "holding their standard, keeping everything fresh and keeping our customers happy," Claflin says.



SOPHIA ORTIZ | VIDEO PRODUCTION MANAGER

RUNNER UPS

1. Pei Wei
2. Biscuitville
3. Village Juice Co.

QUICK FACTS

20

locations of Qdoba in North Carolina.

The Qdoba restaurant on campus is located in Daniele Center Commons. It serves a wide variety of Mexican food, ranging from tacos to burritos to nachos.

BEST FINE DINING

Alex Hager

Elon News Network | @awhager

IT CAN BE HARD for a restaurant to stand out from the dozens of dining options lining Huffman Mill Road, and attached to the Best Western Hotel, Grill 584 is unassuming from the outside. But inside, customers will find a menu of surf and turf that delivers some of the classiest culinary offerings in Alamance County.

Drawing its name from the first-ever area code given to the west side of Burlington and the town of Elon, Grill 584's name is a nod to the area's history. And the restaurant's upscale food and drink options have made it the "Best Fine Dining Restaurant" for two years running.

Far from the fast food peddled by its neighbors, Grill 584 serves premium cuts of meat befitting of a New York steakhouse. From filet mignon to tenderloin medallions, the menu is chock-full of steaks that are sure to please carnivores. The seafood section is expansive as well, with coastal specialties like mahi mahi and lobster gnocchi that would be hard to find elsewhere in Burlington. Meals at Grill 584 end decadently too as customers can choose from desserts like crème brûlée and Bananas Foster.

All of these delicacies are served in a ritzy dining room, where the tasteful lighting and secluded booths make it a favorite for special occasions such as date nights and graduation dinners.

As far as drinks are concerned, oenophiles can enjoy an extensive wine list, with reds and whites from around the world. Not to be outdone, the bar also offers nearly 30 varieties of martini as well as a handful of other signature cocktails.

Of course, the steaks, seafood and hand-

Grill 584



Grill 584 is the best choice for Elon University community members when looking for fine dining and a classy vibe.

CAROLINE BREHMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

crafted libations come with a price tag that looks a little steeper than some other restaurants in Burlington, so Grill 584 has cemented itself as a go-to for Elon students when parents are in town to pick up the check.

GETTING TO THE GRILL

Cuisine: American

Location: 710 Huffman Mill Road

Hours: Monday–Thursday: 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Saturday: 4:30 p.m. – 10 p.m.

BEST BREAKFAST

Courtney Weiner

New Member Coordinator | @courtneyweiner2

WHEN ELON UNIVERSITY STUDENTS roll out of bed in the morning, they have several breakfast options. But students agree Lakeside Dining Hall's breakfast reigns supreme. The dining hall has a wide variety of breakfast foods, including a make-your-own-waffle bar, a yogurt station, different fruits and Miss Julie's omelet bar.

Sophomore Lauren Mitchell said Miss Julie's omelets is what makes Lakeside so special.

"Talking with her every morning as she makes me the best omelets," Mitchell said. "[It] starts my day out with a bit of sunshine."

Lakeside Chef Candace Lawson said, "Some of the students literally only come in here to see Miss Julie."

Lawson said she is not a big fan of eggs but will eat Miss Julie's omelets because of "the love" Miss Julie fills them with.

The busiest but most memorable mornings at Lakeside are Tuesdays and Thursdays, and it sometimes gets so busy that "we have to stay open a little bit past 10 to make sure everybody is getting their hot breakfast," Lawson said.

"Being able to see those students come in here and see that line ... brings a pride to us," said Aaron Zimmerman, the Hospitality Services director for the Global Neighborhood. "We just try to do our best to continue making our service better."

Lakeside was closed during Winter Term, but Zimmerman and Lawson said students who missed their mornings at their favorite dining hall are in for a surprise come February.

"We've added some new menu items to each meal," Lawson said. "It'll be good for all three meals but particularly for breakfast."

Zimmerman hopes the updated menu will bring new students to Lakeside's breakfast scene.

"We appreciate the students, and we appreciate everybody coming in here for breakfast. We were happy to be voted number one," Zimmerman said.

LAKESIDE DINING HALL



RISE AND SHINE

Cuisine: Breakfast

Hours: Monday to Friday: 7 a.m.–10 a.m.
Saturday to Sunday: 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

LAST YEAR'S WINNER

Grill Worx was the breakfast diner that won last year's Best Of category for Best Breakfast.

One of the staples of Lakeside Dining Hall's breakfast are Ms. Julie's omelets, which are now available from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. during normal work days.

COURTNEY WEINER | NEW MEMBER COORDINATOR

BEST VEGETARIAN/VEGAN OPTION

Maggie Brown

Elon News Network | @maggieabrown_

GREENWORLD AT 1889 IN Clohan Dining Hall is an alternative dining option for students on campus to enjoy vegan and vegetarian food with an All-Access swipe. Other healthy stops like Freshii and Village Juice Co. may have large menus but are more expensive. Greenworld was voted the Best Vegan/Vegetarian Option at Elon University.

Miki Salamon, president of Animal Protection Alliance, a student organization founded to create a community of animal lovers and advocates, appreciates that Elon provides many options for students who choose to eat vegan or vegetarian. “It is so nice and validated to know that Elon Dining cares enough about listening to its students and providing options for everyone,” Salamon said.

Salamon said she chooses to be vegan because of the health and environmental benefits.

“To me, it makes no sense to love some animals and eat others, especially as today’s modernized food system is horrific,” Salamon said.

Elon Dining gives Salamon many options to continue her lifestyle. McEwen Dining Hall, Clohan Dining Hall and Acorn Coffee Shop all have options that Salamon appreciates. But her favorite is Greenworld.

“I would 100-percent agree that Greenworld is the best option for vegan or vegetarian students on campus since everything is vegan and you don’t have to worry about contamination,” Salamon said.

Sarah Johnson, Group X instructor at Campus Recreation and Wellness and manager of the Instagram account “thevegetationnation,” said she believes Greenworld is a staple

for vegans. Though she is not a vegan or vegetarian herself, she tends to eat meals that are healthier and vegan. She likes the alternative options Greenworld provides for her lifestyle.

“The variety is what makes it great,” Johnson said. But, what Johnson does not like about Greenworld is that a lot of the food is fried and starchy.

Because Greenworld usually doesn’t have the healthy options Johnson is looking for, she

is more likely to eat at Village Juice Co. for a vegan or vegetarian option.

“They make them with really good, clean ingredients,” Johnson said about Village Juice Co.’s menu. “And you always know what’s inside the food.”

Julia Kocsis, manager of the popular food Instagram account, “Eloneats,” said she feels Elon Dining provides many options for vegans or vegetarians.

Greenworld, which is located upstairs in Clohan Dining Hall, serves vegan and gluten-free options for students.

ALEXANDRA SCHONFELD | MANAGING EDITOR



RUNNERS-UP

1. Mediterranean Deli
2. Village Juice Co.
3. Tangent Eat + Bar

MAKE HEADLINES

INTERESTED IN JOINING
ELON NEWS NETWORK?
WE'RE HIRING.

OPEN TEAMS:

- Reporting
 - News
 - Lifestyle
 - Sports
 - Opinions
- Broadcast Production
 - Producing
 - Copy Editing
 - Social Media
 - Media Analytics
- Photography
- Advertising/Sales
- Design
- Web

WHY JOIN:

“BEING A PART OF THE ELON NEWS NETWORK IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT ELON. I’VE GOTTEN TO KNOW SO MANY PEOPLE IN THE ELON COMMUNITY THROUGH ENN AND LOVE GETTING TO DO SO MUCH HANDS-ON WORK.”

GRACE MORRIS
JUNIOR

“JOINING ENN WAS THE GREATEST DECISION I HAVE MADE AT ELON. NOT ONLY DID I MAKE AMAZING FRIENDS, BUT I LEARNED ABOUT MYSELF AND MY FUTURE IN JOURNALISM.”

ALEX ROAT
JUNIOR

COME TO PITCH MEETINGS:
TUESDAYS AT 5 P.M. MCEWEN 108

EMAIL US:
ENN@ELON.EDU

BEST SWEET TREATS

Hannah Massen

Elon News Network | @massenhannah

ELON STUDENTS HAVE A sweet tooth for Smitty's Homemade Ice Cream, earning the creamery the title of "Best Sweet Treat" for the second year in a row.

The shop originally opened in 2001 in Burlington. According to Amy Nakhle, co-owner of Smitty's, within its first year, Smitty's became the official ice cream of the Elon Phoenix and earned an invitation from President Emeritus Leo Lambert to move to downtown Elon shortly thereafter.

Nakhle believes Smitty's location, a space the shop currently shares with Pandora's Pies, is a natural fit.

"It's been a great partnership with Pandora's Pies," Nakhle said. "We are separate entities, but we share a space, and you can't get better than pizza and ice cream."

Each small batch of ice cream is made by hand, using local ingredients whenever possible. Nakhle and her team are getting ready to introduce several new flavors to the Smitty's menu, including blueberry cheesecake, dark chocolate and a chocolate-covered cherry flavor perfect for Valentine's Day. The customers can also order milkshakes, sundaes and smoothies.

The Smitty's team contributes to the community by donating to local charities and organizations as well as caring deeply for their student customers.

"We just love being here. We love our students, we love our staff here at the university, and we love working with the students at Elon as well," Nakhle said. "It's been a wonderful partnership for almost 16 years dating back, and we hope it's at least another 16 years in the making."

SMITTY'S ICE CREAM



PHOTO BY CAROLINE BREHMAN

Smitty's Homemade Ice Cream, voted the Best Sweet Treat of 2019, is the official ice cream of the Elon Phoenix and serves dozens of flavors.

GET SPOTTED AT SMITTY'S

Location: 130 N. Williamson Ave.

Hours: Sunday to Thursday: 12–10 p.m.,
Friday to Saturday: 12–11 p.m.

BACK TO BACK

Smitty's Homemade Ice Cream was also voted Elon's Best Sweet Treat last year.

BEST COFFEE

Hannah Massen

Elon News Network | @massenhannah

THE OAK HOUSE

THE OAK HOUSE IS a coffee shop by day and a bar by night, but it is a favorite Elon University student hangout no matter the time of day.

Whether customers need a quick pick-me-up or a moment to relax, the Oak House is a hub where students, professors and locals can do work, hold meetings or catch up with friends.

Freshman Olivia Taylor often turns to the coffee shop because of its "atmosphere and good coffee."

The Oak House's menu includes a variety of caffeinated beverages, snacks and pastries as well as a full menu of beer and wine in the evening.

Taylor, whose favorite coffee order is an iced coffee, appreciates the Oak House's clientele.

"It's filled with all Elon students who are all doing the same thing," Taylor said. "We're all trying to get our work done and focus."

But studying isn't the only thing that patrons can do within the coffee shops comforting atmosphere.

"Sometimes I'll come study; other times I'll meet with friends," said freshman Emily May. "I really like the friendly atmosphere, cozy vibe and of course, great coffee."

The Oak House first opened in 2014 and quickly became a hotspot for Elon students.

The cafe's popularity has led to a new branch that is projected to open in Durham in late spring 2019.



PHOTO BY SAMANTHA STEINMAN

GET YOUR CUP OF JOE

Location: 112 N. Williamson Ave.

Hours: Monday to Wednesday:
7:30 a.m.–10 p.m.,
Thursday to Friday: 7:30–12 a.m.,
Sunday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

BACK TO BACK

In a sweeping victory, The Oak House was also voted Elon University's Best Coffee for the second year in a row.

The Oak House is a community favorite, serving coffee and pastries during the day and alcoholic drinks at night.

BEST FOOD AFTER MIDNIGHT

Patrick Magarain
Elon News Network | @magarainpatrick

IF YOU NEED A midnight snack, have \$5 in your pocket and a tank of gas — go to Cook Out, Elon's Best Food After Midnight.

This is the second year in a row that the restaurant famous for its burgers and shakes has won this category. This chain is perfect for college campuses and has been so successful because of its availability and affordability.

The Cook Out closest to Elon University is in the city of Burlington, about a 10-minute drive from campus. But if Burlington bores you, there is another Cook Out option in Graham, which is roughly 20 minutes away.

Every day, the restaurant is open until 3 a.m., which provides an easy-access midnight meal that won't hurt a college student's wallet.

"It's the cheapest option, and it's always open," said sophomore Brendan Burke. "You get more than \$5 worth."

But Cook Out appeals to more than just Elon students, Larry, a Qdoba worker, also believes that is the best late-night option for food. He put it simplest when he was asked if her liked Cook Out, "Yea."

One of the institution's most beloved options, are its milkshakes. But deciding which one to get will usually be the toughest decision of the night. Patrons have to choose between more than 40 options of milkshakes, ranging from Banana, to Cappuccino, to Chocolate Malt.

At the end of a long day, the Cook Out \$5 tray, which usually includes a milkshake and a meal, is the go-to choice.

COOK OUT



OLIVER FISCHER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

LATE NIGHT TRIP

Cuisine: Fast food restaurant
Location: 414 Huffman Mill Rd.
Hours: 10:30 a.m. – 3 a.m. every day

BACK TO BACK

For the second year in a row, Elon votes Cook Out to be the best food after midnight.

Cook Out in Burlington offers more than 40 flavors of hand-spun milkshakes, in addition to comfort food such as fries, hot dogs and hamburgers.

BEST BAR

Emmanuel Morgan
Executive Director | @emmanuelmorgan

FOR THE SECOND YEAR in a row, The Fat Frogg Bar and Grill has been voted Elon University's Best Bar.

Located on the western edge of campus, The Fat Frogg has become a staple for nightlife among upperclassmen during the week.

Elon students, along with local Burlington residents, participate in trivia night on Tuesdays, karaoke on Thursday nights, live music on Friday and Saturdays and other events that offer different opportunities for customers to enjoy.

In addition to the variety of traditional and specialty alcoholic drinks, The Fat Frogg serves American and Mexican-style food, and the restaurant is specifically known for its sandwiches and wraps.

It also serves great finger-food options such as wings, fried pickles and fried Oreos.

The Fat Frogg's nomination comes months after the bar experienced heartbreak that affected the most of the campus community.

In June 2018, Anton Downey, an Elon Dining employee and a bouncer at The Fat Frogg, was killed after he was struck by a drunk driver. Bouncers at The Fat Frogg now wear T-shirts with Downey's name on it in his memory.

Though The Fat Frogg has won Best Bar for the past two years, it is slowly gaining competition. MaGerks Pub & Grill, which opened in September 2018, is starting to gain popularity among students.

Senior Carter Rayburn says while MaGerks is fun, he thinks The Fat Frogg offers more options for Elon students to enjoy themselves.

"The fact that Froggs has so many things to do and that it's affordable than MaGerks makes me and my friends continue to want to go there," Rayburn said.

FAT FROGG'S BAR & GRILL



ALEXANDRA SCHONFELD | MANAGING EDITOR

BACK TO BACK

For the second year in a row, The Fat Frogg has been voted as Elon's Best Bar. The runner up being The Oak House.

PHOENIX FAVORITE

Cuisine: Mexican and American
Location: 2009 Timberline Station Dr.
Hours: Tuesday 3 p.m.–12 a.m., Wednesday 11–9 p.m., Thursday 11–12 a.m., Friday 11–2 a.m., Friday–Saturday 11–12 a.m., Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

The stage of The Fat Frogg, which on Friday and Saturday nights is filled with bands providing live music for patrons.

TRAVEL

BEST HIKING SPOT

Kait MacIntyre
Elon News Network | @macintyrekait

WITH SPRING RIGHT AROUND the corner, Elon University students are feeling restless for outdoor activities. What better way to kick off the spring season than with a hike at the Best Hiking Spot of 2019: Hanging Rock State Park.

An hour and a half drive from Elon, Hanging Rock offers a multitude of trails, activities and opportunities for students to take a break.

Hanging Rock offers camping all year round, giving outdoor explorers of every season the chance to enjoy its beauty.

Park Superintendent Robin Riddlebarger commented on her own admiration of the scenery at Hanging Rock.

“I love getting to be outside,” Riddlebarger said. “Having the outdoors as your office is great.”

According to Hanging Rock’s official website, there are more than 18 miles of trails winding through the beautiful park. Each trail is separated into levels of difficulty, giving a range of choices to new and experienced hikers alike.

Hanging Rock offers several events to the public, ranging from informational hikes to seasonal entertainment.

Riddlebarger commented on her favorite event put on by the park in October.

“A local theater group come and do different Shakespeare scenes from a play along the trail. It’s the same dialogue, but they put their own twist on it. Last year, I think it was a 1980s theme,” Riddlebarger said.

Hanging Rock is also challenging North Carolina residents to get outside more in 2019. Hanging Rock and other North Carolina State Parks are taking initiative in forming a 100-mile challenge.

The 100-mile challenge encourages individuals to log in miles that they walk, jog or run at participating state parks. There are milestones and prizes along the exciting journey.

More information can be found under “Things To Do” on Hanging Rock’s official website.

As excitement builds for spring, so does the need for the sunny outdoors and Hanging Rock State Park is the perfect starting point.

HANGING ROCK



PHOTO BY CAROLINE BREHMAN

WANT TO HANG?

Size: 7,869-acre state park in Stokes County.
Distance: 1 hour 25 minute drive from Elon
Location: 1790 Hanging Rock Park Rd, Danbury, NC 27016

BACK TO BACK

For the second year in a row, Hanging Rock State Park has been voted as Elon’s Best Hiking spot.

Hikers observe the beautiful view of Hanging Rock State Park.

BEST DAY TRIP

Amanda Gibson
Elon News Network | @amanda_gibson

THE CITY OF GREENSBORO offers unique coffee shops, funky thrift stores and delicious restaurants to make for the perfect day trip for Elon University students. Just a 30-minute drive from Elon, Greensboro provides students a quick get away from the “Elon Bubble.”

For sophomore Rebecca Betterton, Greensboro is just that — a place to escape.

“It’s just a different environment than Elon,” Betterton said. “There’s a lot more diversity and the opportunity to experience other cultures.”

Sophomore Joyce Llopis-Martell also visits Greensboro for the diversity. Elon’s quiet culture was a bit of a culture shock from her hometown in Miami, Florida.

“On the weekends, obviously people go party and everything, but I love to go on adventures,” Llopis-Martell said. “Greensboro just caught my attention — there’s so many little things to do there.”

Her favorite spots include interesting landscapes and skylines for her photography projects. But most importantly, she feels a sense of connection to her Hispanic roots.

“Here in Elon, Hispanic food is Mexican food, but back home, that’s not the case,” Llopis-Martell said. “In Greensboro, I can find Cuban food, Colombian food and all sorts of different types, and I like the authenticity of that and the ability to experience more.”

What’s Llopis-Martell’s favorite spot in Greensboro? An old-fashioned arcade. “It’s just filled with so many creative people, and I love that.”

GREENSBORO



PHOTO COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

Greensboro was voted the Best Day Trip. Students voted for it due to its proximity as well as the many attractions the city has to offer.

PLANNING A TRIP?

Distance: 30 minutes from Elon
Attractions: shopping, movie theater, museums, parks, science center, art gallery

RUNNERS-UP

Second. Asheville
Third. Raleigh
Fourth. Saxapahaw

RECREATION

BEST MEN'S VARSITY TEAM

Jack Haley
Sports Director | @jackhaley17

RUNNING ONTO THE FIELD and into the No. 1 spot as best men's varsity sport is Elon University's football team. The Phoenix finished the year with split records at 6-5 and 4-3 in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA).

But that loss should not take away from what they did in the regular season. The team did what many teams before them could never do, they won a game that is now being considered as one of the programs biggest wins.

Elon, at the time ranked No. 9 in the country, went into the lion's den to clash with the No. 2 team in the nation, the James Madison University Dukes. For the first time ever, Elon came out on top, downing the Dukes 27-24.

Despite this, Elon learned just how quickly a season can change. The next week against the University of Delaware Elon lost sophomore quarterback Davis Cheek to a torn ACL. After that game, they also found out that senior running back Malcolm Summers would be done for the year after re-injuring the hamstring he hurt the season prior during his career-long 59-yard rush that gave Elon the lead over JMU.

"As a team in 2018, we had to manage a lot of injuries and adversity and being able to fight through it and accomplish what we did was a testament to our team's culture," said junior tight end Matt Foster. "We are looking forward to coming out even stronger next year."

Elon battled through these injuries to make its way into the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) Play-offs. Though the season ended in defeat, this team has a lot to be proud of and a lot to look forward to. New head coach Tony Trisciani will get this team back into fighting shape for the start of the 2019 season when they visit North Carolina A&T State University on Aug. 31.

"The 2018 team fought through a lot of adversity to achieve goals that we set for ourselves," said junior line-backer T.J. Speight. "We look to keep heading in the right direction."

FOOTBALL



JESSICA RAPFÖGEL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PAST FIVE YEARS OF RECORDS:

2018: 6-5
2017: 8-4
2016: 2-9
2015: 4-7
2014: 1-11

FRESH DRIVE

Following former head Coach Curt Cignetti's departure, former assistant head coach and defensive coordinator Tony Trisciani was recently named the new head coach for the 2019 season.

Junior defensive back Greg Liggs Jr. intercepts the ball during Elon University's game against Towson University on Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018.

BEST WOMEN'S VARSITY TEAM

Jack Haley
Sports Director | @jackhaley17

BASKETBALL

WELL, THEY DID IT. Women's basketball was able to repeat as Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) champions behind the coaching of Charlotte Smith and play from major senior contributors like Shay Burnett. Despite losing in the first round of the NCAA Tournament for the second year in a row, women's basketball is making leaps and bounds towards becoming the premiere program in the CAA.

And also Elon University's favorite women's varsity team.

Elon dominated in the 2017-2018 season, not losing a single game at home and going a perfect 13-0 to end the Alumni Gym era on campus.

Elon ran the table at the CAA Championships, including beating the No. 2 seed and the No. 1 seed one day after the other to claim the title.

The Phoenix constantly have one of the youngest rosters in the country. This season, they are led by junior guard Lexi Mercer, who is the oldest player on the team. Elon has to battle with this young team to find chemistry while they also find a way to win.

One thing Elon hasn't struggled with is offense. "We have a phenomenal offensive scoring team," Smith said. "We're scoring 70-plus points a game, so scoring is not our issue; it's just the defense and rebounding, which is something we can easily fix."

Elon is no stranger to hard work. That is what Smith has instilled in her team to get them to this point, and she is excited to get them back into the mentality once again of working hard.

"What it really boils down to is the



LIAM O'CONNOR | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sophomore forward Anna Popovic goes in for a layup against the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2018.

blue-collar work," Smith said. "Those are areas that we've got to improve to help us position ourselves to be where we were last year."

So far this year, Elon is 7-9 and sitting at

seventh in the CAA with a conference record of 2-3. The team's goal, of course, is to bring the CAA championship back to Elon for the third year in a row.

UPCOMING GAMES:

1/25: @Towson
1/27: @James Madison
2/1: vs. Drezel
2/3: vs. Delaware
2/8: @UNCW
2/10: @Charleston

RUNNERS-UP

Second: Volleyball
Third: Soccer
Fourth: Tennis

BEST CLUB TEAM

Jack Haley
Sports Director | @jackhaley17

TUCKED AWAY ON A field behind the Francis Center, under the lights and between cracks of a bat and joyous noise is Elon University's club baseball team. The team provides a place to compete and socialize with those whose varsity days are behind them. But that doesn't mean that their talent has left them.

Playing up and down the east coast, Elon club baseball competes in the National Club Baseball Association (NCBA) with club teams from all over the country. The team plays in the Mid-Atlantic-South Conference along with two in-state rivals. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and East Carolina University both paid a visit to Elon in the spring, both to play a three-game series.

The Pirates came to Elon as the No. 1 team in the nation. In the past, ECU has had their club team players drafted into the major leagues. But when they came to Elon, they got more than they could handle. Elon was able to down the Pirates 7-4 behind some clutch batting late in the game as the Phoenix handed ECU its only loss of the season at the time. ECU would not see the losing column again until the title game, where they were defeated in extra innings.

Elon also hosted a very good UNC Chapel Hill team and beat them 7-4 too, but that game had more meaning to it. Before the game, the team had retired the jersey worn by former teammate Breslin Wiley, who committed suicide on Oct. 27, 2017. With his mother Georgia and father Michael in the stands, the team took a moment to reflect on their former teammate and, to many, their brother.

BASEBALL



Members of the Elon University club baseball team gather for a group photo after a fundraising event last year.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MATT PERSANTI

"We've been through the highest of highs and the lowest of lows, and it's brought us much closer together as a family," said sophomore catcher Chris Gaeta.

BATTER UP

In the 2017-18 season, club baseball had a 8-7 record, finishing third in the league. Their first game this season is set for Feb. 18 against UNC Chapel Hill.

RUNNERS-UP

1. Rugby
2. Soccer
3. Field Hockey

GOT OPINIONS?

**ELON NEWS NETWORK
WANTS YOUR VOICE TO
BE HEARD.**

**NO EXPERIENCE
NEEDED.**

**RELEVANT & TIMELY
TOPICS.**

BECOME PUBLISHED.

**SHARE YOUR
EXPERIENCES & VIEWS.**

**SERVE YOUR
COMMUNITY.**

WHY WRITE:

“

WRITING FOR THE OPINIONS SECTION IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE YOUR PERSPECTIVE REACH A WIDER COMMUNITY. YOU'LL LEARN HOW TO CRAFT AN ARGUMENT AND HOPEFULLY, LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT YOURSELF IN THE PROCESS.

STEPHANIE NTIM
OPINIONS DIRECTOR

“

THE OPINIONS SECTION GIVES ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO ANALYZE ISSUES THAT AFFECT STUDENTS AND THE UNIVERSITY TO OFFER A PERSPECTIVE THAT PEOPLE MAY NOT HAVE CONSIDERED BEFOREHAND.

MACKENZIE WILKES
COLUMNIST

CONTACT OPINIONS DIRECTOR:
SNTIM@ELON.EDU

COME TO THE NEWSROOM:
MCEWEN 108

HANDEL'S MESSIAH



Come sing with us...

Join the

ELON *Chorale*

Open to all Elon students

Meet new friends

Sing Handel's masterpiece with orchestra

The University Chorale (MUS 102A) meets

MW, 1:40-3:20

Simply register for the class

contact Dr. Stephen Futrell for more info: sfutrell@elon.edu

ELON NEWS NETWORK
INTRODUCES

ENN RADIO

AVAILABLE ON SPOTIFY, SOUNDCLOUD AND APPLE MUSIC

“

WITH THE NEW PODCAST, OUR AUDIENCE HAS A WAY TO TAKE A PEEK BEHIND THE CURTAIN OF OUR REPORTING. THE AUDIO MEDIUM GIVES US A GREAT NEW PLATFORM FOR TELLING MORE STORIES THAT MATTER TO ELON.

ALEX HAGER
SENIOR, ENN RADIO HOST



BEST FITNESS CLASS

Hannah Massen

Elon News Network | @massenhannah

ZUMBA IS LESS LIKE a fitness class and more like a dance party.

In a typical class, participants learn Zumba moves while dancing to music from all around the world, including popular hip-hop hits, Latin American songs and more.

According to sophomore Zumba instructor Angelica Collazo, the full-body workout offers students the chance to exercise, destress and feel confident.

“Zumba is more than just a workout. It’s about having fun, enjoying yourself,” Collazo said. “Participants go not just because they want to get a good workout in but because they want to dance, because they want to feel sexy, they want to feel confident, which makes it completely different from all the other fitness classes.”

Elon students have the option to participate in weekly Zumba classes with an annual fitness class pass from Campus Recreation and Wellness. According to senior Zumba instructor Laney Rubenstein, students can also join in on the fun for free at Zumbathon, the culminating event of Love Your Body Week, which is a celebration of personal health and wellness.

Rubenstein recommends that Zumba beginners take the dance moves as fast or slow as they need.

“This is your time to get out of your head, get a good workout in, have fun, just let your mind go and stop worrying about everything else in your life,” Rubenstein said. “We think of it as this mindfulness activity rather than an extreme workout.”

ZUMBA



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA WILLINGHAM

Junior Zumba instructor Noor Irshaidat leads her group through the dance routine.

EXERCISE WITH FRIENDS

For more information about Zumba and other group exercise classes, visit the Campus Recreation and Wellness website.

BACK TO BACK

Zumba was also voted Elon University’s Best Fitness Class of 2017.

Junior Zumba instructor Noor Irshaidat leads her group through the dance routine.

BEST PERFORMANCE

Deirdre Kronschnabel

Elon News Network | @kronschnabel

THE EIGHT-TIME TONY AWARD-WINNING musical “Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street” is the winner of Best Performance this year, and with good reason. The show guaranteed goosebumps.

Behind the scenes, the cast pushed themselves on complicated arrangements and unfamiliar vocal styles. A story of a broken barber exacting bloody revenge, “Sweeney Todd” features a dark storyline built on Steven Sondheim’s purposeful discombobulation of notes. The music was extremely complex.

“It was all challenging, but not impossible,” said senior ensemble member Breia Kelley.

The audience left the theater ensnared by the gruesome plot. The cast worked tirelessly on nailing the notes to get them there.

“Every single bar is there for a purpose that propels the story forward,” said senior Justin Norwood, who played Adolfo Pirelli. “It makes the music a lot harder to learn for the actors because there’s often chords and melodies that don’t necessarily make logical, musical sense. It was written to be a complete story, not a smash-hit soundtrack.”

Each character had its own set of challenges. Some had to juggle high Cs or Ds. Some actors would sit alone in a practice room, plunking out the notes and singing the same songs over and over.

“Musically-speaking, it’s trickier than a lot of other musicals,” said music director Valerie Maze.

And the hard work paid off.

“It was a wall of sound,” said Katie Brnjac, sophomore ensemble member.

“You hear it, and it tingles the back of your spine,” said sophomore ensemble member Audrey Flowers.

“Sweeney Todd” was directed by Catherine McNeela, choreographed by Linda Sabo and ran from Oct. 25 to 27 and Nov. 1 to 3 in McCrory Theatre. Alec Michael Ryan played the titular role.

“SWEENEY TODD”



HISTORY OF SWEENEY TODD

“Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street” is a musical thriller that first opened on Broadway in 1979.

PAST MUSICALS

1. Cats
2. Hello Dolly
3. Oklahoma

During the first rehearsal of “Sweeney Todd,” Alec Michael Ryan, who plays the titular character, reunites with his old razors on Oct. 22, 2018.

LIAM O'CONNOR | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SHOPPING

BEST SHOPPING CENTER

Kait MacIntyre

Elon News Network | @macintyrekait

IF SHOPPING IS YOUR hobby, Alamance Crossing is the place to be, and this year, it was Elon students' pick for Best Shopping Center of 2019.

Alamance Crossing is conveniently located seven minutes from Elon University and provides a great place for students to go spend time together. The shopping center is home to about 50 retail stores for shoppers to enjoy.

Freshman Colleen Burns recalled some of her favorite spots in Alamance Crossing.

"I'll say American Eagle," Burns said. "The people were very friendly and gave me a lot of perfume scent handwipes when we left."

Alamance Crossing is not just a shopping mall. Sit-down restaurants like Olive Garden are mixed with fast food restaurants like Burger King, and the variety of eateries offers a perfect combination to satisfy customers' food cravings while they shop.

On sunny days, there's nowhere better to be than Alamance Crossing. Shops are connected by outdoor sidewalks, allowing customers to enjoy the outside weather and their indoor shopping at the same time.

"It was very relaxing because it was outside too. The vibe was very vibey and cool," Burns said.

The matching buildings, coupled with the outdoor element, create a picturesque feeling.

Alamance Crossing offers daily deals and clearances in each store. On its website, shoppers are able to find a list of current sales and other deals.

Another gem conveniently housed in the shopping center is Carousel Cinemas. After a long day of shopping, visitors can watch a movie in the theater and enjoy a cold soda and popcorn.

Shopping has become a staple in student life at Elon. Alamance Crossing offered these opportunities in 2018 and will continue to offer them in 2019.

ALAMANCE CROSSING



KAIT MACINTYRE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SHOPPING SPREES

Location: 1080 Piper Lane**Distance:** Seven-minute drive**Hours:**

Mon.-Sat.: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Sun.: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

BY THE NUMBERS

50

retail stores are located at Alamance Crossing and call Burlington, North Carolina home.

The main center of Alamance Crossing, which was voted Elon's Best Shopping Center of 2019.

BEST GROCERY STORE

Alexandra Schonfeld

Elon News Network | @aschonfeld096

HARRIS TEETER



ALEXANDRA SCHONFELD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Shoppers walk down the aisles at Harris Teeter, which was voted Elon's Best Grocery Store of 2019.

Elon students come back to campus for the school year — or even after a break — it's noticed.

"Elon is big business for us," she said. "We have to prepare for [the start of school], scheduling and stuff — when school is in.

When you guys come back from winter break, we know it."

There is not much you can't find at Harris Teeter, and at just six minutes away from campus, it's no surprise that it's Elon students' favorite grocery store of 2018.

GETTING GROCERIES

Location: New Market Square, 2727 S. Church St., Burlington**Distance:** Six-minute drive**Hours:** Open 24 hours

BACK-TO-BACK

Harris Teeter was voted Elon's Best Grocery Store two years in a row.

STAYING ON BUDGET IS something many college students keep in mind when going throughout their day-to-day life. Whether it's filling up your gas tank, grabbing a drink with friends or stocking your refrigerator with groceries for the week — it's always exciting to find a good deal.

This is a reason a representative for Harris Teeter thinks Elon University students voted Harris Teeter as the Best Grocery Store of 2018. Unfortunately, due to company regulations, she could not give her name.

Harris Teeter's VIC card is available to all shoppers and gives access to various deals throughout the store — but what many may not know is that students get an additional discount if they register their VIC card as a student card. For the first few months of the school year, that discount is 10 percent, but even now, if you visit the Customer Service desk you can get 5 percent off your entire purchase as a student.

Harris Teeter not only has a bakery, deli, fresh fish and meat, but they also have a wide selection of toiletries, kitchenware and even a pharmacy. It's easy to get lost in the store's aisles, and according to the store representative, there are plans to expand the Church Street location up to 75,000 feet. The new space will include a pizza bar, beer on tap and much more.

Another reason she thinks Elon students gravitate toward Harris Teeter is the selection of organic produce and gluten-free options — something she is not sure is as available at other supermarkets in the area.

And while Harris Teeter serves as the neighborhood supermarket for many residents of Elon and Burlington at large, when

STAFF PICKS

BEST TREE ON CAMPUS

Jack Haley
Sports Director | @jackhaley17

NESTLED NEATLY AND MODESTLY between the back of Alamance Building and the front steps of Long Building is the best tree on campus. Funnily enough, the tree is on a campus whose name in Hebrew translates to “Oak,” but it is not an oak tree that stands the mightiest.

The low-hanging and strong branches of the magnolia tree create a space underneath the cover of the canopy it creates that avails itself to visitors of all kinds to share a hint of secrecy in the shade.

The entanglement of branches that reach from the ground to seemingly stretch as tall as the brick-bound buildings that surround it are perfect for climbing. Easy access from the base and hefty offshoots give climbers confidence that they are not going to damage the tree or themselves in the process. The evergreen tree serves as a reminder to those walking among its tall, barren neighbors in the dead of winter that spring will always be coming again soon.

More than 20 feet off the ground, you can find the names and initials of lovers that have made the trek up the trunk. Letters encased in hearts serve as a reminder to students of those who have come before us and that love is still in the leaves.

If one climbs three branches up on the right, ducking underneath lower-hanging and misleading branches one will find the perfect branch on which to perch. With a branch to rest your feet on, another to provide back support, it is the perfect escape from the world.

In the spring when the weather is nicer, do yourself a favor and make time to get in that tree. The shade allows the perfect amount of warmth to keep you and your climbing mate comfortable. Better yet, travel to the location in the rain. As if acting as a shield, the cloud-touching bark and leaves will embrace you and protect you from the precipitation as it falls over this beautiful campus.

LOST IN THE LEAVES



ALEXANDRA SCHONFELD | MANAGING EDITOR

MORE ABOUT MAGNOLIA

The stately tree is native to eastern North Carolina. Also known as an umbrella tree, the tree produces white flowers in the springtime.

CARVED WITH LOVE

In the upper branches of the tree are carvings left by lovers from years ago.

The magnolia tree provides shade for anyone attempting to escape the bustle of campus.

BEST SECRET STUDY SPOT

Maya Eaglin
News Director | @meaglin14

YOU COULD TAKE YOUR study sessions or group projects to the Belk Library where the knowledge and prestige of academia surrounds you. Or you might fancy Global Commons’ grandeur and sophisticated jazz music for a place to finish your work. But in my four years here at Elon University, I’ve constantly been searching for rooms or spaces with the following requirements:

1. Limited distractions of noise and people
2. Positive energy
3. A sense of isolation from main campus
4. A whiteboard, printer and computer available.

The most frustrating part about finding a place to study is that the most obvious spaces are always crowded. Where does such a place exist, that’s not only accessible but has the resources you need to get your work done?

In my opinion, it’s downstairs in Schar 001 — a glass-enclosed classroom with some special features. First, there is a whiteboard that takes up two entire walls. This is great for creating study guides and term quizzes for yourself. You can easily write out the vocabulary or formulas you need to memorize, erase the most important information and study by filling it out independently.

Second, this classroom has surround sound. If you do enjoy music, it comes from speakers in the ceiling and can add to your study environment.

This classroom is great because there is a computer and a printer right down the hall. There are no windows, which reduce outside distractions. It’s important to note that the pressures of academia can help motivate students, but I’ve also seen those same pressures destroy their mental health. Know your limits and capabilities. Ask for help, don’t skip meals

SCHAR CONFERENCE CENTER



MAYA EAGLIN | NEWS DIRECTOR

STUDY SPOT REQUIREMENTS

1. Limited distractions of noise and people
2. Positive energy
3. A sense of isolation from main campus
4. A whiteboard, printer and computer available

In the basement of Schar Atrium is one of Elon’s best kept secret study spots.

to finish working or studying. Your life and health must be a priority. Freshman Joycelyn Bentley said the advice she would give to the next class of Elon students is to understand their own habits.

“Know what environments you like to study in. I personally can’t really be an effective per-

son in a coffee shop,” Bentley said.

Everyone’s study habits are different, and obviously you will have to be the ultimate decision maker for where you chose to do your work. But I’ve had a pretty good track record studying in a few of these places, and I hope others can make use of them too.

BEST PRACTICE ROOM

Nina Fleck

Copy Chief | @ninamfleck

ONE OF MY BIGGEST fears coming to Elon University, or leaving home for college in general, was that as a non-music major, I wouldn't have access to a piano.

But my low expectations of finding a piano to play were surmounted my first full day living on campus.

That day, I learned there is a cluster of small rooms on the second floor of Center for the Arts (CFA), each equipped with at least one piano, intended for music and performing arts majors to rehearse and express themselves on their own time.

The practice rooms quickly became a sacred space for me to honor the art. Over time, I got to know all the pianos individually. And sometime last spring, when all the pianos — some of which were digital pianos, which don't require regular tuning — were replaced, I began the process anew.

For me, the best practice room at Elon is determined by which holds the best-quality piano.

Because of its size and sound, the best piano accessible to students — music and non-music majors alike — is the Boston baby grand located in P1.

The only other practice room with a baby grand piano is P4, but it's reserved by lock and key for students who take lessons.

All other practice rooms in the CFA host at least one upright piano. A couple of them contain electronic keyboards in addition to an upright piano.

But at this time of year, I've found that most are out of tune.

Even the baby grand in P1 isn't entirely in tune. But it's fairly close, and because it's

CENTER FOR THE ARTS P1



Freshman Katie Grant uses the piano in Center for the Arts practice room P1 on Sunday, Jan. 20.

TED THOMAS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

larger in size, the sound it produces is better. Plus, its location next to the back stairs makes it a popular practice room for students.

If you're itching to play the keys, Elon offers lessons for non-music majors, and the practice rooms are almost always open.

CFA PRACTICE ROOMS

There are eight practice rooms available for students to use in the Center for the Arts.

LAST YEAR'S STAFF PICK

Our staff members wrote about the Best Tradition on Campus: College Coffee.

BEST FREE ACTIVITY

Maria Barreto

Elon News Network | @maria_abarreto

ELON UNIVERSITY'S SMALL-TOWN ENVIRONMENT is probably one of the things that draws people to it the most — the close-knit community, the inevitability of running into someone you know on the way to class and the possibility of running the entire town in less than half an hour.

But with that quality comes a few drawbacks, especially considering roughly 80 percent of the student population come from outside North Carolina and, more often than not, don't have a car.

This can leave many students feeling limited in the options they have for entertainment or nightlife without driving 10-15 minutes off campus or paying for an Uber. But there's one activity that rises above the rest — going to Turner Theatre.

If there's one thing I truly love, it's going to the movies — there's nothing better than sinking into a plush and sometimes scratchy theater seat with an armful of popcorn and candy and a ridiculously-sized soda, settling in to watch the two-hour flick of choice. But unfortunately, between busy class schedules and tickets and snacks running at unnecessarily high prices, going to the movies isn't as viable an option as it used to be.

And then Turner Theatre came along.

Turner Theatre embodies everything I love about going to the movies from the comfort of my own campus. I don't worry anymore about missing the latest releases or not having time to go watch them at Alamance Crossing because they'll likely be streamed at Turner Theatre in a matter of weeks and I'll have the opportunity to watch them for free. Last semester alone, I was able to watch major blockbusters such as "Crazy Rich Asians," "Avengers: Infinity War" and "BlacKkKlansman" at Turner Theatre — the last of which wasn't even shown at Southeast Cinemas

TURNER THEATRE



ZACHARY OHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

over in Alamance Crossing.

And the easy access to mainstream films isn't the only amazing feature of our campus' very own movie theatre. Turner Theatre is somewhere various groups on campus can host educational screenings of documentaries or films and host meaningful post-viewing discussions. The theatre

also allows student creators a space to showcase their own film projects in a setting a much more fitting than a classroom projector.

Turner Theatre has an amazing versatility in that it streams a variety of films for everyone to enjoy — the fact that it's free and right in the middle of campus is just the icing on the cake.

SCHEDULE

The theatre functions Thursdays through Sundays when the university is in session. It is free for all students and community members.

Students watch an afternoon showing of the movie "A Quiet Place" in Turner Theatre on Sunday, Oct. 21.

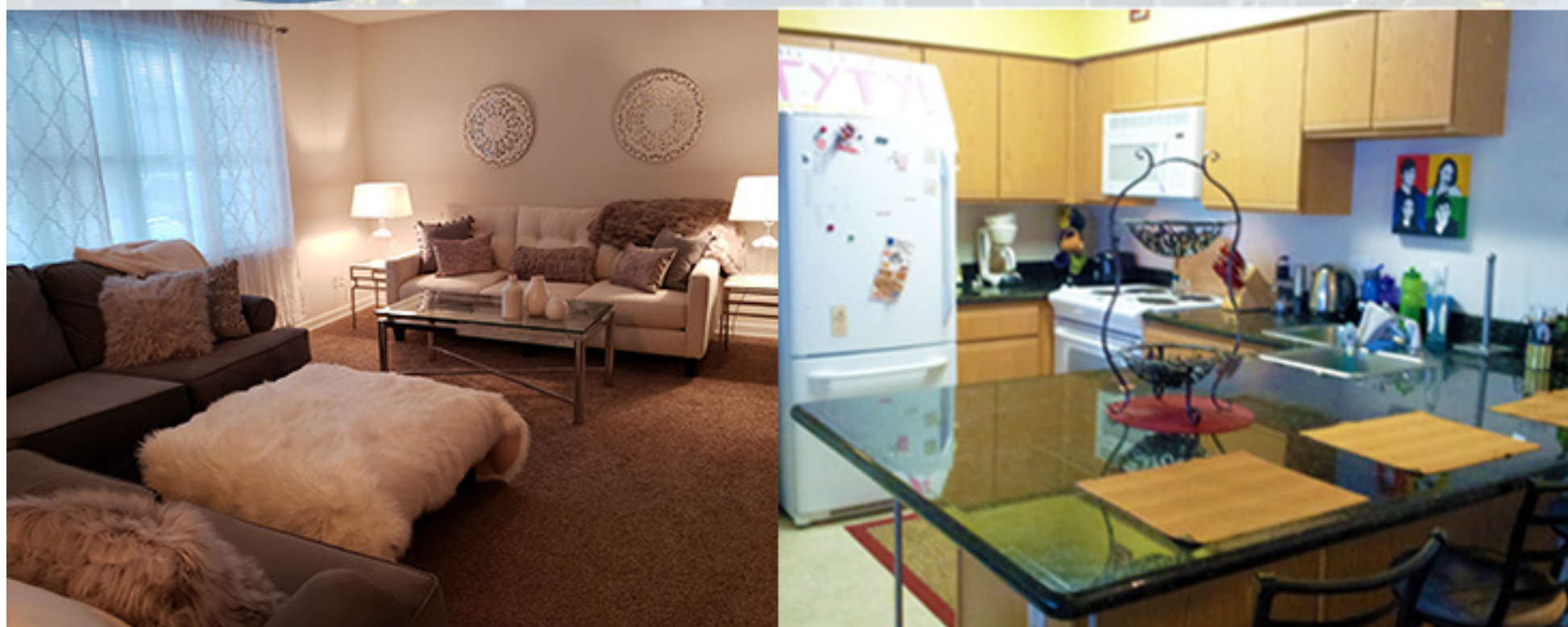


PROVENCE & EVELLIEN

TOWNHOMES & APARTMENTS

Going semester
abroad?
Get your housing
NOW!
336-266-6666

More economical than
living on campus!



WASHER/DRYER IN EACH UNIT | WALKING DISTANCE TO CAMPUS | 4 BEDROOMS

(336) 266-6666 | www.evellien.com