

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2018
ELON, NORTH CAROLINA

THE PENDULUM

growing Elon's ecological footprint through campus sustainability

Earth Day is just a day; Earth Week is just a week, but sustainability is a constant concern, especially on a college campus

NINA FLECK | Copy Chief | @elonnewsnetwork



IN LIEU OF EARTH Day on April 22, the Office of Sustainability is putting on Earth Week: a celebration for the earth, and a reminder that Elon University's efforts to protect the environment persist year-round.

Events will be held throughout the week to raise awareness of sustainability issues and the initiatives the school offers to combat them.

"I don't think Elon falls short in terms of sustainability, but I think that is a common misconception that Elon students have," said senior Kate Pearce, the Eco-Reps coordinator. "I think that oftentimes individuals do not know everything that the university is doing to be more sustainable and to make it easier for students to be sustainable."

The office addresses an array of everyday environmental concerns, such as food waste and production, carbon emissions, building efficiency, indoor and outdoor air quality, climate and waste on the whole — trash, recycling and compost.

In order to sustain all these things, there are more considerations than the environment alone.

"At Elon, ... sustainability is meeting the needs of the present without compromising future generations' abilities to meet their own needs," said Kelly Harer, the assistant director of sustainability for education and outreach. "When most people think of sustainability, they think of the environmental aspects, ... but it's also important to consider the social aspects and the economic aspects. ... We call those



FILE PHOTO BY ELON NEWS NETWORK
The solar panels at Loy Farm are one example of how Elon strives to be more sustainable.

See **SUSTAINABILITY** | pg. 4



MICHAEL KIMBERLING | DESIGN CHIEF

ELONTHON: breaking down the numbers

A look behind the scenes at how the philanthropy exceeded their goal

Selina Guevara
Elon News Network | @selenaguevara

A buzzer sounds in Alumni Gym, signifying that \$100 more have been raised for Duke Children's Hospital.

The crowd cheers, and the buzzer sounds again. More cheers, but the buzzer doesn't stop.

It rings 50 times in a row, and

sophomore Caroline Free begins to tear up.

Free flew to Elon University for the weekend from her home in Pennsylvania in order to participate in Elonthon, Elon's 24-hour dance marathon. She's taken the semester off because she was diagnosed with Hodgkins lymphoma, a type of blood cancer, and is undergoing treatment at home this spring.

"I knew I definitely wanted to come back because I was seeing firsthand what people are going through and you never want to see a child go through all the tests and poking and prodding

FUNDS RAISED

\$452K

Participants of the 24-hour dance marathon raised \$452,965.18. \$100,000 more than last year.

that I had to do," Free said.

Free likes Elonthon because it feels personal to her, both because of her own experience, and the chance she gets to listen to children's stories.

"Kids are there at Elonthon to speak and I think it makes it a lot closer to the heart instead of just mailing money halfway across the country," Free said.

When buzzers stopped ringing at the end of "power hour," one of the event's fundraising pushes, Elonthon participants

See **ELONTHON** | pg. 5



NEWS • PAGE 6

Smith residence hall: the good, the bad and the ugly



LIFESTYLE • PAGE 11

Elon sophomore uses sister's memory as motivation



SPORTS • PAGE 15

Elon runs, jumps and throws at Phoenix Invitational

THE PENDULUM

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CALENDAR

APRIL 18

Brother Ali "Race, Faith and Hip Hop"
7:30 P.M.
McKinnon Hall

APRIL 19

LEED Tour: Dwight C. Schar Hall and Steers Pavillion
1 P.M.
Schar Hall

Elon University Choral Masterworks Concert
7:30 P.M.
McCrary Theater

APRIL 20

Party for the Planet
1:30 P.M.
Lakeside Plaza

Elon University Baseball vs. Hartford
6 P.M.
Latham Park

APRIL 21

Elon University Men's Golf at CAA Championships
8 P.M.
Raleigh

Chik'n Pick'n
2 P.M.
Danieley Neighborhood

APRIL 23

Contemporary Play Reading Series
7 P.M.
Isabella Cannon Center

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WHEN WE PUBLISH:

The Pendulum publishes weekly on Wednesdays.

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GAMES

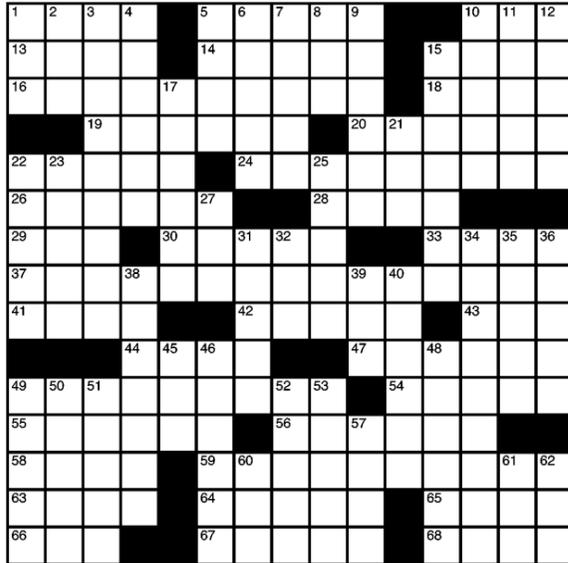
FOR RELEASE APRIL 18, 2018

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
1 ___ Romeo: Italian car
5 Machu Picchu people
10 ___ Plains
13 Copier room quantity
14 Spanish peak
15 With 27-Down, Captain Picard
16 What constant stress does, healthwise
18 Disney woman loosely based on Andersen's Snow Queen
19 Draw out
20 Flustered state
22 Bathroom fixture
24 Old West folklore cowboy
26 FedEx alternative
28 Arsenal inventory
29 "What was ___ saying?"
30 Japanese rolls
33 Dip ___ in: test
37 Things gathered by aficionados ... or what the ends of 16-, 24-, 49- and 59-Across can be?
41 Patella's place
42 Decorate
43 Video game letters
44 N.Y. Cosmos org.
47 Wee bit
49 Very expensive
54 Indian ___
55 Enthusiastic reply to "Who knows the answer?"
56 More lax
58 Muscat money
59 Taunts on the field
63 Barracks beds
64 Forest fixtures
65 Citrus hybrid
66 Brooklyn ___, N.Y.
67 Medicinal plant
68 Techie, often

- DOWN**
1 Co-star of Jackie on "The Honeymooners"
2 ___ & Perrins steak sauce
3 Happy face that's put on
4 Bedelia of kiddie lit
5 Apple choice
6 "Reward" for poor service
7 20 fins
8 Braves, on sports news crawls
9 Once in a long while
10 Indian city on the Yamuna River
11 Studio support
12 Doghouse "Don't come any closer!"
15 Water-propelled craft
17 "Truman" actor
21 Belief ending
22 General Motors brand
23 ___ Martin: British car
25 Tahrir Square city
27 See 15-Across
31 Follow furtively
32 Mason's tray
34 Youngster's time of life
35 Luxury timepiece
36 City on the Ruhr
38 Soup legumes
39 Most Soc. Sec. recipients
40 Secret to the max
45 Give a leg up
46 Lawn care giant
48 Post-winter river thaw
49 Canoe wood
50 Nincompoop
51 Kids on a farm?
52 First name in daytime TV
53 Arcade coin
57 Mount of Greek myth
60 "___ You Lonesome Tonight?"
61 Camera type, for short
62 Put in a secret place



By Agnes Davidson and C.C. Burnikel 4/18/18

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY - ELONTHON BREAKS \$100K



AUSTIN KREEGER | ELON NEWS NETWORK

Students dance at the Elonthon fundraiser, 12 years after breaking six figures for the first time.

When Elonthon concluded at 6 p.m. April 14, the Elonthon executive team announced they had raised a total of \$452,964.18 — a total of \$100,000 more than last year. But this isn't the first time the fundraiser has broken records. In 2006, the Elon University Elonthon event broke six figures for the first time, raising more than \$117,000 after shooting for a goal of \$50,000. Kristen Laramie, a junior on the Elonthon executive committee at the time, dealt with more than nine

months of logistical road bumps when organizing the event but in the end said all the time and effort that went into the event was worth it. "We broke six figures for the first time," Laramie said. "That was really exciting for us." Laramie said the highlight of the event was that after the hours of dedication, Elonthon participants could walk away knowing there was \$117,000 worth of smiles from the children and their families the money would go toward.

RAISING THE BAR

On April 14, 2006, Elonthon participants overshot their goal of \$50K to raise more than \$100K.

NEWS BRIEFS

Alumni excellence recognized

On April 14, young alumni were honored and recognized as the Top 10 Under 10 Alumni of 2018. The awards were established in 2011 as a way to celebrate alumni from the past decade who stand out as having a significant impact on their community and continuing to contribute to the Elon community even after graduating.

They were joined by family, friends and mentors as President Connie Book gave celebratory remarks.

"I'm enormously proud of our alumni accomplishments and of our faculty and staff when I hear those stories of taking time, one at a time, with students and making a difference in their lives and setting a trajectory for their careers," Book said.

The alumni honored were Andie Diemer '10, Daniel Brown '09, Bernie Coston '08, Ryan Guthy '09, Stephanie Bement Gronewoller '12, Molly Heffernen '11, Greg Honan '14, Stephanie Marken '08, Stephanie Robinson '11 and Jasmine Turner '15.

Elon Law announces speaker lineup

The Elon University School of Law will be hosting two of the most prominent U.S. legal figures to speak to its students. They will be speaking about how lawyers are powerful forces in shaping society.

The first guest is Alan Dershowitz, Harvard Law School professor emeritus and active commentator in the media. He will address the school at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 13.

The second speaker is Loretta Lynch, the first African American woman to become Attorney General of the United States and renowned former federal prosecutor. Lynch will speak at the Law School at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 28, 2019, in the Elon Law Library.

The speakers will visit the Elon Law School as part of the Distinguished Leadership Lecture Series from the Joseph. M. Bryan Foundation.

Psychology professor publishes articles in Psychology and Aging

Amy Overman, associate professor of psychology and the associate director for the Center for Advancement of Teaching & Learning, recently published two peer-reviewed articles in a special edition of Psychology and Aging that concentrate on age-related differences in associative memory.

The journal is a subset of the American Psychological Association and is a leading outlet pertaining to peer-reviewed articles on the topic of age-related cognitive changes.

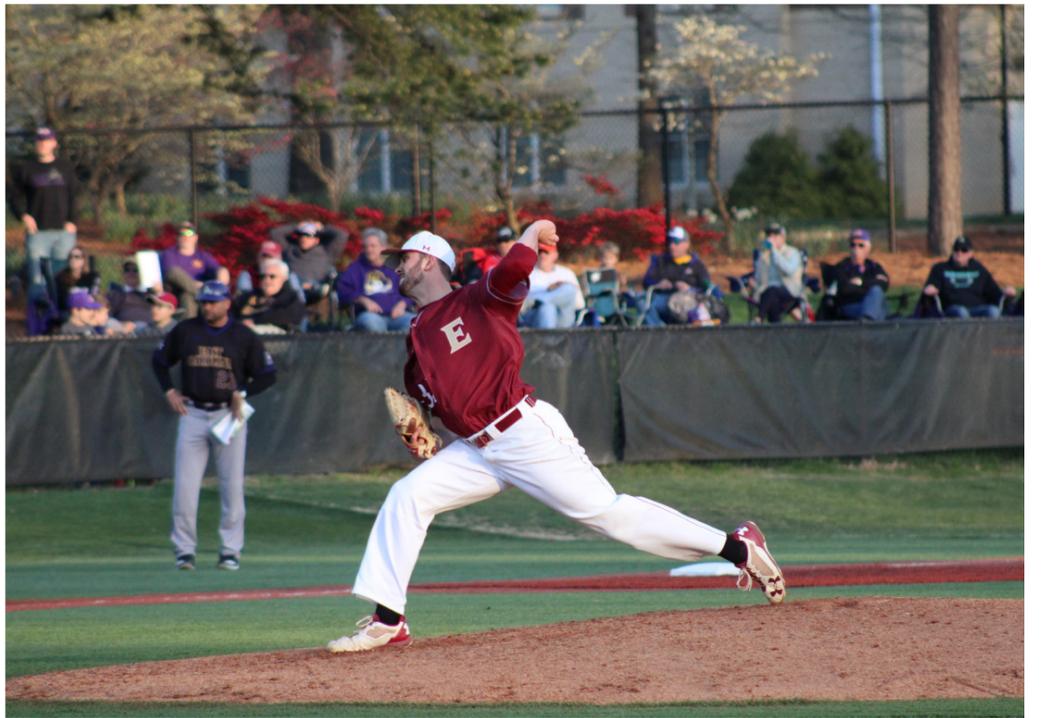
Overman's article, "Older adults' associative memory is modified by manner of presentation at encoding and retrieval" was conducted in conjunction with John McCormick-Huhn and Nancy Dennis of Pennsylvania State University and Elon seniors Joanna Salerno and Alexandra Giglio.

The final article in the special edition, "Modeling age differences in effects of pair repetition and proactive interface using a single parameter," was co-authored with Joseph Stephens, associative professor of psychology, at North Carolina A&T University.



MAGGIE BROWN | POLITICS EDITOR

Junior Ellie Bennett prepares to jump for her pole vault at the Phoenix Invitational on April 15 at the Jerry and Jeanne Robertson Track and Field Complex. | SEE MORE ON PAGE 15



SAMANTHA STEINMAN | ELON NEWS NETWORK

Junior left-hander Owen Lorenz deals against East Carolina University on April 11 at Latham Park.



The Phi Mu sorority performs their "La La Land"-themed Greek Week dance in Alumni Gym April 10. Phi Mu placed third in the large group category.

SOPHIA ORTIZ | NEW MEMBER COORDINATOR



SOPHIA ORTIZ | NEW MEMBER COORDINATOR

The Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority dances to a running-themed routine at the Greek Week dance competition in Alumni Gym April 10. Their performance placed second in the large group category.



CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY

FILE PHOTO BY ELON NEWS NETWORK

SUSTAINABILITY | from cover

the three Ps, which is people, planet and prosperity, and ... we need all three of those things to be fully sustainable.”

This week, the Office of Sustainability has partnered with organizations on campus such as Elon Dining, Elon Outdoors, the Student Professional Development Center (SPDC) and various organizations to educate students and community members about sustainability, the collaborative efforts on Elon’s campus and how individuals can do their part.

Party for the Planet, which will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. April 20 at Lakeside Plaza, involves the most collaboration across these organizations.

“The SPDC will be there talking about green jobs. Elon Outdoors will be there talking about how nature and being outside is good for your mental health and physical health,” Harer said. “We’ll have a smoothie bike there, ... that you’ll pedal to power the blender, and you’ll make your own smoothie and see how much energy it actually takes to make that smoothie.”

In addition to these topics, the Office of Sustainability is also bringing to light the amount of waste students produce, much of which comes from food.

According to Somini Sengupta of The New York Times, 1.3 billion tons of food are wasted globally per year. This is about one third of all food grown.

So from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 18 at Lakeside Dining Hall, students will have to weigh their waste.

“The most food waste that we have is from post-consumer,” Harer said. “We measure all of our food waste at Elon, ... the stems of peppers and those kinds of things, and ... when a student comes and eats half of a sandwich and throws out the rest.”

Rather than placing plates on rotating dish racks, students will first have to scrape their plates into a bin, quantifying not only the amount of food they wasted during lunch but also the amount of food students waste every day.

“We did this last month as well, and we wasted 131 pounds of food waste in ... just that one lunch period,” Harer said. “We decided to try to do it every month. We thought that would have a

bigger impact on the student body.” But efforts to minimize food waste and sustain production don’t end there. Elon’s Loy Farm utilizes Grow Bio-intensive methods, which focus on soil health and organic materials for optimal harvests.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. wastes more than \$160 billion a year in food. But Loy Farm provides food for Elon Dining and for Campus Kitchen, a club that harvests those crops and uses them to cook meals for the Allied Churches of Alamance County.

“They don’t waste any food, and they receive donations from Elon Dining,” said sophomore Jordan Horton, a cook team leader for Campus Kitchen. “They compost all food waste that they do have, like any stems and plant parts like roots, etc. ... and all the food ... is donated to Allied Churches, so there’s nothing going to waste.”



I THINK THAT OFTENTIMES INDIVIDUALS DO NOT KNOW EVERYTHING THAT THE UNIVERSITY IS DOING TO BE MORE SUSTAINABLE AND TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR STUDENTS TO BE SUSTAINABLE.

KATE PEARCE
SENIOR, ECO-REPS
COORDINATOR

Since 15 percent of people in Alamance County are food-insecure according to Southern University Consortium, this is a prominent way in which the university addresses sustainability in the social regard.

“Last year, they harvested 4,600 pounds of food that went right out into Alamance County,” Harer said.

But food that inevitably goes to waste goes to Brooks Contractor, a commercial compost center, along with food containers from dining locations on campus such as Lakeside and Qdoba.

“We can compost things like chicken bones and meat and dairy. A lot of times in a backyard composting, we wouldn’t be able to compost

those, but we can here,” Harer said. “And Elon Dining, ... the majority of the things they give out is compostable, like the to-go containers, ... green plastic utensils, anything that will say ‘compostable’ probably in tiny little letters.”

Note that the black utensils at Winter Garden are not compostable, though the food and drink containers are.

Also on Wednesday, the Office of Sustainability will continue spreading the spirit of sustainability by partnering with Elon Outdoors for Sustainable S’mores Outdoors.

“We’ll have some Eco-Reps who are there to talk about sustainability, and we bring sustainable food, so fair-trade certified chocolate, vegan marshmallows and all that good stuff,” Harer said.

And on April 19, Harer will lead a tour of Schar Hall and Steers Pavilion, two of Elon’s newest buildings, at 1 p.m.

“We have a green building policy on campus, so any new buildings that come along are required to be LEED-certified, which is Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design,” Harer said. “This is our 27th certified project on campus.”

Elon’s green building policy states new construction projects and renovations that occupy 8,000 or more square feet will achieve at least LEED Silver certification.

LEED-certified buildings are ranked based on aspects that make a building sustainable, including energy efficiency, low-flow water fixtures, the use of local and recycled materials, temperature regulation and ensuring that post-construction materials were recycled.

“There’s a lot of work behind the scenes with energy use,” Harer said. “For example, we are in a pilot program for energy conservation action, which is where we’re piloting 10 buildings. After a certain time, we raise the temperatures — we put the temperature higher in the summer and lower in the winter to conserve energy so that the heating and cooling won’t be running constantly. It will only run when people are actually in the building.”

Elon’s master sustainability plan includes a comprehensive plan to become a carbon-neutral campus by 2037. Students can learn more about sustainability by visiting the Office of Sustainability’s website, www.elon.edu/sustainability, and get involved with sustainability events by visiting the office’s social media outlets.



CORY WELLER | ELON NEWS NETWORK

ELON FOOD WASTE

131

Lakeside Dining Hall generated 131 pounds of food waste from one 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. lunch period on April 18.

GLOBAL FOOD WASTE

1.3B

According to the New York Times, 1.3 billion tons of food are wasted globally per year. This is about one third of all food grown.

LOY FARM HARVEST

4,600

Last year alone, Loy Farm harvested 4,600 pounds of food that was then donated to the Allied Churches of Alamance County.



CORY WELLER | ELON NEWS NETWORK

Top: Crops such as lettuce and peppers grow in Elon’s greenhouse to be distributed to local churches. **Bottom:** Though Elon may be cold, plants don’t have to worry as the greenhouse provides suitable conditions for them to grow.

Professor breaks down effects of Syrian chemical attack

Sandy Marshall, assistant professor of geography, offers insight on the Syrian civil war

Austin Kreeger
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

This April, evidence of chemical attacks on citizens by the Assad regime in Syria was uncovered. This took place in the city of Douma where nearly 70 people had died because of the gas.



Sandy Marshall

President Donald Trump responded by launching several missiles on locations in Syria last week. Sandy Marshall, assistant professor of geography, who holds a Master's degree in Middle Eastern Studies, explained the background of this ongoing issue and where it might lead next.

Q: What is the context of the current war in Syria? What is the role of the Assad regime?

A: At the start, the war began as a nonviolent political uprising against the oppressive Assad regime, which is an autocratic family dynasty. The current party took power in the 1940s while Bashar Al-Assad gained control in the 2000s. He was believed to be a reformer as he was trained in ophthalmology in the United Kingdom, but this changed as he began to



Syrians are evacuated on March 25, 2018, from Zamalka in Syria's eastern Al-Ghouta province outside Damascus.

crack down on political dissidence to show him and his family were going to maintain control.

After the events of the Arab Spring, starting in Tunisia but then spreading to Egypt and Libya and elsewhere, there was great hope among the Syrian people that they'd be able to also change their circumstances. This led to the uprising started by a group of teenage boys that wrote a graffiti, which said, "You're next, Doctor," the Doctor being Assad as he would be the next to fall among the leaders of Egypt and Tunisia.

Assad captured the boys and tortured them for days on end, including pulling their nails out. This caused massive outcry across the country as many nonviolent peaceful

protests began, which were met with force.

Since the Arms Struggle began, many proxies have become involved, such as Russia, Iran and the United States. Russia and Iran are both looking to exert more influence upon the area while the U.S. is looking to back up its allies in the Persian Gulf. What began as peaceful protests turned into a civil war and now has further escalated into a proxy war.

Q: There has been an ongoing issue of where Syrian refugees find safety. Where have they gone to seek asylum?

A: This year, about only a dozen Syrian refugees have been admitted to

the United States as the current administration has basically shut down the Syrian resettlement program. With the way this has been going, little seems like it will change for the U.S. to allow more refugees in. At the height of the refugee flows in 2015, about a million or so asylum seekers from Syria were looking for refuge in Europe. Since then, there's been extra efforts by Europeans to strengthen their borders to prevent that flow.

The countries that are facing the bulk of this crisis are Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey. Turkey has several million refugees while Jordan has a million and Lebanon about 600,000. These are small and not economically wealthy countries that are being forced to shoulder the burden, whereas other countries that are

signed up to the refugee convention should be doing much more.

Q: How might the conflict escalate and what the consequences might be?

A: The civil war and proxy war in Syria are already dangerous enough, but another issue could begin. There is a potential for the United States and Russian forces to interact and even open fire which would have devastating consequences.

Russia-U.S. relations are at an all-time low and some say are even worse than the end of the Cold War, which is why this recent military strike against chemical weapons facilities in Syria was actually restrained.

It is important to say that these strikes were not sanctioned by the U.N., so they are technically illegal under international law. Thus, they were very restrained and ineffective. The missiles basically hit some empty military facilities, and that was calculated because the U.S. military didn't want to risk suddenly hitting Russian forces.

It would be in Russia's interest to avoid the conflict with the U.S. and to settle the conflict diplomatically. Russia helped sign up Syria to the chemical weapons ban, which it violated, so Russia should take responsibility for that.

There are a couple of issues Russia, Syria and the United States can begin to talk about before they get to the big question of what comes after Bashar Al-Assad. There are avenues for diplomatic engagement, and it is vital now to begin them because as bad as the situation is, it could get a lot worse.

Elonthon raises over \$452K for Duke Children's Hospital

ELONTHON | from cover

had raised \$13,884 just by calling and texting their friends and family or posting on social media during that one-hour period.

Free thinks Elonthon brings together the campus community.

"I think it's a great way to get everyone involved, no matter what, whether you're in a sorority, fraternity, or on a sports team, it just brings everyone together," she said.

Elonthon's president, Sydney Epstein, was unavailable to comment about the event. Every committee member asked to comment declined, and referred ENN to Epstein.

Who's dancing?

On Elonthon's website, all 52 teams and their members are listed. An ENN analysis found that 65 percent of participants were registered with a Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) organization.

The actual percentage of students who are both Elonthon participants and members of FSL organizations is higher because some committee members are also affiliated students. According to the FSL website, 42 percent of Elon's campus are affiliated members of the FSL community.

Elonthon event planning committee and executive members made up 18 percent of the registered dancers, and the other 18 percent were dancers from other organizations or were not part of a team.

Where is the money coming from?

There is a mandatory fundraising minimum of \$250 for committee members and \$100 minimum for dancers who are not on a committee.

According to Elonthon's website, the 16 executive board members raised more than \$100,000.

Although the committee members only made up 18 percent of the participants, they fundraised almost half of the total money raised on their personal pages.

Teams registered with FSL raised 33 percent of the money, and teams from other organizations raised 3 percent of the total.

The highest individual fundraiser was Sophie Healy, an executive board member who raised \$51,038.

See the ENN breakdown of the fundraising by individual teams at elonnewsnetwork.com.

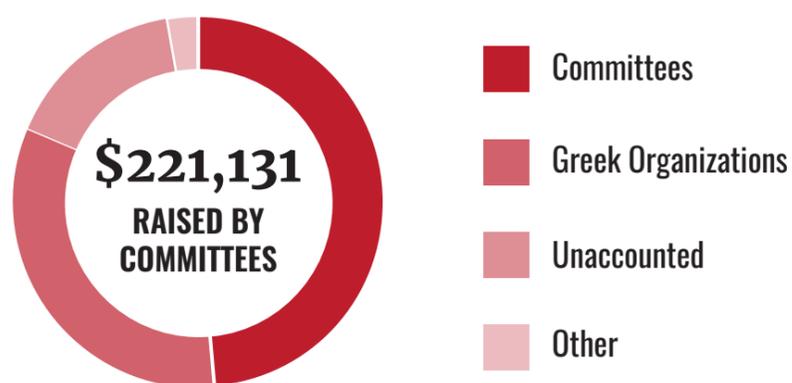
Where's the money going?

According to Epstein, every cent of the \$452,965.18 raised is donated to Duke Children's Hospital through the nonprofit Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

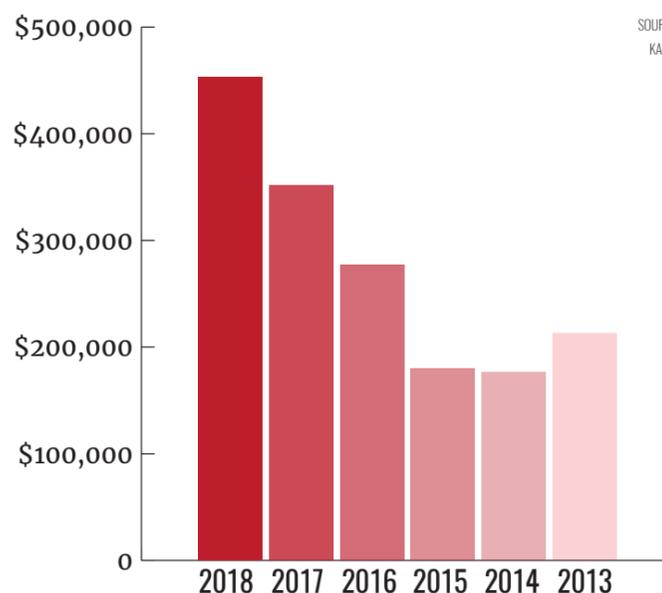
To put that number into perspective, the most recent data for Alamance Regional Hospital showed it took in \$176,035 in donations for the entire year in 2015. That's a third of what Elonthon raised for Duke in a few months.

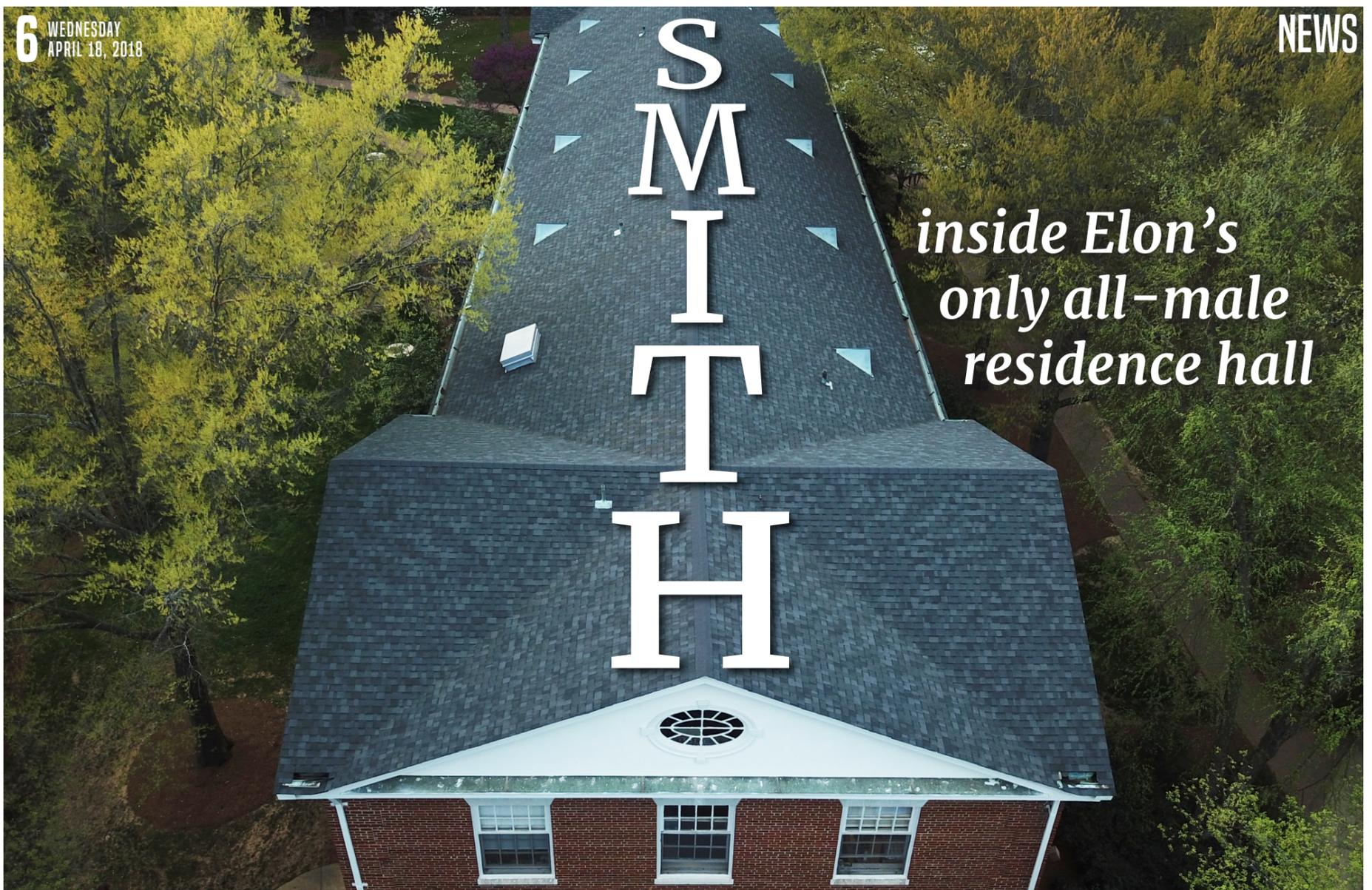
Epstein said all the operational costs of the event are covered by a \$25 registration fee that each dancer pays and a \$10,000 grant from Love's Food Shops. Committee members also work to get food and supplies donated.

ELONTHON FUNDRAISING



FUNDRAISING THROUGH THE YEARS





inside Elon's only all-male residence hall

CHRISTIAN GALVANO | ELON NEWS NETWORK

An aerial view of the Smith residence hall, an all-male residence hall known for being one of the oldest buildings on Elon's campus.

Breaking down the stereotypes, residents and traditions of Smith residence hall

Christian Galvano

Elon News Network | @chrisgalvano

Though many call it gross, some call it the best place to live on Elon University's campus.

Nestled between the Duke building and Carolina residence hall, Smith Hall is the Historic Neighborhood dormitory that has a unique characteristic.

It's the only place on campus where only males can live.

The residence hall has a history of broken water fountains and costly vandalism but is attractive to incoming freshmen that want the all-male experience. A 2012 YouTube video entitled "Elon University Dorms: Freshman Residence Life" included interviews of freshmen talking about what they think of Smith Hall and got over 45,000 views.

Not much has changed about the dormitory since then.

"One word to define Smith is sketchy," said Carolina resident Reese Karras. "You go in there, it smells kind of funky. There's been a lot of vandalism issues like the urinal and the water fountains. There's always cops walking through there, and you don't see that in Carolina."

Freshman Julia Reed, a friend of Karras, said, "But our best friends live in there."

This is widely understood about Smith Hall on campus. Though the hall is seemingly known for controversial vandalism, there is an aura of brotherhood and a sense of pride to live in the only all-male residence hall.

"I just like the community in Smith," said freshman resident Jack

Gormley. "I went to an all-guys high school, and this is an all-guys dorm so it kind of reminds me of that."

The dorm has been under heavy scrutiny from Residence Life following the recent 2017 fall semester incident in which a urinal was ripped out of the wall on the first-floor bathroom. Elon News Network published a story reporting a total of 23 students displaced because of the incident, which exceeded \$100,000 in damages.

The residence hall also carries a certain stereotype, one that every male who lives there is thought to embody. Freshman and second-floor resident Jack Martinides hates the stigma that Smith kids receive.

"When things happen in Carolina or HBB or Sloan or Virginia, they always blame Smith, and we don't really leave here that often. Whenever exit signs go down in other buildings, they just assume it's a Smith kid," he said.

Residents don't let the alleged stereotype dictate how they really are as individuals.

"I think I am a little different than most of the guys who live in Smith," said sophomore Alex Mock-Rossi. "I don't think it defines me."

When it comes to damage, some residents think the incentive to destroy university property comes from an idea to "continue the tradition" of Smith vandalism.

This tradition is not a new one. Elon alumnus Tom Bass '67 recalled an act of vandalism when he lived

in Smith.

"A fellow — we called him Goose — took the doors off his closet, on the third floor, turned them sideways, put them inside shower, and put towels between them, and turned the water on, and made a four-foot deep swimming pool," Bass said. "Until they broke. A tidal wave came down the stairwell."



MAGGIE BROWN | POLITICS EDITOR

The laundry room in Smith residence hall also functions as the building's trash room.

"There was a football player who shall remain nameless, who was in our class, who came in one night, late — he needed to go, and he didn't make it to the bathroom, he just went in the laundry room and went right there in the sink," Bass said. "I didn't do my laundry there the rest of the year."

To combat vandalism, security cameras were installed to ensure whoever acts against the university would be held responsible.

"[Smith] not only has the reputation of producing kids that essentially join fraternities but also producing damage and being reckless," Mock-Rossi said. "People want to live up to this reputation."

Jon Dooley, vice president of Student Life, called Smith residents together last fall to call attention to the vandalism, but nobody claimed responsibility. Since the meeting, students questioned if the university will take action by turning Smith into a coed dorm.

Residents and students living in Historic Neighborhood don't like this idea at all.

"I want it to stay the way it is," Martinides said. "Whenever you hear of someone that lived in Smith, you always have that bond."

The community Smith Hall resonates is too strong not only in the

residence hall itself but especially with its sister dorm: Carolina Hall.

"What would Carolina be without Smith?" Reed said.

"It's like asking, 'What would Jack be without Jill?' It's a tradition. They can't break the tradition. There's Carolina, and then there's Smith," Karras said.

In an April 14 email to Elon News Network, Dooley said the university has no plans to turn Smith into a co-ed dorm as of now.

"It is not actively under consideration at this time," Dooley wrote.

The all-male residence hall is known for being run-down and dirty. Residents know the dorm is like that, but it's just another aspect that adds to Smith's charm.

"It's always an adventure to walk out of my door and see what's new," said second-floor resident Benjamin Wartars. "Really noisy, really hard to get anything done, it's always hot and humid in there."

"It's really disgusting. The bathrooms are disgusting, the hallways are disgusting, but you get this sense of brotherhood," Mock-Rossi said.

Despite the obvious history of vandalism, the noteworthy dirtiness through the hallways and the constant craziness, residents still love the beloved hall they call home.

"It's the best place to live on cam-

SMITH BY THE NUMBERS

125

current residents

3

floors in the building

\$100,000

plus in damages so far this year

pus. I love Smith," Martinides said. "I mean, coming to college can be nerve-racking if you don't know many friends and want to meet people. Coming to Smith, you are put in a position where everyone is in a similar spot as you."

As for the future of Smith, Dooley wrote the hall will go through minor changes in the summer but is due for a more significant upgrade in the summer of 2020 that compares to "those that occurred in Sloan and West over the past two summers."

Until then, the modern reputation of Smith Hall will continue.



LIFE WITH *dietary* *restrictions* ON CAMPUS

With vegetarian and gluten-free diets on the rise, students explore dining options

Rachel Wingrat

Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

Vegan and vegetarian diets have gained popularity in recent years, according to Elon University's registered dietitian, Amanda Cerra.

"The new generations coming up are very concerned about the environment; they're very concerned about animal welfare," Cerra said. She predicts vegan and vegetarian diets will continue to grow in popularity.

Cerra has also seen an increase in the number of people eating a gluten-free diet.

Elon has had to adapt to the changing diets of its students, and Cerra said that the school is constantly working to increase the amount and variety of vegan and gluten-free food in the dining halls.

According to Elon Dining director of operations Michael Bellefeuille, Elon has more on-campus dining options per capita than any other school of its size.

But does a variety of options translate to a variety of vegan or gluten free food?

Going vegan

Branden Oak is originally from Hastings, England, but is studying abroad at Elon during his second year of university.

After learning about the animal welfare and environmental issues associated with the meat and dairy industries, Oak decided to adopt a vegan diet.

"I didn't feel morally sound," he said. "Now, on a moral level,

I feel great."

Oak said the meat industry has environmental impacts as well.

According to People for Ethical Treatment of Animals, animal food production is one of the largest contributors to climate change, surpassing the transportation industry.

These reasons are driving factors behind the rising number of vegans and vegetarians in the United States. A study by Report Buyer found that 6 percent of Americans had a vegan diet in 2017, an increase from 1 percent in 2014.

Oak says overall he feels much healthier since changing his diet. While cutting out meat and dairy may seem intimidating, "It's actually super easy," Oak said.

Oak has found that maintaining a vegan diet at Elon is not difficult because there is always something in every dining hall for him to eat, but sometimes the variety of vegan options is lacking.

According to Cerra, one of the biggest challenges with a vegan diet is maintaining variety.

"Sometimes Lakeside has some good options in the 'Mean Greens' section, but usually Clohan and Green World have better options for me," Oak said. "The option for vegans will sometimes be vegetables and that's it."

Being gluten-free

Sophomore Zoe Budsworth was diagnosed with celiac disease in August, and has been adjusting to her new dietary restrictions.

Celiac is an autoimmune disease where eating gluten can damage the small intestine and lead to other health complications.

According to the Celiac Disease Foundation, it is estimated that one out of 100 people worldwide has celiac disease.

Elon Dining works to accommodate students with dietary restrictions, one option being Greenworld at 1889, located in Clohan Hall.

FILE PHOTOS BY ELON NEWS NETWORK

NEW DIETS ON THE RISE

6%

of Americans had a vegan diet in 2017, which is a 1 percent increase from 2014 according to Report Buyer.

1/100

people worldwide have celiac disease according to the Celiac Disease Foundation.

"The transition was very tough," Budsworth said. Initially, she met with Cerra to learn about what foods in the dining halls were safe for her to eat, and Cerra advised her to always ask if she was unsure about a food.

Freshman Alex Xouris is also gluten intolerant, and, like Budsworth, he spoke with Cerra when he first came to Elon. When a student comes to Cerra for help, she will walk through the dining halls with them and point out what they can and cannot eat.

Cerra showed Xouris that he can request a gluten-free pizza from Tuscany, the pizza station in Clohan, which he called a "hidden easter egg." Sometimes Clohan also has gluten-free pasta upon request, and, according to Cerra, will always have a gluten-free protein.

Despite the gluten-free pizza and protein, both Xouris and Budsworth often choose to eat at Lakeside be-

cause it has The Edge, a gluten-free section. And though it may not have as much variety as Budsworth would like, she always knows that there will be something safe for her to eat at Lakeside.

Budsworth has learned to pay close attention to labels in the dining halls because oftentimes foods that appear to be gluten-free do contain gluten.

"You really have to think about where you eat," she said. The biggest issue she has is at the international station in Lakeside because she said the labels can be unclear. "You think, 'Oh this is gluten free because it's just beef in sauce,' but it's not because it has flour in it," she said.

The best ways for students to know their options beforehand are the menus on the Elon Dining website and the screens outside each dining hall. The website includes a "dietary filter," which allows students to flag allergens and dietary preferences.

Elon's evolving options

Cerra believes that the vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free diets are the major restrictions represented on campus, and she has seen the number of vegan and vegetarian students increase since she started at Elon three years ago.

While she is not aware of students with other dietary restrictions or preferences, such as Kosher or Whole30, she recommends that anyone struggling to find things to eat in dining halls should ask her for help or make requests for food they can eat.

"A lot of students go through college trying to figure it out on their own ... and sometimes we have items that they didn't even know existed," she said.

Both Xouris and Budsworth said that working with Cerra helped them find healthy and diverse gluten-free options on campus, but may not have known about them otherwise.

Cerra said that student concerns are always taken into account and can influence the food in the dining halls. Students can even write their requests on a napkin and hang it on a wall between Clohan and Greenworld at 1889.

Recently, a student pointed out that there were no vegan options at Midnight Meals, so now there are vegan pizza and "chicken" nuggets available on request.

"This year, being vegan at Elon is much easier than last year, and I attribute it to people speaking up," sophomore Emily Lane said. "Elon is willing to work with dietary accommodations, but you need to ask."

According to Cerra, Elon is leading the way when it comes to vegan and gluten-free options. She believes that the online menus and access to a registered dietitian make Elon "more transparent" than other universities when it comes to dining.

Bellefeuille says the reopening of McEwen Dining Hall will provide even more options for students with dietary restrictions. "Food is so personal to everybody. ... You need to offer as much choice as you can," he said.

a colorful celebration of spring: **HOLI**

ON APRIL 13, THE Elon University community gathered at Speakers' Corner to celebrate Holi, a Hindu celebration meant to signal the start of spring.

The festival of colors is based in Hindu mythology, meant to symbolize the victory of good over evil and the arrival of spring.

Sophomore Abigail Mathews, a multi-faith intern at the Truitt Center for Religious Life, led the organization

and planning of the event in hopes it would help students learn more about the tradition.

"It's a really fun time but also a cool way to learn about a different culture and participate in something out of the ordinary at Elon," Mathews said. "You're going to be hearing Bollywood music blasting from the speakers here. That's not something you see every day. Hopefully it will be a good way for people to step outside of their comfort zone and Elon bubble."



AUSTIN KREEGER | ELON NEWS NETWORK



1 Sophomore Abi Mathews smiles during Elon's Holi celebration on Friday, April 13, outside Speakers' Corner.

2 Freshman Melanie Ferguson throws colored powder into the air during the Hindu festival of Holi on April 13.

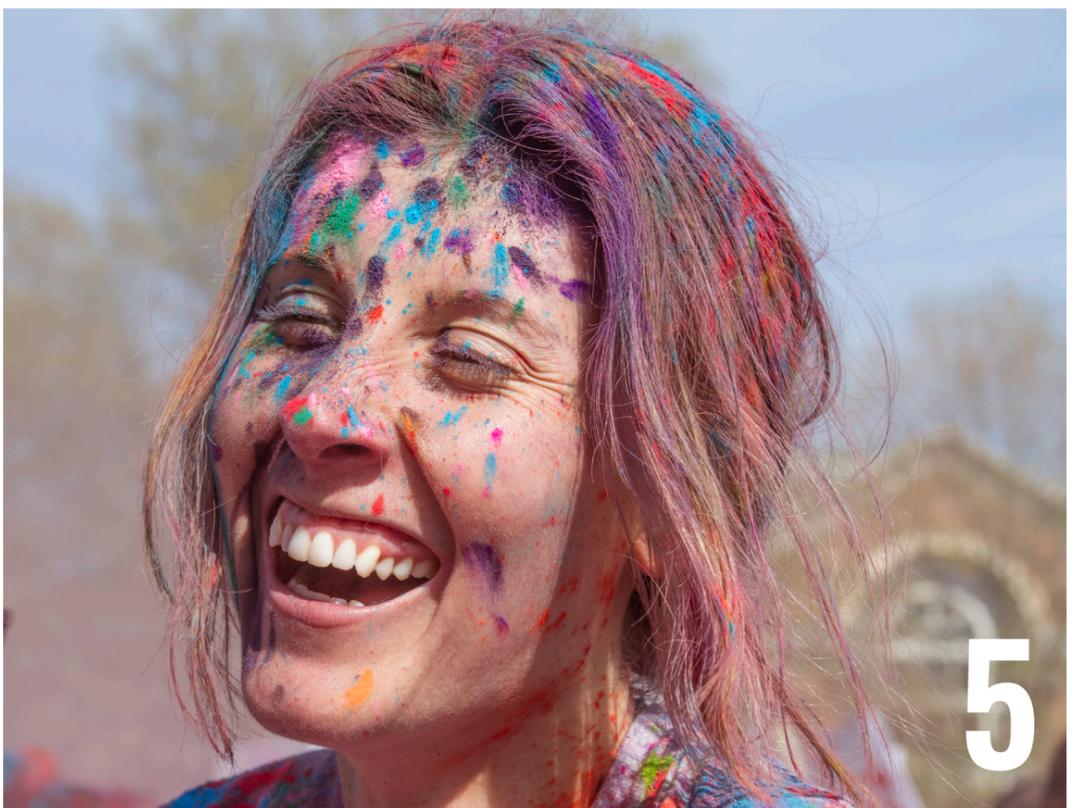
3 Sophomore Sarah Hope gets covered in colored powder at the Holi celebration.

7 Sophomore Megan Barber smiles during Elon's Holi Celebration.

4 Students throw colored powder into the air to celebrate the Hindu festival of Holi on April 13.

5 Senior Grace O'Hara laughs during the Hindu festival of Holi on April 13.

6 Members of the coed a cappella group Twisted Measure stack in a pyramid, showing off their color and spirit for Holi.



STEPHANIE HAYS | ELON NEWS NETWORK



1

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2

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6

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7

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STAFF EDITORIAL

TAKING CARE OF THE EARTH IS A **TWO-WAY STREET**



HOW WE SEE IT

With Earth Week in full swing, it's time we think about how we can better our relationship with our planet.

Living in the bubble of Elon University means it can be hard to see the bigger picture at times. But as Earth Day crops up this Sunday, April 22, now is the perfect time to look at our small part in this very big whole.

Elon University is known as one of the most beautiful campuses in the United States. This is largely because of the dedicated staff at Physical Plant that maintain the grounds and the manicured state we've become accustomed to. But taking care of the world around us means doing more than just keeping it looking its best.

Admittedly, Elon pays more attention to reducing its carbon footprint than most institutions. The Office of Sustainability, the BioBus, Loy Farm and Physical Plant are just some of the great resources available in looking at what Elon does to take care of our community.

But they can't be the only ones taking care of our campus. It's true there is more power when a mass of people come together to accomplish a goal, but that's not to say the individual can't be just as powerful.

If we wait to hop on the bandwagon before we decide to take action, we'll be sitting around waiting for a long time. It starts with one person, one individual, to make a change. And you don't need to drastically change your lifestyle in order to give back to the planet.

While methods such as eating less meat or going carless for a year have some of the largest impacts in terms reducing your carbon footprint, they're not always the most easy to put in

practice for a college student.

One of the easiest places to start is examining how much food you actually waste. According to a report conducted by the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization, consumers throw away about 40 percent of their food in the United States alone. And this has less to do with the idea that we need to eat less, but more so that we need to throw away less. More often than not, consumers buy too much food, or don't finish the food they put on their plates.

And while it may not seem like a significant start, cutting down waste could have the same or even a more significant effect toward cutting down our carbon footprint than switching to a

vegetarian or vegan diet.

There are a lot of smaller-scale places an individual can start when thinking about cutting down waste.

Try simple things such as taking stock of what you have in your fridge and making a grocery list, so you don't buy more than you need, or getting creative with leftovers and using them instead of letting them go bad and tossing them. Use your freezer, this will extend the shelf-life of your food. Be wary of when grocery stores sell bulk items — the low-price sales might seem tempting, but you're not helping anyone if you end up throwing away food you didn't use. Finally, try investing in reusable grocery

bags or skip the packaging altogether.

On a college campus, it's harder to make the bigger lifestyle changes environmentalists recommend to reduce carbon emissions. But that doesn't mean it's impossible. Start small. Focus on the things you can do, rather than what you can't.

So next time you visit a dining hall, think of what you're putting on your plate. When grocery shopping, go with a plan or idea of what you need and try to avoid buying excess or things you don't think you'll use. Try visiting the Farmers Market outside the Elon Community Church Thursdays from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The more you put these actions into practice, the more instinctual they'll become.

Humans' relationship with the planet is a two-way street. If we take care of the earth, it'll take care of us.

Everyone should have a right to live The American Dream



Stephanie Ntim
Columnist
@ElonNewsNetwork

Earlier this month, at 72 years of age, my maternal grandmother became a citizen of the United States. This news surprised me. Why would someone who loves her home country of Ghana want to become a United States citizen? The reasons are plentiful, but the sentiment is straightforward.

The process of naturalization enables immigrants or green card holders to gain access to invaluable rights such as voting rights, eligibility for federal jobs and the ability to become an elected official. It goes without saying that citizenship through naturalization is a complicated process. Not even green card holders —

immigrants who are allowed to live and work permanently in the United States — are guaranteed citizenship.

With time, I've realized that my grandmother's path to citizenship isn't about rejecting her home place. It's about starting (or legally extending) another home in a different place. In this era of globalization, cross-country migration is not uncommon. At Elon University, we value visiting foreign lands to gain new perspectives on life. We pride ourselves in becoming global citizens dedicated to serving and working with various international communities.

The American Dream is rooted in hard work and

determination. It evokes a "can-do" attitude, in which anyone from anywhere is capable of achieving something with due diligence. Today, the essence of The American Dream is in jeopardy. I'm not simply addressing policy reform — the negative attitude toward immigration is deeply concerning.

Immigration will forever be embedded in the makeup of this country's history. And immigrants have not always been treated with open arms, and aren't necessarily today either. Discrimination toward different ethnic groups extends from the colonial era to present times. Even in the midst of ethnically-based discrimi-

nation, each wave of immigration changes the dynamics of U.S. culture. Many who hail from New England may recognize European influences in eateries, buildings and slang.

Each industry — ranging from education and medicine to technology to the military — has benefited greatly from someone whose native land is not the United States, such as computer-programming tycoon Elon Musk, the first female Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, acclaimed novelist Isabel Allende and David Ho, a prolific AIDS researcher, just to mention a few.

To remove immigration from the U.S. political

agenda or to drastically confine it would be a great loss not only to the economy, but also to the rich mixing of cultures we can learn from. Several of my family members are immigrants to the U.S. They enrich society through their interactions with others and their contributions to the nation's economy.

The national ethos of the United States as a place where people can achieve success through hard work is an attractive force that binds every part of the world together. These stories show that access to The American Dream is a living dream that should be celebrated for generations to come.

making the *seconds* count



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TEAM CAMPBELL FOUNDATION

Sister's memory inspires
Elon sophomore's passion
for St. Jude's

Whitney Miller

Elon News Network | @whitmill16

Eleven-year-old Caitlin Hoyt sat in the front seat of her father's pickup truck. Something was off. Her father never let her sit in the front seat.

"When you hear the word 'cancer,'" her father said, "Do you know what that is?"

Later, as an Elon University sophomore, Caitlin remembers her father's inquiry all too vividly.

"I remember saying, 'I don't know, that's just a scary thing,'" Caitlin said.

What was then a foreign concept soon materialized into a nightmare when Caitlin found out her younger sister, Campbell, was diagnosed with cancer at 3 years old.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAITLIN HOYT



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAITLIN HOYT

Top: Cambell Hoyt smiles at the camera. **Left:** (left to right) Cambell, Caroline and Caitlin Hoyt enjoy time together outside. **Right:** Caitlin Hoyt shows her Tri-Delta support at a fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Hospital, her sorority's philanthropy.

The diagnosis

Campbell was battling ependymoma. According to the National Cancer Institute, ependymoma is when cancer cells develop in the brain and spinal cord tissue. The American Cancer Society reports that 200 children per year are diagnosed with ependymoma.

Campbell was one of them.

"I didn't know what that meant," Caitlin said. "I didn't know what was going to happen."

Caitlin grew up fast after her sister's diagnosis. Caitlin's parents were often gone with Campbell for doctor appointments. While her friends hung out after school, Caitlin stayed home to watch her other sister, Caroline.

"It helped a lot to have someone who was always there," Caroline said. "I would not have gotten through all of that without her."

There was an ever-growing sense of pressure on Caitlin. Campbell continued to battle ependymoma while Caitlin looked out for Caroline. Despite all this, Caitlin found an outlet through which she could escape the hardship — dance.

Dancing to escape

"My life was getting so hectic and there was just something about dance that I was drawn to," Caitlin said.

Dance is something Caitlin has been able to share with both of her sisters. At her studio, Gotta Dance, Caitlin and her sisters participated in a summer outreach program that

allowed them to perform together.

Caitlin's studio helped her throughout her sister's battle. She made many great friends who help her carry the weight.

"Dance has given Caitlin another family to lean on," said Allison Ivan, a junior at Elon University who dances with Caitlin.

"I definitely think dance and the friends she had at dance helped her," said Kendall Rich, a freshman at Elon University. Caitlin, Rich and Ivan danced together for most of their childhoods.

"Dance gave Caitlin a place to escape to, a refuge of sorts, when home life got too chaotic," Ivan said. "Sometimes you just need to dance it out because your body is able to process grief, pain and emotions better than your brain can."

Dancing helped Caitlin forget what was going on in her life and focus her attention on something else.

"I would walk into the lobby [of the studio] and the weight would be lifted off my shoulders," Caitlin said.

Counting the seconds

Caitlin was 16 when Campbell began hospice at home. One afternoon, Caitlin was in the living room with her parents when the hospice nurse came in and told them that Campbell did not have much time left.

Caitlin had planned on having friends from dance over that night and the nurse encouraged it, saying that the positive energy in the house would help Campbell.

"We didn't understand how close

[Campbell's passing] was," Rich said.

The girls tried to remain lighthearted and keep the evening fun for Caitlin.

After her friends left, Caitlin crawled into bed with Campbell, the rest of the family following suit. Everyone fell asleep except for Caitlin. She laid there counting the seconds between each of Campbell's breaths.

"I couldn't wrap my head around what was happening," Caitlin said.

Caitlin fell asleep. When she woke, she started to count the seconds again. But there were no seconds left to count.



IT DOESN'T MATTER
HOW MUCH YOU
KNOW OR PREPARE. IT
WILL STILL COME AS A
SURPRISE.

CAITLIN HOYT
SOPHOMORE

Campbell Hoyt had passed away.

"It doesn't matter how much you know or prepare," Caitlin said. "It will still come as a surprise."

Coping through dance

Amidst the tragedy Caitlin experienced, dance has remained a con-

stant source of happiness and a connection between her and her sister. During her first year at Elon, Caitlin was a member of the Elon dance team. She also later auditioned for the BFA Dance Program.

Caitlin received an email from the program after auditioning and read the word "Congratulations." She began to cry from happiness and pride.

"I needed to be doing [dance], I love it so much," Caitlin said.

Dance has offered Caitlin another opportunity to carry with her the memory of her sister.

"I think it's the medium she chooses to honor her sister's memory and a way for her to still feel that connection," Ivan said. "I feel closer to Cam when I'm dancing and I think the same is true for Caitlin."

Caitlin feels her sister's presence when dancing.

"After Cam died, I can feel her when I am dancing or doubting myself," Caitlin said.

Dance was not the only place where Caitlin felt a connection to her sister. After her freshman year winter term at Elon, Caitlin decided to rush.

Joining Tri-Delta

Caitlin felt a strong connection to the Epsilon Delta chapter of the Delta Delta Delta sorority at Elon.

The sorority's national philanthropy is childhood cancer, partnering with St. Jude's Research Hospital, a special place for the Hoyt family.

Campbell stayed at St. Jude's, which provided her with the medical means to elongate her life, giving

EPENDYMOMA BY THE NUMBERS

200

cases found each year, according to St. Jude Research Hospital.

72%

is the five-year survival rate for children 19 years old and younger.

Campbell and her family a little more time together.

"I think having one person who has been affected by the hospital is really powerful because it puts that physical, tangible aspect to what we're advocating for," said junior Caroline Lau, Delta Delta Delta's philanthropy chair.

Making every second count

Caitlin carries Campbell's memory with her.

Originally, Caitlin wanted to pursue a career in physical therapy, but after her freshman year at Elon, Caitlin realized this was not what she wanted.

Now her goal is to work for St. Jude's Hospital. Caitlin wants to honor her sister's memory and give back to the organization that helped their family so much.

"If I could go work for St. Jude after graduation, that would be ideal," Caitlin said. "I would love it."

Time might be running out to fly with Zenitry Aerial Silks

The fate of an Elon yoga studio remains a mystery for those who call it home

Rachel Ellis
Elon News Network | @rachel_ellisTV

Within walking distance of Elon University's campus, you'll find colorful silks hanging from the ceiling, as well as people hanging from them.

GET ACTIVE

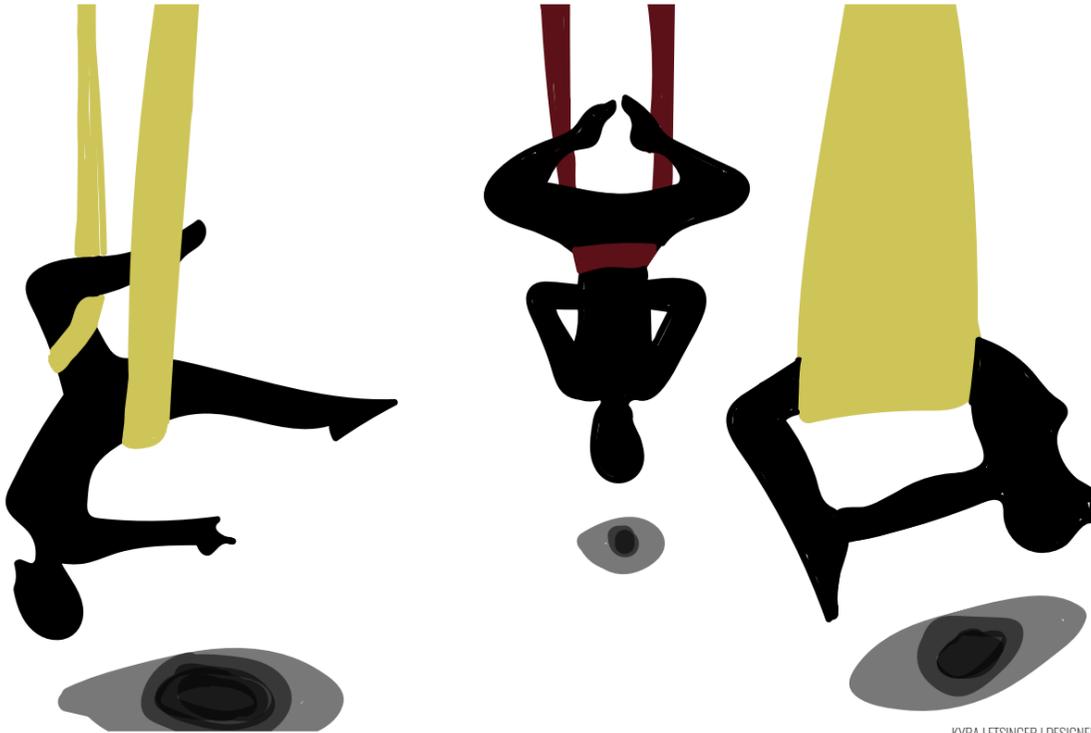
Zenitry offers yoga, barre and aerial silks to the Elon and Burlington area.

But that could all go away soon. Zenitry, a yoga, barre and aerial silks studio, has become not only a place to workout, but also a community for many in the Elon and Burlington area.

Recently, members of the Zenitry family received news that the owner of the studio is stepping down in order to care for her newborn baby, and if a replacement is not found soon, the studio will close by the end of May.

Michelle Spurlock, the aerial silks program director, moved to Elon about two years ago, when her husband was offered a job at Elon in the computer science department. Spurlock used to work in higher education herself, but decided it was aerial silks and yoga that was her true passion, and started teaching full-time at Zenitry.

When Spurlock learned about the potential of the studio closing down, she said while it was difficult to think



KYRA LETSINGER | DESIGNER

about losing such an amazing space, she assured her students she will never stop teaching, and that there will always be a place to soar in Elon.

"We want to stay, but if we have to move, we will find a barn, or a warehouse, and we will hang from the ceiling. We will do whatever we have to do. People who do aerial get a little fanatic about it," Spurlock said.

Growing up, she was always "the kid on the sidelines," because of severe exercise-induced asthma, which often left her excluded from sports or any form of physical activity. It was when she discovered yoga and

aerial silks for the first time that her life changed — both physically and mentally.

The practice of yoga is what she said "really started getting me stronger in terms of my lungs, but also my body." After several years of practicing yoga, she discovered aerial silks, and took her yoga practice "way up with it."

"I was like, 'Wow, now I'm going to get really strong and gain power and strength that I have never known before,'" Spurlock said.

The strength that took over her body when she first tried silks has

played an instrumental role in her life ever since, making her refuse to stop teaching and growing the aerial silks community, despite the given circumstances. While she is sure she will never stop teaching, she said, "the space [Zenitry Studio] is just amazing" and losing it would be a great loss to the community.

"It's just the perfect space. It's just the perfect location for this type of thing. We are really hoping to stay here. We've built our home here," Spurlock said.

Clarissa Whitmeir and Nicole Murray are students of Spurlock's,

who — like their instructor — have seen changes in their everyday life, because of what they've learned through aerial silks. Whitmeir says she feels stronger than she has ever felt before.

"It's been a little bit of a journey to find more confidence in myself and build strength and just trusting my body more. I struggled growing up with confidence, so I've looked for things my whole life to kind of make me feel empowered, and this has really done that for me," Whitmeir said.

For Murray, when she saw the silks for the first time, she immediately wanted to get on them and was told she was a natural.

"I was like, 'I don't know about that, do I have the money to?' They got me in here and it's absolutely amazing. I went from a little girl seeing Cher in concert — that's when I first saw the silks — to now, when I'm actually doing it," Murray said.

Spurlock says there is something about aerial silks that builds community and confidence around everyone cheering each other on and supporting each other when trying to master new skills, while challenging yourself, both physically and mentally.

"The fact of what you are doing is risky. This is definitely risky and not your average workout. You are in the air and learning acrobatic tricks in the air, and it's fairly vigorous, and it's hard," Spurlock said.

While the fate of Zenitry remains a mystery, the passion for aerial silks for members of this community will never come into question.

#ContestMovieLife



CAROLINE BREHMAN | ELON NEWS NETWORK

Senior Jacob Major stars in Elon's commercial in the Regal Cinemas and Coca-Cola film competition.

Elon students have the chance to win the Fan Favorite award, as measured by the #ContestMovieLife

Alex Roat
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

The hashtag #ContestMovieLife has dominated social media around Elon University over the past few months in support of a commercial shot for Coca-Cola and Regal Cinemas.

Written by sophomore Patrick Wei and co-produced by seniors Hunter Strauch and Katie Shannon, the commercial was shot over a period of 12 hours in a Regal Cinemas movie theater in Atlanta at the end of January.

"Working for Regal and Coca-Cola was a once in a lifetime opportunity," Strauch said. "It allowed me and my crew members to work in a professional environment with one of the largest brands in the world. Some filmmakers spend 10 or more years of their career waiting for an opportunity like that."

Though the Elon team is not one of the top two finalists, the group is still eligible to win the Fan Favorite award.

The winner of the Fan Favorite award, as measured by the #ContestMovieLife hashtag on social media, will receive a RED camera for their university. When tweeted from a public Twitter account, the hashtag will be counted once per day, and if the video is shared, the voter can enter for a chance to win Regal Movie tickets for a year.

"It's been amazing seeing the support from fellow Elon students so far, so let's keep it going in the last week of voting," Shannon said. To celebrate the last days of voting, Elon's Coca-Cola and Regal Cinemas team added the tweet #RaffleMovieLife, giving voters the chance to win a gift card to The Oak House.

The voting period ends on April 20 and results will be announced the following week at the CinemaCon conference.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF DONAHUE FAMILY

Megan plans to renovate this activity bus into a tiny home, honoring her brother's ideas of "living simply."

tiny home, big heart



PHOTO COURTESY OF DONAHUE FAMILY

Megan and her brother had always been close and spent most of their time together.

'Live Simply': Elon student renovates a bus into a tiny home in honor of her brother

Katherine Kane

Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

Elon University sophomore Megan Donahue stares at the old Chevy bus that is now her own. To most people, the 22-year-old bus is a piece of garbage, but to Donahue, it is a blank canvas.

She remembers picking it out at the Wheely Mart in Graham over the summer. When she came across the 1996, 11-seater Chevy activity bus, her first instinct was to purchase the vehicle and get to work right away.

Megan plans to renovate the bus and turn it into a tiny home, complete with a bed, fridge, stove top, couch and seating and bar area.

"I know nothing about cars," Megan said. "I would've bought a tent on wheels if I had the opportunity because I just wanted to do it so bad."

Megan has always had a passion for interior design. She has never had a shortage of dreams or ideas, but what she needed was a place to start.

"I want to flip houses," Megan said, "but I couldn't afford a house and my mom said, 'Find something you can afford and we'll back you up,' so I found a bus."

Though the project seems like it is just a renovation, the bus will serve two very important purposes for Megan. It will not only allow her to jump start her career, but it will also be a tribute to her best friend and brother Michael, who always believed in living simply.

From a very young age, Me-

gan has always had a passion for creating and designing. She has never been interested in a traditional career path.

Her love of interior design runs in the family. Megan's mother, Lisa Donahue, works in interior design and is a large source of inspiration.

"I've grown up around it," Megan said. "I was actually in her stomach when she was taking the classes [interior design classes] so I overheard. That's my theory. I was listening."

Her mother has always supported Megan's passion and has let her help out with her own projects.

Megan was fascinated by every aspect of the design process. Lisa was happy to have her daughter help her with projects and explore her passion.

"She's always wanted to help me," Lisa said. "Even though I've been doing this for years, I really value her opinion."

Lisa fondly remembers projects that her daughter would help her with back where Megan grew up in Cape Cod in Massachusetts.

Before moving to Graham in 2014, Megan was born and raised in Eastham, Massachusetts, with her brother Michael.

Megan spent her days with her brother and their friends, running around town and making up games and traditions that would carry them through the summers.

"When it was low-tide we would go and find scallop shells," Megan said. "That was our huge thing, we really loved doing that. We would go out, walk on the flats, take our dogs out there. Every night we'd have a bonfire in the park that was an empty lot. We'd pull up picnic tables with Christmas lights. We still do it every night I'm back there."

Megan recalls how close she was with her brother. The two were only two years apart and were always spending time with each other.

"They had been inseparable since the second he was born," Lisa said. "They were best, best friends. They did everything together."

After moving to Graham, the Donahues returned to Cape Cod every summer. Megan and her brother were free to return to their treasured beach days.

On their last day in Cape Cod in 2015, 15-year-old Michael Donahue was hit by a car Aug. 14, 2015 at the end of their street on his way to the beach.

The family was devastated. "We think the world didn't have enough to offer him," Megan said. "The thrill was never enough. He had no fear. He was the coolest kid in school, but he's also the kind of person who would go sit with the person alone at lunch."

He never asked for much and enjoyed the simple things in life. While other kids his age were fo-



I HAVE THIS WHOLE IDEA OF LIVING LIFE SIMPLY AND THERE IS NO OTHER WAY TO LIVE MORE SIMPLY THAN IN A BUS.

MEGAN DONAHUE
SOPHMORE



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGAN DONAHUE

Left: Donahue with her mother Lisa (left), her brother Michael (middle left) and her father David (right).

SCREENSHOT COURTESY OF KATHERINE KANE

Right: Megan Donahue shows off the inside of the bus she is turning into a tiny home.



SPORTS

WRITING THE RECORD BOOKS

Senior attacker Stephanie Asher cuts through the James Madison University defense, with her head up, looking to make a play under the lights at Rudd Field.

FILE PHOTO BY ELON NEWS NETWORK

Stephanie Asher is setting for the bar for lacrosse program

Jack Haley
Sports Director | @rjackhaley17

COMPETING IS ALWAYS SOMETHING that has come naturally for Stephanie Asher, a senior attacker on the Elon lacrosse team. With her time coming to a close at Elon, she is looking to make a big push to finish out her career in style.

Her competitive fire is usually on display either at practice or on game day, and Asher traces those roots back to her mom.

"If you have ever met my mom, she is just about the loudest and most competitive person you could ever meet," Asher said. "Growing up with her as my coach has made me who I am as a competitor."

That competitive nature has paid off tenfold for Asher as she has been showered with praise in her time at Elon. In 2015, she was named Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Rookie of the Year as well as the team's Most Valuable Player. She was also earned First Team All-CAA honors in her 2016 and 2017 campaigns and was named the CAA Women's Lacrosse Scholar-Athlete of the Year in 2017.

While all those achievements may be shocking to some, head coach Josh Hexter isn't surprised by Asher's output. Hexter knows just how much Asher has meant to this program in the five short years it has been around.

"Her ability to just bring it every day in practice, and her work ethic and aggression and competitive spirit in practice has really built our pro-

gram to where it is now," Hexter said.

This competitive drive is something one will always see from Asher - it's who she is, and it's what she does. "I think it's just kind of innate," Asher said. "I don't really have a '50 percent' switch. I am either on, or I am off, and I usually like to be on."

Hexter hopes some of the work Asher does will begin to rub off on the other players.

"We never need to ask her to work hard," Hexter said. "That has been an issue with this team this year, our work ethic in practice, and I think some of that shows in our losses where we are not aggressive enough and we turn the ball over too much."

With these mistakes, Elon's record has fallen to 2-10. That is a striking contrast to last year when they finished 13-7 in the CAA and made their way to the NCAA tournament for the first time in program history. This will be the first time Elon's record has been below .500 since their inaugural 2014 season when they went 8-9.

While that may get some people down, knowing Asher, that will just make her want to compete even more. Asher has proven herself time and time again as a force to be reckoned with offensively. She will hang up her maroon and gold jersey one last time and walk away with a laundry list of records for the team.

Asher will leave Elon with the most points, goals, shots, free-position goals and draw controls in the program's history. She will also be in the top 10 wall-time in assists, ground balls, caused turnovers, games played and games started.

Asher has continued to dazzle this season as well. She currently leads the team in goals, points, shots and draw controls. She is second in assists this year behind fellow senior attacker Nicole Sinacori.

Though she is proud of all her ac-

“HER ABILITY TO JUST BRING IT EVERY DAY IN PRACTICE, AND HER WORK ETHIC AND AGGRESSION AND COMPETITIVE SPIRIT IN PRACTICE HAS REALLY BUILT OUR PROGRAM TO WHERE IT IS NOW.”

JOSH HEXTER
WOMEN'S LACROSSE COACH

BY THE NUMBERS

168

Career goals

414

Career shots

141

Career draw controls



FILE PHOTO BY ELON NEWS NETWORK

Senior Stephanie Asher cuts to dodge a cross check attempt in a game against JMU.

complishments, it was never her ambition to come to Elon and write her name in the record books. Instead, she wanted to make sure she left the jersey in a better place than where she found it.

"Going in knowing that it is a startup program, I was just looking to see where we can build this team to and in four years try to make this a great program," Asher said. "I think we have done a good job of that so far, so I'm really excited about that and hope that we can continue to build the program this season and leave a legacy to build on."

With just three games left in the regular season, Asher senses her time as a Phoenix winding to a close. Though she will miss her time spent under the oaks, what she will miss most about Elon is the people she has been surrounded by for the past

four years.

"I'm really just going to miss my teammates and all the time that I get to spend with them," Asher said. "We have so much fun every practice, every game. It's just so much fun being out there with them, and I'm really going to miss the aspect of being able to compete in a game I love all the time."

After her graduation, Asher is planning on attending nursing school, though she is not sure where yet, in the hopes of becoming a nurse practitioner.

But before the exercise science major strikes out on her own into the world, she must battle through three more CAA regular-season games. If the team is able to place in the top four in the conference, the CAA tournament begins May 4 in Harrisonburg, Virginia.



HITTING THE GROUND *running*

CORY WELLER | ELON NEWS NETWORK

Senior Bryanna Hames loads up to throw her discus at the Phoenix Invitational hosted by Elon University on April 14 at Elon's track and field complex.

Women's track and field team competes against 15 programs at home

Christian Galvano
Elon News Network | @Chrisgalvano

Looking back on the season so far, the women's track and field team has succeeded in a number of endeavors and has many noteworthy competitors who embody what it means to be a Phoenix athlete.

Elon's all-star thrower

Senior Bryanna Hames came off an outstanding final season. She represented the Phoenix for the first time ever in the program's history in the NCAA Championship in Eugene, Oregon. She threw an outstanding 154' 9" (47.18m) on her first attempt in discus. Hames has been All-

CAA in throwing since her freshman season.

In the recent Phoenix Invitational, Hames placed fourth in the hammer event and second in shot put.

Now in her final season, Hames is still doing great things for the Phoenix. She set a new personal record earlier this month, breaking her own outdoor school record in the shot put. She had a heave of 51' 1.5" (15.58m) and finished as the runner-up in the event. But she still pushes herself to improve.

"I feel like my results are not where I want them to be right now," Hames said.

Accomplishments and glory don't come easily for Hames. The discovery of protruding discs in her lower back stalled her from training, and she knew this season it would be a struggle to throw to her fullest potential.

"Biggest struggle had to be my back injury," Hames said. "I still have weeks to prepare and fix it, but that

is definitely the biggest hurdle that I have going on."

Emily Dixon, the all-around athlete

Competing is all encompassing for senior Emily Dixon. Since 2015, the CAA has recognized her accomplishments in track and field five times. Just last year, she won the heptathlon title for the third straight season at the CAA Outdoor Championship.

Dixon competed in three events last Saturday at the Phoenix Invitational and qualified for finals in every event she participated in. She won the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 14.94. On top of that, she cleared the bar in the high jump event with a season-best jump of 5' 5" (1.65m) at the same event.

Regarding the hurdles, Dixon said she was not happy with her overall performance because of the weather.

"The time wasn't that great, but the conditions aren't that good because of the wind," Dixon said.

Despite the tough weather conditions, she persevered and earned second place in the finals.

Dixon jumped a season personal record in the long jump with her mark of 17' 11.75" (5.48m). She attributed her personal record to competing at the Jerry and Jeanne Robertson Track and Field Complex, the home field of the Phoenix.

"I was pretty happy with that," Dixon said. "It was nice to see familiar faces at home cheering us on."

The long jumper in the spotlight

Sophomore Melody Burke proved she could keep up with her upper-classman teammates this past weekend at the Phoenix Invitational.

Burke set a personal record for herself in the

long jump on Saturday when she hopped an 18' 9" (5.71m) for second place. She surpassed her current teammate, Emily Dixon, and placed third on the all-time top five-performance list.

"I did my first three and made finals. Then I did my second three and the last one I popped the big one. Nice way to end it. The measurement was 18 feet 9 inches, but if you want the meters it was 5.71," Burke said.

Looking forward

The Phoenix will split up for the Virginia Challenge and the Duke Invitational next Friday, April 20. The meets will take place at University of Virginia in Charlottesville and Duke University. Afterward, the team will be on its way to the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) outside tournament, which will be held in Williamsburg, Virginia.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Baseball sweeps conference rival Hofstra

Fifteen total strikeouts by Elon University led the Phoenix to sweep the Hofstra Pride 3-0 in the series last weekend. Sophomore Kyle Brnovich keeps raising his Division I leading strikeout count, now at 97 on the year. The series finale saw a 5-3 victory for Elon when Zach Evers slung a home run over the right field wall in the bottom of the seventh. Evers finished the day 2-for-4, while freshman Matt Oldham went 1-for-3 and scored a pair of runs for Elon (20-16, 7-5 CAA).

Phoenix pitchers tallied 47 strikeouts in the series, the most in a three-game set this year. The Phoenix start a six-game home stand with North Carolina A&T April 18 at 6 p.m.

Heather Munro steals the show for women's golf

Heather Munro shot a two-over 74 in the final round of the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Women's Golf Championship to earn a top-five individual finish and all-tournament honors as the Elon University women's golf team finished fourth as a team.

Munro's 74 on Sunday was the lowest individual score of the play as the Scotland native posted 12 pars and two birdies on the day. She finished the tournament with 31 pars and seven total birdies.

Softball falls to Towson

The Elon University softball team was swept by Towson in the Colonial Athletic Association series this past weekend at the Tiger Softball Complex in Towson, Maryland. Junior Tia Mitchell paved the way for the Phoenix going 3-for-3 with a triple, but it wasn't enough to help pull off a win, as Elon fell 5-3.

Elon will return home after an eight-game absence to host James Madison in a CAA three-game set this weekend, April 21-22. The Phoenix and the Dukes start the series with a doubleheader on Saturday before concluding with a Sunday afternoon game.

Lacrosse falls twice to top-ranked teams

Elon fell to No. 6 Towson University on Friday night 10-4. Elon was kept in the game by dominance in the first half on draw controls and the stellar play of senior goalkeeper Tori Cipollone, who made a career-high 13 saves. This came after she had another great showing against Hofstra University when she made 10 saves in a 12-8 win on the road. But that wasn't enough to help Elon past the Tigers. Elon then faced No. 4 James Madison University. They dropped the second game of their second game of the weekend 15-3.

The game was called off with 2:55 left to play because of severe weather. Senior Stephanie Asher, for just the second time this season, was held in check without a point.

THE PHOENIX FOCUS

SOFTBALL

RESULTS 20-22

4/11	DUKE	0-1
4/14	TOWSON	1-11
4/14	TOWSON	0-10
4/15	TOWSON	3-5

SCHEDULE

4/21	JAMES MADISON/ELON	1 P.M.
4/21	JAMES MADISON/ELON	3 P.M.

LACROSSE

RESULTS 2-10

4/13	TOWSON	4-10
4/15	JAMES MADISON	3-15

SCHEDULE

4/20	DELAWARE/NEWARK, DEL.	6 P.M.
4/22	DREXEL/PHILADELPHIA	1 P.M.

TRACK AND FIELD

SCHEDULE

4/20-21	DUKE INVITATIONAL/DURHAM, N.C.
4/20-21	VIRGINIA CHALLENGE

MEN'S TENNIS

RESULTS 15-7

4/11	UNC GREENSBORO/UNCG
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SCHEDULE

4/20-22	CAA CHAMPIONSHIPS/ELON
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BASEBALL

RESULTS 20-16

4/11	EAST CAROLINA	0-3
4/13	HOFSTRA	2-1
4/14	HOFSTRA	6-3
4/15	HOFSTRA	5-3

SCHEDULE

4/18	NC A&T/ELON	6 P.M.
4/20	HARTFORD/ELON	6 P.M.
4/21	HARTFORD/ELON	4 P.M.
4/22	HARTFORD/ELON	1:30 P.M.
4/24	HIGH POINT/ELON	6 P.M.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

RESULTS 13-12

4/14	JAMES MADISON/JMU	1-6
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SCHEDULE

4/19-22	CAA CHAMPIONSHIPS/ELON
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