

Students bring laughs to WSOE page 9



Sidewalk crossings prove dangerous for students, drivers page 8



# THE PENDULUM

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## National News Engagement Day encourages Elon to participate in news

The Elon University School of Communications, in collaboration with the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, is hosting National News Engagement Day on Tuesday in an effort to make engaging with the news a national priority.

AEJMC created National News Engagement Day to raise awareness about the importance of staying informed, help people of all ages discover the benefits of news and ensure that news engagement does not die out.

The National News Engagement Day committee has created four activities for Elon community members and professional journalists to engage in throughout the day.

Anthony Hatcher, associate professor of communication, said people in general are not fully informed about what is happening in the world.

"You can't be a fully functioning citizen unless you know the issues. There is no downside to being more informed," he said.

All students, faculty and community members who are interested in participating in the event can take pictures of themselves and others engaging in the news. The photos can be posted on any social media platform using the hashtag #ElonNewsEngage. At the end of the day photos will be published on the website <https://www.rebelmouse.com/eloncomm/>.

Students can pitch their own story ideas and issues to campus media at the College Coffee News Engagement Day table.

Throughout the day there will be opportunities around campus for students to define what news is to them. Their responses will be captured on camera and made into a video compilation.

News will be relayed to students in an engaging manner with the presence of town criers. Students will act as town criers and will shout headlines from campus and professional media groups.

Media is engaged throughout the year, but the goal of Tuesday is people are made more aware of the importance of news.

### #ElonNewsEngage

Post photos of yourself or others engaging in the news using the hashtag

### Here ye, here ye

Students will act as town criers and shout local and national headlines

### What is news to you?

Students are stationed around campus to ask your definition of news. Responses are captured on camera.

### Pitch news stories

NNED gives students an opportunity to share story ideas with student media leaders.

## Uneven laundry facilities irk students



First year Rachel Foley crams her laundry into a dryer in Virginia Residence Hall. Students have complained that on campus dryers are ineffective.

Kimberly Honiball  
Senior Reporter

Students at Elon University have begun to notice the inequality in laundry accommodations across campus.

With some students receiving free laundry as others have to dole out quarter after quarter in the same building, residents are frustrated.

"I feel like it's unfair," said sophomore Emma Davidman. "Especially since some of the students who receive free laundry pay less for their living space than some who have to pay."

Davidman lives in the Sigma Kappa House in the Loy Center, and she says she is paying significantly more this year for her liv-

ing accommodations than she did last year in her ten-person downstairs flat in the Danieley Neighborhood.

The Danieley Flats have presented a dilemma when it comes to laundry. Upstairs flats received free laundry in their suites last year, and all downstairs flats had to share two washers and two dryers and pay for their own laundry.

"It's inconsistent and a little unfair," said sophomore Campbell Wentworth-Ping. "I don't know what it's like in the other Danieleys, but here we have two washers and two dryers for downstairs and then upstairs has free laundry in their suites. It's the luck of draw. It's not like they tell you when you're signing up for rooms, and they probably

should."

Another laundry inequality students find burdensome is the inconsistency between swiping a Phoenix card and paying in quarters.

Sophomore Abigail Peabody, who lives in the Sigma Kappa house with Davidman, faces this problem.

"There is no swipe access for a Phoenix card, so we have to pay in quarters only," Peabody said. "In Colonnades, it was the same price, but there was swipe access to Phoenix Cash that was a little more convenient."

Access to quarters can quickly become a problem for students, especially since businesses around campus are reluctant to make

See **LAUNDRY** page 4

## Never Back Down: Nicole Dennion kicks cancer

Tommy Hamzik  
Sports Editor

Frantically going through her phone with a sentiment of jubilation swirling in her mind, Nicole Dennion held off the joy for just one moment to send a simple, powerful five-word text message in all capital letters to her teammates:

"MY PET SCAN WAS CLEAR!"

The memo incited utter hysteria from the Elon University women's soccer team, signifying the triumph of Dennion in her battle with Ewing's Sarcoma, an aggressive form of cancer that affects the bone and its tissue.

She was diagnosed in February with a treatment plan spanning a year. The text message was sent only five months later in mid-July, and the last two scans have both been clear of any signs of cancer.

"It's the biggest, best news you could ever ask for," said Mel Insley, a junior defender for Elon and Dennion's best friend.

Abbreviated process

Known as "Colie" to her friends and family, Dennion shredded defenses left and right in fall 2013 for Elon, scoring 15 goals and garnering Southern Conference Player of the Year honors.

She went through January workouts with no issues before doctors discovered a tumor and diagnosed her with cancer, which prompted a return home to New Jersey to receive treatment.

Once that began, her physical shape and health from training allowed doctors to put her on an accelerated treatment program. She received chemotherapy once every two weeks instead of three, had surgery earlier than expected and cut the number of chemo treatments to eight.

Dennion underwent surgery June 4, when doctors made an incision nearly two feet in length stretching down her back and all the way up her side. Three of her ribs were removed and two were reconstructed with titanium. Her right lung collapsed

during the process, which prompted another procedure two days later.

She spent seven days in the hospital, going through a number of different respiratory therapies. Just as was the case with her treatment program, Dennion is slated to be discharged from physical therapy early.

Now, Dennion's receiving chemotherapy treatment every three weeks and has three remaining. She's working her way back physically, starting to run and lift weights a little bit.

"I was really fortunate," Dennion said in a phone interview last week. "[The doctors] said I was young and my body was so healthy. It's still way sooner than expected."

In the meantime, she's taking some on-line classes and even completing an internship with the physical therapist that is treating her.

"I've always wanted to do PT," Dennion said. "After seeing what she does and working with cancer patients, that's what I real

See **DENNION** page 13

# Elon reaches out to raise awareness for suicide prevention

Hannah Durbin  
Senior Reporter

“For me, depression was comparable to feeling dead inside. Situations always ended up being my fault — or at least that’s how it was in my mind,” said one of Elon University’s first-year students.

And that’s how it all started.

Depression led this student, who wishes to remain anonymous, to believe the world would be better off without her, as if the only purpose she served was to be a burden to others. Feelings like these are too powerful to handle alone, but reaching out seemed impossible. Taking her life felt like the only solution. But looking back, she sees just how many people were there for her to help her through.

“For anyone who is currently suffering or feeling alone, I have a simple piece of advice — talk to someone,” she said. “You may feel like you’re the only person in the world feeling this way, but there are so many people out there going through the exact same thing. The only way to figure that out, though, is to reach out for guid-

ance. It will make a world of difference.”

For young people between 15 and 24, suicide is the second leading cause of death in the United States. SAVE (Suicide Awareness Voices of Education, a suicide awareness foundation, says there are twice as many deaths due to suicide than HIV/AIDS. Every 38 seconds, a person attempts suicide.

Elon has been taking steps to address this growing issue.

“It’s not only our desire to remain informed, but it’s our professional responsibility to make sure we know the most evidence-based methods of reaching out to students in need,” said Jennifer Brigman, one of Elon’s licensed professional counselors. “We continually evaluate our services to better help the students and would welcome any feedback as to how we can improve.”

Suicide is a serious health problem that takes a toll not only on the person struggling, but also on family, friends, classmates and community members. A depressed or suicidal person often hesitates to reach out for help because of the fear

of being embarrassed or feeling “different” from everyone else. Elon has been working to diminish this feeling for students who are struggling during their academic career.

Help is not far away for students. On-campus counseling services are offered for any student, free of charge. Counseling services provide crisis intervention to students in psychological distress, as well as support during a solution-focused session with a trained health professional.

The National Suicide Prevention Life-Line is also directly linked to the Counseling Services page on Elon’s website.

The stress and workload of college could be factors contributing to the increase in mental health issues across college campuses.

“The transition to college has its ups and downs,” said first-year Jordane Mink. “Some weeks are better than others. But there’s a constant pressure to always be working on something. Even when I have free time, my mind is cluttered with to-do lists of assignments that I need to get done. It’s exhausting.”

Social pressures and feelings of isolation and disconnection are two of the main factors contributing to suicidal thoughts on campus.

“The hardest thing about the whole adjustment period is being away from everything I’ve ever known,” said first-year Ashley Davis. “I’ve had to completely start over — that’s enough to overwhelm anyone.”

For students who are already feeling out of place, these pressures add up.

That’s where Elon’s services come into play. Counselors work around the clock to provide support for any student who needs it. There is a counselor on call throughout the day, as well as after hours, to help support any student experiencing a crisis or emergency.

Something else to keep in mind is that counseling services are in the process of putting together a mindfulness class that has been proven to help reduce anxiety. This class will directly address feelings of fear, racing thoughts, worries about the future, or having trouble with issues of the past.

# Residence Life aims to increase number of on-campus residents

Simone Jasper  
Senior Reporter

As Elon University prepares to house more student on campus, residence life data shows that the percentage of students living on campus has increased over the past 10 years.

The goal to keep 75 percent of students on campus by 2020 is detailed in the Residential Campus Initiative. The plan falls under the Elon Commitment, the university’s strategic plan.

“We want to make sure that what we offer socially, intellectually and academically on campus is up to par to make students want to stay on campus all four years,” said Elaine Turner, director of residence life.

During the 2004-2005 school year, 58.9 percent of students lived on campus. Now, in the 2014-2015 school year, 62.4 percent of students live on campus.

In recent years, the Colonnades neighborhood and the Station at Mill Point were added to campus. The buildings offer space for 430 and 320 students, respectively. The Global Neighborhood was finished at the beginning of this school year, adding space for another 600 students.

Turner said these options have amenities that encourage students to stay on campus. She also said classroom spaces in residence halls, Living Learning Communities and courses that are linked to residence halls impact student experiences.

“We have more single rooms and more common rooms where students can interact together,” Turner said. “Having interactions outside the classroom is creating experiences that you aren’t going to get off campus.”

Senior Kelsey Price lives at the Station at Mill Point. She said that living with other students has given her a chance to build relationships outside of the classroom setting.

“It ties into Elon’s intellectual climate goal,” Price said. “It’s making for a better environment. As opposed to having an older neighbor or one with a family and kids, it’s helpful to be around people of the same age.”

Senior Paige Becker said she doesn’t have many opportunities to interact with students at her off-campus apartment, but said living on campus her first three years at Elon was helpful.

“It was easier to make friends [on cam-

pus],” she said. “I don’t interact with other people in my complex. But it’s kind of nice to get away from the hectic environment of campus.”

Students at Elon are required to live on campus their first two years, although sophomores can apply for an exception. But Turner said the goal of Residence Life for all class years is creating neighborhoods.

“Over the past years, we’ve tried to come up with that neighborhood concept to try to create a connection to community so students feel that they belong on campus,” Turner said.

Becker said she enjoyed living on campus and would have considered living in Mill Point if it offered an option for three

people to live together. While she said that having freedom from the Elon meal plan is an advantage, she said that her distance from campus is a burden.

“Getting home is easier when you live on campus,” she said. “My parents don’t

like me walking alone at night. If I want to stay on campus longer, I bring my car or use E-rides.”

Turner said she hopes that more people will realize that living on campus is convenient. She is confident that the university will reach its 2020 goal and that she expects the percentage of students living on campus to increase next year. One step is filling the occupancy rate, which is currently at 99.4 percent, meaning 99.4 percent of the rooms on campus

**“ WE HAVE PLANS TO DO RENOVATIONS FOR OLDER EXISTING FACILITIES.”**

**ELAINE TURNER**  
DIRECTOR OF RESIDENCE LIFE



Residence Life offers many options for students to live on campus during all four years at Elon. Their goal is 75 percent of students living on campus by 2020.

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**LAUNDRY**  
from cover

change or will not.

"It's quite a hassle to constantly have to go to the bank and get quarters while other students simply get to swipe a pre-paid card," Davidman said.

Other students have complaints about the high expense of laundry on campus.

"I spend such excessive amounts on laundry because our washers and dryers are so inefficient," said junior Riley Billman, who lives in Sloan.

Some students just don't understand why they need to pay.

"Why do I have to pay for laundry if everything else on this campus is included in tuition?" said freshman Trae Baldwin.

Residence Life has heard these complaints and is taking them into consideration.

"We know that it is not equi-

table," said MarQuita Barker, associate director of Residence Life for operations and information management. "We are moving towards a plan to make it more equitable for students."

Other issues are not with paying for laundry, but with the machines themselves and access to enough washers and dryers.

"It's really just gross," said sophomore and Danielely apartment resident Katrine Ryan. "When I first went to do laundry, there were live spiders in the part where you put softener in. And there's mold all over the place."

Students are also concerned about the lack of working washers.

"A couple of weeks ago one of our washers broke, and it still hasn't been fixed," said sophomore Cassidy Levy, who lives in the Academic Pavilions. "I think they

need to understand that laundry is not something we do for fun. We need to do laundry — you want us to do laundry — so they should prioritize that."

Residents in Danielely apartments share four washers and four dryers with three other apartment buildings. That adds up to 96 people using the same machines.

"I don't think it's reasonable to think three whole apartments can share four washers and four dryers," said sophomore Sydney Holmes. "There should be more."

There may be issues with the functionality of the machines, too.

"I think the laundry is pretty shoddy," Wentworth-Ping said. "You always hear about machines breaking down with malfunctions and leaks. I've actually never heard of one dryer that works properly."

Auxiliary Services, a third party vendor, is responsible for all repairs and costs for washers and dryers in common areas of residential neighborhoods, or any machine that isn't in a suite or room. Residence Life is still working to address students concerns as well.

"We want students to know that we care about them," Barker said. "We don't want them to be excessively expensive. We want them to work and have access to washers and dryers. It's just a work in progress."

Even students who no longer deal with these problems find some issue with the laundry accommodations on campus.

"I think it's unfair to make some students pay and others

not," said senior Rachel Fishman. "I think it further disadvantages those who are not, or cannot, pay for more expensive housing."

Fishman currently lives in Station at Mill Point where she said there is a "huge" laundry room for only four people.

Despite the number of complaints from students around various areas of campus, some don't have much of a problem with laundry.

"I'm fine with doing my own laundry, and I get why we have to pay for it," said first-year Raleigh Burrell. "As long as my clothes aren't stolen, I'm OK with it."

For students that do feel that laundry on campus is overpriced, there are alternatives. But they are no cheaper.

The Washboard, a local laundromat located on North Holt Street behind the Elon Community Church, opens its doors to students, faculty, staff and community members every day of the week.

It is open from 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday and 1:30 to 10 p.m. on Sunday.

If students are looking to pay less for their laundry, The Washboard may not be the answer. Prices are much higher, with washing costing \$3.25 and drying costing \$4.25. Students may be better off paying the cost for their broken machines on Elon's campus.

Another alternative for Elon students unsatisfied with their laundry accommodations is Elon

Laundry, a service that launders your clothes for you.

The service offers a monthly, semester-long or annual rate and depends on the weight of the laundry. A student's laundry is picked up, laundered, sorted by color, folded and delivered within 48 hours.

"In the long run, we are fully insured," said cofounder Pete Ustach. "There is less of a risk of something happening to your clothes with us than on a college campus."

Between not knowing how to do laundry, shrinking clothes and waiting three hours for something to dry and it still coming out damp, Ustach believes his company provides a service that busy college students need.

According to his estimates, it would average out to about \$15 to \$20 a week.

"You pay an extra ten dollars, and you don't have to waste your time doing it," Ustach said.

Between 60 and 80 students are currently signed up for the service for a variety of reasons.

"We market it as a way for parents or grandparents to give students a gift for going to college when they don't really need anything else," Ustach said.

With a variety of options available to students about how they will clean their clothes — and that includes going to their friends' homes to use their free laundry — it's up to them to decide what they are willing to deal with when it comes to dirty laundry.



PHOTO BY JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor

Students say quarters are problematic for laundry because many don't carry cash.

# Fun Fund brings exciting events to campus

**Michael Papich**  
Assistant News Editor

Camels are not an indigenous species to the North Carolina Piedmont. So when two camels visited Elon University last spring, many students were understandably surprised.

The camels' visit was paid for by Elon's Fun Fund, established in 2008 to put unspent money from student organizations to use for the school.

"Each year, student organizations get their budgets, and in May, unspent funds go into a rollover account," said Student Government Association Executive Treasurer Avery Steadman.

The rollover account grew over the years, so SGA created an endowment to make use of the accumulated money. The endowment currently totals around \$150,000, but only the interest, around \$7,500, goes toward the Fun Fund.

How students use the Fun Fund depends on what they want to see on campus.

"We give students the opportunity to submit their form, asking what it is they're asking to use the money on," said junior Jack McCombe, chair of the Fun Fund board. "On the off chance we initially turn down their proposal, we give them the opportunity to come in person and present their claims."

Senior Mary Rouse, former member of the Fun Fund board and current member of SGA's Academic Council, said the criteria for student proposals only require three components for events.

"They have to be free to all Elon students, open to all Elon students and fun, which is hard to quantify," Rouse said. "Other than that, it's up to the board's discretion."

McCombe said Fun Fund money is

typically requested by student organizations like Greek houses or Elon Volunteers, though individual students have applied to put on events as well.

"As of now, we've seen three submissions," he said. "The board hasn't gotten into what to do with the leftover Fun Fund money."

That's what McCombe said was the cause of the camels on campus last year — the board had unspent Fun Fund money and wanted to put it to use for something students would find "fun."

"From what I saw, there were some people who were happy about it and some

people wondering why money was spent on bringing in a camel," he said.

While this is McCombe's first year on the board after being nominated by Steadman, Rouse has more experience with what student events were financed by the Fun Fund.

"From my experience, we support most things," she said. "People usually only requested a couple hundred dollars."

Despite the endowment's growth, student activity fees have increased for students over the year as well. Student activity fees, 51 percent of which go to SGA, fund organization budgets. The growth of the

two are caused by student organization are requesting larger sums of money, Steadman explained

"We get lots of requests for larger budgets and when budgeting, you'd rather go under budget than over budget," she said. "And with the endowment and the Fun Fund, we're making sure those fees aren't going to waste."

Academic funding, like giving a student money to present research, does not come out of the Fun Fund. SGA gives separate special allocations for things like that. Any funding that goes through SGA goes to either students or student activities.



Bringing two camels to Elon's campus as part of 'Hump Day' in the spring semester of 2014 is one of many past uses of the SGA Fun Fund.

FILE PHOTO BY JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor

# Students support survivors of sexual violence

**Kaitlin Dunn**  
Assistant News Editor

Rain didn't stop dozens of Elon University students who marched across campus for the Walk Against Victim Blaming Oct. 3. The walk, which was organized by Elon Feminists for Equality, Change and Transformation (EFFECT), was the culminating event of Support Survivors Week.

Students marched around chanting slogans to show support and demonstrate that women do not deserve to be victimized.

"We're trying to make this a really visible, activist event so that people can walk by, see what's happening and talk to their friends," said senior and former president of EFFECT, Rachel Lewis. "I think that by doing this we're showing the administration that we care about this."

Support Survivors Week was meant to show that women should be in control of their bodies and that sexual violence of any kind will not be tolerated on Elon's campus. One of their chants was, "Whatever we wear, wherever we go, yes means yes and no means no."

"This really embodies the spirit that we want to have here at Elon," said SGA Executive President Joe Incorvia. "I think it's important because there's a stigma in society about what people that go through domestic violence or sexual assault go through. I don't think it's really understood, so standing up and being a part of something like this is so important so we can bring awareness to what the core issue really is."

Senior Autumn Spriggs, who chaired the event, said that she has faced sexual harassment here at Elon, and taking part in the movement gives her a sense of empowerment.

One of the ways EFFECT promoted Support Survivors Week was through its use of social media. During College Coffee, students stopped by EFFECT's table and took pictures with a whiteboard



Students march across campus carrying signs and chanting during EFFECT's Walk Against Victim Blaming to show their support for survivors of sexual violence. JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor

saying why they support survivors. Other campus organizations showed support by posting their own similar pictures and sharing them on social media.

Earlier in the week students participated in a photo campaign, made signs for the walk and hosted a support survivors workshop.

"Sexual assault is something we just don't talk about enough at Elon," Lewis said. "I think if we remain silent about it as students, we can't get mad at the administration for not having any punishments available. Having the student body doing something about it makes the administration do something about it."

Senior Sarah Paterson took part in the first ever walk last spring.

"[Sexual Assault] is not a fun thing to

talk about," she said. "It's not something we talk about a lot, but it's nice to see students of all genders and of all persuasions out here and standing in solidarity."

Associate Vice President for Student Life and Title IX Training Coordinator Jana Lynn Patterson took part in the walk as well. Patterson said she has been an advocate for sexual assault victims since the 1980s.

"I've been in the business of supporting survivors for a long time," she said. "Any way we can symbolically demonstrate our support begins to change our culture. We're thankful that EFFECT and SPACES and SPARKS and students are having the ground swell."

Organizers of the event also passed around contact information for local sex-

ual assault resources such as SAFELine, a confidential advocacy phone line and Cross Roads, a local sexual assault resource center.

"I think a problem college campuses have sometimes is that they'll have these resources available but they're not translated to the students," Lewis said.

- Available Resources**
- SAFELine**  
336-278-3333
  - CrossRoads**  
336-228-0813
  - Additional Resources**  
[elon.edu/e-web/students/saa](http://elon.edu/e-web/students/saa)

## Senior Class Giving Campaign on track to meet goal

**Paul LeBlanc**  
Senior Reporter

For a group of 27 Elon University seniors, giving back to the university has taken priority over taking a dip in one of the fountains or stealing a brick before walking Under the Oaks one last time this spring.

The Senior Giving Campaign, expected to be the largest on record, has been spreading the word about making donations to the university and giving back to the community they say has given them the ideal college experience.

Senior Allison Fox, committee chair, said the initiative is off to a promising start. "We're doing great," Fox said, "We have 59 donations but for just being a month in or so and just launching the campaign, I think it's great."

Reaching that amount of participants is no easy task. Between looking for a job, applying to graduate schools and trying to enjoy their last year as Elon students, the senior class has a lot going on. Giving extra money to the university on top of tuition isn't always at the top of the list.

Fox said the key to getting her classmates to participate is all about explaining what the money is going toward: The recommended donation of \$20.15, the cost of roughly 10 cups of coffee, will help build a strong foundation for Elon's future.

"I think it's really important for an in-

stitution to have a strong alumni support in order to grow, get new buildings and stay on the radar as a credible university," she said.

Since its inception, the Senior Giving Campaign has grown; last year's participation was 41 percent, a record that this year's seniors are attempting to surpass. Senior George Riter, student relations vice-chair, got involved when he saw how the university's finances were broken down.

"It's amazing to find out that tuition doesn't cover all the school's expenses, and it's important for alumni to give back to make sure that their old school will continue to thrive," Riter said.

As for this round of donations, Riter said students have the freedom to funnel their money to the their favorite department or club.

"You can donate to your favorite department, club, organization or Elon's biggest need, to name a few," he said. "Additionally, I think it's important to talk to seniors early in the year, that way they can see all their money can do, and also allow them to budget effectively."

Those interested in donating can log into the Elon website and find the page ([www.elon.edu/e-web/advancement/senior-gift/](http://www.elon.edu/e-web/advancement/senior-gift/)) or simply contact any members on the campaign's committee. In upcoming weeks, the campaign will also have a booth set up at College Coffee and is in the process of planning more events.

### \$20.15 can get you:

16 carnival cookies from Acorn



9 medium cups of coffee at the Oak House



7 small cups of ice cream from Smitty's

# Cheat Sheet: Celebrity nude photo hack



*Want a complicated news story explained?*

*Email [pendulum@elon.edu](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu) and find it in next week's Cheat Sheet*

By the News Editors

Over the past two months, dozens of female celebrities have had private nude photos leaked online. Hackers targeted the celebrities' iCloud accounts — an Apple storage system — and posted the photos on anonymous online forums like 4chan.

Some of the celebrities, like pop singer Arianna Grande, have said their photographs are fake, while others like actress Jennifer Lawrence and model Kate Upton have confirmed their photographs are real.

While none of the hackers have been arrested, many of the targeted celebrities have banded together and are suing Google for violating the Digital Millennium Copyright Act by not removing the photos from their search engine results.

The Digital Millennium Copyright Act, signed in 1998, makes it illegal to provide technology or services intended to let individuals get access to copyrighted material. Martin Singer, a lawyer for more than a dozen celebrities targeted by the hack, has sent Google repeated letters threatening them with a \$100 million lawsuit unless the photos are removed from Google's search results and those who distributed the photos have their accounts suspended.

In the celebrity hacking case, Google has claimed it is doing all it can to remove the photographs from its searches.

"We've removed tens of thousands of pictures — within hours of requests being made

— and we have closed hundreds of accounts," said a Google spokesperson in response to the lawsuit.

While the scandal is referred to as a "hacking," it is not known if the photos were actually obtained through a breach in iCloud's security system. Apple, in its confirmation that the photos were taken off iCloud, said, "none of the cases we have investigated has resulted from any breach in any of Apple's systems including iCloud or Find my iPhone."

Assuming Apple is telling the truth about its systems, this could mean the celebrities' passwords or security questions were accessed instead. Finding the answers to celebrity security questions was how nude photos of actress Scarlett Johansson were stolen in 2012. If someone is determined enough, it is not particularly hard to find password clues, like a mother's maiden name or a pet's name, especially if that person is as famous as the women hacked in these scandals.

Apple has encouraged iCloud users to update their accounts with stronger passwords and a two-step verification process.

While the uploading of celebrity nude photographs has stopped for the time being, it has already had an impact on the current culture. After Emma Watson gave a speech at the United Nations on the importance of feminism in the modern world, a user on the website, 4chan said photographs of the actress would be leaked as retribution. While a website and countdown clock were created, the poster eventually said they had no photos and

the post was a "joke."

In the aftermath of the celebrity hacking scandal, the focus of the media has largely been on shaming the celebrities for taking the photographs, not about electronic security or the larger culture that would make people consider it okay to share and view private, intimate photographs. News anchors, ranging from Fox News' Martha MacCallum to MSNBC's Mika Brzezinski criticized the celebrities' decision to take nude photographs, as did other public figures like Ricky Gervais and North Carolina congressional candidate Clay Aiken.

The photo scandal has also led to increased profits for Reddit. Traffic to the sub-forum or "subreddit" that collected the photographs led to a boost in users who bought and traded "Reddit gold" — a form of currency on Reddit that costs real money to buy — in exchange for photos. The amount of revenue Reddit earned was enough to keep the Reddit servers going for a month, according to the creator of the subreddit used to house the photos, John Menese.

"If Reddit had wanted to, they could have banned us on Sunday when our traffic broke their servers," Menese said in an interview with Wired. "Instead, they chose to milk a week of publicity and a month of server time in 'Reddit gold' before they stepped in."

Whether a court will find Google accountable is hard to say. Viacom Inc. sued YouTube, over the website's access to television and movies owned by Viacom. In 2013,

a district court ruled in favor of YouTube, saying the company had no "actual knowledge" of copyright infringement and did not compel users to upload that material.

Given the precedent set here and the fact that Google is currently purging photos, it's unlikely the current lawsuit will go far.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS  
Actress Jennifer Lawrence is one of the celebrities whose nude photos were leaked online.



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# Elon students face challenges in discovering new music

**Brett Gubitosi**  
Senior Reporter

Jim Roberts walked into a small record store in Clinton, North Carolina in 1973 looking for music to buy. Then, teenager, now Elon University adjunct instructor in music, saw Pink Floyd's new release, "Dark Side of the Moon". Roberts purchased the album blindly and listened to it. Soon, he had listened to the album at least ten times, completely engrossed in it. "Dark Side of the Moon" is now considered one of the most influential rock albums of all time.

Roberts said he was unaware of most new releases during his adolescence. Today's generation follows a similar trend of not being aware of upcoming music releases, despite there being more research tools available than in the past.

According to an article on Billboard Biz, Billboard magazine's online news site, digital music and album download sales have decreased. In 2013, digital song downloads fell 5.7 percent from 1.34 billion units to 1.26 billion units. This can partially be attributed to ad-supported and paid subscription music services, such as Pandora and Spotify. The article also said physical CD sales dropped 14.5 percent to 165.4 million units, down from 193.4 million in 2012.

Roberts said he follows new releases by artists he has listened to since his youth. For example, he recently purchased Led Zeppelin vocalist Robert Plant's new solo album, and he is anticipating Pink Floyd's first album in 20 years, The Endless River, set to be released Nov. 10.

Even with today's resources, Roberts said it is difficult to monitor and care about new

releases because there are so many bands.

"Honestly, I don't get enough exposure and don't have the time to do research," he said.

## Music through social media

This month, two multi-million dollar selling artists, Lil Wayne and Taylor Swift, are releasing new albums. Many Elon students said they were not aware of these or other new releases, though.

There are many students, though, who don't follow upcoming album releases but instead pick up new music when they hear it on the radio.

"I don't follow releases," said junior Samuel Ackerman. "I just get excited when I hear them for the first time."

Ackerman said he learns about new releases from friends, Facebook and Pandora.

"Sometimes a new song pops up on Pandora," he said. "I ask myself, 'Wait a minute, what is this?'"

Ackerman does not define new music as material newly released, but as something he personally had not heard before.

"It could have been out for a while, but it's new to me," he said.

Digital platforms such as iHeart Radio, Pandora and Spotify help students find new music as well.

Junior Derek Vogt said he does not look for new releases because he uses digital platforms. "Now that I use Spotify, I don't see many advertisements for new music," he said. "I followed that more when I used iTunes."

There are some students, though, who continue to follow favorite bands' upcoming

albums.

Elon sophomore Emma Bonniche uses Pandora to find new music. Before services like Pandora, Bonniche listened to the radio. Looking back, she said the radio does not suit her current tastes. "Today, there are more options to find music that you like," she said.

Bonniche is excited for the Foo Fighters' album, "Sonic Highways," set to release on Nov. 10. She follows the band on Facebook, where The Foo Fighters announced the album on their page long before its release.

## Word of mouth

Friends and family provide plenty of musical influence as well.

"I listened to what my older siblings did growing up," said first-year Aaron Bennett.

Bonniche said of her friends, "They have similar tastes. They know I don't like genres like alternative folk, so they won't suggest that."

Sophomore Amanda Echavari is excited about Taylor Swift's new album, "1989," due to be released on Oct. 27.

Echavari said some people are more proactive about discovering new album releases than others. But overall, she said, those people are not the majority.

"For everyday people, the album isn't that relevant," she said. "I only anticipate a few artists' new albums."

In one of Robert's Elon courses, Beyond the Beatles, students study artists such as The Rolling Stones, The Who and others. He hopes students can experience music they might not have heard before.

"I want my students to introduce this music to their future children," he said.

## Upcoming Album Releases

1

### Taylor Swift: "1989"

Release date: Oct. 27.  
Taylor Swift's first official pop album, led by the single "Shake It Off."

"I think for a while she's been doing pop, but calling it country," said Echavari. "She's calling it what it is now."

2

### Lil Wayne: "Tha Carter V"

Release date: Oct. 28.  
Lil Wayne's fifth installment in his rap series, led by the single "Believe Me."

3

### Garth Brooks: "Man Against Machine"

Release date: Nov. 11.  
Garth Brooks announced his return to the studio and his return to touring earlier this year. This will be the country star's first album in 13 years.

4

### Weezer: "Everything Will Be Alright in the End"

Release date: Oct. 7.  
The trio's first album in four years, led by the single "Back to the Shack."  
In an Entertainment Weekly interview, lead singer Rivers Cuomo said it will be less poppy than their last two albums.

# Students capitalize on creative process of choreography

**Diana Stancy**  
Senior Reporter

Students taking choreography I and II will be performing "Works in Progress Choreography Salon" for a small audience in Studio A in the Center for the Arts Oct. 16 and 17. The purpose of the performance is for students to receive feedback before showcasing the finished piece at the end of the semester.

Dance majors are required to take both choreography I and II after completing a course in improvisation. Choreography students begin working on their pieces early in the year and spend the semester focusing on developing a finished product.

Renay Aumiller and Sara Tourek, who teach choreography I and II, focus on the students' understanding of art's structure and movement in relation to ideas. Aumiller describes structure as a "complex web," with several concepts that are interrelated.

Both Aumiller and Tourek emphasized they want the students' work to be authentic and organic.

"I'm really looking to help them to craft what they have already made. I'm not interested in having them make dances the way I make them, but really honing their skills," Tourek said.

Junior dance major Caroline Echevarria is taking Aumiller's choreography class this semester and said her view of choreography has broadened in a short amount of time.

"One of the most important pieces of information I have gained from this class is that there is no right or wrong to the creative process," she said. "Prior to taking this class, my view of choreography was very black and white, but I've since learned that choreography is more about intention than it is product."

Echevarria's experience is similar to a revelation Aumiller had while taking a choreog-

raphy course during graduate school. She also had a specific approach to her choreography originally.

"I always thought of choreography in one particular way. It's a toolbox, and you put plaster on top of movement," Aumiller said. "And then you attach a meaning to it separately, and then you perform it as a piece. I love the formula, but it's always up for debate."

One of Aumiller's professors in graduate school used an analogy that resonated with her. He compared the choreography process to a baby — it begins as just an idea. Then, through rehearsal, it is born, and grows and develops over time. The final product may be exactly what was expected or something entirely different.

Students are not required to select a particular style of dance like ballet, jazz or contemporary when they begin choreographing their pieces. Instead, the faculty teaches that movement should be a physical interpretation of a particular concept and be related to an idea.

"The students have a lot of freedom to express their voices and create movements that are authentic to them," Tourek said. "We really worked a lot with manipulation of time and space and energy."

Echevarria is in the process of creating a piece for Aumiller's class.

"I have always been intrigued by the idea of creating movement that is inspired by personal experience, whether those experiences be physical, mental or emotional," she said. "I think it is these artistic themes that the audience is able to best form their individual opinions about and relate to."

Aumiller said each of her dancers had capitalized on his or her individualism throughout the creative process.

"Everyone has a different voice in this class. I don't think there is one piece that looks like the other," she said. "They all have their own individual voice at a young age."

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# THE ALMOST WALKING DEAD

*Elon crosswalkers sometimes in danger as they cross streets without caution*



First-year Olivia Hobbs crosses East Haggard Ave. Many Elon students do not look before using crosswalks, which has led to accidents in the past. NICOLE OSGOOD | Staff Photographer

**Courtney Campbell**  
Senior Reporter

“You have got to be kidding me!” a student exclaims as a car speeds through the crosswalk that bridges McEwen to West Haggard without slowing or stopping, disregarding students eager for Acorn or heading to class.

North Carolina law 20-175 states that the driver of a vehicle must stop to give the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing at an intersection if a stop sign or stop light is not in place.

The law is intended to prevent accidents and assure safety to these “crosswalkers.” But for Elon University students who often don’t stop or look to make sure a car will stop, reliance on the driver to follow NC 20-175 can be a potential danger.

This, “no car is going to hit me” mentality stems from the fact that crosswalks are located

on a relatively safe college campus. According to sophomore Maggie Hakas, this feeling of safety that causes students to worry less about cars.

“[The crosswalks] go right through the center of campus,” Hakas said. “You assume you have the right of way over cars and that they are going to stop.”

Hakas, a North Carolina resident, also said that “everyone in the South stops for pedestrians” as a part of Southern hospitality. Still, she waits at each crosswalk because she knows there are still rude drivers.

Hakas, who has a car on campus, said she always stop for pedestrians, although she gets angry when they cross the streets without a crosswalk or when they take too long. These people who “walk like a turtle” are holding up cars that are waiting to get through, she said.

“It’s one of those double standards,” said

senior Yashvi Patel in regards to the frustrations of both drivers and pedestrians. “When you are a driver, you get mad at walkers for being slow, but when you’re a walker you get mad at cars for not stopping.”

First-year Olivia Hobbs has already noticed this norm. Although she waits at crosswalks at her home in Florida because of the high volume of cars, she does not wait as much at Elon.

“Most of the time I will just walk through them unless I see a car that won’t stop and hope that I won’t get hit,” Hobbs said. “I feel that most people feel that [cars will stop], especially freshmen.”

She also said she believes cars are more likely to stop at certain intersections, like the three crosswalks on Haggard. She finds that not all cars stop on the intersection of East Haggard and North O’Kelley Avenues, particularly when students are not walking in larger groups.

Crossing leaves most students unscathed. Originally from traffic-heavy Atlanta, sophomore Caroline Patterson didn’t hesitate for fear of not being able to cross.

Last May, she was biking from Moseley to Alamance, assuming the oncoming cars would stop for her. Instead, she was thrown off her bike, suffering a gash on her head and a mid-range concussion. Now recovered, Patterson is much more conscious of her surroundings each time she crosses the street.

“Before the accident I crossed the streets without hesitation,” Patterson said. “Now, even my good friends have noticed that I am

very hesitant when crossing the street. Until the driver has acknowledged that he’s seen me, I don’t cross. I still haven’t been able to ride my bike over the same crosswalk.”

Patterson said that students cross without looking because they are in a hurry or they simply expect cars to be the aware ones and stop for them.

She advised students to be more aware of their surroundings, especially when crossing alone because they are less noticeable. But she knows the security of being on a college campus causes students to be less aware.

“The truth is that students on campus don’t expect cars to hit them, so they do feel safe,” Patterson said. “I’m not sure how that feeling of security is going to change unless something happens to them. Unless we get back into the mood of looking left and right like when we were kids, college students are just going to continue crossing the street as if they own it.”

PENDULUM SURVEY RESULTS

In a Pendulum survey of 154 students:

**63 percent** of students look both ways after crossing the street.

**75 percent** would be mad if a car did not stop for them.

**36 percent** expect cars to stop at every crosswalk.

## First-year looks for balance between classes and country music career

**Catie Willett**  
Senior Reporter

Growing up writing music, attending voice and guitar lessons and participating in every high school musical production she could, Elon University first year Rachel Hobbs is used to the spotlight.

“Ever since I was little, I would ask my mom where a microphone was,” Rachel Hobbs said.

Her love of country singing has drawn her to the stage since she was 9-years-old. Now in college, she has the opportunity to take her passion even further along with her older twin sisters.

“I would always watch them when I was little,” Rachel Hobbs said. “They love singing. It’s their passion, and they are pursuing it as a career.”

Recent graduates from Wake Forest University, sisters Hannah and Lauren Hobbs graduated with degrees in communications and a dream of traveling to Nashville to become a professional country trio. Since the youngest sister is away at college, Hannah and Lauren have moved back home to Pittsburgh and are working as a temporary duo to build a larger fan base and gain more experience from playing at different venues.

“I’m not a permanent member of the group right now because we’re all at such different stages of our lives,” Rachel Hobbs said.

Although the band hasn’t put activities on hold for their little sister, the duo established the band name The Hobbs Sisters to leave an open spot for their final member.

“We would love nothing more than to have Rachel as a full time member of The Hobbs Sisters,” Hannah Hobbs said. “We love performing as a duo, but there is something so cool about having the three of us onstage together.”



(From left to right) Lauren, Hannah and Rachel perform at Wake Forest University. The three make up ‘The Hobbs Sisters’, an aspiring country music trio. PHOTO COURTESY OF JANA FRITZ

Even with the distance, Rachel Hobbs tries to maintain her presence in the group, collaborating long distance on lyrics and opening for The Swon Brothers, a duo that placed third on season four of “The Voice.”

The trio’s music has played on radio stations in Pittsburgh, and they have created their own EP, which is available on iTunes.

“Our trio works so well on stage,” said the other half of the duo, sister Lauren Hobbs. “We all bring our own style and our own sound to the group. Rachel always brings really unique ideas to the table. She helps us think outside of the box.”

With every Hobbs child seeking stardom, a dream that would make most parents quiver, all three sisters have considered the cost of their dreams. To be safe, the Hobbs have or are working toward a college degree. Coincidentally, they have all decided on majors in communications, each with their own special focus.

“I love politics, and I think at Elon they have such a great communications program. I could definitely see myself taking advan-

tage of those opportunities,” Rachel Hobbs said. “We all have a similar back-up plan, but we’d love for the music thing to work out. You never know where life takes you.”

Even with the industry’s lack of guaranteed policy and ever-changing demands of singers, the Hobbs family stands firmly behind their children’s dreams.

“I think we’re really blessed to have such supportive parents that want us to go after our dream,” Rachel Hobbs said. “I think they feel the same way we do in that you might as well go after your dream and give it everything you have.”

The dream remains, but for now her sisters are back in Pittsburgh, and her new life is beginning in North Carolina. As the sisters continue to prepare their futures, they offer their little sister advice for her own future.

Hannah Hobbs said that making time for music develops skills to be a better artist and also can help to unwind and relax.

“Even though college is an extremely busy time of your life, make time every day

to do something for your music,” Hannah Hobbs said.

Heeding her sister’s advice, Rachel Hobbs is looking for her own outlets to improve her vocal skills, beginning with minoring in music production and finding clubs that appeal to her skills.

“I’ve heard from a lot of people that there are open mic nights on campus that I plan on taking advantage of,” she said. “And definitely when I go home, we have shows booked for Thanksgiving and Christmas, so I’m really looking forward to that.”

For all three Hobbs girls, the goal of one day reaching Nashville with an established fan base and success from their own talent remains. Whether the trio follows through with plan A or B, what will always remain is their unconditional love and shared passion for singing.

“I definitely look up to them in so many ways,” Rachel Hobbs said. “And I’m so fortunate to have sisters who are so supportive of everything that I do and that I could definitely call my best friends.”

# Live from WSOE, it's Elon Laugh Radio

## Student radio program offers taste of improv



Ally Feinsot  
Senior Reporter

When you think of improvisation, the first thing that may come to mind is "Saturday Night Live," where actors perform in physical sketch comedy for a live television audience. You probably wouldn't think of improv radio, but Elon University's only improvisation radio show, *Elon Laugh Radio* on WSOE 89.3, has taken to the airwaves.

Seniors Anna Weis and Sam Jones took on *Elon Laugh Radio* last year after their friends, who founded the show, graduated.

"[Elon alumni] Sean Liang, Matt Summers and Ben Morris did *Second City*, an improv training center in Chicago," Weis explained. "They saw a need for more improv based clubs at Elon and decided to form *Elon Laugh Radio*."

Jones added that inspiration came from a "real life" improv radio show called *Improv For Humans*, hosted by one of the founding members of the Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre, an improvisation group that originated in New York. The founders of ELR knew they had ample resources at Elon through WSOE, so with their passion and improv experience, they created ELR in 2012.

Weis said she and Jones caught the eye of Liang when the two appeared on the show as guests.

"Every week, *Elon Laugh Radio* has a guest spot, and Sam and I were asked to be guests multiple times, since Sean noticed that we had a heavy interest in improv. When he graduated, he offered us a chance to take over the show."

Taking over the reigns, Jones said, has been a great experience.

"What's awesome is that Sean and the other founding members of *Elon Laugh Radio* can continue to listen to the show through our online live broadcast each week," he said. "This is our second year doing the show on our own, and now that we are seniors, we're looking to see who is going to take over for us."

The future leaders of *Elon Laugh Radio* are unclear at the moment, but Weis said they have some ideas.

"It really has to be someone who is willing to take on such a big commitment every week and find guests," Weis said. "You have to be really excited about it and have a passion for improv. I think if someone came up to us and [showed interest], that would be huge."

Each week, Weis and Jones feature guests and take suggestions for topics via *Elon Laugh Radio's* social media accounts.

"We try to get people with some improv experience, so they know what they are getting themselves into," explained Weis.

Jones added they look for guests that are "excited, fun and good listeners."

"It takes a lot to do improv but it takes even more to do it on the radio because you are dealing with the medium of sound and that is it," he said. "If you are doing different characters, you have to do different voices. You have to give an exposition to the audience without starting every topic with, 'Hey, Mom, we're at the grocery store and I'm mad at you.'"

Weis said they look for suggestions that are fun and provide a lot of inspiration.

"We've done bits on the *Rugrats* and other old TV shows and fun, unique topics like 'your mom's spaghetti,'" she said. "It can be challenging at times, not being able to



*Elon Laugh Radio*, on Elon's radio station WSOE 89.3, is hosted by seniors Sam Jones and Anna Weis. ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

use the physical body to perform, and that is something that we've learned throughout our run on the show."

Mack White, WSOE's general manager, explained that *Elon Laugh Radio* is unique in that its members create the content as the show goes on.

"Creating unique content every week is definitely the most difficult aspect of working in radio," he said. "It takes a lot of preparation to fill up one hour a week of original material

that will keep the listener interested."

Weis' and Jones' hard work and preparation for the show pay off each week, as they continuously draw in audiences through their original content and humor.

"Sam and Anna's chemistry is extremely strong, so their ability to play off each other's actions is hilarious," White said.

Check out Sam Jones and Anna Weis on *Elon Laugh Radio* every Monday evening 6-7 p.m. on WSOE 89.3.

# 'Reckless' combines laughter, discomfort

Casey Brown  
Senior Reporter



Hilarious. Absurd. Upping the stakes at every turn. Even these praises don't do justice to the Elon University Performing Arts Department's production of "Reckless." Craig Lucas' dark comedy uses Christmastime as the backdrop to tragedy, as protagonist Rachel runs away after her husband takes a contract out on her life. Rachel finds sanctuary in Springfield, Massachusetts, with Lloyd, a kindly social worker, and his deaf, paraplegic partner Pooty.

### PLAY REVIEW

"Reckless"

Our Rating:



his deaf, paraplegic partner Pooty.

Nothing is what it seems. This show is quirky and committed to its eccentricities, both in script and with a cast dedicated to bringing this off-kilter world to life.

All the madness happens during Christmas, the holiday of cheer and togetherness, which becomes an ironic setting for the downturn in every character's life. The setting creates a particular degree of heartbreak, since it is Rachel's favorite time of year, but it continually brings the worst times of her life.

It adds complexity to the classic Norman Rockwell portrayal of Christmas — a time brimming with drama, heartbreak and the occasional contracted killing under the surface. It brings a new depth to the story that another setting couldn't.

"Reckless" is a show that isn't afraid to

go off the rails. Some moments can make the audience's heads spin in shock, but that's only natural for a play that boasts acquitted killers who write bestsellers and a game show called "Your Mother or Your Wife." It has a Mr. Miyagi quality to it — it may not always make sense, but the payoff to quirky twists satisfies in the end.

The absurdity of the play is grounded in the authenticity of the characters' relationships, which the actors execute

gracefully. The deep sense of caring between the three leads — Rachel, Lloyd and Pooty — is heartwarming. The therapists shed light on a more somber, reflective side to Rachel.

Each character brings out something new from the others, helping each one add layers to their personalities until the audience is left with the broken but still endearing people on stage. The best way to invest in a play is to buy stock in its characters, and "Reckless" is bursting

with value.

The heart of the show lies on the confident shoulders of its star, sophomore Nicole Bloom. Bloom shines as the helplessly optimistic and scatterbrained Rachel, a character who can be unfailingly positive and still tumble into a downward spiral.

She navigates this emotional landscape convincingly. Each emotion is executed with so much raw drive, it will be hard to separate Bloom from her "Reckless" counterpart in weeks to come.

A dark comedy like "Reckless" is hard to get used to at first, full of uncomfortable humor that you're not sure if you should respond to with a laugh or a gasp. Audience members may ask themselves, "is laughing at this joke revealing some sick, twisted part of my soul to the rest of the audience? Should I laugh boastfully, or would a soft chuckle be more appropriate?"

But "Reckless" requires the audience to move past those notions quickly because the dark quips are sharp and worthy of hearty laughter. By the end, you forget there was even discomfort in the first place.

The cast and crew can count "Reckless" another win for the department. While this may not be as straight-laced as many theater goers are used to, the cast takes its quirks in stride, creating a complex and meaningful theater experience that redefines the Christmas spirit and how we continually reshape our lives when things fall apart.



Elon sophomore Nicole Bloom plays the part of Rachel in the production of "Reckless." JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor

## News engagement goes beyond headlines

News. It is reported in a newspaper, magazine, television news program, online, etc. It is about something that has recently happened. News happens every day, every hour, every minute. News surrounds our lives, but are we taking it in?

To really understand what the unknown information is, news consumers must go beyond the headlines. The news should become part of a person's day to keep them informed.

A 2012 Pew Research Center news consumption survey, 29 percent of young adults go "newsless" on a typical day — that more than a quarter of young adults are not educated on what is happening in the world around them.

The news goes beyond just current events. It tells the stories of the human condition. We can learn from the news. History repeats itself and people can watch history unfold from newscasts and newspapers. Knowing the patterns of history allows for people to make more informed decisions.

In today's world, news intake is obviously moving online. According to a poll of 87 Elon University students, 24.14 percent receive most of their news from Twitter, 25.29 percent get the majority their news

from a news webpage and 21.84 percent said Facebook is their main news source.

One of the most popular news sources for Elon students, Twitter, can help or hinder sharing news stories. While scrolling through headlines can give the user a brief idea of what's happening in the world, clicking on the headlines and reading the stories can make a huge difference in hav-

### ONLY 57% OF THE PUBLIC IS GETTING THEIR NEWS 7 DAYS PER WEEK

AEJMC POLL ON PUBLIC ATTITUDES TOWARD THE PRESS

ing an idea of what's going on and knowing the different sides of a story. Twitter is a good route to get to the real news.

Being informed about current events around the world is always a positive addition to a college education. Staying in touch with news developments keeps students educated about what is happening around them. There is always a response to a professor or a friend about a recent story. In today's society, to truly become a global

citizen, students need to know and keep up with the news.

Staying updated with stories can connect readers to other people, either within their community or across the world. It helps readers empathize with those affected by world events. Being aware of current events can explain the context of a conversation with people from different backgrounds. People view the world through different lenses, and understanding these viewpoints is essential.

For example, as election season comes along, being informed about voting through news stories becomes crucial. Knowing the issues being debated, understanding what a candidate stands for and being prepared to analyze their remarks about hot topics can help voters form informed opinions.

According to the AEJMC Poll on Public Attitudes Towards the Press, the top five types of news the public pays attention to are: local news, weather, breaking news, national news, and international news. People are highly interested in what goes on in the community and what news may affect them personally.

At Elon, there are many student media organizations that promote news ranging from local to national and international. Elon Local News, The Pendulum and WSOE all provide Elon students with news.

There are multiple ways to get a daily dose of news without having to read through an entire paper or watch the 6 o'clock news every evening. Resources such as TheSkimm or "10 Things to Know for Today" by the Associated Press offer a quick way to get a taste of current events. Which stories are viewed is up to the consumer, but with these resources, there is at least the fact that people are slightly more educated and aware.

Elon is set to host a celebration for the first-ever National News Engagement Day on October 7th. There will be opportunities around the campus for students to say what news means to them. Also, keep an ear out for the town criers who will be announcing the day's headlines, decked out with a bell and tricorner hat. Be sure to use #elon-newsengage to see what others are posting about news at Elon.



The Pendulum is one of three on-campus news organizations, including WSOE and Elon Local News. JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor

## THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

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

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## A premature farewell to print journalism

The New York Times announced Wednesday a plan to make staff cuts that will leave 7.5 percent of its newsroom staff jobless.



Libby Gormley  
Columnist

It's no secret newspaper offices are taking big hits. A poll conducted by Pew Research Center in 2010 found that 64 percent of Americans believe print editions of newspapers will be extinct

by the year 2050.

To say that print newspapers are going extinct, however, is not to say that the newspaper industry is going extinct. Newspapers will adapt as they always have.

With the arrival of radio, newspapers were thought to die out. They didn't. With the arrival of television, newspapers and radio were predicted to become obsolete. They haven't. These media never fall off the map completely, but are modified to meet the demands of changing times.

In today's world, newspapers are moving online and becoming mobile-friendly as more and more readers reach for their smart phones to track current events and

ignore the print editions lingering on newsstands.

While online revenues for most news media only account for a fraction of the income from print, as we move toward a paperless world, the prospect for print news dims. Trends show that there will come a time when the cost to print newspapers will be higher than the revenue they bring in. At that point, printing will stop, and we'll be that much closer to a completely paperless world.

The move from print to online news will keep the newspaper industry afloat, but the days of seeing print newspapers in almost every hand are long gone, and that image will continue to fade.

Although print newspapers may disappear by 2050, that doesn't mean they won't be missed. Consuming news through the print medium is a distinctly satisfying experience, offering benefits that other media cannot.

Television news has the tendency to be distracting, with fast-moving graphics, mindless chitchat between anchors and commercial breaks. The connection between the consumer and the news is one more step removed. I blame my own short attention span for being distracted by anchors' voices, hairstyles and outfits, but I still consume less news than I do when

reading a newspaper.

Simplicity is one of the most appealing characteristics of a newspaper. Never, when reading a newspaper, must you wait for a commercial to end to continue engaging. Never must you endure an anchor's unfortunate personality to get to the information you seek.

This can be said about online newspapers, too, that provide few distractions and bear likeness to the print newspaper. The print newspaper is not without faults—it's much bulkier than a slender smart phone, and if you don't have a subscription, dropping \$2.50 on one weekday New York Times is cringe worthy, especially if you're not looking to read the whole thing. Print newspapers present a kind of reliability that's hard to come by now.

Barring a freak windstorm, a tangible print newspaper isn't going anywhere. Exclusively reading news on mobile and electronic devices leaves the consumer vulnerable to potential technological pitfalls. Wi-Fi is not always accessible or free, battery lives can die and electrical outlets, while plentiful, don't exist everywhere.

Not being able to access online news is rare, which is why it's not improbable to say that the 64 percent of Americans who predict the downfall of newspapers by 2050 may be correct. Reading news on

laptops and mobile devices is convenient and fits comfortably into the lifestyles of many Americans.

Still, the trustworthiness of a paper should not go unacknowledged. Papers don't require cords, plugs or batteries to provide hours of information and entertainment.

The experience of reading a print newspaper is efficient, enjoyable and free of frills but, if the aforementioned prediction is correct, loyal newspaper readers have less than 40 years to cherish the dependability of the aging medium and brace themselves for a day when it no longer exists.

**The Pendulum**  
Weekly publication comes out on Wednesdays

**Elon Local News**  
Mondays at 6 p.m.

**ELN Morning**  
Tuesdays at 9:50 a.m.

**ELN on WSOE 89.3**  
Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

**WSOE**  
Airs daily on 89.3

ELON STUDENT MEDIA

# Recycling on campus needs additional options

In today's world, recycling is no longer a foreign word. Whether or not one recycles at home, many Elon University students are familiar with the concept and know how to separate out plastics and glass products.



**Kate Nichols**  
Columnist

The school's Office of Sustainability makes it difficult to ignore recycling, since events throughout the year, including Re-cycleMania and the

Don't Trash it! campaign, are broadcasted regularly. Still, even with all of the promotion and efforts made by students and campus-run organizations, the question must be raised: are we doing enough?

Students most often complaints about composting and off-campus housing trash bins. Composting is an undervalued environmental contribution. Used for fertilizing and conditioning land, composting is another form of recycling keeping people from throwing away their rotten fruits, eggshells, fruit rinds and other decomposable trash foods.

In general, if it can decompose, it can be composted. And while there is composting on campus, it is rarely utilized, nor is it easily accessible to all students.

Currently, there are two composting containers available on campus: one at Winter Garden Cafe and one at Fountain Market. This is not enough. Of those who do compost on campus, several note that it is unrealistic to walk from complexes such as Provence and the Station



Student need to take advantage of recycling bins, for paper and plastic, which are scattered across Elon's campus. LANE DEACON | Staff Photographer

at Mill Point with a box of decomposing trash in hand to these locations. If Elon would like to see composting and recycling flourish more on campus, as it should, then this miniscule amount should be added to.

As far as general recycling goes, it should be easy to sort out waste into their corresponding bin.

Yet, there are places around campus that are making this easy process much more difficult. For instance, while on-campus apartments and dorms have clearly designated plastic, glass and cardboard bins for repurposing, this is not the case everywhere on and close to campus.

The Old Trollinger units, for instance, only have trashcans for plastic. While not technically part of campus, Old Trollinger, along with the rest of the Elon community, could easily have more bins to eliminate such massive amounts of waste.

These minor changes of adding more

composting and recycling bins around the local community may seem superfluous, but as of now, Elon recycles or composts about 30 percent of its waste stream. This may seem like a rather large number, but when more than 75 percent of waste is recyclable, that number does not seem nearly as impressive. There are many things that we as a campus and as members of the Elon community could do to bring up this number.

Recently, a Wall Street Journal article announced California as the first state to ban plastic bags statewide. Such a simple switch to paper bagging at Elon could lead to less trash on the side of the road or in the lakes on campus.

There are easy adjustments to our daily lives that we could make. Just by picking up cans scattered across lawns or encouraging friends to join in on recycling efforts, this campus could be a much more eco-friendly place than it already is.

## Letter to the editor: Fall Convocation

I'm a 2011 alumna who visited campus on Thursday and Friday. I came from New York City specifically for Fall Convocation, to hear Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn speak.

When I was an Elon University student, we typically had very good convocation speakers — Madeline Albright stands out to me as one of the best — and my peers and I often walked away from convocation feeling inspired and informed. We couldn't wait to talk about the speaker's remarks with our professors and peers in class.

I had similar expectations for this year's convocation and was excited to back at my alma mater for the event. But I was very disappointed by Elon's Fall Convocation speakers.

I found their remarks superficial and disorganized, relying on anecdotes that held little weight. Speaking with some of my former professors after the event, I realized their comments about certain groups they described — such as impoverished single mothers — could be viewed as not only trite, but offensive.

I'm currently pursuing a masters in journalism, so perhaps my expectations were a bit higher than current students in terms of what I hoped to gain from listening to lauded journalists Kristof and WuDunn. But, as evident by Michael Bodley's Oct. 2 Pendulum piece discussing the event, there was at least one current student also put off by the superficial nature of WuDunn's and Kristof's remarks.

And is it unreasonable to expect a convocation speaker at Elon — especially one who has been a convocation speaker here before — to pronounce our university's name correctly? Kristof mispronounced Elon twice during his speech. The first time, which was in the first minute of his talk, ignited murmurs from the crowd. (Kristof didn't seem to notice.) The second time, most of us silently cringed.

I loved being back on campus this week (even though I did get lost in Moseley and could only stare up wide-eyed in the foyer of the 'Great Hall.') I found my brick, went to a Twisted Measure concert and caught up with professors who, to this day, are some of my closest mentors. I laughed when people recognized me from the admissions video, realizing there are now parts of Elon I can barely recognize.

But, despite feeling disappointed by this fall's convocation speakers and astonished at just how rapidly new buildings are going up around campus, I realize that the Elon community hasn't changed much at all. And it was a privilege to be so warmly welcomed back home.

Next time I visit, though, I hope I don't hear anyone mispronounce my lovely alma mater's name.

— Natalie Lampert, Class of 2011

## Ebola slowly spreading to US, isn't worth the worry

The Ebola virus has reached the United States but it may not be as bad as it seems.



**Tim Melton**  
Columnist

Since its initial outbreak in Africa last March, there have been more than 7,000 documented cases of fever caused by the Ebola virus, with 3,349 being classified as fatal. While these numbers are certainly staggering, and the implications are terri-

ble, the virus has always managed to stay localized to Africa, especially in countries like Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone. That is, until now.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recently announced the first diagnosis of Ebola had been made in a Dallas hospital. The patient in question is Liberian citizen Thomas Eric Duncan, who flew into Dallas from his home country to visit family members and friends living in the country.

At the time of his departure, Duncan showed no symptoms of Ebola. It was only after a couple days of being in the United States that his sickness became apparent. Currently he is in serious condition at the Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital at Dallas.

We live in an age where global transportation of various diseases is common. Therefore, it is only natural that Ebola would make across the Atlantic.

It is unfortunate that those most often infected are the selfless missionaries and medical personnel trying to cure the disease in the first place.

For as long as Ebola has been discussed, it's continually been regarded as a problem specific to the African continent.

## Ebola hits the U.S.

NUMBER OF EBOLA CASES AND DEATHS as of Sept. 30

Country / State	Probable/suspected	Confirmed	Total of confirmed and probable/suspected
A Guinea	Cases	207	950
	Deaths	175	535
			710 deaths
			1,157 cases
B Liberia	Cases	2,769	927
	Deaths	1,108	890
			1,998 deaths
			3,696 cases
C Sierra Leone	Cases	228	2,076
	Deaths	48	574
			622 deaths
			2,304 cases
D Nigeria	Cases	1	19
	Deaths	1	7
			8 deaths
			20 cases
E Congo	Cases	40	30
	Deaths	N/A	42
			42 deaths
			70 cases
F Senegal	Cases	0	1
	Deaths	0	0
			1 case
G U.S.A. -Texas	Cases	0	1
	Deaths	0	0
			1 case

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Perhaps we can use the unfortunate circumstances of Duncan's case to broaden our perspective on Ebola. This biological threat is no longer just an African problem, but an American one as well. In time, we may even see Ebola evolve into a global pandemic.

Medical professionals within the United States have expressed they are not as familiar with the nature of Ebola, which makes it harder in some ways to treat the disease in America. The government, though, seems confident the Ebola virus can be contained and eradicated.

"The United States has the most capable health infrastructure and the most capable doctors in the world, bar none," said Chief Homeland Security Adviser Lisa Monaco in a recent briefing, "The United States is prepared to deal with this crisis, both at home and in the region."

Monaco brings up a good point about

how we should view Ebola in the United States — as a problem to take seriously as our own.

Rather than panicking at the smallest hint of adversity, we should consider how we can be a productive part of the solution. We can only do so, though, when we perceive the problem as something that can be solved.

### EBOLA SYMPTOMS

- Fever
- Severe Headache
- Muscle Pain
- Weakness
- Diarrhea
- Abdominal Pain
- Unexplained bleeding or bruising

### TRANSMISSION

- Ebola is not airborne
- Ebola is spread through direct physical contact with bodily fluids (blood, secretions, feces, urine, etc.)
- Contact with any surfaces or materials contaminated with fluids can transmit it

ALL ABOUT EBOLA

# Nathan Diehl finds home with Phoenix soccer

## *When doubt set in, Diehl carried his destiny to Elon University*

Kate Murphy  
Senior Reporter

Men's soccer standout Nathan Diehl's road to Elon University wasn't simply a drive on the well-paved I-40 from Tar Heel Country in Chapel Hill. His journey started on more of a gravel road off the highway detailed with potholes and kicked up dirt. He followed it, determined to find a program where he could make an impact.

Diehl, a native of Birmingham, Alabama, committed to play soccer at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill early in high school, which he said took a lot of stress off of his shoulders when applying to college.

Once he got to UNC, he enjoyed it and loved his teammates, but the intense soccer environment left him questioning his decision to play.

"Coming from Birmingham where soccer is foreign was such a radical shift in perspective," Diehl said. "And the mentality it took to succeed at the UNC level of college soccer was something I hadn't developed at all because I had been through such a lenient academy program."

Adjusting to the professionalism wasn't a problem for Diehl. He hit a roadblock when it came to the "coldness of the coaches" and the inability to have a discussion where his opinion was valued.

During the fall season of his sophomore year at UNC, Diehl considered ending his soccer career. A friend, who happened to be a skilled soccer player but didn't play in college, pushed him to stay the course.

"He told me to keep playing because you only have so much time left to play, and when you lose it, it's like you don't realize how much you need it until it's gone," Diehl said. "It flipped a switch in me. I started working harder at soccer and when I didn't see the results that I wanted at UNC, I wasn't distraught. I was just determined to go somewhere else."

### Round two of the recruiting process

When a player is looking to transfer, they are in control of the entire process. Everything begins and ends with them. Coaches can't help instigate or push for that release in any way.

Diehl had about a month and a half to set up his future plans and carry them through. He spent the first three weeks after deciding to transfer looking at other schools that were on his list before he had committed to UNC, including University of Alabama-Birmingham, which was right in his backyard.

The player makes the decision, has a meeting with the coaching staff and communicates



Nathan Diehl (far right) transferred to Elon from UNC and has integrated his way to becoming a key part of the Phoenix defense.

ASHLEY KING | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

with the athletic department of his or her school, which then issues him or her a release that allows them to communicate with other schools and programs.

"The recruiting process starts for us upon receiving that release," said Elon men's soccer coach Chris Little. "Then we follow up and see what the situation was and why it was that they wanted to leave."

The Elon coaching staff, headed by Darren Powell at the time, was familiar with Diehl coming out of high school, but once a player commits, they focus their attention to other potential recruits. Diehl's transfer request was among 25 to 30 others that the program collects every year.

"We look at the same two things regardless of the player," Little said. "At our level in the top 25, all the players have ability. It's a given that people are talented. The two things that we always look for are [if they] are hungry and do they want to develop their talent, and that's pretty clear."

Diehl was looking to leave a very good institution, so for Little, then an assistant coach at Elon, the answers were pretty clear. There was a spot at right back he could fill and the coaches knew he had the versatility and ability to upgrade their team. For them, it was a no-brainer.

Diehl looked at Elon after deciding he wasn't ready to go back to the waiting arms of his parents in Alabama and didn't want to leave North Carolina.

And when his UNC teammates found out Diehl was transferring, they highly recom-

mended Elon. According to Diehl, the close-knit UNC soccer community offered some insight into what kind of school Elon was and what the guys on the team were like.

He said he was on campus for about two hours and had a longer conversation with the Elon men's soccer coaches than he had in his three semesters with the UNC coaches.

"Later that day, I was already dead set to come to Elon," Diehl said. "It was just that simple."

Diehl committed despite never having met any of his future teammates, and he says that would've persuaded him even more. It was important to Diehl that he knew and felt like he had influence and wasn't just another blue practice dummy stuck in the ground.

He found that at Elon with personable coaches who immediately inspired and encouraged him. Diehl went from rarely seeing the field at UNC to playing in every match for the Phoenix and starting in all but one.

He also joined a talented group of players who had no national accolades. But Diehl said they are some of the best he's seen and are willing to support each other despite competing for minutes.

"There is no on or off field hostility, and that's what helped make us so successful," Diehl said. "Everyone has everyone else's back, and you're expected to do the same for them."

### Transitioning to Elon's environment

Outside of soccer, Diehl felt it was much easier to connect with people. Academically, UNC and Elon have similar rigorous standards and high expectations for students. For Diehl, the only key difference was the class sizes. With a 12:1 student to teacher ratio, Diehl couldn't skip class anymore, but he said he adjusted better than expected.

"I feel like I integrated pretty well," Diehl said. "I try to be open-minded and respectful of other people and kind, and that goes a long way when you're meeting new people."

From a coaching perspective, Little said that with every player, they're just trying to establish what it is the player is looking for in their experience and how the coaches can help.

"When you're building the relationship and when you have a transfer, you get to what they're looking for pretty quickly," Little said. "They're mature and have been through the process."

According to Little, there's a reason why the player wants to transfer, which means they know what they're looking for and what's going to make them happy.

"The question is can we provide that in our

university and soccer program," Little said. "It was pretty clear that [Diehl] was what we were looking for and hopefully we could give him what he was looking for."

Diehl finally feels like he is making a difference. People take notice of him and respect him for what he contributes to the team and socially, which he says makes him comfortable without being complacent.

### Becoming part of the legacy

The Elon men's soccer team has a certain vibe around campus that stands out from other athletic teams.

**"IF YOU WORK HARD ENOUGH, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE YOU GO TO SCHOOL OR WHERE YOU PLAY SOCCER."**

**NATHAN DIEHL  
SENIOR DEFENDER**

And for Diehl, it is that legacy and willingness to sacrifice for the guys to the right and left of him in the huddle that makes them successful.

"There is nothing that's too extreme," Diehl said. "You're willing to support your teammates through anything, and other places that's a cliché, but here it's a mentality. It's who we are."

With three straight Southern Conference Tournament titles, three consecutive NCAA tournament appearances and an end of the year ranking in the top 25 in the national polls, the success and lasting impact of the team on the field is undeniable.

It is that "something special" on and off the field that reassures Diehl of his decision.

"The legacy is the best part about the team," Diehl said. "That grit and work ethic and determination and willingness to sacrifice on and off the field. It's a legacy of guys that are bold to the point of recklessness, but it's endearing in a certain sense."

After transferring and coming to Elon, Diehl said his love of soccer has grown.

"From the way that this place is and how the players and coaches treat you and the sense of camaraderie," Diehl said, "everything works towards improving my own desire to play soccer."

## 6 things you might not know about Nathan Diehl

1. Laziness and a resemblance to Sons of Anarchy's Jax Teller is what keeps the golden locks growing.
2. He drives a motorcycle, but he lost both sets of keys so he won't be on it anytime soon.
3. He has a passion for poetry - sometimes for academic credit as a creative writing major, other times through mockery of teammates to entertain a crowd at parties.
4. A sleep mask and ear plugs are his essential bedside accessories.
5. He loves Jersey Mike's Philly cheesesteaks.
6. He spent the summer taking improv acting classes.

GRAPHIC BY KATE MURPHY | Senior Reporter

## DENNION

from cover

ly want to do now. It's awesome to have the opportunity to intern with her."

### Surprises and reminders

It was the first week of the preseason, and Elon head coach Chris Neal, standing at the center of Rudd Field facing the grandstands, was making stuff up. It wasn't the ordinary post-practice talk. He was facing his team in a horizontal line. He just had a few more seconds to kill, so he said some random thoughts on practice and logistical things.

At the same time, Nicole Dennion sat in her car in the parking lot directly behind the team, anxiety flowing through her body. She finally received a text message from Neal saying to "Come up really quietly and try to hide behind the trees."

Dennion tip-toed her way to the field as Neal announced to his team, "We have a kid who's going to try out. She's a transfer. You guys introduce yourselves."

The team turned around, saw Dennion, and rushed her with unmatched happiness and surprise.

"I was so excited to see her," said Insley, who hadn't seen Dennion in more than a month. "It was a reminder of exactly why we're out here, how lucky we are to have this, how lucky we are to have a teammate like her that randomly surprises us."

Neal was the only one who knew Dennion was going to be there. The day before, Dennion had been texting sophomore goalkeeper Taylor Mohr and had to lie and say she wasn't sure when she would be able to make it down to Elon for a visit.

"It was so hard to keep it from Mel and Taylor," Dennion said. "I had to keep my mouth shut, but I did it."

The moment served as the first of what Insley calls "reminders" of Dennion and why the team is playing the game.

The team now sports purple tape around their wrists during

games that read "NKD 22," Dennion's initials and jersey number. Many players write special messages on the tape like "Remember why we started" and "Don't stop until you're proud."

Before each game, the players stand in a circle, put their arms around each other and take a moment to think of how lucky they are to be playing.

At the same time, Dennion is glued to her computer screen watching either the live stream or the live stats of Elon's game.

"She's definitely still a part of this team even though she's not physically here right now," Insley said.

### A gracious community

Mel Insley was preparing for Elon's home game against Clemson University Aug. 29 when someone came up to her and said that some Clemson players were going to give her something.

"I'm like, 'What? I don't even know anyone on Clemson. What's going on?'" Insley said.

Clemson presented Insley and Elon with a No. 22 signed Clemson jersey with the name "Colie" on the back of it in honor of Dennion.

No one knew that was going to happen, similar to the countless other acts of kindness by other teams to support Dennion.

Schools such as High Point University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Liberty University have all donated and worn tape with her initials on it. Towson University, an opponent of Elon's in the Colonial Athletic Association, just announced a season-long fundraiser to raise donations for Den-



Clemson players presented Elon with a signed jersey in honor of Dennion when the teams played Aug. 29. PHOTO COURTESY OF ELON WOMEN'S SOCCER TWITTER

nion and her family.

Every team at Virginia Tech sent Dennion a card, and the men's soccer team even sent her a signed jersey.

"It reinforces that we're around good people," Neal said. "There's a deep sense of networking and camaraderie amongst the coaches. We try to support each other whenever possible. The soccer community has stepped up big-time."

Shortly after Dennion's diagnosis, Neal set up a GoFundMe page to raise money for her and her mother. He put an initial goal of \$20,000, which was surpassed within a week. The goal has been reset and broken a total of four times, and the amount raised from the site is currently \$37,023.

"I can't say enough about how much that initial support from everybody, specifically the financial

support, and the social media stuff and what people were doing at games with teams," Neal said. "All of that was an incredible, positive distraction for her and her mother in the first few months. I can't thank everybody enough, and I know Nicole feels the same way."

Elon sold t-shirts with the phrase "Never Back Down" emblazoned on the front, along with hosting a number of other fundraising events in the spring.

To this day, Insley gets goose bumps up and down her arms and legs thinking about the support Dennion and the team have received.

"It's always just a nice little reminder about society and the people in it," Insley said, "how amazing they are and how willing they are to support a young girl fighting cancer."

### Saying thank you

Dennion keeps a soccer ball in her room and juggles it around daily. The game she's been playing since she was young is on her mind all the time.

She plans to be back at Elon in February for the start of the spring semester. If everything stays on schedule, she'll complete her final chemo treatment Dec. 10.

Through the process, Insley said Dennion's attitude has never wavered.

"She radiates on you this optimistic, positive energy," Insley said. "I have been impressed with her strength through this whole battle. She's still that fiery Jersey girl."

The support from Elon and the other schools has left Dennion humbled, shocked and blessed all at the same time, she said. It's something she carries with her on a daily basis when she's going through treatments and therapy. "All I can say is it's amazing," Dennion said. "The support has been outpouring. I still can't believe to this day so many people and teams have given me this support."

She's been a warrior and an inspiration to her teammates from the onset, inspiring the shower of donations and special moments. If Dennion was able to speak to her donors, many of whom she's never met, it wouldn't be an exclamation in all-capital letters through text.

Instead, it'd be a simple, yet deep, message from the heart:

"You don't know how much it means to me, having all these people support me, sending me messages. It gives me my strength and will to keep going. It really means so much."

**"I still can't believe to this day so many people and teams have given me this support."**

**NICOLE DENNION  
FORWARD**

# Phoenix searches for rhythm in CAA play

Kyle Maher  
Senior Reporter

The Elon University men's soccer team hasn't gotten off to the kind of start expected of a program that has won three straight conference championships and made three straight trips to the NCAA tournament. The Phoenix sits at 3-2-2 after a rocky, up-and-down nonconference performance that featured a stout defense often held back by a frustratingly stagnant offense.

If battling inconsistency isn't enough, the Phoenix has faced a rash of injuries, with five potential starters — junior forward Caue Da Silva, junior midfielder Eduardo Alvarez, sophomore midfielder Alex Kowalski, senior defender Austin Dunker and junior midfielder Myles Mansfield — going down at one point or another.

"They've been resilient, and their work ethic is unquestionable," said Elon head coach Chris Little. "We've had a tough spell of injuries. I don't know if there's any other team that could say they've lost five poten-

tial starters out, but we've dealt with it well. The character of the team has come to the forefront."

Adding to the team's frustration has been its inability to string multiple victories in a row and continue the momentum from a streak.

It's something junior midfielder Miguel Salazar knows the Phoenix must resolve before facing the toughest portion of its schedule.

"The most important thing when you're on a streak is keeping humble and not getting comfortable," Salazar said. "Every game is difficult, and they come thick and fast, so you have to bring it every game. But if we stay humble and don't get ahead of ourselves, we'll be able to start winning in streaks."

Defense undoubtedly carried the Phoenix through its nonconference schedule. The unit has conceded just eight goals, six of which came in two games, against Stetson University in the season opener Aug. 29 and against Coastal Carolina University Sept. 26. That performance has been essential in

giving Elon a chance to win every game despite having to overcome a less-than-stellar offense.

To heat up offensively, Da Silva said he thinks the team must discover the same form that teams from the past couple of years have had. Once they find that rhythm, Da Silva said they will begin scoring goals with greater ease and on a more consistent basis.

"It's not too late. It's not about how you start, but it's how you finish," Da Silva said. "We're approaching the second half of the season trying to find that rhythm. If we can find it, it'll allow us to put wins together and get to where we want to be at the end of the season."

It will be especially important for the offense as Elon makes its debut in the Colonial Athletic Association, a conference the Phoenix considers a step up in competition over the Southern Conference, which it left after last season.

"The CAA has an intensity level game in and game out that matches or exceeds the SoCon," said junior defender Nathan Diehl.

"The intensity and quality of play is a notch higher than in the SoCon."

The conference features two top-25 teams — the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and the University of Delaware. The rest of the conference's seven teams, Elon included, are fairly even and are all solid squads with talent up and down the roster.

"We want to test ourselves against the best," Little said. "And we're going to face a deep pool of quality teams and quality depth in the CAA. Any time a league sends three and four teams to the NCAA tournament, you know there is a lot of talented competition."

It will be vital, Diehl said, for the Phoenix to prove itself in its first few conference games in order to make a statement to its fellow members that it is capable of beating anyone at any time.

"You want to establish confidence and convince our guys and the naysayers that we can hang with anyone in the conference," Diehl said. "We know we can hang with anyone in the CAA, it's just time to prove it."

# Ball State transfer seizes opportunity at safety

**Matt Mallian**  
Assistant Sports Editor

When Rich Skrosky accepted the head coaching position at Elon University in December, he was returning to a familiar program — he was an assistant there from 2006-to-2010.

Skrosky brought with him various assistant coaches he knew previously, as well as one player from Ball State University, who no one knew much about at the time: Chris Blair.

Blair used his redshirt year last year at Ball State before transferring to Elon with Skrosky. Skrosky's decision to accept the head coaching position at Elon was a relief for Blair, who said he wasn't sure where he would end up.

"If [Skrosky] didn't come [to Elon], I'm not sure where I would be right now," Blair said. "When I found out he got the job at Elon, it was a no-brainer to come. I have a lot of trust in him."

Early in his first season at the helm, Skrosky has already shown a tendency to play his young players early and often, giving them a chance to showcase their skills.

Blair, a redshirt freshman safety, is one of these inexperienced players.

He made his Elon debut Aug. 30 at Duke University, collecting six tackles in a reserve role. Blair logged a total of 10 tackles in the next two games — against North Carolina A&T State University Sept. 13 and against the University of North Carolina at Charlotte Sept. 20 — before junior starting safety Miles Williams went down with an injury.

Williams started all 11 contests for the Phoenix in 2012 before missing last year with an injury. Blair was thrust into the starting lineup to replace Williams, but his mindset didn't change.

"It's really not a difference," Blair said, comparing his reserve role on defense to the sixth-man role in basketball. "I have to bring a spark to the team. You have to prepare the same way, if not better. It's more physical, so you just have to be ready."

Blair certainly had large shoes to fill



Chris Blair (No. 8) led Elon in tackles with 13 against New Hampshire Oct. 4. He's filled in for the injured Miles Williams each of the last two games. ASHLEY KING | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

with Williams out, but has done his job and then some.

In his first start against Coastal Carolina University Sept. 27, Blair made six tackles, forced a fumble and was credited with a quarterback hurry. It was an impressive performance that didn't go unnoticed.

"[Blair] loves football, and that's what we need in this program," Skrosky said. "Playing Division I college football is hard, and you've got to be passionate about it. And that's what he is."

Blair made his second start against the University of New Hampshire Saturday, Elon's first-ever Colonial Athletic Associ-

ation game. He was one of the few bright spots for a Phoenix defense that gave up 48 points and more than 400 yards of offense.

Blair led the team with 13 tackles, the most by an Elon player this season. He is not afraid to lay down a big hit or two, using his slight 5-foot-11-inch, 210-pound frame to his advantage.

For Blair, a Winston-Salem native and East Forsyth High School graduate, Elon's home opener was special because his family was able to make the 45-minute trip to Elon to see him play.

It's that type of atmosphere at Elon, what Blair described as "family-oriented,"

that attracted him to the school. Now that Blair is closer to home and in a comfortable situation, he is enjoying the opportunity that much more.

On the field, Blair likes to keep it simple. "I just want to have fun," he said. "If the game is not fun, there's no point in playing."

It's players like Blair, players who have a certain attitude and approach to the game, that Skrosky is trying to bring to Elon.

"[Blair's] passionate about playing, and it shows in his play. Therefore, he is an inspiration of how to play," Skrosky said. "We've got to get more guys like that. That can't be the exception. That has to be the rule."

## CAA brings mixture of old, new faces for Elon

**Tommy Hamzik**  
Sports Editor

Her second trip back to James Madison University in 12 years reminded head volleyball coach Mary Tandler what Elon University's venture into the Colonial Athletic Association means to her.

"It felt like I was going back where I came from," Tandler said of Elon's move to the CAA.

After three years at James Madison as an assistant, Tandler took the Elon job in 2003. She had only been back once — to work a summer camp in 2004 — before last Thursday's visit to James Madison, where Elon lost 3-1 (23-25, 25-20, 25-14, 25-16).

Tandler's story is one of many on an Elon team that doesn't have extremely strong roots to the CAA footprint, located up through the Mid-Atlantic. The Phoenix has a lot of adjustments to make, including travel and scouting.

"There's a lot of learning," said junior middle blocker Catherine Head, who hails from Kernersville. "Every step is something new."

### Parallels to the past

Tandler was coaching under her husband, Blaine Tandler, at Drake University when college teammate Disa Garner of-

fered her an assistant coaching job at James Madison. Tandler accepted, moving from the Midwest to the East for the first time in her life.

Under Garner, Tandler worked with the middle blockers, the position she used to play, and helped lead the Dukes to the 2000 CAA title.

"We got a lot of the volleyball community really enthused about volleyball at JMU," Tandler said. "The crowds were great. A lot of students came. The gym there is small, and the fans were really, really loud. It's just an exciting place to play."

Garner isn't at James Madison anymore, and Tandler doesn't keep in touch with anyone there. But, she said she would pop in some offices to say hello to some people she knew when working there.

When Tandler took the Elon job, the Phoenix was moving to the Southern Conference after four seasons in the Big South Conference. She sees parallels between that situation and the current one with Elon moving into the CAA.

"There's just an excitement," she said. "Even this past weekend, it was so exciting to play Hofstra [University] in our first CAA match. We're making history here. That doesn't happen very often."

### Returning home

The trips to James Madison and the

College of William & Mary this past weekend served as mini-homecomings for Elon freshman outside hitter Sydney Busa, from Leesburg, Virginia, 41 miles northwest of Washington, D.C.

She knows a handful of players from each team from playing club volleyball for Virginia Elite, including William & Mary middle blocker Paige Humphrey.

Busa expected her parents and family in the crowd when Elon played at James Madison and William & Mary, along with friends from both schools.

Elon was still in the SoCon when Busa committed, and she had no idea of the plans to move to the CAA. When the announcement was made, it added a new meaning to her future at Elon.

"You know people on the other side of the net. You know people who will be at your matches," Busa said. "I'm excited because it means more traveling up north where my family is. It's just being in a known environment."

### Travel experiences

Junior middle blocker Catherine Head's family refers to her father as "The Travel Agent" because of his obsession with trekking to all of Elon's games. She said he's got flights and trains booked already for some of Elon's longer road trips this year to New York (Hofstra) and Boston (North-

eastern University).

There's a slew of positives and negatives for Head and her family when it comes to competition and travel in the CAA.

"It's kind of bittersweet," Head said. "I have family that lives over [near former SoCon foes Western Carolina University and Appalachian State University], so they'd be there. I have other family members who are super excited to travel and see Boston or New York. They'll be traveling for different reasons this year, instead of just to see me."

Five of Elon's players are from North Carolina, but none hail from the Wilmington area where Elon will head to face the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Sophomore Ally Karle's hometown of Flanders, New Jersey is 75 miles from Hofstra, and junior setter Chelsea Rafetto's native Unionville, Pennsylvania, is 73 miles from Towson University.

While the CAA move brings back some old memories at times, it's still going to be an adjustment for Elon in terms of facing new opponents and traveling to new places. But, it's one the Phoenix is looking forward to.

"It's just a learning experience throughout," Head said. "Learning the players, learning the schools themselves. We're all super excited to create those new rivals within the conference."

# Top Photos



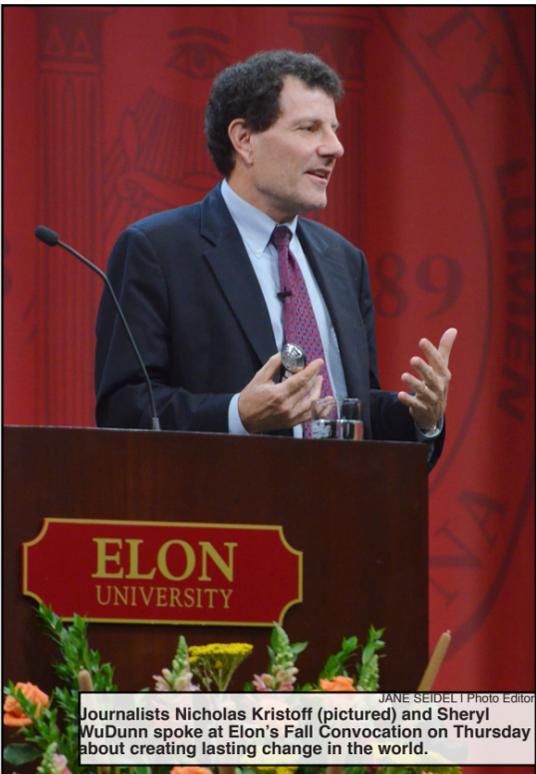
JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor  
(Left to right) Junior Samuel Rozier and sophomore Austin Larkin perform in "Reckless" on Sunday at the Black Box Theatre.



ANNA ZWINGELBERG | Staff Photographer  
(Left to right) Sophomore Hayley Dalton and junior Robin Gottlieb celebrate Sigma Sigma Sigma's Rocktoberfest on Friday in the Academic Village.



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer  
Elon lost 48-14 to the University of New Hampshire in their first CAA game.



JANE SEIDEL | Photo Editor  
Journalists Nicholas Kristoff (pictured) and Sheryl WuDunn spoke at Elon's Fall Convocation on Thursday about creating lasting change in the world.



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer  
(Left to right) Fifth-year senior Amy Wagoner, senior Danielle Biggs and senior Amber Schmieing performed "Let Us Break Bread Together" by Jane Wellford for the Elon Community Church.

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