

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2020
ELON, NORTH CAROLINA

THE PENDULUM



Life After Registration

Local low-risk sex offenders rely on local organizations as state-required registration hinders reintegration

Anton L. Delgado | Managing Editor | @antonldelgado

WHEN DWAYNE DAUGHTRY MEETS someone for the first time, it rarely starts with an introduction. “Every day I feel like I’m reliving my crime all over again,” Daughtry said. “When people talk to me, the first thing they want to hear about is what I did — Not what I do or who I am.”

In 2011, Daughtry was charged with sexual battery — the only misdemeanor that leads to being listed as a sex offender. Other offenses that end with registration range from possession of child pornography to rape. The federal government requires law enforcement to make the personal information of an offender — name, race, sex, height, weight, address, birthday, scars, marks, tattoos, eye and hair color — public.

Daughtry and more than 25,600 people are listed on North Carolina’s Sex Offender Registry. Last year, just over 1,300 registrants were added, which is more than any other year in the last two decades.

Alamance County is home to 390 registrants as of this February. This is the ninth highest concentration of sex offenders in the state; on average there are 185 registrants per county.

Every day, a registrant walks into Lt. Bray McAteer’s office, shakes his hand and asks for help. As the deputy in charge of the Sheriff’s Office’s Special Victims Unit, McAteer and his eight-person team monitor the registered offenders in Alamance County.

“You’ve got people on the registry that are true predators. But you also have guys that are 18 or 19 years old — a senior in high school who slept with a freshman — and they have to deal with the exact same things as a pedophile or a rapist,” McAteer said. “I’ve been doing the sex offender registry for four years now, and to be honest, there’s not a lot out there for them.”

While the public registry is intended to keep the community safe, researchers have questioned its effectiveness. Social policy studies have found that the difficulties offenders face as a result of the registry can lead to recidivism, the tendency of a convicted criminal to reoffend.

Left disadvantaged by the public registry and without a state-funded support structure, local offenders rely on community organizations for guidance.

See **Sex Offenders** | pg. 6-7

The mugshots of the 390 registered sex offenders in Alamance County.

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Students open “We Will Rock You” as newest musical

SPORTS • PAGE 12
Elon’s baseball team welcomes new pitchers to the mound

THE PENDULUM

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EDITORIAL POLICY:

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

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

Contact
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ENN Radio Podcast
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CORRECTIONS

No corrections were issued in The Pendulum’s last edition.

GAMES

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

1. Dwayne _____ was charged with sexual battery in 2011. *See Page 1 for answer.*
2. The coronavirus originated in the city of _____ in Hubei Province, China. *See Page 4 for answer.*
3. The _____ brothers are opening Atlantic Pacific Studio in Burlington. *See Page 5 for answer.*
4. The Burlington _____ Club formed in 1938 to improve the community in Alamance County. *See Page 9 for answer.*
5. Mike _____, head coach of Elon University’s baseball team just started his 24th season with the team. *See Page 12 for answer.*

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

COMIC

CHOC IT UP



COMIC SAMS - SAM POROZOK

CALENDAR: FEBUARY 12 - FEBUARY 19

LEIGH ANN HALLBERG, EXHIBITION 9 A.M. Arts West Gallery 406 12	“BITTERSWEET MEMORIES OF SURVIVAL” 5:30 P.M. McKinnon Hall, Moseley Center 13	LUNAR NEW YEAR 7 P.M. McBride Gathering Space 13	“WE WILL ROCK YOU” 7:30 P.M. Center for the Arts McCrary Theatre 13	THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES 6:30 P.M. AND 9:30 P.M. Whitley Auditorium 14
MAKE A WISH BENEFIT CONCERT 7 P.M. Whitley Auditorium 15	LESSONS FROM LEADERS 4 P.M. McKinnon Hall, Moseley Center 18	PARASITE 7 P.M. Schar Hall 101 Turner Theatre 18	NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA OF UKRAINE 7:30 P.M. Schar Center 19	SPRING COMEDIAN: NICOLE BYER 8 P.M. Center for the Arts McCrary Theatre 19

Elon University junior Camilo Ponce hits a backhand during his match against North Carolina Central University at Jimmy Powell Tennis Center on Friday, Feb. 7.



ELON NEWS NETWORK FILE PHOTO



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elon University senior and defensive player Palmer Voorhees runs down the field ahead of Campbell Camel sophomore during the women's lacrosse game at Rudd Field on Saturday, Feb. 8.

Students pour themselves a cup of coffee at the first College Coffee of the spring semester.

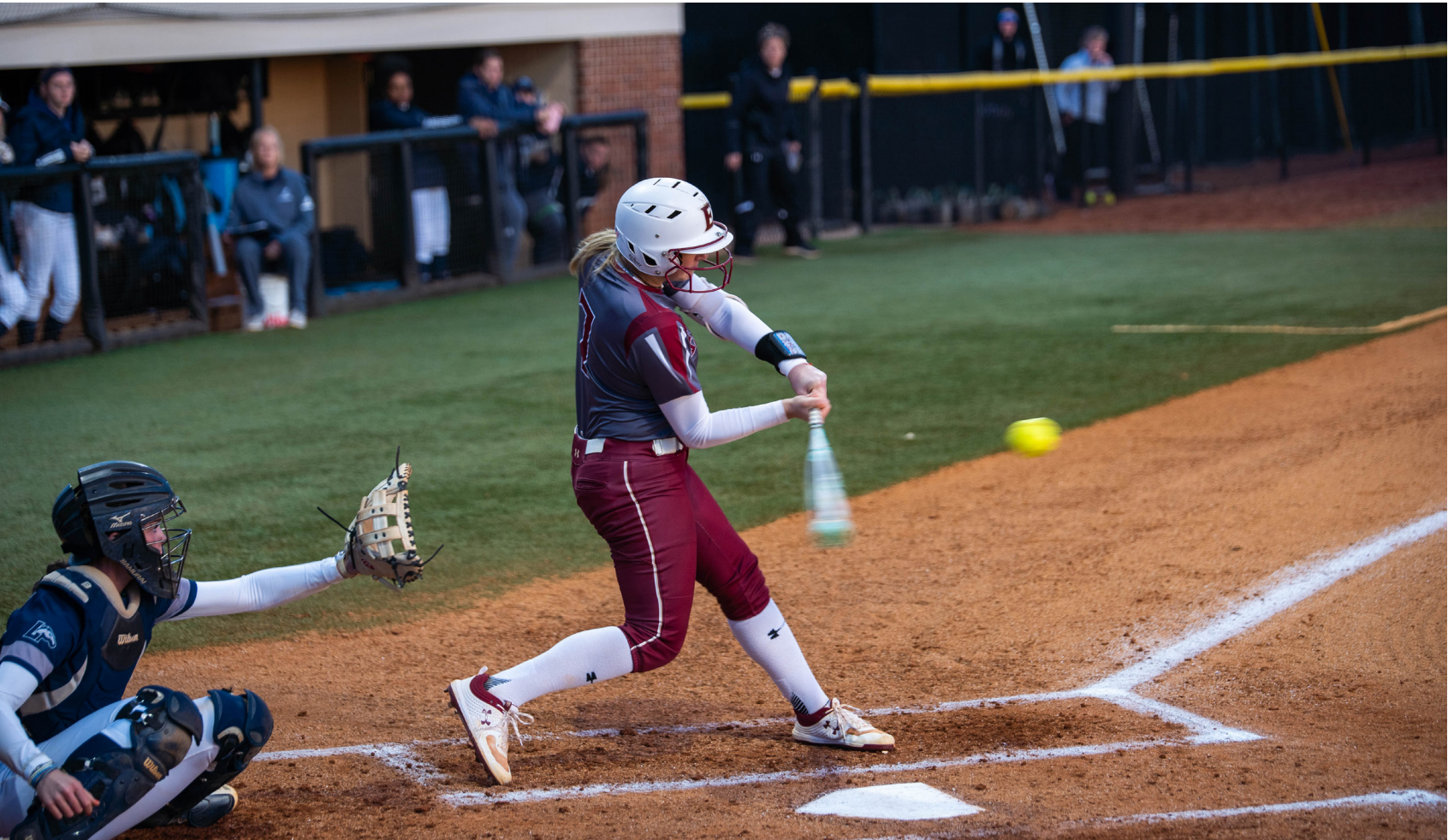


ELON NEWS NETWORK FILE PHOTO



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elon University senior and outfielder Tyler Stanley bats during practice in Latham Park on Friday Feb. 7.



Elon University sophomore and infielder Keagan Goldwait swings at the ball during Elon's game against the Longwood Lancers at Hunt Softball Park on Sunday, Feb. 9.

CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elon University suspends semester programs in China

Elon's partner program in China cancels Beijing spring semester programs as coronavirus spreads

Lauren Singles
Elon News Network | @lauren_singles

Elon University's Spring 2020 program in Beijing has been suspended due to the ongoing coronavirus outbreak.

The respiratory illness, which originated in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, has spread to 28 countries across four continents, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as of Feb. 10, 2020.

Currently, Elon offers six study abroad programs in China: two in Beijing and four in Shanghai. In addition to semester-long experiences, Elon offers one Winter Term program, called The Flying Dragon. Despite the outbreak during Winter Term, the trip to China was completed, and all students have returned.

According to Shanna Van Beek, communications manager of global education, Elon students participating in China programs this year were more than 500 miles away from Wuhan.

Van Beek said The Beijing Center, Elon's partner in Beijing, chose to suspend the program.

"We do have two students that are currently in Beijing, and we are working with each of those students," Van Beek said. According to Van Beek, these students will be returning to Elon to rework their schedules with the Global Education Center on a case-by-case basis.

Similar precautions have been taken in the past. Van Beek said Elon worked with students who studied abroad during the Zika virus outbreaks in South America and Ebola virus outbreaks in Africa.

Elon has also suspended its Martha and Spencer Love School of Business Center in Shanghai for Fall 2020. According to Van Beek, this decision was made not due to concerns about coronavirus but for fear the outbreak would result in lower enrollment.

Van Beek said this preemptive action will give students currently enrolled in the Shanghai program time to make alternate plans.

Winter Term students return from China

Elon senior Christopher Pottorff recently returned from the Winter Term trip to China. Though the group did not visit Hubei Province, the coronavirus threat began to have minor effects on their experience upon arrival in Shanghai.

"Our professors made all the planned activities optional to attend and were a little more cautious about where we went," Pottorff said. "The day before we left, they said that the Shanghai airport would be the riskiest day of the trip and passed out sanitary masks for us to wear."

Pottorff said the professors and Health Services sent them emails after returning from the trip, sharing precautions and guidance about what to do if they begin to feel ill. He also said the group received updates from the U.S. State Department.

Pottorff said he was not screened after his flight to Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey.

"I recalled hearing about scanners for the virus at JFK and San Francisco, but we were allowed to walk straight off the plane — something I very much disagreed with," Pottorff said.

Pottorff also said he believes Americans have no need to panic about the virus.

"I think it's natural and fine to be afraid of any new virus, but I do think that Americans are looking at the Chinese efforts to stop the virus and panicking over them," Pottorff said.

Local contagions



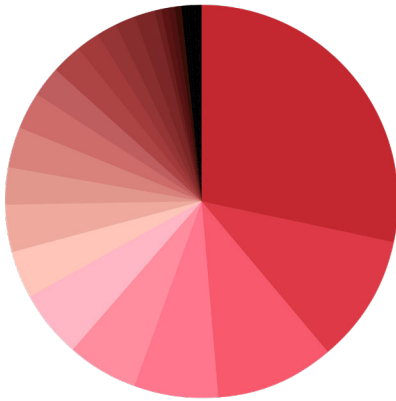
PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRISTOPHER POTTORFF

Students taking part in Elon University's Winter Term program in China pose for a photo in front of the Forbidden City in January 2020.

“

IT'S NATURAL AND FINE TO BE AFRAID OF ANY NEW VIRUS, BUT I DO THINK THAT AMERICANS ARE LOOKING AT THE CHINESE EFFORTS TO STOP THE VIRUS AND PANICKING OVER THEM.

CHRIS POTTORFF
SENIOR



Other - 28.5%	United States - 2.7%
Hong Kong - 10.4%	France - 2.3%
Singapore - 9.9%	Macau - 2.1%
Thailand - 6.8%	United Arab Emirates - 1.7%
South Korea - 5.9%	United Kingdom - 1.7%
Japan - 5.5%	Canada - 1.5%
Malaysia - 3.8%	Italy - 0.6%
Taiwan - 3.8%	Philippines - 0.6%
Australia - 3.2%	India - 0.6%
Vietnam - 3.2%	Russia - 0.4%
Germany - 3%	Spain - 0.4%
	Nepal, Cambodia, Belgium, Finland, Sweden, Sri Lanka - 1.2%

GRAPHIC BY OLIVIA PARKS

The percentage of coronavirus cases located in countries outside of mainland China, according to data from Johns Hopkins University collected on Tuesday, Feb. 11.

Though coronavirus is a rising threat in China and has spread to parts of the U.S., university physician Ginette Archinal said the flu is a much larger issue for students.

"There have been no deaths from Wuhan coronavirus in the USA at this time," Archinal said. "In contrast, there have been 54 deaths from the flu in North Carolina this flu season."

According to Archinal, while the fear of coronavirus is prevalent, she recommends students protect themselves against the flu. She also said there have been no confirmed cases of coronavirus in North Carolina.

Archinal said students returning from the Winter Term trip to China have been put into contact with the Dean of Health and Wellness and GEC staff.

"The CDC does not recommend isolation—voluntary or mandatory—unless the person has been in Wuhan, Hubei Province, or in very close contact with someone who has," Archinal said.

According to Archinal, there are no Elon students or staff who meet that criteria.

Elon's current health protocol is to ask patients who arrive at Health Services if they have been overseas within the last four

BY THE NUMBERS

28

countries have recorded cases of the deadly coronavirus.

weeks. Archinal also said all ill students are required to wear a mask in waiting and exam rooms, a precaution often taken during flu season. The same measure was taken during the mumps outbreak on campus last fall.

"Everyone—not just students—should practice basic respiratory hygiene to protect themselves and others," Archinal said.

NEW *MOVIE STUDIO* OPENS JOBS FOR STUDENTS

The Jones brothers look to employ local talent and students at their new movie studio in Burlington following the closing of Copland Industries

Kyra O'Connor | Enterprise Story Coordinator | @ko_reports

For 78 years, Copland Fabrics and Industries provided Americans not only with curtains, bedspreads and linings but also with something meaningful — their livelihoods.

At the end of 2018, Copland Industries and Copland Fabrics ceased operation, putting an end to the family-owned business and letting every employee go. James

Copland, who served as resident and CEO at the time, marked the fourth and final generation to operate Copland Industries.

While Copland Industries did not file bankruptcy and was still paid its employees through the end of 2018, the factory itself was left vacant after its closing.

One year later however, the Copland Industries lot is now home to Atlantic Pacific Studio.

The Jones brothers

After 30 years in Los Angeles, Dean Jones wanted to come home.

The Alamance County native had spent time on some of the biggest movie sets in Hollywood. From “Fast and Furious” to “Pirates of the Caribbean: Stranger Tides” and “Lincoln,” Dean has worked as a makeup artist, producer, writer and director alongside his brother, Starr, for nearly 30 years. The Jones brothers have worked on over 160 movies and 200 television episodes during their time in Hollywood.

Four years ago, the brothers moved back to North Carolina in hopes of producing and directing.

“I came back from LA a couple years ago with the intent of putting a number of feature films and television shows together,” Dean Jones said. “But I wanted to produce them from here, because I love working from home.”

Now, they are the cofounders of Atlantic Pacific Studio, something they refer to as “the dream factory.”

“I thought what I’d do is plant the seed to start the production company to teach people and harvest the talent here in Burlington and Alamance county, turn them into filmmakers,” Dean said.

Burlington, where the studio is located, is home to 53,748 people, 4.3% of whom are unemployed as of 2018. Following the close of Copland Industries, many more found themselves without employment.

As one of the major weavers, suppliers and commission finishers of woven fabric in the United States, Copland produced a variety of products and supplied brands such as J.C. Penney, Walmart and Sears. The company was famous for manufacturing 100% of their cloth in the U.S.

Copland Industries employed nearly 1,000 people in the 1980s, but with advances in automation and an increasingly difficult commitment to remaining “100% American made,” the company was forced to downsize, leading to its eventual close.

By using the mill and factory for the studio, Dean and Starr’s dream is already providing former employees with new jobs moving old equipment out of the building and setting up the production studio. This, Dean said, is just the beginning in how he plans to “harvest local talent.”

“LA productions come to town, and they make a movie and then they leave. The money that comes from those shows doesn’t stay here, it goes back to LA, to their bank accounts,” Dean said. “But what we’re trying to do is grow our own shows, which we do by self-financing, so when the show makes money, it comes back here.”

The studio will encompass all art forms including music, visual arts, theatre, dance and film-making.

According to Dean, it will function as both a motion picture production studio and an entertainment complex.

Producing films in North Carolina has its benefits, namely in its geographical location and the tax breaks the state provides to filmmakers. According to the North Carolina Film Office, as of June 2018, the state of North Carolina offers a 25% rebate on qualifying purchases and expenses while in-state. The funding for these rebates comes from the North Carolina Film and Entertainment Grant, a program with \$31 million per fiscal year, with any unused funds “rolling over” to the next fiscal year.

“The rebate, whose funding is now labeled recurring in the state budget, coupled with the recent elimination of the program’s sunset date, demonstrates North Carolina’s long-term commitment to the film and entertainment industry,” its website states.

Employing local and student talent

Enoch, head of transportation at Atlantic Pacific Studio, has lived in Alamance County his entire life and has witnessed just how many people lose their jobs.

“It was a mill-based town, and it took a lot of jobs away from this area when [Copland] closed down,” Enoch said.

Enoch graduated high school in January and went straight to Atlantic Pacific. One of the great things about the studio, he said, is that it is already providing jobs to members of the community.

“[The studio] will bring a whole new set of skills to this county,” Enoch said. “I know people who used to actually work in that mill, and when I told them what’s happening to it, they love the thought of it coming back as something else that will be more joyful to more people.”

One of the goals of Atlantic Pacific is to employ local talent, including Elon students, Dean said. The pair had their first informational meeting at Elon University on Feb. 6, where the brothers discussed possible opportunities for Elon students to get involved. Senior cinema and television arts major Lumi Rostick said she was grateful for the opportunity to meet the brothers, but she wants to know more.

“The fact that a production company is placing its roots in Burlington is an incredible opportunity for future cinema and acting students at Elon,” Rostick said. “I would have appreciated their pitch more if they explained it as an opportunity to learn and work with professionals rather than a place for us to be credited as high end rolls, when that isn’t the case.”

Vic Costello, chair of the department of cinema and television arts, agreed with Rostick, saying a film studio “minutes away” from Elon has the potential to provide students with many opportunities.

“I was pleased with the student turnout and interest expressed during the recent visit by Dean and Starr Jones,” Costello said. “I’m excited about the Jones brothers’ plans to establish a professional film studio and entertainment complex in Alamance County and the opportunities this may create for our Cinema and Television Arts majors to work and gain experience in all stages of film production from script to screen.”

Atlantic Pacific Studio will be holding open auditions on Feb. 21 and 22 for their current project, “Broken” based on the autobiography “From Hear to Forever.” The autobiography, written by Danny Jefferson, an Alamance County local, describes his overcoming of a hearing impairment, among other conditions, to own several funeral homes and even start a career in comedy.



PHOTOS BY KYRA O'CONNOR | ENTERPRISE STORY COORDINATOR

BEHIND THE SEX OFFENDER

REGISTRATION | from cover

Right after registration

Post-registration, or during parole, most offenders are court-ordered to take classes focused on reducing potential recidivism. These classes are neither free nor taught in Alamance County.

According to McAteer, most local offenders have to travel to cities such as Lexington, Greensboro, Durham or Reidsville to attend classes.

Ed Dawson, a clinical psychologist with Engaging Life Psychological Services in Lexington, has been teaching one of these classes for the past 30 years.

“These classes help offenders learn about the circumstances that led to them engaging in these illegal activities. Through group sessions, they learn the importance of decision-making and how to avoid decisions that could lead them to harm others,” Dawson said. “There is a lot of focus on victims, and while that’s absolutely needed, prevention needs to start with the offenders.”

In most cases, classes are an hour long and take place once a week. To pass Dawson’s course, offenders must attend approximately 80 sessions. The cost of the course is what Dawson says keeps most registrants from reaching this goal.

Dawson’s program costs \$160 a month, a price he said is standard. Despite these classes being court-mandated, the state doesn’t financially support any of the roughly 35 offenders enrolled in Dawson’s class.

On occasion, the federal government pays the bill. But since 2017, Dawson said he has only had three offenders in that situation.

“I am in favor of them having a little skin in the game because it makes them value the treatment more because they are the ones paying for it,” Dawson said. “But if the state could supplement the people financially struggling, it would allow the offender to focus on the treatment rather than the payment.”

He estimates close to 70% of offenders taking his class struggle with financial compliance.

“The reason people don’t complete the classes is because they can’t afford it. Then they’re considered within violation of the court order requiring the class, so it creates a false recidivism. It’s not recidivism based upon a committed crime,” Daughtry said. “They couldn’t afford a class that should have been free.”

According to Daughtry, most of his clients at NARSOL struggle with finances because the public registry prevents them from finding employment and maintaining housing.

Raising recidivism

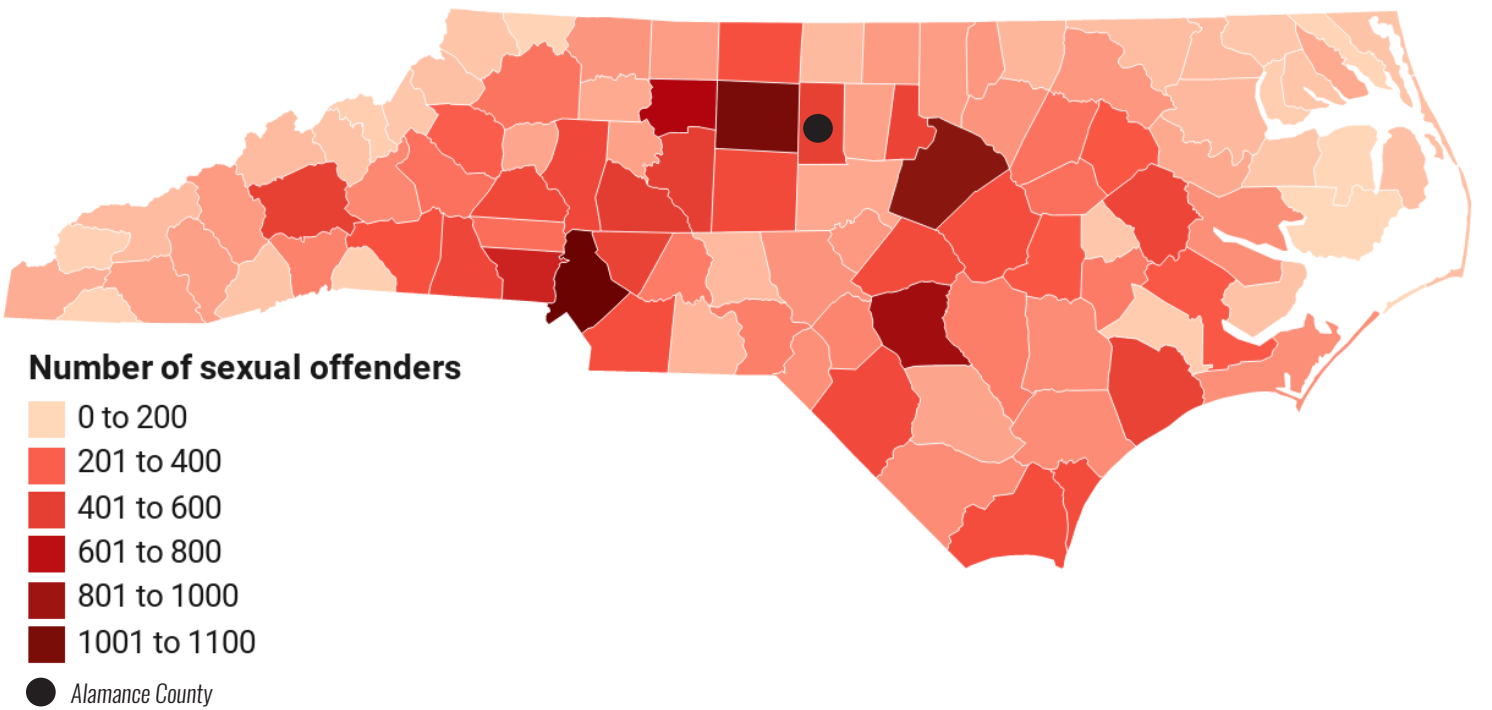
Before finding a home, registrants must check all potential housing locations with McAteer to assure they are not violating the law.

Sex offenders can’t reside within 1,000 feet of a “protected location,” such as a school, daycare, nursery or playground. Registrants charged with offenses against minors, who constitute more than half of all offenders in North Carolina, aren’t allowed to stand within 300 feet of these locations.

Marlena Islay, the director of the Geographic Information Systems Department, declined to share the protected locations in Alamance, but she did confirm that there are five sites in the town of Elon. The town is home to 12 registrants.

“I’ve had folks check five, six, seven or even eight addresses before they find one that works. A lot of the addresses that I end up checking are in bad neighborhoods because they can’t get good jobs,” McAteer

The distribution of sex offenders across North Carolina



At the end of 2019, there were more than 18,000 registered sex offenders living in North Carolina, according to the database compiled by the state’s Bureau of Investigations.

“THESE FOLKS ARE RADIOACTIVE IN THE COMMUNITY. EVERYTHING IS STACKED AGAINST THEM — WHERE THEY CAN WALK, WHERE THEY CAN LIVE, WHERE THEY CAN STAND. THERE ARE A LOT OF WAYS YOU CAN END UP ON THE REGISTRY, AND NONE OF THEM ARE GOOD, BUT IT IS ABOUT HOW EACH PERSON PROCESSES WHAT THAT MEANS.”

PHIL BOWERS
FOUNDER OF SUSTAINABLE
ALAMANCE

said. “I mean they did do the crime, but still, sometimes you’re like, ‘Dang, they can’t seem to catch a break.’”

While McAteer respects the importance of these limitations when dealing with high-risk offenders, he sees a direct correlation between the housing challenges low-risk offenders face and their success after registration.

More than 91% of registrants in Alamance and North Carolina are considered low-risk offenders, meaning they are not violent predators, aggregative offenders or recidivists.

“There are some folks that come into my office that just have nowhere else to go. I’ve got ... offenders struggling with homelessness. But I still got to have a place where I can go see you, whether it’s a bush, a tree or a sign,” McAteer said.

The state registry lists 268 offenders as homeless, 10 of them in Alamance.

For offenders, the difficulty in finding permanent housing is paired with lack of job prospects. McAteer said close to 80% of offenders in Alamance County struggle to find and maintain stable employment.

“If you do a background check on someone and they are an offender, it’s not a surprise that most people don’t want to work with you,” McAteer said.

A 2014 study published by the International Journal of Criminal Justice Sciences found that 36.3% of sex offenders in Indiana “were never employed since release from prison.” This subsequently raised the recidivism rate among those offenders by more than 50%.

“Our laws undermine the essential factors that help people succeed in living a law-abiding life,” said Jill Levenson, a professor at Barry University, who studies the effectiveness of social policies on reducing sexual violence. “It’s not just a name on a list. It is an eternally limiting factor for a person that is trying to live life just like everyone else. It can actually increase recidivism in low-risk offenders.”

Levenson’s study on the effects of sex offender’s laws found that most registrants had issues with job loss and threats or harassment. In the discussion of the paper, Levenson wrote that “although the public deserves to be protected from sex offenders, this should not occur at the expense of offender safety.”

“The ostracizing of sexual offenders doesn’t contribute to public safety. ... This is not sympathizing with sex offenders;

FOR THE MULTIMEDIA PACKAGE SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT:
projects.elonnewsnetwork.com/
sexoffenders/



this is focusing on creating structures that build lives and communities. If we are concerned that somebody presents a risk, it’s more effective to create restrictions that are managed on a case-by-case basis.”

At the moment, the only difference between the way high- and low-risk offenders are treated is the number of times they receive a compliance letter from the local Sheriff’s Office. Over the course of a year, a moderate- to low-risk offender is checked in on twice, while a high-risk offender is checked in on four times.

‘Any life can be transformed’

There are currently no government-supported programs or organizations helping with criminal reintegration in Alamance County.

Sustainable Alamance is one of two non-governmental organizations in the county that offer free long-term employment assistance to felons re-entering society — regardless of their crime.

The organization, operating out of Beverly Hills United Church of Christ in Burlington, focuses on helping former criminals find and maintain full-time employment.

“If you find a place to live, you have to pay rent. If you get a car, you have to pay for gas. The economic pressures are still there,” said Phil Bowers, founder and executive director of Sustainable Alamance. “We’ve really tried to stay focused on the employment side and just do it really well.”

REGISTRATION IN ALAMANCE

BY THE NUMBERS

26,600

people are listed on North Carolina's Sex Offender Registry as of February 2020

185

registrants, on average, live in each county in North Carolina

390

registrants live in Alamance County as of February 2020

12

registrants live in the town of Elon as of February 2020

Bowers interviewed dozens of local employers to discover how former criminals get hired. Based on these interviews, Bowers created a set of expectations he requires of all the people he works with: “clean drug test, show up — on time, be teachable, no drama.”

According to Bowers, who is also a pastor, the organization runs under the motto: “Because you matter and because you are loved.”

“Anybody that lives in Alamance County and finds themselves in a ditch, they automatically qualify. If they come to us and they want to be with us, then they are in,” Bowers said. “We don’t ask for any other qualifications other than that. We don’t turn anyone away; that’s not for us to be the judge.”

Three years ago, Elon University students in associate professor of economics Steven Bednar’s Economics of Poverty class conducted a cost-benefit analysis of Sustainable Alamance to create an economic impact report on the organization.

By comparing state, county and organization statistics, the report estimated that the recidivism rate among individuals working with Sustainable Alamance has been reduced by 90%.

According to the report, from 2014 to 2017, the organization created “at least \$5 million in benefits to Alamance County.” For every dollar donated to Sustainable Alamance, \$11.89 was returned to the community in the form of “taxes paid on wage earnings and the savings incurred due to the dramatic decrease in recidivism rates.”

Since Bowers founded the organization in 2008, he has helped place more than 75 former criminals in full-time positions. One of the hardest groups to work with are sex offenders, he said.

“These folks are radioactive in the community. Everything is stacked against them — where they can walk, where they can live, where they can stand,” Bowers said. “There are a lot of ways you can end up on the registry, and none of them are good, but it is about how each person processes what that means.”

So far, Bowers has placed six sex offenders in full-time positions, mostly entry-level manufacturing jobs. While he said he sees this as a success, several county

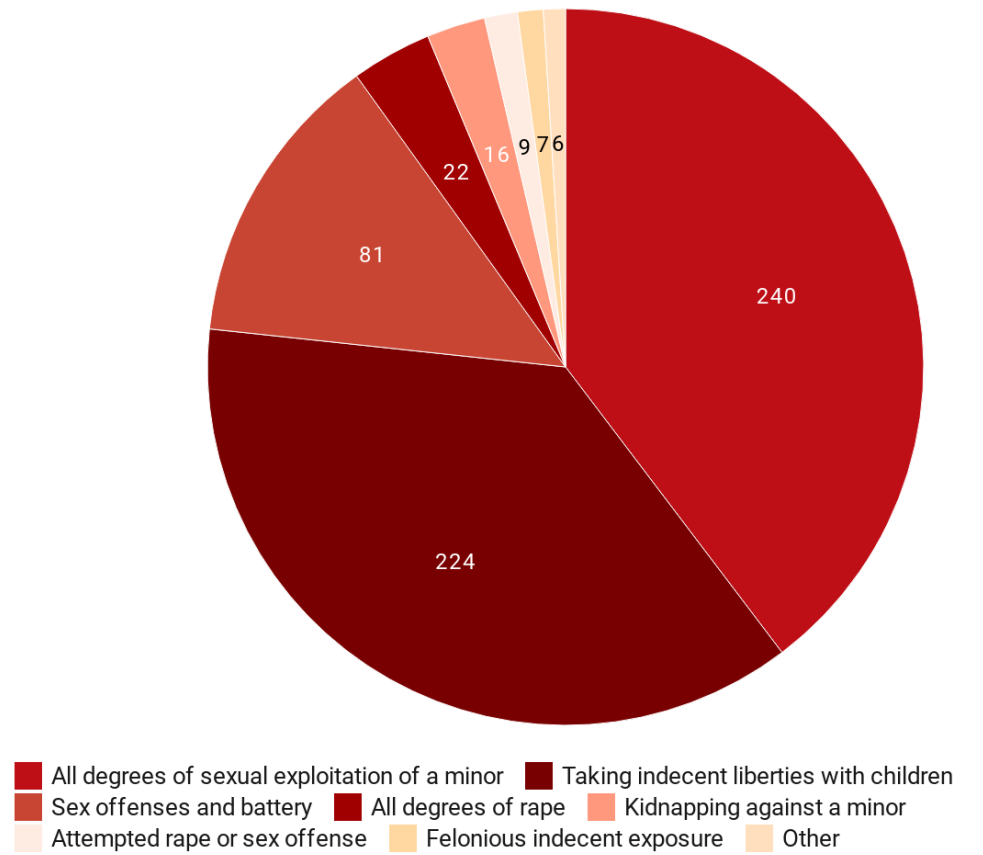


PHOTOS BY ANTON L. DELGADO

Top: Phil Bowers, founder and executive director of Sustainable Alamance, finishes reading a scripture verse from his phone during a Bible study session in the basement of Beverly Hills United Church of Christ in Burlington on Wednesday, Dec. 4.

Bottom: Lt. Bray McAteer, the deputy in charge of Alamance County's Special Victims Unit, inputs the name of the newest sexual offender living in the county into the state registry on Wednesday, Dec. 11.

The range of offenses committed by registrants in Alamance County



According to the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigations, the sex offenders registered in Alamance County have been charged with 605 offenses. This pie chart groups the top 10 most common charges.

residents have been vocal about their disdain for offenders and have criticized Bowers for working with them.

Anytime he gets an angry phone call, snide comment or inflamed letter asking why he works with offenders, Bowers said he simply refers them to an altered version of the organization’s motto—“Because they matter and because all are loved.”

“We have to believe that any life can be transformed,” Bowers said.

Life after registration

Eight and a half years after registration, Daughtry now works as the executive director of North Carolina’s affiliate of the National Association for Rational Sexual Offense Laws.

“We’re the most hated group in North Carolina,” Daughtry said. “People hate the crime, and so they hate the people on the other side of it as well.”

The goal of NARSOL is to see the eventual abolishment of the registry or the shortening of the minimum amount of years a registrant must spend on the list. Only after 10 years can low-risk offenders petition to be removed from North Carolina’s registry.

This year, nearly 860 low-risk offenders will have the opportunity to petition — 19

of them live in Alamance.

In two years, it will be Daughtry’s turn to petition for what he calls “a clean slate.” Daughtry says the toughest part about being on the registry for the past few years has been changing his opinion of himself.

“Turning that shame into opportunity—that’s the hardest part about being a sex offender. And it’s the hardest part about advocating for it,” Daughtry said.

Daughtry has been advocating for registrants by planning NARSOL’s 12th annual conference, which will be held in Raleigh this summer under the slogan “From acorn to oak.”

“Lawyers and judges and people that have no expertise with sexual matters are deciding the fate of people involved in sexual matters,” Daughtry said. “The people that should be talking about it are the victims and the perpetrators. But instead, we just hear about it on the six o’clock news, or the 11 o’clock news or the next day in the paper.”

By hosting a conference meant for “problem-solving and constructive conversation,” Daughtry hopes to reinforce peoples’ resolve to fight for change.

“These are not bad people,” Daughtry said. “These are bad circumstances, bad consequences, and everybody’s entitled to making a mistake.”

OPINIONS



Junior Jay Tiemann speaks at the “No War With Iran” protest held in front of Alamance Building on Thursday, Jan. 9.

CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO PROTEST ON CAMPUS



Jay Tiemann
Contributor

It’s easy to be overwhelmed by all the evil in the world and feel helpless to stop it. As young college students, we are relatively powerless beyond campus. As a student on the generally predictable campus of Elon University, I take pride in still being connected to the “real” world through news and social media. At times, I feel too connected. We can’t divest funds to pressure companies if we aren’t invested in anything yet. It’s hard to fundraise for causes when we’re all trying to save money for ourselves, however, we can still combine our strengths to create something meaningful.

We can use social media to raise awareness, gather on campus to protest and write op-eds. No individual creates a movement alone, but movements can’t occur without a high level of student involvement.

I’m a believer in the “ladder of engagement,” the idea that participating in one action makes one more likely to participate in future actions. Most students I talk to are frustrated about current events but don’t feel like they can do anything to help.

Organizing protests does have an impact, even if it’s not immediately visible. When I hosted the No War With Iran protest at Elon, I didn’t create it out of thin air. MoveOn, a national nonprofit, was holding a day of action for this issue on the same day, and the closest planned protest was in Raleigh. All I did was click “create an event in your area” and

send it to everyone I could think of. Because I used an existing organization to host an event, it reached people in the Elon community I wasn’t connected to before. Student networks are great, but using outside channels can carry a call to action even further.

Protests can change the people participating in them for the better, and I don’t want to undersell the importance of that. During the Iran War protest, our small-but-loud group marched from Alamance Fountain to Young Commons, and I no longer felt alone. I no longer felt powerless. My pent-up frustrations from the 24-hour news cycle crystallized into determination and hope.

College campuses are a special place because they are centers of activity; students and faculty have wildly diverse backgrounds and experiences. It’s important to bring together different groups of people in order to have multiple perspectives represented and heard.

Sometimes I feel as though the government is incapable of doing the right thing. However, I refuse to lose hope.

As college students, we are navigating the world we will inherit. Why not fight together to make the world better before we’re supposed to take it on alone?

Real change takes passion, commitment and patience. Attending a protest can be a great way to get introduced to civil engagement, but sustained



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elon community members make posters for the protest against war with Iran outside of Alamance Building on Thursday, Jan. 9.



NO INDIVIDUAL CREATES A MOVEMENT ALONE, BUT MOVEMENTS CAN’T OCCUR WITHOUT A HIGH LEVEL OF STUDENT INVOLVEMENT.

JAY TIEMANN
JUNIOR

collective action is crucial in seeing your goals through to completion. If you find an issue you really want to fight for, you’re almost certainly not alone. Look for groups in your area or look into starting a local chapter of a national organization if nothing exists yet.

In today’s day and age, caring about what’s right instead of standing idly by in anger can be a radical act. It builds a resolve to keep engaging, to continue talking about it with your peers, to keep calling your representatives. Elon prides itself on turning students into engaged citizens, and I see protesting as one of many ways to achieve that goal.



The interior of Burlington Woman's Club Thrift Shop, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. All of the clothes sold in the store are donated by community members.

TAYLOR TRUITT | DESIGNER

HALF A CENTURY OF SERVICE

Local thrift shop makes profits for the community and plans for celebrations

Miranda Ferrante
Elon News Network | @ferrantemiranda

Linda Ware, shop manager at the Burlington Woman's Club Thrift Shop, is usually smiling behind the register, eager to help her next customer.

"We help people who need our help: someone off the street who needs a coat to keep warm, people who need clothes to bury a loved one and all kinds of situations," Ware said.

The Burlington Woman's Club formed in 1938 as a service organization. It worked in tandem with other organizations in Alamance County to improve the community. Ware said the Woman's Club incorporated the thrift shop in 1970.

The thrift shop sells a variety of clothes, including suit jackets and shirts, all of which are first donated to the store by community members.

The thrift shop's profits are reinvested into the community in the form of donations and scholarships to the Boys and Girls Home, Burlington Animal Center, Piedmont Rescue Mission, Women's Abuse Services and Doctors Without Borders.

According to Ware, there are about 45 women that volunteer at the thrift shop every month. She said volunteers are pleased to see first-hand where their donations go.

As the shop's 50th anniversary approaches, Ware said that it's not only a celebration of the length of time but also of the continued

“I'M MOST PROUD OF THE PEOPLE WE'VE GOTTEN TO KNOW THROUGHOUT THE YEARS AND WORKING TO GET TO KNOW THE DIFFERENT PEOPLE AND MAKE THEIR LIVES BETTER.

LINDA WARE
BURLINGTON WOMAN'S CLUB
THRIFT SHOP MANAGER

service to the local community.

Recognized in downtown Burlington by its trademark green and white striped awning, the Burlington Woman's Club Thrift Shop has bounced around the community. In 2005, however, the thrift shop found its permanent home at 317 S. Main St.

Ware said she joined the organization when a neighbor invited her to visit the shop. While she was not working at the time, Ware said she was eager to get involved in the community.

"It's hard to imagine that it's been around for that long, and I've been doing this job as a manager for 20 years. It goes by very fast," Ware said. "It's just a good way to spend your time helping other people."

Though the thrift shop is the club's only avenue to make money, the organization has participated in other community events in the



The trademark green and white striped awning of the Burlington Woman's Club Thrift Shop is a trademark of downtown Burlington.

TAYLOR TRUITT | DESIGNER

past.

The club completed a large art show in January, which involved a number of local schools and art teachers. Monetary prizes were awarded to the top artists, with winners earning the opportunity to compete at the district level.

"We just love giving back and supporting our community," Ware said.

In honor of the shop's 50th anniversary, Ware said the community is hosting a two-week celebration in downtown Burlington, with the largest gathering planned for May.

The thrift shop will hold anniversary sales, where discounts

IF YOU GO:

Address: 317 S. Main Street, Burlington.

Hours: Sun - Mon. closed
Tues - Thurs. 9:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
Wed - Fri. 9:30 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

include a storewide markdown of 50% and "buy one, get two free" offers.

Ware said a big reason the shop is still around to celebrate its 50th anniversary is a result of

the close relationship it has built with its customers and the greater community.

"We are here because of the people who are our customers who've been with us since our old location," Ware said. "We help a lot of people, and we even get second-generation shoppers."

The 50th anniversary of the thrift shop is a milestone for both the club and the community, representing half a century of service and local philanthropy.

"I'm most proud of the people we've gotten to know throughout the years and working to get to know the different people and make their lives better," Ware said.

ROCKIN' REBELS

'We Will Rock You' combines Queen music and the struggle for individuality

Leila Jackson
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

Elon University's upcoming performance of "We Will Rock You," guest-directed by Paul Stancato, explores themes of non-conformity and oppression in a dystopian society. By the end of the night, audiences will get to experience a rock concert with all the hits from British pop rock band Queen. The show, written by Ben Elton, is a jukebox musical, meaning the plot heavily centers around pre-existing songs. This contrasts with other musicals where the songs are written for that particular show, according to sophomore John Zamborsky. Zamborsky is set to play the role of Galileo, one of the production's leads.

"Queen is probably the most famous British pop rock band, so with that being said, they had all these songs, and they were so theatrical and they decided to make this plot around these songs," Zamborsky said. The musical is set in a futuristic society where individual expression is banned. The plot follows the adventures of two characters who don't fit the status quo — Galileo and Scaramouche — who meet after getting arrested. Once the two escape, they find a group of underground rebels called the Bohemians who also resist conforming to the oppressive society. "We find out that Galileo's purpose is to bring back music, to bring back individual expression, ... and all the while we're being tracked by the government," said junior

“

QUEEN IS PROBABLY THE MOST FAMOUS BRITISH POP ROCK BAND, SO WITH THAT BEING SAID, THEY HAD ALL THESE SONGS, AND THEY WERE SO THEATRICAL AND THEY DECIDED TO MAKE THIS PLOT AROUND THESE SONGS.

JOHN ZAMBORSKY
SOPHOMORE



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Junior Dariana Mullen sings during the dress rehearsal for "We Will Rock You" in McCrory Theatre on Feb. 11.

Dariana Mullen, who plays Scaramouche. "We Will Rock You" highlights the consequences of a world where art is banned and where individuality is suppressed through Galileo and Scaramouche's story. "I think the biggest thing that you can take out of this is the importance of not only art, theater, music, songs, literature, anything like that and the importance of individuality," Zamborsky said. "[At] the start of the show, you see sort of the corrupt world that they have fallen into because of a lack of expression and a lack of a voice, the lack of an outlet." Mullen says the relationship between the two leads plays a crucial part in the show.

"Once we have the band together and we have the music at full capacity and we have the story at full capacity, it really is just a very human story about finding somebody that you care about enough to do some crazy things," Mullen said. Zamborsky hopes the audience is as excited as he is. "Our job really is to entertain, to give people an escape for a few hours and that is definitely what you get from the show," Zamborsky said. "You follow this very emotionally-driven plot, but then at the very end of it, it's just a rock concert. You'll have a great time."

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SPORTS



FRESHMEN LEAD THE NEW ERA OF ELON BASKETBALL

CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Phoenix have struck a three game win streak with the help of young leaders

Alex Reynolds
@Reynolds14_ | Sports Director

The 2020 season has been a tale of highs and lows for the Elon Men's Basketball team (9-17). As the team turns towards its final month before the conference tournament, the Phoenix has hit a high of the season due in part to its emerging young talents.

Since Feb. 1, the team has strung together three straight wins, two of which came on the road. The team posted strong victories against Northeastern University and University of North Carolina Wilmington. The team finished its road stretch by toppling the then No.1 team in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA), the College of Charleston Cougars, 72-65. Prior to Saturday's match-up, the Phoenix were 7-22 all time against the Cougars.

“

WE ARE LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE BECAUSE YOU KNOW, WE'RE GOING TO BE GOOD, BUT AT THE SAME TIME JUST MAXIMIZING THE SEASON AND PRACTICE GETTING BETTER EVERY DAY.

ZAC ERVIN
ELON MEN'S BASKETBALL

Freshman guard Hunter McIntosh makes his way down the court in a February 8th game against College of Charleston.

The Phoenix were willed to victory by graduate guard Marcus Sheffield II, who tied a career high in points with 31. Sheffield has been the headstrong leader in the midseason revival. The graduate transfer has led the team in points, rebounds and blocks in all three games and has accumulated a whopping 77 points, 27 rebounds and nine assists during the course of a week.

Alongside Sheffield is a young leader of the Phoenix, freshman guard Hunter McIntosh. The rising star tallied 38 points, seven assists and 13 rebounds in the same week stretch. McIntosh is emerging as the Phoenix newest floor general and has learned from his graduate counterpart about mental preparation.

“He has a natural maturation to his game,” McIntosh said. “Obviously you know he’s a great player, but his mental side, his preparation side is what I’ll take with me going forward.”

A 3-point machine

The 3-point game has been integral to the Phoenix offensive success this season. The Phoenix have scored 254 three-pointers this year. This mark brings the teams average to 9.76 3-pointers per game, just .69 short of last year's average.

However, there is a distinct difference between the number of 3-pointers made this year compared to last. In 2018, 44% of 3-pointers made came from two seniors, forward Tyler Siebring and guard Steven Santa Ana. Siebring and Santa Ana scored 77 and 71 3-pointers respectively. The next closest shooter, guard Nathan Priddy, garnered only 45 3-pointers.

This year, 3-pointers are more equally distributed, even coming from younger players. The top four shooters on the team are within nine 3-pointers made of each other. McIntosh leads the team with 51 free throws. His classmates Hunter Woods and Zac Ervin join McIntosh and Sheffield to round out the top four.

“On our team everybody is capable of shooting the basketball,” McIntosh said.

“That’s kinda what’s open, kind of what we tend toward and is definitely a strength of our team.”

In the Phoenix recent success, these shooters have found their rhythm from beyond the arc. In its win over Northeastern, Elon shot a season high 52.6% from three. This mark far outmatched the Huskies’ 28.6%. When the team traveled to Wilmington the team regressed but still outshot the Seahawks 22.2% to 17.6%. For the team’s upset of the season against Charleston, the Phoenix shot 39.4% from three compared to the Cougar’s 30.4%.

Looking to the future

The core group of freshmen have performed beyond their year in 2019. In their first year playing college basketball, Woods, McIntosh and Ervin have pushed the team forward. Despite the success they have experienced, they know they still are in

the learning stages of their Elon careers.

“We’re all just learning each other, how to play with each other, learning the coaches system because some of the things are different from high schools and free previous programs we came from,” Woods said.

The freshmen understand that their time as a Phoenix goes long past this season, but they are still focused on the task ahead. With five games remaining in the regular season before the conference tournament, the team and its young core are set on finishing the year strong. The team is four wins away from topping their record last year. Woods and McIntosh are on track to pass 300 points on the season.

“We are looking into the future because you know, we’re going to be good, but at the same time just maximizing the season and practice getting better every day,” Ervin said.

The explosion of freshman talent this year bodes well for future years in the Schrage era.

“I think this year is just setting the foundation for the future. Especially having such a young core I think just coming in today, trying to get better every day and just set a foundation for success,” McIntosh said.



Graduate guard Marcus Sheffield II dribbles down the court in a game against College of Charleston.

CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Elon University junior and pitcher Jared Wetherbee warms up prior to practice as coach Mike Kennedy watches in Latham Park on Friday, Feb. 7.

CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NEW FEET ON THE MOUND

Head coach Mike Kennedy works with new-look pitching staff as the team defends its regular season championship

Jon Sarver Jr.
Elon News Network | @sarver_jon

On a windy Friday afternoon, a week from the start of his 24th season as the head coach of Elon University’s baseball team, Mike Kennedy began practice with a walk to the bullpen to see junior starting pitcher Jared Wetherbee warm up.

Wetherbee became a full-time starter in March 2019 and is the only returning pitcher from last year’s rotation.

Kennedy said he is looking to fill the holes in his pitching staff left by the 2019 Major League Baseball Draft after two starting pitchers and one reliever signed professional baseball contracts; George Kirby and Ty Adcock were drafted by the Seattle Mariners, and Kyle Brnovich was drafted by the Los Angeles Angels before being traded to the Baltimore Orioles in December.

During the 2019 season, Brnovich and Kirby threw a combined total of more than 174 innings in 28 starts. The duo also took the mound for 15 of the team’s 33 wins.

Adcock served as the team’s closer last season and recorded nine saves to go along with 37 strikeouts in 21 appearances.

While Kennedy was thrilled for the trio of pitchers, he said their departures created a new challenge for the 2020 season.

“We were excited for those guys and the opportunity that they’ve been presented with, and that comes with working hard and having some success,” Kennedy said. “It creates a little bit of a hole for us on the mound in terms of experience. We’ll have some talented guys, but they’re going to be very young and lack Division I pitching experience.”

As the roster is currently constructed, the Phoenix has nine returning pitchers and nine new additions to the pitching staff. As the season moves forward,



Elon University sophomore and pitcher Kyle Greenler warms up his pitches during practice in Latham Park on Friday, Feb. 7.

CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

“

THE GOAL IS TO HAVE THESE GUYS CONTINUE TO GROW THROUGHOUT THE SEASON, AND AS LONG AS WE’RE GETTING BETTER AND BETTER OVER THE COURSE OF THE YEAR, THEN WE’LL FEEL GOOD ABOUT IT.

MIKE KENNEDY
HEAD COACH

Kennedy said he hopes to see progress among the new pitchers.

“The goal is to have these guys continue to grow throughout the season, and as long as we’re getting better and better over the course of the year, then we’ll feel good about it,” Kennedy said.

The Phoenix will debut its new pitching rotation against Delaware State University for the team’s home opener at 4 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 14, at Latham Park.

During opening weekend, Kennedy said he will start Wetherbee on Friday, freshman Spencer Bauer on Saturday and senior Dean McCarthy on Sunday.

Sophomore Joe Sprake, Kennedy said, might fill Adcock’s shoes as the new closer. He spoke similarly of Bauer, McCarthy and Sprake as they take on new roles during the season.

“All three of those guys will have to step up and assume roles that they’re not used to being in. And for us to be successful, they’re going to have to do a good job,” Kennedy said.

HALF THE BATTLE

19

Is the number of wins that Kyle Brnovich, Ty Adcock and George Kirby combined for when starting for the Phoenix in 2019. That accounts for more than half of the team’s 33 wins last season.

McCarthy appeared in 28 games last season, 27 of which were relief appearances. McCarthy said being a weekend starter is a “humbling role,” as it has been a goal of his for a long time.

“From struggling freshman year to my senior year, kind of finishing strong and earning that role, I think it’s very exciting, and I’m excited to lead our team,” McCarthy said.

As an experienced member of the team, McCarthy spoke of his struggle transitioning from high school to college baseball and how he intends to mentor new members.

“It’s important for me to support those guys, especially the younger guys,” McCarthy said. “I’ll try to help their mental side, keep them focused.”

The roles of the coaching staff have also shifted. After two seasons with the Phoenix, assistant coach Sean McGrath left the team and, according to The Seattle Times, was hired as the pitching coach for the Modesto Nuts, a minor league affiliate of the Seattle Mariners.

During McGrath’s time at Elon, he also served as the pitching coach. Kennedy said that he will work with the pitching staff this season in place of McGrath, which will limit his time with other players on the team.

“Things are going well. Guys are working hard and getting better,” Kennedy said. “I’ve seen less of our position guys because of it, but we’re rolling right along. Implementing some things that we did in the past. It’s just me being down there with them.”