

THE PENDULUM

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Election season heightens student political activity

Students express their views on presidential debates, contentious political topics.

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Election Countdown

A student and alum explain which candidate has won their vote.

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Hoops Preview

Get an in-depth look at both the men and women's basketball teams and their expectations for the 2012-2013 season.

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Department of Performing Arts
goes 'Crazy'
19-21

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The Pendulum news organization is a daily operation that includes a newspaper, website, magazine and web show. Letters to the editor and guest columns 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 or columns 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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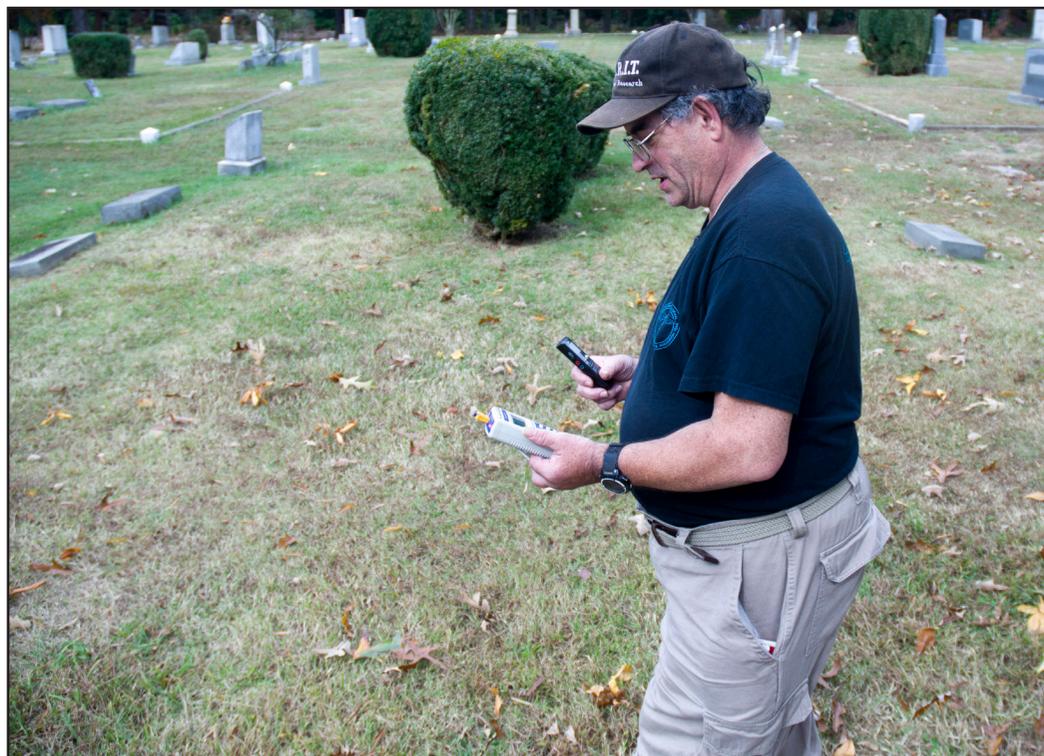
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For this week's calendar, visit
The Pendulum online at:
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November 13, 2012

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The National Election and Elon

Rachel Southmayd
Senior Reporter

Across the country, millions of dollars are being spent on political advertising, candidates are kissing babies and promises are being made every day leading up to the Nov. 6 general election. At Elon University, students have joined the election fray, with a surge of political events, awareness and engagement.

Junior Jordan Thomas, president of the College Democrats, said at a typical non-election event, the organization sees no more than 15 members in attendance, but this year, double that number are showing up to regular meetings, with four times that number attending events hosted with other organizations such as College Republicans or the newly-formed non-partisan Politics Forum.

“I believe that’s just the nature of Elon students, really engaged all the time,” he said. “Everyone wants to be involved and wants to help.”

Getting Involved

Elon students attended the Republican National Convention in Tampa, Fla. and the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte in August and September, respectively. Students also contributed to the campaign in other ways.

Junior Patrick Brown, president of College Republicans, said his organization has had activity at “Super Saturday” events at the local GOP “Victory Center,” calling voters to encourage them to vote Republican. Other events included volunteering at a local rally for North Carolina gubernatorial candidate Pat McCrory.

The Elon administration has also fostered numerous politically-themed events and will continue to do so throughout the fall. Some recent events have included a panel on religion in the election and

a visit from David Walker, former U.S. comptroller, who is on his nationwide “\$10 Million a Minute” tour, educating people on the national debt crisis.

In a different vein, the philosophy department hosted “Young, Wild and Free: A celebration of democracy and pluralism” on the lawn of the Academic Pavilion Oct. 5. It was an informal event and included a performance by a blues band and a microphone where students could stand and express their views on any issues.

“The idea is to bring people out in a casual atmosphere and have meaningful conversation,” said senior Lizzy Appleby, who helped organize the event.

Several students echoed that sentiment when they turned up to watch the first presidential debate Oct. 3 at an event co-sponsored by the Politics Forum, College Republicans and College Democrats.

“More and more, we see students aware of the process,” said senior Darien Flowers, executive president of the Student Government Association, who engaged in conversation with other students about the issues for some time after the debate concluded.

Stephanie Driscoll, a sophomore political science and international studies double major, came to the event in her Romney-Ryan hat.

“I think it’s a great opportunity for us to see both sides,” she said, adding she was glad to be able to watch the debate with people with opposing opinions.

Young voter practices

In 2008, young voters turned out in droves. In a recent Gallup Poll featuring data collected through Oct. 14, 61 percent of voters aged 18-29 said they will vote for President Barack Obama, coincidentally, the same percentage of voters that cast their ballot for him in 2008 against Sen. John McCain.

With slightly more than 68 percent of Elon students from outside the state of North Carolina, voting can be an issue, but this year, the university partnered with TurboVote, a program that helps people register to vote wherever they are.

Sam Novey, the director of partnerships at TurboVote, said around 1,200 Elon students have registered to vote or registered for their absentee ballots as of Oct. 9.

“Elon’s done a great job of promoting the program and getting people to sign up,” he said.

And for many Elon students, particularly those who appear at political events, voting seems to be a high priority.

“If you don’t have a preference, then you can’t really complain,” Thomas said about those who choose not to vote.

Freshman Matt Colbert said students should have a say in who is running their country.

“Once you become of age to vote, you have to become more interested in your life, I guess, and how your country is going to be working,” he said.

Colbert hadn’t registered to vote at the time of the interview. He was still deciding between registering in Elon or in his home state of South Carolina.

Caroline Medley, a sophomore from Richmond, Va., said she is registered to vote in her home state, but senses an air of awareness at Elon.

“I definitely think people here care about what happens in the election,” she said.

A partisan atmosphere?

At Elon, there are three student organizations strictly devoted to politics.

Brown said that while his involvement with College Republicans often makes him feel like the

campus population tends to be more conservative, he thinks it’s probably fairly balanced between ideologies.

“I think that overall, Elon sponsors a pretty healthy debate,” he said.

Thomas, on the other hand, said the campus is fairly divided down the middle, but that most people tend to stay in neutral territory when interacting with others. Nevertheless, he did say that he feels Elon is a more socially liberal place.

“That’s just the atmosphere campus gives off,” he said.

Medley said she feels the same, but that may be because those who are socially active about liberal issues such as gay rights tend to be seen more.

“I think the democrats on campus are more vocal,” she said.

In the home stretch

With less than a week remaining until Election Day, North Carolina remains a battleground-state.

In the most recent Elon Poll, results indicate the president is leading Romney by a margin of 55-37 based on those who voted early, but of those who have not already voted, the Republican candidate holds a 48-34 percent advantage.

North Carolina’s status as a battleground state also means a major candidate could still stop by, like on Oct. 16, 2008, when then-vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin held a small rally in Latham Park.

Eric Townsend, the director of Elon University News Bureau, said Elon would receive no more than five days advance notice if such an event were to occur.

STUDENT DEBATE RECAP

On Thursday, Elon hosted the largest election-related event yet. A mock debate located in Whitley Auditorium featured four teams of five people who represented their respective political party’s outlook on three general topics. These topics were selected by 600 students, faculty and staff who cast their votes at College Coffee and online.

Each team made an opening statement, then took turns commenting on the selected topics: economy, health care and same-sex marriage. The teams provided a closing statement and addressed questions from the audience.

DEMOCRAT

Junior Hannah Ignasher

Jeremy Teetor, assistant bur-sar for information management

Freshman John Cameron Crowder

Senior Ben Waldon

Senior Carly Ledbetter

REPUBLICAN

Senior Patrick Brown

Freshman Rebecca Sansale

Junior Jack Minor, Jr.

Senior Mark Rehbein

Senior Joe Perron

INDEPENDENT

Senior Wesley Rose

Martin Fowler, lecturer of philosophy

Junior Natalie Cuzmenco

Freshman Austin Pederson

Senior David Gagne

INTERNATIONAL

Freshman Ameya Benegal

Junior Ala Eddine Maaref

Sophomore Nicole Payne

Sophomore Muhammad Musah

Sophomore Emily Ackers



Students weigh in on election year issues in political debate

WILLIAM KENYON | Staff Photographer

Junior Natalie Cuzmenco, one of the members of the independent team, shares her views concerning the current economic situation at the student debate Oct. 26.

Rachel Southmayd
Senior Reporter

Twenty members of the Elon University community went head to head in a community debate. There was applause, there were challenges and there was a lot of waffling as four different ideologies met on stage in a mostly-full Whitley Auditorium Oct. 26.

Junior Ben Kashdan, one of the members of the committee that coordinated the debate, introduced the moderator, Dick Gordon, host of the WUNC radio show "The Story."

"This is a terrific year for a debate," Gordon said. "This isn't play, not here."

Several weeks ago, Elon students voted at College Coffee and online to select the debate topics: the economy, health care and same-sex marriage. The debate featured four teams of five students: Democrats, Republicans, Independents and Internationals. Team members either gave the team's opening or closing statement or discussed one of the three topics. Each speaker was allotted two minutes of presentation time.

Following the structured format and a short break, Gordon engaged the teams with questions submitted by audience members and from Twitter

via the hashtag #EUdebate. Topics included global warming, federal student loans, corporate tax rates and more on the topic of health care, among others. Gordon selected which teams would speak and even allowed for some banter between teams.

The tensest moment of the night came when Gordon veered from the agreed-upon debate format and asked each of the teams about the recent controversy on campus regarding Chick-fil-A and the rights of students to have a say in the choice of food vendors.

When Gordon brought up the topic, there was an audible groan, but at the end of the night, Gordon commended the teams for their performance.

"This is hard," he said. "I've been particularly impressed with this group's agility and intellect."

What did each team say?

The Independent team

In its opening statement, the team criticized the current state of the American political system and the bipartisan nature the first president of the United States warned against.

"Today, George Washington's worst fears have come true," said freshman

speaker Austin Pederson. "Our two-party system is destroying our country."

Pederson argued the two dominant political parties basically want the same policies enacted, and that third party candidates aren't given an adequate voice.

With respect to the economy, junior Natalie Cuzmenco said the current economic state of the United States is "indeed a crisis," while pointing out the government's failures in that area.

Junior Wesley Rose said his team favored letting the private sector guide the health care industry, putting individuals in the driver's seat and removing government programs.

"We don't need a new government Band-Aid for health care, no pun intended," he said.

On the topic of same-sex marriage, Martin Fowler, a lecturer in the philosophy department, said independents neither endorse nor oppose the marriage of anyone.

To conclude, senior David Gagne pointed out that 40 percent of Americans now identify as "Independent," something he attributes to the growing dissatisfaction with both the Republican and Democratic parties.



WILLIAM KENYON | Staff Photographer

Freshman Ameya Benegal, a member of the international team, participated in "Debating the Issues" in Whitley Auditorium.

The International team

To open, sophomore Emily Ackers said the point of the International team's presence at the debate was to remind the American people, especially those who are voting, that there is a world outside the U.S. that's not limited to the Middle East and China.

"It is time for America to realize the world is changing," she said.

Junior Ala Eddine Maaref compared the European Union and the United States during his statement on the economy, telling the audience the U.S. economy and other economies of the world affect one another, adding that while unemployment in the nation has dropped to less than 8 percent, in the EU, it is still about 10.5 percent and forecasted to continue to increase.

On health care, sophomore Muhammad Musah recommended the U.S. look at other countries, such as France, as models for designing a new

system.

Freshman Ameya Benegal presented the team's opinion on same-sex marriage, pointing out that while there are 10 countries around the world that allow same-sex marriage, there are also dozens that ban it.

To close, sophomore Nicole Payne urged the country to look at other countries' programs as potential models for reform here.

The Democratic team

This team devoted a major portion of its rhetoric to applauding the efforts of President Barack Obama over the last four years.

In its opening statement, assistant bursar Jeremy Teetor caused a small stir when he implied the Republican Party and Tea Party movement were trying to "take the country back" from the president because of his skin color. A member of the Republican team later

contested this point.

Regarding the economy, freshman John Crowder said under Obama's leadership, the U.S. economy and its recovery were "alive and well."

Ben Waldon, a senior, expressed his disappointment at how often Obama's health care law, the Affordable Care Act, seems to be misunderstood and tried to set the record straight.

But it was senior Carly Ledbetter's statement during the same-sex marriage portion of the debate that garnered the most audible approval of the night.

"You tell us that the government should stay out of our taxes, our business and our right to bear arms," she said. "Then I ask you to stay out of our marriages."

Whitley Auditorium broke out in loud applause when Ledbetter said if the government was really concerned with protecting marriage, then they should outlaw divorce, not love.

Hannah Ignasher, a junior, echoed Obama's campaign slogan of "Moving Forward" in her closing statement.

The Republican team

Senior Joseph Perron repeated an idea heard multiple times at the Republican National Convention in August: Are we better off than we were four years ago? He cited statistics that the income of middle-class Americans has gone down, gas and health care prices have gone up and 70 percent of new college graduates are moving back in with their parents.

He said the fundamental difference between Obama and the GOP nominee Mitt Romney is that Obama believes all Americans should share in prosperity, while Romney believes Americans should all have the opportunity to prosper.

In the statement on the economy, freshman Rebecca Sansale shared the

story of her grandparents, who were immigrants to America who eventually started their own companies. She said Obama's policies are stripping freedom from small companies like those her family owns.

Senior Mark Rehbein discussed health care by sharing facts and stating that the Affordable Care Act would take current jobs in the medical field away because it limited the amount of profit practices would make, thereby limiting their ability to hire more workers.

On the topic of same-sex marriage, junior Patrick Brown said that was a choice that should be left up to individual states, as it was with Amendment One in North Carolina this spring.

In their concluding statement, Senior Jack Minor said the U.S. was at a crossroads.

"This is not a choice between two candidates," he said. "This is a choice between two futures."§

Presidential debates hold weight for some, not others

Melissa Kansky
News Editor

The three presidential debates have concluded, but voters question how accurate the televised events portray the candidates. Although public opinion polls and news organizations report a winner of each of the three debates, the extent to which the debates impact voter preference is minimal.

"I personally believe the debates are not a good representation of what their stance on the issue is because they have to give their opinions in a way that is going to appeal to all viewers," said Elon University junior Katie Osborn.

Osborn's opinion aligns with a near-majority of registered voters, according to a NBC-Wall Street Journal poll. While the poll reports the debates motivated 27 percent of respondents to be more likely to support Republican candidate Mitt Romney and 24 percent of respondents to be more likely to support President Barack Obama, 47 percent indicated the debates made no difference.

A poll conducted by CNN/ORC nearly echoed the results of the NBC-Wall Street Journal poll. Of those questioned, 24 percent were more

inclined to vote for Obama, 25 percent leaned toward Romney and 50 percent said they were not influenced.

Senior Genevieve D'Cruz identifies with the plurality of individuals whose views were not impacted by the debates. D'Cruz, who watched the first two presidential debates, expressed frustration with the lack of information provided during the political events.

"I wasn't learning anything from listening to the debate," she said. "I'm just hearing one candidate bash the other candidate."

Osborn encouraged voters to turn to government websites and review the candidates' voting records rather than trusting the debates. Online resources better illuminate their values, according to Osborn.

Google Analytics revealed the 2012 presidential debates have been followed by increases in searches of terms of interest for the two candidates.

"You need to make sure you're doing the background research on what they voted for in the past and also what their stances are in real life," Osborn said.

Nevertheless, some students appreciate how the debates reveal the personalities of the candidates and allow the candidates' presentation to

influence their voter preference.

Junior Lindsay Glosson, who identifies as an independent, said Romney appealed to her during the first two debates because he addressed her concerns about the last four years.

While she favored Romney following the first two debates, the candidate's presentation during the third debate diminished her confidence in the Republican challenger.

"His inability to actually state facts or approach certain areas of the third debate with any form of confidence was a little unnerving," she said.

Although the debates reduced her support for Romney, they have not solidified her vote for Obama either, she said.

The candidates conduct during the debates also impacted junior Amanda Lang's views. Even though public opinion polls identified Obama as the winner of the last two debates, Lang said she sided more with Romney.

Sophomore Brogan Boles said she also gave weight to the presidential candidates' behavior and delivery during the debates.

"That was important to me because it showed their leadership qualities and how they would go about leading a country," Boles said.

WHO WON THE DEBATES?

First debate: Republican candidate Mitt Romney	20% said Obama won
(Based on a Gallup Poll of Americans who reported watching the debate)	72% said Romney won
	9% said neither
Second debate: Presidential incumbent Barack Obama	51% said Obama won
(Based on a Gallup poll of Americans who reported watching the debate)	38% said Romney won
	11% said neither
Third debate: Presidential incumbent Barack Obama	48% said Obama won
(Based on a CNN poll of registered voters)	40% said Romney won
	12% said neither

DEBATES' INFLUENCE ON VOTER PREFERENCE

25% said they were more likely to support Mitt Romney
24% said they were more likely to support Barack Obama
50% said the debates made no difference on their voting preference

(Based on data collected after the third debate by the CNN/ORC poll)

Elon administration prepares to investigate Chick-fil-A controversy

Katherine Blunt
News Editor

At Elon University, the Chick-fil-A controversy is not over yet. A student-authored resolution against Chick-fil-A's presence in the future Lakeside Dining Hall generated a heated debate on campus, and now, the university's administration is poised to investigate the issue.

Last week, the executive committee of Elon's Board of Trustees announced its decision to form a study committee to examine Elon's purchasing policy and its partnerships with external vendors. The committee will primarily focus on the university's relationship with Chick-fil-A, though it may examine other business partnerships if specific concerns arise, according to President Leo Lambert.

"This doesn't mean we're going to start running every business relationship by this committee," he said. "The university already has several processes or screens in place to ensure we behave as a responsible enterprise, but there are exceptional times when someone says 'I'm concerned about this,' and there needs to be a process by which that concern would be evaluated."

The university created an email account, vendorpolicy@elon.edu, to collect opinions regarding Chick-fil-A's presence on campus. So far, more than 100 opinions have been submitted, according to Lambert. The committee will evaluate the emails, as well as other viewpoints expressed on and off Elon's campus, while studying the university's purchasing policy.

"Everyone in the Elon community factors in," Lambert said. "Faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni and anyone else who is a stakeholder in the institution has a right to be heard on this issue."

William Herbert, an Elon trustee and member of the Class of 1968, and Connie Ledoux Book, associate provost for Academic Affairs at Elon, will chair the committee. Lambert is currently working with Elon students, faculty and staff to determine candidates for the remaining positions.

"We want to put a fair and balanced group of people together," he said. "We have to do it right and do it carefully."

After the remaining positions are filled, Lambert will work with the chair of the Board of Trustees and the committee chairs to determine the committee's responsibilities.

"I think we want to be clear about what the Board of Trustees expects them to give and what the university expects them to produce at the end of their work," he said. "That's something that needs to be done carefully."

If the committee finds Chick-fil-A, or any other external vendor, in potential violation of the university's pre-existing policies, Lambert said the university would most likely contact the vendor before deciding whether to remove it from campus. The committee will likely finish its study by the end of the academic year.

"Most companies want to win customers, not lose them," he said. "Most make sure their policies are in line with the general good values of societies."

But if the vendor does not clarify or change the policies in question, Lambert said the university would consider terminating its contract, but how and when to do so will depend on the details of the violation.

Lambert said he has received a wide range of responses to the university's decision, but ultimately, he believes it will yield a positive result.

"I have a great deal of faith in the strength of this community and its good character and the goodness of all the people who are part of Elon," he said. "I believe we will be able to look at this matter in a thoughtful and careful way and make the best decision we can."

But some students are displeased with the university's response. Senior Jack Minor said he thinks the committee will spark new tensions on campus.

"I think this is a path that the university should not begin to travel because it has no end," he said. "You will never be able to appease everyone and eliminate any business or group that does not share the same beliefs as the university or group of students who feel as though they have been discriminated against."

But Darien Flowers, executive president of the Student Government Association, said he thinks the decision will help Elon create an inclusive campus environment.

"Elon likes to take the time and make sure we have a policy that fits us best and make sure whatever is implemented is best for Elon," he said.

He acknowledged the lengthiness of the decision process might aggravate some community members, though.

"A positive and a negative of higher education in general is that it takes a very long time to go through processes," he said. "It's frustrating for people inside and outside who are accustomed to instant information. I can see where it would be frustrating if you weren't already immersed in it."

Senior Lauren Clapp, an advocacy and education chair for Spectrum, shares in that frustration. She said she thinks the prolonged decision process will undermine the severity of the issue.

"I really am happy the university thinks



FILE PHOTO BY GLORIA SO

The future of Chick-fil-A at Elon depends largely on the findings of a newly-appointed study committee, which is likely to complete its investigation by the end of the academic year.



FILE PHOTO BY MERISSA BLITZ

SGA Executive President Darien Flowers, who dealt extensively with the Chick-fil-A controversy, said he supports the university's decision to closely examine its purchasing policy.

there is value in examining our partnerships and recognizes there might be something ethically wrong here," she said. "But this response will take the focus off of what Spectrum was trying to raise awareness about, which is that Chick-fil-A has become a symbol of intolerance and harassment on campus."

She said she, as well as some other members of Elon's LGBTQIA community, are disappointed in the university's overall response to the Chick-fil-A controversy.

"So many of us are feeling so hurt and so disrespected and rejected by the community," she said. "Elon's administration has shown it

values its people, but I've been sort of disappointed by their silence on this issue because it seems a little contradictory to some of the previous efforts to support the LGBTQIA community."

But Lambert said the committee will seriously consider every viewpoint on the situation.

"I want everyone to know that I believe every person in the community has value and dignity," he said. "It pains me to know that there are people on both sides of this issue who feel diminished as a result of the conversation."

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Ministry

College Republicans

Elon
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Film Club

LIVE
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Sierra Club

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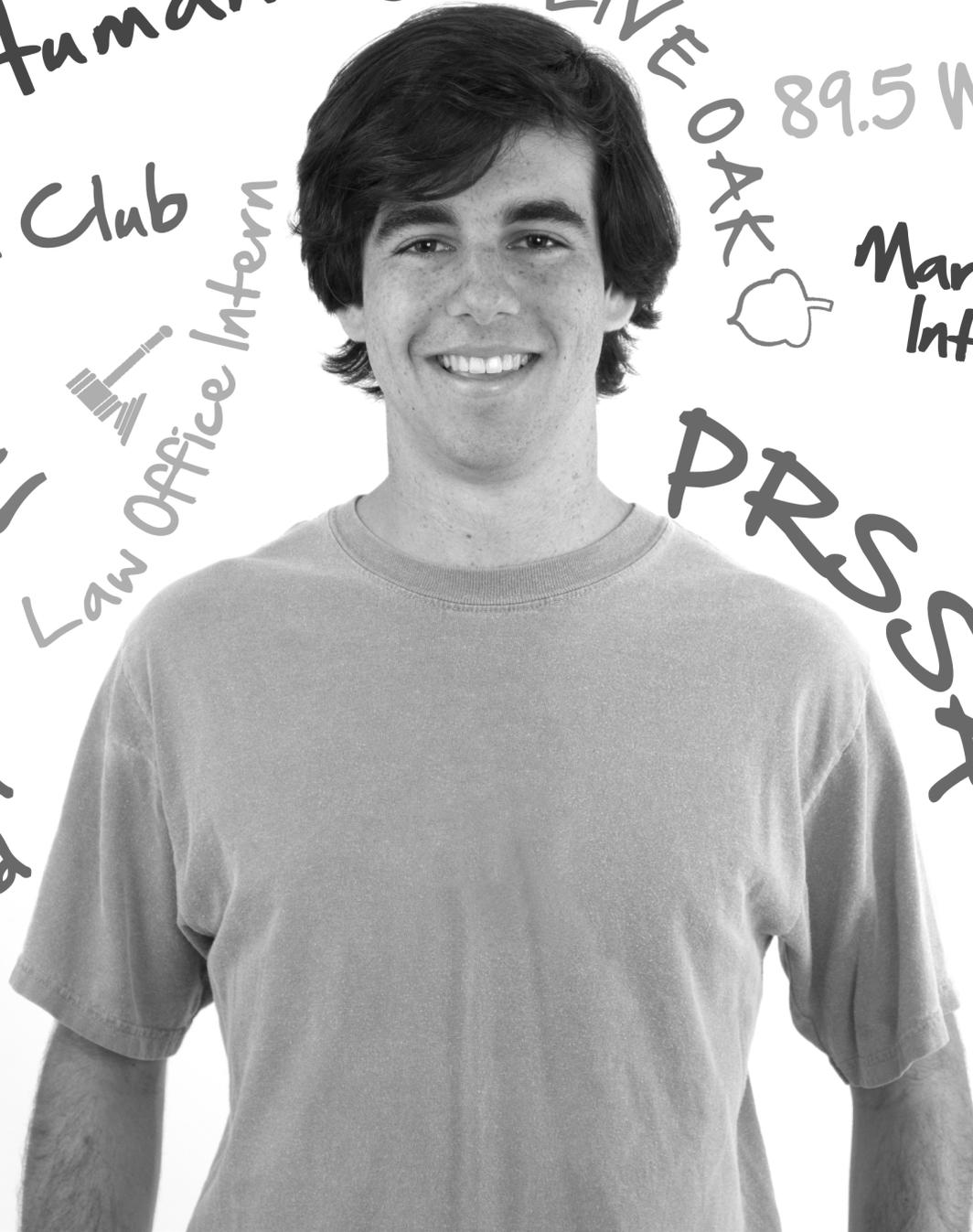
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Imam blasts misconceptions about Islam at Real Talk session

Adriana Miano
Senior Reporter

No question was off-limits to those gathered in Moseley Center's Oak Room for "Some Real Talk with the Imam," which invited members of the Elon community to receive clarification on common misconceptions about Islam.

The event, hosted by Better Together, also offered a space for students to learn about the history and theology of the religion from Imam Abdullah Antepli, Muslim chaplain at Duke University.

"It is the social homework of Americans to understand Islam as a religion and to understand Muslims as people," Antepli said.

After providing an overview of the Islamic faith, Antepli answered questions

from the audience, including anonymously written submissions collected at the start of the event Oct. 24.

The first question of the night asked about the role of violence in the Quran and in the Islamic faith.

"No religion becomes a source of violence just through theology," Antepli said. "The theology becomes a source of violence only after it merges with other political, historical, cultural and social views."

Antepli was also asked to explain the exclusion of non-Islamic religions in many Muslim countries.

This exclusion is not an ordinance of Islamic tradition, but is a product of culture and society, according to Antepli.

"To say Islam is essentially inclusive or exclusive is wrong

from the get go," Antepli said. "A healthy society usually reflects the best of a religion, but an unhealthy society usually reflects the worst of it."

Towards the end of the event, Antepli was asked to address his personal experiences with discrimination. His own experiences have motivated Antepli to seek opportunities to speak openly about his faith and erase misconceptions, he said.

The prevalence of misconceptions in society inspired Better Together to host this event, according to the organization's president, junior Mason Sklut.

"In the media you hear things about Islam that can be quite incorrect," Sklut said. "This is an environment where people can ask questions about Islam and get an accurate answer from some-

one who is of the faith."

Sklut aimed to create an environment for individuals to ask questions that might not have been welcomed in another setting, according to Sklut.

"The purpose of Real Talk when we first came up with it was to create an environment where people feel comfortable to have real talk without any political correctness," Sklut said. "Americans are so afraid of offending others that we often miss opportunities to learn something."

It is important for students to take advantage of these opportunities in order to help spread accurate information across campus, Sklut said.

"Our goal is for students who attend this event to pass on what they learn so that if someone is talking about Is-



WILLIAM KENYON | Staff Photographer
Imam Abdullah Antepli, Muslim chaplain at Duke University, visited Elon University as part of Better Together's Real Talk series.

lam and misrepresenting it, students will know what to say in response," he said.

The event was the second "Real Talk" session held since Better Together's founding last spring. Sklut hopes to continue the tradition on a bi-annual basis and include speakers from a variety of religious backgrounds, he said.

Sklut said he hopes to increase the number of students who attend. He estimated about 30 to 40 students were present at the lecture.

"It would be ideal to maintain this as a trademark event," he said. "Hopefully it will continue to grow, and we'll one day have an audience of 100."

Blessings for Numen Lumen Center show community ownership



MELISSA KANSKY | News Editor

A series of blessings offered for the Numen Lumen Multi-Faith Center demonstrates Elon University's commitment to foster an atmosphere receptive to various religions and inter-faith dialogue, according to Lauren Emery, interim assistant chaplain. Following College Coffee each week, representatives of varying faith communities will offer blessings to express hope for the protection of the building, security of its inhabitants and success of its mission. Shereen Elgamal, assistant professor of Arabic, read the first blessing on behalf of the Islamic tradition. Among those present included President Leo Lambert and Provost Steven House.

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Student-led book club unites leadership, literature

Ethan Smith
Senior Reporter

Few are strangers to failure. But Elon University's book club, Read and Lead, selected this year's book, "Failing Forward," to teach students how to learn from failures and improve upon them.

The Read and Lead program invites students to join a book club concerning leadership development. Those who register for the program can pick up the book at the Center for Leadership.

So far, 14 students have registered for this year's program, but any are welcome to join, according to junior Immanuel Bryant, organizational development director for the Center for Leadership.

"As college students, we've all experienced failure," Bryant said. "This book teaches students how to move forward and rebound from those failures."

"Failing Forward," by John C. Maxwell, was proposed for this year's reading by Michelle Kusel, assistant director for the Center for Leadership, according to junior Mat Goldberg, senior director of the program.

"She recommended it after reading it and realizing many Elon students can gain valuable insights from it," Goldberg said.

The book provides a step-by-step process

for its audience to follow regarding how to move forward from failure, Bryant said. It contains key quotes that are easily relatable, according to Bryant.

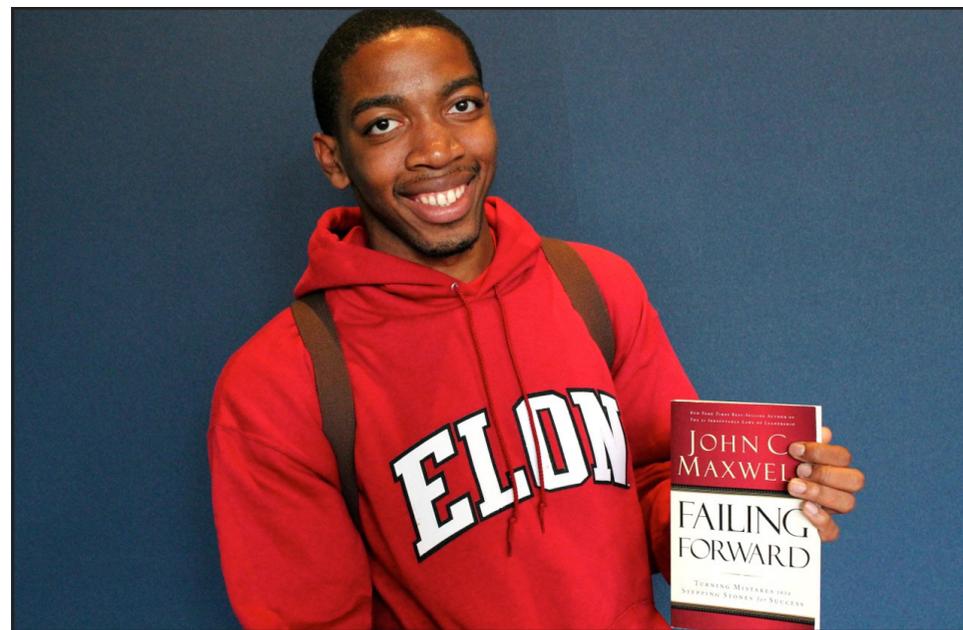
"Not all readers are leaders," he said. "But all leaders are readers. Reading gives you the ability to see the next step before it happens."

The Read and Lead book club originated when Bryant sent an email to "student leaders," which refers to students who are presidents or executive members of student organizations, to gauge students' interest in starting a book club. From there, a pilot program was developed and the club read Jonathon Sprinkle's book titled "Be the One" last semester.

This year, the club seeks to promote discussion about the book through multiple outlets. According to Bryant, the program will allow students to reflect on the book through free writing and articulate discussion that help students to write with clarity and purpose.

"Each meeting will have exercises and simulations related to the book," Bryant said. "I've developed a reading guide for the book and I hope to keep it as an option for the following years."

Students' experience in last year's reading program foreshadows success for this semester.



GLORIA SO | Staff Photographer

Immanuel Bryant, organizational development director, encourages future leaders on campus to join the reading group at the Center for Leadership. "Failing Forward" can be delivered to students' campus boxes.

"Students really enjoyed coming together to discuss the book and found conversation organic and insightful," Goldberg said, describing the group that participated last semester. "But for this year, we were committed to choosing a book more focused on

leadership."

This year's book choice and the act of reading come together to teach students how to lead, Bryant said.

"For those who want to lead, read," he said.

Pro Bono Week introduces law students to local legal associations, attorneys

Kristen Olsen
Senior Reporter

Elon University's School of Law's first annual Pro Bono Week presents students and Greensboro community members opportunities to meet professionals who provide free legal work to the community.

The American Bar Association developed the program several years ago as a time to celebrate different professions in the field, according to Alexis Martinez, assistant dean of Student Affairs. Pro Bono week is celebrated nationally.

"The week highlights different ways of social justice around Greensboro and around the country and also identifies gaps in legal terms," Martinez said. "Students work with clients and agencies to see the power their degree has."

Pro bono is defined by the ABA as the designation given to free legal work done by an attorney for indigent clients and religious, charitable and other non-profit entities.

During the Law School's Pro Bono

week, there will be programs featuring numerous local and nationwide organizations, including Women's Law Association, Humanitarian and Immigration Law Clinic, Public Interest Law Society and local attorneys.

The week's events include panels, presentations and opportunities for anyone in the community to ask a lawyer legal questions and advice.

"Anyone with a legal issue can talk to a lawyer to get basic information for their specific problems," Martinez said.

The goal for Elon Law School's Pro Bono week is to introduce students to the great things community lawyers do and what they can do, according to Martinez.

The Pro Bono Board, which consists of seven members, organized the programs throughout the week. The student-run board works to unite individuals in the community in need of pro bono service with lawyers who are willing to help.

"For the Pro Bono Board, the week is a great culmination of the year for them," Martinez said, "it provides ser-

vice and connectedness to the community."

Throughout the week, attorneys will be talking to students about their daily responsibilities, legal aid available for impoverished communities and a workshop giving information about getting restraining orders, which is open to the public. The week's events are meant to celebrate service and offer opportunity.

Third-year law student Melodie Menzer served as program coordinator for the board.

"The week is a celebration of the people who have done pro bono work, for students who have been involved and want to get involved," Menzer said. "We want to make students aware of pro bono opportunities in the community."

According to Menzer, another purpose of the week is to introduce pro bono professionals to students and explain the purpose of their work to those who are unfamiliar with the field.

"There are a lot of clients who can be served and who need to be served," Menzer said.

Past PRO BONO WEEK EVENTS

- Pro Bono Client speaker
- L. Lorenzetti on jobs for loan forgiveness
- Pro Bono Project Roundtable
- ACLU Know your Rights at University of North Carolina-Greensboro
- Ask a Lawyer Day with Pro Bono Board and Legal Aid at Law School

Upcoming Events at Elon University's School of Law

Thurs. Nov. 1: Legal aid stand down for veterans; Reidsville, N.C.

Fri. Nov. 2: Pro Bono Board applications due

Weds. Nov. 7: Pro Bono Board interviews

Thurs. Nov. 8: Pro Bono Board interviews

Elon's emergency response plan excludes social media to maintain message control

Michael Bodley
Senior Reporter

From one-third of staff succumbing to bird flu to an active shooter on campus, Elon University has a plan to address emergency situations of all kinds.

Although Elon has not adopted social media into its emergency plan, Chris Fulkerson, Elon's chief information officer, is still confident in the university's system.

According to a recent USA Today article, many schools are implementing social media – mainly Twitter and Facebook – into their emergency response plans. Elon is not one of them.

"That's a debate that's happening right now," Fulkerson said. "But say the servers crashed. Do you really want that out on social media? You have to be very careful of what you put out there."

Half a decade after the Virginia Tech shooting, colleges throughout the country remain vigilant. The massacre prompted widespread reviews of emergency response plans in schools throughout the country.

According to Fulkerson, the university undergoes an intensive review of its emergency response plan every other year. Everything from train wrecks to hurricanes are used hypotheti-

cally to gauge the effectiveness of the system.

In order to test the system, a scenario will be presented, and the entire emergency response plan must then be carried out, testing each person's role individually and as part of a larger whole.

"We catch a lot of things that we didn't think about, that we need to refine," Fulkerson said.

Elon's emergency response system hasn't been activated since May 25, 2000, when 80 mph winds swept through campus. But the university has remained vigilant in the meantime, on the lookout for the next disaster on the horizon.

According to Fulkerson, the plan must constantly be refined to keep up with the changing pace of technology. In addition to the biennial review, the system is tested twice each year. At College Coffee in the spring and fall, the alert system is activated and then evaluated.

"Every year, we look at it and try to make it more sophisticated and easier to operate," Fulkerson said. "We're always looking to improve."

The university prefers to alert people through channels under its direct control. In the event of an emergency, a message can travel throughout campus in a matter of seconds. Two outdoor sirens, located atop Alumni and

East Gym, are capable of transmitting a pre-recorded or live message, according to Dennis Franks, director of campus safety and police.

Robert Buchholz, director of Physical Plant, emphasized the importance of Elon's E-Alert system, which emails and texts registered faculty, staff and students. All of the phones at Elon are IP-based, meaning they all become speakers in the event of an emergency. Television and computer screens on campus can simultaneously broadcast a warning.

"We can get the message out all over campus in a manner of seconds," Fulkerson said.

Speed is important, Franks said, particularly when an emergency requires assistance from outside the university. Campus police maintain close ties with the Town of Elon Police. In addition, the university police work with other law enforcement agencies in Alamance County when necessary.

"We have mutual aid agreements with each other," Franks said. "Both police departments use the same radio frequency and dispatch center so the information flow is immediate to both agencies."

The plan's emphasis on instantaneous access to information may seem to lend itself to social media, but Fulkerson said he believes controlling the message is more important.

"Rumors run rampant on college campuses,"



Students, faculty and staff can get text message updates during emergencies from E-Alert.

he said. "A lot of times the rumors are proved false in the long run, but reporting it at the beginning only fuels the panic. You've got to be careful of what you announce where."

Extracurricular courses return to Elon for sixth year

Ethan Smith
Senior Reporter

Melissa Martlock, now a sophomore, inherited the role of both teacher and student during last Winter Term when she taught a crochet class as part of the Burst the Bubble

program.

The Burst the Bubble program is returning to Elon University, providing students with the chance to teach a course during Winter Term.

Burst the Bubble programs are relaxed, free and student-led, according to Evan

Heiser, assistant to the vice president of student life. They are taught during Winter Term outside of required classes.

"Faculty and staff stay very hands-off," Heiser said. "It's a chance for students to learn new skills and explore their passions without using textbooks or having homework."

Martlock said teaching the course didn't provide extra stress outside of required work.

"Crocheting is a very relaxing thing for me," said Martlock. "The biggest issue was simply teaching a lot of people to crochet at once."

This year, Heiser said downsizing certain classes, which usually contain 30 students, will solve that problem.

"We'll have more than one instructor for my crocheting class this year," Martlock said. "Everybody is allowed to go at their own pace, but this way everybody can have more hands-on individual instruction."

The program started in 2007, and classes are taught one to four hours per week.

"These classes are not as intensive as Winter Term courses," Heiser said. "They're very relaxed and not too time-consuming."

All the courses this year will be different

from last year's, because students apply to teach what they wish and are approved or denied by faculty advisors, according to Heiser.

To teach a course, students need to apply for approval by submitting a completed application to ehaiser@elon.edu by Nov. 5. After assessing the level of interest for each proposed course, students will be confirmed or denied Nov. 16, Heiser said.

Course listings will be available in late November, and students will be able to register after the options are posted, Heiser said.

Want to teach a class?

- Print and fill out an application at pend.lu/btb
- Email it to Evan Heiser at ehaiser@elon.edu by Nov. 5
- Acceptance letters will be sent by Nov. 16



FILE PHOTO BY MERISSA BLITZ

Sophomore Melissa Martlock taught a knitting class during Burst the Bubble last Winter Term.



Local, state level campaigns overshadowed by presidential election

PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Thousands of early voters across the United States have already exercised their right to vote as they cast their ballots on the first day of early voting for their local districts, as well as for the 2012 general election.

In nine days, the next president of the United States will be elected. If you're like most students currently in college, this year will be the first time you are old enough to vote in a presidential election.

But just knowing the differences between Barack Obama and Mitt Romney isn't going to cut it. It's not enough to only know who you want your president to be: You need to read up on your local politicians, too.

It is those who campaign for mayor, county commissioner, house representative or senator who will impact your life most greatly. The policies they implement may affect whether your family qualifies for health insurance or what your annual property tax will be. They will decide the city council budget for the local public education system, uphold cleanliness statutes and regulate emergency service branches to ensure public safety.

Americans are affected by their local system of government most, but consistently seem more interested by the actions of the

federal level of government. And with so much emphasis placed this time of year on the campaigns for federal level offices, local and state elections are largely overlooked by American voters.

President Barack Obama and former Gov. Mitt Romney's stances on healthcare reform, tax incentives for the middle class or a possible war erupting in Iran or Libya have prompted citizens to cast their votes on Nov. 6.

But every election year, voters also have vital decisions to make at the local level, where they select mayors and city council members, state (and federal) representatives and senators.

Local politics matter. National politics matter too, but don't make the mistake of dismissing your local election as unimportant or inconsequential. People often discount the significance of local and state elections when they come on the heels of a presidential campaign year. They see voting for president as the most vital step toward national progress.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, an estimated 131.2

million people turned out to vote during the last presidential election, an increase of 5 million people from 2004 and the highest voter turnout since the 1960 election. These statistics certainly suggested the United States was perhaps witnessing a considerable shift in political behavior and was entering an era of more politically engaged citizens.

Sadly, these statistics, while an improvement for voter turnout on the national scale, are not typically reflected during local and state level elections.

Some would say comparing voter turnout rates between presidential elections and lower-level state and local campaigns is like comparing apples and oranges.

History has shown that presidential and gubernatorial elections consistently draw the highest levels of voter turnout because of their dominant news media and Internet presence.

But what many voters fail to consider is that while voting for a president is important, the majority of the laws and provisions

that regulate our daily lives are decided not at the federal level, but at the local and state levels.

Issues that don't directly affect the day-to-day lives of typical Americans — foreign policy issues, environmental regulations, national currency value, etc. — are what presidential candidates use to rally the country to garner support and demonstrate their understanding of issues of national and international significance.

Meanwhile, at the local level, in addition to choosing which candidates to endorse for public office, voters are often granted the opportunity to vote on proposed bills and ordinances that will affect their communities.

According to a 2012 sample ballot for Alamance County, voters have the option to vote on an increase to the sales and use tax rate and the proposed allocation of state funds to expand and improve Alamance Community College.

The issue now is figuring out how to level the playing field between federal, state and local campaigns and how to attract more interest toward lower-level

elections. Elected officials and aspiring candidates must devote more energy to educating both registered and unregistered voters about the voting process and the issues at stake. Voters should feel whoever runs their local school board or determines their town's annual budget is just as important as who is elected president. All elected positions are high-stakes and have considerable influences on our communities.

French philosopher Alexis de Tocqueville wrote, "In a democracy, the people get the government they deserve." We all deserve a government that is comprised of those best qualified to represent our interests and determine our future.

But in order for us to deserve this privilege, anyone planning on punching the ballot on Nov. 6 has a responsibility to know the issues surrounding all the elections that stand to affect them, not just the issues concerning who the future president will be.

A functional government is not dependent upon the election of one man or woman, but many.

WHY I'M VOTING FOR:



OBAMA

Believe it or not, despite all the campaign ads and harsh rhetoric, President Barack Obama and Gov. Mitt Romney are very similar, except for one large difference. Both are hyper-focused on getting the economy back on track, both want to remain tough on defense and both are interested in green energy. But the big issue this year is the economy. So if you're voting based only on that issue, what's the difference? Simple: it



Christopher Bosak
Columnist

comes down to Romney's 47 percent comment.

If you haven't heard by now, Mitt Romney was recorded during a private fundraising dinner, saying, "There are 47 percent of the people who will vote for the president no matter what. All right, there are 47 percent who are with him, who are dependent upon government, who believe that they are victims, who believe the government has a responsibility to care for them, who believe that they are entitled to health care, to food, to housing, to you-name-it. My job is not to worry about those people. I'll never convince them they should take personal responsibility and care for their lives."

I'm not going to try to persuade you to vote for Obama based on one gaffe his opponent made. I will only ask for you to think about what he said, and how that reflects the way he sees this country.

The economic recovery we're going through is about more than getting jobs back to the United States. How we create jobs is just as important as creating them. That is where these two candidates differ. Obama wants to help people; Romney wants to help companies.

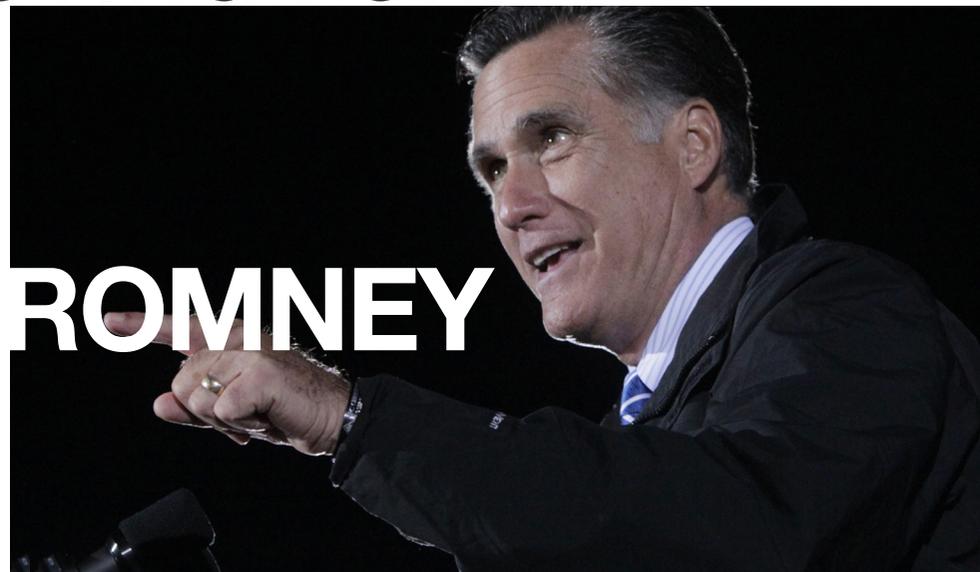
Obama's record has been filled with achievements that help all Americans.

Whether you like it or not, the Affordable Care Act, commonly known as Obamacare, has provisions that help consumers stand up to exploitative health care practices such as denial of coverage based on pre-existing conditions and minimum standards for health care plans. Obama helped organized the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, a federal organization that protects Americans from faulty financial practices. He also passed Wall Street reform to ensure if the economy buckles again, the "too big to fail" actions the government took will be footed by Wall Street, not the taxpayers.

Romney is focused on the bottom line, not the American people. As tempting as it is to vote for the candidate who keeps saying he'll be able to spur job growth, remember that Obama spurred 31 consecutive months of job growth: He created jobs while supporting regulation and consumer protection. Romney may be interested in jobs, but his stances shun regulation and governmental protection, leaving the American people at the whim of large corporations.

Romney thinks 47 percent of the people living in this country are simply too lazy to "take personal responsibility and care for their lives." This isn't the case. Romney sees these unlucky people and views them as a toxic burden. Obama sees these unlucky people and views them as citizens who are chasing the American Dream and having a hard time getting it.

I'm not voting for Obama just because he has a record of job growth, or because he has passed legislation protecting consumers, or because I agree with him on gay marriage, women's rights and national defense. I'm voting for Obama because, during the next four years, he will help American people and American businesses. I'm voting for Obama on Nov. 6 because when he looks at America, he sees people, not percentages.



ROMNEY

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS

When a job needs to get done, you look for the right person with the right plan. You seek professionals with applicable skill sets,



Chris Carmichael
Alum, guest columnist

steadfast work ethic and proven experience. The president's job in 2012 is the same as it was in the last election: to get the economy growing again so that businesses can hire people. Barring a nuclear or natural disaster, everything else should be considered superfluous.

The United States economy is what shapes the lives and well-being of everyone on Earth — if it is struggling, the rest of the world will be, too. President Barack Obama is a smart man with noble ideas, but we need someone who can fix the economy, and the man for the job is former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney.

Before Bill Bain handpicked him to start Bain Capital, Romney worked as a consultant. Consultants are problem solvers: They are hired by companies that are underperforming and in need of guidance and a turnaround. Romney was one of the best at what he did. That's the kind of leader we need for our current situation.

The president doesn't deserve to be reelected because he failed to pour every ounce of focus and energy into fixing the economy. He believed passing the stimulus was some "set it and forget it" panacea to the problem at hand.

His decision to divert his attention took the country off course and distracted us from our No. 1 priority. The economy was fixable, despite what the president's supporters may claim. Obama's policies exacerbated the recession and are the reason we are still in this malaise. The largest of these was the Affordable Care Act.

Despite the many touted merits of Obamacare, it does not create jobs — it has killed jobs because of uncertainty and cost for small business. We need to be encouraging small businesses, not burdening them with new regulations and taxes. Fixing our medical system is important, but I think taking on such a monumental task during such a perilous time was irresponsible. It should've been saved for a second term. Instead, Congress passed an unpopular law with sweeping consequences we've suffered from as a result.

Europe is a case study in this failed path. Budget shortages have been racked up by governments promising their citizens all of the same benefits as Obamacare. It all sounds very nice, but it has proven untenable.

People are starting to realize how desperately we need to turn things around and that this election isn't about the myriad of social issues. It's about the most important social issue: the economic well-being of Americans.

Until that is firmly in our grasp, we should not waiver in our focus. I believe Romney understands this well, and that Obama does not. We can't afford another stimulus, and we really cannot afford another collapse. We have to fix this now.

The Obama campaign and its allies have spent more than \$100 million during the course of a year to slander an excellently qualified and principled man in an attempt to make him seem like an unacceptable alternative to Obama. The first debate changed the narrative. Romney proved he is knowledgeable and masterful, and he made the president look like an aloof amateur. This wasn't a fluke. The men you saw that night are the ones who will decide our fate as a nation.

Mitt Romney is the man on the ticket who has the vision and experience to get this job done. I ask you to join me in supporting him on Nov. 6.

Amusement park brings Halloween spirit to Denmark



FILE PHOTO BY LAURA VAN DRIE

Hanging pumpkin lanterns and decorative lights lined the pathways, providing a cozy atmosphere.



FILE PHOTO BY LAURA VAN DRIE

Tivoli is Copenhagen's famous amusement park. It provided a festive fall atmosphere in Denmark.

Laura Van Drie
International Reporter

COPENHAGEN, DENMARK — One of the only things Copenhagen is lacking is a good fall season. It was warm and sunny for a few days when I got here, and then suddenly it was cold. But my friends and I got our fall fix at Tivoli, Copenhagen's famous amusement park.

We enjoyed the Halloween decorations, hot cider, haystacks and pumpkin patches. One of my favorite things about Denmark is the country's use of lighting — it is so dark in Scandinavia that the people have to make good use of light. Shops, restaurants, streets, bars and cafes

are full of candles or little lights that create a wonderfully cozy atmosphere. Tivoli is no exception. The pathways were lined with hanging pumpkin lanterns, the rides and structures were all dotted with little bulbs and there were numerous small houses selling cider, apples, caramels and other fall treats.

Halloween is less prominent and less commercialized than it is in the United States. Kids do not go trick-or-treating, and there is not much Halloween hype in the shops or local businesses. Tivoli is the only part of Copenhagen that seems to be in the Halloween spirit, but there is enough of it there to make up for the rest of the city.



FILE PHOTO BY LAURA VAN DRIE

Shops sold treats such as Halloween versions of flodeboller, a thin cookie topped with marshmallow covered in chocolate.



FILE PHOTO BY LAURA VAN DRIE

The main entrance to Tivoli is decked out for Halloween, even though it is a less commercialized holiday in Copenhagen than in the U.S.



FILE PHOTO BY LAURA VAN DRIE

Tivoli demonstrates Denmark's good use of lighting in dark Scandinavia.

Bringing textbook history to life in Sudetenland

SUDETENLAND, CZECH REPUBLIC —I remember sitting at my cramped desk early one morning in Copenhagen attempting to wrap my head around the concept of the Sudetenland Transfers. Someone from the back of the class compared the region to fat being trimmed off a piece of pork, metaphorically perfect in its historical brutality. I knew the numbers, the outline

on a map and I could rattle off a basic description of what happened. In any other course setting, I would have been done, ready to move on to a new topic. Instead, I boarded a plane for the Czech Republic and a few days later found myself in the Sudetenland region surrounding the country.

Sixty-four years ago, the Czech nationals approved a policy to remove many of the Germans living in the region.

Germans composed more than 90 percent of the population. To remove the majority of the German population, the Czech nationals used lists of Germans in the Czech Republic that the National Socialist Party of Germany had compiled during World War II. Germans could stay if they were married to Czechs, or could prove they were useful by government officials. Otherwise, they were kindly asked to leave with splintered, broken doors and sometimes rifle shots and a burial site. There is still a dispute as to how many were Germans living in the Czech Republic or Czechs who happened to speak German and aligned with the National Socialist Party for safety during the war.

My history book snuck out of the recesses of my mind and became the streaks of

dirt upon my shoes and the stark moments of silence in my ears. I stand upon the ramparts of some of the oldest castle ruins in central Europe and gaze into the fairly untouched forests and hills of Sudetenland amazed. I am really here.

Surrounding me as far as I can see are the vestiges of modern nothingness. Acres upon acres of untouched pine and sharp, rolling hills bleed into the horizon. Fall is taking its first breath, not quite a full gale but just enough to remind me that the seasons are shifting. Its cold touch forces me back to reality.

“All we can do is witness what has happened here. We do not have the right to judge. That is not our place,” our guide said. She is a Czech woman with German heritage, caught in between sides of history.

I found myself wanting to silently mouth the word “amazing” but it would make the mental shift seem positive, as if the memory

of the thousands of lives ruined were less important. Instead, the word “noticed” came to mind. It treads silently much like I am asked to do when witnessing these natural stages of human carnage. The stagehands have all gone to their graves, but I am allowed to creep upon their sets, learning from the deep scars left in the dirt.

I did so by slowly turning around and around on my perch, gazing out onto the land around me. I imagine the misery I’ve read in my textbooks with popup characters as stand-ins. I have to place my mind’s eye over the empty reality in front of me. I am able to play homage to those who lost their livelihoods and sometimes their lives on both the German and Czech sides. My textbook is as real as the stones I lean on, hoping to learn a little bit more about human humility. I am left dumbstruck, unsure of my progress but hopeful I have learned something worthwhile.



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Who ya gonna call?

Elon alumnus turned ghost hunter flourishes in offbeat career path

Kyra Gemberling
Design Editor

Lee Steele says he's lucky to be alive. After narrowly escaping death many times in his 56 years, he describes himself as a cat that has lost half of its nine lives.

Some view Steele's appreciation for life as ironic, seeing as his life revolves around the dead. Steele is a paranormal investigator, or as it's more commonly known, a ghost hunter.

Curiosity from a young age

Steele has always had a knack for attracting the paranormal, even as a child. Born and raised in Graham, he was 10 when he experienced his first strange encounter at his grandparents' old two-story farmhouse in Hawfields.

"I was going upstairs and when I got to the top, I heard this voice saying, 'Lee,'" he said. "I turned my head to the right — don't see anything. I turn to the left — nothing. And then it happened a second time and even a third time, and that really got my attention."

Steele said he asked everyone in the house at the time if they had called his name, and everyone said no. The event was what sparked Steele's curiosity in the unknown.

Years later, in 1974, Steele enrolled at Elon University, then Elon College, to major in education. He wanted to become a physical education teacher, so he decided to try out for the football team to get experience playing a sport.

Since Steele had never played a formal sport, he jumped at the opportunity to manage the team. He worked as the manager of Elon's football team for three years before he graduated in 1978. In his spare time, Steele didn't pass up a chance to satiate his interest in the supernatural.

"In high school, I had heard about the old Glencoe Mill Village in Burlington," he said. "People used to call it Munchkinland, which they got from the movie 'The Wizard of Oz.' I'd heard people say stuff about little people living there who would block the roads and play tricks on you, so when I was at Elon and finally had a car, I decided to drive out there with my sister and some friends."

Steele never saw any "little people," but what he did see was much more frightening.

"There was this guy who looked like he was a teenager standing on a corner right where the mill used to be, and I tell people that's the closest I've come to what I would call a zombie," Steele said. "He looked like a normal human, but he had a

messed-up face and the color of his skin was kind of ashy, and he was completely fixated and staring down the road where the houses were, just staring into space."

Steele and his friends watched the motionless man for several minutes until they finally got too scared to stay any longer. Later, Steele talked with several residents of the Glencoe Mill Village, who said there was a man recently shot and killed in a house near where Steele claimed to have seen the figure.

"I honestly don't know if that event tied into what I saw, but it sure was pretty creepy," he said.

A serious calling

Between the mysterious name-calls and seeing Glencoe's silent zombie, Steele found himself transfixed by all things supernatural. His role as an investigator didn't come immediately, though.

After he graduated college, Steele spent the next few decades working at University of North Carolina Health Care in the hospital's intensive care unit doing data entry of patient medical records. Several years ago, he took on a cashier job at Walmart in Burlington, but Steele always knew he wanted more. He began searching for any local outlet to do something pertaining to his fascination with the paranormal.

And when Steele got a Facebook account in 2008, he stumbled upon the perfect opportunity.

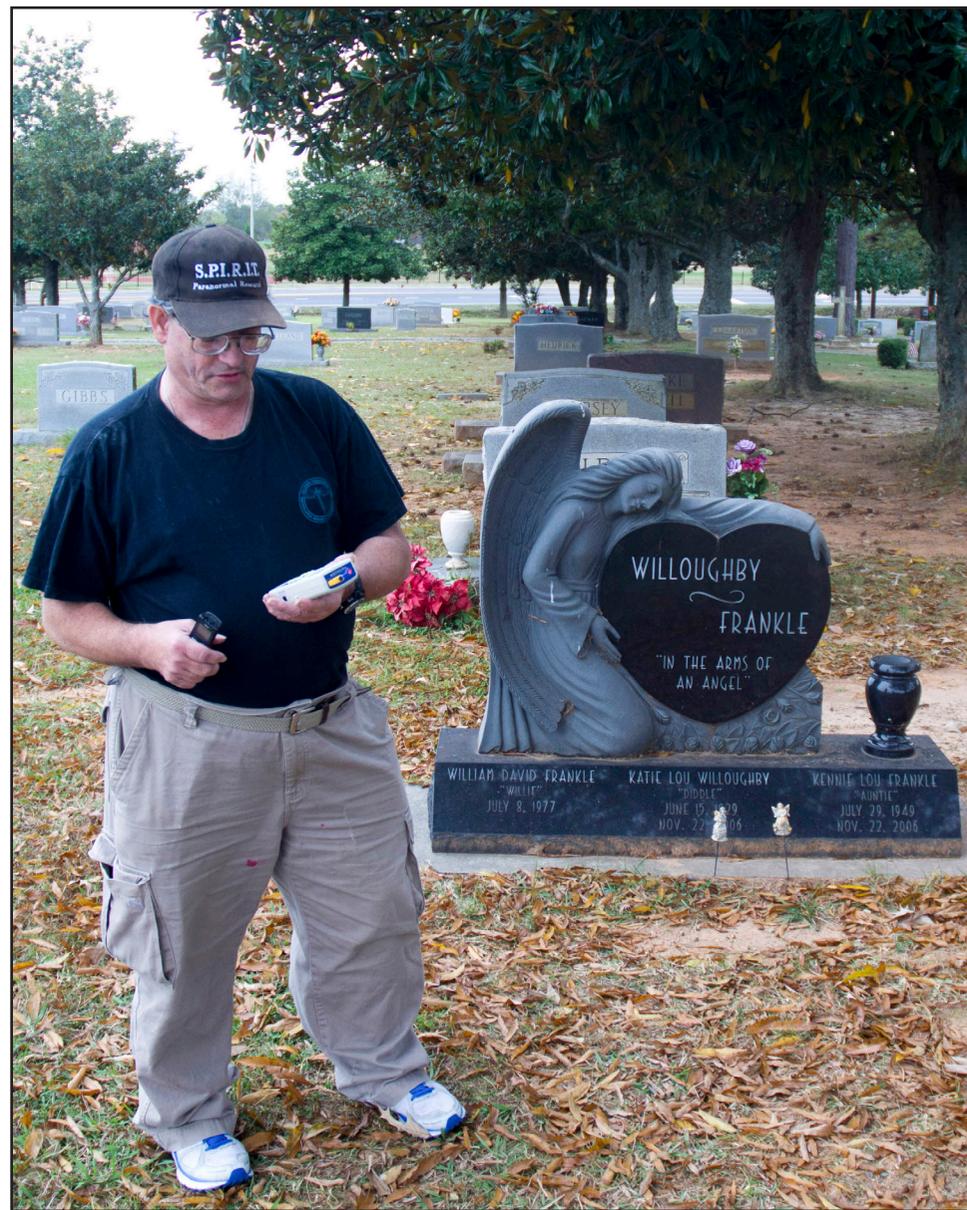
"I had been looking and looking to try and find a local volunteer paranormal investigation group, and I finally saw something about a meet-up for a group based in Asheboro," he said. "I started going to the monthly meetings, and I made them aware the very first night that I was serious about becoming an investigator."

Steele soon became a regular investigator for S.P.I.R.I.T. Paranormal, the Southern Paranormal Identification Research and Investigation Team. He was recently promoted to case manager and research specialist, which means Steele is in charge of finding out as much information as possible about the history and current state of potential investigation sites.

"What I try to do is not go blind into a place and do an investigation," he said. "It's best to do all the research you can beforehand."

Matthew Shelar, leading investigator at S.P.I.R.I.T., met Steele in 2009 at a group meeting. He said he could tell from the beginning that Steele would make a good team member because of his persistence and passion.

"When Lee sets his mind to something, he does



WILLIAM KENYON | Staff Photographer

Lee Steele, a paranormal investigator, uses a mel meter during investigations to detect if there are any electromagnetic frequencies in the area, which he said is a sign of a supernatural presence.

it," Shelar said. "When we have a case, he's always good about gathering history and interviewing people. If there's something out there that can be gathered about a place, Lee can do it. He's a vital gear to the team, and we couldn't do it without him."

Although the idea of being a ghost hunter may seem like constant excitement, Steele said most people misunderstand the process of doing an investigation. It's not like on television when supernatural things happen immediately, one after the other, he said.

"If you listen to some of my recordings, that's one of the most boring parts in the process — having to review the evidence," he said. "Sometimes you have minutes or almost hours of nothing, no activity. If there is anything supernatural there, it's only going to manifest itself when it decides it wants to."

Although these paranormal moments may not be frequent, Steele said it's always incredible when they finally happen. And he experienced several of these happenings when he participated in his first large group investigation.

"Help me, help me"

The most exciting part of Steele's career to date came when he was given the opportunity to conduct a paranormal investigation on the historic USS North Carolina battleship in Wilmington in April 2010.

The investigation was a collaboration between S.P.I.R.I.T. and the popular television show "Ghost Hunters International," starring former host Dustin Pari.

"I was the only member of S.P.I.R.I.T. that was able to go, but I was incredibly excited," Steele said.

It wasn't too long before the group got its first sign of contact with the beyond. The investigation started in the ship's mess hall, and Steele and his group were using specially-designed radio helmets to decipher EVPs, or electronic voice phenomenon, which are often believed to be the voices of the dead attempting to communicate with the living.

"We kept hearing a male voice saying, 'Help me,

“Lee always struck me as being someone who throws his whole self into what he believes,” Wallace said. “I remember he showed me a very elaborate book of research that he’d put together about the ship, so I could tell he’s a very enthusiastic, thorough and passionate person about all things paranormal.”

A near fatality

But not everyone thinks so positively of Steele’s chosen career path.

Steele was born and raised in the Baptist church and has very strong religious beliefs, but some find this contradictory.

“I’ve caught a bunch of flak from people at my church, which is sad to say,” he said.

Additionally, many blame Steele’s “meddling” with the supernatural as the reason why he got in a car accident shortly after his investigation of the USS North Carolina.

Steele had just driven to a team member’s home to drop off a camera he had used for the investigation, and on his way home, he was turning into an intersection when he was hit by an oncoming car going 50 mph.

“I couldn’t hit my brakes fast enough, and next thing I knew I heard a ‘bam,’” Steele said. “When the ambulance came, they got me out of the car and I knew right away from the pain I felt in my wrist that it wasn’t good — something was busted, and it was the worst pain I’ve ever been in.”

Luckily, the damage wasn’t severe. Steele was taken to a hospital in Asheboro, where doctors told him he had crushed all the small bones in his right wrist. The hospital staff contacted Darlene Oakley,

Steele’s sister, to let her know what happened.

“He’s lucky to be alive,” Oakley said. “He got in this terrible accident all from taking a piece of equipment back, and then I was called at 2 a.m. and told I need to come get my brother from the hospital, and that did not put me in a good place.”

The car accident is a prime example of why Oakley said she does not approve of Steele’s chosen career.

“I’m not crazy about it, but that’s just me,” she said. “I think he’s into it a little too much. I just think he puts that over a lot of other things that I think he should see as more important.”

Not only was his family concerned, but Steele’s church also continued to disapprove of his actions.

“The first thing I heard when I got back to church after the accident was people saying, ‘If you hadn’t been chasing ghosts, that wouldn’t have happened,’” Steele said. “I wasn’t even chasing ghosts at the time — I was returning a piece of equipment. Still, that was kind of sad to hear, and that’s some of the negative stuff I deal with.”

Nonetheless, Steele continues to enjoy doing his job, regardless of whether society takes him seriously. He wants to host an investigation where anyone who’s interested can come along for the experience, and he specifically wants to invite skeptics.

“If somebody says, ‘Aw, that’s just a bunch of bull malarkey,’ like some people that I’ve talked to, I can say, ‘Well, you come with me then,’” he said. “Because after the Battleship North Carolina, after you spend the whole night on that ship, you’ll be talking otherwise. I guarantee you.”

‘The power of prayer’

Above all, Steele said helping people is what he loves most about his job.

He recently took on a case of a haunting at a home in which a woman lived with her husband and their little boy, and because a child was involved, Steele found the case very concerning.

“The lady said her husband was a truck driver and sometimes she’d have to spend nights in the house alone, and all of a sudden she felt like someone was following her, and she’d see dark shadows in the hallway,” Steele said. “Even her little boy brought her to his closet and pointed to the floor and said, ‘Mommy, there are weird noises coming from there.’”

Steele made sure to say a prayer before and after an investigation at her home — he claims one of the reasons he believes he got in the car accident after dropping off the camera is because he didn’t pray before and after doing the investigation at the Battleship North Carolina.

The woman decided to take Steele up on this idea, so after the investigation concluded and everyone had gone home, she went up to her son’s bedroom and prayed for the haunting to stop.

“She told me she finally got so frustrated that she couldn’t take it anymore,” Steele said. “She went upstairs and hollered, ‘I don’t know what’s causing me all this torment in my own house and not giving me and my family peace, but in the name of God, I demand you leave this house, leave me and my family alone and don’t bother us ever again.’”

After giving this prayer, the woman told Steele her family never experienced any problems again.

Steele smiled and said, “Sometimes that’s all it takes.”§



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY LEE STEELE
Steele conducted an investigation on the USS North Carolina in Wilmington in 2010. Some say this photo with a foggy haze indicates a paranormal presence.

help me,” Steele said.

Steele had done previous research about the ship and learned that a man named Thurman ‘Tommy’ Thomas had died of a skull fracture after falling off a ladder.

And sure enough, when Steele asked the man his name, the voice replied, “Tommy.”

“What really blew my mind, though, was that we started hearing a female voice in the background,” Steele said. “I started trying to think who that was and how it tied in, but I couldn’t figure it out.”

The next day, Steele visited the ship’s gift shop and picked up a book that gave the full history of the Battleship North Carolina, including information on every individual who died while serving on the ship during World War II.

While reading a passage on Thurman, Steele made a startling discovery.

“The book was going on about how bad the injury was and how he was well-liked by the crew and everything,” Steele said. “But then I’m sitting there and I read a line that says he was just recently married, and I was like, ‘Whoa — the voice must’ve been his wife.’”

Danielle Wallace serves as programs director at the USS North Carolina and coordinated the investigation with Steele. Wallace said she didn’t believe the ship was haunted until strange things started occurring after she had worked there for a while, so she appreciates the work paranormal investigation groups do and likes to help them decipher their findings.

“Whenever a group does a paranormal investigation, I take what those groups have found and I try to make sense of it historically,” Wallace said. “I remember the group came back with EVPs from the hatches near the torpedoes, and that makes sense because one of the first things that would go through your mind when the ship was struck is that those hatches were going to be closed soon and you needed to get out.”

Although Wallace isn’t entirely convinced that ghosts exist, she said the evidence brought forth by Steele and his group has definitely given their job more credibility in her eyes, and Steele’s efforts in particular were very impressive.



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY LEE STEELE
Steele visited the Original Hollywood Horror Show, an indoor haunted house attraction in Snow Camp designed, produced and built by former Hollywood filmmakers.

Elon senior turns medical history into future opportunities

Eric Dinkins
Senior Reporter

For senior Jamie Albright, a serious illness led to promising research opportunities. A medical emergency in her teenage years led to a lifelong passion, and the relationship continues to flourish.

"I became very ill and, as a result, had half of my left lung removed," she said. "This made me realize that sickness cannot be compartmentalized in our lives."

Albright, a public health major, is a recipient of the 2012 Thomas Barnett "Breaking Down Barriers" Scholarship, as well as the Lumen Prize. Her research involves the communication between young adults living with perinatal HIV (PHIV) and their medical providers. PHIV is transmitted during pregnancy, delivery or breastfeeding.

To Albright, the subject is about more than the health industry.

"Illness lends meaning to our everyday lives that extends beyond

transient pain and suffering," she said.

Her research examines conversations about sexual and reproductive health, including romantic relationships and having children.

Albright's interest in the subject stems from her personal experiences as a teenager.

This realization steered her toward researching the economic disparities that may occur as a direct result of illness.

"I was naturally drawn to the topic, considering my own illness experience and because my good fortune in having health insurance compels me to work with underserved populations," Albright said. "Many economic disparities in this country are intertwined with health disparities, and in some cases, health issues can lead to poverty."

Albright's research mentor, Cynthia Fair, a professor of human service studies, also recognized Albright's passion for improving the lives of others.

"Albright is deeply committed to improving the human condition," Fair said.

According to Fair, the relationship between young adults and medical practitioners. Albright recognized the importance of this relationship while undergoing dramatic life experiences.

"I remembered how much my doctors' messages influenced me during my own illness and wondered if this held true for young adults with PHIV as well," she said. "I wanted to know whether medical providers were letting their patients know that aspects of life, such as having children, is possible."

Albright attributes her most satisfying moments to her interactions with the young adults that make up a large part of her data collection. Her research influenced the development of her website, Positive Lives, Positive Futures. The site will facilitate and encourage open communication among young adults with similar illnesses.



Senior Jamie Albright (left) discusses her research with professor Cynthia Fair. GLORIA SO | Staff Photographer

Despite Albright's relentless submersion in her research, she said her interest will accompany her long after she graduates.

"While I have 'checked the boxes,' so to speak, on my to-do list for what I set out to do as a Lumen Scholar, the project itself has come to be in-

credibly meaningful in my life and will guide what I seek to accomplish in the future," she said.

Albright and Fair will be in San Francisco Oct. 27-31 to present their research at the annual American Public Health Association conference.

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Seniors Michael Callahan (left) and Virginia Claire Mason lock lips during a musical number in "Crazy for You," running in McCrary Theatre Nov. 1-3.



MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

(Left to right) Senior John Langley, junior Ethan Andersen, senior Guy Mannick, senior Virginia Claire Mason and junior Taylor Aucott perform in "Crazy for You."

'Crazy for You' rises above mishaps

Fall musical doesn't let technical difficulties steal spotlight

Rebecca Iannucci
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Take a look at some of today's most successful Broadway shows. What do you notice?

If you look closely, you'll find something interesting on the Great White Way. The musicals of the 21st century are quirky. Their storylines are unorthodox. Stages are filled with wicked witches, Mormon missionaries and New York City newswomen. Gone are the days of what some may consider the traditional, old-fashioned musicals.

That is, unless you take in a performance of "Crazy for You," running in Elon University's McCrary Theatre Nov. 1-3.

With music and lyrics by George and Ira Gershwin and a script by Ken Ludwig, "Crazy for You" is a classic piece of theater. The play follows Bobby Child (senior Michael Callahan), a young banker whose real life ambition is to become a dancer. But in order to convince his mother that he is capable of accomplishing things in his adult life, he agrees to travel to Deadrock, Nev., where he will foreclose on a rundown theater. Naturally, Bobby is knocked off course by Deadrock beauty Polly

Baker (senior Virginia Claire Mason), who wishes she could save the beloved theater that her mother once performed in before the bank takes it away. Bobby, in disguise, agrees to help Polly put on a hit show, leading them both on an interesting road to opening night.

There are certain built-in expectations for productions put on by Elon's Department of Performing Arts. In recent years, the department's full-length plays have been masterpieces, full of color and energy and unparalleled talent.

And while all of those same qualities are present in "Crazy for You," they are admittedly a bit muted throughout the production.

Opening night of the musical fell just short of what the department is capable of doing, largely because of a number of technical difficulties. Throughout most of Act I, Callahan performed his major musical numbers without the help of a working mic. Later in the show, when Callahan is required to wear a fake beard as part of his disguise, the beard repeatedly fell off. The cast didn't miss a beat, but the effect was certainly lost, and awkwardly at that. Most of the evening's mishaps, while an inevitable part of live theater, marred an

otherwise awe-inspiring performance.

But if you do make "Crazy for You" a part of your weekend activities, you won't remember the technical difficulties. You won't remember the wigs that fell off heads, or the choreography that was missed.

You'll remember the impeccable tap numbers, which border on dizzying in their complexity. You'll remember the colors and the characters. You'll remember Mason's beautifully pure performance of "Someone to Watch Over Me." You'll remember the dynamite supporting cast, including senior Ben Redding in a truly hysterical turn as the owner of Deadrock's saloon. You'll remember the joy with which this production leaves you, for it's impossible not to crack a smile amid all the physical comedy and genuinely funny one-liners.

"Crazy for You" is not a perfect show by any means, and it doesn't shine as bright as some of the Department of Performing Arts' previous productions. But there is something special about it that's hard to forget.

And even if the production's technical difficulties do crop up again and again during the show's run, it's nothing a little tap dancing can't fix.

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Music theater major takes on eventful senior year

Stephanie Butzer
Senior Reporter

For a while in middle school, she wanted to be a marine biologist and ride killer whales, or an interior designer like those in the Sims computer game. But those desires didn't last long. Virginia Claire Mason always knew she was going to be in musical theater.

Mason, a senior BFA music theater major, performed in her first play in the first grade. It was a musical called "Going Buggy." She was assigned to play Little Miss Muffet, and her job was to chase a classmate dressed as a spider with a tennis racquet.

"I was like, 'This is fun,'" Mason said. "I like chasing boys around with a tennis racquet."

Mason continued to participate in theater throughout middle and high school. She did shows with her community children's theater, the Star Bright Players in Franklin, Tenn.

Mason saw her first Broadway show, "Les Miserables," when she was in fourth grade. At intermission, she eagerly turned to her mom and asked if the actors and actresses performed for a living. When her mom said yes, Mason knew she wanted to pursue the stage.

She started looking at potential colleges as a freshman in high school. Mason's audition at Elon University was the first of 12 as she searched for a school that fit her interests. She didn't know very much about Elon, except that it had a music theater program, so she went into the audition without anxiety.

"I think I went in with the attitude, 'This is just for fun. It's just practice,'" Mason said. "I think it made it so I was really laid-back and really was just having fun. It made for all the elements of a good audition — just enjoying it."

The same weekend she auditioned, Mason sat in the audience at Elon's fall musical, "Sweeney Todd."

"I remember looking at this girl on stage," Mason said. "She was playing Mrs. Lovett. I just thought she was the most phenomenal thing I had ever seen. Her training really showed."

The more Mason watched the girl perform, the more interested she became in Elon's music theater program. She couldn't believe she was not in New York City. The show seemed to be Broadway quality.

After Mason's acceptance into the music theater program, she befriended the girl, Emily Rice, whom she had seen on stage a year earlier. They had one year of overlap



GLORIA SO | Staff Photographer

Senior Virginia Claire Mason gets ready backstage before a performance of "Crazy for You" in McCrary Theatre. Mason plays female lead Polly Baker in the musical.

at Elon, and during their time together, the two became best friends. Now, Rice is one of Mason's bridesmaids for her wedding in June 2013.

Paving a path at Elon

Mason has been active with the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and her Bible study group, called Crazy Love, since she was a freshman. She has been with the same group throughout college.

"They're the best girls," Mason said. "When I joined it freshman year, it was led by two sophomore girls, Gretchen Honnold and Becca Moffett. I remember that year, just looking up to those girls and how Becca was so good at really leading the group and guiding the group in conversation."

Ellie Erickson, one of Mason's friends from the Bible study group, has known Mason for 20 years. Their families went on joint vacations, and they both applied to Elon. After deciding to room with different students in order to meet new people, the system randomly paired them up as

suitemates in Staley. Their friendship has grown during the course of college and they now live together in an off-campus house.

"Since coming to Elon, Ginna Claire and I have both grown in our faith in God," Erickson said. "Through InterVarsity and our small group, we have struggled and grown in our faith. Her unwavering faith is an inspiration to me and pushes me to continue striving to know God better."

Mason auditioned at the Southeastern Theatre Conference in the spring of her freshman and sophomore years. The SETC offers a way for actors and actresses to work professionally during the summer as they study music theater during the school year, and Elon encourages students to pass the qualifying rounds and then go to the conferences.

After an audition, Mason received a callback and a subsequent job in Findlay, Ohio playing the title character in "Thoroughly Modern Millie," and as Chiffon in "Little Shop of Horrors."

Behind the stage curtains

That summer in Ohio consisted of working, bike riding, swimming, eating ice cream and getting to know the Moffett family, which included Becca's brothers, Mark and Eric. But one member of the family became something particularly special for Mason.

"The Fourth of July rolled around and Becca and Mark were both out of town and Eric was like, 'Do you want to go watch fireworks?' So we did," Mason said. "And at the end of the summer, he asked me to be his girlfriend."

Their relationship was usually long-distance. When he was in Colorado, she was in North Carolina. When he was in Ohio, she was studying theater, art and voice in London. While the distance was long, it did not weaken their feelings, and this past summer, the couple got engaged.

"We're getting married in 247 days," Mason said. "June 28th."

Mason's fiance comes to every show in which she performs, including "Crazy For You," which had its opening night Oct. 25.

The show's musical director and

I think it made it so I was really laid-back and really was just having fun. It made for all the elements of a good audition — just enjoying it.

-Virginia Claire Mason, senior

conductor, Richard Church, helped Mason as she learned vocals for the show.

“We worked on how to approach these songs not only as a professional singer, but as a professional actor,” Church said. “We adjusted how to breathe while singing and being held on the shoulders of two chorus men, how to carry her breath through on long phrases while tapping to a rigorous dance.”

One of Mason’s biggest songs in the play, “I Got Rhythm,” includes a few high notes she was unsure she could hit. Church saw this uncertainty as a challenge. They worked on it tirelessly, and now Church said Mason is belting perfectly during every performance.

“Her face when she figured out in my studio that she could do this was reward enough for me,” Church said. “Such a joy.”

The show has presented many other

challenges to Mason, but the biggest obstacle she had to overcome was her knee, which she broke when she was 16 and again at age 18.

“I’ve had three knee surgeries,” Mason said. “But I can still dance. It’s a lot to work through. I’m in physical therapy. I have to ice it every day. It’s hard, it’s really hard.”

But the struggles to be the best she can be for “Crazy for You” are not all Mason is working through.

“We’re already into rehearsals for ‘Into the Woods,’ which is our senior musical,” Mason said. “We’re already in full rehearsals for that so it’s crazy.”

Mason will play the role of Little Red Riding Hood for the complex show. Despite a busy schedule, Mason said she has a firm grip on everything happening around her.

“The craziest part about the semester is being the audition coordinator, applying

for graduate school, doing ‘Crazy for You,’ doing ‘Into the Woods’ and planning a wedding,” Mason said. “It’s a lot, but it’s all fun stuff. It’s all good stuff.”

After graduation, Mason hopes to go to graduate school in New York, where she will live with her fiance.

Mason has picked out some small details

for the June wedding: the photographer, the ivory bridesmaid dresses, colorful flowers, a church in Nashville and a reception downtown in Houston Station, Tenn. Everything is falling into place, and Mason said she is excited for what’s to come.

She even thinks she’s found the perfect dress. \$



Senior John Langley (left) and junior Taylor Aucott lift Ginna Claire Mason during a song in “Crazy for You.”



GLORIA SO | Staff Photographer

Ginna Claire Mason shows off her engagement ring. She and her fiance will wed June 28, 2013.

Freshmen on men's team adjust to bigger opponents, rigorous play

Kyle Maher
Senior Reporter

Elon University men's basketball freshman center Tony Sabato and freshman guard Tanner Samson, the team's first-years with scholarships, are still adjusting to life away from the comforts of home while also being thrust into the demanding world of Division I athletics.

It's an adjustment Sabato admitted has been difficult, in different capacities.

"Making sure you eat right (and getting) to bed on time (have been difficult)," Sabato said. "You don't have your mom checking up on you all the time, so you just have to be responsible with your stuff and take care of yourself."

But Samson isn't worried about life outside the confines of Alumni Gym.

"(There isn't) too much off-the-court

adjusting," Samson said. "It's just a lot of basketball all the time so you have to take care of yourself. You get nicked up here and there a little bit, so (it's important to) make sure you get in there for some treatment."

Head coach Matt Matheny admires his players' work ethic, but knows how difficult the adjustment is for freshmen used to high school-level competition.

"They're of high character," he said. "We've had a week of practice and they've both had good days in practice. But, for any incoming player, it's difficult. There's a big jump from high school to college, and they're learning that, they're experiencing that now."

Junior guard Jack Isenbarger said he believes both players could make an immediate impact if given the opportunity.

"I think they're both going to be able to help our program right away because they're very coachable, and they're also very talented," Isenbarger said. "Their willingness to compete and be coachable is something that's going to take them a long way."

Both Samson and Sabato said they understand they must become more physical, as that is clearly the biggest adjustment they've had to make since beginning their careers for the maroon and gold.

"I'm always used to being the bigger guy on the court," Sabato said. "But once I got here I got roughed up a little bit. But it's a lot more physical, the pace is faster and the guys are just bigger (and) stronger. It's a different type of basketball, but I'm adjusting well."

Matheny said neither Samson nor Sabato was on his staff's radar initially, but that soon changed after seeing both while on the road recruiting.

"In recruiting, you find out about guys in different ways," Matheny said. "The first time I ever saw Tanner play was when I went out to recruit (current sophomore forward) Ryan Winters, at Regis Jesuit in Denver. I saw Ryan in a practice and that's the first time I saw Tanner play, and we started recruiting Tanner from that practice."

Finding Sabato was a similar story.

"The first time I saw Tony play, I went to an AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) tournament in July to recruit another young man," Matheny said. "Tony was playing against him and he had a very successful game against him. We started recruiting him based on his performance in the AAU game, but also where he was from."

Sabato's high school, Archbishop Moeller High School in Cincinnati, is notable for producing such athletes as former

Major League Baseball stars Barry Larkin and Ken Griffey, Jr., along with Xavier University all-time leading men's basketball scorer Byron Larkin.

Matheny said he was attracted to both players right away.

"For Tony, it was his toughness," Matheny said. "They're tough as nails in the Cincinnati (Greater) Catholic League and I saw that in Tony in the first game that I saw him play. That's exactly how he is; he's tough, he's well-schooled, well-coached in high school, and he fits the mold of a player from the Cincinnati Catholic league."

Cincinnati's Greater Catholic League, a high school athletic conference, has produced athletes such as current Minnesota Vikings tight end Kyle Rudolph.

In Samson, Matheny said he saw natural ability from the outside.

"The first thing that attracted me to Tanner was the way he shoots the ball," Matheny said. "He's got a beautiful jump shot. The more I watched him, the more I noticed that he's a presence on the court in many other ways than just shooting. He's got great length; he's got the ability to play multiple positions."

If Sabato and Samson continue to grow, they could both be seeing significant time on the court this season.

As oldest player on men's basketball team, Bonney preps for final season

Elon senior guard Josh Bonney graduated from college in May, but he's still around after redshirting his junior year in the classroom. The Pendulum spoke to Bonney about his role on the team this season and how he plans to adapt.

Q: You're the oldest guy on the team this year. What do you think your role is?

A: It's hard to say. It seems to fluctuate for me year-to-year, based on what the coaching staff wants. I really just embrace everything that comes my way and take what I can get and get in where I fit in. What I need to do, I just do it. I don't know what my defined role is at this point in the season, but as an older guy, I know I can bring some experience to the table and just some general know-how. I've been through this plenty of times before. In that regard, I can be just like a mentor to the rest of the team and the younger guys.

Q: As a fifth-year senior, is it weird know-

ing none of the other guys were here when you first came?

A: A little bit. I don't really think about it like that, because I've gotten to know them since they've been here. But yeah, it is kind of weird when you step back and look at it. Like, I was here before anybody else was here, including the coaches, that's kind of funny.

Q: Against Georgia Southern University March 3 and Davidson College March 4 in the Southern Conference tournament, then-freshman guard Austin Hamilton was hampered by injury and you played significant minutes, scoring 14 points and dishing out seven assists in those two games. Talk a little bit about that experience and how it will transition into this year.

A: First of all, hopefully it will make a transition into this year and have some meaning. It meant something to me. It showed that, if given the opportunity, this is what I can do from that stand-

point. Last year, like I said, when I'm afforded the opportunity, I'll try to just do as best I can. I didn't really get a chance to play that much before that point, but that's when he called on me, so I just tried to be ready. So I'm glad it worked out, at least in one game for us against Georgia Southern. Hopefully, there will be much more where that came from.

Q: Do you feel like you take on any kind of mentoring role?

A: Maybe more so off the court than on the court. Just the college life and how to adapt to everything. On the court, there's always times (I'm a mentor.) There's no situation they're going to be in that I haven't been in, for the most part. When I see them in positions that I've been in in the past, I'm able to point them in the right direction, help them out as much as I can. That always works out.

Information compiled by Zachary Horner, sports editor



Elon senior guard Josh Bonney (0) is part of a group of guards that head coach Matt Matheny said is crucial to the Phoenix's success this season.

GLORIA SO | Staff Photographer

Off the court, forward pursues interest in sports neurology

Andrew Wilson
Assistant Sports Editor

Senior forward Kelsey Evans' name is found 17 times in the Elon University women's basketball program record books. She is third all-time in Elon history with 162 career blocks, seventh in rebounds with 731 and she's been named to the All-SoCon team in both of the last two seasons.

This season, if she can stay healthy, she will most likely surpass 2004 graduate Courtney Nyborg for the all-time record in blocks. Nyborg collected 197 over her four years at Elon.

But remember that comment about staying healthy?

Evans, an exercise sports science major, is conducting her undergraduate research on the topic of health, particularly in the field of concussions and how they affect different functions in the body.

"We're looking at some genetic influences, memory, things like that that affect people that have had concussions," she said. "I specifically am looking at the balance and reaction time, which both of those play a huge role in any sport."

In some ways, Evans is carrying on research launched by former students, including former Elon athletes

"Drew Gardner, who was a soccer player here who graduated last year, worked on this as well as another guy, so I kind of worked with them to learn the ropes," Evans said. "Now, I'm specifically looking at something different than what Drew and everyone else was looking at."

Through a new outreach program, Evans said area high schools are now giving basic concussion tests to their athletes in partnership with Elon.

"If they have a concussion, we bring them in and see if their

scores match to their baseline, and then we hand that over to the physician," she said.

Evans said she feels the research will continue to progress past her graduation this spring.

"There is so much more that we don't understand about concussions," Evans said. "Even the leading experts, there's a lot they still don't even understand. There is so much left to investigate that I think this will be a very ongoing project."

Oct. 11-12, Evans went to Pennsylvania State University for the Concussion in Athletics Conference. Aside from listening to leading experts in the field, she also got to present her research and receive feedback.

"It was a great experience and I hope to go to other conferences to present this research as well," she said. "Being able to hear the leading experts in the field right now was really inspiring."

According to Evans, the feedback she received on the research was good, but also helped pique her interest in a new field: sports neurology.

"I got really good feedback and I got to meet a lot of really great people," Evans said. "It was just a great opportunity to go and meet people interested in this field. Now, I'm really interested in sports neurology."

Now, as a senior, Evans has plans for the future beyond



FILE PHOTO BY CLAIRE ESPARROS

Senior forward Kelsey Evans did research in concussions this past summer.

basketball. Her research helped her flesh out the medical school route.

Her plan is to take a year off from school following graduation in the spring, but also to continue in the field of sports neurology.

"That would be really cool because this research is really inter-

esting to me and it keeps me close to sports, which is what I really like," Evans said. "This topic is so cutting-edge right now and it's in the media all the time and I think there isn't a lot known about concussions to the public, so we're just trying to spread the knowledge."

Thank you

Spectrum, Elon's queer-straight student organization, extends gratitude and thanks to our friends and allies who courageously spoke up and supported the SGA resolution against Chick-fil-a's presence on campus. We will continue our hard work to make Elon a welcoming community for everyone.

Join us! Monday nights 7:30pm in Moseley 215

Find us on Facebook at Spectrum (Elon)

Settled in after three years, Matheny's push to 'Elevate Elon' continues

Zachary Horner
Sports Editor

Matt Matheny, Elon University men's basketball head coach grabbed the microphone before the small assembled crowd at the Phoenix Preview, a pair of scrimmages featuring both Phoenix basketball teams, and took center court, calling all to attention.

He began by introducing Charlotte Smith, the women's head coach, as the "best" women's coach in the country. After Smith spoke for a little bit, she introduced Matheny likewise.

The former Davidson College football player took the microphone again. He talked about how his team, which finished second in the Southern Conference's North Division and was one win away from a winning season for the first time since Matheny arrived, was the community's team. The team he coached represented the community, he said, and he promised his team would represent that community well, that they would "elevate Elon."

Now in his fourth season at the helm of the Phoenix men's basketball team, Matheny said his family is well-entrenched in the community and he loves it.

"It's a great place to raise our family and we're getting to know a lot more people," he said after he finished shaking hands and speaking to community members who attended the Phoenix Preview. "So it's really neat to be in the community, in the grocery store, in the restaurants and seeing more and more people that we know are supporting the program. That was reflective today at the hoops preview. I recognized a lot more people in the stands. We love it here, it's a great place to live."

Last season, his Phoenix finished 15-16 and fell to Davidson in the SoCon tournament semifinals, Matheny's best season at the helm. Then-sophomore guard Jack Isenbarger had a breakout year, being named to the coaches' All-Conference Team, and then-freshman guard Austin Hamilton was selected to both the media and the coaches' All-Freshman Team.

Despite that increased success, Matheny said he feels like he's always learning about coaching.

"I think, as a coach, in a lot of respects you're always still learning," he said. "This team is completely different



Junior guard Jack Isenbarger (20) is one of Elon's key players this year. He was named to the Southern Conference Preseason All-Conference Team by the league's coaches.

from last year's team. It's a little bit more veteran, older guys, more experienced guys, so we're going to coach them differently. I still think I have quite a bit to learn."

Last season, the buzzword was "leadership." The Phoenix had lost two key seniors, guard Chris Long and forward Scott Grable. With guard Drew Spradlin as the only senior last year, some of the underclassmen had to step up and perform.

By the stats, they did. Isenbarger and Hamilton had their All-SoCon seasons, while then-sophomore forwards Ryley Beaumont and Lucas Troutman and sophomore guard Sebastian Koch filled out the rest of the starting lineup, providing exactly the leadership Matheny wanted.

That group, minus Hamilton, is coming into its junior year. Add junior forward Egheosa Edomwonyi, a for-

mer Rice University transfer, and it's the group Matheny relies on.

"It is their team now," he said. "It is our veteran's team to make of it what they want to make of it and how far they take us is how far they'll go."

Isenbarger, Beaumont, Troutman and Koch have been together for two years now and look back on their freshman year fondly.

"I remember coming in my freshman year, lost, not knowing what's going on, not knowing what to expect, coming onto the floor and being gun shy," Troutman said. "Coming out sophomore year, things are more normal, kind of settling in. Now, junior year, coming out and being the leaders of the team, being able to control the team and have fun with each other. That's been the biggest key for us."

Beaumont said seven members of the basketball team, including those four, live "within a 15-foot block," and

feel like they have "gone over the hill."

"We're older now and it's time to do some special things," he said. "You can tell just watching all of us. We're grown now, we're more in shape, we're agile. Now it's our team and it's our time to do some good things."

Hamilton, who will in all likelihood start at point guard for the Phoenix, said he loves having those four as floor mates.

"They're basically the core of our team," he said. "They've been very big leaders for us. As far as playing with them, for a point guard, it's great. You've got two knock-down shooters (Isenbarger and Koch). Ryley's a hard worker who can score the ball, then you've got big Luke (Troutman) inside, who can finish everything. It's definitely a luxury for me."

According to Matheny, one of the keys is the guard play. Along with Isenbarger and Hamilton, senior guard Josh

Bonney returns after solid spot duty in the SoCon tournament when Hamilton was hampered by a wrist injury.

While Hamilton is still recovering from that injury, Matheny said he is excited about the possibilities in the backcourt.

"College basketball is a guard-dominated game," he said. "I like our experience at guard and our ability to play several guys at the point in particular. Josh did finish the season very well with a great performance against Georgia Southern. Austin returning to health could be very beneficial to us, and Jack's ability to play both the one and the two gives us a solid guard rotation. I like the fact that we have three guys to choose from."

Bonney, who played sparingly during the regular season, said he looks forward to being a part of the guard rotation in a regular spot this year.

FILE PHOTO BY MOLLY CAREY

"I think we, all three, have our own specialties and own capabilities that we're a little better than each other at," he said. "If we were able to figure out a way to implement all of them, we'd be very, very tough in the backcourt, as far as the Southern Conference is concerned."

The Southern Conference is the goal. It's been made clear by Matheny and the players, that this team's goal is SoCon-oriented.

"We want to win the North Division. We want to win the Southern Conference. We haven't done that," Matheny said. "We want to play in the tournament championship game. We want to win against the BCS opponents. We want to have more nights like last year when we beat South Carolina (Nov. 15, 2011). We want our players to play on a national stage, which would be an NCAA Tournament or postseason in some way, shape or form. There is an incredible amount of things that we can accomplish that we haven't accomplished in a long time."

The road to that goal usually involves Matheny's alma mater and former employer, Davidson. Matheny left Wildcats coach Bob McKillop's staff in March 2009 after spending 16 years with Davidson. The last time Elon defeated Davidson was Jan. 20, 2011, but the team has dropped three straight to the elite of the SoCon since then.

As the preseason No. 1 team in the SoCon, the defending conference champion Wildcats are a squad Isenbarger sees as part of the path to a SoCon championship. Davidson visits the Phoenix Feb. 27, 2013.

"I think Davidson definitely has a target on their back, being last year's SoCon champs," he said. "And that's something that we want to be is winning the SoCon. It's a very realistic goal for us. That's certainly a game we're looking forward to, that we're

looking forward to competing in and getting a win, hopefully."

That SoCon championship is part of a movement Matheny started called "Elevate Elon." Players and coaches have shirts reading the phrase and it has been on players and coaches' lips.

For Hamilton, it has already begun. But it's not over.

"We expect a lot more," he said. "Each and every year, we want to elevate to being an elite program in college basketball. It's definitely something that we stand by and that we're going to continue to do because we've got the tools to elevate. We've just got to all put it together."

Isenbarger points to the fact that his recruiting class and the rest of the team finally "have ownership." And because it's "their team," there's more of a sense of individual duty to get something accomplished this year.

"We're taking more responsibility for our growth and how far we go this season," he said. "Elevate Elon to me is a more personal thing and it's also something that affects everyone because, in order for our program to get better, every individual has to put in hard work if we want to get better. I think it's everyone working hard all the time and it's not taking a day off."

While that may seem cliché and overused, Beaumont said it is at the heart of "Elevate Elon."

"For us, 'Elevate Elon' is a constant thing," he said. "You don't take plays off, you don't take practice (off) when you're tired so you're not going to put anything into it. 'Elevate Elon' is a constant reminder to yourself that we need to elevate this program. We're doing the right things and taking the right steps - it's just buying in and now we need to believe." Sss

Elon Phoenix Men's Basketball

- **Coach:** Matt Matheny (38-56, fourth season)
- **Last Season:** 15-16 overall (9-9 SoCon), lost in Southern Conference tournament semifinals
- **Players Lost:** G Drew Spradlin (graduated), G Lucas Weavil (transfer), F Brett Ervin (non-basketball transfer)
- **New Players:** G Tanner Samson, C Tony Sabato, G Sam Hershberger, F Wes Brewer
- **Probable Starting Lineup:**
 - So. G Austin Hamilton (9.2 ppg, 2.8 apg)
 - Jr. G Jack Isenbarger (14.5 ppg, 3.4 rpg)
 - Jr. G Sebastian Koch (8.9 ppg, 5.3 rpg)
 - Jr. F Ryley Beaumont (7.0 ppg, 5.8 rpg)
 - Jr. F Lucas Troutman (12.8 ppg, 5.5 rpg)



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO

The Phoenix finished 15-16 last season, second in the North Division behind the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Elon lost in the semifinals of the SoCon Tournament to eventual champion Davidson College. The Phoenix has a rematch with the Wildcats Feb. 27, 2013 in Alumni Gym.

Elon head coach Matt Matheny is in his fourth year as head coach. He said he and his family feel more comfortable in the community this year and he wants his team to represent that community. Matheny spent 16 years on Davidson's coaching staff as an assistant to current Wildcats head coach Bob McKillop.

Second time around: Women's basketball familiar with coach's style now

Andrew Wilson
Assistant Sports Editor

A year ago, the Elon University women's basketball team was preparing for its first season under head coach Charlotte Smith. The team was still learning the system and pattern Smith brought in. Now, as the second year of the Charlotte Smith era is set to commence, preparation has been a bit different.

"The players have now gotten acclimated to our style of play and our tempo of the game," Smith said. "That will help us see improvements this season."

Last season under the former University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill standout player and assistant coach, the Phoenix finished with an overall record of 16-14, going 12-8 in the Southern Conference, but lost in the first round of the SoCon tournament to Samford University.

This year, the Phoenix will look to improve on those numbers by not only having learned the pace and style of Smith's game, but also by being healthy out of the gate.

"We improve on last year just by being healthy," Smith said. "We started out early in the season last year just really struggling with a lot of injuries. If we can stay healthy, we'll already be a better team than we were last year."

The Phoenix was chosen to finish fifth in the SoCon in both the coaches' poll and the media poll while coaches also selected seniors Ali Ford and Kelsey Evans to the preseason all-conference team.

But Smith said the preseason polls are just "predictions" and doesn't give them much merit.

"I take them with a grain of salt," she said. "We have words of affirmation we say every day before practice. Our words of affirmation last year were, 'We control our destiny.' That's what I believe. I'm not going to let a preseason poll determine our destiny because we determine our destiny."

Evans takes a similar approach to the preseason predictions.

"I know we've been picked fifth in the conference," she said. "But we have higher expectations for ourselves. Seeing the rankings just kind of pushes us."

As for Ford and Evans being selected to the preseason all-conference team, Smith is "excited" to see their names on the list. But she said she knows it's about more than just them if the Phoenix wants to be successful this season.

"It's exciting for both of those girls to have been picked preseason all-conference," Smith said. "But Coach (Sylvia) Hatchell



Senior guard Ali Ford (11) earned first-team All-Southern Conference honors from SoCon coaches and a first-team selection by the media last season. FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO

(head coach at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) used to say, 'You only go as far as your team goes.' We have to do a good job collectively as a team for us to succeed and for them to succeed individually."

Early in the season, the Phoenix will be challenged with two games on the road against two teams from power-six conferences. It will face the Southeastern Conference's University of South Carolina and the Atlantic Coast Conference's North Carolina State University. Last year, the Phoenix didn't take on a team of this high caliber. This season, there are two.

"We want to challenge ourselves," Smith said. "They'll be tough games but they'll be games that we'll use as a learning experience and we can learn areas in which we need to improve upon. That, and learn things that we are doing well."

Evans, a native of Raleigh, is particularly excited about returning home to take on North Carolina State University in the historic Reynolds Coliseum Dec. 9.

"I've been waiting for this game for three years," Evans said. "I've wanted to play this since I got here. I'm really excited to go to Raleigh because that's where I'm from and where all of my support is, so I'm really excited to go back there and play and hopefully we'll have a big crowd there for us."

Before going to Raleigh, the Phoenix will be tested with two early season Southern Conference matchups against Western Carolina University on the road Dec. 3 and College of Charleston at home Dec. 12.

Although Smith said she doesn't know why those two early games are scheduled when they are, she knows it's her job to have her team ready to compete.

"Preferably, you would like to start conference play at the end of December, but the scheduling is up to the league and it's just up to me as a coach to have my team prepared and ready to go," Smith said. "The schedule is what it is. We just have to be prepared and ready to go and let the chips fall where they may."

With two early matchups against teams selected in the middle of the pack this season in the conference preseason polls, Smith doesn't think these two games will be an indication of where her team sits for the rest of the season, as the games are too early in the season and the team is still getting back in the swing of things.

"These are too early in the year to tell if this will be an indication," she said. "We played our best basketball toward the latter part of the season last year and we closed with a four-game winning streak and we were playing really well. It'll be early, so I don't think it will determine anything for us."

The second year of the Smith era also brings her first full recruiting class to the program. This year's group features four players, three of whom are from the state of North Carolina. Smith said she thinks the freshmen will be able to help the program as soon as this season starts.

"There's a learning curve for all of them," Smith said. "I'm sure eventually down the

line this year, they'll be able to help in some capacity on the floor."

Smith cited a couple of things she was particularly looking for that she feels she found in her recruiting class.

"I was looking for toughness, athleticism, coachability, just a lot of intangible things that you don't see on the stat sheets," Smith said. "We're trying to play an up-tempo, fast-break style of basketball, so we were looking for athleticism."

In the class, Smith brought in three guards: Lauren Hudson of Raleigh, Nicole Razor, from Stone Mountain, Ga. and Jessica Farmer from Asheville.

The lone forward in the class is Autumn Carter from Reidsville. Carter is the tallest player on the team, standing at 6 feet, 5 inches tall.

"You can't teach size," Smith said. "We definitely wanted to bring in some size and not only does she have great size, she's a great defensive presence and she's able to run the floor very well."

Each of the other three freshmen brings something different to the table for the Phoenix that Smith said she feels will help the team immensely.

For Hudson, it's the athleticism. "Lauren Hudson is an athlete," Smith said. "I saw Lauren Hudson do jump ball for her team this year and she's a guard. You don't see guards doing jump balls and she just brings a lot of athleticism to the game."

According to Smith, Farmer is the all-around player in the class.

"Farmer can do it all," Smith said. "She can rebound, she can

block shots, she can score. She just works really hard on the floor."

As for Razor, Smith already has a phrase in mind when she thinks of her: Razor Speed.

"Razor brings a lot speed," Smith said. "Razor speed and toughness to the game."

Now as a senior and in her second season under Smith, Evans feels like her experience has been able to help the freshmen transition to the program be an easy one.

"It's always hard coming in as a freshman because you don't know any of the players or any of the offense," Evans said. "Last year, with the new coaching staff, we were all kind of new to that, but now, having a year under my belt, I've been able to help guide the freshmen and help them understand what they need to be doing. They're already doing a great job of getting acclimated, though, and doing the things they need to do."

Last season with Smith at the helm, Elon won 16 games, which is the most wins by a first year head coach in program history. Another year for the team to become accustomed with the system Smith runs should bring more favorable results come season's end



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO

Junior guard Kelsey Harris (left) was fourth on the Phoenix in scoring last season, averaging 6.6 points per game, while finishing third with 4.3 rebounds per game.

five months from now.

This season, Evans and the team hope to improve on those 16 wins and, hopefully, will have something else to talk about in

March.

"Obviously a conference championship," she said.

That would be a good result Smith's second time around. §



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO

Senior forward Kelsey Evans finished ninth in the SoCon last season with 11.7 points per game and fifth in the conference with 7.5 rebounds per contest.



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO

Elon sophomore forward Sam Coffey finished tied for ninth in the Southern Conference in blocks with 27 last season and was named to the SoCon all-freshman team for her efforts.

Men's Basketball 2012-13 Schedule Key Games

Nov. 10 - Butler - Away - 2 p.m.
Nov. 17 - Colgate - Home - 2 p.m.
Nov. 18 - Florida Atlantic/Coppin State - Home - 4:30 p.m.
Nov. 21 - South Carolina - Away - 7 p.m.
Nov. 28 - Georgia Southern - Away - 7 p.m.
Dec. 1 - College of Charleston - Home - 7 p.m.
Dec. 20 - Duke - Away - 7 p.m.
Feb. 23 - Chattanooga - Away - 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 27 - Davidson - Home - 7 p.m.
March 2 - UNC Greensboro - Home - 7 p.m.
March 8-11 - SoCon Tournament - Asheville - TBA

Women's Basketball 2012-13 Schedule Key Games

Nov. 9 - South Carolina - Away - 7 p.m.
Dec. 1 - College of Charleston - Home - 2 p.m.
Dec. 3 - Western Carolina - Away - 12 p.m.
Dec. 9 - North Carolina State - Away - 2 p.m.
Dec. 29 - East Carolina - Away - 3 p.m.
Jan. 26 - Davidson - Away - 2 p.m.
March 2 - Davidson - Home - 7 p.m.
March 4 - Georgia Southern - Away - 7 p.m.
March 8-11 - SoCon Tournament - Asheville - TBA
See the full men's and women's basketball schedules online at elonpendulum.com



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO

Elon junior guard Jack Isenbarger (20) will return to his home state of Indiana for a matchup with two-time national runner-up Butler University in the season opener Nov. 10.



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO

Junior guard Kelsey Harris (23) had 12 points and seven rebounds in a 61-60 win over Georgia Southern University Jan. 13. The Phoenix will tackle the Catamounts in its first SoCon road game Dec. 3.

THE LAST WORD

You gotta have the tough political talks

Every four years, around the end of October, the amount of awkward conversations I have skyrockets. I wish I could say this was because I temporarily lost the ability to speak clearly, or something else that would sound defensible, but the prob-



Christopher Bosak
Producer, *The Swing*

lem is simply that I love politics. I find the way our government works fascinating — probably too fascinating — and I want to talk to people about it. Add an election onto that feeling, and October practically becomes a month-long holiday.

Not only do I like talking politics, I especially love talking to people who disagree with me. Chatting with my liberal friends is great, but sparring with a competent conservative is a round of political ping pong, questions bouncing over the

net as fast as possible. I want to know why they think that way, how they came to that conclusion, what their parents think, everything that led them to their beliefs. I don't ask because I want to persuade them otherwise, I just want to see the whole iceberg of which their thoughts are the tip.

But I'm one of the few. Most people I've spoken with become reserved if I start inquiring about their beliefs. It makes sense. Some people have a short fuse when it comes to politics, and

flagrantly disagreeing with someone could offend him or her. All beliefs should be respected, but they should also be discussed in a friendly manner.

Washington is gridlocked and, although I'm not naïve enough to believe a little conversation could fix all that, it certainly couldn't hurt. If we all remain so staunch in our beliefs that we can't even talk about why we have them, how will anyone gain any deeper understanding of what we're debating? It might be painful, and yes, occa-

sionally feelings might get hurt, but the value of seeing things from a different perspective is worth the risk.

So this election season, talk it out. Have a conversation with someone with whom you disagree. Try not to yell, just talk. And, when it's all said and done, even if your mind isn't changed, hopefully you've learned something.

At the very least, you'll make me feel better knowing there are a few more awkward conversations going on out there.

WordSearch

Basketball season kicks off this weekend with men's and women's exhibition games. Check out pages 24-27 for full season previews and then find some of the key players and head coaches from both teams below.

Women's Team:

- Evans
- Redmond
- Ford
- Coffer
- Hairston
- Brandner
- Stephenson
- Harris
- Smith (Head coach)

Men's Team:

- Hamilton
- Isenbarger
- Beaumont
- Koch
- Troutman
- Bonney
- Dugas
- Edomwonyi
- Matheny (Head coach)

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

Top Tweets

@HeadPhoenix

Constant prayers being sent forth from Elon for all those in the path of #Sandy, especially our many families and alumni in the northeast.

@kierst38

@GovChristie: If conditions aren't safe on Wednesday for Trick or Treating, I will sign an Executive Order rescheduling #Halloween" Good

@xoGossipSquirrel

It's the weekend. That means it's time for @OnlyAtElon to give away his identity to another group of freshman girls. #nososecretanymore

@McEwenProblems

So when can I stop paying rent on my apartment and move into McEwen?

@lkurtz

@OnlyAtElon does school prez (@HeadPhoenix) personally know the status of the Lake Mary Nell swans. Love Elon for many reasons, this is one.



TOP photos



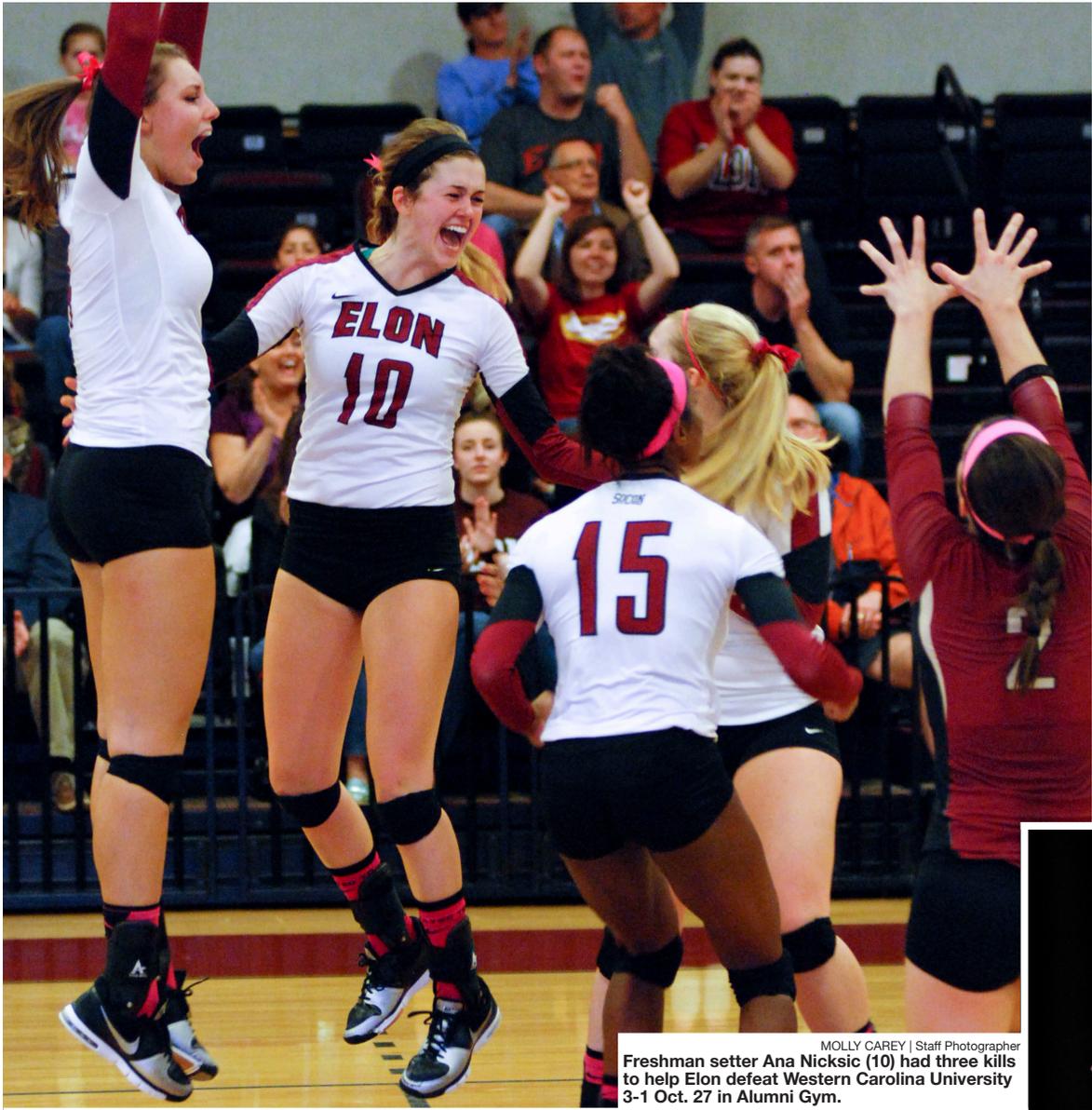
ZipTreat™
It's On Me...

Turning 21?

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WILLIAM KENYON | Staff Photographer
The Elon University volleyball team swept Appalachian State University 3-0 Oct. 26. Sophomore Chanelle Smith had 11 kills and 11 digs.



MOLLY CAREY | Staff Photographer
 Freshman setter Ana Nicksic (10) had three kills to help Elon defeat Western Carolina University 3-1 Oct. 27 in Alumni Gym.

WILLIAM KENYON | Staff Photographer
 Campus Recreation's second annual Haunted Trail was held Oct. 24-25 at Elon University's Challenge Course.



AL DRAGO | Staff Photographer
 The Elon men's soccer team defeated its third ranked team this season Oct. 23, as the Phoenix beat Wake Forest University 1-0.



MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer
 Senior Sarah Dodge, public relations chair for Student Government Association, expresses her views considering the legislation questioning Elon's relationship with Chick-fil-A.

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Sports

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FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO
Then-sophomore forward Lucas Troutman (31) goes in for a layup Feb. 4 against The Citadel. Troutman and the rest of the men's basketball team open their season Nov. 10 against Butler University in Indianapolis, Ind., as part of the EA Sports Maui Invitational Opening Games. The Phoenix will host the Mainland Games a week later. The Elon women's team will open its season Nov. 9 at the University of South Carolina to start head coach Charlotte Smith's second season at the helm.

The Pendulum will provide full coverage of both the men's and women's teams this season on our website, www.elonpendulum.com. Follow the Pendulum's sports Twitter (@pendulumsports) for updates throughout the season.