



COMMENCEMENT EDITION : FAQs & Schedule
Words of Wisdom
Elon traditions

THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA • SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2013 • VOLUME 39, EDITION 9



In this edition ...

Look back on the 13 most newsworthy moments of the 2012-2013 school year • pages 16-18

Table of Contents

Saturday, May 25, 2013 • page 2

in this EDITION...

1	2 You are here	3	4 Commencement Coverage Frequently Asked Questions & Schedule of Events	5	6 Oak saplings and other Commencement traditions	7	8 News
9	10 Boredom Busters	11	12 Commencement Coverage News Summer construction	13	14 Commencement Coverage Words of Wisdom	15	16 Top 13 of 2012-13
17	18	19	20 Opinions Things you never thought you would miss about Elon	21 International Corruption in Chinese soccer	22 Features Kristen Conroy's trip to Kenya	23	24 Arts & Entertainment
25 The year in Arts & Entertainment	26 Sports Morningstar retires after 41 years	27	28	29 Karpeh sets post- grad sights on Italy	30	31	32 The Top 10 Sports Moments

THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

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

Editor-in-Chief
Rebecca Iannucci

Managing Editor
Jonathan Black

News Editor
Katherine Blunt

News Editor
Ethan Smith

Assistant News Editor
Michael Bodley

Opinions Editor
Audrey Horwitz

**Assistant Opinions
Editor**
Alex Francis

International Editor
Alana Romans

Features Editor
Kyra Gemberling

**Arts & Entertainment
Editor**
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Sports Editor
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**Social Media & Web
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COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE



Saturday, May 25

Continental Breakfast

7:30 a.m.
Scott Plaza

Commencement Prelude

9 a.m.
Under the Oaks
Families and guests should be seated by this time.

The 123rd Commencement Exercise

9:15 a.m.
Under the Oaks
Tickets are not required.

Post-Commencement Reception for Graduates

Immediately following Commencement
Scott Plaza

Reception for International Student Graduates

Immediately following Commencement
Isabella Cannon Global Education Center
(Carlton Building)

School of Law Commencement

6 p.m.
Under the Oaks
Reception to follow on Scott Plaza



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What time is the continental breakfast over?
The breakfast closes at 8:45 a.m. All guests should be seated by 9 a.m. to ensure a prompt start of the ceremony.

Q: What time should graduates arrive?
Graduates participating in Commencement Under the Oaks should arrive at Jordan Gym no later than 8:15 a.m.

Q: What happens if it rains the morning of Commencement?

If the weather forecast predicts rain will clear during the morning hours, the university may delay the start of the outdoor ceremony until 10:30 a.m. If conditions do not improve, Commencement exercises will be moved to Alumni Gym in Koury Athletic Center. Graduates may pick up two rain tickets in Alamance 109 (Office of Student Life) beginning May 6. It is the responsibility of each graduate to give the tickets to those who will use them May 25.

Q: Are tickets required to attend the ceremony?
No, tickets are not required to attend the outdoor ceremony.

Q: How long is the Commencement ceremony?
The ceremony, including the academic procession and recession, will be approximately three hours and conclude by 12:30 p.m.

Q: Are professional photographs available?
Yes, a professional photographer will take photos of each graduate receiving his or her diploma. Photo proofs will be available online through Lifetouch a few days after the ceremony.

Q: How can I order Commencement on DVD?
Elon DVD sales tables will be located Under the Oaks and near Fonville Fountain. Staff at these DVD sales tables will provide sales information and accept orders.

Q: Is water available during the ceremony?
Water stations are located behind the seating Under the Oaks.

Q: Where are the restrooms?
There are bathrooms in McEwen School of

Communications, McEwen Dining Hall, Alamance and Long buildings. There are comfort stations located at the parking lot behind the seating area. The comfort stations have baby changing facilities.

Q: Where do I meet my graduate after the ceremony?
A reception for graduates will be held around Fonville Fountain (same location as breakfast). Signs for each of the academic degrees/departments will be placed above the reception tables located in Scott Plaza. Please plan to meet your graduate near the sign of their academic major.

Q: Where do graduates pick up the oak sapling?
Oak saplings are available near Fonville Fountain at the Alumni Information tables.

Q: Where do I get my sticker that says "I'm a Proud Parent"?
You can pick up these stickers at the information tables and the alumni tables around Fonville Fountain.

Q: Where is the First Aid station and Commencement Communications center?
Commencement Communications, Campus Police and First Aid are located under the tent between Whitley and the parking lot.

Q: Where is the lost and found?
During the ceremony, lost and found items should be taken to the information table at the back of the Commencement site. Following the ceremony, lost and found items will be taken to Campus Security in The Oaks.

Q: Who can I contact for more information?
Contact Patti Gibbons, associate director of cultural and special programs, at pgibbons@elon.edu.

For additional information, visit the Commencement page on Elon's website at www.elon.edu/e-web/news/commencement



FILE GRAPHIC BY SARAH BETH COSTELLO



Graduation ceremony mirrors Elon's dedication to upholding traditions

Alana Romans
International Editor

The day is Saturday, May 25. With caps and gowns ready, hundreds of seniors prepare to walk across the stage with hard-earned diplomas and their futures in hand. Speeches have been prepared, stages have been constructed and by Saturday at 9:15 a.m., the entire Elon University community has come together to send off the Class of 2013 in the most traditional way possible. And it is these traditions that have been so intricately woven into the core of Elon's philosophy.

This will be the 123rd year of the Commencement exercises Under the Oaks, which marks that many years of traditions in the making. While the name Elon literally means "oak" in Hebrew, the ceremony did not begin presiding Under the Oaks until 1923. Therefore, the Class of 2013 is a significant milestone in Elon history, celebrating the 90th anniversary of the traditional graduation ceremony.

It is apparent that the university

recognizes the significance of maintaining traditions. John Burbridge, an Operations and Supply Chain Management professor, has taught at Elon for 17 years and has attended Commencement on a regular basis.

Despite changes within the masters program and their involvement with the undergraduate ceremonies, Burbridge could find little change between past and present graduation ceremonies.

"For the most part, graduation has pretty much remained the same," Burbridge said.

One very important but little known tradition within the pre-ceremonial events is the faculty vote. Jessica Gisclair, chair of the School of Communications and professor at Elon, has taught at the school for 12 years. She explained that each year before graduation, the faculty meets to vote on the list of graduates, and whether they are eligible to walk across the stage.

"Of course we have never said no. It is actually a real moment of being proud of all our students," Gisclair said.

After the faculty votes, the graduates

meet with President Leo Lambert and the Commencement speaker in Jordan Gym. This year the commencement speaker will be "NBC Nightly News" anchor Brian Williams. The graduates have time to spend with Williams before all respective parties prepare for their procession into the ceremony.

By 9:15 a.m., the faculty is dressed in full regalia, waiting by the entrance of West Area to welcome the graduating Class of 2013.

Present each year are Elon's traditional symbols, which include the Elon University mace, the staffs, the gonfalons and the international flags. Each year Elon showcases flags representing the home country of every student in the graduating class. The Platform party will be seated on stage during the ceremony and will consist of Lambert, Williams, Provost Steven House, Elon Chaplain Jan Fuller, those calling the names of the graduates and the singer of the National Anthem and Elon Alma Mater.

Many customs during the ceremony mirror a similar event the senior class

attended almost four years prior — New Student Convocation. While the students walked in through two rows of faculty their first year at Elon, so they will exit between the same two lines upon their graduation. Students are also given an oak sapling at the end of the ceremony, which represents the growth of the acorn they were given upon arrival.

One tradition that will never change is the faculty-student relationship. After dedicating four years to their degree, the graduates become familiar faces both inside and outside of the classroom. To see those students graduating is exciting for many members of the faculty.

"It's always nice to see students you know walk across that stage. Just the expression on their face is the highlight of the ceremony. Because in all honesty that's why everyone is there, to see them," Burbridge said.

With faculty, family and graduates present, the graduation ceremony begins. And so it will end with Lambert's legendary closure, "Long live Elon."

Giving of oak sapling continues as symbolic Commencement tradition

Kyra Gemberling
Features Editor

Any respectable Elon University student knows the word Elon means “oak” in Hebrew. At Commencement, this translation is taken literally.

Graduating seniors have been given an oak sapling at the end of Commencement every year since President J. Fred Young began the tradition in 1992, according to George Troxler, professor emeritus of history.

But many would be surprised to know Young’s idea was actually sparked by a redwood tree a year earlier.

Furman Moseley, a graduate of the Class of 1956, gave Elon’s Commencement address in 1991. After discussing his career in the California timber business, he gave each graduate a redwood sapling to symbolize the importance of growth through hard work.

“Dr. Young picked up on the idea, but there were concerns that redwood saplings didn’t survive well in all climates,” Troxler said. “He liked the idea of giving students a sapling, and the obvious thing was to give them an oak sapling. The tradition has continued without interruption ever since.”

But the giving of symbolic items didn’t stop there. In 2000, President Leo Lambert had an idea that helped the oak sapling tradi-

tion come full circle: the giving of an acorn to all freshman students at New Student Convocation.

“He felt it provided a beginning and an end,” Troxler said. “When you come to Elon, you receive an acorn, which is obviously the beginning of the sapling. Then you receive your sapling [at graduation] and continue to nourish it and let it grow.”

The process of giving out saplings requires campus-wide involvement. Tom Flood, assistant director of Physical Plant and director of Landscaping and Grounds, is in charge of ordering the saplings and caring for them until they’re passed out to graduates.

“I enjoy handing out the saplings, and I always run into a few graduates who have their freshman acorn with them,” Flood said. “Obtaining and preparing the sapling is only one small thing that my staff and I do, but to many graduates, that little tree grows to become an important and tangible reminder of their time and education at Elon.”

Unfortunately, graduates don’t always care for their sapling properly.

“I know there are always students who write back during the summer who say, ‘My sapling died — can you send me another one?’” Troxler said.

But Troxler said these students are a minority, and most graduates are very invested in



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY CAMILLE DEMERE

Alumna Camille DeMere (left) graduated in 2011. Her parents planted her oak sapling for her in their backyard.

the care of their sapling. This includes Camille DeMere ’11, who had her parents plant the tree in their backyard for her.

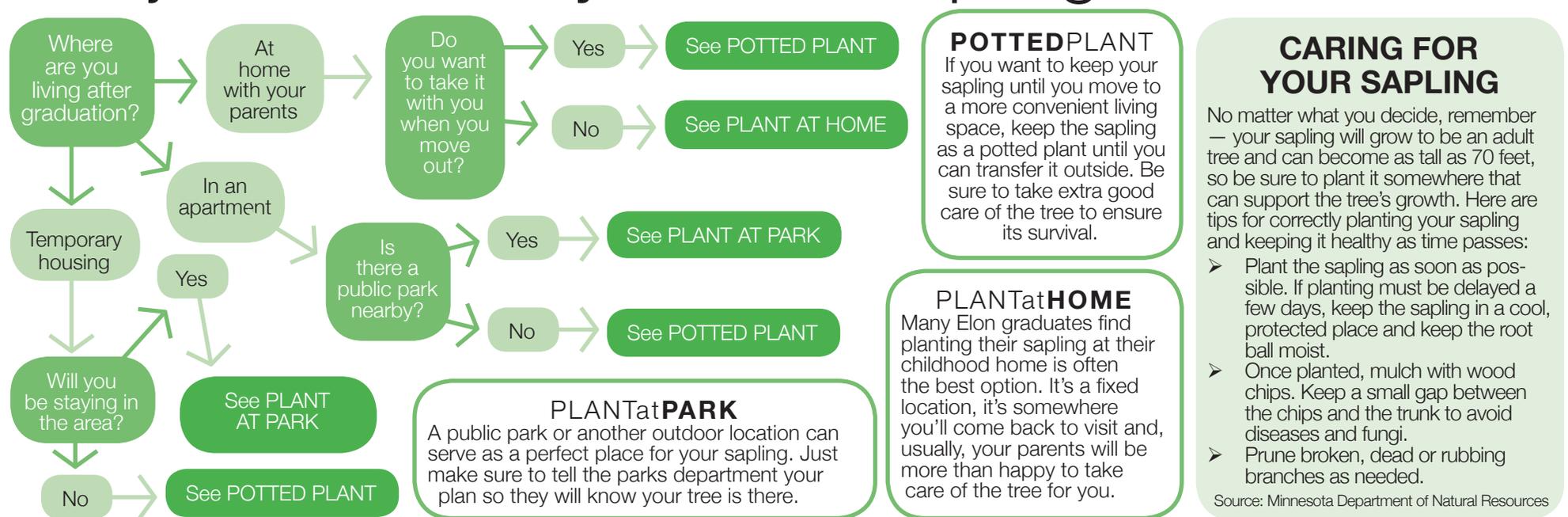
“My parents drove the sapling home and my dad has been caring for it ever since,” DeMere said. “He sends me pictures every now and then of its growth. It actually just got big enough that he tied it loosely to another oak so it will keep growing straight.”

For DeMere, the tree is a nostalgic re-

minder of her attachment to her alma mater, and she hopes the sapling tradition will continue at Elon.

“I think the saplings are a really great idea,” she said. “I know I have coins and cords and little knickknacks from graduation, but I don’t really attach fond memories to those objects. Whereas with the tree, I tell people about the tradition whenever I get an emailed picture of its growth on my phone.”

You just received your oak sapling – now what?



Elon senior takes on China's capital to teach English

Katherine Blunt
News Editor

Beijing. It's a city of more than 20 million people, and soon, an Elon University senior will join them to teach English to Chinese adults in the business world.

Billy Fidler, an exercise science major from Goldsboro, N.C., accepted a year-long teaching position with English First, a division of Education First with more than 400 language centers and schools worldwide.

"I knew I wanted to travel after college," Fidler said. "I caught the travel bug after spending some time in Peru. I knew I had to go away, even just for a year."

When Education First came to Elon for a sales meet-and-greet, Fidler began exploring the opportunities the organization offered.

"I really liked their program and I fell

in love with what they stood for," he said. "The application process started in November, and I found out I was accepted in January."

The application process included a Skype interview with an employer in China, and the video stream was spotty at best when Fidler connected with his interviewer.

"The Skype kept going in and out and she eventually had to call my cell phone," he said. "The interview was fun and fast-paced, but at one point she asked me about what my lesson plan would look

like. That caught me off guard. There was one part where I didn't know how to answer a question so I froze my face for a second to make it look like the connection was buggy. It was intense, but she was sweet afterwards."

Fidler said he will center his lesson plan on public speaking, a skill he found valuable during his four years at Elon.

"I love public speaking, and it will be very applicable in this program," he said. "I'll have them come speak in front of the class every day. It's something you have to do out in the business world."

Fidler is doing his best to prepare himself for his move overseas. He is beginning to learn Mandarin Chinese through the Rosetta Stone language software on Elon's computers, and he has used LinkedIn to gather tips and advice about living in Beijing.

"LinkedIn has been a godsend," he said. "I've connected with so many people through my fraternity and I've gotten in contact with my parents' friends who have lived there. I've learned the best places to eat, where to go and where to avoid. It has really been very helpful."

Fidler said he is excited to travel in Asia and meet other English First teachers.

"Once you get there, you become part of this huge network," he said. "It's not just a program for business professionals. They have classes for children, too, and they have centers all over the world."

Fidler isn't sure what he wants to do after spending a year in China, but he said is pleased English First offers its teachers the opportunity to renew their annual contracts.

"This gives me another year to kind of step back from everything and focus on something I'm interested in, teaching and traveling," he said. "I could renew my contract and teach somewhere else if I wanted to. Once you're an English First teacher, you can work in any of their cities."



English First Beijing is a division of Education First, which has more than 400 language schools worldwide.

Billy Fidler is teaching English in Beijing for one year after graduation through the English First program.



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PHOTO COURTESY OF BILLY FIDLER/FACEBOOK

Lavender Graduation honors Elon's growing LGBTQ community

Lauryl Fischer
Senior Reporter

Elon University's LGBTQ community said goodbye to its seniors May 19 during Lavender Graduation, a special graduation ceremony that honors LGBTQ students and allies for their achievements during their college career.

While Spectrum, Elon's queer-straight alliance, organized the event, the ceremony was open to all LGBTQ students. During the ceremony, students were recognized for their achievements inside and outside of the classroom and received a rainbow tassel they may choose to wear during Elon's official Commencement.

The University of Michigan organized the first Lavender Graduation in 1995 in an effort to hold an intimate, casual ceremony for those in the LGBTQ community. Elon held its first Lavender Graduation last year.

"We are a community that is rarely recognized in our individuality, so this is an event that brings that recognition," said Kirstin Ringelberg, coordinator for the LGBTQ office and art his-

tory professor.

Because the event is intended to be more intimate, the graduates and their Elon experiences are the main focus of the ceremony, giving seniors a chance to reminisce on their accomplishments and share their successes with fellow LGBTQ students and allies. Only Provost Steven House, one Elon alumnus and one parent spoke during the ceremony this year to keep the casual spirit of the ceremony alive.

Senior Emily Kane, advocacy and education chair for Spectrum, described it as her social graduation from Elon, as opposed to the general, academic graduation she will have with the rest of her class.

"This is more of a celebration of my personal experiences I have had on campus," Kane said. "It's a more individualized graduation ceremony."

For some students who have not come out to their families, Lavender Graduation provides a chance to celebrate their involvement in the LGBTQ community with their friends.

"Some people in the LGBTQ community might not be out to their parents, and so Elon



(Left to right) Seniors Emily Kane, Erica Young, Jasmine Whaley, Lauren Clapp, Bobby Rawlings and Ben Poole celebrated their accomplishments in the LGBTQ community at Lavender Graduation May 19.

could become a place where they become their true self," Kane said. "Lavender Graduation becomes an opportunity where they can have their real, true graduation."

For Kane personally, it's a time to look back not only on her college experience, but her time with Spectrum and in the LGBTQ community.

"I have a unique experience because I was not involved my first two years," Kane said. "I didn't come out because I didn't think it would be an accepting place. But it's grown a lot. There are so many first-years that are involved in Spectrum this year. So I do think that Elon has changed since my four years here."

THE HONOR SOCIETY OF



PHI KAPPA PHI

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Elon University chapter of Phi Kappa Phi would like to congratulate the following new initiates who were selected to membership from the upper 7.5 percent of the junior class and upper 10 percent of the senior and graduate classes. Faculty, professional staff, and alumni who achieve scholarly distinction also qualify for initiation into the Society. Elon University's newest class of initiates were recognized at an induction ceremony on April 22 for their achievements. Elon University President Dr. Leo Lambert gave the opening remarks and Phi Kappa Phi Southeast Regional Vice President Dr. Mark Davis delivered the address.

Let the love of learning rule humanity.

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THE ^{very} LAST WORD: my COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

It's a little presumptuous of me to write a speech for Commencement since I'm only a graduate this year. But I have perused dozens of Convocation speeches throughout the last four years, so I like to think I've got a little expertise. (If you do only one thing I suggest here, read "Advice, like youth, probably just wasted on the young" by Mary Schmich. Or watch "Everybody's Free (To Wear Sunscreen)" by Baz Luhrmann.

They're the same thing.) Anyway, here is the speech I would give if I were speaking at Commencement.

Class of 2013,

Congratulations. You made it. After four years of classes and tests, you have finally reached the apex of your college careers and are now ready to begin building the life you've always dreamed about. I graduated in December and started that journey by moving to Los Angeles to begin my career. In all that post-grad free time, I've done a lot of thinking about what I learned during the

last four years. These are lessons I found the most valuable, the ones I'm taking into my new life.

The thing most often discussed around this time is success. After all, the point of a Commencement speech is to have a successful person (preferably famous) explain how you can follow in their footsteps. I am not stereotypically successful (or famous) but that idea is exactly what I want to tell you about. Around this time, our image of success gets distorted, and that's a problem.

Although we all develop preconceived notions of success, you must live by your own definition. Your success must be exclusively yours. Find what you want to do and work toward it. Sometimes, what we want is simple. Do you want to live in a big house? Find a job where you make a good salary and save your money. Sometimes, what we want is more complex. Do you want to make the world a better place? Make your best effort to be kind and helpful to those around you.

It doesn't even matter what you want to do. If you're doing what you love, I believe the world will be better for it.

Don't compare yourself to others. Far too often we take easily transferable elements from our lives and use them as the metric for success. Salary, job offers, Twitter followers — whatever you choose,

it's only a path to disappointment. There will always be someone who makes more money. There will always be somebody who gets a job that would have looked good on your resume. Success is about accomplishing what you choose to accomplish. It's just a waste of energy to be jealous of someone who has something you didn't think you wanted until they had it.

But even when you reach your goals, sometimes you may still find yourself wanting more.

Happiness will always be a pursuit, a chase. Happiness will dart around and change course constantly. If you're lucky, you'll take hold of it for months or years at a time. But eventually it will slip out of your grasp, and you'll have to chase it again. You must remain flexible enough to bend to the zig-zagging path you're being led on. You must constantly listen to how you feel. Know that if you're unhappy, that may be a sign your happiness is leading you down the road of a new pursuit — it's giving you a new definition of success.

But what about the worst-case scenario? What if we still don't accomplish the big goals we set for ourselves? We may not even consider it possible at this stage in our lives, but it happens. Sadly, elements completely outside our control may keep us from reaching our goal. That happens

more often than you may think. (If you've started applying for jobs and don't have one, you've probably learned that already.) But in moments like those I think back to my freshman year, when I heard a piece of advice that I live by to this day.

It was 2010. I was sitting on my couch, watching Conan O'Brien get kicked off "The Tonight Show." Here was a guy who had achieved his wildest dream. He had gotten the thing he had pursued for 20 years. And now, it was being taken away from him on national television. But when he delivered his final speech, he didn't use the chance to undermine those who made the decision. Instead, he had just one piece of advice.

"Nobody in life gets exactly what they thought they were going to get," he said. "But if you work hard and you're kind, amazing things will happen to you. I'm telling you. Amazing things will happen."

That's all I've tried to do for the last four years. Hopefully, it will work as well for you as it has for me.

Work hard. Be kind. That's all you can do.

The next few years — or, as far as I know, the next few months — will be frightening, enlightening, entertaining and revelatory. Good luck, Class of 2013. I wish you success, however you choose to define it.

FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

To those who know me well, the story of how I became interested in journalism is a famous one. As a 5-year-old kindergartener, I used to sit in front of the muted television during the 12 p.m. news, reading the closed-captioning subtitles aloud to my mother as if I were the news anchor. As she

washed dishes from the kitchen and cleaned up my lunch, she audibly reacted to the stories I read from the TV screen, both tragic and heartwarming.

I may not have realized it at the time, but the thrill I got from delivering the afternoon news to my mom was one that would stick with me long into my adult life. The Pendulum's 60 staff members and I have had the pleasure of delivering the most important news to the Elon community in the last nine months. From the Chick-fil-A controversy to the 2012 election, we have

spent countless hours making sure the campus is constantly informed — for better or for worse.

The events of the last school year haven't always been positive, and they certainly haven't always been easy. But one thing is clear, looking back at the top stories of 2012-2013: Elon University is not the same now as it was in August. We have watched as students, faculty, staff and the campus itself have grown and changed. Students now have more room to live and speak freely — and

that's exactly what they've done.

In our last edition of the school year, we look back at the events that shaped Elon's campus culture, those that entertained us and those that got under our skin. On behalf of The Pendulum, it has been our pleasure to watch and report from the sidelines as these important moments unfolded. We can't wait to do it again next year.

Rebecca Iannucci
Editor-in-Chief



Chris Bosak
Columnist





PHOTOS BY AL DRAGO | Photo Editor

Behind the scenes of Commencement

Alex Francis
Assistant Opinions Editor

Each year, with finals drawing to a close and summer on the horizon, Elon University prepares to execute the intensive task of preparing for every minute aspect of the annual Commencement exercises.

Held under Elon's oaks, Commencement brings the Elon community together to celebrate and honor the accomplishments of the graduating class. Wishing them well as they step out of the Elon bubble and into the real world, Commencement brings to a close the seniors' time as students of the university. To honor the graduates with a well-run Commencement ceremony, Elon starts intensive preparation for the next year almost immediately following the culmination of Commencement activities for the current graduating class.

In order to accommodate the thousands of visiting family members and guests, Elon pays meticulous attention to every detail, taking into account specifics ranging from setting up thousands of chairs to developing a backup plan in the event of unfavorable weather. To Elon students, guests and visitors, the chairs seem to appear almost out of thin air, but the setup and behind-the-scenes action involved in preparing for Commencement requires a university-wide effort in coordinating seamless cooperation between Physical Plant, Student Life staff and cultural events staff.

In November of each year, the Office of Cultural Programs and Special Events works in conjunction with Physical Plant to begin ordering equipment. In January, the offices finalize the schedule, lists, diagrams and other materials pertaining to setup and the actual ceremony. After the

graduation fair in February, the Office of Cultural Programs and Special Events begins regularly planning meetings and sends out letters to graduating students.

Seeking to improve Commencement and smooth out any difficulties that may arise, the university identifies strengths and weaknesses in previous Commencement exercises and uses them as a foundation from which to improve for the following year. In fine-tuning the Commencement setup and preparation process, the Office of Cultural Programs and Special Events strives to make it more enjoyable and as comfortable as possible for everyone involved.

Staff arrives at 4 a.m. Under the Oaks the day of Commencement to prepare, and Physical Plant works throughout the day to make sure everything is in the right place. The Student Life staff also checks students in and makes sure they are in the

correct order.

While the university hopes for the best weather, they plan for the worst. The Office of Cultural Programs and Special Events starts monitoring the predicted forecast a month beforehand and closely watches the weather radar throughout graduation day. If it does rain, the ceremony is held in Alumni and Jordan Gyms wherein each graduate gets two tickets because the gyms cannot accommodate all the families attending. Those without tickets go to other locations around campus and watch the ceremony on closed circuit television.

Although the physical layout stays roughly the same every year and the Commencement schedule varies only slightly, staff members said the dynamic of the graduating class and the personality of the speakers create a fresh and entertaining ceremony each year.

Elon construction scheduled to break ground this summer

Corinne James
Senior Reporter

Construction on several projects outlined in the Elon Commitment, Elon University's strategic plan, is set to begin in Summer 2013. Scott Studios, a new facility for the Department of Performing Arts on East Haggard Avenue, is already underway.

Scott Studios will be a performance, recital and rehearsal building in the Gerald L. Francis Center. Don and Ellen Scott of Denver, Colo., the parents of 2010 Elon graduate Teddy Scott, provided funding for the project. Teddy was a part of Elon's music theater program.

The floor plan for the nearly 14,000-square-foot facility includes a Black Box Theatre with 160 seats, six practice rooms, dressing rooms and a rehearsal room with mirrors and ballet bars. There will also be a box office and a workshop.

The dance studio will be 3,200 square feet, the same size as Elon's current performance area in McCrary Theatre. Scott Studios will

have an entrance stairway and spotlight to highlight the theatrical performances.

Keeping in tune with Elon's green projects, the designs show "living walls" of vegetation for the exterior of the facility. Scott Studios was formerly a warehouse building.

The building will also include soundproofing to allow for Scott Studios to continuously be busy with performing arts students. The parking for all visitors and students will be located at the Francis Center.

Students currently use the overbooked McCrary Theatre and Yeager Recital Hall for rehearsals, classes and live performances.

"Elon performing arts is a treasure to the university," Don Scott said in an interview with the university. "We hope the new Scott Studios will expand future opportunities for student and faculty creativity."

The Elon Commitment, which will conclude in 2020, also calls for continued construction on the Global Neighborhood this summer. In a push for 75 percent of undergraduates to live on campus, the Global Neighborhood will feature an internationally

themed living-learning community. It will also include faculty housing and Spanish and Italian language learning communities.

Construction began in Spring 2012 on the six buildings, which will house 600 students. The first two buildings will open in Fall 2013 and the remaining buildings are scheduled for completion during the 2014-2015 academic year.

On the shore of Lake Mary Nell, there will be a 30,000-square-foot commons building that will house the Isabella Cannon Global Education Center, classrooms, staff offices and study rooms.

The Admissions Welcome Center and School of Communications renovations are in preliminary stages, including design.

The new Admissions Welcome Center will combine Admissions and Financial Planning offices into the same building. The facility will include a lobby, a presentation theater, conference rooms and faculty offices.

Adjacent to the Moseley Center, the building will be the starting point for campus tours and will be at the head of a new campus quad.



AL DRAGO | Photo Editor
Construction of a new School of Communications on Elon University's campus is in its early stages.

BOREDOM BUSTERS

Complete the grid so that every row, column and every three-by-three box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Difficulty Level: Easy

		7	9	8				
			5		3			4
3			7	1	2	8		5
7				9	1			
			2					8
1	2							
9					5	3		7
								1
			1	2	8		9	

Difficulty Level: Medium

9	8			7		1		
	7		9	5				
2		3				7		
	4			6			2	
		2	5	9	7	8		
	1			3			9	
		7				9		4
				2	9		7	
		6		4			1	5

Difficulty Level: Hard

8	9		5		1		3	
		1	8		9			
			6		1			
9	2		8		6			
			5	9	6		2	
5			3					9
							1	
	7							4
	8		2		5		7	

Career hunt riddled with obstacles for many Elon graduates

Michael Papich
Senior Reporter

Today, thousands of Elon University students will receive a diploma that represents the exchange of time and tuition for the training and guidance one needs to start a career.

But not all students are able to find real, lasting work when they leave school. Christian Binder, a broadcast and new media major who graduated in the fall, has found resumes matter less than making connections.

"I've applied to over 40 jobs and I've only spoken to a human being three times," Binder said. "When Elon stresses networking, there's a reason for that. I've discovered that my resume is more likely to be seen by a real pair of eyes if it's given to a hiring manager by someone I know personally or

a friend of a friend."

Nationally, the unemployment rate for college graduates 25 and older is around 4 percent. But according to the National Bureau of Labor Statistics, only 72.6 percent of bachelor degree recipients in 2010 were employed by 2011. That's an unemployment rate of 11 percent, with another 6.9 percent out of school but not looking for employment.

Elon alumnus Hunter Ertel, an English and philosophy double major, said many graduates leave school without a clear idea of what they want to do professionally.

"I knew what I was interested in and found out about a few neat internships that might put me on a career path, but I had no planned occupation," Ertel said.

But as he scoped out the job market, taking work as a substitute teacher in the meantime, Ertel was unable to further his

career path, even after a year of post-graduation life.

"I applied to a few of these internships and some entry-level positions in programs and organizations whose work I admired or found stimulating," Ertel said. "As time passed and I didn't get accepted into any of the internships I had applied to, my part-time work as a sub sort of became my de facto occupation as my identity shifted from student to worker."

The trend of graduates taking their part-time work as their primary occupation extends beyond Ertel. According to the Department of Labor, 284,000 workers with a bachelor's degree or higher were working in minimum wage jobs in 2012 — nearly double the number of college graduates working minimum wage jobs in 2007.

"It's easy to find a job. It's hard to find a career," Binder said.

Binder has been doing freelance audio engineer work for C-SPAN and has found most of the jobs he's applied to will take time to give him a chance.

"Trying to get a start in my career is proving to be difficult because most places want 2-4 years of experience," Binder said. "It seems to be a matter of being in the right place at the right time."

Binder found his time at Elon helped put him in better standing to find a job, but he added that the help he received came less from Elon as an institution and more from the people who make up the school.

"[Communications professor] Max Negin and [former communications career adviser] Ross Wade have been incredibly helpful in my job search," Binder said. "Ross helped me with my application materials and Max has been so great with introducing me to people in the field. I got all three of my internships through my peers at Elon."



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

College students nationwide are finding it difficult to land a job that puts them on a career path after graduation. More than 284,000 college graduates were working minimum wage jobs after graduation at the end of 2012, according to the Department of Labor — nearly double the amount of 2007 graduates doing so.

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Commencement

Saturday, May 25, 2013 • page 14



“Be as kind as possible to all people. Everyone is fighting some kind of battle each day. If all of us take this advice seriously, our world will be a much better place.”

— ELIZABETH ROGERS, dean of the School of Health and Sciences



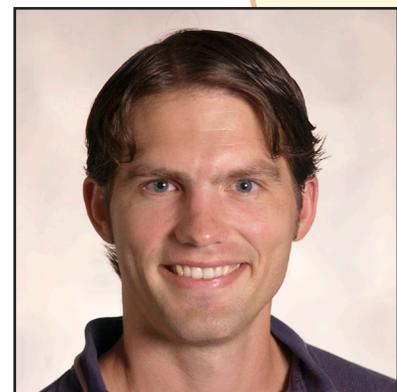
“My advice, no joking, I’m perfectly serious is: Buy a motorcycle and work your way across the country. There is a great deal more to a good life than a logical, linear progression up the career ladder. And take a good book.”

— BILL BURPITT, associate dean of the School of Business



“Remember: When life presents challenges, persevere with grace.”

— ANNE BOLIN, professor of anthropology



“Recipe for changing the world: Believe that change is possible, commit passionately to a single cause and work harder than everyone else.”

— JEFFREY COKER, associate professor of biology



“Believe in the struggle. Seek challenges. Try, fail, try again, fail again, try again. Measure your success by experience gained. Hug people.”

— JANNA ANDERSON, associate professor of communications



“There are those that have little and give it all. These are the believers in life, and their coffer is never empty.” — from Kahill Gibran’s “The Prophet”

— RICHARD MIHANS, associate professor of education

Compiled by **Stephanie Butzer**
Arts & Entertainment Editor

S



“It falls upon us now to say whether the chapters that are to come will tell a story of retreat or a story of continued advance.”

—Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1940

—MARY JO FESTLE, professor of history



“The idea that you can take chances, you can put yourself out there and fail at it with very little consequence is a gift. You need to take advantage of that.”

—RICHARD LANDESBURG, associate professor of communications



“Continue to follow your passion and your dream. Don’t let things knock you down. Step back, take a breath and figure it out.”

—FRED RUBECK, chair of the Department of Performing Arts

D

R

O



“Don’t follow the standard narrative but rather author your own. And don’t forget the sunscreen.”

—THOMAS ARCARO, professor of sociology



“Always bite off more than you can chew. It is a moral imperative.”

—ROBERT CHAREST, professor of performing arts



“Stay open to the opportunities that life offers you. While planning is useful to some extent, don’t let plans and pre-determined visions of the future limit you.”

—LYNN HUBER, associate professor of religious studies

TOP 13 of

Compiled by **Ethan Smith**
News Editor



Gun control becomes national issue

In the aftermath of the Newtown, Conn. shooting, gun control became a heated nationwide debate. Elon hosted its own gun violence forum May 1 to provide an open discussion about the safety of guns and what can be done to reduce gun violence in the United States. Groups like Students for Concealed Carry sparked debates on college campuses and President Leo Lambert, along with 320 other college presidents, signed a letter to President Obama declaring his stance against permitting concealed carry on college campuses.

Department of Justice investigation

The U.S. Department of Justice filed a civil rights lawsuit against Alamance County Sheriff Terry Johnson Dec. 20, accusing him of engaging in discriminatory policing against Latinos. The complaint alleged that the ACSO has routinely discriminated against and targeted Latinos for enforcement action since at least January 2007, which violates the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments and Section 14141 of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994.

According to the DOJ's complaint, the ACSO's discriminatory conduct included targeting Latinos for traffic stops and stopping Latino drivers without reasonable suspicion; arresting Latinos for minor infractions while letting others go with a citation or warning; disproportionately locating vehicle checkpoints in Latino neighborhoods, and disproportionately referring Latinos for immigration investigations at the Alamance County Jail.

Chick-fil-A remains present on campus after yearlong debate



After Dan Cathy publicly declared his support for a "traditional" one-man, one-woman marriage, it was discovered that Chick-fil-A donated sums of money to foundations that were actively against the LGBTQ community. Students on Elon's campus petitioned for the removal of Chick-fil-A at Elon, and after a year of waiting and deliberating, Chick-fil-A was allowed to remain on campus.

Supreme Court debates marriage equality

The court gained national attention as the issue of marriage equality came to the forefront in arguments about the constitutionality of state amendments and marital rights for LGBTQ Americans.

The Supreme Court considered both the constitutionality of the Defense of Mar-

riage Act (DOMA), a 1996 federal law that awards federal benefits according to the traditional definition of marriage, and Proposition 8 (Prop 8), a 2008 amendment to California's state constitution that legally recognizes marriage as a union of one man and one woman.

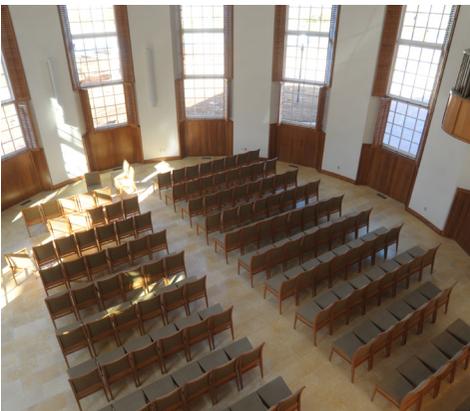


2012-13

Students question campus-wide acceptance of diversity

After they felt the school couldn't help them, seniors Blake Thompson and Deanna Fox took matters into their own hands. A note posted on the second floor of Thompson's apartment building quickly evolved into a campus-wide conver-

sation about diversity at Elon. The note read: "\$50 fine for blasting coon tunes at 3 a.m. My P-51 Mustang is louder than that piece of sh-t and it can fly." The term "coon" is a derogatory term for an African-American.



A multi-faith conversation

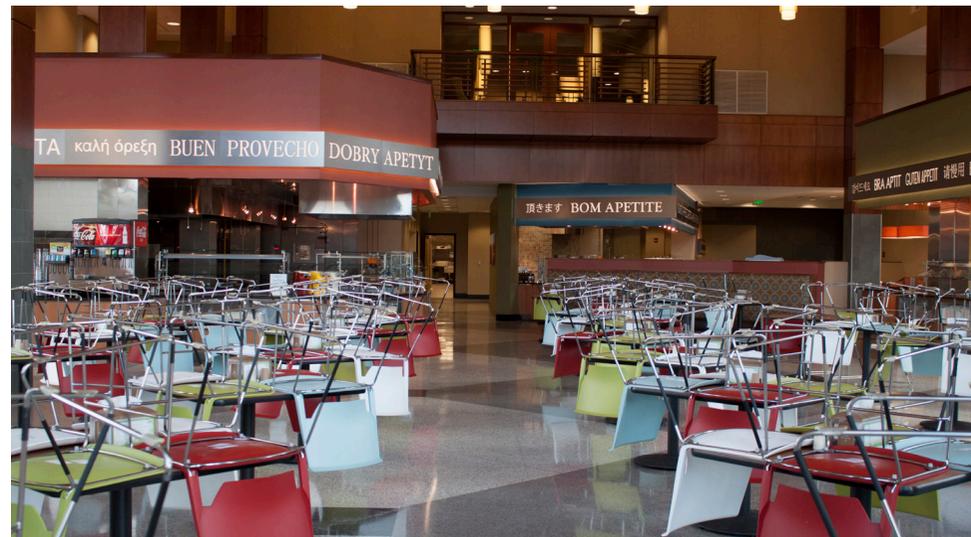
Elon's Spring Convocation, titled "Sacred Space: The Promise for Peace and Understanding in Our World — A Multi-Faith Conversation," fostered a dialogue about religious diversity and tolerance among six distinguished panelists from different faith traditions.

The Numen Lumen Pavilion's dedication also spoke about interfaith dialogues and understanding both on Elon's campus and throughout students' lives.



New softball stadium opens

Elon opened Hunt Softball Park, located across Williamson Avenue from Latham Park, in close proximity to Rhodes Stadium and Rudd Field. The former location was East Field, located next to Jordan Gym, which many considered hidden from the public view.



Elon opens Lakeside Dining Hall

The University also finished construction on Lakeside Dining Hall and opened it to the public at the beginning of the spring semester. The dining hall offers an array of food, ranging from international selections to hamburgers and fries.

Brushes with violence

Elon Campus Safety and Police arrested 18-year-old Alexis Gray after finding a rifle, ammunition and other weapons in her vehicle on Elon's campus Nov. 25. Gray, a student at Penn State, was an Elon student's ex-girlfriend, and her trial was continued multiple times. The case will be heard in July 2013.

Nathaniel Fujita was found guilty of first-degree murder on March 7, 2013. Fujita beat, strangled and slashed to death Lauren Astley on July 3, 2011. She was expected to enroll at Elon University last fall and was 18 when she was murdered.

"It's not over" protest

A group of Elon students gathered at the year's last College Coffee to protest hate speech and apathy on campus. The students yelled a variety of offensive terms followed by the phrase, "Your silence is acceptance!" The students also posted fliers across campus with the same message.

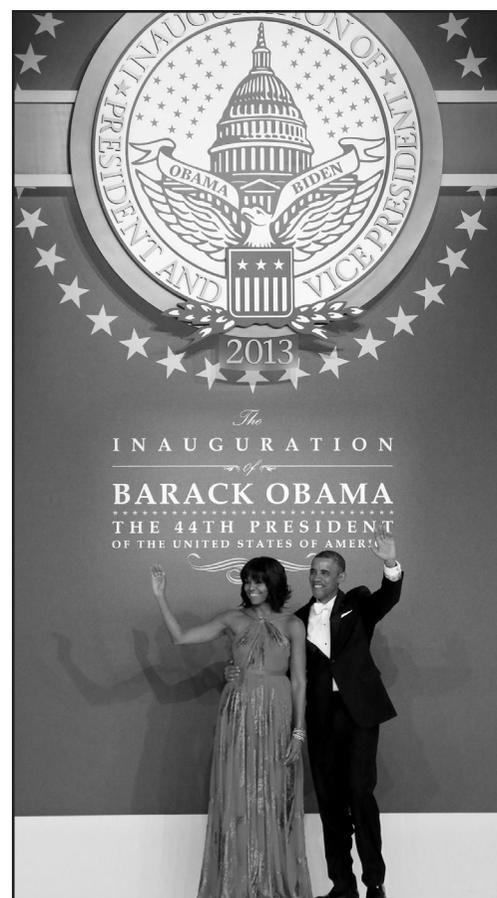
ELONTHON doubles fundraising amount



The eighth annual ELONTHON 24-hour dance marathon took place April 12-13 in Alumni Gym. This year's THON raised \$212,728, surpassing

2012's total of \$105,397.64, supporting Duke Children's Hospital and the Children's Miracle Network. The event, Elon's largest student-run fundraiser,

brought out more than 1,200 dancers to stand on their feet as they spent the day and night dancing and listening to patients share their stories.



Obama wins reelection, students cover the DNC

President Barack Obama was reelected in 2012 as the 44th president of the United States. Obama won the election against opponent Mitt Romney, carrying 48 percent of the popular vote while Romney carried 46 percent of the

popular vote.

Elon students traveled to the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte to cover speeches and panel discussions about whom might carry the vote in the election.

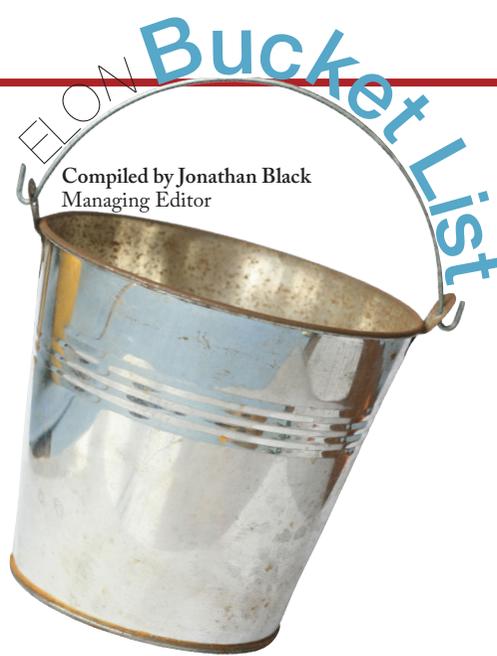
Anonymous Twitter Accounts

A wealth of new anonymous Twitter accounts relating to Elon sprung up this year, with some sparking controversy on campus. A Twitter handle named @TheElonD deactivated its account after posting an offensive tweet about rape. The tweet was as follows:

"The elon baseball team just gave @nc-statebaseball #TheElonD. Waiting on the Smith Jackson email because that may or may not be rape."

In addition to this account, other accounts such as @ElonConfessions, @ElonGDIPblems, @xoGossipSquirrel, @OnlyAtElon and many others came into the spotlight after the controversy and gathered a large student following.

The Pendulum wrote an editorial following the controversy about anonymous Twitter accounts, saying while the accounts might be in good fun, there is a possibility the tweets could be misconstrued and unintentionally perpetuate already pervasive stereotypes on Elon's campus.



Compiled by Jonathan Black
Managing Editor

Seniors, you're now officially Elon graduates. The past four years have presented challenges, rewards and one too many Acorn cookies.

As you leave campus for your first time as an alum, think about how many of these items you can check off The Pendulum's bucket list.

Compiled by Kristen Case
Design Chief

Then & Now

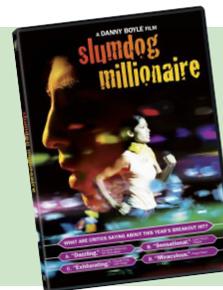
August 2009 **&** May 2013

BILLBOARD HOT 100 NO. 1 SONG

"I Gotta Feeling"
by Black Eyed Peas

"Can't Hold Us"
by Macklemore & Ryan
Lewis ft. Ray Dalton

OSCAR'S BEST PICTURE



Slumdog
Millionaire



Argo

BEST SELLING BOOK

"New Moon"
by Stephenie Meyer

"Proof of Heaven"
by Eben Alexander

HIGHEST OPENING BOX OFFICE WEEKEND NUMBERS

"The Twilight Saga: New
Moon" - \$142,839,137

"Iron Man 3" -
\$174,144,585

WORLD POPULATION

6,809,972,000

7,120,956,000

SUPER BOWL WINNER

Pittsburgh Steelers



Baltimore Ravens

BEST-SELLING MOBILE PHONE



Apple iPhone 3G



Samsung Galaxy SIII

WORD OF THE YEAR

Unfriend (v) - to remove some-
one as a friend on a social
network site such as Facebook

GIF (v) - to create a GIF file
of

INTRAMURAL SPORTS

Play on an intramural sports team once. Even if you're awful at the sport, your team can sit you on the bench and you'll still win the shirt.

FOUNTAIN CHALLENGE

You all know the drill: Get your body in Fonville, Chandler and Boney Fountains. To truly check this off your list, though, your hair must get wet.

LEO KNOWS YOU

This one is a bit tricky and perhaps the most challenging: getting President Lambert to learn your name. There are a number of ways you can do this, all marginally creepier than the last. Try standing outside his office window with a sign or simply learn his daily schedule.

SAFE RIDES

Volunteer for Elon's premier free taxi service. If you're truly committed, make it Elon's Cash Cab and quiz your passengers as you drive them around campus. In place of cash, use candy. You are volunteering, after all.

LAY ON YOUNG COMMONS

Yes, there is a stigma to not touch the grass on Elon's campus, but swallow your fears. Be one of those people we always judge for laying out on the Young Commons.

GO TO LEO'S HOUSE

This one is easy. Go to his house to take your photo with him on Reading Day Eve in December. Yes, there are long lines and the food is gone pretty quickly, but how many schools can you say do this?

BRICKS

If you're lucky, you've collected bricks all four years and know exactly where they are. (Probably being used as a doorstop or bookends in your parents' house.)

EDITING SUITES

It's a scary place down there. But whether you're a communications student or not, you should experience the editing suites at least once. If you're lucky, you might end up in someone's video project for class.

ANONYMOUS TWITTERS

Find out who is tweeting for @ElonConfessions, @ElonMakeouts and any of the others. Heck, we have about as many anonymous Twitters as we do journalism majors.

PERFORMING ARTS

Music theater majors can be spotted and heard from a mile away on campus. Love them or hate them, you should see a performing arts production at least once, especially the fall musical.

FIVE THINGS about Elon you weren't sold on, but you'll miss when you're gone

We're all guilty of it. There are things about Elon University we've groaned about for four years, but looking back, we actually had it pretty good. Here's a list of five things you didn't exactly cherish while you were here, but will definitely appreciate once you graduate.

1 SafeRides

Elon students are always complaining about the wait for SafeRides and can never understand why the driver won't cram just one more person into the back of the van. But when else are we going to have a free taxi service available upon a moment's notice to drive us and our friends around to parties?

Club Belk

2

We've cursed the place during our late nights there and put up fights when we got kicked off the second floor for being too loud. But who else can say their library is known as a club and has complimentary Panera pastries on Wednesday nights?

Elon Bubble

3

It's pretty much impossible to leave your apartment, dorm or house without running into someone you know. We've all had those days where we're not looking our best and would rather not see anyone or feel like we can't face the embarrassing thing we did the night before. But once you leave this place, you might just miss the familiar faces that held you responsible for your bad hair days and questionable decisions.

4

Surveillance

No one likes being called out by their professor when you haven't done the reading, but in the real world you get fired if you don't fulfill your responsibilities. Here, you just get some one-on-one time with a professor and a few questions about your study habits.

The Train

5

I wonder how many cumulative hours of lectures have been spared by the train that runs on the south side of campus. We might see it as an irritating interruption to our day, but chances are the sound of a train will always remind you of your time here.

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT OF THE CLASS OF 2013



Members of the Class of 2013,

For the past semester, it seems as though our lives have been full of countdowns. Countdown to the last class as undergrads, to the last Tuesday night trivia, to the last exams week. Each day seems to fly off the calendar faster than the one before. The days are short and getting shorter. Graduation is here.

For me, it was sometimes easy to get lost in the panic that these countdowns produced and I had a tendency to let the sadness of the season of lasts overcome me. As exams ended and the goodbyes began, I struggled to accept that our time at Elon was coming to a close. As the graduation stage went up Under the Oaks, I was devastated rather than excited.

However, with only a few more days upon us, my outlook changed. The overwhelming sadness I felt was replaced with gratitude and joy. I realized how lucky I was that I was sad to leave Elon. I realized that others haven't found a home like we have found at Elon. They haven't had the incredible experiences and made the memories that

we have. For these reasons, I am no longer sad. I am filled with joy because Elon has become my home, and I am proud to represent it in the real world.

I challenge you all to forget the countdowns. Let go of the sadness that might be overwhelming you like it was me, and focus on the joy that Elon has brought you. The days will continue to pass, but Elon will always be our home. We might leave Elon, but Elon will never leave us. And that makes us incredibly lucky.

I am proud to be a member of the Class of 2013. I am proud of what we have accomplished at Elon and of the remarkable things we will do when we leave. I am amazed at our four years here, and I am excited to celebrate them. We will leave filled with pride and gratitude, leaving our lasting mark on this beautiful place.

Cheers to the Class of 2013. We have conquered these four years, and I can't wait to see what comes next.

Molly Shoop
President, Class of 2013

From the field to the front office: Corruption in Chinese football

Noah Manneville
International Reporter

BEIJING — Last February, the South China Morning Post released a report written by Raymond Li that the Chinese government had convicted more than 50 individuals for corruption on football related issues. Those convicted ranged from football officials and owners to players and referees.

Li noted of those convicted, the government placed a lifetime ban from football — soccer to Americans — on 33 individuals. Many of the accused also received prison sentences, some lasting longer than a decade.

These latest arrests of Chinese football officials have prompted anger and disappointment from many Chinese soccer fans. But the issue has not prompted any reformation within the sport.

In the midst of the commotion, David Beckham made a promotional visit to China last March. His visit prompted nationwide sports hysteria in an already football-crazed nation. His entire visit was replayed on CCTV, the state-run television channel in China.

During an interview on his China tour, Beckham denied rumors that he intended to combat corruption.

“I am not here to clear up anything. I am here to educate the children and give them a chance of becoming professional footballers,” Beckham said.

Many users on Sina Weibo, China’s Twitter-like service, claimed Beckham’s visit, though exciting, was ineffectual. One user commented Beckham’s trip “will only allow more children to enjoy the fun of football”, but it “will not change the corruption in Chinese football.”

Zhao Yanan, a reporter for China Daily, recounted past corruption within the Chinese system. A high-profile arrest during the scandal was that of Lu Jun, known as the “first whistle in Asia.” The former World Cup referee, whose moniker was bestowed upon him due to his impartiality, was jailed after admitting that he threw several matches for bribes. This included one 350,000-Yuan (\$60,000) bribe for affecting a crucial playoff match in 2003.

The corruption is not lost on the players. Li reported even Chinese football players on the national team were occasionally forced to buy their spots on the roster. This could ultimately cost a player up to \$15,000 just to sit on the bench.

Wang Liang, a Chinese college student at The University of International Business and Economics, claimed when it comes to corruption in Chinese football, the blame lies with the administration.

“The bosses make the decisions,” Wang said. “They don’t care about Chinese football if they can make money. Look, Guo’an [Beijing’s professional football team] has bought two laowai [foreign] strikers and a laowai coach. They play well, but they cannot speak Chinese. How can anybody understand?”

Kou Ghan is a college student studying in Beijing. Kou believes the high attendance at Beijing football games is nothing more than a trend.

“I think people just want to look cool. They don’t really care about the team, they just go to games and wear Guo’an jerseys because it is cool. They bring their dates, too,” Kou said.

Like many Chinese football fans, Kou has stopped supporting his native team in favor of a more trustworthy foreign team due to the corruption within Chinese football. In Kou’s case, this would be Chelsea FC, the English Premier League team.

“The quality of play [in Chinese football] is not very good. We watch European football because [the players] are more skilled, and they like to win,” Kou said.

While Wang does attend Beijing Guo’an games, he spends most of his time ranting against the very team he supports.

Wang yelled at a Guo’an midfielder as he turned the ball over during an Asian Football Confederation playoff game against the South Korean team, the Pohang Steelers.

“You don’t see that in European football, only here in China,” Wang said.

The irony of the situation — a supporter insulting his own team — is not lost on Wang. He often says, “Mei banfa,” which is a common Mandarin expression meaning “no other way.”



Zhu Ruifeng, who runs a website exposing official corruption, fields calls in Beijing, China, after his latest expose. PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS



U.S. soccer player Ali Krieger (left) collides with China's Gu Yasha (right) in the first half of a women's international friendly match at Kennesaw State University Soccer Stadium in Kennesaw, Ga., on Sat., Oct. 2, 2010. PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Senior follows unconventional career path in Kenya in hopes of finding direction

Katy Canada
Senior Reporter

Like many college seniors, Kristen Conroy is unsure what career path she'll take after graduation.

Her international studies and environmental & ecological science double major has opened the doors to countless possibilities. Hoping the correct choice will manifest itself, Conroy will be moving to Kenya in June as part of the Princeton in Africa program.

Princeton in Africa is an independent non-profit organization that requires a one-year commitment. Conroy, who knew she wanted to work abroad, said she sees this as a perfect opportunity to exercise the skills she learned at Elon University and learn more about herself and her own goals.

"I'm hoping to have a little bit more direction as to what I want to do after," Conroy said.

Conroy will be working in the Nyumbani Village. Nyumbani, which is the Swahili word for "home," is a village where adults whose children have died of HIV or AIDS provide foster care for children whose parents have died of HIV or AIDS. They are divided into family units consisting of 10 children per adult, the equivalent of a typical family unit in this region of Africa. The village also has three primary schools, a high school and a poly-tech school.

One of the goals of the village is to become economically, socially and environmentally sustainable. This is where Conroy's background in environmental and ecological science comes into play.

"I'll be working there in the sustainability office, and I'll be the volunteer coordinator," Conroy said. "I'll most likely be doing initiatives for sanitation and for switching from cooking over open fires to some other option, and then doing sustainable agriculture."

She'll also be responsible for giving visitors tours of the facility and ensuring they have something to work on during their stay.

Conroy said she is also interested in eliminating the overriding perception most people have about the continent of Africa.

"When I tell people I'm going to Kenya, they immediately think: Africa, lions, starving children," Conroy said. "If I said I was going to France, people would say 'Oh, you're going to Europe.'"

Conroy said people often believe Nyumbani



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY KRISTEN CONROY

In June, senior Kristen Conroy will be moving to Kenya for a year as part of the Princeton in Africa program. She will help create sustainable initiatives in Nyumbani Village.

Village is poverty-ridden because it exists without running water, but this is not the case.

"The area where I'll be is not necessarily impoverished, it's just a different lifestyle," she said. "And, yes, according to our U.S. standards, they would be below the poverty line, but they have a different and more traditional lifestyle. It doesn't necessarily mean they're impoverished."

In addition to the goals she has in mind, Conroy said she's excited to go to Kenya because she has loved to travel ever since her parents began to emphasize traveling at a young age. She and her family would often visit her grandparents, who live in Ireland.

Conroy said she can count on tremendous support from her family when it comes to travel. Her sister Kaela, who graduated from Elon in 2010, also chose to go abroad following graduation to teach English in Spain.

According to Kaela, traveling so much while growing up really opened her and her sister's eyes to new people and things that can only be learned from experiencing new places.

"I'm excited for [Kristen] and I know she'll

do well in whatever she does," Kaela said. "She's worked really hard."

And for Kristen, combining travel with the opportunity to work on sustainability projects is an ideal opportunity.

"I love the education side of things," Conroy said. "Environmental education is the type of thing I'm interested in. I'm torn between that and urban and regional planning."

Education is more fun for her, she said, but she is uncertain how much influence she can truly have from the educational standpoint.

"My goal is to make people understand that there are environmental problems and we need to change our behaviors to correct them, but I don't know how I want to go about doing it," she said.

Princeton in Africa is a way to figure it out. "The thing about the Princeton in Africa program is that I'll be getting a lot of experience and freedom that I wouldn't be getting in an entry-level position here," she said. "There's a lot of freedom to do what you want, and I can't wait to experience it all."

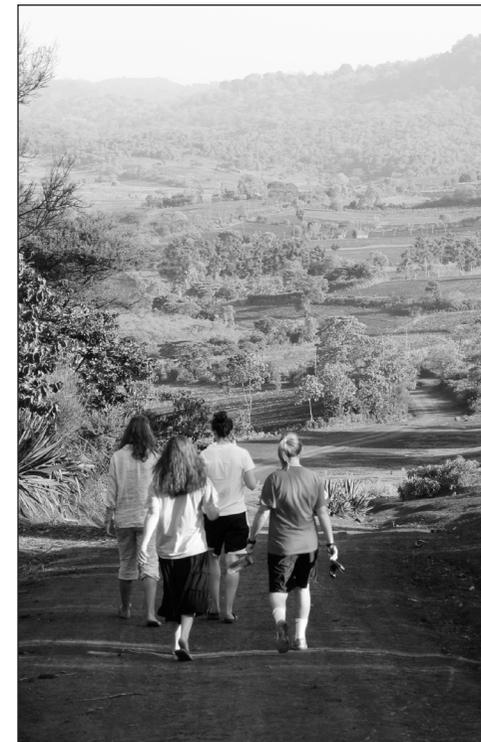


PHOTO SUBMITTED BY KRISTEN CONROY

Conroy got to explore the terrain of East Africa when she studied abroad in Kenya and Tanzania last spring.

Hoping for harmony: Animal Captivity class takes first steps toward building better human, non-human relationships

Kyra Gemberling
Features Editor

One of Elon University's top goals is turning students into global citizens. But in a world where humans represent a small percentage of total life on this planet, where do non-humans fall into this plan?

Students in Martin Fowler's upper-level philosophy class "Animal Captivity: Zoos, Sanctuaries and Asylums" have been delving into this question since the class was first taught in Spring 2012 — and they may have recently found an answer.

It all started when senior Thomas Berry, a philosophy major who took Animal Captivity in Spring 2012, came up with the initial concept of developing a place on Elon's campus where humans and animals can coexist symbiotically.

"Thomas had thought about this as a Leadership Fellow for a legacy project," said Fowler, lecturer in philosophy. "I thought I would give it some legs."

When Fowler instructed his Spring 2013 Animal Captivity class to come up with an idea to implement Berry's proposal for their final project, the Center for Development of Interspecies Relationships (CDIR) was the outcome.

"Our class worked on CDIR for the second half of the semester," said junior Jeff Stern, a member of the Spring 2013 class. "It was a cool project and not something I expected from a philosophy course."

Though the plan is only in its first stages, CDIR is designed for gathering research and furthering thought and conversation related to the relations between humans and non-humans, a mission that reflects the themes of the class.

"There's a very divided stance right now where there are humans and there are animals," Berry said. "Humans very much see themselves as above animals and as the dominant species, but in reality, humans represent a very small portion of life on this campus."

Berry said CDIR aims to give humans the opportunity to evaluate their relationships with non-humans and reaffirm their stance.

The class plans for CDIR to take the form of an outdoor courtyard where students, faculty and staff will be able to interact in an environment that welcomes humans, plants and animals.

"To clear up any misconceptions, people need to realize this is not a petting zoo," Berry said. "This is a center for all life. It's a place where you come and let go of your human-centered self and step into a world where all life is considered equally for the common good."

But the outdoor courtyard isn't the only plan associated with CDIR. First, the Animal Captivity class hopes to form a club that can partner with other clubs, such as Elon Volunteers or the Sierra Club, to spread the word and get students interested in CDIR.

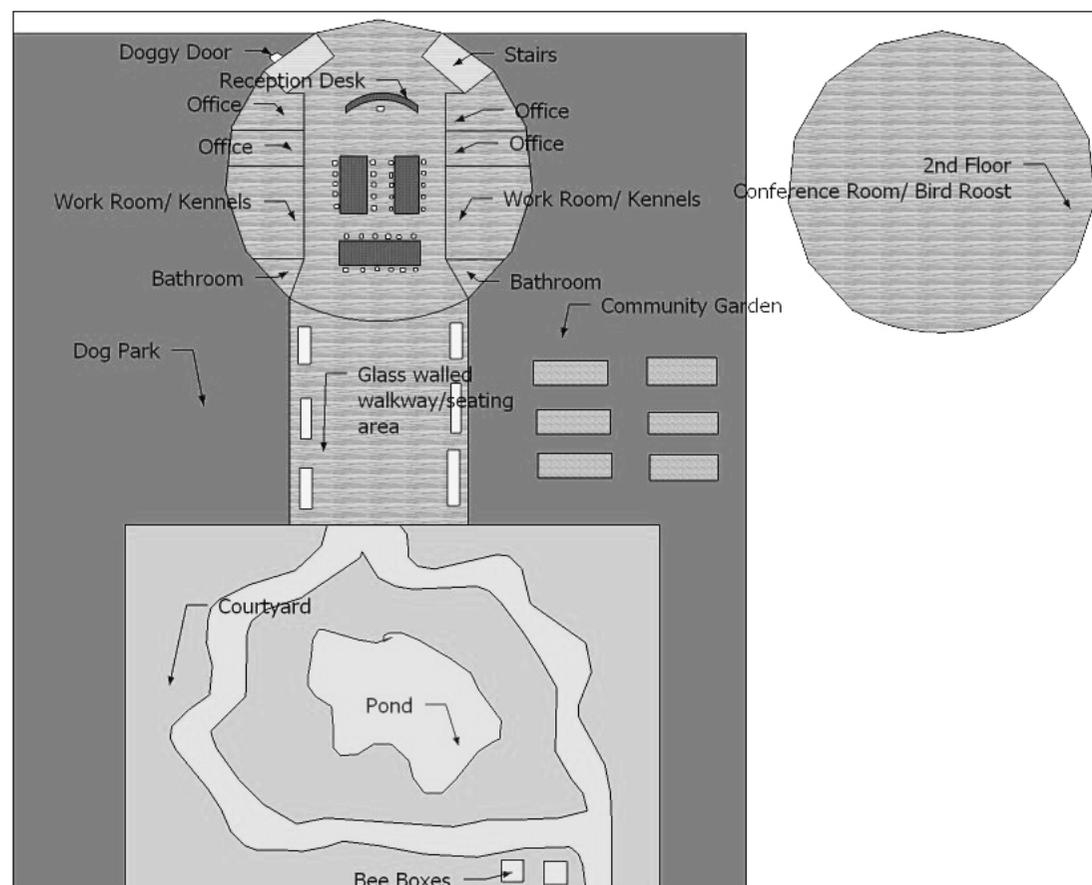
"[The club] could perhaps segue into an on-campus living learning community where students are allowed to have non-human companions," Berry said. "Then this idea could segue into the center itself."

Fowler, who based the idea for Animal Captivity off concepts taught in his Environmental Ethics course, said he hopes the idea for CDIR will take root in the student body and eventually spread to Elon's administration.

"A lot of ideas can be tried out," Fowler said. "It's not just one small group's agenda. Elon will hopefully decide to identify with this idea. I don't know exactly when it will happen, but I want to be there when it does."

As for Berry, he said he's frequently asked if Elon is ready for something as big as CDIR on campus.

"Well, right now, no," he said. "But they also weren't ready for the Numen Lumen Pavilion 10 years ago, and now it's Elon's maiden flagship. I think this idea just needs a little brewing and it will catch on — or walk on, crawl on, fly on."



The Spring 2013 Animal Captivity class came up with a potential floor plan for CDIR's outdoor courtyard as part of its final project.



Fish are currently the only animals allowed in on-campus housing. If CDIR is implemented, the final plan will likely include the development of a learning community where students can have domestic animal companions.

RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer

Graduating senior cast in Broadway tour of 'West Side Story'

Meghan Mahoney
Senior Reporter

As graduation day approaches, the Elon University senior class is preparing for its next steps. Some are headed to graduate school, some just landed their first job and others are still on the lookout for that opportunity. For one student, the future is the Broadway stage.

Ben Redding, originally from Columbus, Ga., will be moving to New York City in September to start rehearsing for the Broadway tour of "West Side Story." The musical is set to open Nov. 5 in Memphis. After the initial show, the cast will tour the country.

Redding, a music theater major, said the audition process started during the casting director series, an annual event during which casting directors travel to Elon to work with the senior class.

One of Redding's friends, senior music theater major Sean Ronayne, said the opportunities Elon offers its music theater students are never micromanaged, especially when they could lead to chances on Broadway.

"We're given a lot of freedom in terms

of what classes we take and how we spend our time. We have a core set, but I think we're absolutely prepared," Ronayne said.

Joy Dewing of Joy Dewing Casting was in the audience in front of which Redding auditioned. He sang a few songs and got an email a week later that invited him to travel to New York City to audition again the following week.

After traveling to the city twice for narrower auditions, Redding sent in a video for the final time because traveling back and forth was no longer an option while he was finishing his senior year.

Redding said it almost feels like he will be going through another year of school because the tour is a nine-month gig.

"It kind of feels like the process is getting prolonged a bit, but in a great way," he said.

"West Side Story" is an American musical set in the Upper West Side neighborhood in New York City in the mid-1950s. The musical is centered around the rivalry between the Jets and the Sharks, two teenage street gangs of different backgrounds.

Redding said he is most excited about the strength the show requires of its ac-

tors, along with the rehearsals and the amount of time the tour will run.

"The athleticism that it's going to require to get through the tour and do it well [is] really going to challenge me in a great way," Redding said. "I think that if I do it right and really work hard at it, by the time I'm done with it, I'll be a whole different performer than when I came in."

Redding said one of the challenges he will face is the longer show run time. The shows Redding has been in usually run for two weeks. He will now be part of a show for more than 200 performances and therefore, longer rehearsals.

"[Whether] that's going to be telling in a good way or a bad way, I don't really know, but [it will be] a good experience," Redding said.

After participating in the casting director series and with graduation upon him, Redding said he feels his time at Elon is complete.

"I don't think I could get any more out of it than I already have because literally [after] that casting director series and senior year and what you have to go through and do after all you've been through for

four years — I feel so ready for the next step," he said. "[Elon has] absolutely done their job to prepare us professionally. We've met so many professionals already and we're not even there yet."

The senior class has now worked with 12 of the highest-ranked casting agents and directors in the country. With those connections and the web of Elon alumni in New York, Redding said he feels some comfort.

"That's one of the things that makes it not as scary to move there because a lot of us have spent the last year going up for breaks and there's such a community there," Ronayne said. "Yes, we're going off to New York, which is this big city, but I have so many close friends who are there waiting."

While some seniors dread the approaching goodbyes at graduation, Redding said it's not as sad graduating because "we'll be in a better place soon" in New York.

Redding has been cast in many shows at Elon, including "The Wild Party," "Crazy for You" and "Rent."

"I feel like with every show I've done here I could say something that honestly changed me about it," Redding said. "That makes me very happy. I've been really lucky, but I've worked very hard. I feel like every single part presents a new challenge."

Redding said "Rent" was memorable because of his connection with the audience. Walking out on stage opening night is something both Redding and Ronayne said they will always remember.

"It changed it all," Ronayne said. "It set a new level for what was going to be expected."

The best piece of advice Redding ever received was from Gavin Creel, who starred in "Hair" on Broadway: "Other people's successes are not your failure."

"Maybe this is just specific for music theater, but I feel like the only way you're going to get through in life is if you're able to let go enough to be able to celebrate other people," Redding said.

Tickets can be purchased online to see Redding's opening performance in "West Side Story" Nov. 5 in Memphis.



Senior Ben Redding (left) performs with junior Kim Zlogar in "Dog Sees God" in Spring 2012. The show is about beloved "Peanuts" characters, including Charlie Brown and friends, during their high school years.

FILE PHOTO BY MERISSA BLITZ



Redding and junior Ethan Andersen share a scene in "Crazy for You," Elon's Fall 2012 musical production.

FILE PHOTO BY MERISSA BLITZ

DANCE in the LANDSCAPE

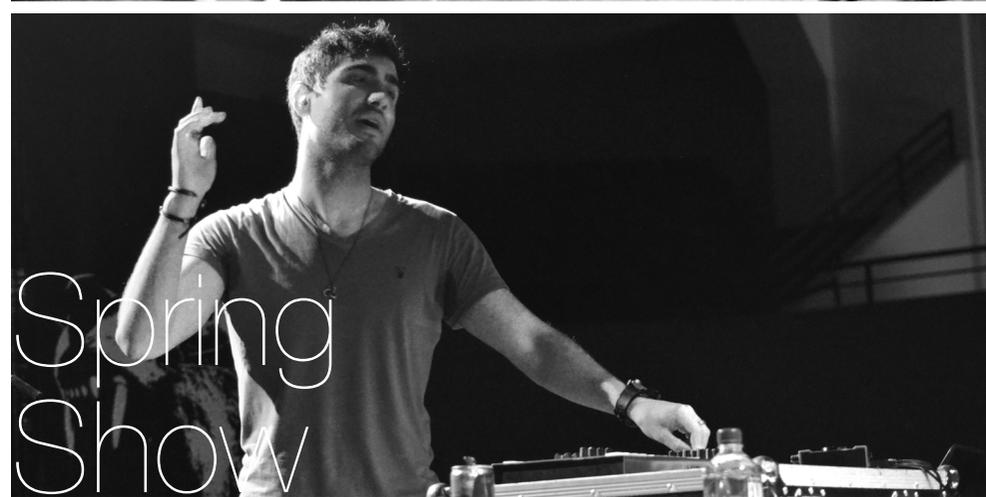


Crazy For You

TAPPED OUT



The Wild Party



Spring Show

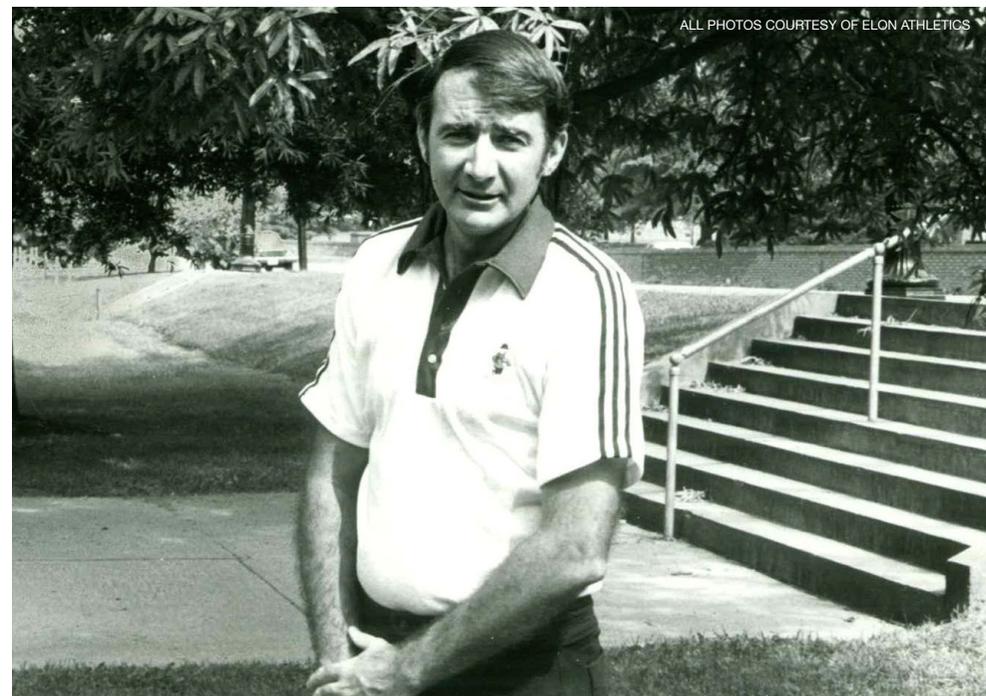


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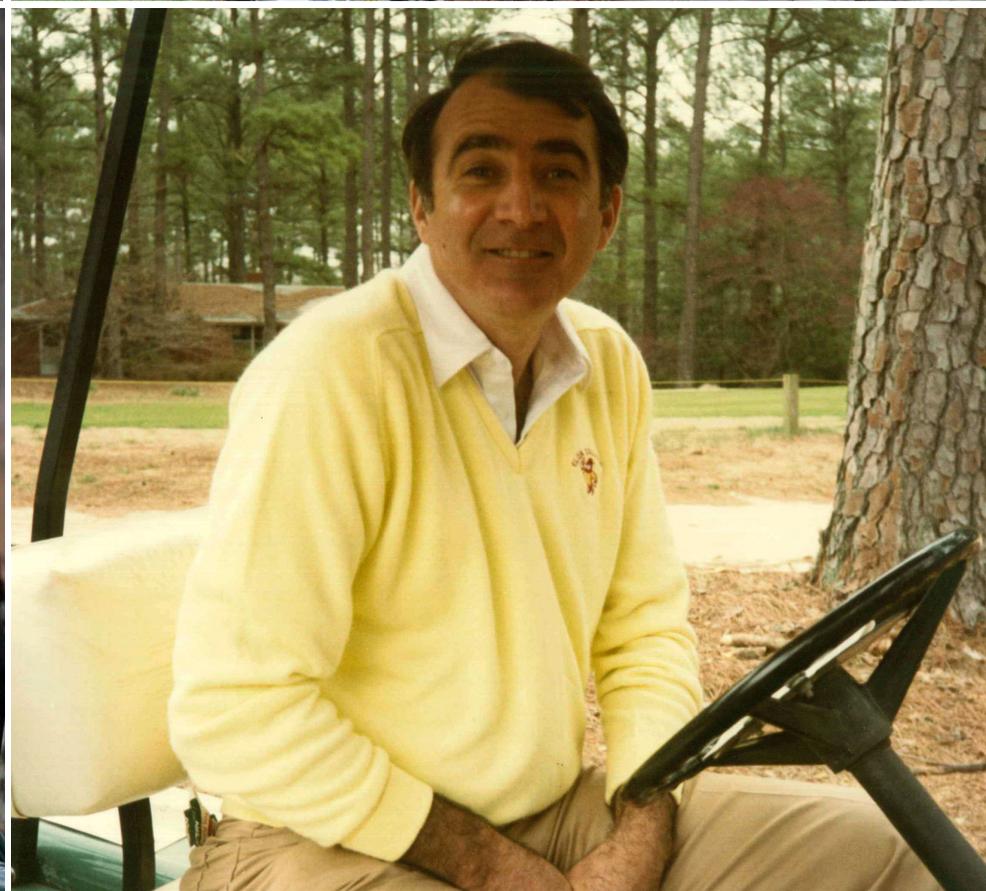
A GRADUATION IN HIS OWN RIGHT

Morningstar retires after 41 years at Elon

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF ELON ATHLETICS



FILE PHOTO BY MERISSA BLITZ



Andrew Wilson
Sports Editor

The Class of 2013 has been at Elon University for four years. Bill Morningstar's time at the school, both as a student and athletic coach, nearly multiplies that number by 11.

To put in perspective how long Morningstar has been a part of the Elon landscape, he arrived on the campus of what was then Elon College in 1960, three years after Earl Danieley assumed the president's office.

While Morningstar graduated with a bachelor's degree in physical education in 1964, graduation day for the Class of 2013 will mark another graduation in its own right for the 41-year coach.

Officially announcing his retirement from the men's golf program in December, Morningstar leaves a legacy decorated with more than just accolades and records on the links.

Elon College — round No. 1

Morningstar came to Elon as part of the first real recruiting class for second-year men's head basketball coach Bill Miller in 1960. A four-year letter winner on the team, he helped the Fightin' Christians to a 74-70 record, but had the most success in his final year in 1973-74, when the team finished 21-7. The season included a 13-game undefeated streak.

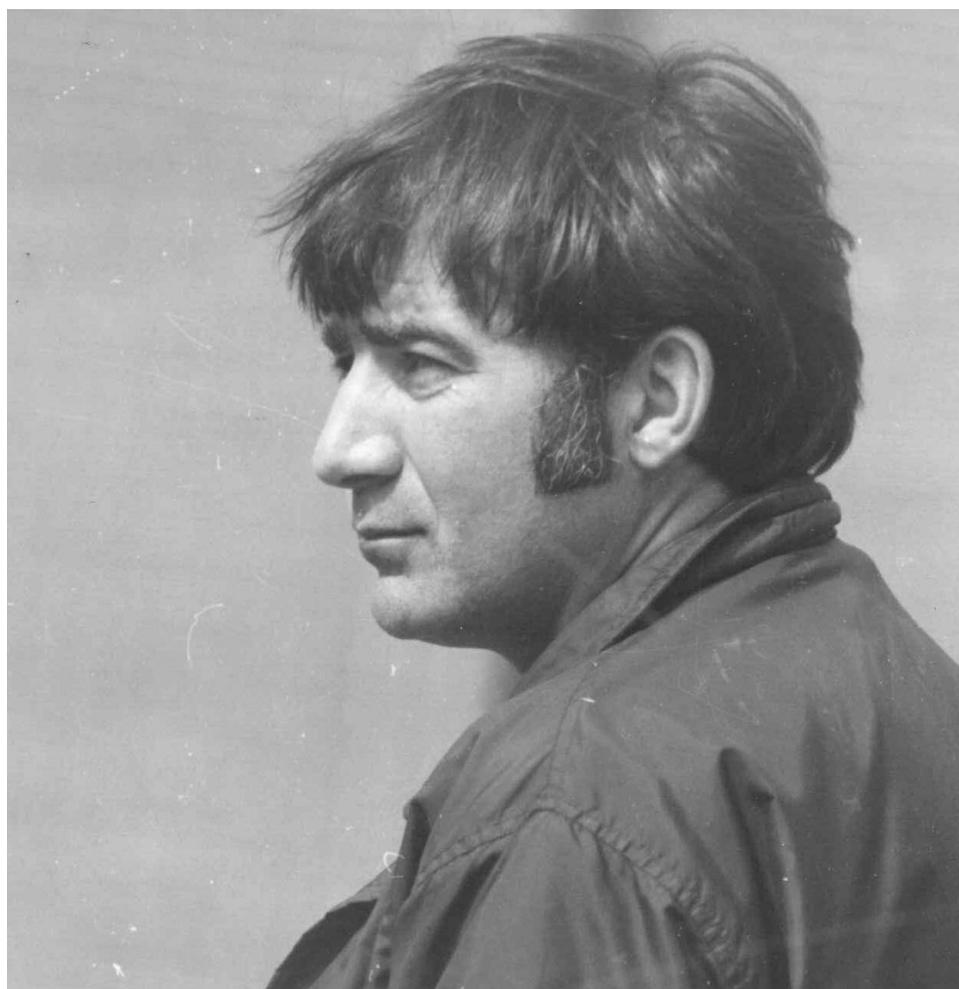
"I came to Elon on a basketball scholarship in 1960," Morningstar said. "Back then, Elon was basically a teacher's college, so out of college I taught one year and coached in South Carolina before I went back to the high school I graduated from as the head basketball coach for seven years."

In those seven years at his alma mater, Morningstar also coached the cross country program at the school.

In 1972, another alma mater came calling — this time in the form of Miller and Elon. Eight years after completing his undergraduate studies, Morningstar returned to the place he called home for four years in the early 1960s, but it wasn't in the capacity he thought it would be.

Elon College — round No. 2

Agreeing to return to the Fightin' Christians men's basketball program as an assistant



coach under Miller, another title came with his basketball title, one he knew nothing about.

"He went away and came back in 1972 as an assistant basketball coach," said Elon athletic director Dave Blank. "But when he got here, Elon said, 'Oh, by the way, you're also going to coach our golf team.'"

Though he self-admittedly proclaims he didn't know anything about golf, Morningstar would become a mainstay in the program.

"When I came back to Elon, they told me, 'By the way, you've got the golf team,'" Morningstar said. "I said, 'I don't know anything about it.' That didn't matter though because it came with the assistant basketball coaching job."

According to Morningstar, most of the assistant coaches took on what were called the "minor sports."

"The football assistants, one of them had track, one had tennis, another had wrestling," Morningstar said. "It just so happened bas-

ketball had golf. That's how I got started with golf."

While other "minor" programs had coaches come and go, Morningstar stuck around — for 41 years.

Starting programs

By no means did Morningstar start the men's basketball program he originally entered at Elon. The team was formed in 1911, 49 years prior to Morningstar arriving at Elon. What he did have a hand in starting were multiple other programs competing at high levels today.

"He's been the men's cross country coach. He's been the women's cross country coach. He's been the golf coach," Blank said. "He establishes programs from the ground up."

Instead of leaving his position with the men's golf team when he took the head basketball coaching position prior to the 1979-80 season, he stayed on to coach both teams. Seven years later, his life with basketball came

to an end to focus on what he thought would only be golf. Just a few years later, then-Athletic Director Alan White came knocking in an attempt to get him to coach the new cross country programs.

"When I coached the cross country team in high school, we were very successful, so when Dr. White asked me to do that, I said 'I would get it started,'" Morningstar said. "I ended up in it 12 years."

One of Morningstar's favorite moments through the years at Elon was the first season in which the Fightin' Christians cross country program ran. With nothing previously established prior to the season, Morningstar calls what the team accomplished at season's end "more memorable than most."

"They wanted me to get it started and in the first year, we had a bunch of kids that were just running," Morningstar said. "There was no money and we won conference anyway. That was just a great experience to see the kids run across the mountains toward the finish line. We had a half-mile to go and at the point, we knew we were going to win the conference."

In the fall of 2012, the women's cross country program received its first national ranking, proving how far the program has come since Morningstar gave it roots in the 1990s.

When Elon started a women's golf program, who was there to take the reins from Day One? It was Morningstar.

"I can't imagine Bill Morningstar ever complaining," Blank said. "He's just that kind of person. It was just kind of one of those things, 'Bill, we need you to do something else,' and he just graciously did it."

Replacing a legend

Instead of waiting for the 2013 golf season to start, Morningstar was proactive about announcing his retirement. The announcement came in December so as to not disrupt his players midseason.

"We announced Bill's retirement in December at his request," Blank said. "Bill thought it was important to announce his retirement before the spring season so that the kids could say, 'Okay, now I know. Now it can settle in,' and then they can have a spring season rather than announcing it in the middle of the season and cause a distraction to the team."

While Blank waited until the end of the season to search for Morningstar's replacement out of respect for other programs, the search turned up Don Hill, a former standout at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Prior to coming to Elon, he served as an associate head coach with the University of South Carolina men's golf program.

While new to the Elon community, Hill was on campus prior to being offered the job. Even from one visit, he said he could tell the impact Morningstar had on the program through the first 41 years of its existence.

"I want to thank Coach Morningstar. He is a living legend and has meant so much to the university and the game of golf," Hill told Elon Athletics. "It was easy to see when I stepped foot on campus why this place has been so special for him for so long."

According to Blank, Hill had all the quali-

ties he was looking for in a replacement to Morningstar.

"Most importantly, I liked his connection with our current players," Blank said. "It's important to me that our coaches connect well with our student athletes. I also don't like hiring anybody that feels like they need to come in and make wholesale changes, get their own student athletes and stuff like that. I like his vision for the program and what we're trying to do with scheduling and recruiting, which are two of the more important elements of building the program."

Hill will arrive on campus to officially take over the program in June.

Finishing a legacy

Blank said it's not the accomplishments in the record books that make Morningstar

a legend to Elon athletics. After all, he has been a member of the Elon Athletics Hall of Fame since 1988 and a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Coaches Hall of Fame since 1989. To best describe Morningstar's legacy, Blank used "friend."

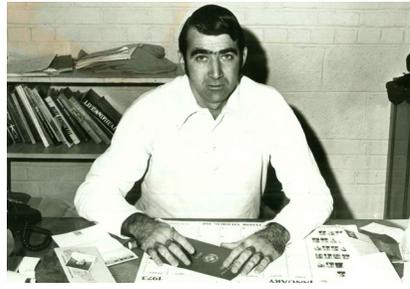
"He puts a lot into friendships," Blank said. "Some people are friends, and some people work at friendships. There is a difference. Bill works at friendships. If he knows something is going on, he's going to try and support that. He's been to the middle school to see my kids play sports. Just stuff like that. That's what you do when you work at friendships and Bill does that."

Even Morningstar doesn't want to make it about the records, or about himself as a matter of fact. Instead, it's about the Elon community and all that inhabit it.

"I've been very fortunate to be able to serve that long for Elon University and back to Elon College," Morningstar said. "Just the idea that I was very fortunate to be here 41 years to work with as many athletes as I did in all different sports, it's been a great ride."

Morningstar has been at Elon for three of the school's eight presidents. Four years have passed since the Class of 2013 stepped foot on Elon's campus, but 53 have come and gone since Morningstar arrived for undergrad. To serve at Elon for the amount of time he did, Morningstar knows one thing: "I've been lucky."

"It's been a great ride. It really has," he said. "Elon let me do what I love to do and paid me for it. I've always said if you love the work you're doing, you're on break all the time. I've been on break since 1972, so I would say it's been a great ride." §



Soccer star looks to shine in Europe following graduation

Edith Veremu
Senior Reporter

When Archie Karpheh started playing soccer as a child in his native country of Liberia, he hadn't envisioned the large role the sport would play later in his life. Karpheh grew up a Manchester United fan, following his grandmother's fandom, and has remained loyal to the team to this day.

"Back in Liberia, soccer is a huge sport," he said. "While other kids were watching 'Tom and Jerry,' I was watching football. That's what I've been playing all my life."

What first began as a hobby created many opportunities for Karpheh. It paved his way onto many playing fields, including that of the Elon men's soccer team, where he was a forward.

Shortly after eighth grade, Karpheh was recruited by IMG Academy and played for the Under-17 United States men's national soccer team throughout high school after receiving dual citizenship in the United States and Liberia. The Academy, located in Bradenton, Fla., is a world-class athletic training program and dual residency for athletes playing soccer, American football, baseball, basketball, golf and lacrosse.

Programs like IMG prepare rising athletes for professional settings, such as the U.S. national team. Balancing his IMG and U-17 team responsibilities wasn't easy for Karpheh, who often had practices at different times for both programs. He was also the only member of either program who played for both teams.

"I knew I had one practice here and another there," Karpheh said. "It was a lot of help from coaches and staff. It was just people helping me out and making sure I was where I needed to be and that I was studying."

Elon men's soccer coach Darren Powell leads summer soccer camps held at Elon. When he met Karpheh through the camp and saw him play in 2008, Powell knew Karpheh was the type of player and person he wanted on his team.

"Archie had a fantastic personality,"



Archie Karpheh (center), who graduated from Elon University in December, was a forward on the men's soccer team after developing a love of the game as a child. FILE PHOTO BY JEREMY MCKNIGHT

Powell said.

Powell recruited Karpheh for the 2009 season, in which Karpheh made 17 appearances. During his time at Elon, Karpheh played in 29 games in 2009 and 2010 combined. His experience at IMG and on the national team has been valuable to the Elon team, Powell said.

"Personally, we've seen a fantastic, passionate young man whose personality is contagious in the locker room," he said. "Many players see Archie with a ball on the field after practice and that inspires them to go the extra mile as well. He plays a key role on the team."

After Elon, Karpheh's eyes are set on Europe, specifically Italy, although he admits he has enjoyed his career and teammates at Elon.

"It's been great living here," Karpheh said. "I don't want to focus on ending the time but leaving a mark. I've been blessed to play for a great program."

Clubs in Italy have been trying to recruit Karpheh since he was in the 11th grade, but his education was more important, Karpheh said. His coach at IMG Academy, Ferdi De Matthaëis, used



Karpheh, a native of Liberia, hopes to join a soccer club in Italy when he leaves the country after graduation. FILE PHOTO BY JEREMY MCKNIGHT

to coach and play in Italy himself. Karpheh, who graduated in December, will be leaving the United States to try out with clubs in Italy, and although he's looking forward to this new beginning, he said he can't forget those who have helped him grow as an athlete and a person.

"I'm looking forward to it and I cannot

thank the people who have helped me enough," Karpheh said. "My grandmother has been a blessing and people like Richard Van Horne and Bruce Zollinger, my youth coaches, have been very supportive of me. They are both father figures to me. My teammates at Elon and Coach Powell have also been amazing."

COMING

Softball team reflects on

Matt Krause
Assistant Sports Editor

A new stadium opened. Records fell. Upsets occurred. Legends were made and awards were won. The 2013 Elon University softball season had a bit of everything as second-year head coach Kathy Boccock led the team to a 21-31 record, 8-15 in Southern Conference play. Despite the memorable moments, Boccock said the season left something to be desired.

"I'm not upset with the girls, I'm upset with our outcome for this year," Boccock said. "I have goals for stuff, and I really would like to see us do better all around."

The season began with hype provided by Elon's first season in its new home of Hunt Softball Park. The park opened its doors Feb. 20 and was dedicated Feb. 28 before Elon's 2-1 loss to Virginia Tech.

Boccock did acknowledge the fact that the season had plenty of on-field highlights, as well. Senior left fielder Tomeka Watson earned the Basnight Outstanding Female Athlete award from Elon for her .419 batting average, 12 doubles and 14 home runs. Watson also became Elon's all-time leading home run hitter and hits leader during the season. The Jackson, Ga., native claimed Southern Conference player of the month for the month of February, when she hit a home run in six consecutive games. She capped the year with a first team All-Southern Conference selection.

Watson looked back on her season and believes her hard work and effort led her to success.

"When you work hard, good things come," Watson said. "Doing the best you can and just pushing through."

Boccock knows how much of a role Watson played on the team in her final year with the Phoenix.

"Tomeka was a good role model for the younger girls," Boccock said. "She worked very hard at her hitting. She's kind of set a standard for them to let them know that you can do it."

Watson also added that her offensive suc-

cess has left her without regrets for her senior season in the maroon and gold.

Playing alongside Watson was another All-Southern Conference selection, junior center fielder Carleigh Nester. Nester finished

the year hitting .370 with 14 doubles and 11 home runs. Three of the doubles came in one game against Appalachian State University, tying an NCAA record. Nester earned Southern Conference player of the month for April,



Junior Lauren Oldham (3) goes for a ball against Longwood University in a double header April 2. The Phoenix ultimately dropped both games against the Lancers.

FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO

UP SHOR T

record-setting season

a month in which she hit .426.

“Staying consistent towards the end of the season and pulling through with my home runs and doubles,” Nester said when asked what she would be most proud of from 2013. “Whenever the season’s going on, I don’t keep up with my stats, I just know that I need to do what’s best for my team.”

Nester recalled that hitting coach Mike Steuerwald challenged her before the season to reach double digits, and she stepped up to the challenge.

In addition to their personal accomplishments, Watson and Nester were instrumental in some key moments for the Phoenix. On Feb. 8, Elon defeated then-No. 8 University of Georgia in the Bulldogs’ home opener, 5-2. Watson called the victory “the high of my season,” and Bocoock said it was a top moment. Watson’s three-run home run in the sixth inning of the contest gave Elon the lead in a game just over 70 miles from her hometown.

Elon also won its final five games against North Carolina A&T State University and the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga.

“It gave us momentum going into the (So-Con) tournament,” Nester said. “I know it pumped everybody up.” The sweep of Chattanooga was highlighted by a pair of walk-offs: a home run from sophomore right fielder Amanda Allen for a 2-1 victory in the series’ second game, as well as a walk-off sacrifice fly from Nester on Senior Day for a 4-3 win against the Lady Mocs.

Three days later, Elon was eliminated in the SoCon tournament by Samford University in the play-in game. When the final inning began, Nester and Watson shared a special moment as they headed to their spots in the outfield for the final time together.

“Before every game, Tomeka and I, we always either say ‘left foot’ or ‘right foot’ and we jump over the line,” Nester said. “When we got out to center field, we looked at each other

and we both had goosebumps.”

While preparing for life without Watson is an item on the Phoenix’s agenda this off-season, Bocoock also adds that all-around consistency and strength of pitchers is important. Elon pitching finished the year with a 4.10 team ERA, but will return freshman Kayla Caruso and sophomore Chelsea White next year. Caruso arrived on campus and made an immediate impact, earning wins on consecutive days on two occasions. Her 3.44 ERA, 10 victories and 68 strikeouts earned her the top newcomer award for softball. White began the year by earning the win against Georgia, and claimed five of her seven victories in a seven-game stretch from April 20-May 5. The duo will return with more experience under their belts to lead Elon in the circle.

Though Watson will not be there for it, another Elon softball campaign begins in nine months. According to the team, year three of the Kathy Bocoock era promises improvement and excitement on the diamond in 2014. §



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO
Junior Carleigh Nester (15) makes a sliding finish against Longwood University April 2.



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO
Sophomore Chelsea White (11), a native of Salisbury, N.C., winds up for a pitch on the softball diamond.

TOP 10 in Elon Athletics for 2012-2013



10

Men's soccer blanks defending national runner-up UNC-Charlotte, 2-0

Entering the 2012 season as the defending national runner-up, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte 49ers traveled to Elon University for their eighth game of the season. In their previous seven games, Charlotte was unbeaten at 5-0-2. The 49ers left Rudd Field Sept. 9 with their first loss of the season, a 2-0 defeat. Chris Thomas scored twice in the first half on assists from Matt Wescoe as the Phoenix became one of Charlotte's two regular season losses.

9

Tomeka Watson's record-setting final season

Tomeka Watson set both SoCon and Elon records throughout her final season as a member of the Elon softball team. She departs the Phoenix after setting the single-season home run and all-time home run records after swatting 14 on the year. She finishes her career with 34 home runs. After hitting .419 on the season, she leaves the program's all-time leader in hits, RBI, runs scored and slugging percentage. Watson won SoCon Player of the Month in February when she hit six home runs in six consecutive games, a SoCon record.

8

Ryan Kinsella and Cameron Silverman win SoCon Player of the Year awards

Ryan Kinsella had a breakout junior season on the diamond in maroon and gold. Launching 19 home runs throughout the season and knocking in 70 runs, he finished second in the country in both categories on his way to a monumental year. Tennis star Cameron Silverman finished the season ranked No. 67 in the country on the singles side and held a 14-8 overall record during the 2013 season. In conference play at No. 1 singles, Silverman went 6-2 in the regular season.

7

Men's basketball hosts and wins Maui Invitational Regional Games in OT thriller

Hosting the first edition of the EA Sports Maui Invitational Regional Games, Elon hosted three schools Nov. 17-18. It culminated in the Phoenix taking the title in an overtime game in the finals against Florida Atlantic University. With 29 seconds left in the game, forward Lucas Troutman blocked a shot that could have won the game for Florida Atlantic. Instead, he preserved the tie and took it to overtime. Guard Jack Isenbarger put the Phoenix on his back with nine points in overtime to propel the Phoenix to the title.

FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO



6

5 SoCon Coach of the Year awards

In all, five Elon head coaches were honored for their efforts throughout their respective seasons in the 2012-2013 academic year. Both Darren Powell and Chris Neal, the men's and women's soccer coaches, respectively, earned the honors. Powell's club won both the SoCon regular season and tournament championships on the way to another NCAA Tournament appearance while Neal's women battled countless injuries, yet were still competitive in SoCon play. Men's basketball coach Matt Matheny guided the Phoenix to the SoCon North Division title for the first time since 2007. Michael Leonard led the men's tennis team to a regular season championship before dropping a heartbreaker to Samford University in the tournament final in April while Bill Morningstar, completing his 41st and final season as the men's golf coach, took home the conference Coach of the Year honor for the 16th time in his career. (Not all of the awards were in the Southern Conference.)

FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO



5

Baseball throttles No. 8 N.C. State, 24-12

FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO

North Carolina State University drove one hour down I-40 to Latham Park March 5 as the No. 8 team in the country. Having won 10 straight prior to the contest and giving up just 26 runs all year, the Phoenix nearly doubled that number by outslugging the Wolfpack, 24-12. Three Elon batters — Antonio Alvarez, Alex Swim and Sebastian Gomez — each drove in five runs on the evening as the Phoenix pounded out 21 hits in the 36-run affair.

4

Chris Thomas wins SoCon Player of the Year, leads nation in goals scored

Returning from an injury-prone junior season in 2011, Chris Thomas returned to his 2010 form after he won SoCon Player of the Year his sophomore season. His final season led to his second Player of the Year award in his four years at Elon. He was named SoCon Player of the Week three times during his senior campaign and scored nine game-winning goals in the team's 22 games. Midway through the season, he set the all-time record for career goals with 53.

1



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO

Men's basketball 21-win season and postseason appearance

For the first time since joining the Div. I ranks in 1999, the men's basketball team topped the 20-win mark for 15th time in the school's history. On the way to the record, the Phoenix clinched the SoCon North Division title and went to the semifinals of the conference tournament before losing to College of Charleston. The season did not end there, as the Phoenix was invited to the CollegeInsider.com Tournament, its first at the Div. I level and just the ninth in program history.

3



2

Men's soccer wins SoCon regular season and tournament championships

Two seasons in a row, the Elon men's soccer team has captured the Southern Conference Tournament title. While the Phoenix didn't take the regular season championship in 2011, they made it a clean sweep of the titles in 2012 with a regular season championship. Behind the firepower of Chris Thomas and Matt Wescoe on attack and Nathan Dean in goal, the Phoenix made its second NCAA Tournament appearance in as many years. Both seasons the Phoenix fell to Coastal Carolina University in the first round.

Mellette mania

In his final game against rival Appalachian State University Oct. 6 in Boone, Mellette caught 13 passes for 247 yards and three touchdowns. The Phoenix came up short, but Mellette did not in the long run. He was drafted in the seventh round of the 2013 NFL Draft in April by the Baltimore Ravens, the defending Super Bowl Champions. He became the first player drafted since 2007 when Chad Nkang was selected in the seventh round by the Jacksonville Jaguars.