

THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA • WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 • VOLUME 41 EDITION 22

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Illegal and unidentified

H.B. 318 could limit ID availability for immigrants

Acclaimed musician Itzhak Perlman to speak at Convocation

Courtney Campbell
Style Editor

At age 4, Itzhak Perlman lost the use of his legs to polio. But shortly after, he began violin lessons. By age 10, he had performed with the Israel Broadcasting Orchestra — and today, he is one of the most well-known classical violinists.



Itzhak Perlman

With 15 Grammy Awards and the 2008 Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award for excellence in the recording arts, Perlman has achieved a classical musician's superstar status.

At 3:30 p.m. Tuesday Oct. 6 in Alumni Gym, he will speak at Elon University for "Fall Convocation: A Conversation with Itzhak Perlman."

Perlman has performed with every major orchestra and venerable concert hall in the world and was awarded a Kennedy Center Honor for his achievements and contributions to the cultural and educational life of the United States in 2003. He performed at the Inauguration for President Barack Obama in 2009 with a special piece for the occasion written by John Williams.

According to Jeffery Clark, executive director of Cultural and Special Programs, Perlman was chosen because of his renowned status, which comes from his technique, direct interpretation and precision in detail.

"Elon stands for excellence," Clark said. "It makes sense for us to bring guests to campus who are the best in the world at what they do and have them pass along their knowledge and experiences to our students, faculty, staff and community. The arts are a major part of the liberal arts education experience and bringing an artist of his stature accentuates that importance."

Achieving in classical music

Perlman completed his initial training at the Academy of Music on Tel Aviv in Israel. He began his path to world fame in New York when he appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show in 1958.

Perlman also studied at the Juilliard School and won the Leventritt Competition in 1964. He has received honorary degrees from Harvard University, Yale University, Brandeis University, Roosevelt University, Yeshiva University and Hebrew University. He was awarded the "Medal of Liberty" in 1986 by President

See PERLMAN
page 12

FaithAction International House
IDENTIFICATION CARD

FAIH ID #: FA - 0

REQUIREMENTS FOR A FAITHACTION ID:

- Proof of identity, original copy
- Proof of your current address for the past two months
- \$10

WHO ACCEPTS THE FAITHACTION ID IN ALAMANCE COUNTY:

- Burlington Police Department
- Elon PD
- Elon Uni PD
- Gibsonville PD
- Graham PD
- Mebane PD

WHO ACCEPTS FAITHACTION ID BUT ARE NOT OBLIGATED TO DO SO:

- Elon University Library
- Little Portion Food Pantry
- Blessed Sacrament School
- Centro la Comunidad
- Allied Churches

Expires: 6/27/2015

STEPHANIE HAYS | Design Chief

Morgan Abate
Online Editor

On the last Friday of September, the Rev. Paul Lininger stood in front of a small crowd of Latinos and Hispanics at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Burlington who

waited to hear what he had to say.

Lininger welcomed them in heavily accented Spanish, an unwavering smile spread across his face, before he switched to English and invited an interpreter to help him convey the rest of the information.

Members of the Burlington Police Department — including Chief Jeffery Smythe — sat to the right, listening to the presentation about the FaithAction ID program and its purpose.

"This program is the result of a great deal of hard work, first and foremost, from the Bur-

lington Police Department," Lininger said. "The Burlington Police Department, under the leadership of Chief Smythe, came to me and asked if there was a possibility that we could

See ID
page 6

Elon considering new off-campus transportation

Morgan Abate
Online Editor

As a way to increase the number of transportation options to off-campus destinations, Elon University's Office of Sustainability is looking into the possibility of a connector shuttle from Elon to the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) bus stop at Alamance Regional Medical Center during the week.

PART began its operations in 1997 to provide transportation for the Piedmont region to other areas of North Carolina.

Alamance-Burlington Express Route is new. It provides service from Alamance County to Greensboro and Chapel Hill, where a rider can transfer from PART to the Chapel Hill bus service. According to Robert Buchholz, assistant vice president for facilities management at Elon, the organization notified Elon of the stop at the medical center over the summer. A one-way pass for students costs \$1.50.

To gauge the interest from different populations at Elon, Buchholz and Director of Sustainability Elaine Durr created a survey for students, faculty and staff to fill out. The survey went out to faculty and

staff first but did not reach students until Sept. 25.

Buchholz encouraged all students to respond to the survey fully and honestly. "Identify yourself as student, faculty or staff," he said. "You need to provide all of the information so that we can figure out what might be done through us or someone else. Getting it will tell me if I need to some method for next year."

Until Buchholz and others analyze the results, they will not know whether they need to budget a new bus line, create a carpool service or find another service for students.

For students, such as commuter and international students, the service would provide them with another means to go outside both Elon and Burlington.

The survey, which Buchholz said takes no longer than five or 10 minutes, will be open until fall break. A link to the survey can also be found on The Pendulum website.

Alamance County is one of 10 member counties associated with PART. The 10 county area represents 4,984 square miles, or 9.5 percent of the state's total area. PART works in cooperation with the city bus systems of Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA), Greensboro

Transit Authority (GTA) and High Point Transit (Hi tran).



NEWS

In the sciences, Elon goes against national gender trends pg. 2



STYLE

Elon student wins film competition pg. 11

SPORTS

Building a relationship between quarterback and receivers pg. 16



Tipping the gender balance

Biochemistry department bucks larger STEM trend

Max Garland
Assistant News Editor

If college chemistry departments are typically made up of a large male majority, it doesn't show at Elon University.

Elon already has a strong female presence on campus with a roughly 60-to-40 male-to-female ratio, according to Elon Fact Book trends. And the chemistry department isn't any different. Eleven of 18 majors listed in the Department of Chemistry are female.

"The science classes here are a lot more even [in terms of gender] than people would think," said freshman and chemical engineering major Olivia Jung. "I thought coming in that it would be completely dominated by guys, but it's more balanced than other majors might be."

The numbers stand out when compared to the national averages. According to the National Science Foundation's "Women,

Minorities and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering" report, 40.6 percent of physical science degrees were awarded to women in 2012, the lowest percentage since 2002. Physical science includes chemistry along with physics and astronomy.

"I have to take Elon's gender ratio into consideration, but in terms of [physical science] interest at Elon, I would say that it's pretty equal between girls and guys," said senior and biochemistry major Alyssa Romano. "Actually, in one of my classes there's probably about 13 girls and three guys, so it can be the opposite in some cases here."

Romano added that female Millennials are getting more involved in the sciences than women in previous generations because of increased promotion. She said she noticed summer research internships she applied for were highly encouraging of women to apply, and the people she worked with in the Organic Chemistry



MAX GARLAND | Assistant News Editor

The majority of students in Associate Professor of Chemistry Kathy Matera's Biochemistry I class are female.

Institute in Germany this summer were split evenly between men and women.

Elon gender numbers

In Romano's field of biochemistry, the study of chemical processes in living organisms, this may continue — 28 of 38 listed biochemistry majors at Elon are female. The classes required for a biochemistry major are more chemistry-intensive than biology-intensive, according to Romano.

"Biochemistry is kind of what it sounds like," she said. "It's basically the chemistry of life, to understand organisms and what's going on with them at a chemical level."

The female majority in Elon's biochemistry major is unusual, considering the gender gap in physical science knowledge as a whole. According to a Sept. 10 Pew Research Survey, men tended to answer more questions regarding physical science correctly than women. Men scored an average of 8.6 out of 12 in the survey, while women scored an average of 7.3. The survey found that 69 percent of men answered at least eight of the questions right compared to 51 percent of women.

"Men, on average, express greater course interest in the physical sciences than women," Cary Funk and Sara Kehaulani

Goo wrote for Pew Research Center about the survey's findings. "This could in part explain the tendency for men to know the right answers to more of these questions, which focus mostly on the physical sciences, than women, even when controlling for educational level."

Freshman chemistry major Jordan Diamond said the gap in scores could be because of how males and females are taught science differently at a young age.

"[Advancements] in science have historically been male-driven because of gender biases," he said. "Women are told in school that men should be doing more math and science-related things, while women should be into literature and reading. Then people play into this gender role, which causes kind of a gap in learning."

STEM learning in education

Solutions to the gender gap may lie in early education and how math and science are taught, according to senior education major Jenna Mason. She said society's mentality is that boys and girls do well in different subjects with limited overlap, which leaves little opportunity for girls to develop an interest in STEM [Science, technology, engineering and math] topics.

"We really need to emphasize self-advocacy with STEM class-

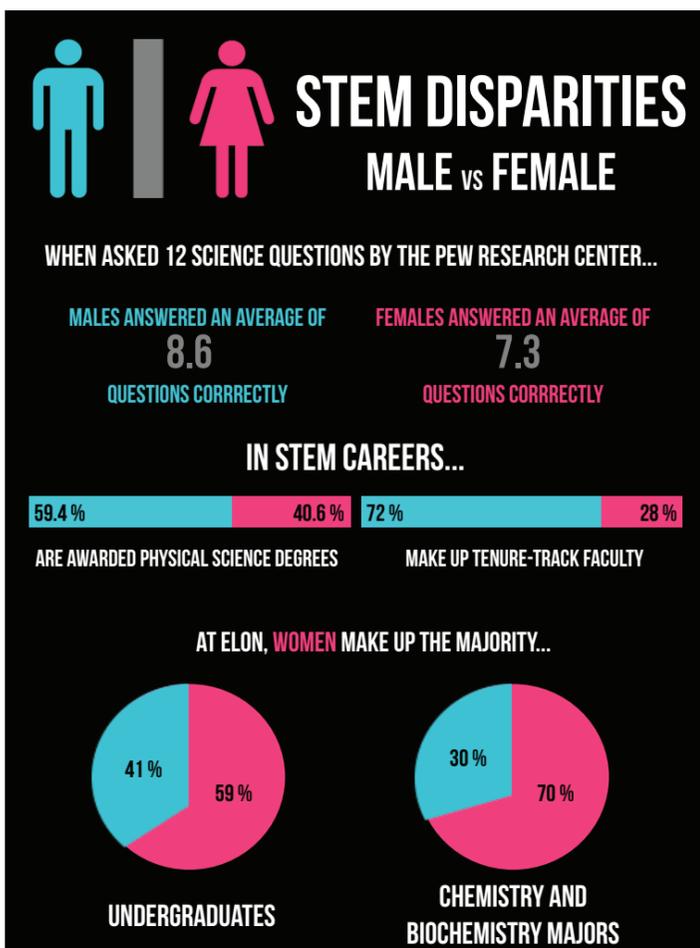
es," Mason said. "Right now, reading is so drilled into the minds of kids that there isn't a lot of room for girls to explore math and science. That needs to change."

Senior education major Angie Edwards agreed with Mason, saying elementary students are tested on literature more than the harder-to-grasp sciences. Part of that is because of the educators' lack of expertise in STEM fields.

"Most of the educators for kids are female, and they aren't always as confident in science and math as they are in other areas because of how gender roles are perpetuated," Edwards said. "Science in general is more difficult to teach, so it can be kind of intimidating."

But increasing the number of women educators in the physical sciences may instill STEM confidence for both genders instead of just men. A 2013 release by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy said women earn 41 percent of PhD's in STEM fields, but only make up 28 percent of tenure-track faculty. Romano said that number is growing.

"Over the past 10 years [the number of women in STEM] has definitely been going in a direction in which there is more women," she said. "I think that it will continue to change because women are encouraged to apply for such positions and being accepted into those positions as well."



Residence Life begins first safety check of year

Caroline Fernandez
News Editor

All students living in Elon University on-campus housing will undergo the first of four health and safety inspections Sept. 28 to Oct. 9.

The inspections, which are performed by resident assistants and apartment managers, look at students' living environments in accordance with the health and safety code. "The main focus is not about fining students, but about ensuring they understand how to make their rooms safe," said MarQuita Barker, associate director of residence life operations at Elon.

Junior Abbie Robinson, an RA in Danieley Center, also said that the checks are to promote safety.

"Residents have no need to stress over room checks," Robinson said. "We are not out to get anyone. We simply need to check your room to ensure we are all living in a safe environment. As long as you comply to the regulations no resident should have a problem with room checks."

According to Residence Life's website, some of the goals of health and safety inspections are to assist students in learning how to maintain a clean and safe environment and promote a better understanding of the expectations the university has for students living on campus.

The inspections assist in the prevention of pest infestations, property damage and other issues that impact health and safety and increase safety by the identification and removal of prohibited items.

Items considered prohibited, according to the website, include candles, non-surge protected extension cords, halogen lamps and cooking appliances not in the room's kitchen area.

An email sent to students Monday said that during the checks, residence life staff members "will conduct a non-invasive inspection of the room/apartment/suite. They do not open drawers, refrigerators, or closets, but may move (or ask the resident to move) items blocking outlets."

Barker said student staff members are trained by their supervisors for these inspections.

"We cover the philosophy on why we conduct health and safety inspections as well as the procedures and what to look for," she said.

Robinson said that she, along with other Residence Life staff members, began training back in August.

"I believe we had solid training and I feel confident carrying out room checks throughout the year," Robinson said in an email.

In addition to the September health and safety checks, which Barker said are done to "ensure students are educated and aware of the expectations of living on campus regarding health and safety," there are three other checks done throughout the year.

Students can expect their living environment to undergo health and safety checks during November, December and March, which according to Barker are done to ensure the rooms are safe during the related breaks.

Co-op brewpub finds a home in downtown Burlington

Max Garland
Assistant News Editor

North Carolina is one step closer to seeing its first cooperative brewpub. The Burlington Beer Works cooperative announced Sept. 25 it will house its brewery and restaurant on 302 S. Main St. in downtown Burlington.

The cooperative, consisting of more than 1,000 members, purchased the space for \$275,000 from Core Properties and Development owner Matthew Robinson. Burlington Beer Works

BURLINGTON BEER WORKS

What: North Carolina's first cooperative brewpub

Services: Bar, brewery, restaurant

Where: 302 S. Main St.

Scheduled opening: 2016

How it started: More than 1,000 members purchased the space for the company, which first formed in 2013

board member and Elon University lecturer in communications Hal Vincent said the space on the corner of South Main Street and Front Street is exactly where they want to be.

"We wanted a place in downtown Burlington from the beginning," Vincent said. "We believe that reinvesting in downtown is so important so we were always looking in that area. It was really a combination of perfect location and building infrastructure that drew us to that spot."

Ian Baltutis, president of the Burlington Beer Works board, backed up Vincent's sentiments in a press release.

"This downtown location is the best space we could have imagined to provide Burlington and Alamance County with a cooperative brewery and restaurant," Baltutis said. "It's been remarkable to see the desire of so many people to own a piece of downtown Burlington's revitalization. Ownership purchases continue to come in even as we have surpassed the initial 1,000 owner goal."

The cooperative, which formed in September 2013, is beginning plans to renovate the interior of the building by refurbishing the floors, installing lighting and fixing the walls, according to Vincent.

The first phase of construction will focus on building a bar by the end of the year to be open Friday and Saturday evenings and serve regional beers, with the goal of having the bar ready to go by the end of the year.

Future plans focus on the



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY HAROLD VINCENT

Ian Baltutis, president of the Burlington Beer Works board, interviews with Time-Warner Cable at the planned site of Burlington Beer Works. When completed, the company will be the first cooperative brewpub in the state.

brewery itself, which is planned to be installed and begin operations in 2016. A full-service kitchen serving locally inspired pub food will comprise the final phase of construction but will require a pod of 2,000 owners.

Between the bar, brewery and kitchen, the Burlington Beer Works site is expected to employ 18 to 30 people and seat about 150 customers, Baltutis told the Burlington Times-News.

According to the Burlington Beer Works website, beer recipes for the brewery will be sourced through partnerships with local home and professional brewers such as the East of Elon Home Brewing Cooperative. The beers themselves will be crafted locally, brewed on site and only available

at the cooperative's restaurant, while the food will be locally focused with seasonal menu items.

Cooperative brewpub, pubs or restaurants owned by multiple people that brew beer on location, are just as rare nationally as they are in North Carolina. Only two are in operation in the United States, according to a Burlington Beer Works news release.

"Co-op brewpubs in general are just a rare thing," Vincent said. "There are a lot of co-op groceries around, but this type of co-op certainly takes a lot of faith and investment in the community, which we have."

The 1,000-plus owners, who are largely Burlington residents, joined by investing \$100 into Burlington Beer Works. The

co-op has also received support from local businesses like the Fat Frogg Bar and Grill, The Oak House and West End Terrace, which have hosted owner events and drives for it.

Vincent added that attracting customers from the Elon area, including students, will be a large part of the cooperative's success, despite the Burlington-based focus.

"We hope it will attract Elon students," said Vincent, who is also faculty director at Live Oak Communications for Elon. "By being a full-service restaurant as well as a brewery, we think it's another excellent option for people in both Burlington and Elon to see this revitalization of downtown."

Elon panel considers future of solar power

Simone Jasper
Assistant News Editor

As the sun set on Elon University Sept. 22, a panel of faculty and staff members talked about the future of solar power.

At the discussion, "A Solar Powered Future: Are We There Yet?," panelists identified a need for solar power and discussed technological, economic and political considerations for increasing its scale.

Dave Gammon, moderator of the panel and associate professor of biology, said solar power makes sense because it is a renewable source that is widely available.

"There are some real problems with basing an economy on non-renewable resources if you plan on doing that over a number of years," Gammon said.

Elon expects to collect solar energy from nearly 10,000 panels at Loy Farm, a 15-acre field with solar panels on South Oak Avenue.

They will be active within a week of the panel discussion, according to Robert Buchholz, associate vice president for facilities management and director of physical plant.

Gerald Whittington, panelist and senior vice president for business, finance and technology, said the university's solar panels are expected to generate energy for the university and are an important learning tool.

"The most important reason for doing this for us was the educational value for all our students — to be able to do research, explore and consider solar power for use in their own lives when they come out of Elon," Whittington said.

Elon already uses energy from solar panels on the roof of Lindner Hall. There are also solar thermal panels that power Colonnades



SIMONE JASPER | Assistant News Editor

Scott Wolter, Vitaliy Strohush and Gerald Whittington speak about the future of solar power at Elon University and beyond during a panel discussion Sept. 22 at Whitley Auditorium.

Dining Hall, two Colonnades neighborhood buildings and two Danieley neighborhood buildings.

But Whittington said the new North Carolina state budget, which does not provide tax credits for solar and other renewable energies, might discourage solar power investors from coming to the state.

"The latest action of the North Carolina legislators would take investors interested in doing it in North Carolina to other states," he said. "People [are] looking for return on that money, and a lot of those come in tax credits."

The other panelists — Scott Wolter, associate professor of engineering, and Vitaliy Strohush, assistant professor of economics — explained how solar power has become more accessible.

Wolter said silicon, the material now used in most solar panels, is readily available in the environment.

Strohush added that the recent price drop

in silicon indicates the potential for wider use of solar panels in the future.

"The dropping price of silicon actually contributed to the dropping price of solar panels," he said. "So you can go and put the panels on a roof, for example."

For senior Ashley Gherlone, the economic part of the discussion was the most impactful. "[Strohush] said that it's cheaper to have solar panels," Gherlone said. "I think that's something that gets through to anyone, whether they believe in it or not."

Sophomore Maritza Gonzalez, who also attended the event in Whitley Auditorium, said the panelists brought to her attention some of the current limitations on solar power usage, including high costs and government policies.

"I was always curious about why we didn't invest more in solar energy," Gonzalez said. "This confirms that there are problems that need solutions."

Correction

In the Sept. 23 edition of The Pendulum, an article was run on the future plans of dining services in Historic Neighborhood.

It was reported that renovations on McEwen would begin July 2016, but according to Chris Fulkerson, assistant vice president for administrative services, there are two options. One, according to Fulkerson, is to start construction "in January and have McEwen off-line until the fall so it would be open for the new students when they arrived," or "start after graduation and bring it back online for the following spring semester with a big reveal to the first-year students mid-year."

Fulkerson said that at the meeting there was "overwhelming response was in support of No. 2" and a consensus that McEwen dining hall could come offline after spring break if more time was needed.

At the meeting, Fulkerson said that he didn't know if the construction could be done by August 2017, and will not know until an assessment of the current structure is completed.

It was reported that there was the possibility of McEwen being one floor, but Fulkerson said that the architect mentioned he would like to open part of the second floor to the first floor to make it feel like one building instead of feeling like it was two separate buildings (one on each floor).

The Pendulum regrets the error.

Elon Votes! pushes students to register for change

Leena Dahal
Senior Reporter

After a campus-wide push for voter registration stemming from Sept. 22's National Voter Registration Day, Elon University propelled itself into the top 25 Turbo Vote schools across the nation Sunday.

With 296 students, or 5.2 percent of campus, that registered to vote during the push, groups on campus invested in shaping civic engagement hope to maintain the momentum in the following weeks.

Elon Votes!, a student-led campaign geared toward providing students with the necessary resources to register to vote, was central to the activities surrounding the push for registration. Juniors June Shuler and Gaby Vance, who also serve as Andrew Goodman Foundation campus representatives, led the campaign.

Vance said other colleges often overlook Elon when it comes to voter registration — an indicator of political and civic engagement on campuses.

"Because a large number of our students are from out-of-state schools and, in general, we are a pretty small school, we did not think we would ever be able to compete against bigger schools," she said. "This just shows how proactive and motivated Elon students are and can be."

Attention during the primaries

Though the election is more than a year away, Shuler and Vance both stressed the importance of remaining engaged during the primaries. They said following candidates over time is central to being an educated voter.

"It's not about choosing from two candidates at the very end," Shuler said. "Being a part of the process is necessary to make sure the candidate whose ideals and policies align with yours gets carried on to the next round."

To vote for the primaries, students need to be registered at least one month in advance. The vote for primaries begins in early March.

Dean of Students Smith Jackson also noted the urgency in a Sept. 22 email to the community, announcing Elon Votes! initiatives for National Voter Registration day.

"Across the country, it is hard to miss that candidates are gearing up for the 2016 election," Jackson said in the email. "Voting is a vital tool to achieve change in our society. We want to encourage students at Elon to take an active role in the 2016 elections by becoming educated about the issues and registering to vote."

To streamline the process of registering and voting, Elon partnered with TurboVote, a tool that allows students to either vote by absentee ballot using their permanent home address or by using their local Elon address.

Shuler said with all these support systems in place, registering and voting shouldn't be a burden to students.

"We're all overworked with papers already, and one signature won't make a difference in our day," she said. "But it's going to make a difference in the political path our country will take, and that's what makes this country powerful — the fact that it is sovereign, the fact that you can vote."

Shaping campus culture

Shuler and Vance hope to work with different organizations to further civic engagement at Elon. Last week, teaming up with SGA proved effective in generating a swell of interest within groups around campus.

"For me, it's important that students are going out there forming educated opinions and having these political discussions because it's the 'cool' thing to do," Shuler said. "It shouldn't come from their family's ideals or their roommate's opinion — it should move beyond political lines and be formed by the students' own thoughts."

Shuler emphasized that youth votes are vital for the upcoming election because they will shape the leadership, policies and direction for the country where they grew up.

"The policies these candidates suggest aren't going to impact your parents or grandparents the way they will impact us,"



Juniors June Shuler and Gaby Vance hand out flyers for Elon Votes! at College Coffee Sept. 22. HALI TALUXE | Photo Editor

she said. "It's going to impact us the most."

Voter turnout among youth has fluctuated nationally. According to The Center for Information & Research On Civic Learning & Engagement (CIRCLE), in the 2008 election, 70 percent of current college students were registered to vote, and 87 percent of the registered students cast a ballot on Election Day. Those numbers were the highest of registered students since at least 1984. But in the 2012 election, youth voter turnout fell to 51 percent — only 45 percent of young people aged 18-29 submitted a ballot.

While youth nonvoters can produce a long list of excuses, most can be discounted, Shuler said. She added that with social media, online debates and the university keeping students informed, information is easy to find.

"Often times the excuse for not voting is, 'There isn't anyone I like,'" Shuler said. "But you shouldn't be voting for people, you should be voting for policies."

Vance agreed.

"Whether a candidate wins or not, we should be politically active and aware of

what's going on as future leaders of our country," she said.

Andrew Goodman Foundation

Shuler, who said she craves intellectual discussion surrounding politics, said she's not afraid to initiate conversations with her peers surrounding the running candidates — even if that means "annoying" her hall-mates with the question, "Have you registered to vote?"

Her pursuit to shape civic engagement at Elon moved her to become an Andrew Goodman Foundation campus ambassador. Together, they leverage this role alongside Elon Votes! to spark further awareness surrounding national news related to the elections.

The Andrew Goodman Foundation is a nonprofit organization that recognizes, encourages and inspires creative and effective action in support of civil rights, human dignity and social justice. Through both the foundation and Elon Votes!, students have plenty of options to stay informed on issues leading up the election season.



INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE PENDULUM?

The Pendulum news organization is always looking for reporters, photographers and videographers. All years and majors welcome!

To get involved, contact our Editor-in-Chief Michael Bodley at mbodley@elon.edu or visit our office, located on the third floor of the Elon Town Center.

OPEN MEETINGS WEDNESDAY 7 P.M.

LEADSTRONG Week highlights Elon change makers

Leena Dahal
Senior Reporter

Moseley tables, workshop sessions and social media posts coming from The Center for Leadership this week have all echoed the same message: Elon University students striving for change are recognized, valued and encouraged.

Their weeklong celebration of leadership — LEADSTRONG Week, an event that previously had more of a global and national focus — is turning its spotlight strictly toward Elon this year with its theme, “Change Agents of Elon.”

Purpose and schedule of events

Running Sept. 28 - Oct. 3, the week explores what it means to be an agent of change at Elon and the everlasting impacts agency as college students can make on its community.

Jess Buller, a senior and the special events director of the Center for Leadership team, said this year’s theme of “Change Agents of Elon” resonates with her.

“The fact that we have a very specific theme this year related directly to Elon is significant because there are so many change

agents at Elon who deserve that recognition,” she said. “So many students are actively working towards a change — be it a small one or a big one.”

Workshops this year include a Oct. 1 discussion led by The Oak House owner Phil Smith on how presidents at Elon actively sought change in their own ways, as well as a Oct. 2 interactive Moseley table.

The week culminates in IMPACT: Summit for Change, a campus-wide event that serves as an “opportunity for students to identify challenges or issues on campus that they want to address” and design “a Commitment to Action, better understand a process for civic engagement and leave feeling empowered to act,” according to the Elon University website.

Change agents highlighted

Buller said the fact that so many change agents, or students that spur social action on campus, exist at Elon made it very difficult to choose the few students to spotlight during the week.

Noah Sakin, a senior and one of the students the Center for Leadership plans to spotlight during the week, said the rec-

ognition is significant because it encourages students to think about the impact their work is having.

“I think it’s an important week because Elon students doing important work need some sort of recognition to help encourage them and remind them that what they are doing has a value,” he said. “Taking time to realize that students actually have an impact and can make a difference can be encouraging both to those students identified as change agents, as well as the rest of the student body.”

But to Buller, it goes beyond recognition.

“There’s often a misconception that change agents have to be students who are doing very large scale things,” she said. “It’s not like that. Anybody working toward a level of change is a change agent.”

Safe Rides goes beyond

Sakin is being recognized for his work with Safe Rides, an organization he joined in his first few weeks as a freshman. A firm advocate against driving under the influence, Sakin said the message behind Safe Rides is one of the many reasons why he has stayed committed to the

organization for so long.

The student-led organization was created after an Elon student died while driving drunk in 1992. Sakin said he feels comforted in knowing that since the student’s death, there hasn’t been another Elon student to die from driving under the influence.

“This, I believe, is partially the result of Safe Ride,” Sakin said. “We make it ‘not cool’ to drive drunk. Students will be more likely to say, ‘You drove drunk? Why? Why not just take Safe Rides?’”

Sakin said what ties students who actively seek change on campus together is the need to go above and beyond their stated duties.

“A change agent is someone who doesn’t just keep doing their job,” Sakin said. “It’s someone who realizes that there are improvements to make and is constantly willing to fight for those improvements.”

Sakin encouraged students around him to learn from the many students at Elon who actively and publicly serve as makers of change.

“The only difference between someone who makes a change and someone who doesn’t is their voice,” he said. “Speak up until your voice is heard.”

UPCOMING LEADSTRONG WEEK EVENTS

Wednesday, Sept. 30

What: Maximizing your Membership

When: 12:15 - 1:15 p.m.

Where: McKinnon F

Thursday, Oct. 1

What: Presidents at Elon

When: 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Where: Belk Pavilion 208

Friday, Oct. 2

What: Moseley Table

When: Noon - 3 p.m.

Where: Moseley

Saturday, Oct. 3

What: Impact: Summit for Change

When: 1 - 6 p.m.

Where: McKinnon Hall

Leonard Pitts Jr. challenges racial bias

Tommy Hamzik
Managing Editor

Society is locked in a continual struggle with the crime of innocence, according to Pulitzer Prize winner and Miami Herald columnist Leonard Pitts Jr.

Pitts spoke on “Race in America,” which he said is a “big, scary topic,” Sept. 24 in Elon University’s McCrary Theatre. His biggest issue is that the nation responds with an “accepted script” when confronted with incidents of racial bias.

He told story after story of these incidents, some personal, others that made national headlines, and how they conserve the blameless culture of innocence in the United States.

Innocence: a common trend

Pitts spoke of a time 41 years ago, when he walked out of a University of Southern California dormitory alongside a white man. Pitts was asked if he knew anything about a stolen bike. He was told he shouldn’t be upset for being singled out because of the school’s location in a largely black area with a high crime rate.

“Innocence,” Pitts said. Another story, set 35 years ago, was when he and his wife were stopped on the way home from a concert, and police, with guns at the ready, ordered them out of their car. The reasoning, the policeman told Pitts, was that his tail light was smoking.

“Innocence,” Pitts said. And the time nine years ago



Leonard Pitts Jr., a Miami Herald columnist, spoke about “Race in America” on Sept. 24 in McCrary Theatre.

when Martin Lee Anderson, a 14-year-old boy from Florida, died while incarcerated for stealing his grandmother’s car after guards manhandled him and forced him to inhale ammonia. One of Pitts’ readers told him, “The guards did us a favor.”

“Innocence,” Pitts said. Pitts spoke for 40 minutes, addressing this recurring theme of “innocence” regarding racial bias that he said has become ingrained in U.S. culture.

This “innocence” was perhaps best exemplified when Pitts said a reader of his referred to the Charleston shooting as, “A hoax perpetrated by liberals.”

“I mention that only to drive home how critical it is to some

of us, and the desperate lengths they go to, to keep that thought, that innocence,” Pitts said. “If you can’t claim innocence, what are you supposed to claim, guilt? People take that quite personally.”

Hope for change

Pitts said racism is as prevalent as ever and that he frequently hears from readers who are upset that he confronts the issue head-on.

The last seven years, he said, have been a “brutal awakening” for those who thought lasting racial progress was made when Barack Obama was elected president in 2008.

“He said a lot of things that needed to be said to people who maybe would not have heard that before,” Eaglin said. “I feel like it brings up conversations and conversations that wouldn’t have been already provoked. Maybe, I think it makes us engage in these conversations to create a more tolerant atmosphere.”

Freshman and member of Black Student Union Julian Rigsby said he liked that Pitts’ message can translate to Elon.

“I think Elon University has come a long way, of course, from what it was 20 years ago, but we still need to get on board and start making the community a better, safer, more aware place of cultural and racial diversities,” Rigsby said. “And I think we’re doing a pretty good job now, but there’s still room for improvement.”

Pitts’ theme of “innocence” resonated with freshman Kaitlin Welch, who said the speaker’s remarks struck a chord she hadn’t previously considered.

“I thought it was very insightful and interesting to hear his point of view on the subject,” she said. “I especially enjoyed when he talked about America’s insistence on its own blamelessness, because I think he is right. Often times we try and push the problems onto someone else when really they are our problems, too.”

This story was jointly reported by The Pendulum and Elon Local News. Alex Hager and Sarah Wood contributed reporting.

PHOTO BY ALEX HAGER

ID from cover

put this program together as a means of being able to better serve our community here in Alamance County.”

For the next half hour, Lininger explained how the process for obtaining the ID works, how it can and cannot be used and who accepts it as a valid form of identification. He also emphasized that the police want to keep immigrants safe, not deport or hurt them.

FaithAction International House, a Greensboro-based nonprofit that helps new immigrants adjust to their new life, created the FaithAction ID program in 2013 after a series of dialogues with the Greensboro Police Department on how to build trust within immigrant and minority communities in Greensboro.

Smythe saw the distrust and fear of the police as two of the central problems among the Latino community in Burlington after starting his job as chief of police two and a half years ago. After meetings with FaithAction, other police departments in Alamance County and Father Paul all of last fall and into the spring, the Alamance County ID Task Force was formed. On May 26, the organization held its first ID drive at Blessed Sacrament.

“Our job is to make everyone feel safe,” he said. “We are here to extend a hand in friendship and trust, and build relationships so that when you have problems you can call us.”

“Before, you might not have called the police because you weren’t able to show an identification card. But after today, you will have an identification card. And my hope is that [the] card will give you the confidence to call us when you need us.”

But the program Smythe has worked so hard to bring to Alamance County, and Burlington in particular, could be considered illegal following a vote in the North Carolina Senate that could happen this week.

Protect North Carolina Workers Act

The bill under consideration, H.B. 318, tightens laws around E-Verify, an Internet-based system that employers use to determine the eligibility of their employees to



Members of the Latino and Hispanic community registered for a FaithAction ID card Sept. 25. The IDS could soon be illegal, pending a vote in the General Assembly.

work in the North Carolina or in the United States. Employers found a way around E-Verify, though, by employing fewer than 25 people, the current number a business can hire before needing to use E-Verify. The bill, also known as the Protect North Carolina Workers Act, would slash the number of hires down to five.

The bill also nullifies any forms of identification that are not issued by a state or federal government. That includes the matricula consular, an ID the Mexican consulate in Raleigh has issued for 20 years to its citizens in North and South Carolina; municipal IDs like the one Charlotte has considered creating; and church- and nonprofit-administered ID cards, including FaithAction’s ID program.

“Things can be legal — that doesn’t make them moral,” said Vanessa Bravo, assistant professor of communications who has conducted research within Hispanic migrant communities. “If this bill passes, it will be immoral. The [FaithAction] ID doesn’t hurt anyone.”

Identification in North Carolina

Another bill, H.B. 328, would have made all of these types of IDs illegal as well, but it would have permitted undocumented immigrants in North Carolina to get a North Carolina driver’s license, valid up to a year. They would have to go through an intense

background check and have insurance, but they would have had some form of identification. This bill was never voted on.

Suyapa Mejia said she has witnessed the effects not having a North Carolina driver’s license has had on undocumented men, women and children.

Mejia has worked 13 years for the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) at North Carolina State University, promoting healthy eating and habits for Hispanic and Latino families in Orange County.

“These women cannot get prescriptions,” she said. “They don’t give them the medicine because they don’t have a license.”

Mejia said most of the consequences of not having identification hurt children, who may have been born in the United States or migrated with one or both parents. Without a license or other form of ID, she said, fathers and mothers cannot take their children out of school if they are sick or need to go home early. When the state deports them for traffic violations, children are left behind and put in state custody.

The fight for and against the bill

Rep. George Cleveland introduced H.B. 318 as a way to protect jobs in North Carolina. He said undocumented workers in North Carolina take jobs from unemployed citizens of the state and the United States.

While the consular ID has been in place for almost 20 years, Cleveland said the consulate has been issuing the matricula consular without needing substantial proof of identity.

Maria Monsalvo, public relations director for the Mexican consulate in Raleigh, disagreed.

“To get a matricula consular, you need proof of nationality, like a birth certificate or a passport with a photo,” she said. “They need to be original documents. If we have a problem with the documents, we call and ask.”

In May 2015, the consulate issued a statement reiterating to the General Assembly the importance of the matricula consular, its security features and what it does and does not allow.

The ID is issued regardless of immigration status, and can’t be used to obtain a social security card or a driver’s license. Though the consulate does not allow criminals or those in a judicial process to receive the ID, Cleveland argued otherwise.

“They broke federal law by coming into this country illegally,” he said. “They are criminals.”

Pending House approval

H.B. 318 passed the House April 2015. The bill was sent to the Senate, where the bill was amended and voted on. On Monday, it passed the third reading in the Senate, but the added amendment needs to be approved by the House, where the bill originated.

Should the House concur the changes, the bill becomes law. If not, the two houses will appoint a committee to work out compromises.

Smythe urged those present at the ID drive to get in touch with or have their friends contact Rep. Stephen Ross, one of Alamance County’s state representatives who approved the bill on the first vote. He could not be reached for comment.

Smythe explained that the law has enough support to be approved, meaning he and his department could not administer the program or accept the FaithAction ID as a form of identification.

It also means the rest of the drives scheduled to be held this fall will need to be canceled.

“We’re changing lives with these people,” he said. “These folks are safer when they feel confident enough to call the police.”

Elon dedicates site of School of Communications expansion

Schar Hall to open fall 2016 as extension of McEwen Building

Tommy Hamzik
Managing Editor

Elon University President Leo Lambert remembers a phone call with Dwight Schar from last December, days after he and his wife donated \$12 million for a number of university projects, including the School of Communications expansion.

“OK, have the bulldozers shown up yet?” Schar asked.

They arrived in May, and the construction has continued on the project that Schar’s donation spearheaded. The two-story, 45,000-square foot building will be named Schar Hall in his and his wife’s honor.

Elon administrators, trustees, professors and students gathered Friday in McEwen Communications Building to dedicate the site of the expansion, which is set to be completed for next fall.

“We were able to move this construction project ahead of schedule because of [the Schar’s] generous philanthropy,” Lambert said.

Studio B was filled, and an overflow crowd moved to Studio A for the ceremony, after which everyone was invited to sign a steel plate that will be placed on a beam in the new building.

“Today, the School of Communications and student media is spread across six buildings around campus and in downtown Elon,” said Paul Parsons, dean of the School of Communications. “Thanks to this expansion, we will be uniting all elements of the school of communications and student media in impressive, state-of-the-art facilities for our students.”

Both Lambert and Parsons remarked on the progress of the school in the last 15 years, back to when Parsons said the space wasn’t even fully occupied in the current building. Lambert said the designs for the new facilities have been carefully scrutinized to promote student engagement.

“When you walk by Schar Hall, you will be able to see students creating media everywhere,” he said.

Taylor Hoerr ’17, a strategic communications major and assistant director of Live Oak Communications, and Edmond N. Moriarty III P ’15, P ’18, a trustee and donor, also spoke. Hoerr remembers a professor speaking during her freshman year and saying the expansion wouldn’t be ready for her class to experience.

“It’s amazing to me that, starting next year, the building will be open ... and I’ll be here to enjoy it,” Hoerr said.



Dwight Schar, primary donor and namesake for the addition, along with various donors, signed a steel plate that will be displayed in the new building that opens next fall.

Confronting the question of consent

Mike Domitrz's discussion draws response, laughter

Max Garland
Assistant News Editor

McKinnon Hall was quieter than it had been the entire night. Author and speaker Mike Domitrz called out a handful of athletes during a serious and deeply personal moment in his "Can I Kiss You?" discussion.

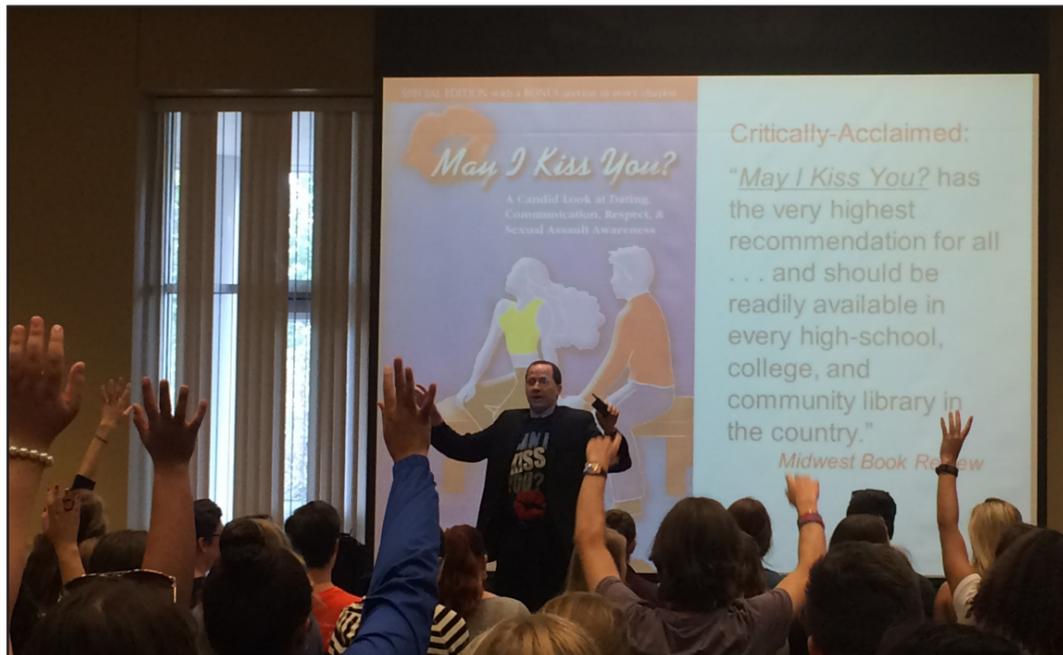
"Athletes say, 'I hate that we have a reputation,'" Domitrz said. "I say, 'Great, how do you live your life so that isn't true?' You're talking and laughing while I'm talking about my sister being raped, and then you wonder why athletes don't care about others. Imagine if someone in this room, a fellow athlete, said, 'Hey, stop it, you are absolutely making us look like idiots.'"

Call for campus-wide discussion

Domitrz, a former college athlete himself, said during his discussion on consent, bystander intervention and supporting survivors of sexual assault at Elon University Sept. 25 that athletes are just one group that has the ability to spark change on campuses. He spoke twice Thursday, at 4:15 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., generating laughter and audience call-backs in both showings.

Throughout the talks, Domitrz addressed the power of asking before sexual contact, how friends may not be the best first place to go for sexual advice and misconceptions of the mix between alcohol and sex.

"People say alcohol is a social lubricant because they're not ac-



Mike Domitrz was the guest speaker at the 'Can I Kiss You?' event in McKinnon that discussed sexual assault awareness and prevention, survivor support and promotion of healthy relationships.

tually comfortable having sex," Domitrz said. "They use alcohol to trick themselves into believing they're actually comfortable. If you're comfortable, do you need 1 ounce of alcohol in you?"

Domitrz said using the term "liquid courage" to describe alcohol is inaccurate. Instead, he called it "liquid coward," saying alcohol does nothing to lessen the fear of confrontation in sexual encounters.

"If you call it liquid courage, that makes people want to drink way more," he said. "It's more likely because it sounds more positive. The same goes when you say alcohol lowers inhibition, when it really just lowers standards."

Effects of liquid courage

The only reason people fail to confront something is when they believe it isn't worth it, according to Domitrz. He said human beings have no fear of confrontation, if impossible-to-win arguments with parents and people stopping their friends from driving home drunk are any indication.

Domitrz said people aren't afraid of getting to know new people, rejection or being caught in an awkward moment when it comes to hooking up. Simply put, no one knows how to ask a simple question: "Can I kiss you?"

"The real reason we don't ask this is that we were never taught how," he said. "Most people are

taught about abstinence or how to have safer sex. They're important conversations — what not to do, and what not to get. The problem is if you're being taught what not to do and what not to get, you're never being taught what to do."

This leads to people turning to less useful resources, according to Domitrz: friends.

"Friends think their personal experience is knowledge," he said. "So they tell you what to do, you try it, and then you learn you got some kinky weird friends."

Domitrz argued that verbal communication with a sexual partner is vital, as body language is difficult to decipher.

"If you're walking out of here saying, 'That's ridiculous,' think

of what you're actually saying, 'Letting my partner choose is ridiculous,' he said. "What are you afraid of? The answer? That's the only thing they can be afraid of."

Domitrz influence remains

Some people in the audience weren't seeing Domitrz at Elon for the first time. Sophomore Ian Pomeroy said he joined SPARKS Peer Educators, a student organization that focuses on health-related programming, after going to Domitrz's program as a freshman.

"Last year, I came to the program, and it was one of the first times I ever heard the question ["Can I Kiss You?"] being raised," Pomeroy said. "It was really interesting to me, so I came back. The way he talks to college students really connects with us."

Senior Elyse Bierut said her third time seeing Domitrz was just as memorable.

"The first time I came with my cross country team, and we keep coming back because we think he's great," Bierut said. "It's a challenging topic, but he does a good job."

After the program, Domitrz said awareness of these types of social issues on college campuses has grown, especially when it comes to giving consent while drunk.

"It's changed a lot since I've been doing this," he said. "It used to be that people incorrectly said, 'Yes' when I asked if an intoxicated partner can give consent. Now people realize that they aren't of sound mind. That's a good thing, but there's still a lot people need to learn."

Elon Poll: Trump leads GOP, trails Clinton

Max Garland
Assistant News Editor

Donald Trump holds a slim lead over Ben Carson for North Carolina's Republican presidential preference, but Carson and Jeb Bush would fare better against Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton in the 2016 presidential election, according to the Elon University Poll's latest report.

In an election matchup of Trump versus Clinton, 47 percent of respondents said they would vote for Clinton, while 40 percent said they would vote for Trump. Carson and Bush led by 11 and three points in their respective match-ups against Clinton.

"The GOP needs North Carolina if they want to win the White House," said Jason Husser, assistant director of the Elon Poll, in a statement. "This survey suggests Trump would likely lose to Clinton in the Old North State. However, other Republican candidates have grounds for success."

Among the 1,258 North Car-

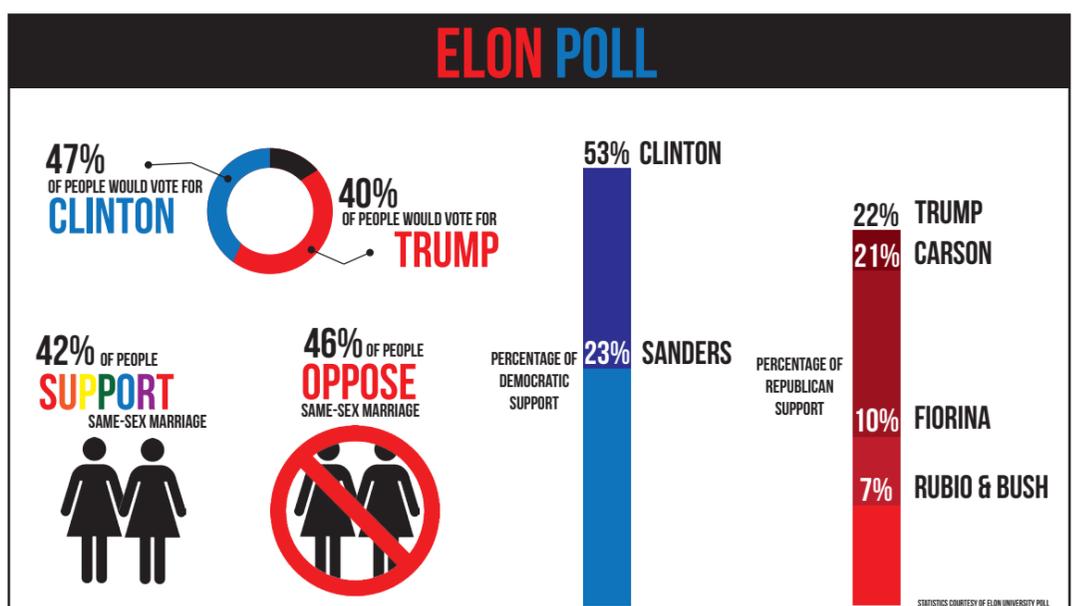
olina residents surveyed Sept. 17-21, Carson received more support from women and Independent voters than Clinton did in their hypothetical matchup. He also garnered double the support among African-American voters compared to Trump and Bush.

But Trump held 22 percent of Republican support compared to Carson's 21 percent. Carly Fiorina placed third with 10 percent, while Marco Rubio and Bush each received 7 percent.

On the Democratic side, Clinton received 53 percent of support, with Bernie Sanders a distant second at 23 percent.

When polled on social issues, 46 percent of voters opposed same-sex marriage compared to the 42 percent who supported it, and more registered voters said access to abortion should be made more difficult than those who said it should be easier.

"For the past two years, the Elon Poll has observed a trend of increased public support for making access to an abortion easier," said Kenneth Fernandez, director of the Elon University



Poll, in a statement. "However, public sentiment appears to have changed recently in North Carolina. This new survey shows more voters prefer increasing restrictions on access to an abortion. This may be a response to the increased negative media attention Planned Parenthood has received in recent months."

The political affiliations of

the respondents were split evenly between those who identified as Republicans (31 percent) and those who identified as Democrats (33 percent).

In other polling areas, Republican Gov. Pat McCrory holds a one-point lead over Democrat Roy Cooper for next year's vote for North Carolina governor. The economy was seen as the United

States' most important issue at 23 percent, with international affairs at 13 percent. President Barack Obama's approval rating was at 41.6 percent, a slight decrease from April's poll, which found his approval rating to be 42.9 percent.

The Elon Poll's report and full methodology can be found at elon.edu.

Cheat Sheet: Pope visits the US



On his first trip across the United States, Pope Francis sought to leave political and social marks on his first visit to cities such as Philadelphia. PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Pope Francis returned to Vatican City Monday after a six-day trip to New York, Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia — his first visit to the United States. Family, forgiveness, the protection of immigrant rights and the eradication of sex abuse numbered among his highlighted remarks during the visit, which was part of an international Mission trip.

Who is the pope anyway?

Pope Francis is the 266th and current Pope of the Catholic Church, Bishop of Rome and Sovereign of the Vatican City. Popes are elected through a governing body called the College of Cardinals. Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Francis is the first Jesuit pope and the first from the Americas.

A groundbreaking pope

Pope Francis became the first pope to address Congress, and his speech brought some lawmakers to tears — including former House Speaker John Boehner, who, in the wake of his meeting with Francis, declared retirement after months of talking about resigning.

In a press conference explaining his decision, Boehner choked up over his personal moment with the pope, who lauded him for his efforts on education and for children.

In his address to Congress, the pope asked lawmakers to embrace the millions of undocumented immigrants in the U.S. with humanity — calling himself a “son of an immigrant.”

In the same address, he urged the United States to join him in a global campaign against climate change — a phenomena that some GOP presidential candidates have publically labeled a “hoax.”

Pope Francis also took a stand against sexual abuse, an issue that has followed the Catholic Church for years — especially after a string of cases were revealed during Pope Benedict XVI's leadership. Meeting with survivors in Philadelphia, the pope listened to their stories, offered a few words and prayed with them.

The pope also visited a prison in Philadelphia. He addressed the city's Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility Sunday, a maximum security prison that houses more than 2,800 inmates. In his speech, he urged the inmates to view him as a “brother and not as a pastor” who “seeks to share [their] situation and make it his own.”

The pope causes controversy

Francis conducted the canonization — the ceremonial elevation to sainthood — of missionary Junipero Serra, a Spanish missionary saint who sought to curb

abuses in early Spanish rule. To some Native American groups, he also serves as a figure who represents the extermination of Native American peoples. The Native American groups condemned the canonization and led protests around D.C. A statue of Serra was vandalized by protesters in the northern Californian's Carmel Mission, where the missionary is buried.

How popular is the pope in the United States?

Pope Francis is a beloved figure among people in the U.S. for his outspokenness and support for liberty and human rights, as well as his more inclusive stands on religious and governmental policies.

A Pew Research Center Poll in March 2015 found that Pope Francis had 90 percent favorability among U.S. Catholics. He was rated favorably by 70 percent of all survey respondents.

In an example of how popular the pope is, Mayor Michael Nutter, who had budgeted \$45 million for the pope's two-day stop in Philadelphia, reported that more than 1.5 million people were in attendance — double the city's population.

Kenny Duncan, celebrity barber, even shaved a portrait of the pope in a customer's head, posting the picture online as a form of welcome.

News Briefs

Pro-life bill passed by NC Senate

The North Carolina Senate voted 41-3 Sept. 24 in favor of a bill that would ban the sale of body parts resulting from an abortion. The bill, sponsored by Sen. Chad Barefoot, also bans family planning funding for abortion providers and the donation of fetal body parts that didn't come from a natural miscarriage for medical research.

The bill passed after the release of hidden-camera videos implying officials of Planned Parenthood, a nonprofit that provides abortions along with other reproductive health-related services, were discussing the sales of fetal tissue. Planned Parenthood has denied claims that it profits from selling body parts, saying the video was improperly edited and that the organization follows all regulations in fetal tissue donations, according to a report by the Raleigh News & Observer.

Homecoming honors for 5 alumni

Elon University's Office of Alumni Engagement announced the five winners of its annual Alumni Awards. Igor Pavlov, '94, Tracey Nugent, '84, Matt Belanger, '05, Melissa Taylor Duncan, '06, and Darryl Smith, '86, will be recognized for their awards at the homecoming opening ceremony Oct. 16.

Pavlov, the managing director and co-head of Jefferies Relative Value, will be awarded Alumnus of the Year. Nugent, a philanthropist based in Florida, will be awarded Alumna of the Year.

Belanger, a weekend evening anchor and reporter for WSB-TV in Atlanta won Young Alumnus of the Year. Duncan, Elon School of Law's associate director of student and professional life, will receive the award for Young Alumna of the Year.

Smith, vice president of sales for UPS Capital Inc. in Raleigh, won the Distinguished Service to Elon Award, contributing to the creation of the university's Black Alumni Scholarship.

E-waste recycling at Public Works lot

An e-waste recycling event will take place Saturday 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Public Works parking lot on E. Summit Avenue.

Items considered recyclable include home electronics, personal computers, personal electronics and other miscellaneous electronic devices.

According to a statement released from the City of Burlington, batteries and other non-electronic items will not be accepted. Alkaline batteries need to be removed from electronic devices before the devices are dropped off.

'Woofstock' to be held Saturday

Burlington residents are encouraged to bring their dogs to the annual Woofstock Dog Festival. Presented by the Humane Society of Alamance County, the event will be held 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Oct. 3 in Burlington City Park. Attendees can enjoy Woofstock-themed T-shirts, raffles and a variety of vendors from the Burlington area. For further information, contact the Humane Society of Alamance County at 336-438-2023.

CRIME REPORT

Sept. 24 ASSAULT

APPLE STREET, BURLINGTON: A Burlington man was placed in Alamance County Detention Center and charged with attempted robbery and assault with a deadly weapon after being accused of severely injuring a man during a robbery Thursday. The man allegedly threatened another man with a pocket knife in order to steal beer and cigarettes and cut the back of the victim's neck, according to a Burlington Times-News report.

Sept. 25

GUN VIOLENCE

HALL AVENUE, BURLINGTON: An investigation regarding a shooting around 2 a.m. Friday morning into two Hall Avenue residences continues. Bur-

lington police responded to a report of multiple gunshots fired, and one victim was injured from debris from one of the bullets, according to a Burlington Times-News report. The suspects were seen in a cream- or gold-colored sedan — possibly a Ford Taurus — according to a witness.

Sept. 26

VANDALISM

MANNING AVENUE AND OAK AVENUE, ELON:

Two similar incidents of vandalism involving Elon students occurred early Saturday morning. No suspects are currently known for either case.

On Oak Avenue, a student reported to Town of Elon police that six to eight men damaged the outside of his residence by tearing off a hand railing leading to the upstairs area, breaking the

glass of a metal table and overturning trash cans and a grill Saturday morning around 3:30 a.m. The student said he saw the damages occur from his second floor landing and yelled at the subjects, who fled on foot soon after. Police found several beer and wine bottles broken on the floor in the kitchen, which the student said the men could have done since the back door was unlocked.

On Manning Avenue, a student reported to the Town of Elon police that he found his bedroom window shattered with a cinderblock and his gas grill turned over and broken around 9 a.m. Saturday morning. The student did not see any damage when he returned home the night before, but said his fraternity brothers also received similar damage to their property. A neighbor said he heard noise around 5 a.m. but was not sure if it was related to the incident.

Editorial

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

Ending hazing is up to students

As part of ongoing efforts to end hazing at Elon University, the recently established Hazing Prevention Coalition organized events last week to participate in National Hazing Prevention Week (NHPW). The Coalition has brought new energy to the fight against hazing at Elon, but there is still a long way to go.

The Coalition can't do anything without student cooperation. Students know hazing is happening. They take part in it, watch it and are affected by it.

But many do nothing to end it. Some students don't recognize certain activities as hazing — others don't care.

Either way, university administration can't do anything unless the student body shares its commitment to end hazing.

Last week's NHPW events, as part of national efforts to raise awareness of, educate about and promote hazing prevention, were the Coalition's first campus-wide initiative. The events and activities including an informational table at College Coffee Sept. 22 and a workshop for advisers of student organizations. They are just the beginning of a new era of hazing prevention at Elon.

The Coalition — established last summer — is a group of



CAILIN JALYNSKI | Staff Photographer
Last week, tables in the Moseley Center distributed information about hazing prevention and asked students to sign a banner against hazing.

university staff and students who are working to educate all students and all organizations, said Dana Carnes, associate director of the Center for Leadership and Coalition member.

Hazing is a campus-wide problem, but so far the only student organizations taking visible action to prevent hazing are sororities. Sigma Sigma Sigma and Alpha Xi Delta set up tables in Moseley Center to increase awareness and to educate students, faculty and staff on hazing prevention. Members of other Greek organizations were invited to join, but non-Greek student organizations didn't participate in NHPW.

People often associate hazing

with Greek organizations, and they're not wrong: last year, two fraternities were suspended for hazing. Hazing is a problem within fraternities and sororities, but it is not exclusively a Greek problem. Other student organizations have the potential to haze, too.

Penalization for hazing shouldn't be the only motivation behind prevention efforts. Membership of a community that is associated with hazing shouldn't be, either.

At other universities, all kinds of organizations — varsity sports, club sports and other individual organizations — have faced consequences for hazing. At Elon, these organizations aren't

necessarily hazing, but hazing by these types of organizations isn't unprecedented at other schools. It's within the realm of possibility that organizations other than fraternities and sororities haze. Efforts to stop a campus-wide problem should be supported campus-wide.

Carnes emphasized that the Coalition is approaching hazing from a preventative standpoint that seeks to stop hazing before it starts. To do this, the Coalition is working to educate new students before they get involved in organizations so they know how to identify hazing if or when it happens and where to go to find help.

"I think reactionary responses have been more prevalent, both at Elon and at other institutions," Carnes said.

"But from a preventative standpoint, we're hoping that, with all these new students who just joined however many organizations you sign up for at Org Fair, that we're preparing them or providing them with information so they can be more knowledgeable and aware as they join groups."

Students haze other students. It's a student problem, and it's up to students to end it. The

QUICK FACTS

- In North Carolina, any hazing violation constitutes a Class 2 misdemeanor.
- Report hazing anonymously at www.elon.edu/ReportHazing or by calling 336-278-4293.

Hazing Prevention Coalition and other administrators can offer resources and support, but their efforts mean nothing if students don't take advantage of them.

So pay attention to the activities you take part in or see. If an activity seems like it could be hazing, don't be afraid to step forward. Do something to protect yourself, your friends and your organizations. Stop accepting hazing as a tradition or a part of college life and do something to stop it.

Take a stand against cultural appropriation

To the girl standing outside Freshii with a bindi on the side of your forehead: I'm truly sorry for staring.



Leena Dahal
Columnist

I was just trying to tell if the bindi, an item I'd watch my mother cautiously place on the very middle of her forehead with calculated precision, traveled to the side of your head by accident. Perhaps you brushed it aside while walking?

Perhaps it slid down to the left as the day progressed and you had no time to adjust it?

But then you reached across and patted the bindi down — still displaced on the side of your forehead — and I couldn't continue making excuses for you.

To the girl standing outside Freshii with a bindi on the side of your forehead:

I didn't say anything out loud, but you made me angry.

Looking at you made me recall all those mornings I would spend over the school sink rigorously scraping the tikka or red rice paste — essentially the non-sticker form of the bindi — off my forehead because my classmates would taunt me with remarks like, "Look, she's bleeding from the forehead."

Practicing my own culture meant having to deal with the bullying. It meant internalizing the stares, giggles and pointing. But the element of my culture that once singled me out for being "too foreign" sat on the side of your forehead as something edgy, exotic and desirable.

As we've heard over and over again, there's a fine line between cultural appropriation and cultural appreciation. But do we hear it enough?

Appropriation is theft. It's when, last year, a sorority at Elon University decided it would somehow be culturally appropriate to supplement its recruitment theme

with headbands, feathers, Native American symbols and dream catchers without making any reference or respect to the culture they were seemingly exploiting and stereotyping for photo opportunities.

Appropriation is denying history. It's buying an Indian mandala tapestry — a Buddhist and Hindu symbol of interconnectedness and unity — from a "boho store," hanging it on your wall to "add color to your room" and describing it as "hippie" — a term that silences and denies the extensive history behind the art form and does not do justice to its origins.

Appreciation is the intentional toppling of power structures and dynamics in a conversation. It's a mutual exchange. It's admitting ignorance, recognizing privilege and exhibiting respectful curiosity. It's a question constructed in a way that doesn't take ownership of the culture you're choosing to celebrate or learn more about. It's asking and researching before wearing.

Appreciation is humility. It's recognizing that studying abroad in a country for

three weeks or three months doesn't make you an expert or give you the right to take ownership of the cultures you engaged with. Yes, even if you had an "Eat, Pray, Love" epiphany and constantly tell your friends, "My heart never left _____."

Appreciation is also taking a stand. It's calling out those who appropriate and it's questioning social norms that play on cultural traditions that aren't your own. It's saying, "No, you can't just call any patterns of colorful geometric shapes 'tribal print.'" It's asking, "Hey, before you don those cornrows, maybe think about the cultural double standards black women face for doing the same?"

The primary difference between the two? Research, respect and an educated decision on whether the aspect of culture you're choosing to celebrate is diminishing the community you're taking it from.

To the girl standing outside Freshii with a bindi on the side of your forehead: I'm truly sorry I walked away without saying anything.

THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

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

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'Make it a great day or not'

It's been a bad week.

It's been one of those weeks where all the plans I've made fall through, the list of things to do seems too long and my bag is so full of books that I make a weird "oof" noise every time I pick it up. Qdoba ran out of chips, The Root ran out of truffle fries, I overslept and didn't have time to work out and I spilled a glass



Lauren Phillips
Columnist

of wine (it's OK, I'm 21) on my favorite fuzzy blanket.

Sunlight deprivation and a soggy Family Weekend almost pushed me to the point where I crawl into bed, give up on school and resign myself to living in my mom's basement for the rest of my life.

And I let these things ruin my week.

A good friend of mine talks about having an internal locus of control, as opposed to an external one.

I didn't take any psych classes past Introduction to Psychology, but the way I understand it, people who have an internal locus of control find gratification from within.

They see themselves as being in control, rather than being controlled by external factors. They believe that they — not external factors such as luck, others' actions or bad timing — are responsible for their own successes or failures.

I think this internal or external locus of control can extend to mood. I was in a terrible, biting-heads-off funk all week, and I blamed everything (and everyone) else for causing it. I blamed my classes, my professors and the weather. I never thought that I could choose whether these things should affect me.

Honestly, it's easier to let a few bad things ruin your week than it is to put

them in perspective and focus on the good things.

Truffle-fry-deprivation felt overwhelmingly awful and I, in my hangry, miserable state, was too upset to consider that there would be more truffle fries the next day. But there were, I ate some and they were delicious.

This horrible extended metaphor is my attempt to say that minor upsets in life are just that — minor.

Life isn't always great. Things don't always go right, and sometimes all the bad things pile up into one colossally awful week.

I don't think I'm the only one to feel this way. But I know I have a harder time shaking off the minor things than some of my friends, and that's partially my decision.

There are so many other things to worry about than truffle fries and a wine-stained blanket. I can choose to focus on them and let them blow out of pro-

portion, or I can choose not to. It's not always a choice I think about, and it's not an easy choice to stick to. But I think it's a choice I need to make more often.

Actually, I think a lot of us could benefit from making this choice more often. Instead of blaming malfunctioning printers, long coffee lines, bad traffic or faulty alarms for ruining our mornings, days or weeks, just don't.

Accept that things go wrong, maybe sulk for a minute or two, then move on. You can complain to your best friend, parent or stuffed animal later, but don't let the minor things ruin the major things. It's not worth it.

In high school, every day at the end of morning announcements the principal would say, "Make it a great day or not, the choice is yours."

This is, of course, painfully cheesy and we all tuned it out, but maybe it's true.

Maybe the choice is ours, and we just have to make it.

Academic writing doesn't define you as a writer

When I began working as a consultant for Elon University's Writing Center last spring, I was slightly unsure of myself. I knew the tools and tricks of academic writing, but explaining these concepts to others as though I were a certified expert in the craft seemed a daunting challenge.



Tim Melton
Columnist

But having been at it for a few months now, I feel like I've learned something about myself, my fellow students and the state of academic writing at Elon: Writing will still be important after college. Academic writing won't be.

There's a tremendous range of opinions concerning academic writing at Elon — some find it engaging and fulfilling, some loathe it with a passion and some regard it with dull apathy.

I can understand the bitter outlooks on writing because

I've also felt the frustration of writing on a topic that simply doesn't interest me. Still, as a consultant, I find it heartbreaking how often I encounter writers who constantly sell themselves short. They've tried to learn proper writing, they say, but they'll "just never be good at it."

I believe this problem stems from faults in perception between the individual student and the system itself. Academic writing teaches us that there are clear distinctions between "good writing" and "bad writing," and as such, we assume that these distinctions can be used to label "good writers" and "bad writers."

Students who judge their writing based on how many marks the professor made in red ink are more likely to approach future writing with indifference or, even worse, hostility.

The issues facing students who struggle with writing may appear technical in nature, but they really concern a lack of confidence and perseverance. And while you might think that attitudes toward academic writing are isolated to college, the truth is that writing is prominent in many modern

careers, and those who dislike writing in college will carry those perceptions with them even after leaving Elon.

But the prevalence of writing after college is what makes academic writing so essential.

Years after leaving college, relatively little academic writing will still be pertinent to your life, but writing as a practice most certainly will be. Rather than assuming that poor writing makes a poor writer, consider each piece you write as a learning experience, a proverbial stepping stone to a time when how you write, rather than what you write, will carry much more weight.

Your performance in academic writing may define you as a student, but it hardly defines you as a writer. It's true that some are naturally more inclined to writing than others, but the desire to improve is most important.

Academic writing may seem fruitless at times, but even the uninteresting assignments can help establish your future identity as a writer. It can be difficult to confront your own faults without losing heart, but the effort is certainly worth it.

DOCTORS' ORDERS VOTER REGISTRATION AND YOU



Lauryl Fischer & Frankie Campisano
Columnists

We are on the eve of great change in the United States. "The Daily Show" has a new host (don't worry, Jon Stewart just went out for a pack of cigarettes. He'll be back in no time). There's an election next November, which apparently started last January, and there have already been so many gaffes that Mitt Romney's 47 percent comment wouldn't even make headlines.

So, in that respect, maybe "The Daily Show" will be fine, Stewart or no Stewart.

But as "The Daily Show" generation, we owe it to Jon Stewart to get involved and make a difference in our world.

Let's start small. Are you registered to vote? Well, you'd better be, because we Millennials will represent the largest voting block for the first time ever. We've heard the tired statistics about how apathetic, disillusioned and politically disengaged we are as a generation. Well, it's time to stick it to the man, so to speak, by participating in the man's system.

Vote — if only to snub the stereotype. Vote — to irritate an old person. You know how the Baby Boomers are at fault for most of the crap we've got to deal with? Now it's our turn to be at fault for new, fresh crap. But it'll be our crap. We can put our crap on the mantle next to the participation ribbons our parents gave us and now use to blame us for being "self-absorbed."

We could use our voting power to enact monumental, historic changes for our culture and society at large. We could bring back "Firefly." We could collectively outlaw the fourth season of "Arrested Development." We could even have policies that don't have to do with television if we

really put our heads together.

Think big. Think about the reinvention of the two-party system. Instead of Democrats vs. Republicans, let's draw the rivalry down more decisive lines: Apple vs. Microsoft. Netflix vs. Hulu. (For what it's worth, it seems like everyone who uses Hulu also has Netflix, but not the other way around. Hmm.) Those who use emojis ironically vs. those who still don't understand the meaning of ironic.

When we're in charge of the Hill, we'll lobby through YikYak and filibuster with Netflix marathons. Most of our collective understanding of politics comes from "House of Cards" and "The West Wing," anyway. None of this is a criticism of the Millennial generation, by the way. Things are going to be just as gridlocked when we're running things, but at least we'll have more fun.

And we'll do a good enough job to avoid disappointing the pope when he visits again. We were pretty disappointed that, despite our best efforts, Pope Francis didn't visit Elon University during his time in the U.S., since it would have been practice for when we're Senate-approved.

Rx PRESCRIPTION

Doctors' Orders is a weekly satirical column in which two unprofessional, definitely fake doctors offer up prescriptions for their Phoenix patients.

But during his short time in our country, he inspired the kind of change we want to see come from our generation.

He convinced the Speaker of the House to resign and then announced a progressive rock album. We can only imagine if the pope came to our campus.

His Holiness could have gotten Leo Lambert to drop a sick featured verse on a "Twisted Measure" song and convinced whoever the Phoenix-equivalent of Boehner is to step down.

If you're not going to vote for yourself, or your country, or for the Netflix and chill marathons, then do it for your pope. He's a pretty dope guy. Be the change your pope can believe in. Be the type of baby he'd want to give a big, wet Catholic smooch.

Breaking down nuclear weapons

Elon student wins Nukebusters Film Competition

Caroline Perry
Senior Reporter

When junior Jonny Deaton received his \$5,000 prize from the Nukebusters Short Film Contest, he was overwhelmed.

His short film, "Joining the Conversation," featured the relationship between Millennials and their knowledge of nuclear weapons and development.

The competition was sponsored by Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR), a physician-led organization working to protect the United States from nuclear attacks. All participants were encouraged to create a video that would inspire young adults to eliminate the United States' use of nuclear weapons, according to the PSR website.

Informing Millennials

As a cinema and television arts major, Deaton's experience in classes at Elon helped prepare him for the production. With his team, he brainstormed ways to set the video apart and connect with their audience.

"We wanted to make it realistic because we wanted to relate to Millennials in terms of nuclear weapon abolishment," he said.

His winning video features different pairs of young adults reacting to powerful statements about the current status of nuclear weapons in the United States. They respond with shock and disappointment about the widespread nuclear development in the country.

The respondents sat in front of a blank background and told the camera what they were feeling after hearing facts such as, "We accidentally dropped two nuclear bombs on ourselves in North Carolina."

This simplistic presentation

was intentional.

"When we were brainstorming about it, I came up with the idea to stick kids like us in front of a white screen," Deaton said.

They also took advantage of the audience's lack of nuclear knowledge to evoke their feeling of shock towards how extensive nuclear usage is.

Deaton admitted he did not know much about the topic himself before entering the competition.

"With a topic like nuclear weapons, the reactions to stats were visceral, partly because the stats were so shocking, but also because this is an area of policy that can potentially mean life and death," said director of photography and alumnus Will Lee '15.

Deaton said their approach stood out.

"We approached it this way because a lot of people are introduced to the topic of nuclear devices with fear tactics," he said. "We wanted to make it relatable instead."

Rather than using actors, the video took on a documentary and educational angle.

"The video itself was straightforward from a technological standpoint," Lee said. "It was designed to let the subjects do all the work in the interview process."

Collaborating in Los Angeles

Along with hard work, Deaton was fortunate with finding and winning this competition.

"My sister worked at the nonprofit that sponsored the competition and she pushed for about a month, when I was in Los Angeles, for me to do the competition," he said. "I said that I was too busy, that it was impossible, but eventually she managed to convince me."

With only two weeks left be-



PHOTO COURTESY OF JONATHAN DEATON

A screenshot from Deaton's film 'Joining the Conversation,' in which Millennials react to facts about nuclear power.

fore the deadline, Deaton reached out to his friends in the area for Elon in LA to help him. He first contacted Lee to be the director of photography.

"It was amazing to be able to work with such incredible people," Deaton said. "When I contacted my friends in LA they really dropped everything for me, knowing they weren't necessarily going to get paid."

His friends were just as excited to work on the project with Deaton.

"Jonny had done all the worrying for us in previous meetings with the producer so it was a very relaxed set when it came time to shoot," Lee said. "He's a good director because he listens to everyone around him for ideas and feedback on the process."

Even with their deadline looming, the team worked together to produce a winning video. They stayed up for 36 hours straight filming and editing to create a finished product, and submitted it a half-hour before the deadline.

Lee and Deaton labored over the video to make sure it was something they could be proud of.

"We both went to work like idiots," Deaton said. "I definitely pushed my limits there. I won't be doing that again."

According to Deaton, he and Lee had difficulties exporting the final video — there was a loud click in the beginning they could not remove. But even with last-minute problems, they persevered to create a winning video.

Luckily, they were able to get rid of the noise and turn in the video just in time for the deadline. In the end, the stress and lack of sleep was worth it for the group.

"Projects like this give you such

an interesting look into the perspectives of people from different backgrounds," Lee said. "Starting a conversation with active and engaged participants was the most rewarding part of the project, hands down."

Help from the summer

Deaton improved his skills for shooting and directing the video from his internship with 7ate9 Entertainment over the summer in Los Angeles. Though he wasn't

companies, with studios," Deaton said. "It was the first time that I had led something like that—an industry standard production."

The Nukebusters competition and this internship have inspired him to continue pursuing his dream to work in the video production industry by proving he has the capability to make something memorable.

He is now also interested in working with contemporary and social issues from the experience.

"I would love to work for social cause groups in the future," he said.

"It would be really cool to work for nonprofits and NGOs."

After receiving his award at the Austrian Embassy in Washington, D.C., he was contacted by a few professionals who were interested in working with him. But Deaton won't be able to make any final career decisions while he still has a few semesters left at Elon.

"I have no idea what I'll do in the future," Deaton said. "I could be selling hot dogs. I've never done productions like this before but I'm so excited for the future."

Deaton intends on paying his crew for the work they did on the project with his winnings.

"They deserve it and I can't emphasize that enough," he said. "I was driving the ship but a captain isn't a captain without his crew."

Although this experience paid off for Deaton, he is taking a break from the stressful video competitions for a little while and putting most of his attention on his time-consuming schoolwork.

But he still loves the industry. "There are new projects, new locations every day," Deaton said. "I think I've learned that I'm addicted to that. I definitely want to work in this industry as long as I can afford to pay for my coffee."

“PROJECTS LIKE THIS GIVE YOU SUCH AN INTERESTING LOOK INTO THE PERSPECTIVE OF PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS.”

WILL LEE
ELON ALUMNUS '15



PHOTO COURTESY OF JONATHAN DEATON

Jonathan Deaton holds his award for the Nukebusters Film Competition.

PERLMAN from cover

Ronald Reagan and the “National Medal of Arts” in 2000 by President Bill Clinton.

“I think many will find things in their own lives that relate to his experiences,” Clark said. “Everyone will hear about the rise of someone who became the best in the world in his field, and I hope that everyone finds some inspiration in that.”

Winning four Emmy Awards and appearing on popular shows such as “The Late Show with David Letterman,” “Sesame Street” and “The Tonight Show,” Perlman has also become a presence in performing arts for television. He appeared in the PBS documentary “Fiddling for a Future,” which focused on his Perlman Music Program, an intensive summer mentoring program with music

training for young string players.

Perlman is also at the forefront of music education. He has taught each summer at the Perlman Music Program since 1995 and currently holds the Dorothy Richards Starling Foundation Chair at the Juilliard School.

with the Berlin Philharmonic as both a soloist and conductor and a recording for Deutsche Grammophon as conductor at the Israel Philharmonic.

But Perlman can't just be heard within an orchestra — he's the background for movies, too. In Steven Spielberg's film “Schindler's List,” he collaborated with film score composer John Williams and has performed violin solos in the soundtrack. His sound has also appeared in other films, such as Zhang Yimou's “Hero” and Rob Marshall's “Memoirs of a Geisha.”

His music can also be found in popular studying

playlists and classical music essentials on Spotify.

Connecting with the community

Clark believes Perlman has reached “superstar status” as a violinist because he is well-spoken about his music, life and experiences, making him accessible even to people who are not particularly fond of classical music.

“I love his music,” Clark said. “It's very pure music and very well done. It's inspiring to me to listen to someone so in tune with their instrument and who is so good at what they do.”

Fall Convocation will be moderated by Gerald Whittington, senior vice president for business, finance and technology and associate professor. He was chosen to moderate because of his passion for music and strong background in the field.

Though he handles the technical side of Elon University, Whittington has performed since 1992 as a professional singer with the Bel Canto Company, a choral ensemble in the Triad region.

“IT'S INSPIRING TO ME TO LISTEN TO SOMEONE SO IN TUNE WITH THEIR INSTRUMENT”

JEFFREY CLARK
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CULTURAL AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

“When you study Perlman's accomplishments, all of his award-winning recordings, all of his appearances around the world, and all of his stellar reviews they all lead to superstar status,” said Jon Metzger, chair of the music department. “His humanitarian work will also appeal to all audiences, as will his concepts on the power of passion.”

Bringing in the sound

To prepare for his visit, the Office of Cultural and Special Programs has been working with Perlman's office to coordinate logistics. The office has designed the technology portion for the on-stage portion of the event.

The audience should expect to hear a few violin pieces embedded throughout Convocation.

“It's a conversation with some music rather than a speech,” Clark said. “[Perlman] will play a few pieces of music during the event. I expect to hear about his experiences and how they can relate to those in attendance.”

Perlman's most recent releases include an all-Mozart recording



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Classical violinist Itzhak Perlman will speak and perform at Convocation.

According to Clark, Whittington is smart and quick-witted, which, combined with his music background, will lead to an entertaining conversation with Perlman and guide the speech along.

“I am a huge fan of [Perlman] and have been for many years,” Whittington said. “His artistry is unparalleled and I expect that our audience will know and appreciate it. He is a superstar because he is technically unmatched and his musicality is the worlds' best.”

Whittington said Perlman a warm, funny and engaging individual — perhaps even the greatest violinist of all time.

Tickets for Fall Convocation

are still available at the Center for the Arts Box Office for \$13 or free with an Elon ID.

For those who want more interaction with Perlman, he will be participating in a Q&A session with the music department before Convocation begins, according to Metzger. The music department will also sponsor a pre-Convocation event to introduce audiences to Perlman at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 2 in Whitley Auditorium and is open to all.

“It is astounding how prolific and talented he is,” Whittington said. “One doesn't get the chance very often to meet the best in life, at anything.”

PERLMAN'S AWARDS

- 4 Emmys
- 15 Grammys
- Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award (2008)
- Kennedy Center Honor
- Medal of Liberty
- National Medal of Arts

Elon dance tradition soars high in 8th year

Alexandra Schonfeld
Senior Reporter

Despite fears of a potential downpour, Elon University's Department of Performing Arts annual “Dancing in the Landscape” glided through campus during Family Weekend.

The performance featured all of the freshmen Bachelor's of Fine Arts (BFA) dance students as well as a few members of the junior and senior class.

“Dancing in the Landscape” celebrated its eighth year at Elon this Sunday.

“It happens every year around this time, for Family Weekend, so the families can come and not only see their sons and daughters dance, but also get a chance to get to know the Elon campus,” said choreographer and assistant professor of dance Renay Aumiller.

Aumiller co-directed the show with Sara Tourek, part-time professor of dance, with help from their assistant directors, senior Fiona Koch and junior Hallee Bernstein.

The event served as the inaugural performance for the class of 2019.

Freshman dancer Monica Steffey, said the performance was a very monumental moment for her first year at Elon.



CAILIN JALYNSKI | Staff Photographer

Dancers practice outside of Koury Gym last week in preparation for the performance.

Steffey was featured in the first of four pieces performed in the 30-minute program, which began at the Love Terrace overlooking Lake Mary Nell.

The four directors introduced the production with a dedication to Jane Wellford, professor of dance and choreographer for the Elon Dance Company.

The rain held off for the program, though the six girls featured in the first piece were all wearing raincoats in anticipation of bad weather. Though the weather was dry for showtime, freshman Ana Thue said the dancers weren't as lucky for the dress rehearsal.

“It was pretty much a downpour, and we

had to dance outside in it,” she said.

But Aumiller said it was all part of the experience.

“I thought it was great,” she said. “It's a part of dancing on the landscape — you go with the elements, when it rains, we get wet.”

Each dance number lasted for less than five minutes and ended with the dancers giving some indication that they were finished and it was time to move on to the next location, since there was no music accompanying the performance. Steffey said a lot of the choreography was constantly built upon.

“We would teach it to other people

and put it all together and she [Aumiller] would tweak it,” Steffey said.

After the first number by Lake Mary Nell, the performance moved to the pavilion outside Lakeside Dining Hall. The new group of dancers, all seniors, danced through and around the tables, chairs and archways, which were incorporated into the choreography.

Each of the four pieces was choreographed by a different choreographer, which was apparent in the range of pieces.

A ledge outside Koury Athletic Center was the stage for the third piece. This dance was the most engaging because of the use of the ledge, and a lot of the movement was done behind the wall so that only a limb or face was visible, keeping the audience interested and focused.

The five juniors in the dance program performed the final number under the archways outside the Alumni Gym.

The show attracted an audience of mostly parents of the performers with a few friends and interested students scattered throughout.

“I also just like to go to cultural events on campus, just so I can be more cultured and experience more art,” said freshman Bridgett Agbozo, who came to support her friend.

'Harper Regan' explores pursuit of the truth

Ally Feinsot
Senior Reporter

Dropping everything, Harper Regan heads out on a mission to see her father before he dies. This road trip becomes a journey of self discovery as she finds the truth behind her relationship and explores the moralities of sex and death.

Elon University's Department of Performing Arts will present its fall play, "Harper Regan," on Thursday, Oct. 1 at the Roberts Studio Theater in Scott Studios. The play, written by English playwright Simon Stephens, is set in Umbridge, Stockport and Manchester, England.

Elon's fall play is typically cast at the beginning of the semester, but because the lead role of Harper is demanding and requires a Mancunian accent, or Manchester dialect, senior Rebecca Hurd was cast as Harper this past spring.

Hurd prepared for the role throughout the summer by working on the accent and memorizing her lines before reaching campus. She used YouTube to help perfect the dialect by watching a British soap opera, "Coronation Street," which is also set in Manchester, England.

According to Hurd, her acting classes at Elon have also helped her craft the accent.

"We learn IPA, which is the International Phonetic Alphabet, to learn what symbols equal what sounds, so I worked with IPA symbols and correlating it with the Mancunian dialect," Hurd said.

Although learning dialects can be challenging, Hurd said starring in the fall play has been a great experience, especially as a senior preparing to audition for professional shows after graduation.

"Elon views plays as an extension of the classroom, so it's been an acting class every night which has helped me so much as an actor," Hurd said. "I'm very lucky to be able to get to graduate with this experience."

Senior Kelsey McCabe, who plays Alison Woolley, Harper's mother, said the cast attends separate rehearsals for training with Kirby Wahl, dialect coach and professor of performing arts. Though this was her first time working with dialect, McCabe said it has been fairly easy to learn the accent.

"Once you get in the groove of it, it's actually quite hard to switch back to your normal voice," McCabe said. "It will never be perfect, but we try to get it as familiar as possible so the audience isn't focusing on the accent."

"Harper Regan" is unique because most characters only appear in a maximum of three scenes, usually appearing for 15 minutes at a time for the entire play. Director Kevin Otos, associate professor of performing arts, explained that this setup is convenient for the cast, especially since Elon students are known to juggle several commitments at a time.

"The play consists of 11 scenes, so students can come in and work on a scene for a block of time in one day and then have two days off and do their studies," Otos said.

"Harper Regan" is a drama, dealing with heavy and serious topics like death and sex. Both Hurd and McCabe said the show is very different than anything they have ever done, as their background is mainly comedy — the two are involved with Elon Tonight, a sketch comedy and improv troupe at Elon.

"The play is very cinematic in a theatrical way, and it gets really into the nitty-gritty of people's emotions," McCabe said. "Sometimes you cry, sometimes you scream. It's what we learn in acting class times 50."



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Senior Rebecca Hurd stars as Harper Regan, a woman on a road trip to see her dying father.

One of McCabe's standout memories of "Harper Regan" was one particular rehearsal with Hurd and Otos. She was struggling with the deep style of the scene when Otos emphasized the importance of loving the other person you are working with in the scene.

"Once the style clicked, real emotions came out because of Rebecca, and now I can do that scene perfectly every time," McCabe said. "Every time we do a run and cry, we're like 'We never do this,' so it's cool to be able to get to that place with someone you really care about."

Many of the underlying messages of "Harper Regan" are left up to the audience as they watch Regan's growth, but its main theme is the search and acceptance for truth.

"The truth is messy, but in our society we like to think that the truth is good and it makes life easy," Otos said. "That's not always true, especially in this play."

While "Harper Regan" is a heavy, complicated show, Otos hopes the audience is moved by its characters and themes even after leaving the theater. He said Stephens created situations difficult to understand and categorize, which will hopefully impact the audience in some way.

"A successful play is one where the audience is still wrestling with it when they're driving in their cars or walking back to campus," Otos said. "If this struggle can last outside the theater, audience members can leave with a better understanding of how complicated and difficult issues of modern life are."

Piper Kerman is 'Gettin' Outta This Place'

Danielle Deavens
Senior Reporter

Before it was an Emmy-winning Netflix original series, "Orange is the New Black" (OITNB) was a memoir about author Piper Kerman's yearlong prison sentence. Kerman's book was adapted by "Weeds" creator Jenji Kohan in 2013 and has been a hit ever since.

Kerman will speak at Elon in a lecture titled "Gettin' Outta This Place" at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30, in McCrary Theater.

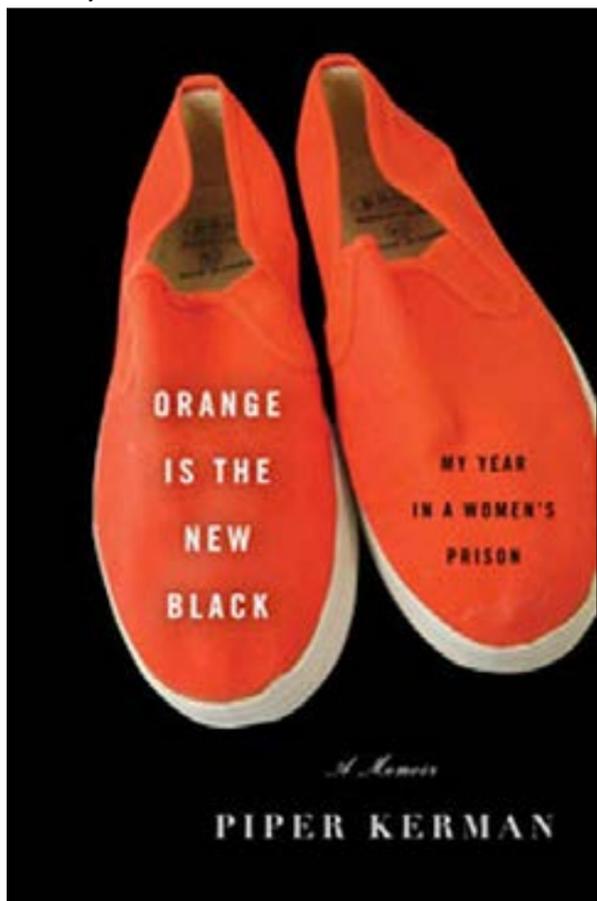


PHOTO COURTESY OF SPIEGEL & GRAU PUBLISHING

After 13 months in prison, Piper Kerman wrote 'Orange is the New Black,' and will be sharing her experiences on Sept. 30.

Though "famous ex-con" is not a common descriptor for Elon's external speakers, Kerman has leveraged an unfortunate experience into an opportunity to influence reform and has inspired a series with a cult following in the process.

"Kerman was selected because of the success of her memoir, 'Orange is the New Black,' and the subsequent Netflix series," according to Patti Gibbons, staff adviser for Liberal Arts Forum, a committee that makes decisions about who will come to speak at Elon. "Her talk on [Sept. 30] will be a combination of her background story, the state of criminal justice in our nation and the impact incarceration has on individuals, families and communities."

The author's journey to OITNB began in 1993, when she first engaged in a romantic relationship with a drug dealer, inspiration for OITNB character Alex Vause. Kerman was indicted in 1998 on drug smuggling and money laundering charges, to which she eventually pleaded guilty for a deal that would lead to a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 months. In 2004, she went to prison and served 13 months in the Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury, Connecticut (FCI Danbury).

While serving time at FCI Danbury, Kerman was thrust into an environment that stifled her freedom and autonomy for what she calls a "10-year-old offense." Though Kerman was devastated for being indicted after trying for years to forget the entire ordeal, she finished her prison sentence with a greater understanding of the justice system and its shortcomings.

"Orange is the New Black" was her outlet for sharing details about women's prisons from an unexpected perspective.

"I thought that if I talked about my own experience and told my own story, maybe people would think a little bit differently about who's in prison and why they're there and what really happens to them there," Kerman said in a 2014 interview on "The View."

In addition to writing about her own experiences, Kerman speaks frequently about the justice system's inadequacies, notably the lack of opportunity afforded to prisoners and the negative effects of mass incarceration.

"Unfortunately, the way the criminal justice system works, sometimes folks are sent to prison for very long periods of time for nonviolent offenses and that takes them

out of their community, it takes them out of productive, mainstream work and there's very little that's happening behind bars to ready someone to go back to their community and back to society," Kerman said in a 2013 interview with Sandler TV.

Beyond the isolation prisoners experience, Kerman emphasizes the fact that while serving their time, incarcerated individuals put their lives on hold as the world continues on without them. She often speaks of women who spend decades of their lives in prison, missing out on technological, social, political and personal changes they are not equipped to handle after a significant, nonproductive time behind bars.

"If it comes to pass that someone is incarcerated, the period while they are incarcerated is this incredible moment of opportunity," Kerman said in the interview. "Everyone in prison is thinking about how they cannot come back there ever again. But what doesn't happen typically is any opportunity for them to start translating that into real change that they can then carry home with them."

Some of the examples Kerman offers about isolated ex-prisoners with bleak outlooks are deeply personal and disheartening. She said some women she knew who were released during her time in FCI Danbury "were heading out to, ironically, an even more uncertain future than their life behind bars, which is really tragic."

During Wednesday's talk, Kerman is likely to offer some of these tragic anecdotes to underscore the unfortunate implications of incarceration that affect millions of families, in addition to the advocacy and reform work she is doing to try and change a broken justice system.

"We hope that she will also bring us up to date on her current projects," Gibbons said, "which include serving on the faculty of two Ohio penal institutions, and her efforts on boards of national prison associations or as a witness at the state and national level to offer testimony to policymakers working to improve conditions inside institutions, to find alternates to hard time and to reconsider mandatory minimum sentences for nonviolent offenders."

After the lecture, audiences can certainly expect to leave with one idea in particular, which Kerman said in the Sadler TV interview. "The reality [of prison] is much more complex and, frankly, much more interesting than conventional wisdom about prisons and prisoners."

An Elon Foodstagram takeover

Students create food-centered Instagram accounts

Lea Silverman
Senior Reporter

Instagram has become a medium for posting “artsy” pictures of the beach, friends and cute animals. But it takes something special to stop a serial scroller from just passing by a picture, and for many Elon University students, that is a tasty-looking food photograph.

Food photos have transformed from a lazy picture of lunch or a beautifully constructed meal of dinner to a user’s brand within the app.

Elon’s Foodstagrammers

Most college students are obsessed with food, and many social interactions are centered around a meal. Photos tagged with #foodstagram indicate Instagram accounts dedicated to posting pictures of mouth-watering images — whether they’re healthy or comforting. Elon students are getting in on the trend and creating their own.

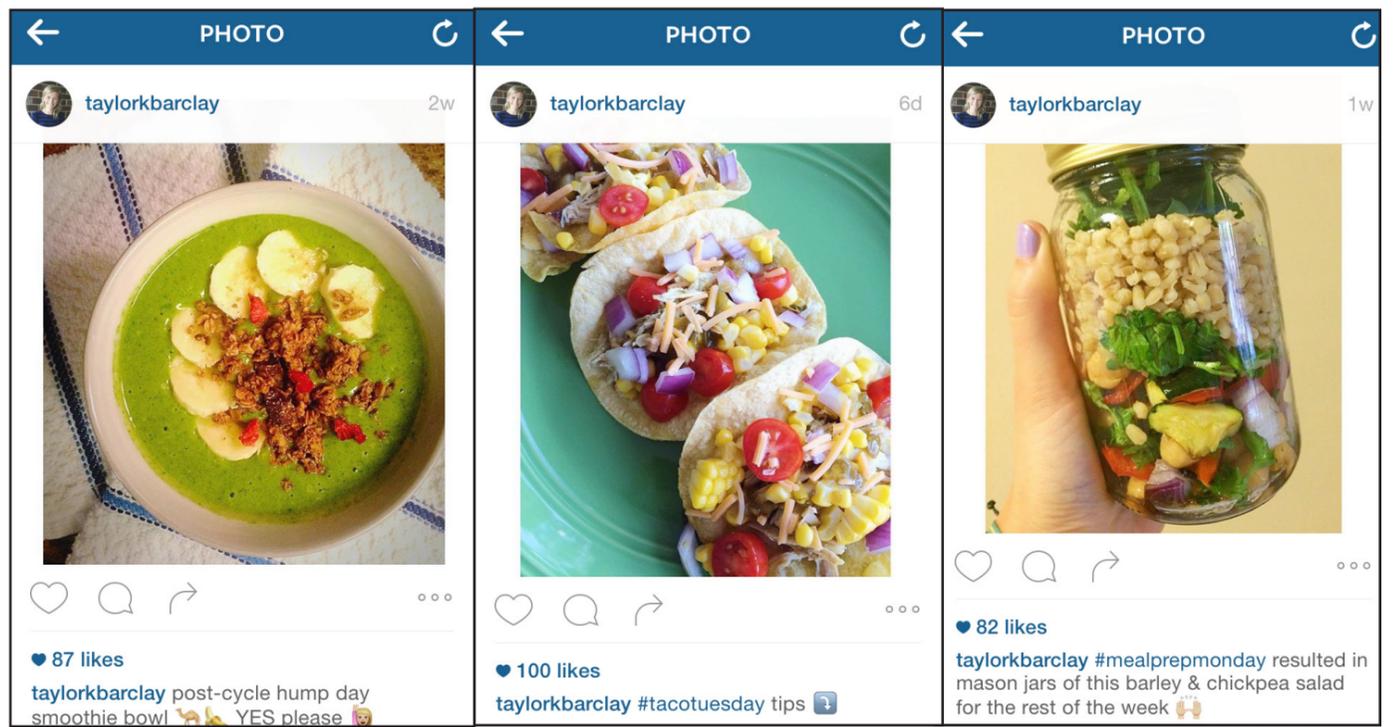
Senior Taylor Barclay started her account when she stopped using Elon’s meal plan her junior year, which gave her more independence when it came to what she ate. She did not have a lot of prior experience with cooking and turned to social media sites like Pinterest, different blogs and Instagram to look for easy, inexpensive recipes to make.

“I was also trying to eat healthier while maintaining a budget,” Barclay said.

After perfecting her recipes, she began posting her food on Instagram. The account and food became so popular, Barclay started a blog to post recipes of her clean college eating portrayed on her Instagram account, @taylorkbarclay.

Sophomore Morgan Wainwright has a different food message with her Instagram account, @foodgasm_morgasm, which features a euphoric foodie theme. Her Instagram does not only feature the tantalizing foods she eats off campus, such as Tangent Eat and Bar, but she also tries to show off her wit with captions, like “When you wake up and she’s a 10” on a photo of an omelet or “I like it raw,” for a sushi photo, going along with her theme.

“Coming up with captions is half the fun, because it’s a challenge thinking of a different one for each picture,” Wainwright said. “My Foodstagram has interesting captions that go off the idea of a ‘foodgasm.’ It



Senior Taylor Barclay’s ‘Foodstagram’ @taylorkbarclay inspires healthy eating with daily posts featuring her meals along with different recipes.

sounds kind of dumb, but it’s entertaining and I think it’s funny.”

Living on campus, Wainwright posts more off campus meals and less what she

bottom, plates are an easy way to make the picture visually pleasing. Foodstagrammers, like Barclay, use interestingly shaped plates, stack different sized plates on top

stagrammers hold the camera directly over the plate to see every part of the meal and avoid shadows. Wainwright will stand on a chair or raise her hands above her restaurant meal.

The close up is also a great option if done right. This angle shows off the tantalizing details of the meal. Extra points are awarded if a bite strategically taken out of the food to show all aspects.

Choosing when to Instagram and when to leave a photo in your camera roll can be difficult for those who have made their food accounts their brands.

Wainwright suggests choosing photos that are bright. Foods like fruit or ice cream are colorful and brighten up photos enough to encourage double tapping. But foods that are dark and are not well defined, like pad thai or chicken fingers in a dim restaurant, are not easy to see in most pictures.

Apart from pictures of pretty food, Foodstagrammers, like Wainwright, also post drinks, such as smoothies and cocktails, which add variety to their accounts.

Following for inspiration

There is more to foodie Instagram accounts than just making people jealous of extravagant meals. Some accounts, such as Barclay’s, have a deeper purpose, like showing people how to eat healthy on a budget or in a college dorm.

Barclay’s account and similar ones, include links to healthy recipes or information on foods to avoid in dining halls if you want to maintain a healthy weight.

Not only do these accounts inspire followers, but having a foodie inspire media presence can keep the user active with his or her own habits. Feedback and comments can keep the person who runs the account on the right track and eating well.

“It makes me so happy to hear from friends and strangers that I’ve inspired them to try just one healthy meal, and that’s what really keeps me going,” Barclay said. “Having a small following does make me feel somewhat accountable to try new things.”

Wainwright loves posting pictures on her food Instagram, but doesn’t care about followers and likes. She just loves having a reason to go out to eat and having a collection of delicious foods she can look at later.

“The only problem with having a Foodstagram is I am always hungry and craving food whenever I’m on it,” she said.

“IT MAKES ME SO HAPPY TO HEAR FROM FRIENDS AND STRANGERS THAT I’VE INSPIRED THEM TO TRY JUST ONE HEALTHY MEAL.”

TAYLOR BARCLAY
FOODSTAGRAMMER AND SENIOR

cooks herself, giving her less prep work for each photo.

Capturing every bite

As any fan of “Chopped” or “Cutthroat Kitchen” knows, presentation is important. There are certain ways food can be taken from tasty to a work of art. Starting at the

of one another or keep it clean with white dishes.

Wainwright said a professional tip is to wipe off any unintentional drops of sauce on the plate — but you can get extra likes for well placed sauce adding flair.

Though Barclay said plating is crucial, a good picture must go beyond the plates or the food itself. Whether the picture is of food or a selfie, Instagrammers should remember that lighting is key.

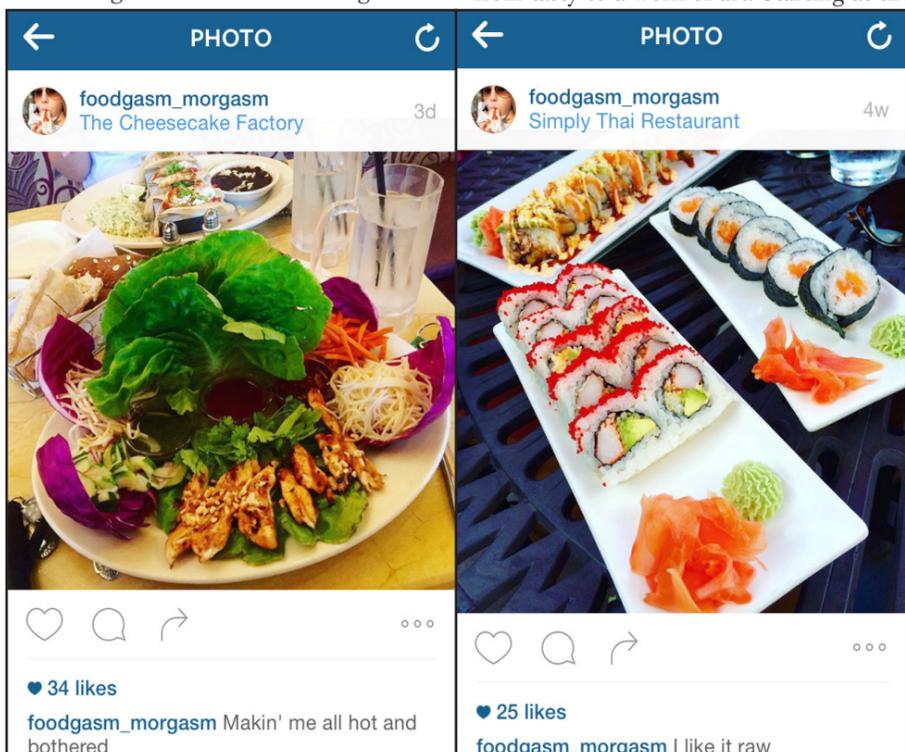
“Natural light from a window is the best, but sometimes I need to get creative in my apartment, and I use a combination of lamps and the window light, if possible,” Barclay said.

She will use an interesting background, such as a field or her kitchen, with her food for additional likes.

A popular Foodstagram account that incorporates this is @foodintheair, more popularly known as w, where people from around the world submit their images of food seemingly floating in the air with beautiful backgrounds, giving the audience both food and travel envy. Photos of crepes shown in front of European castles and burgers in the foreground of tropical beaches.

A few Elon students have even been featured from their summer travels or semesters abroad. Junior Helen Williamson had her dessert featured, as it floated in the air while she was in Prague this summer.

According to Wainwright, angles also add depth to foodie photos. Many Food-



Junior Morgan Wainwright’s ‘Foodstagram’ @foodgasm_morgasm features local restaurants.

New formation sparks early success

Revamped strategy leads to more goals, stout defense for Phoenix



MEGAN KOTTKAMP | Staff Photographer

Samantha Burch (6) controls the ball.

Nathan Smith
Senior Reporter

When it came to the formation that the Elon University women's soccer team uses on the field, head coach Chris Neal knew something had to change. There were many reasons for the team's tough 2014 season. Injuries piled up during the Phoenix's first season in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA), and there were many matches during which the team was undermanned and outplayed.

"Last year it was effective for 20, 30, 40 minutes, and then athletically we'd start to struggle," Neal said. "This year we had to make a commitment to staying tighter defensively and not giving up goals."

Last season the Phoenix primarily played in a 4-3-3 formation, with four defenders in the back, three players in the midfield and three attackers up top. Scoring only 14 goals in 17 matches last season, it was no surprise to see the Elon's emphasis on defense this year.

"Before last season was over, we knew something had to give," Neal said. "Traditionally, the team that wins this league gives up less than eight goals a year in conference play so we figure if we do that, we have a good chance to win."

Sophomore defender Kendall Ballotti agreed, noting the discord between the different positions.

"We definitely weren't connecting right," Ballotti said. "It's a team effort from the midfield to the forwards, and we were just missing that connection last year."

The Phoenix shifted to a more defensive-oriented formation for the 2015 season, switching to a 4-5-1, and taking advantage of one of Elon's strengths: its depth in the midfield. Of the 13 midfielders on Elon's roster, 10 have received significant playing time, demonstrating the emphasis the Phoenix puts on their mid-field performance.

"We're going to concede certain spaces to teams, spaces that we want you to have, but the space we're not going to let you have is the most dangerous space," Neal said. "You want it, you're really going to have to earn it against this team."

Though the switch seemed to be pri-



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Sarah Henson (16) runs up to the sideline for a throw-in against Hofstra University Sept. 27.

marily a defensive strategy going into the season, it has worked in favor of the Phoenix offense. Scoring 17 goals via nine different players, Elon has scored more goals in its first 11 games than all of last season.

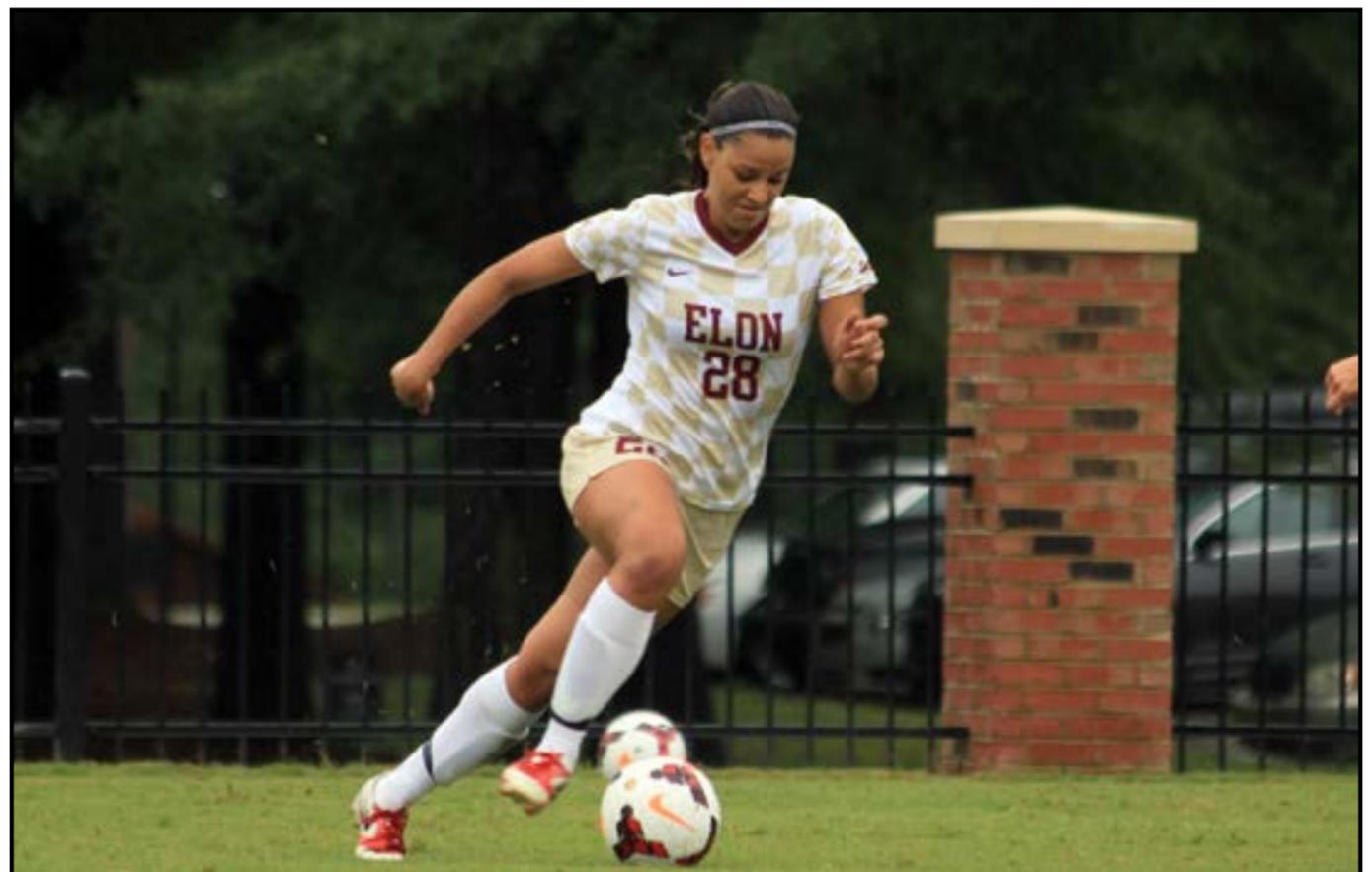
"As you can see, we still don't struggle to create chances," Neal said. "Maybe not as many as the other team, but again, we're conceding certain spaces that we want to concede but we're putting more behind the ball, not conceding dangerous spaces, defending better one-on-one."

Neal said the switch will continue to give Elon more opportunities up front.

"I think transitioning into this going forward gives us a better opportunity to have that connection and have a whole team unit to push forward and to defend as a unit as well," she said.

Regardless of tactics and formations, Neal said the team's turnaround comes down to the play on the field.

"The success isn't about the formation, it's about buying in and the players," Neal said. "The formation's just a starting point. If you don't play with heart, if you don't play with discipline, you don't play with intelligence, the formation is useless."



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Mariah Marrero (28) dribbles the ball away from a Hofstra University player on Sept. 27. The Phoenix lost for just the second time all season.

SPORTS SCHEDULE: SEPT. 30 - OCT. 5

Wednesday, Sept. 30

Men's soccer @ William & Mary | 7 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 2

Men's tennis vs. Elon Invitational

Volleyball vs. James Madison | 7 p.m.

Women's soccer vs. William & Mary | 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 3

Football @ New Hampshire | 3:30 p.m.

Men's soccer vs. Northeastern | 7 p.m.

Cross country @ Greater Louisville Classic

Men's golf @ Tar Heel Intercollegiate

Men's tennis v. Elon Invitational

Sunday, Oct. 4

Men's golf @ Tar Heel Intercollegiate

Men's tennis vs. Elon Invitational

Volleyball vs. Towson | 2 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 5

Women's soccer @ Francis Marion | 7 p.m.

Attempting perfection: The QB/WR relationship

Constant in-play adjustments make life hectic for quarterbacks



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Connor Christiansen (12, left) throws a pass against Towson University Sept. 26. His first-quarter pass to Tereak McCray (84, right) scored the first touchdown in Elon's 17-13 victory.

Alex Simon
Sports Editor

It was the perfect play for Elon University football head coach Rich Skrosky.

On the first play of the third overtime against Gardner-Webb University, redshirt freshman quarterback Connor Christiansen rolled to his left, looking for true freshman receiver Corey Joyner.

Joyner had to decide which route to run. "I could have gone underneath, tried to get physical with the safety," Joyner said. "But I saw my chance, went high-side and used my speed."

Joyner was able to beat the safety on the play and caught the touchdown pass, securing Elon's first win of the season thanks to an adjustment in the middle of the play.

It's on a play like the game-winner against Gardner-Webb where the complexity of Skrosky's offensive system shows its largest benefits. But the learning curve for the quarterbacks is steep.

Allowed to adjust

The receivers are given the freedom to adjust their routes on the fly in Elon's offensive strategy. According to Skrosky, the adjustments are seemingly limitless.

"In our offense, and I don't know the exact number, but I would say 65-70 percent of every route in our offense has an adjustability [sic] to it," Skrosky said. "We don't have a ton of routes that are run 10 yards, break out. We have some, but not a ton of them."

For the quarterback, these added adjustments require a deep knowledge of what each receiver might do. It makes it difficult to figure out what is going to happen on each play.

But for Christiansen, there's a positive element to it as well.

"It adds complexity, but it also is a huge advantage," Christiansen said. "For example, if we have a receiver running a deep route, they can cut it off and run to the open spot. It's nice when you have overcome that challenge and you know exactly where they're going to be."

"So when you know what's going on and where the receiver is going, then it's just easy."

Plentiful personalities

Even on the same route, the route can be

run in different ways, which the offensive coaches always encourage.

"For instance, [senior tight end] Doug Warrick will run the same route as Corey Joyner, but they're going to run that same route very differently," Skrosky said. "Warrick's probably going to get into the defender a little bit more, be a little more physical, whereas Corey's probably going to get on an edge of a guy. He'll use his quickness and elusiveness, even on the same call and route. So what the wide receiver needs to do, or the tight end, is make sure that [their personality on the route] is consistent."

The variations would seem to make it more difficult for Christiansen and the quarterbacks, but he says he has a grasp of what he needs.

"It's all just knowing your personnel," Christiansen said. "I keep saying it, but it's in all the work in practice, you become so accustomed to how [junior tight end] Zach [Duprey] will run a [corner route] compared to how Doug will run it or how Corey will run it."

"Somebody will run it with more speed, or someone will get more separation. You have to be comfortable with who you're throwing to in order to ultimately have success. You have to know their strengths, and know their tendencies."

For Joyner personally, he knows his strength is in his speed.

"More often than not, I will use my speed to beat the defender," Joyner said. "Especially in the slot position, because I'm going against linebackers more than corners or safeties. I mean, the same route, I can run around a guy, come underneath him, or be physical with him. That's something the quarterback has got to think in a split-second, knowing what I'm going to do. I would like to be a bit more physical, but more times than not, I'm going to use my speed."

Impossible expectations

The expectation Skrosky has for the quarterbacks could not be any more clear.

"If you ask them, I hope their answer would be perfection," Skrosky said. "I mean that. You know you're never going to achieve it, but I mean it."

Perfection is a tall task to try to achieve, especially for a freshman like Christiansen.

"I think he understands that perfection is impossible, but that's what we need to strive for," Christiansen said. "Every route

needs to be perfect, every throw needs to be right where it needs to be, and [attempting to do] that is the only way to ultimately get to where you want to be, [which is to try and be perfect]."

Skrosky recalls some of his previous quarterbacks embracing the same mindset, including four-year starter Scott Riddle '11.

"When [Riddle] came out, if a ball hit the ground and we were just doing [skeleton passing drills], it was like a tragedy," Skrosky said.

This mindset, and Christiansen's willingness to strive for it, seems to have made an impact on Joyner.

"If the quarterbacks expect [perfection] out of themselves, then we, as wide receivers, have to expect that out of ourselves," Joyner said.

A focus on the little things

In the first quarter against Towson University Sept. 26, Christiansen threw a long, looping pass to freshman receiver Tereak McCray and connected from 35 yards out, giving Elon its first score of a 17-13 victory.

Right before the play, the nonverbal communication was the key for McCray.

"Before the play, Connor gave me the nod to go, so I just went," McCray said. "He threw a perfect ball, right over the defender's hands. It was an easy catch, so I caught it, and just ended up in the end zone. [The defender] was very close."

Yet all Christiansen could think about was an early third-quarter pass.

"Well, first off, I had to apologize to [McCray] because I cost him a second touchdown," Christiansen said. "On that one, I underthrew it, but it's hard to throw in the conditions."

After laughing for a moment, and turning to his side to gauge his receiver's reaction to the apology, Christiansen continued.

"On the first one, he had a good match-up, and Tereak is very fast," he said. "They were in press coverage, and really no safety help. So I just dropped back, took a shot and let him make a play. And he did a great job."

The struggles for the offense have been mighty this year, with Elon currently ranked 121st out of 123 Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) schools in total offense.

But it's in the relationship between the quarterback and his receivers, and all the work that went into it, that Skrosky says can't be placed under a time restriction.

"I think it's a process that never ends," Skrosky said. "I think they get to a point where there's a comfortability [sic] about it. You see them out here after practice all summer long. I think the non-traditional seasons, the winter and the summer, when they're out on their own, [are the most important]. And we had a good summer. But it's a process."



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Connor Christiansen (12) throws a screen pass to Tereak McCray (84) Sept. 26.

A September to remember for Elon's defense

Stingy defense caps off month with strong effort in first CAA victory



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Junior linebacker John Silas (50) sacks Towson quarterback Connor Frazier on Saturday. The Elon defense stopped Towson six times on fourth down en route to a 17-13 victory.

Alex Simon
Sports Editor

As September comes to an end, the 2015 Elon University football team finds itself with a 2-2 record and tied for first place in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA). And it's all thanks to the defensive unit.

After a sloppy, but thrilling, 17-13 win over Towson University on Saturday, senior linebacker Alexander Dawson, who has been at Elon since August 2011, noticed a difference in the mentality around the team.

"I've been here for a while, and to see the joy that comes with winning, especially at home and in the first conference game, I feel like that's a testament to where the program is going," Dawson said. "Players are buying into the system, and I feel like this is the beginning."

"We know we still have a lot of work to get done, but it's definitely nice to be able to feel happiness and enjoy ourselves, knowing we got a victory in that first conference game," he said.

Defense has been key for Elon all season, only allowing 40 points in three games against its Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) competition. Overall, the Phoenix is ranked 23rd in the country for scoring defense, allowing 20.3 points per game in the four games played this season.

The team has been led by junior linebackers John Silas and Corey Mitchell, tied for the team lead with 46 tackles each. Mitchell saw the Towson game as a true challenge to the defense and was excited about how he and his teammates responded.

"Teams like Towson, they remind me of my high school days," Mitchell said. "Where they go, 'We just run downhill and we're just going to see if you're man enough to stop us.' They were sending two or three at a time to block me, which was frustrating and annoying. But you just [have] to man up and show who is boss and who is going to win."

After going 0-8 in the league last season, Mitchell felt Elon needed to make its CAA opponents respect the Phoenix.

"That's what we had to do. They were going to try us — they have good athletes just like we have good athletes," he said. "So you got to respect them, but we had to go and make them respect us."

The defense may need to continue to produce to earn respect around the CAA, but it has definitely earned the respect of the offense, especially from the quarterback, redshirt freshman Connor Christiansen.

"I went up and I was hugging all of [the defense]," Christiansen said. "It's good when you know you have a really good defense behind you. You can't get complacent, though — 17 points is, in their eyes, more than enough to win a game, but for [the offense], we need to be shooting for a lot more than that. Can't really ask for much more than them."

With each successive week, the defense seems to find a new record to break.

Against Gardner-Webb University, the Phoenix sacked the Runnin' Bulldogs five times and allowed 13 points in a three-overtime victory, helping make the game the longest in school history.

On Sept. 19, the Phoenix sacked North Carolina A&T State University five times, which followed the five sacks it had at Gardner-Webb. The back-to-back games of five sacks were the most in at least 13 years, since game-by-game statistics were recorded online for Elon.

And last weekend, the Phoenix stopped Towson on six fourth down attempts, as the Tigers went 3-of-9 on fourth down on the day. The previous recorded high was five fourth down stops Nov. 13, 2004 against The Citadel. Head coach Rich Skrosky had anticipated that Towson would keep its offense on the field on fourth down.

"I said this [Friday] night in our meet-

ing, they have gone for it more on fourth down than any other team in our conference," he said. "Last week [against the College of Holy Cross], they went for it on four situations, two of which were inside the [opponent's] 30-yard line."

The Tigers converted two fourth downs on the last drive of the game, but had been 1-of-7 before. For Skrosky, the performance from his defense is nothing new.

"I'm happy for them, but I'm not surprised though," Skrosky said. "I think our interior defensive linemen get good push inside. And the one they converted, I questioned the spot, to be quite honest with you. I didn't think it was enough to challenge. I'm really proud of the defense, and

we'll keep it going."

The Phoenix also forced four turnovers that night, answering the challenge that Skrosky gave the defense.

"We've been playing very good [sic] on defense, there's no question about it," Skrosky said. "People said, 'What more can we do?' So we challenged them to get takeaways. In a game like this, you kind of expect them to happen, and we were fortunate enough to come up with them."

As the calendar flips to October, the defense will need to find a new goal.

If it can figure out a way to top the month it just had, Elon's defense may find itself staying at the top of the CAA standings.

Game Day

Date/Time: Oct. 3 | 3:30 p.m.
Location: Durham, New Hampshire
Stadium: Cowell Stadium
Series History: UNH leads 1-0

Gravley's 1,000 kills a testament to consistency

Kyle Lubinsky
Senior Reporter

The kill was nothing out of the ordinary to the average bystander. It gave the Elon University volleyball team, en route to a 3-1 loss, its 20th point in the second of four sets against Northeastern University.

But for senior outside hitter Megan Gravley, the player who scored the point, the kill cemented a place in Phoenix volleyball history.

Her fifth in the game was Gravley's 1,000th kill of her Elon career. She becomes the first Phoenix volleyball player to reach the milestone since 2011, and joins a rare group of outside hitters who have reached the 1,000-kill mark.

"Megan reaching the 1,000-kill milestone represents her work ethic and perseverance through the ups and downs of a four year collegiate career," said head coach Mary Tendler. "It motivates her teammates to strive for success in the same way she has each and every day."

Gravley deflects the attention of reaching the quadruple-digit mark, shifting the praise to her teammates.

"This accomplishment shouldn't be an individual milestone — it should include the whole team," Gravley said. "I can't hit the ball without a pass and a set from my teammates, and I can't thank them enough helping me get here. Honestly, this 1,000-kill mark would not have been possible without my teammates. It means that they believed in me, which is, I think, the coolest thing."

As a freshman in 2012, Gravley led the

team in kills, tallying 350, and averaged more than three kills per set. That performance was good enough to rank her 10th in the Southern Conference in kills, but Gravley was just getting started.

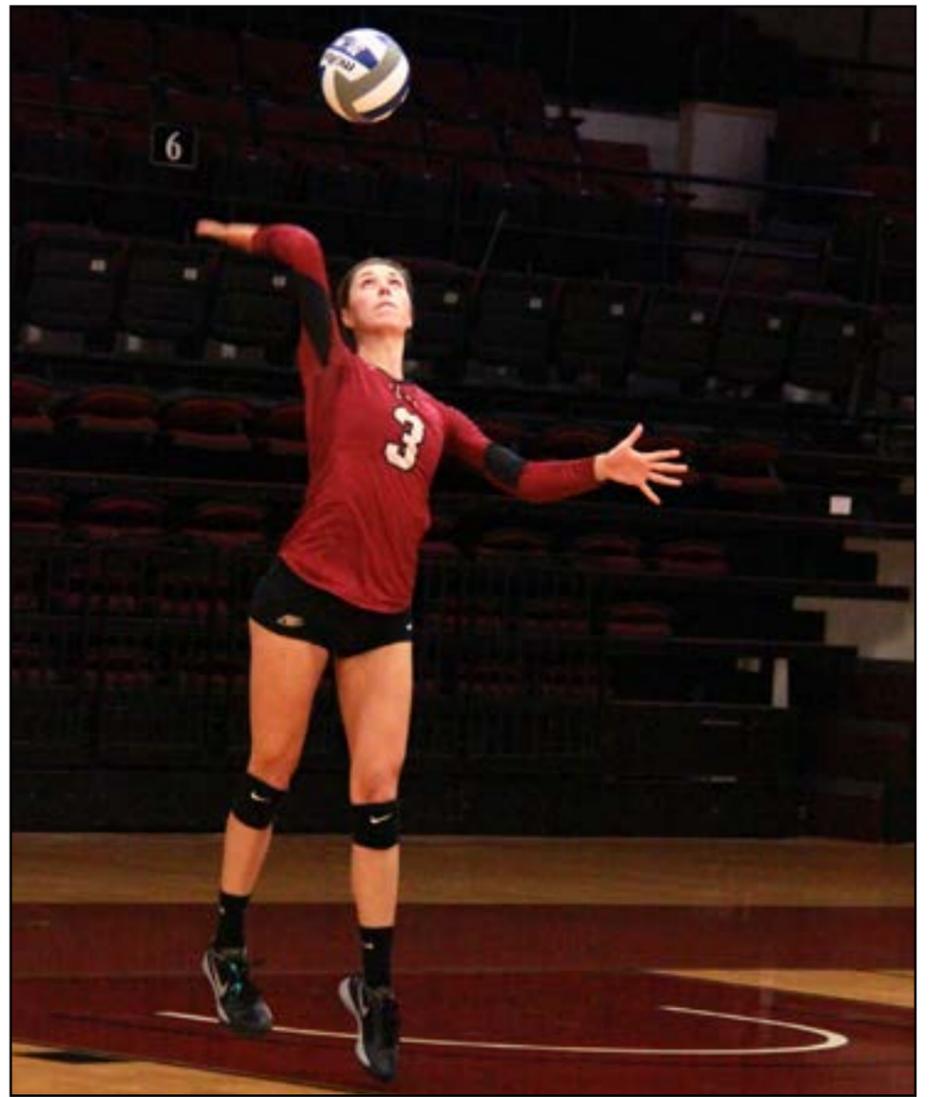
In her sophomore campaign, she once again led the team in kills, with 341, averaging 2.82 kills per set. Gravley was indispensable to the Phoenix offense during her first two years on the team — she played in every game in both seasons, starting 30 as a freshman and 18 as a sophomore.

After being named a team captain before her junior year, Gravley ran into some turbulence. She injured her foot and was only able to play in 24 matches, but still ranked third on the team in kills, totaling 187, and averaging more than 2.5 kills per set.

Gravley returned to peak performance her senior season. Through the first 14 games, she has 129 kills and is averaging 2.74 kills per set. In a five-set loss at High Point University, she finished with a season-high 19 kills. She also had a six-match streak of double-digit kills — 14 against Radford University, 19 in the High Point contest, 12 against Charleston Southern University, 12 in a three-set sweep of North Carolina Central University, 17 against Wake Forest University, and 10 against Davidson University.

Tendler sees the impact Gravley has on the team both on and off the court.

"Megan has exceptional communication skills and will take time to talk to a teammate or the entire team, when needed," Tendler said. "Whether she is giving praise or wanting more from her teammates, her talks make an impact."



Megan Gravley (3) serves in a match against North Carolina Central earlier this season.

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

President Leo Lambert signs letter against cost of attendance

Tommy Hamzik
Managing Editor

Elon University President Leo Lambert is one of nine university presidents to sign a letter saying their school will not offer cost of attendance stipends to athletes.

The letter, accidentally leaked Sept. 21 but posted online the following day by James Madison University President Jonathan R. Alger, includes the line, "Our institutions have chosen not to offer additional 'cost of attendance' payments to student-athletes at this time."

Of the nine schools to sign the letter, five are full-time members of the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA). Aside from Elon and James Madison, Hofstra University, University of Delaware and College of William & Mary also signed.

University of New Hampshire, a CAA member for football but part of the America East Conference for the rest of its teams beside hockey, signed the letter.

Wofford College and Virginia Military Institute of the Southern Conference signed it, as did University of Vermont of America East.

The letter, titled "Another Presidential Perspective on College Athletics," emphasizes that student-athletes compete under an amateur model.

It says most of the media scrutiny revolving around paying college athletes "has focused attention on the very few elite athletes who may go on to have lucrative professional sports careers and on athletic revenues that flow to a relatively small number of institutions from media rights, ticket sales and sponsorships."

All nine of the schools that signed the letter are considered mid-majors and are part of the Football Championship Sub-division (Hofstra and Vermont don't have football teams).

The letter states that regarding financial need, the universities "need to balance the support and spending on athletics with our

“OUR BUDGETS
MUST REFLECT
OUR MISSIONS”

“ANOTHER PRESIDENTIAL
PERSPECTIVE ON
COLLEGE ATHLETICS”

primary academic and student priorities.”

"We care deeply about our student-athletes, but we also care deeply about all of our students and want to treat all students equitably at a time when overall aid is limited, costs are increasing, and public financial support for higher education is diminishing," the letter states. "As educational leaders, we feel strongly that our budgets must reflect our missions and the needs of all of our students. Many student-athletes have significant financial need, but so do many of their fellow students."

The letter goes on to say that providing such stipends could lead to the potential elimination of other sports from campus.

It concludes by saying that the universities will "look for ways to enhance [student-athletes] health, safety and well-being," along with fostering academic growth and offering opportunities like study abroad, internships and undergraduate research.

In May, Dave Blank, Elon director of athletics, told the Burlington Times-News that the school would be taking more of a wait-and-see approach toward the cost of attendance stipends.

In contrast, CAA members College of Charleston and Towson University have committed to offering the stipends, according to the Wilmington Star-News.



Elon University President Leo Lambert gets a game ball presented from CAA Commissioner Tom Yeager before the Oct. 4, 2014 football game.

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Top Photos



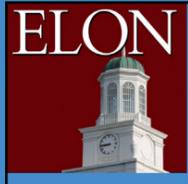
ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer
 Sarah Henson (16) wins a header against Hofstra University on Sept. 27.



Top Tweets



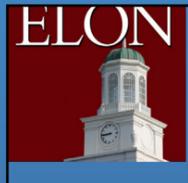
Fletcher Rowe
 @feistyfletch - Sep 28
 You know it's Monday when you realize you put your shirt on inside out



Elon University
 @elonuniversity - Sep 24
 "Maybe you cannot march, maybe you have no celebrity to give, but you can see, and you can make it known that you see." - @LeonardPittsJr1



Al Drago
 @Al_Drago - Sep 23
 Ran into a fellow @ElonComm alum @garber on the South Lawn of the White House before Pope Francis' arrival. #PopelInDC



Elon University
 @elonuniversity - Sep 26
 Special shoutout to the loyal @elon-phoenix fans who sat through the rain to see a historic football victory!



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer
 The Elon University football team prepares to take the field against Towson University Sept. 26. The Phoenix won 17-13.

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