

THE PENDULUM

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Weaving students together

Student movement aims to spark conversations on campus diversity

Leena Dahal
Assistant News Editor

With a bundle of orange yarn, some popsicle sticks and a whiteboard, a group of Elon University students are vying for attention amidst the hustle and bustle of Moseley to unify campus in support of diversity.

Determined to weave differences together to unravel opportunities for discussion about diversity-related issues, 27 students from a course titled HSS 213 Working with Groups and Communities have tailored the movement, "Stringing Us Together."

The initiative, which runs April 20 to April 23, is centered around distributing or-

ange string, a color that symbolizes equality, cultural diversity and harmony. The string is intended to be worn by students and serve as a conversation starter between students and community members — a visible form of tying together the threads of difference on campus.

Senior Lizzie Guillaume, a member of the class, said the lack of discussion and awareness surrounding diversity is why such movements are necessary.

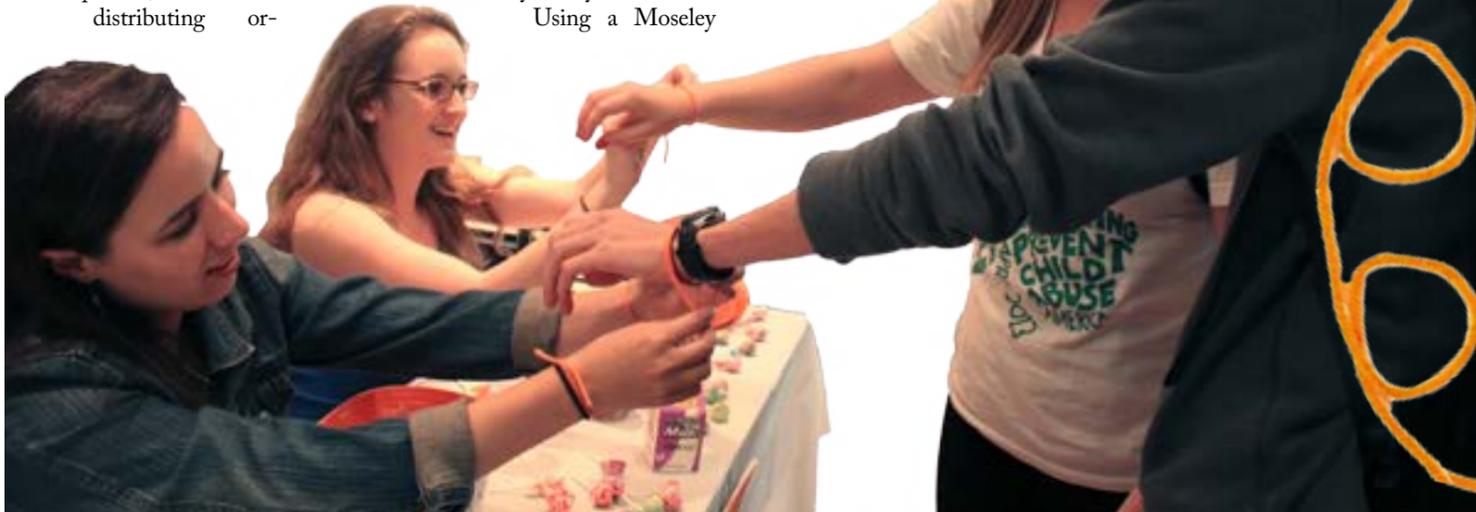
"It is so easy to make assumptions about others," she said. "College is supposed to teach you about who you are, but how can you know who you are if you don't really know anything about the students right beside you in your classes?"

Using a Moseley

table as a platform to hand out individual strings and packs of strings for students to distribute, the organizers provided students with opportunities to learn something about diversity or advocate for difference. Questions pertaining to diversity-related issues were written on popsicle sticks, creating conversation starters among peers.

Students were also invited to fill in the blank in the sentence, "I care because..." to share personal reasons for why diversity matters. The move

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"Stringing Us Together" organizers Lizzie Guillaume and Maddie Turner tie orange strings on the wrists of sophomore Ciara Corcoran and senior Peter Walpole Monday, April 20 at a Moseley table where the new movement to start conversations on diversity was promoted.

Elon celebrates sustainability initiatives during Earth Week

Tommy Hamzik
Managing Editor

This week, the concerted effort Elon University has made over time in regard to sustainability comes to the forefront during Earth Week, said Jessica Bilecki, education and outreach coordinator in the office of sustainability.

"I think it's hugely important that we have public events to bring attention to what Elon is doing well in terms of sustainability and to highlight areas where we as a campus community can improve," Bilecki said. "Earth Week is a convenient time to do that."

A number of student organizations are coming together this week to sponsor events across campus celebrating Earth Week.

Focus will be put on the sustainability projects Elon has completed, while also continuing to push for more awareness among students.

"Earth Week is an opportunity for the campus to celebrate the natural environment we enjoy and learn about sustainability efforts on and off campus and how to get involved with them," said Elaine Durr, director of sus-

tainability.

Elon was recently named a "Green College," showing a strong commitment to sustainable practices, for the sixth straight year by the Princeton Review.

Sustainability projects Elon has undertaken include Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for 25 buildings, a large reduction in energy consumption per square foot and solar thermal installations.

"The most obvious [ways Elon has progressed] are that buildings are more efficient and we recycle, but there is a lot more to sustainability than that," Bilecki said. "Elon's willingness to talk about all of sustainability, not just environmental sustainability, shows progress as well."

Elon also has the Eco-Reps program for students to educate their peers about sustainability initiatives.

"One of the goals of the Eco-Reps program is to help students understand that

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Relay for Life 2015 brings changes

Caroline Fernandez
News Editor

Sophomore Alexa Lowey relays for a cure, change and community. But most importantly to her, she relays for a friend.

In 2007, Lowey's best friend of six years Esther Earl — who was later the inspiration for John Green's novel "The Fault in Our Stars" — was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. Lowey then became immersed in a life of supporting, caregiving and fighting for her best friend until Earl lost her battle in 2010.

Five years later, Lowey continues to be involved in cancer fundraising and support efforts and serves as treasurer on the executive board for Elon's Relay for Life chapter.

"To me, Relay is all about support," Lowey said. "We all have people, and stories for why we relay, but when we relay as a whole it's a way to say, 'Hey, you are not

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Sports

Men's and Women's tennis teams lose in CAA semifinals
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RELAY FOR LIFE

What

- Relay for Life, an event to raise money for the fight against cancer.

Where

- Elon University Francis Center Field

When

- April 24, 2015
- 6 pm. to 6 am.

How to sign up

- Go to main.acsevents.org and join a team.

STRING from cover

ment will culminate in the debut of a video on Friday which captures students' responses and the overall message of the movement.

Within the first day, the bundle of orange yarn unraveled quickly and it became clear to the organizers that their initiative transcended beyond a Moseley table.

"We prepared ourselves for a lot of people not wanting to engage with our message because that's the nature of Moseley tables," said sophomore Camryn Bindra. "But people have been walking right up to us — [identifying] the movement from our social media platforms, talking about a string they received from a friend or to just have a conversation."

The movement's various social media platforms encouraged students to share their thoughts with #lamandcare. The popsicle sticks assist with prompting conversations, starting with questions like how do you celebrate diversity at Elon, does diversity matter on college campuses or how do you define diversity?

According to Katie Cotter, the course instructor and adjunct instructor of human service studies, these instances of spontaneous, as well as intended discussion surrounding diversity, are what the class project initially intended to accomplish.

The overarching goal of the course was for students to learn how groups can influence change within communities. The bi-weekly class was charged with researching and identifying a need in the community and taking specific action to address that need. After one-

on-one interviews, focus groups and surveys, their research found that lack of apathy and diversity on campus were two primary issues affecting Elon students. These two findings inspired "Stringing Us Together."

"I have been consistently impressed with the students' passion and leadership for this project," Cotter said. "It is clear that they are not only treating this as a class assignment but as an opportunity to make a difference on Elon's campus."

Freshman Alonzo Cee said while the initiative has good intentions and conversations about diversity are necessary, it alone cannot solve Elon's "diversity problem," and that it has the potential to simplify the issue. Cee pointed to other opportunities including guest lectures where engaging in the conversation surrounding diversity may be more educational.

He added that at the end of the day, he is always skeptical about how people at Elon, especially those who represent the majority white population, take in this information.

"[As a member of the minority on campus] we live this conversation," he added. "So yes, I'm always going to talk about diversity because we don't have that veil of white privilege — we can't shut it off or turn away from it whenever we want."

While Guillaume admits that the idea is not completely seamless and can not lead to immediate campus-wide diversity, she stressed that the orange strings symbolize three first steps to spark necessary dialogue surrounding differences: collective awareness, respect for difference and desire to ignite change.

"I think a big problem at our school is that people often think



Freshman Olivia Ryan and sophomore Sophie Natan tie orange pieces of string on their wrists Monday, April 20.

a small symbol doesn't make a big difference to people on our campus who feel misunderstood," Guillaume said. "To the person who thinks an orange string doesn't matter, I would say wear the string because it matters to me."

Guillaume also stressed the importance of realizing that diversity is not just skin deep — an assumption she believes many college students tend to make.

"Anything that makes you who you are makes you diverse and valuable on this campus," she added.

Elon's "unprecedented commitment to diversity and global engagement" boasts "an aggressive and sustained effort to support and increase ethnic and cultural diversity." Diversity programming is supported on campus by a variety of institutions including the Center for Race, Ethnicity & Diversity Education, the Inclusive Community Council and the Gender and LGBTQIA Center.

But Guillaume said change begins outside the administration.

"Elon has made a commitment to diversity and I think it's time that students need to follow up on this," Guillaume stressed. "I hope this event will unite the community and remind students that getting out of your comfort zone is a part of the college experience [and that] asking tough questions is an essential part of that."

Sophomore Zach Gianelle, who approached the table when he spotted it and its message, said that the orange strings represent a willingness to think critically about the culture students are surrounded by and pushes students to consider Elon's flaws.

Gianelle added that Elon's lack of diversity significantly hinders educational horizons.

"It's like when you read a book by a close-minded author with whom you identify and their ideas in the work speak to you and shape

the reality in which you live: what they say seems like truth when it is only the truth for one voice," he said. "Elon speaks with only one voice, and it detracts from our education to learn from only one perspective that is consistent with our own. There really isn't room for critical thinking in a culture like that."

Kat Chang, who identifies as Asian and therefore part of the minority on campus, said that while the initiative means a lot to her as a member of the minority, the success of the event will depend on how students will carry forth the movement after the week ends.

"If students at Elon aren't willing to take that step forward [after the week is over], it isn't going to be as effective as it could be," she said. "The student body has to try to understand that this is a problem if things are going to really change."

RELAY FOR LIFE from cover

alone in this fight."

Lowey will be present Friday, April 24 as Elon's Colleges Against Cancer (CAC) hosts Relay for Life for the third year in a row.

Laura Castro, Relay for Life 2015 director, said the event will feature new changes in an effort to improve the event.

To make the layout appear more cohesive, Castro said that this year, tents will be set up in the center of the Francis Center fields, instead of on the edge of the track.

"Last year, people who wanted to be in tents and campsites felt excluded from the field," Castro said. "Hopefully, this year people will feel more involved in all of the activities, whether they are walking or not."

To save money this year, the organization got permission to allow Relay for Life participants to use the bathrooms in the Francis Center, saving the organization approximately \$1,000 to use for expenses other than port-a-potties.

In addition to logistical changes, Castro said this year's event is taking on the theme "Hope Around the World" and adding new events throughout the 12 hours, like food trucks Friday evening and a breakfast by Elon fraternity Sigma Phi Epsilon Saturday morning.

Five food trucks are scheduled to remain until midnight and are each participating in a profit share with Relay for Life, with varied percentages going back to the event.

The event — scheduled to begin 6 p.m. Friday, April 24 — will continue throughout the

night and conclude the following morning at 6 a.m. Saturday, April 25.

"Cancer never sleeps, so for the night we're not going to, either," Castro said.

This year, in addition to community members and an estimated 800 students, faculty and staff will be participating.

Jaimie Biermann, assistant director of residence life in Danieley Center, created 'Fac and Staff Bridging the Gap,' a group of seven faculty and staff members who are scheduled to participate in the event alongside Elon students.

No matter the age of participants or their relation to Elon, Castro said the goal of Relay for Life is to raise money and awareness for cancer research and advances in conjunction with the American Cancer Society.

Relay for Life is a national event that started in 1985 when Dr. Gordon Klatt spent 24 hours walking the University of Puget Sound's track to raise awareness and money. Klatt walked more than 83 miles and raised \$27,000.

A year later, the first Relay for Life was hosted and 19 teams participated and raised \$33,000.

In the past two decades Relay for Life has raised almost \$5 billion in events hosted across the country.

This is the third year Elon has hosted a Relay for Life event. At the first Relay in April 26, 2013 about 400 people participated and beat the event's goal of \$10,000 with a final total of \$30,420.

Last year, more than 800 students participated, raising a total of \$50,073.28.

As of publication, 755 participants in 45 different teams have registered and raised a total of \$45,809.35, which moves the organiza-

tion closer to its 2015 goal of raising \$75,000.

Castro said registration does not close, though, and people can register at the event.

"We just want to make sure everyone has the opportunity to participate," Castro said. "This event is able to bring students together from across campus for one common goal: raising money to fight cancer."

Castro said people can register with a team of as few as six people.

"People can register with friends or an organization leading up to the event or at the event," she said. "We have a good variety of fraternities, sororities, clubs and halls registered."

Klatt's mission has inspired people around the country, including Elon students who participate in Relay because they understand the great amount of people who are touched by cancer.

"Being involved with CAC has made me realize how many people on this campus have been affected by cancer in some way," said Rebecca Venetianer, director of marketing. "And I think it is important for everyone to realize that as well."

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Holi: Cloud of color unifies Elon students

Leena Dahal and Brett Gubitosi Assistant News Editor and Senior Reporter

Elon University students trickled in from all corners of the campus clad in old white shirts and gathered in packs around a large blue tarp in Speaker's Corner. At first, the differences were stark: friends with friends, sisters with sisters, brothers with brothers. But once they all counted down, yelled, "Holi!" and threw cups of paint in the air, a cloud of color covered them and the divisions began to fade fast.

In India, Holi is a Hindu festival celebrated in early March to welcome the spring season. For that reason, the Truitt Center for Spiritual and Religious Life decided it was fitting to delay its on-campus celebration to when spring began at Elon. With the fresh scent of blooming flowers and pristine blue skies, April 17 proved to be an appropriate time to welcome the end of an icy winter.

When Chaplain Jan Fuller first brought Holi to Elon in 2001, food was used to attract students. The following years, dancers were used. This year, a crowd bigger than years before came to the event with neither food nor dancers as incentives. Fuller said the ever-growing crowds are indicative of how loved the festival is at Elon.

"When it's something fun, people want to do it," Fuller said. "No matter the religion, the culture, or anything."

To Fuller, unity makes the festival powerful and relevant on Elon's campus.

"In India, it's subversive and it's your day of freedom to cross boundaries," she said. "We bring that to Elon too — today, we cross boundaries between faculty and staff, students, seniors and kids."

And boundaries were crossed. The once divided crowd merged together, moving to the beat of the Bollywood music that blasted through Young Commons — there was dancing, more color-throwing and even a conga line. Very quickly, people drenched in powder paint became unrecognizable.

Sophomore Iliana Brodsky an Interfaith intern at the Truitt Center who organized the event, said the festivities are important even though Hindus are a minority on campus.

"It gets students conscious about cultures and festivals they've never heard of," she said. "Everybody loves color, spring and the idea of renewal."

Brodsky said though she had never taken part in Holi, she did ample research on the event — as she hopes participants do, too.

"I spent a lot of time Googling it and the preemptive rituals involved," Brodsky said. "It was kind of crazy to try to capture all of it. I've been able to learn a lot and have been able to educate my friends. So it just took a lot of personal research."

Junior Claire Lockard came to the event to relive memories of her Winter Term trip to India.

"It just brought back so many memories of India," Lockard said. "Anytime there's an event that reminds us

of our time there, we want to experience it."

Some students were surprised they did not see more physical or social media promotion of the event, but Adam Constantine, Elon's social media manager, thought it was not necessary to excessively promote the event.

"Word of mouth is such a powerful thing," he said. "It gets people excited and is huge for these type of things."

He believes going to cultural events such as Holi fosters a sense of community while celebrating global engagement.

"You want to look back at your Elon experience and know you took part at these events," he said. "The paint is temporary, but the memories last forever."

Through Elon University GoPro drone, phones attached to selfie sticks and photographers surrounding the tarp — the event was captured in various ways, adding a splash of color to Elon University's social media platforms.

Freshman Giulietta Brunetti said she was excited to see many people in attendance and to experience a foreign cultural tradition.

"I want to study abroad a lot," she said. "So it's important to be aware and open to different cultural events."

Students confirmed this excitement and memory-building.

"Throwing the paint is pretty cool," Hiles said. "Also, it has a cultural meaning and is not just a random thing."

Despite mixed reviews on promotion from some students, the excitement and community present on the tarp could not be denied.

Situated in the middle of Speaker's Corner, the tarp was filled with happy Elon students dancing around

and throwing red, orange, green, yellow, purple and other colored paint at each other.

Around 4:30 p.m., the tarp was cleared and all that remained was a delicate layer of different colored paint mixed in a single, earthy hue.

Just a few minutes later, the tarp was folded, leaving the grass and flattened by the students' expressive and impassioned dancing.



Internationalizing and institutionalizing nonviolence

Danielle Deavens
Senior Reporter

Civil rights leader Bernard Lafayette spoke to a crowded room of Elon University students, faculty and staff Monday evening about his experiences coordinating nonviolent protests starting in 1960. He started by praising Elon faculty and staff for its commitment to global education. Then he challenged students to see difference without allowing it to create a divide.

Mark Dalhouse, director of Elon's Study USA program, introduced Lafayette by saying, "It's because of men and women like Bernard Lafayette that we have the right to vote." Dalhouse then announced that voter registration information would be available at the end of the event.

Lafayette opened his speech by expressing his interest in Elon's global approach to teaching and learning. "This is a model for modern education," he said. "Elon is a place where I see there are special experiences that are created for you to prepare yourselves for a different kind of future than we had."

He also said that the increase in connectedness across the world has launched an era of accepting difference. He challenged students to use this heightened awareness of diversity to continue the legacy of change that began with the Civil

Rights Movement.

"Acknowledge the differences, but don't make the differences make a difference—that's our challenge," he said. "What's happening now is that it's in your hands. You are going to determine what kind of world we are going to live in."

It was ownership of his legacy that saw Lafayette through the dozens of violent encounters he had throughout the U.S. Civil Rights Movement. "I had to work on trying to change the system," he said, "so that my grandmother, in her allotted years, would be respected and would be treated as a human being."

Lafayette first became a civil rights activist in 1959 as a student at American Baptist College in Nashville, Tennessee. He attended non-violence classes at the nearby Highlander Folk School. After a year of classes, he worked with other young activists to participate in demonstrations aimed at integrating lunch counters, buses and movie theatres. Lafayette then traveled to the inaugural conference of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in 1960.

This launched his involvement in demonstrations nationwide. He participated in the freedom rides in 1961, then helped coordinate the 1965 March on Washington. In less than a decade, Lafayette became a leader in the movement.

He worked with Martin Luther

King, Jr. as the national coordinator of the Poor People's Campaign in 1968. Lafayette spoke with King on the morning of his assassination. Their final conversation shaped the rest of Lafayette's career.

"He wanted to internationalize and institutionalize nonviolence," he said. "I decided that I would complete that assignment. That's what I've been doing for the rest of my life."

Today, he is working with Emory University in Atlanta to set up a center for nonviolence, one of dozens across the nation and world. Elon is one of his stops on a tour across the country that includes both speaking engagements and non-violence training sessions.

"The goal of nonviolence is to win people over," he said. "The single most important advice that I could give to civil rights workers today is that it's important to go through the training—leadership training and nonviolence training."

Dalhouse and the Global Education Center brought Lafayette to Elon to start a conversation about how the work done during civil rights movement is relevant today.

"This is the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, and he was instrumental in that," Dalhouse said. "I'm sending students all over the United States to learn. I feel like it's our responsibility to bring some of that here and challenge students



Civil rights leader Bernard Lafayette spoke Monday, April 20 on his work with organizing nonviolent protests in the 1960s.

to think."

Lafayette also acknowledge the need for further conversation about racial discrimination and hatred in the United States.

"When we talk about post-racial period, there's nothing post about it," he said in a smaller talk with students of color organized by the Center for Race, Ethnicity and Diversity Education. "When we look at where we are now compared to where we were in the 1960s, we begin to see the reflections clearly."

While Lafayette made clear his beliefs that work on U.S. civil rights is far from over, he expressed confidence in students at Elon. One stu-

dent pointed to apathy as a major problem with the millennial generation's response to issues of discrimination and hatred. He left the audience with advice for combating that issue: "Apathy is a form of violence, whether they're disinterested or whether it's fear that causes them not to take a stand," he said. "About 25 percent of the people who are silent just don't know how to get involved. You've got to look at ways that people can participate and support. You have to help them see how this is going to benefit those around them."

Elon gamers compete in Super Smash Bros. Tournament

Consoles, controllers all provided by entrants at ISA's most popular event

Max Garland
Senior Reporter

Elon University gamers gathered in Duke building for the Interactive Software Association (ISA) and the eSports club's signature campus event of the semester: the Super Smash Bros. Tournament.

Saturday evening, the 45 participants played six rounds to determine who was best in Super Smash Bros. for Wii U, the latest of Nintendo's popular fighting game franchise.

"We were really impressed with the turnout," said senior Zach Wellman, president of Elon's eSports Club. "It just shows how passionate of a Smash Bros. community we have here."

The ISA and the eSports Club partnered with SPARKS Peer Educators for the tournament to raise awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving. SPARKS provided funding for food and accommodations at the tournament.

"Our main message here is to not drive under the influence, and this is a good way for people to pay attention to that," Wellman said. "Plus, if you're really drunk, you can't play the game well, either. That wouldn't be good for these guys."

Entrants displayed dedication through their play and their assistance with the event.

Players provided every Wii U console, controller and copy of the game used in the tournament, according to ISA president Davis Rumley. One player even brought his own TV.

"The crowd here wasn't that stunning because the game is so

popular," Rumley said. "The Super Smash Bros. Tournament has been well-received every semester we've had it."

Rumley said another key factor in the number of participants was the organizations' marketing strategy.

"We used a lot of social media to advertise the event, especially Facebook," he said. "Pure word of mouth on campus also got more students interested."

With matches being played simultaneously in several different rooms, event-goers played non-tournament matches whenever there was an opportunity. That quickly changed in the semifinals — all eyes were on the two massive projector screens in Duke 303.

Elon's first official Super Smash Bros. Tournament took place spring 2014. The fall tournament took the next step with a larger crowd and three editions of the game. This was the first tournament with the Wii U edition.

Super Smash Bros. for Wii U has sold 3.39 million copies worldwide as of January. The game, along with its predecessors, has become a staple of college dorm rooms across America.

"It's how we build friendships," said junior Tyler Lehmann. "Most of us here have been playing since the original, which came out in 1999. It's the best fighting game out there."

College Super Smash Bros. tournaments are a frequent occurrence because of the series' popularity. Nintendo had the Wii U edition "tour" college campuses



Junior Tyler Lehmann watches on as sophomore Zach Johnson and senior Tucker Jepsen compete in the final round of the Elon Super Smash Bros. tournament Saturday, April 18. In the end, Jepsen won the tournament.

in October and November of last year, pitting different universities against each other for bragging rights.

Senior Tucker Jepsen took home the grand prize of \$50, defeating sophomore Zach Johnson 3-1 in a best-of-five series.

Jepsen took the first two games before Johnson made a late comeback in the third game and beat him with one life remaining.

Jepsen won a fourth game as the unassuming Villager, a character that attacks with umbrellas,

bowling balls and other random items. That was enough to prevail over Johnson's Lucario from the Pokémon franchise.

The Villager surprised the crowd by hitting Lucario with a batch of fireworks to launch him off the top of the screen, clinching the series for Jepsen.

"It's an honor to be named champion with so many great players here," said Jepsen, who has played the game since he was in grade school. "I hope to have more matches with these guys and other

students in the future."

Senior Takasuke Tsuji, who lost to Jepsen in the semifinals, topped freshman Grant Jones to nab the third-place prize: a \$25 GameStop gift card.

Jepsen, now king of Elon Smash Bros., gets to decide how he'll spend his \$50.

"I'll probably buy some more Amiibos," he said, referring to the collectible figurines that can interact with the game.

Any Smash Bros. player would approve.

[RE]Gen New Media Festival

Department of Art & Art History
Elon University

Tuesday, April 28, 6-7:30pm
Paramount Theater,
Downtown Burlington

FREE! RSVP to FB Event
Artist/Community Reception Following
Raffle for Media Gift Basket

featuring creative work
by Elon students, NC faculty & students,
and selected (inter)national artists

Image Credit: Carlos Rosas, Step & Repeat: The Hertzian Trip Cycle (US Interstates)

Elon BioBus Running 5:30-8:30pm
Moseley - ArtsWest - Paramount Theater

EARTH DAY from cover

'living sustainably' does not require people to completely change their life style," said senior Shannon Tendlak, Eco-Rep Coordinator. "Students can take small steps to make a huge impact."

The week began Sunday with a canoeing and cleanup trip to the Haw River sponsored by Campus Recreation. An official Earth

Week kick-off event was held Monday.

Danielle Nierenberg, president of Food Tank — an organization that focuses on environmentally, socially and economically sustainable ways of alleviating hunger, poverty and obesity — spoke Tuesday night as the week's keynote speaker. Her speech was titled "Cultivating a Better Food System."

Wednesday, the plaza outside Lakeside Dining Hall will host Party for the Planet, a new event. A number of campus sustainability-related organizations will be there with

food, music and more. There will also be a Swap Shop, where students can donate small items like books or clothing and take an item in exchange. A local meal will be served at Colonnades Dining Hall 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., and Elon Outdoors will host a S'mores social at the Beck Pool patio 10-11 p.m.

On Thursday, the Farmer's Market will be on the Elon Community Church Lawn from 3-6:30 p.m. Friday will be a Garden Work Day from 2-4 p.m. in the Community Garden, and there will be a Student Union Board Cinema, in conjunction with Sustainability at Elon, video debut at 8 p.m. Saturday on Young Commons.

"Earth Week events are primarily for awareness building, networking and celebration," Bilecki said. "The events demonstrate how more sustainable practices can be integrated into a lot of events already happening on campus. I think Party for the Planet in particular is a great event to show that though it may not always seem like it, there are a lot of students interested and working on this topic. Ultimately, I hope it helps people understand what they can do to contribute to sustainability at Elon."

Elon is also launching the Sustainability Projects Database this week, which showcases student research on sustainability and gives students, faculty and staff the chance to submit project ideas.

"The goals of the Sustainability Project Database are to showcase student work while serving as a repository and inspiration for new, or more in depth, projects and to facilitate completion of, or improvement on, proj-



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ects from year to year," Durr said. "Projects for the Database can address one or more aspects of sustainability: environmental, social and/or economic. They can focus on campus, the local area or sustainability on a broader scale."

EARTH DAY EVENTS 4/22 - 4/24

- WEDNESDAY APRIL 22**
- Party for the planet
11:00am - 2:00 pm
Lakeside Plaza
 - Local Meal
11:00am - 2:00 pm
Colonnades Dining Hall
 - Sustainable S'mores with Outdoors
10:00pm - 11:00 pm
Beck Pool Patio
- THURSDAY APRIL 23**
- Sustainability Master Plan Feedback
12:00pm - 2:00 pm
Moseley 120
 - Farmer's Market
3:00p. - 6:00 pm
Elon Community Church Lawn
- FRIDAY APRIL 24**
- Garden Work Day
2:00pm. - 4:00 pm
Community Garden
- SATURDAY APRIL 25**
- SUB Cinema and Sustainability
at Elon Video Debut
8:00 pm
Young Commons

Unaccompanied minors seek Surge at Central American border brings



KATY CANADA | Senior Reporter

Katy Canada and Mackenzie Roberts Senior Reporter and Reporter

In the desert, they stopped to ask for water. Instead, they got detained. The 17-year-old Honduran girl and her 10-month-old daughter are just two of 68,000 children who have crossed the border into the United States alone, fleeing a region rife with violence.

The young mother and daughter were ushered into a crowded "cooler," a shelter at the border, where they stayed for 15 days before being transported to a different shelter in Arizona.

"They treated us bad," the Honduran teenager said. "We slept on the floor, and it was very cold. They kept telling us, 'Why are we here? This is not our country.'"

Of the 2,252 unaccompanied minors in North Carolina, these two are an anomaly in that they received legal counsel when they arrived in the United States. For the remainder who struggle through the system without representation, deportation is often inevitable.

The pair began their journey in December 2014, when they boarded a bus in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. They rode for days, walked for miles and, a month and a half later, crossed the Rio Grande to reach the Texas border.

"They were assaulting a lot of people," the mother said. "And sometimes they killed people. Instead of a robbery, they killed them."

Nearly 20 days following their detention, the pair was reunited with the teenager's mother, who was granted custody of both unaccompanied minors by a judge in Durham County.

The two children are on track to receive a Special Immigrant Juvenile (SIJ) Status, a form of relief that provides green cards to immigrant minors who have been abandoned by one or more parents. For now,

they're in limbo, awaiting a ruling from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to decide if their claim is valid.

Special Immigrant Juvenile Status

Derrick Hensley, a family court attorney based in Durham who represented the new custodian of the young immigrants in court, said SIJ Status is a viable option for many unaccompanied minors. With the influx of unaccompanied minors in the state, there are more cases than there are attorneys to represent them. SIJ cases require a complicated mix of family law and immigration law that few attorneys are willing to undertake.

It's even more difficult for unaccompanied minors to find legal representation at an affordable rate. Hensley takes on a combination of paid cases and pro bono cases.

"There aren't immigration attorneys and family attorneys who are willing to take on these cases," Hensley said. "They fly under the radar, the kids get deported and then, whether they live or die, nobody ever hears from them again."

In his experience, Hensley has found that children with valid claims for SIJ Status have a relatively high chance of receiving a green card. But recently, he's noticed pushback from Customs and Immigration Services.

"They don't like that there are so many of these cases now, and they want to find reasons to deny them," Hensley said. "There's some level of reviewability, but a lot of it comes down to how the officer was feeling that day, whether they get the Special Immigrant Juvenile visa or you just get a pile of trouble that doesn't end."

CIS officers can also reject cases in which they determine the judge does not know enough about the case.

A House Judiciary Committee voted March 4 to recommend the

passage of a bill that would expedite the deportation of children who crossed the border on their own.

Though this bill would effectively speed up the deportation process, President Barack Obama instructed courts during the surge at the border last summer to rearrange their dockets, ensuring underage immigrants appeared before a judge within 21 days of Immigration and Customs Enforcement filing a case against them.

In the past year, Hensley has represented 22 unaccompanied minors, a number he said was more than previous years. Attorneys across the state and nationwide saw an increase in the number of unaccompanied minors in their caseloads in the summer of 2014, when minors began crossing the border alone at unprecedented levels.

Hila Moss, attorney for the Development, Empowerment, Action, Relief (D.E.A.R.) Foundation—a North Carolina immigration advocacy group—said her caseload skyrocketed in June, when around 1,200 juveniles had already arrived in the state.

Currently, 75 of Moss' clients are unaccompanied minors, six of whom have been placed with sponsors in Alamance County. The D.E.A.R. Foundation offers legal counsel at a discounted rate based on what each client can afford and, in some circumstances, pro bono.

Moss said she saw a rapid shift in how juveniles were treated in the court systems over the course of a month. In May, when she represented two juvenile clients in Charlotte, judges opted to keep their cases closed unless the Department of Homeland Security requested they be reopened. A month later, when she had six children on the docket, each was denied closure.

"It was very dramatic in how quickly it happened and how quickly it changed their policy," Moss said. "It went from being very kid-friendly,

very kid-oriented, and then with the influx of the unaccompanied minors, they had, all of a sudden, huge targets on their backs."

Judges don't always understand the conditions surrounding the cases of unaccompanied minors, she said. Moss spends a significant amount of time educating judges who haven't researched the cases or aren't familiar with federal law.

"They don't know what's going on, and they don't care what's going on, which I think is the worst part," Moss said. "As far as they see it, that's not their purview. And I hear that from a lot of other attorneys."

Courtroom struggles

Martin Rosenbluth, a clinical practitioner in residence for the Humanitarian Immigration Law Clinic at the Elon University School of Law, said judges have placed the cases of unaccompanied minors at the top of their dockets in the past year.

"They've put their cases on what's called the 'rocket docket,' so they're moving those cases much more quickly than other removal proceedings in the immigration court," Rosenbluth said. "So you'll get deported more quickly if you came as a recent arrival, including if you're a minor."

In court proceedings, juvenile immigrants aren't limited to applying for SIJ Status, though it is the most common route and the easiest way to avoid deportation. If a minor can prove he or she has a fear of future

persecution upon returning home based on race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion, there's a chance of being granted asylum.

This can be difficult to prove because it requires proof of persecution on specific grounds, and juveniles more often flee to escape violence or because they've been abused. In asylum cases, minors must also prove that no place in their home country is safe for return. The fact that gang violence is endemic in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador isn't enough to warrant an individual grant of asylum in the eyes of the immigration court.

"It's just like you live in a bad neighborhood," Rosenbluth said. "Even if you can show that you have a well-founded fear of gang violence or of the types of violence in the community, that just isn't sufficient to have your request for asylum approved."

Acquiring counsel

Achieving SIJ Status or asylum in court is nearly impossible without a lawyer. But Rosenbluth said one can't be appointed if a minor cannot afford one, noting an asylum case can cost anywhere from \$5,000-\$10,000.

The going rate for counsel in an SIJ Status case runs \$2,500-\$4,000 for the portion that takes place in family court, with an additional \$2,000-\$3,000 for immigration proceedings, he said.

"Without an attorney, it's basi-



The one-and-a-half-year-old unaccompanied minor enjoys new toys now that she's been reunited with her grandmother in Durham. Photo submitted by Derek Hensley.

new homes and lives in NC children to state seeking counsel, refuge



KATY CANADA | Senior Reporter

An unaccompanied minor (above right) seeks special immigrant juvenile status for herself and her child so they can stay in the U.S. with her mother (above left).

cally hopeless," Rosenbluth said. "I don't think getting Special Immigrant Juvenile Status without an attorney is remotely possible."

Even with an attorney, there are a lot of hoops to jump through.

Rosenbluth, who formerly practiced immigration law at Alamance Law Office, said he took on three or four new cases for unaccompanied minors each week during the summer of 2014.

Often, he said, attorneys and their underage clients are not given enough notice to plan for the hearings because the dates get changed.

"Let's just say the procedures are not that organized," Rosenbluth said. "We're seeing a lot of cases where these kids or their sponsors just never get notice of the court dates because they just move them so fast."

This affects the outcome of the case by limiting preparation time and compromising the ability of the minor to make it to Charlotte for the hearing.

Children who appear in court face additional complications. Interpreters help them overcome the language barrier, but a comprehension barrier poses more of an obstacle, particularly if the minor has experienced trauma.

"How do you expect a two-year-old or a four-year-old to answer any of the questions about their case?" Rosenbluth said.

Assisting unaccompanied minors

Nonprofit agencies have been helping unaccompanied minors settle into a new environment in North Carolina.

Lutheran Services Carolinas (LSC), an organization that assists with refugee resettlement in North Carolina, has helped juveniles navigate the legal system by linking them with attorneys who will take

their cases pro bono. LSC services also extend outside the courtroom and into the homes of children and their sponsors.

"Obviously, when the children arrive, there are usually a lot of problems," said Mary Ann Johnson, director of community relations for LSC. "We need to make sure we do home studies, much like you would for foster children, to make sure they're being cared for."

Johnson said they have assisted 84 unaccompanied minors this year, which is up 68 percent from 2014. She mentioned that the majority of them have been placed with sponsors in Wake County.

Unaccompanied minors, particularly those who have been victims of human trafficking, require additional aid on top of the usual background check performed on sponsors, home evaluations and legal help.

"Most of them are fleeing some kind of violent situation," she said. "Obviously those children need special attention and counseling."

The U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI), an advocacy group in Raleigh, provides a similar service, assisting minors and their families in finding affordable legal help.

"A priority for us is that they need legal counsel for their immigration hearing," said Stacie Blake, director of government and community relations for USCRI. "That's been an ongoing problem."

Federal data compiled by the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse at Syracuse University, a research center that compiles federal data under the Freedom of Information Act, suggest that 32 percent of unaccompanied children had legal representation in immigration court in 2014. The data also suggest, in 73 percent of cases where a minor was represented by an attorney in the past two years, he or she

was allowed to remain in the United States. Of those who weren't represented, 15 percent were allowed to stay.

"I think anyone can agree it's ridiculous for children to represent themselves," Blake said.

Some North Carolina residents are less receptive to welcoming unaccompanied minors into the state, arguing they negatively impact communities.

"They are a direct threat to the well being of our state," said William Gheen, president of Americans for Legal Immigration. "Many Americans have lost their jobs and lost their homes. Thousands of Americans are losing their lives each year due to the breach of our public."

Gheen advocated for the minors to be detained at the border and sent back to their home countries.

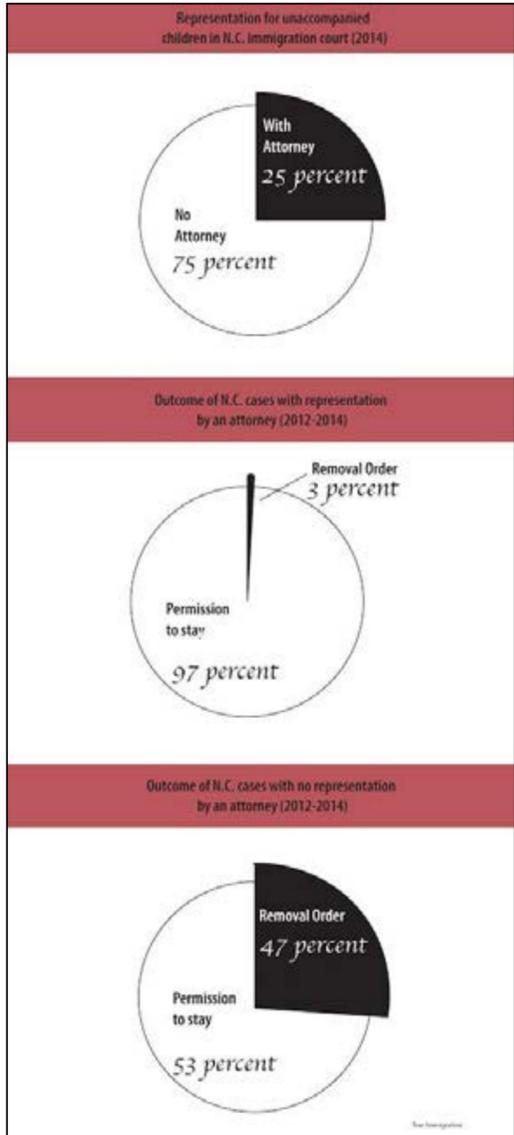
Tricking into schools

Federal law dictates all children in the United States have a right to public education regardless of citizenship status, including unaccompanied minors, many of whom have been enrolled in North Carolina school systems.

The Obama administration issued a set of guidelines in 2014 outlining the documentation that students must provide to enroll in public schools, reiterating that school districts may not inquire about immigration status.

Because of this, public school officials have no way of tracking if the students are documented. But some have seen a slight increase in the sizes of their English as a Second Language (ESL) programs.

"Whether they're unaccompanied or not unaccompanied, we don't keep those statistics," said Carlos Oliveira, Director of ESL for the



KATY CANADA | Senior Reporter

Alamance-Burlington School System. "Are some of those kids, possibly? I guess so."

The Alamance Burlington School System has not yet implemented new policies or services for this demographic specifically, but administrators have purchased more supplies for all students who enroll midyear.

"Probably last year in March we did see more late arrivals into our intake center," Oliveira said. "We did see some more students start a little bit later than in past years. We have seen a little bit of an increase in students starting in March and April."

Sashi Rayasam, director of ESL services for Durham County Schools, said their program has around 300 students total, but she does not know how many of them are unaccompanied minors.

Durham County, with 215, has the third-highest number of unaccompanied minors in the state. She

said the district has been working to add the resources this group of students require, including new instructional services and strategic group meetings.

"It's more than ESL, it is a school system and city," Rayasam said. "[It takes the] entire Durham to raise these students. We embrace every child that walks through our doors."

But this doesn't really matter for the teenage migrant from Honduras, who is in educational limbo because she finished high school back in her home country and could not enroll in Durham.

For now, she's attending English classes at a church in Durham, awaiting her 18th birthday, when she plans to begin community college.

"The first thing I have to do is learn English," she said. "And after that I don't know. It's hard to study being an immigrant and not knowing English. It's hard to know what to do."

Food and festivities for philanthropy

West End Terrace to host event benefiting CrossRoads

Tanza Loudenback
Senior Reporter

West End Terrace will host "Crafternoon," a spring fundraiser to benefit CrossRoads Sexual Assault Response and Resource Center, Saturday, April 25.

"Crafternoon" tickets are \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door and include craft beer and wine tastings, as well as a BBQ buffet. Local music group Love & Valor and Elon University's Vital Signs will perform.

"The Board of Directors [of CrossRoads] was looking for a more relaxed atmosphere and all around fun event for the community," said Austin Davis, a crisis intervention volunteer of three years and member of the CrossRoads Board of Directors. We have such a strong connection to Elon University that it just made sense to have it here.

CrossRoads is a local agency that serves child and adult survivors of sexual assault and trauma. The mission of the organization is to provide survivors with confidential counseling and treatment as well as community education and awareness.

According to data collected by the National Children's Alliance, more than 6,400 children were served at accredited child advocacy centers (CACs) in North Carolina

in 2011. CACs are specifically designed to protect child victims rather than to investigate and prosecute criminals. CrossRoads, a Burlington-based CAC, provides free services to adults and children in both Alamance and Caswell counties.

"[The most difficult part of volunteering is] understanding that the majority of survivors in our community don't walk through our doors and get the help that they need or deserve," Davis said. Still, it's empowering to bring hope and light back into the lives of the survivors who choose to seek help, she added.

CrossRoads established a home in Burlington in 1976 as the Rape Crisis Alliance. Since then, it has grown from an all-volunteer team to include social workers, therapists and community members. The CrossRoads team is now large enough to manage a 24-hour crisis hotline for confidential counseling.

"The women that work at CrossRoads are truly heroes of this community, and I've learned so much from their wisdom, experience and passion," said Lauren Berk, a senior who has been involved with CrossRoads since she was assigned an internship at the organization during a human services class her sophomore year. Berk has continued to help with court accompaniment and crisis hotline volunteering. She



West End Terrace will host a "Crafternoon" fundraiser to benefit CrossRoads Sexual Assault Response and Resource Center April 25. Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door.

was recently recognized with the Governor's award for outstanding service — an award given annually to 20 volunteers in North Carolina.

"We have a strong presence of volun-

teers and interns from Elon University, which is amazing," Davis said. "Our relationship with Elon has been nothing but positive, and we're looking forward to an even better future with them."

'Narcolepsy' film soon a reality after SGA backing

Fully funded student film explores dark mental drama



After several months of planning and production, the "Narcolepsy" team, led by senior Jordan Roman, finished shooting Sunday. The film is a drama about a high school student dealing with narcolepsy.

Max Garland
Assistant News Editor

Senior Jordan Roman's last resort ushered in a new era of Elon University cinema.

Turned down by the School of Communications and unsuccessful with crowd funding platforms and grant programs, Roman and his crew went to SGA in February to propose funding for "Narcolepsy," the short film he wrote and wanted to direct.

"We made sure to pitch it not just as a communications project but as a school-wide project," said the cinema major. "We could use this film to show the world what Elon can do."

SGA later called Roman with good news — the Senate voted 36-0-0 to allocate funding for the film. "Narcolepsy" became the first student film fully funded by the university.

"Everyone was so relieved and excited," he said. "I remember shouting at the top of my lungs. It was one of the best feelings I've ever experienced. We knew from that point on that we could make this film a reality."

"Narcolepsy" is a psychological drama about a high school student dealing with narcolepsy and the hallucinations caused by it. The crew has talked with mental illness institutions in North Carolina about supporting the movie, Bocian said.

Roman and his crew negotiated with the SGA and settled on a budget of \$3,205. The money was primarily spent on equipment, makeup, production design and props.

"The finance committee was really impressed with their proposal," said Avery Steadman, the executive treasurer of SGA at the time the funding was passed. "There

was some discussion afterward, but everyone seemed to be in favor of it with how dedicated the students were."

Steadman said "Narcolepsy" producer Zach Bocian introduced the idea of funding the film while the SGA was determining Cinelon's budget.

"Steadman was so instrumental in getting it passed," Bocian said. "We met with her several times, and she knew that this film was important for the entire Elon community, not just the film school."

According to Bocian, Elon's generosity with equipment and lighting has made the budget easier to work with, allowing more to be invested in makeup and props.

"I have friends that go to film schools at USC and NYU, and they don't have the opportunity to work with what we have here," he said.

Roman said everything was prepared for the movie to be shot at the end of fall semester, but funding was still a major question. The School of Communications was interested, but didn't have the funding needed to back the project.

With the SGA's backing, Roman and his crew quickly went into the production of "Narcolepsy" after months of planning. Seven days were spent shooting the film. The process ended last Sunday.

"Now we're into the post-production stage," he said. "For a while it will be just editing. We're hoping to have the final cut out by graduation so everyone here can get to see it."

The final step will be to send "Narcolepsy" out to the Sundance Film Festival and other film festivals across the nation.

"This is a story so many people can relate to," Bocian said. "Anxiety and mental illnesses are very real problems. We're going to use this film to set a good example for kids that have these issues."

Cheat Sheet: Aaron Hernandez convicted of murder

 Want a complicated news story explained? Email pendulum@elon.edu and find it in next week's Cheat Sheet

What happened with Aaron Hernandez?

Hernandez was sentenced to life in prison with no parole. He was taken to Massachusetts Correctional Institution at Cedar Junction, where he is in solitary confinement and on suicide watch. After correctional officers at the MCI facility evaluate him, he will be moved to the Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center in Shirley, Massachusetts. This facility is a maximum-security prison that is considered one of the highest-tech jails in the United States.

Who is he?

Hernandez is a 25-year-old former football player drafted by the New England Patriots in the 2010 NFL draft. He was a fourth round draft pick, chosen by the Patriots out of The University of Florida. Within the first season of his professional career, he made a huge impact on the Patriots offense. He played there for three years until he was released because of his arrest.

What did he do?

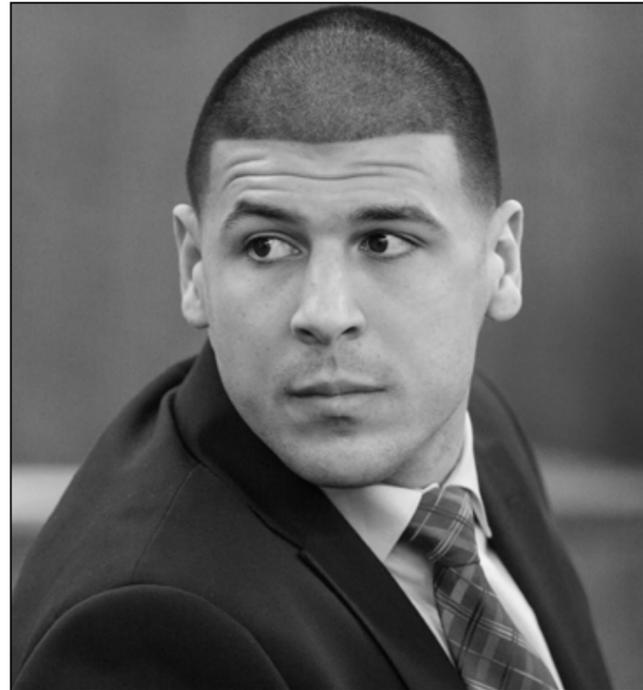
On June 26, 2013, Aaron Hernandez was arrested for the murder of his sister-in-law's boyfriend, Odin Lloyd. Lloyd had been shot and killed in an industrial park near Hernandez's home nine days earlier on June 17. The Patriots released Hernandez from the roster 90 minutes after his arrest before knowing the official charges.

How did it work?

August 22, 2013: Hernandez was indicted by a grand jury for Lloyd's murder.

September 6, 2013: Hernandez was arraigned and pleaded not guilty for first-degree murder charges, but was held without bail. The investigation continued with Hernandez remaining in custody.

April 15, 2015: Hernandez was found guilty of first-degree murder of Lloyd. He was sentenced to life in prison without parole.



Former Florida Gators and New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez was sentenced to life in prison with no parole for the murder of Odin Lloyd, his sister-in-law's boyfriend.

Was anyone else involved in Lloyd's murder?

Anything else?

Ernest Wallace and Carlos Ortiz, friends of Hernandez, were also charged with first-degree murder. Both men were seen in the car with Hernandez the night of Lloyd's murder and because of this were immediate suspects.

Tanya Cummings-Singleton, Hernandez's cousin, was charged with contempt of court. She was defiant and disrespectful in court and refused to testify.

Shayanna Jenkins, Hernandez's fiancée, was charged with perjury (lying in court under oath).

Besides being charged with the murder of Odin Lloyd, Hernandez was also indicted by a grand jury on May 15, 2014 with two other counts of first-degree murder. The victims, Daniel Abreu and Saifuro Furtado, were killed in a drive-by shooting in 2012. This incident came about six weeks before Hernandez signed with the Patriots. At the time of the draft, the Patriots supposedly knew about Hernandez's accused involvement in the shooting.

CRIME REPORT

<p>April 14 DRUG POSSESSION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E. HAGGARD AVENUE, ELON: A student in Danieley Center D was found by an Elon University Police officer to be in possession of 0.3 grams of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. <p>April 14 BREAKING AND ENTERING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E. HAGGARD AVENUE, ELON: A car in the Danieley D parking lot was broken into overnight between April 13 and 14. Stolen property included an iPod Classic and a checkbook. 	<p>April 15 FRAUD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEBANON AVENUE, ELON: A Burlington man reported to the Town of Elon Police Department that he was a victim of telephone fraud. The caller claimed to be from Duke Energy and said his bill was overdue. The caller said if he didn't pay the \$1,500 owed immediately, his power services would be cut off. He later called Duke Energy and was told he had a \$0 balance. <p>April 16 ASSAULT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E. HAGGARD AVENUE, ELON: A student was almost hit by an 	<p>object from a moving car on East Haggard near Williamson Avenue just after 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>April 17 FOUND PROPERTY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WESTVIEW DRIVE, ELON: Two police officers responded to a call about a gray Schwinn Bicycle found in the front yard of 109 Westview Drive. The bicycle was seized and later dropped off at the Town of Elon Maintenance Department. The owner of the bicycle is unknown at this time.
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News Briefs

Construction continues on Park Place at Elon

Construction is fully underway at the site next to Skids Restaurant on Haggard Avenue. The project, led by EDG Properties, LLC, is expected to be complete by June 2016, said project manager John McDonald. The Town of Elon Board of Alderman approved the \$7.1 million project plans for Park Place at Elon last October.

The building will be a mixed-use residential and retail space. Forty-five three bedroom/three bathroom apartments and three one bedroom/one bathroom apartments will be located on the upper levels of the building. McDonald said the apartments will be a housing option available to Elon students.

Below the residences, about 6,100 square feet of retail space is available for rent.

"We're currently talking to a variety of potential tenants to include restaurants and possibly a pharmacy ... [as well as] trying to figure out how to get a general store," McDonald said.

Although EDG Properties, LLC built the Elon Town Center — the building that houses Pandora's Pies, Barnes and Noble and The Pendulum office — McDonald said Park Place at Elon will have a unique aesthetic and serve its own purpose.

"It's going to be a place where the entire community can come and enjoy the space, not just students," he said.

Students anticipate annual Celebrate! event

Celebrate!, Elon University's annual, week-long celebration of student achievements in academics and the arts, will be held April 27 - May 2. The celebrations will begin Monday with the eighth annual college writing showcase, featuring digital presentations of outstanding work created by ENG 110 and ENG 100 students during the academic year.

On Tuesday, students and faculty will present at the Student Undergraduate Research Forum (SURF) through formal presentations as well as poster sessions. From the civil rights movement to drawing connections between tourism and poverty, the event will feature a host of student research projects from nearly every discipline on campus.

Periclean Scholars welcome new cohort

Thirty-two new freshmen representing a variety of majors have been inducted into Elon University's Periclean Scholars program. The cohort will spend the next three years taking classes related to Zambia, their country of focus. The classes will culminate in a project of social change reflecting the nature of the program, which is aimed at developing in students a deep sense of global citizenship. Students and faculty gathered in MCKinnon April 16 to honor the new inductees.

EDITORIAL

Students overpay for internship credit

University should offer students fractional credit option

Some students spend the summer making money. Others spend it paying to work for free.

For students locked into an unfair system, Elon University should offer fractional credit to reduce the cost of gaining professional experience.

Elon students and college students across the United States pay tuition to complete internships for academic credit. Employers who could demonstrate the internship was tied to course credit with educational documentation have legally been allowed to offer unpaid internships.

But not everyone with an unpaid internship at Elon needs the credit, and those who don't take on an additional economic burden.

Students who want to earn academic credit for their work but don't necessarily need it for their transcripts should have the opportunity to register their internships as a fraction of a credit. For example, a student who doesn't need the credit for his or her transcript could sign up to

receive .25 credits and pay a quarter of the normal price.

Students receiving a fraction of the credit would then have different academic requirements - like having fewer assignments and check-ins, for example - thus requiring less of university faculty and easing the financial burden of completing an internship.

At the current rate, students who complete internships for credit during summer 2015 will pay \$467 for each credit they earn. In the spring and fall 2015 semesters, Elon will charge \$1,686 per credit hour for full time students and \$1,012 per credit hour for part time students.

Connie Book, associate provost for academic affairs, said this money covers operational costs of the university. She noted the rate for credits in the summer - when most students complete internships - is reduced to account for differences in Elon's campus operational costs.

Still, if a student were to receive four

credits for the internship, he or she would pay the university \$1,868 for one summer. This isn't an unreasonable amount, but for some, it's extraneous and redundant.

And the sum the student pays the university doesn't cover living expenses or transportation. They're left to cover that on their own, thereby limiting the pool of internships by what they can afford to do instead of what's the best opportunity.

Undoubtedly, the services provided by university faculty and staff, which are funded by these costs, are valuable and deserve recognition. They play an important role in connecting what students learn in the classroom to the real world.

Students completing their Experiential Learning Requirement, in particular, stand to benefit from the reflective process involved in internship course work.

But some students, who have already completed their ELR requirement or don't need an internship to graduate, would rather forgo this process.

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.

Offering fractional credit for those who aspire to gain the experience of an internship without the full cost of tuition is the right move.

PRICES PER CREDIT HOUR

\$467 (summer) per credit hour

\$1,687 (fall/spring) for full time

\$1,012 (fall/spring) for part time

**Students can take a minimum of one credit.*

MEGAN GRAVLEY | Design Editor

At 9 a.m. February 2, 2013, I received the worst call of my life. It left me speechless. My youngest brother had been diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia (AML) the day before and was being admitted to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia that day.



Morgan Abate
Columnist

Weeks later, friends at Pennsylvania State University texted me during their famed THON, telling me they were dancing for my brother, dressed in orange. At first I was touched by their thoughtfulness. I was blessed to have such solidarity.

But after watching my brother and several others battle cancer in that hospital, I became deeply cynical of any Dance Marathon - whether it's Penn State's or Elon University's.

Dancing didn't save my brother's life. My bone marrow did. All the money in the world wouldn't have helped him at the exact moment he needed it - even with friends dancing for him at Penn State's THON. That money never touched him. Not even close.

But because I donated my bone marrow, he's been in remission for almost

two years now.

For that reason, I do not donate to or participate in Elonthon or any Dance Marathon for that matter. The money those events raise benefits large medical institutions instead of the families that are affected by cancer who need immediate help.

If I do donate money, it goes to organizations who donate the money to families directly. And, in all honesty, there's something better than donating and fundraising money.

Donate time. Donate blood. Donate bone marrow.

Dance Marathons don't generate this type of aid. They benefit a Children's Miracle Network Hospital.

The funds go to that hospital for whatever it may need. It does not benefit those suffering only from cancer.

THON, on the other hand, is specifically Penn State's. It benefits the Four Diamonds Fund, which was started in 1972 and provides 600 child cancer patients with care every year.

Elonthon benefits our local Children's Miracle Network Hospital, which is Duke Children's Hospital. It does not go directly to families but to whatever Duke needs it to go to.

While we're dancing, Duke Univer-

sity researchers, who write grants to get money for their research from the tax-payer-funded National Institutes of Health, recently announced a potential breakthrough in the treatment of brain cancer.

It may sound harsh, but I don't agree with the idea that dancing and fundraising money will eventually lead to a cure - for cancer or for any disease. Scientists in labs and hospitals around the world receiving aid from government organizations will lead to cures.

Elonthon's website says the money goes to Duke to help families regardless of their ability to pay. But the hospital has discretion over how that money is used. The hospital's website says donations from Dance Marathons go to equipment, patient and family programs, and research.

People need solutions now. Yes, the money might go to helping the masses in the future, but what about those suffering now?

Would you donate money if you heard a loved one was dying? Or would you take every test possible to see if you could donate something of yourself?

My sister has done just that. Yes, she participates in Temple University's Dance Marathon, but she also does a lot

more than that.

She donates blood once a month and platelets every two weeks - the most-needed donation for patients undergoing chemotherapy or organ transplants.

She switched her career path from veterinary medicine to nursing. She volunteers at the Children's Hospital in Philadelphia as a Bedside Buddy, a role in which she plays with kids to give the parents a much-deserved break. Actions like that are what make a difference in the present.

And for a family dealing with cancer, or any other life-threatening disease, the present is what matters.

So go sign up for the blood drive at Elon. Volunteer at Duke Hospital. Write cards to the kids. Arrange a "Be the Match" event and register yourself. See if your dog can be a therapy dog. Donate your hair to Locks for Love. Call or write Congress to increase the percentage of funds from the National Cancer Institute that goes toward childhood cancer (currently at 4 percent).

If you've done these things - great. But don't just dance and raise money. There is more that you can do, and there are kids suffering now who need a miracle. You can give it to them.

Letter to the Editor: The Armenian Genocide

Friday, April 24th 2015, is a sacred day, for it is the 100th commemoration of the Armenian Genocide. A disparate group - from genocide scholars to Kim Kardashian (who observed the event by traveling to Armenia on her show) - have fought to bring this event to light. My history classes examine America's reaction to the Armenian Genocide and here I extend a discussion to the entire Elon community.

A prosperous religious and ethnic minority, Armenians kept their religious and cultural heritage intact under the Ottoman Empire (mostly modern day Turkey). By the late 19th century, Armenians were considered the major impediment to this expansionist plan resulting from the dissolution of the Muslim Ottoman Empire and a renewed vision of a Turkish empire.

The cover of World War I provided the Turkish government an opportunity to solve "the Armenian question." On April 24, 1915, Turkish soldiers arrested several hundred of the Armenian intelligentsia in Con-

stantinople (Istanbul), marking the beginning of the genocide, also known as the Great Catastrophe. Considered the first modern genocide because of its swiftness and use of technology, coded cipher telegrams were sent to all the Turkish governors ordering the evacuation and execution of all Armenians. Before long, men faced prompt execution while women and children were subject to death marches into Syria.

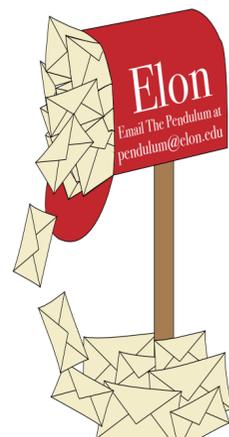
Up to 1.5 million Armenians were killed in the genocide from 1915-1918. Those who survived dispersed to various parts of the globe. The West knew of the horror through reports of British, French, German and American officials, diplomats, and missionaries but enacted no concerted response. After the war, indifference, realpolitik, and the isolationist mood of the major powers left the Armenians largely abandoned and forgotten.

How do we explain this void in our collective minds about the Great Catastrophe? A couple reasons come to mind.

First, Woodrow Wilson, the US President during WWI, explicitly noted that the U.S. declared war only on Germany, and not on all the Central powers, which included the Ottoman Empire. Second, there were few Armenian intellectuals alive after the war to impart their story to the world. And so as time passed, memory faded.

The lessons of silence on this matter, and how it can influence the future, cannot be disregarded. Adolf Hitler's comments to some of his generals in fall 1939 demonstrate what is at stake. He reportedly noted that history only remembers success, not its methods, rhetorically asking, "Who nowadays talks of the annihilation of the Armenians?"

It is our duty and honor to remember the victims of the Armenian Genocide. The Turkish government has denied that any genocide took place, a veritable crime in and of itself. However, a few courageous Turkish historians and humanists have worked to tell the truth within their country. We should all be aware of how such



abominations can occur and how to avoid a recurrence. In the future, affirming dialogue, and not denial nor the absence of memory, is the best response to this most horrendous and painful of experiences.

Rod Clare is an Associate Professor of History in the History & Geography department.

Correction

In an April 15 editorial written by The Pendulum, "To Elon University, Pell Grants must matter," a number of errors were made, most of which relied on incorrect information supplied by the Hechinger Report, which tracks higher education issues throughout the United States.

There is not set criteria for Pell Grant eligibility, and the grants are entirely funded by the federal government - not through a combination of institutional and governmental funds, as was originally reported.

Schools can increase financial aid offers in an effort to take in more low-income students - Elon University has pledged to double its financial aid by 2020, as mentioned in the original editorial - but they can't directly fund Pell Grants, because that money comes from and is allotted by the federal government.

The Pendulum regrets the multiple errors.

DOCTORS' ORDERS IN REGISTRATION AND FOOD TRUCKS, YOU WIN OR YOU DIE



Lauryl Fischer & Frankie Campisano
Columnists

Spring at Elon is a time of rain, change, procrastination and, according to legend, preparation for finals. It's also a time when every student on campus is scrambling to arrange their time in an effort to get the most out of their Elon experience before it's too late.

The problem is we have more Phoenix than spots in classes to register for, and that's assuming you can decipher the lists of strange, vaguely comprehensible course titles and the seemingly arbitrarily assigned course numbers. Or enter the game early enough, lest all the good options get swiped from underneath you - like last week, when the food trucks came and the lines were unbearable.

But it's important that we remember the food trucks were just a one-time deal. The school is already in a committed relationship with Aramark - though who knows if SUB might ask the food trucks to go out with them again in the parking lot.

But you know what isn't a one-time deal? What's sticking around for good? Registration. Once you're

locked in, you're locked in. A little less strictly before (good riddance, Drop/Add Day) but locked in, nonetheless.

Before registration, you can see every potential schedule and every potential future semester that comes with them. You're like Matthew McConaughey in Interstellar. After registration, you're either victorious and willing to ride that positive wave through finals or you're resigned to a schedule that will have you explaining why a non-lab elective that's not for credit is "just what your career plan needs" to rebrand your "portfolio." Registration is a lot like the moment before you descend into the thicket of food truck enthusiasts crowding the Moseley parking lot. As you round the bend, leaving the library behind you, and glimpse the food trucks up ahead, your mouth salivates and your heart soars. You've heard so many good things about those stuffed potatoes.

But that's before you get closer and realize the stuffed-potato line is wrapped around the parking lot two times. Let's get real: you won't get those potatoes. You're stuck. You have to settle for dumplings. But wait, there's a mob around the dumpling truck. Maybe burritos then. You try to fight your way through the crowd, but you don't have the constitution for this kind of dog-eat-dog world, for the violence, the hungry snapping jaws of your peers, the elbows-in-faces.

That's registration for you - and the thing about registration is that it demands to be felt.

Those who braved the food trucks and got their stuffed potatoes know how to beat the system. They got the cool classes and free Fridays. The best you can do if you're on the latter end of the registration frenzy is prepare for next time. Skip class, for example, to cut the sycophants in line and get the potatoes you deserve. Valar morghulis and all that. (Some of

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

you might not get that reference. Pre-serve and cherish your sweet innocence while you can.)

Hey, speaking of Game of Thrones, anyone else watch the premiere or any of the other five episodes that leaked? Elon is a lot like Westeros if you think about it, especially during formal season. Everyone's divvying themselves among formal groups. Loyalties are shifting. Fridays look like a walk around King's Landing. Try not to feel underdressed if you get stuck between formal groups. You know, like a right proper group, innit? Not a de facto group but something more de jure.

It really would be best to just choose one and stick with it though, lest you get punted out and you're stuck wasting away on an ice wall for the rest of your life until you die a sad, cold death by White Walker.

Maybe we should just cut to the chase and have an organization throw a Game of Thrones-themed formal while we've still got any Greek life left. Since we're on our way to Or better yet, Food Truck Formal. Dress as your favorite food truck delicacy or even the truck itself. Pre-game on a Food Truck. Carpool in a food truck. The possibilities are endless, as long as you get to the front of the line.

And if you beat us to registration, save us something good.

THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

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

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Stokely's traditional BBQ

Danielle Deavens
Senior Reporter

Grandmother Stokely taught Eric Lupton, the current owner of Stokely's BBQ, everything he knows about food. He spent his childhood summers at his grandmother's home in eastern North Carolina, and after years of baking cakes and smoking pigs, Lupton decided to go into the restaurant business.

He spent 20 years working in the research and development division of Houlihan's restaurant group. But nearly two years ago, he found a way to combine his dream with his grandmother's culinary legacy: Stokely's BBQ and More.

Known as "A Taste of the Carolinas," Stokely's has classic southern foods and powerful flavors into its modest storefront along South Church Street. Behind the sign overshadowed by its next-door neighbor, Food Lion, is an open dining room with wooden furniture, booths and free-standing tables alongside the small waiting area with a register and hostess stand.

Lupton's goal when opening Stokely's was to create a comfortable, relaxed atmosphere without the "mom-and-pop" environment. Though the scent of the smoker drifts out of the kitchen, the restaurant manages to avoid the greasy humidity of most barbecue joints.

The simple decor consists of mirrored windowpanes in distressed white paint and dark wood floors to evoke a sense of comfort in all who dine in at Stokely's. Lupton wants each visitor to "feel warm and fuzzy" when they enter.

For anyone on a mission for good barbecue, Stokely's meats are smoked in-house, and the menu offers classics like chicken and brisket alongside unexpected dishes such as clam strips and broiled scallops.

Though the menu is extensive, Lupton tries to keep the operation small. He and his wife, the co-owner, hired local help and a few students they believe make patrons feel welcome.

"We wanted to start somewhere small and try to build it big," Lupton said. "We don't want to be a major franchise. We wanted to keep everything homey style."

Stokely's also offers a line of homemade

barbecue sauces. The Eastern Sauce has a peppered vinegar base that Lupton said "you either love or hate." The Lexington Sauce is a sweet, never spicy sauce with a vinegar and tomato base. The third sauce is the traditional thick, sweet and smoky sauce most barbecue lovers connect with ribs and chicken.

They consider themselves lucky to have a support system based on customer loyalty and individual relationships.

"I'm proud of it," Lupton said. "We worked hard to get here. This has been my dream for about 15 years. You want to find the right timing to do something, and that's what we've felt like we've done."

This Mother's Day, Stokely's will celebrate its second birthday. Even though Grandmother Stokely's techniques and passion led to the restaurant's offerings, she never got the chance to see its success.

"I brought Stokely's to life, which I wanted to have done before my grandmother passed away," Lupton said. "She was 99. She passed

away the day before we opened, but she knew what we were doing and she was aware that it was going to be named after her. She was happy for us. She said, 'You go get 'em.'"

Stokely's has tried to make her proud and completed more than 40 caterings and deliveries for graduation alone last year. They plan to expand, and Lupton said his ideal additional locations will be near college towns similar to Elon.

"I hadn't gotten that far," Lupton admitted. "I get so busy here that we truly have a hard time focusing on the future. I would say somewhere centrally located in the outskirts of a town. We don't want to be in such a big town that people can't really get the true feel of what we're about."

Lupton is committed to a localized operation. All his meats and seafood are sourced from in and around North Carolina and the bread for Stokely's po'boys come from a bakery in Cary.

He buys his ingredients locally because, as

a North Carolina native, Lupton has traveled all across the state, and he knows what it has to offer. Lupton kept track of his journey on the "Great N.C. BBQ Map" hanging next to the register.

Stokely's has also supported the Elon University community through a profit share with women's club softball.

"I had never been before the fundraiser, but I have always heard great things about Stokely's," said sophomore Casey McVicar, club softball president. "All of the workers were very nice and willing to answer any questions we had."

His support of local organizations continues in the "Wall of Hope" near the door. Hanging from it are certificates of diners who have donated to Helping Other People Eat (H.O.P.E.), a charity started by Elon junior Jensen Roll.

"It's been a good dream, and we're working hard to make it and hopefully expand it out," Lupton said. "We really feel that area appreciates good stuff."



Stokely's offers an extensive menu with favorites such as the pulled pork sandwich with a side of hushpuppies and homemade barbecue sauce.

Why students 'Relay for Life'

Fundraisers share personal stories of connections with cancer

Caroline Perry
Senior Reporter

Luminaries displaying faces, names and memories will line the paths of Elon University April 24-25 as Elon hosts its third Relay for Life.

The event's popularity on campus has significantly increased and is aiming to raise \$75,000 compared to the \$50,041 last year. With more than 13 million people living with cancer in the United States, many students have deep connections to the cause and are eager to participate.

From participants to directors, every person has a different reason and story for participating in the fundraiser for cancer research.

Senior Laura Castro first got involved with Relay for Life in 2013 after seeing many friends lose their parents to cancer. She is currently executive director of Relay for Life at Elon.

"I tried to support them through that struggle and thought it was extremely unfair for someone so young to have to experience that much pain," Castro said. "We decided that we wanted to make a difference by establishing a Relay for Life at Elon and got to work."

During the fundraiser, men and women walk 60 miles over the course of three days. After completing the walk, Sykes continued her passion for cancer fundraising.

Colleges Against Cancer (CAC) is a nationwide collaboration of college students, faculty and staff dedicated to eliminating cancer by implementing the programs and mission of the American Cancer Society. Relay for Life is one of CAC's strategic directions, the others being advocacy, cancer education and survivorship.

"Ten years ago, my world was rocked when I lost my mom to breast cancer," said senior Eleanor Sykes. "Not long after, I became very involved with the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer 3-Day with my family and friends in order to make a positive impact in such unfortunate circumstances."

"When Danielle Prongay told me my sophomore year that she was bringing Colleges Against Cancer to campus and it would host Relay for Life, I jumped at the chance to be a part of the fight against cancer again, applied for exec and have been involved ever since," Sykes said.

Sykes currently holds the survivor relations position. She and other students organize luminaries that are personalized with a name, photo, message or drawing in memory of a friend or loved one who has been affected by cancer.

"A lot of our exec members, committee members and participants have been affected by cancer, which is evident in the amount of luminaries we have dedicated already," Sykes said.

Each of these luminaries tells a story that connects students to the fight against cancer.

There will be a luminary dedicated to freshman Virginia Townsend's mother at Relay for Life. As an individual, Townsend has raised the most money for the event.

"My mother was diagnosed with stage-4 colon cancer last October," Townsend said. "She passed away very quickly on November 2. I want to do everything I can so that no one else has to suffer the pain that my family and I did."

This will be the first year Townsend is participating in this event, but she wishes she had started participating earlier.

"When it hit home, I knew it was time that I get involved," she said.

The Luminary Ceremony will take place after sunset. As darkness falls, it represents the immense effect cancer has on participants and the support system surrounding them.

"It is without a doubt my favorite part of Relay for Life because it is so touching and impactful to look around at all the glowing lights and realize you're not alone in being affected by this disease or in the fight against it," Sykes said.

The CAC Chapter at Elon has more stories about why others chose to participate in Relay for Life at eloncac.weebly.com/blog.

"Unfortunately, all members of the Elon community can relate to the pain to some degree, but we turned the negative into a positive by uniting the campus to fight back," Castro said.

Teaching piano, 15 seconds at a time

Michael Bodley
Editor-in-Chief

These are not your parents' piano lessons. Junior Addison Horner is trying to entice would-be pianists onto the keyboard through an unconventional medium — Instagram. What started as an Elon University Honors Fellows thesis project has evolved into a more ambitious plan to teach anyone how to play piano through a series of short, 15-second video lessons spread out over a 10-month curriculum.

But with his program, "#Music," (Instagram: thehashtagmusician) Horner isn't trying to re-invent the musical wheel — or take his teacher's job.

"I'm not advertising this as an alternative to piano lessons," Horner said. "This isn't designed to create maestros. It's designed to create enthusiasts."

To do this, Horner has mapped out a specific lesson plan that starts with the very basics — half and whole steps — and builds over time to the more complex — rhythms and melodies. Within five weeks, he claims, the avid student will be able to play a "wide range" of pieces.

"That's the beauty of it — it's geared to be a quick, simple thing, and most of the time, it seems people are daunted with music lessons because of the time commitment," said Clay Stevenson, a lecturer in music who helped Horner with his project proposal.

The early lessons, especially, are designed to familiarize people with the piano, whether they're learning for the first time ever or it's been years since they last touched the keys. With no instructor present to answer questions, keeping things simple is key.

"The best answer is usually put it in layman's terms," he said. "Make it really simple. Don't put it in flowery language. And that's exactly what I'm trying to do."

Less-than-fond memories of classical lessons tend to alienate younger people from the keys before they even get started, Horner said. He's fighting the antiquated assumption that piano keys are for Beethoven or Bach, but not Sam Smith or Maroon 5, by playing "nothing-old fashioned, just what people are listening to and want to hear."

The Instagram curriculum has the leg-up on modernity, according to Stevenson, who said that a traditional introduction to piano is based around classical music, not necessarily popular music that can "open a whole new world" and shake the cobwebs off the piano.

"He's going about it in a little bit of a different way, saying, 'You can play this music that you love,'" Stevenson said.

Horner — who started playing piano at age 4 — is working toward his virtual students being able to learn by ear, not by sight from sheet music, a skill he picked up in high school. Before they get there, though, followers of "#Music" should be able to play a range of music before the curriculum is halfway complete.

"By that point, you'll be able to — without much effort — play most basic stuff," he said. "Most people take years to get to that point, but I'm really trying to accelerate the process and make it work with a college student's schedule."

For those who have never touched the keys, though, starting from Instagram may be too much to ask for, Stevenson said, adding that an instructor is crucial for the little things from the get-go — posture, positioning and other fundamental skills.

"It's fair to say that this process could get a learner to a certain level, and then they would probably have other routes that would be needed to get further," Stevenson said.



Through Instagram, Horner provides followers with easy tutorials of chord progressions that can be learned in less than 10 minutes.

People's busy schedules — which the music director of Smooth Progressions, an Elon a cappella group, and member of Campus Outreach, a religious charity organization, knows all too well — is one of his biggest concerns for the success of his virtual students.

By eliminating the instructor and in-person lesson, Horner also placed the accountability for learning squarely on his students' shoulders. It's the nature of virtual lessons.

"To make people keep actually learning?" Horner said. "That's going to be the toughest part. You can't teach someone a will to

learn. You can't control that." Through a "lot of trial and error," the budding teacher is controlling as much as he can while learning some important lessons of his own.

Though he's always loved to play and is often enamored by a sweet chord or innovative rhythm, Horner hasn't always loved to teach.

He used to hate the idea. "I never wanted to teach," he said. "It didn't fulfill me."

That changed the summer after his freshman year of college, when Horner was forced to teach a group of elementary school-aged campers during an internship at Temple Theatre in his hometown of Sanford, North Carolina.

"If you can teach kids, you can teach anyone," he said. "Kids are definitely the hardest people to teach. It forces you to break things down in a very clear and purposeful way so that people can understand what you're talking about."

By handing out small prizes for campers who did well and making sure to congratulate effort in front of their peers, Horner learned a little something about motivation. Having always been self-motivated when it comes to piano, he at first said he didn't understand the value in incentivizing every step of the way.

But he's found that most people need just that: a reminder that they're making progress each day.

"Because there's a lesson each day, you have the achievement every single day," he said. "People who learn every day for three months in traditional lessons and don't learn anything will be burnt out."

The format of "#Music" keeps things moving quickly, and while it can be easy for students to lose interest or fall behind, for Horner the Instagram pros outweigh the cons.

"Instagram is designed around pictures and videos, so it's the best way to convey information, like actually showing people how to play piano, without taking a really long time," he said. "You don't have to spend an hour to learn one lesson. You don't even have to spend 10 minutes."



After setting up a filming station at his house, Horner was able to begin his thesis mission to film and post piano tutorials.

Taking the road less-traveled

Commuter students discuss alternative college experience

Brett Gubitosi
Senior Reporter

Each Monday, Wednesday and Friday, transfer sophomore Charles Perschau leaves home by 7:15 a.m.

While his classmates roll out of bed 15 minutes before class begins, he is pulling into Elon University and searching for a parking spot.

Perschau was born in Raleigh. He moved to New Jersey and later California, where he took classes at Cuesta College, a public community college.

Now, he lives in Hillsborough and commutes to Elon for class. And Perschau isn't the only student to choose this kind of college experience — according to Scott Jean, chief of security for Campus Safety and Police, Elon has 176 registered commuter students this semester.

These students often face obstacles in becoming involved in on-campus activities, but many still feel like they're part of the Elon community.

Balancing Elon and home

As both a transfer and a commuter, this semester has been a transition period for Perschau. But he still believes he is a part of the college experience.

"Socially, when you're on campus, you run into more people — but regardless, [the college experience] is what you make of it," he said. "It's all about figuring out more about yourself, getting opportunities to meet others."

As a commuter student, Perschau's time for on-campus activities is limited, but he is a member of ETalk, Elon's entertainment talk show.

With the little time he spends on campus, he has to manage his homework differently than many students. He rarely does school work at Elon, choosing instead to work at the Carboro Coffee Company or at home.

Perschau met most of his Elon friends in classes, but he doesn't have much time to hang out with them because he has to return home each day.

One of these friends is junior Patrick Achey, a commuter student from Greensboro.

"Unlike most students, we understand the process of going to school," Achey said. "We've bonded over the fact that more effort is required to get to school and through the day."

Achey transferred to Elon from the University of Mississippi last year. He decided to commute this year to pursue an opportunity in property investment, which is a family business.

"If I didn't commute, I wouldn't be able to effectively manage the property investment as I have," he said.

Achey is a management major and president of the Transfer Student Organization. Like Perschau, he has an 8 a.m. class.

His commute is about 40 minutes, so this semester, he has to plan each day in advance. If he forgets something at home, he has to restructure the whole day to compensate.

Achey has committed to be an Orientation Leader and a tour guide next semester. Like Perschau, he wants to return to on-campus housing or housing closer to campus to be more involved next year.

Achey is glad to have met many people last year in his role as a RA in the Danieley apartments. Without that experience, he believes he

wouldn't have as many friends on campus.

"It was great getting acclimated with the campus last year, being a transfer student," he said.

Deciding to commute

Unlike Perschau and Achey, other students live in Burlington but decide to live on campus, only minutes away from home.

Freshman Ashley Day's house is only about 10 minutes away, but she currently lives in Colonnades.

According to Residence Life, she is one of 20 Burlington residents living on campus.

"Distance from home was indeed a factor that I did hesitate with at first," she said. "However, family means so much to me, so having them close is nice. I knew whether I decided to go to Elon or not, I would live on campus without a doubt. It is just part of the college experience."

Though she lives on campus, Day is unlike most students in that she still has the benefit of going home regularly for hot, homecooked meals.

"Personally, I think that living close to campus has impacted my college experience in a positive way," Day said. "I honestly love being close to home and would not want to be at any other school."

By living on campus, Day made friends and found roommates for next semester. She joined Alpha Omicron Pi, the Exercise Science Society, Young Life, Autism Speaks and College Republicans. She also has an on-campus job in the men's basketball office.

"I don't think there would be any advantages if I had commuted every day," Day said. "Everything I need is already on campus."



Charles Perschau commutes 30 minutes every day from Hillsborough.

Sophomore Jacob Schmiederer and junior Steven Cobb made a different decision. They both live in Burlington and commute to campus each day.

Schmiederer said he decided to attend Elon for financial reasons, and one of his goals is to graduate debt-free. He is not very involved in organizations on campus, but works 15 hours a week at The Oak House.

Cobb decided to attend Elon for four more years of proximity to his family.

"Every Friday around 11 a.m., I have breakfast with my grandmother," Cobb said.

He also said it's not logical to pay \$8,000 or more a year to live on campus when his home is so close.

Both Burlington commuters agree they miss out on many social opportunities on campus, but there are still benefits to commuting.

Schmiederer said. "I think you have to hunt for experiences a little more if you don't live on campus, but living on campus is not necessary for the college experience."

Similarly, Cobb also struggled to be involved, but eventually found a place where he belonged.

"It took me nearly all of freshman year to find the people I wanted to be with and the organizations I wanted to invest in," he said. "I consider myself lucky, actually. I know [that] many students who commute to school don't get involved at all."

After discussing the college lifestyle with commuter and non-commuter Burlington residents, Perschau learned how to become involved when not living on campus.

Early on, it was simple for him to go to classes and return home without leaving his comfort zone. But he's glad he didn't stay that way.

"To all commuter students: be proactive about meeting people, instead of what I tried doing at first," he said.

'True Life': I was on MTV

Courtney Campbell
Style Editor

For six months, sophomore Chann Little made the almost two-hour drive from Elon University to his home in Charlotte every weekend. When he got there, instead of relaxing, eating home-cooked meals and otherwise enjoying the comforts of home, he entertained a camera crew.

MTV's "True Life: I Have a Pushy Parent" filmed Chann Little, a Pendulum public relations representative, as he attempted to tell his sometimes overbearing mother that he wanted enroll in the Elon in LA program this summer.

In the episode, viewers watch Chann Little's mother, Tonya Little, boss him around

while they decorate their house for Halloween, run back-to-school errands and go shopping.

By the end of the hour-long episode, Chann Little gains the confidence to share his plans with his mom, and she agrees to let him go.

"I used the show as an opportunity to get some independence from my mom," Chann Little said. "It really helped us out a lot. We're so much closer because of the facilitation of the show."

Tonya Little considers being called "pushy" a positive thing, and Chann Little agrees.

Chann Little believes his mother's tough encouragement has gotten him where he is today.

He has a full scholarship to attend Elon and is a Watson and Odyssey Scholar, a tour guide,

an RA and a member of both Campus Outreach and Elon's gospel choir. He is also trying to start his own business.

"I'm just a little more pushy towards goals and achievement," his mother said about him. "I push you to be the best you can possibly be in life."

Although the Littles hesitated before joining the show because of how Tonya Little would be portrayed, the two agreed their story was told accurately.

Chann Little said his relationship with his mother and his life at home were reflected well in the show. He said participating allowed many people from Elon to see a different side of him and allowed him to share a meaningful story of finding a healthy relationship with a parent.

"Whenever you do anything in the media or national television, it needs to have a message," Tonya Little said. "The experience was really good, and they need to give me my own show, where I can push other people's children."

The show's producers and editors had to filter through hours of film for the episode, so not all aspects of Chann Little's life were included. His mother was disappointed their faith was left out, but he still believes the episode showed enough to get their story across.

"I really liked the angle," Chann Little said. "Some of my friends were disappointed they weren't shown, but they included everything they need to."

The lengthy filming period faced some obstacles when Chann Little began to change his image.

"Something came over me to lose weight halfway through the filming," Chann Little said. "I would do pick-up interviews and I had to [repeat] things. I had to look like I was the same person."

When the episode aired April 6, Chann Little's friends from Charlotte hosted a viewing party in Chapel Hill. He said he was a bit distracted by all of his guests, but he critiqued the episode later when he was able to really watch it.

He thought the episode was good, but felt uncomfortable watching himself on television



I Have Pushy Parents
April 6

I'm Obsessed with Staying Young
April 13

I Have Epilepsy
April 20

GRAPHIC BY MEGAN GRAVLEY | Design Editor



Chann Little smiles wide while on camera for 'True Life: I Have a Pushy Parent,' which aired April 6.

Elon's vocal jazz ensemble group to perform Sting tribute concert

Ally Feinsot
Senior Reporter

Elon University's only vocal jazz ensemble group, elan, will be bringing a distinctive style and spirit to the music of Sting, who wrote hits like "Roxanne" and "If You Love Someone Set Them Free," in its spring concert "Bring on the Night" on April 28.

elan combines a cappella with jazz, but also performs other genres such as rock and pop. Past concerts have included tributes to Stevie Wonder, the Beatles and Pink Floyd.

Stephen Futrell, associate professor of music, teaches the academic course students must audition for to perform in elan. Futrell also directs Camerata, Elon's other auditioned choir, but said the two differ in the genres they perform.

"While elan is more focused on popular commercial music, Camerata focuses on music from all centuries, for example performing a Gershwin medley or gospel songs," Futrell said.

"Bring on the Night" will feature nine songs, including "Fields of Gold," "Walking on the Moon" and "Shape of My Heart." Guest vocal percussionist Lucas Seisel, choral director of Walter Williams High School in Burlington, will perform as well.

Futrell decided to make Sting this year's

theme after hearing his music last summer.

"We did Pink Floyd's 'Dark Side of the Moon' all a cappella one year, so I wanted to try something similar to that," Futrell said. "I found a few published arrangements of Sting's music, and I really like his music, so my students and I started making our own arrangements suitable for elan."

Sophomore Anders Borg said performing Sting's music is relatively easy after last semester, when elan first exposed him to heavy vocal jazz.

"Sting tends to write pretty repetitive songs, in contrast to difficult melodies and harmonies we have done in the past," Borg said.

Borg is also the music director of Rip-Chord, Elon's male a cappella group. His favorite role in an a cappella performance is background vocals, rather than singing a solo, because it is more interesting and complex.

To audition for elan, students must perform a song for Futrell, along with sight reading and sight singing.

w is open to all grades and majors and usually consists of 12-14 singers who will perform one semester each year.

This semester, there are 14 singers, with majors ranging from music to psychology and human services. The female singers are called swingers, meaning they typically sing in so-

prano but also swing down to their lower vocal register, and vice versa for altos.

The class meets twice a week and has no outside rehearsal time, aside from last year when the group was invited to perform at the American Choral Directors Association Southern Division Conference. The group opened for the New York Voices, a professional a cappella group, and performed in front of several thousand choral directors.

Junior Caitlyn Balkcum is a music education major. She joined elan in the spring of her freshman year. She said elan is unique because, although there are occasional instrumentals, it is usually solely a cappella.

"I am involved in several of Elon's groups, like Vital Signs and Camerata, but elan is smaller and performs more current music, which is fun to do because I am classically trained singer," Balkcum said.

Balkcum said Futrell works hard to make sure his students are singing as correctly as possible, and this technical side is something that is not usually emphasized.

She added that Futrell has taught them vocal techniques such as proper voice placement.

"elan is a different style than other vocal groups at Elon," Balkcum said. "It requires a lot of stylistic and technical components, especially focusing on healthy singing techniques."

UPCOMING EVENTS

'Next to Normal'
4/23-27, 7:30 p.m.
Roberts Theatre

Jazz Ensemble Spring Concert
4/23, 7:00 p.m.
McCrary Theatre

'Bring On The Night'
4/28, 7:30 p.m.
McCrary Theatre

BA and BFA Thesis Exhibition
5/1, 5:30 p.m.
Gallery 406, Arts West

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Wednesday, April 22

Baseball at Campbell, 6 p.m.

Softball at North Carolina, 6 p.m.

Thursday, April 23

Women's Track and Field at Penn Relays. All Day

Friday, April 24

Baseball vs. UNC Wilmington, 6:30 p.m.

Women's Track and Field at Penn Relays.

Saturday, April 25

Softball at James Madison (DH), 1 p.m.

Baseball vs. UNC Wilmington, 4 p.m.

Football Spring Game, 7 p.m.

Men's Golf at CAA Championships

Sunday, April 26

Softball at James Madison 1 p.m.

Baseball vs. UNC Wilmington 1:30 p.m.

Elon grooming young talent

Women's lacrosse takes positives, looks toward next year

Kyle Lubinsky
Senior Reporter

The Elon University women's lacrosse team has put its second season in the books after a 10-7 loss to Drexel University Sunday. The Phoenix finished with back-to-back losses in Colonial Athletic Association play, missing the conference tournament, but still has a lot to be excited about.

A group of young talent has contributed to a successful season. Despite an overall record of 8-8, the Phoenix has emerged as a team to look out for in the coming years.

Elon had many new faces on the field this season. Of the 31 players on the Phoenix' roster, a dozen are true freshmen, with redshirts Ally Kozel and Paige Lorton making a total of 14 first-year players.

The new players have brought new assets to the team.

"We're a lot faster overall this year," said head coach Josh Hexter. "Physically we're in much better shape, and collectively as a team we feel like we're bigger, faster, stronger."

Freshman midfielder Stephanie Asher gave the team plenty of offensive force with 44 total goals on the season, but other players have been just as vital to the success of the program. Sophomore attacker Sloane Kessler finished with 38 points and 17 goals this season.

Kessler's play behind the net created many opportunities for teammates, tallying a team-high 21 assists.

"We've gotten open from cuts in the middle because people are dodging so hard that slides have to come," said sophomore attacker Anna Vitton. "People in the middle are wide open, so I think that's really helped this year."

The formula has worked. The Phoenix averaged 9.5 goals per game over the course of the season. Freshman attacker Nicole Sinacori and freshman midfielder Abby Godfrey combined for 36 goals, giving opposing defenses fits. Three other players finished with double-digit goals this season. Freshman midfielder Kelsey



Sophomore defender Lane Huger has anchored the Elon defense, starting in all 16 matches.

Dupree had 13, Vitton had 12 and sophomore midfielder Molly Garrigan contributed 11, giving the Phoenix a total of seven players in double digits this season.

The team was clinical in front of net, putting about 78 percent of shot attempts on goal.

"Our class has really brought competitiveness to the team," Godfrey said. "We're really hardworking. We bring a lot of speed and heart to the team."

Elon was not only strong at putting the ball in the back of the net, but it was also solid at keeping it out at the other end. Sophomore goalie Rachel Ramirez led the CAA in saves with 70, averaging 11.67 saves a game. She was second in the league in save percentage, saving around half of the shots faced every game.

Ramirez had seven games with 10 saves or more, including a season-best 15 against College of William & Mary on April 12. She anchored a defense that has continued to come into its own. The Phoenix back line cleared the ball about 75 percent of the time.

Rhodes Stadium was a stronghold for the Phoenix, which was 6-3 at home this season. The team struggled in away games,

finishing at 2-5 on the road.

Elon found success outside of conference play and went on a four-game winning streak just before the start of CAA play. One game in the streak included a 16-10 victory over High Point University that saw five different players score.

The absence of seniors has not affected team leadership, Hexter said. Kessler and junior midfielder Kelli Stack have both stepped into their roles as captains commendably according to Hexter.

"We have great leaders on this team," he said. "The freshmen have rallied around them and stepped up in their own way. I'm very happy and confident in our leadership."

Despite some of the positive takeaways for the season, there is plenty of room for improvement.

Hexter hopes his team will be mentally tougher next season and pick up its intensity against CAA teams.

"We want to play the best competition every single game," Hexter said. "New programs that don't have tough competition level out really fast. This program is going to excel and keep rising higher and higher every year."

Phoenix lacrosse finding a home in CAA

This was probably just what Elon University had in mind when it made the move to the Colonial Athletic Association.

A late Friday afternoon women's lacrosse game against a team from Long Island who brought fans to tailgate.

That sounds quintessential for the league, one based with teams up through the mid-Atlantic where lacrosse is a popular sport. Elon added women's lacrosse a year before announcing its move to the CAA.

And the game showed, too, Elon has made the most of its inaugural venture into the league.

The Phoenix led for much of the way before falling 10-9 to league-leading Hofstra University on a goal with 0:51 left. The result was a tough one to swallow — head coach Josh Hexter blamed it on unforced turnovers — but it was a reflection of Elon's growth in the CAA.

Weeks ago, Elon lost 12-2 to Towson University and 22-5 to James Madison University, two top teams in the CAA. Hofstra beat both.

The progress the Phoenix has made can be measured from the Hofstra result.

"We think we're supposed to win now," Hexter said. "These girls, in our second year [as a program], should have beaten Hofstra. We should have won that game. I think the biggest difference is they have found the courage to just believe they're supposed to be great. That has made a huge difference."

Elon was among the best in the Atlantic Sun last year, going 4-1 and earning the No. 2 seed in the Atlantic Sun Tournament before losing in the semifinals.

It was a weird feeling for sure — spending the program's first season a league it knew it was going to leave. The Phoenix looked past that, though, en route to some early success.

But the CAA is one of the better mid-major lacrosse conferences in the country, which presented a stark challenge for a program in its second year. Elon took some of those lumps early on.

The Phoenix offense excelled in its non-conference schedule, with freshman Stephanie Asher leading the way. She scored 45 goals, the most in the CAA.

Elon didn't have as much success offensively in CAA play. After scoring at least

10 goals in seven nonconference games, the Phoenix never hit double figures in its six CAA games.

Regardless, the flow in Elon's offensive sets has been fluid. Some sharp passes inside the key led to a number of one-timer goals against Hofstra.

"We've played like that all year," Hexter said. "I think our offense is great... That's what we can take away from this — we can compete with anybody so long as we don't keep giving the other team so many chances."

The offense adapted through playing against CAA defenses, an essential step in improving in the league. The wins weren't all there yet — there was just one of them — but measurable progress was made. There's not much more that could have or should have been asked.

"Overall, I think we played amazing," said sophomore Molly Garrigan. "It showed us how far we can go, and how good we actually are. We learned what we've been through. We showed we're supposed to be here in the CAA."

It's been two years of lacrosse now, and one in the CAA. Surely, it's safe to say Elon is finding its niche.

Women's tennis bows out in CAA semifinals

Jordan Spritzer
Assistant Sports Editor

The No. 3 Elon University women's tennis team took an early exit from the Colonial Athletic Association Women's Tennis Tournament after losing 4-1 in the semifinals to No. 2 College of Charleston in Williamsburg, Virginia.

"In the end, it didn't work out," senior Barbara Lazarova said. "I'm still so proud of everyone and everyone left it all on the court. Ultimately that's all that matters."

The Phoenix fell behind early, losing the doubles point with losses at the top two positions. College of Charleston then carried its momentum into singles action, winning at the No. 5, No. 6 and No. 1 positions to take the match.

Lazarova earned Elon's only point on the day with a win at No. 3 singles. The 6-2, 6-4 straight sets victory was Lazarova's last match donning the maroon and gold, and she hoped the team would make a comeback. The thought of losing did not enter her mind.

"I was thinking it was not going to be my last match and [we'd] still have a couple more, hopefully," she said. "You want to do the best for your teammates. You want to win for them. You want to win so we can keep going and make everyone else proud."

The Bratislava, Slovakia, native went an impressive 14-7 in the spring of her senior campaign, including a pair of wins in this season's conference tournament.

"I always get really excited for the tournament, especially the end," she said. "That's where it all comes down to and what we've

been working toward our whole entire year." Head coach Elizabeth Anderson said a slow start may have left the Phoenix with too much ground to make up.

"We definitely could have started quicker," Anderson said. "We could have elevated our games a little bit faster."

Anderson said she was proud of her team's performance over the weekend and across the entire season despite the disappointing ending.

"We accomplished a lot this year, and we have to put everything in perspective," she said.

The Phoenix was quite young with six freshmen on the roster — five of them earned significant playing time. This season, Elon freshmen accounted for about 60 percent of the team's total wins by capturing 48 of the team's 82 singles victories.

Freshman Erica Braschi was second on the team in singles victories with 12 wins and went 15-1 with her partner junior Taylor Casey at No. 3 doubles.

Freshman Kamilla Beisenova also recorded double-digit singles victories by going 10-6 on the season. Half of those victories came from the No. 5 position.

With so many matches under their belt from the start of their careers, the freshmen had plenty of experience entering the conference tournament hosted by College of William & Mary.

The Phoenix blanked Towson University 4-0 in the quarterfinals, and freshmen were responsible for three out of the four points.

The Phoenix swept the doubles portion of the match, in which Braschi earned another win with Casey at No. 3 doubles and Elon freshmen Olivia Lucas and Bridget Liddell defeated Towson senior Ayana Dow and freshman Lucy Williams 8-4 at No. 2 doubles. In singles play, Braschi and Ward picked up wins at No. 4 and No. 1 singles, respectively.

While the freshmen shined against Towson, Lazarova said the team's youth was a disadvantage against College of Charleston.

"I think [losing] came down to the fact [that] we are a team of mostly freshmen," Lazarova said. "Charleston was way more experienced than we were."

The loss meant the Phoenix was unable to avenge an earlier loss to the Cougars this season. On April 10, they overcame a 3-1 deficit to deliver a 4-3 loss to Elon at the Jimmy Powell Tennis Center.

College of Charleston led by the same score during the rematch but didn't make the same mistake as Elon did eight days earlier. Senior Samantha Maddox edged freshman Kirsten Ward at the No. 1 position 4-6, 6-2, 6-3 to end Elon's season.

Lazarova said the conference tournament will provide some of the young Phoenix players with insight going into the next season.

"They've never faced something like this before," she said. "They have a lot to learn from this tournament."

According to Anderson, experience from all of this season's matches will motivate the team to succeed next season.

"Now that they have a little bit more experience I think we're only going to be better in the future," Anderson said.

Next year, Casey will be given the task of leading the young, more experienced Elon squad. The Duluth, Georgia, native went 11-6 in her junior season. Anderson thinks Casey can provide the needed leadership to younger players next year.

"She's one of our hardest workers," Anderson said. "She's been working a lot and we've been talking to her more this year about leadership and I think when it comes to next year, we'll continue to see her grow in that role."

Elon wraps up its season with a 15-8 overall record and finishes above .500 for its sixth consecutive season.



Senior Barbara Lazarova led the team with 14 singles wins, including a pair of victories over College of Charleston and Towson University in the CAA Women's Tennis Championship.

Men's tennis to build from CAA Tournament exit

Jordan Spritzer
Assistant Sports Editor

The Elon University men's tennis team's season may have ended before it ever started. The 2015 Phoenix never gained any momentum and was often stuck looking for answers.

"We certainly struggled this year," said head coach Michael Leonard. "We never got over that hump."

The Phoenix was eliminated from the Colonial Athletic Association Men's Tennis Championship in the semifinals to host College of William & Mary 4-1 on Saturday, April 18, and ended its season with a record of 10-13.

"That doubles point ended up being really crucial," Leonard said.

Elon won the No. 1 doubles match, while William & Mary earned a victory at No. 3 doubles, leaving it all down to senior Jordan Kaufman and sophomore Chris Humphreys at No. 2 doubles.

Trailing 7-6 at the end of the match, Kaufman and Humphreys held serve, fighting off several match points to force a tiebreaker. The Phoenix duo looked to have the momentum when they jumped out to a 6-2 lead and had match points of their own. But the Tribe came back on their home court to escape with a tiebreak victory and the doubles point.

"Doubles was a good summary of how the whole day would turn

out," said senior and CAA Player of the Year Stefan Fortmann. "That definitely took away some of the energy into the singles because we knew how important the doubles point would be."

The Phoenix failed to start fast in singles play, dropping four of the six opening sets.

"[William & Mary] came out with more energy and were better than us early on," Leonard said.

Junior Robert Lindgren fought back from trailing 1-5 to win his first set 7-5 and it appeared Elon was getting back into the match. But it was too little too late for the Phoenix, as Humphreys fell in three sets at the No. 6 position to provide the knockout blow to Elon's season.

"They had some bigger guys than us with a little bigger serves and we weren't able to take control of some points we needed," Leonard said.

A victory for Elon would have not only put the Phoenix in its third straight conference championship match, but it would have also bucked some concerning trends from the 2015 season. Defeating William & Mary would have been just the fifth time all year Elon followed up a win with another win. The Phoenix came into the matchup with William & Mary after back-to-back wins. The only time Elon won three in a row was when it beat Campbell University Feb. 11 and North Carolina A&T and Presbyterian College Feb. 14.

Some players received outside recognition for their performances during this streak.

Fortmann said with the way the season was going, he never thought about individual accolades. Instead, he made sure he and his teammates were in a position to win each match.

Elon also took home other yearly honors. Kaufman was named to the first-team All-CAA in singles alongside Fortmann.

Senior Dan Sablik was named on the CAA All-Academic Team.

Fortmann and his doubles partner Kowalski received All-CAA honors.

With six seniors leaving the team following the season, a new era of Elon men's tennis is on the horizon. Fortmann said he thinks the struggles this season can be a rallying cry for next season.

"As a competitor, losing a close match in the tournament should motivate you for the next year," he said.

Fortmann found himself in a similar season in his freshman year

where the team limped to a 9-15 record. The next two seasons, Elon won a pair of regular season Southern Conference regular season titles and a conference tournament championship in 2014. Fortmann said that while this season was much better than the 2012 campaign, he hopes it can have a similar effect moving forward.

"You'd hope to see this loss motivate the guys who are staying behind to follow some of the things we did over the years," he said.



Senior Stefan Fortmann's CAA Player of the Year award marked the third straight season an Elon men's player has taken home such honors. But Fortmann and his teammates had their season come to a close in the CAA semis.

Track & field shines in first home meet in 9 years

Alex Simon
Senior Reporter

For the first time in nearly a decade, the Elon University women's track and field team experienced what it was like to compete where it practiced.

The recently renovated Jerry and Jeanne Robertson Track and Field Complex hosted the Phoenix Invitational Saturday, April 18, in which the Phoenix won nine titles.

Elon hosted a mix of collegiate teams, non-collegiate track programs and unaffiliated athletes, with men's and women's competitions happening in all events. Despite a threat of rain, the sun shined the duration of the meet.

Head coach Mark Elliston was running around all day, helping at each event while also talking to his team. When he finally got to sit down and take a breath, he was smiling ear-to-ear.

"We love having a venue where you come and work out, but also host competitions," Elliston said. "I'm very thankful that the administration helped get the [Irwin Belk Track] surface redone so we can now host a home meet."

Elon's star of the day was junior sprinter Simone Jackson, who tied her school record in the 100-meter dash preliminaries, finishing in 12.07 seconds. She placed fourth in the finals at 12.27.

"It helped me, and I think it helped everyone else," Jackson said of the home track. "When we practice on the same field we compete on, we feel more comfortable and relaxed. You know what the track is like and what the jumping pits are like. I think it definitely has a home-track advantage."



The women's track and field team competed Saturday, April 18 in the Phoenix Invitational.

Jackson went on to win the 200-meter dash in 25.10, and Elon placed three of the top four finishers in the race. Junior Sydney Griffin took third at 25.27, and junior Jennifer Pash took fourth at 25.94.

In other sprinting events, Griffin took second in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 13.82 in the finals. Junior Samantha Brown was the top collegiate runner in the 400-meter hurdles, finishing second overall at 63.15. Pash was Elon's top runner in the 400-meter dash, finishing fifth in 57.71. In the 4x100 meter dash, Jackson, Griffin, Pash and junior Bria Turner finished second with a time of 46.98.

Jackson, Pash and freshmen Emily Dixon and Lydia Laws raced to a win in the 4x400 meter relay, finishing at 3:57 in a back-and-forth race against North Carolina Central University. Afterward, Jackson was beaming

about the relay team's performance.

"I love the relay events," Jackson said. "I love being a part of a team and passing the baton around and cheering each other on. It excites me to be a team, especially because track is usually about individual events."

In the distance races, Elon runners won the 5000-meter and 1500-meter races. Senior Haylee Dawe was the only Elon runner in the 5000-meter race, finishing first with a time of 17:56. Sophomore Shelby Cuddeback won the 1500 meter race with a time of 4:39. Sophomore Elyse Bierut finished second 4:40, and senior Jenny Gallagher finished third 4:42. Gallagher was the top Elon finisher in the 800-meter race, finishing fourth at 2:20.

The field events were a success for the Phoenix, as four athletes combined to win five of the seven field events that had multiple

competitors. There was only one athlete competing in the women's pole vault.

In a close high jump competition, junior Megan Kirschling cleared the bar at 5 feet, 7 1/4 inches on her first attempt, which was enough to defeat North Carolina Central's sophomore Sherhae Holloway. Dixon cleared the bar at 5 feet, 3 1/4 inches to finish in third in high jump.

Sophomore Jayna Coyle won the triple jump competition, finishing with a distance of 11.37 meters. Sophomore Carrie Abraham finished in third, jumping 11.25 meters. Abraham also took second in the long jump competition, jumping 5.57 meters. Dixon finished third at 5.50 meters.

But Dixon reigned victorious in the javelin throw, with a toss of 34.08 meters. Elon took the top four places in the javelin throw, with senior Jennifer Jarvis finishing in second (31.90 meters), freshman Lauren Livezey finishing in third (29.77 meters) and Laws finishing in fourth (27.24 meters).

In other throwing events, sophomore Bre'anna Warren continued her recent streak of success, winning both the women's shot puts with a throw of 13.43 meters and the discus with a winning throw of 45.81 meters. Freshman Bryanna Hames also had strong throws in the shot put (12.56 meters, third place) and discus (45.53 meters, second place). In the hammer throw, sophomore Briana O'Grady set a personal-best with a throw of 45.57 meters, finishing in fourth.

The next event for the Phoenix track and field team will be at the CAA Championships, which take place at College William & Mary May 1-2.

Congratulations to Elon University's Phi Beta Kappa 2015 Inductees



Astrid Anne Adriaens
Kelsey Grace Ammondson
Elizabeth Grace Bargamian
Brett E. Barkley
Natalie Deirdre Beach
Casey Marie Brown
Natalie Emma Brubaker
Mary Elizabeth Burgoyne
Cameron Stuart Carothers
Laura Natalia Castro
Graham Dean Cochrane
Samantha Ann Coffey
Danielle Nicole Cooper
Caroline Elizabeth Crew
Taylor Anne Davis
Nathan J. Dean
Elizabeth Erin Desino
Alexa Rey Dixon
Erin Elizabeth Donahue
Alana Esther Dovner

Brianna Lorelle Duff
Caleigh Rebecca Erickson
Rachel Elizabeth Fishman
William Bricca Frauenfelder
Claire Elizabeth Fyvolent
Chelsea Thomas Gemme
Reed Stevenson Raphael Grimm
Emily Chandler Grizzard
Jordan Mackenzi Grover
Kyle Richard Groves
Bethany Lyn Houpt
Allison Phoebe Hren
Benjamin Charles Kaiser
Sophia Alexandra Koh
Margaret Anne Kuhlman
Thomas James Lampl
Mary Gardner Macdonald
Shannon Elizabeth Major
Heather Michelle McDonough-Caplan
Lainey Amilia McQuain

Elena Meskhidze
Rachel Leigh-Ann Miller
Madeline Denis Monaco
Julia Christine Phillips
Maria Elizabeth Restuccio
Ashley Parker Roth
Mary Alice Rouse
Erin Carol Scally
Lori Renee Schachle
Victoria Duncan Selover
Benjamin Charles Sherr
Jennifer Annette Smith
Marquessa Kate Smith-Lin
Kara Grace Soler-Sala
David Andrew Stewart
Kaitlin Rose Stober
Samuel Dalla Riva Toma
Kaylyn Davis Tousignant
Kaylyn Elizabeth Weller

Top Photos and Top Tweets at Elon



Students walked in support of sexual assault survivors before Take Back the Night April 17.



Senior Samhita Tankala performs at the Vital Signs Spring Concert April 18.



For the first time in nearly 10 years, the women's track and field team hosted a home meet on campus at the Phoenix Invitational April 18.

Top Tweets

- 

FR4NCO
@FrankieThe4th - April 15
i'm writing two poems - "apples" and "oranges" so that my creative writing class will literally have to compare the two
- 

Only At Elon
@OnlyAtElon - April 15
Happy Greek Week Dance! May your fake eyelashes stay on until it's your turn to dance.
- 

Caroline Grell
@Caroline_Grell - April 16
Just read names of Holocaust victims outside Moseley for Holocaust remembrance week! Stop by & pick up a ribbon to commemorate the victims.
- 

Truitt Center
@TruittCenter - April 17
We're ready for Holi @elonuniversity! Are you?
- 

Elon Student Health
@ElonHealth - April 20
of the 100 "allergy capitals" this year Winston-Salem ranks 24 and Greensboro ranks 33 #Elonpollen



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