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The Phoenix face teams from the Atlantic 10 and SEC in first two games.

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THE PENDULUM

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Liquor by the drink passed in local election

Natalie Allison
Senior Reporter

The wait is almost over for residents of the town of Elon who want to purchase liquor by the drink without traveling to nearby cities. In a referendum on Tuesday's Nov. 8 ballot, constituents voted to pass a mixed beverage law that will allow for the sale of liquor at bars and restaurants in Elon, a change that will go into effect in January.

The vote came after local restaurant owners Peter Ustach and Jeff MacKenzie of The Fat Frogg approached the Elon Board of Aldermen last year about the town obtaining a liquor by the drink permit. The board discussed the measure in July and made a decision to put the referendum, which passed with 75 percent of the vote, on this year's ballot.

The town will receive revenue from sales tax on liquor and a portion of the actual sale of mixed drinks, and local bar owners think the option for mixed drinks will increase foot traffic and benefit retail locations in Elon — business that may have otherwise gone to bars or restaurants in Burlington.

"I hope this helps the restaurants that are here," said Josh Ezrine, owner of West End Station. "That way, if there is more foot traffic, more retail stores may come to Elon."

Bar owners in Elon said they are expecting students to respond to the availability of mixed drinks with a lot of enthusiasm at first, but they are conscious of the risks and are



In elections Tuesday night, a referendum was passed allowing businesses in the town of Elon to serve liquor by the drink.

HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor

working to create a safe drinking environment.

"There will be a transition at first," said Gabriel Cheek, manager of College Taphouse. "They will all go nuts, but people will grow into

it and find their wits. It'll be better for us, but there will be a lot more responsibility."

Both Cheek and Ezrine said their bartenders would undergo additional training for serving mixed beverages,

and the bars would slowly add liquor options to the menu. Bartenders at The Fat Frogg, Ustach said, are all certified through ABC's Responsible

See LIQUOR | PAGE 3

Future of General Studies program remains unclear

Discussions held to plan next steps

Grace Elkus
Senior Reporter

It was less than two weeks ago that the faculty voted down proposed changes to the General Studies curriculum, yet steps are already being taken to decide what will come of the efforts and research behind the proposed curriculum.

Discussion about the proposal continues and will take place this week in several meetings, according to Provost Steven House. These meetings include a Town Hall Forum, discussions with senior faculty and the meeting of the General Studies Review Committee.

Although faculty will be engaging in these discussions, students have shared their thoughts on the significance of the proposal being voted down.

"The fact that the proposal was voted down makes me a little concerned because it means that Elon isn't making the General Studies curriculum a top priority," said sophomore Nick Medlock. "But at the same time, I am pleased with the current curriculum

and never thought a revision was necessary."

Sophomore John Antonelli agrees with Medlock in that he finds the current curriculum to be constructive to his academic studies. But he also understands the reasoning behind the proposal.

"I feel like Elon wouldn't be trying to make these changes if they were to have any sort of negative effect," he said. "I understand the changes could be tough on faculty and students at first, but in the long run it could be more beneficial."

Antonelli also expressed a broader concern about a general lack of awareness among students.

"I don't think very many students knew there had even been a proposal made," he said. "I would like to see more information concerning these types of proposals given to students, especially when the subject directly affects the student body."

Look for another update on the General Studies program, following faculty discussions, in next week's edition.

'No' means no, but interpretation of effective consent differs at Elon

Kassandra Cloos
News Editor

Consent is sexy. The head nod, the squeeze of the hand, the wink. According to Elon University policy, these simple signs can't be interpreted as effective consent in the absence of a verbal, active "yes." But the charges assigned — or not assigned — to students accused of nonconsensual sexual acts don't always reflect what is mandated by university policy.

On Elon's Sexual and Relationship Violence Awareness and Response website, effective consent is defined as an active, verbal, uncoerced "yes" in the absence of substances such as alcohol and is required at each stage of sexual advancement.

Effective consent is clearly stated in the student handbook as a necessity for students to proceed physically in accordance with the Honor Code. But according to Whitney Gregory, director of Student Conduct, students don't always find it practical to pursue a verbal agreement to engage in sexual activity, and so verbal consent is not always the standard by which the outcome of cases is determined.

"If somebody is fingering someone and then it moves to oral sex and then it

moves to intercourse, there may not be a 'Can I finger you?' 'Can I go down on you?' 'Can I put my penis in your vagina?'" she said. "I don't know of many students who have that conversation. Sure, it'd be great, ideally, but there's other ways, like body language, to gauge consent."

As director of Student Conduct, Gregory hears the cases of sexual assault that are reported to the university and said she has heard as many as five in one year, few in comparison to the number of cases that go unreported. Each case is so wildly different that she cannot provide a generic or average example for how fault is determined or charges assigned, but the university hearing system relies on the preponderance of evidence.

If personal accounts, witness statements and any other evidence shows it is more likely than not a student has perpetrated a nonconsensual act, he or she is held responsible. Both parties have the opportunity to appeal, such as if the charges are dropped or perceived to be too harsh.

As circumstances vary from case to case, Gregory said witnesses and every other ounce of available information is taken into consideration during the hearing process and there is no standard

See CONSENT | PAGE 6

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School of Communications expected to be fully reaccredited

Kassandra Cloos
News Editor

In the six years since the School of Communications at Elon University was first granted full accreditation, a lot has changed. The TV studios were upgraded to high definition and the iPad was invented and subsequently given to each faculty and staff member in the school. A graduate program was implemented and diversity increased substantially, among numerous other areas of growth.

A team from the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications, ACEJMC, returned to campus in mid-October to reevaluate the school by talking to faculty, students and senior staff members like President Leo Lambert. Before departing campus, the team presented a 45-page report detailing recommendations for reaccreditation, which is expected to become official when the council votes in April.

"They literally said there are no weaknesses in the program," said Provost Steven House. "We were very proud and happy with this. It's a wonderful group and I expect that over the next six years they'll continue to do outstanding things, the faculty and the students."

The committee did mention challenges, including continuing to keep up with and stay ahead of technological developments, a program quickly expanding beyond capacity of its building, McEwen, and lack of sufficient funding for scholarships and research.

Currently, only a handful of the Communications Fellows selected each year receive \$3,500 scholarships while programs in other schools provide much larger grants. These areas will be addressed in upcoming months, as preliminary plans to build a new facility begin to evolve,

House said.

Overall, the exit interview was positive.

"We did expect that it would go this well and even with the expectation, you never really know until the team comes and goes," said Kenn Gaither, associate dean of the School of Communications. "So even though we fully expected it to be this glowing, there is a sense of relief when they have left and they've left their report with us and they've left their approval. I think we're especially proud with what we're able to do since we were accredited."

When ACEJMC first accredited the School of Communications, numerous weaknesses were listed in the recommendation report. Communication with alumni, lack of diversity and the school's relationship with The Pendulum were among the weaknesses, which have been addressed according to this year's report.

"Sometimes there are intangibles that no formal report can really capture, and I think the growth across the school has really been spectacular," Gaither said. "When I say growth, it's not just about numbers, but all this student media. Six years ago, we didn't have Live Oak and now we have a student-run, full-service marketing agency. For any communications student, there's a program and or student media experience to

support their experience. That's a big one."

About one-third of the current faculty has been hired within the past six years, Gaither said, and the Elon in Los Angeles

and Elon in New York City programs were also established relatively recently.

"If there's something really important to take from this, it's that the administration

and the school aren't being reaccredited," Gaither said. "It's the students and faculty. It has to do with the entire School of Communications. We all play a part in getting reaccredited."



ELIZABETH EVERETT | Staff Photographer

The accreditation team noted that McEwen, home of the School of Communications, is becoming too small for its programs.

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Aldermen elected

Anna Johnson
Editor-in-Chief

The four candidates were whittled down to three aldermen.

Both Mark Greene and Ron Klepcyk won re-election with exactly 502 votes each, while John Peterson joined the town of Elon board as its newest member with the highest number of votes at 541. Jim Chanas was not elected to the board with 305 votes.

"I appreciate the confidence the voters have shown in me and I'm grateful to be able to continue another four years," Klepcyk said. "Everyone worked really hard in this campaign and you just don't know until the end."

He's running because he said it's essential for those who live in a community to give back to their community. Elon's top priorities should be supporting downtown businesses and economic expansion, he said.

"One way to increase revenue is through increasing development in the town," he said. "Adding business and new residential developments will add to the town's tax base and increase its revenue. This should be the top priority in the years to come."

Even though Klepcyk said he doesn't know Peterson very well, he is excited to have him join the board.

"I don't know John well but we spent 13 hours together today (at the polls) and we know each other much better," Klepcyk said. "I look forward to working with him and I think he can make a real contribution."

Peterson has no previous experience in politics but is eager to get involved with his community and has been active on the county level for years. Lawrence Slade, the alderman who chose not to run again after more than 20 years on the board, was one of the men who

encouraged Peterson to run.

"I have been asked by a lot of people to get involved and one of the ways to get involved is through the government," he said.

Peterson owns an insurance company, Peterson Agency, and plans to use that business experience to help Elon increase economically.

Growing Elon's businesses are something Peterson is looking forward to, he said. But the main focus is to fully grasp his responsibilities and learn the inner workings of the town.

"The number one thing is to approach and understand the issues," he said. "I want to get a handle on what the issues are and feel good about that first. I want to start improving every situation, even if there is not a problem there is always improvement in areas."

Greene was also re-elected to the board and he said he was very excited and grateful.

"It was a really long day but the turnout was really good and I'm thankful for everyone who voted for me," Greene said. "I'm very, very happy."

Being on the board is a civic responsibility instead of a political ambition, he said.

He also agreed that increasing revenue for the town and expanding businesses would be a top priority while he serves on the board.

"I also believe we should continue to investigate different options to enhance the downtown area for the benefit of the students of Elon and the permanent residents," Greene said.

All three of the elected board members said the relationship between the town and the university was where it should be.

The referendum to allow mixed beverages at Elon was also approved by 74 percent to 25 percent.

New liquor law expected to benefit local economy

LIQUOR from PAGE 1

Alcohol Seller/Server Program.

"If you work for me, you must have that certificate," Ustach said. "All my bartenders have worked in other locations that have mixed drink options, so they're prepared on that end. We're not going to do anything ridiculous to encourage insane amounts of drinking."

North Carolina state law requires bartenders who mix drinks containing liquor to be 21 years or older. Cheek said bartenders at College Taphouse, who currently only have to serve beer, would need to learn how to prepare mixed beverages for customers, though they would initially not have a full-bar.

Like West End Station, College Taphouse is closed for the majority

of the summer. Cheek said expanding their drink offerings could allow the bar to remain open even when most Elon students are gone.

"There is no draw during the summer for people to come drink a beer and watch TV when they could go somewhere like Brewballs in Burlington," he said. "This will be better for Elon's restaurants and bars for the non-school year to still draw people."

Alderman Ron Klepcyk said he supported the bill, above all other reasons, for its potential to bring more money back to Elon.

"If it helps current business owners or brings new business to the town, I'm in support of it," Klepcyk said. "Anything that will bring business to the town is important."



Before Tuesday, only wine and draft beers were permissible to serve by the drink in town of Elon establishments. Local bars and restaurants can start selling liquor in January. HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor

ELECTION RESULTS



VILLAGE OF ALAMANCE, MAYOR

Cathera R. Bundren

VILLAGE OF ALAMANCE, ALDERMAN

Chris Clemmons

Barry Crouse

CITY OF BURLINGTON, MAYOR

Ronnie K. Wall

CITY OF BURLINGTON, COUNCIL MEMBER

Jim Butler

Craig W. Deaton

David R. Huffman

Bob Ward

TOWN OF GIBSONVILLE, MAYOR

Leonard (Lenny) Williams

TOWN OF GIBSONVILLE, ALDERMAN

Alton (Ted) Barber, Jr.

Paul Dean

Bob Martin

Clarence A. Owen

Mark Shepherd

Paul D. Thompson

Rex A. Williams

CITY OF GRAHAM, MAYOR

Tommy Bruton

Jerry Peterman

CITY OF GRAHAM, COUNCIL MEMBER

Jim Albright

Jeanette Beaudry

Mickey Cheek

Ron James

Lee Kimrey

TOWN OF GREEN LEVEL, COUNCIL MEMBER

Hughes T. Crisp

Remonia Enoch

Larry McCollum

TOWN OF HAW RIVER, MAYOR

Buddy E. Boggs

TOWN OF HAW RIVER, COUNCIL MEMBER

Richard L. Honeycutt

Laurie Jarrett

Lee Lovette

Ashley Warren

CITY OF MEBANE, MAYOR

Glendel Stephenson

CITY OF MEBANE, COUNCIL MEMBER

Everette Greene

Patty Phillipps

TOWN OF OSSIPEE, COUNCIL MEMBER

Ernest (Smokey) Bare

Billy R. Carter

Sandy Gregory

Danny Sutton

TOWN OF SWEPSONVILLE, COUNCIL MEMBER

James Briggs

Mark Fogleman

Virginia Gail Miller

Doug Scott

Election results as of November 8

Apartment owners struggle to fill space as options for on-campus housing grow

Natalie Allison
Senior Reporter

David Hancock spent \$700,000 remodeling one of his two apartment complexes in the town of Elon. Hancock, owner of Time Properties in Burlington, added more amenities to try and attract students — a pool, hot tub, volleyball court, weight room and tanning bed. He bought new appliances, updated the bathrooms and painted some of the walls a shade of light blue. He even changed the complex's name to appeal to other people in the community. But Cypress Pointe apartments are still one-third empty, and it isn't the only complex in Elon with vacant units.

A surplus of housing options came with the construction of new off-campus apartment complexes and townhouses in Elon throughout the past decade. New and spacious, these units have garnered the business of Elon University students for several years, though not all are completely occupied.

But the university, which already had plans to build The Oaks and Colonnades to provide on-campus, apartment style housing for students, carried out its construction plans, too.

And the plans aren't finished.

"Students like living in university housing," said Smith Jackson, vice president and dean of Student Life. "Our maintenance program is superior. Our facilities are better constructed. Our security is going to be there in a flash, and students appreciate that."

In addition to the three dormitories that were added to Colonnades this fall, the university is in the process of constructing The Station at Mill Point, a village of townhouses exclusively for juniors and seniors.

Jackson said the university's construction is a

response to student demand for on-campus housing that hasn't been met in years.

"When we put in the requirement that sophomores must live on campus, the number of juniors and seniors wanting to live on campus doubled," he said. "Since 2000, we haven't met the demand."

Hancock said he believes the ongoing construction of Elon residential areas is going to lead to the university requiring more students to live on campus.

"I'm sure it's not talked about," Hancock said. "But I guarantee, eventually, Elon's plan is to have all juniors live on campus. Every business entity in the world has to increase revenue to survive. A big untapped source of revenue is the housing of juniors and seniors."

Currently, the university requires all freshmen and sophomores to live on campus, though sophomores can apply for permission to live off campus. Jackson said that though the university has made no plans to require all students to live on campus, Elon would like to see the number of upperclassmen living on campus grow.

"We don't have a goal for 100 percent of students to live on campus," Jackson said. "But we do want to see more juniors and seniors living on campus. I think we'll get to that point and then decide if it's enough."

The addition of new on- and off-campus housing has forced older apartments to remodel and improve their facilities, Jackson said.

In addition to the remodeling of Time Properties' Cypress Pointe, formerly known as Phoenix West, other property owners are looking to update older complexes to continue to attract student renters.

Christy Donaldson, an employee of BC Parker Real Estate, said the company has begun to remodel units in Trollinger to make them more



CLAIRE ESPARROS | Staff Photographer

Off-campus housing is threatened by new on-campus housing opportunities.

appealing to students.

After applying to move off campus as a sophomore, Kaitlyn Palumbo said although she knows Elon's townhouse options for upperclassmen will be attractive to some students, she couldn't foresee herself returning to university-owned housing.

"I don't think that I would move back on campus to live in the new townhouses because my rent is low and I'm living with great friends in a nice house already," Palumbo said. "The rent ended up being even cheaper than living in a dorm."

Senior Mary Kate Hinshaw, who has lived on campus all four years at Elon, said she believes in the reasons behind Elon's push for juniors and seniors to live on campus, but questions how long it might take to convince more upperclassmen to stay on Elon's grounds.

"I think that it's great that Elon is trying to increase the number of upperclassmen who live on campus by building The Station at Mill Point," Hinshaw said. "I don't know if they'll be entirely successful right away. It might take some time

to transition, but I think that they'll definitely be able to fill up The Station eventually."

Jackson said the university is conscious of apartment vacancies and complexes that are too vacant would eventually have to recruit renters from the community. But the university wouldn't consider that enough reason to halt its plans for growth, he said.

"We can't stop free enterprise," Jackson said. "The town doesn't want to stop people from being able to try to rent things out if they want to. It's market-driven."

Nevertheless, Elon has made no pledge to stop expanding its on-campus housing options, and risk still stands for the property owners who have chosen to invest in the town and the students.

"The benefit to provide more housing on the campus far outweighs the potential that off-campus housing may not be filled," Jackson said. "I don't think it'll be so much that it'll dramatically alter occupancy in those spaces, but if I owned one of those places, I would be concerned, too."

Business School forced to address loss of employees

Hannah DeLaCourt
Senior Reporter

Elon University's Love School of Business recently lost two of its staff members, Richard Jordan and Kehaya Wescott, when both left their jobs within days of one another. Both worked in the Porter Family Professional Development Center.

The Career Center has been working closely with Scott Buechler, interim dean of the business school, to ensure services are still available to students. During this transition period, the walk-in hours have been expanded and a rotating staff of other professionals work in the office five days a week during normal business hours, said Tom Vecchione, executive director of Career Services. Services are also available on weekends and in the evenings as required, he said.

On Thursdays, Vecchione serves as one of the rotating staff members who has temporarily filled Jordan's position. Students who have worked with him and other rotating staff members said they think the Career Center is still helpful, despite the loss of two key employees.

"(Vecchione) reviewed my resume and tailored it specifically so that I can target companies," said junior Paige Burke. "My meeting with him definitely helped me learn how to sell my best features on paper."

Currently, the goal is to have a new associate director of Career Services in place by the start of the spring semester. The staff will expand to include an associate director of corporate and employee relations.

"This person will work to identify contacts for internships and employment specifically for our business students," Vecchione said. "We are extremely confident that we will be able to attract highly qualified applicants for each of these positions."

Issues with University High School cause potential delays

Natalie Allison
Senior Reporter

Progress on University High School, the early college partnership between Elon University and Alamance-Burlington School System, is falling behind schedule. The school, which would allow high school students to complete two years of college credit by graduation, is scheduled to open in fall 2012, but ongoing discussions between the two parties are putting it at risk for not being ready on time.

"If we don't get this settled soon, we won't open for fall 2012," said Gerald Francis, executive vice president of the university. "If it's not decided before we go home for Christmas, we're most likely going to be looking at a delay."

Currently, a memorandum of understanding, a document describing the agreement between the two parties, is being revised based on the Alamance-Burlington Board of Education's concerns about the original plan.

"We still haven't gotten all the details," Francis said. "Most of it is coming down to insurance liability about having these young folks on campus. You can't sue the state of North Carolina, but you can sue us. If we're linked with the school, we want to make sure we have proper coverage."

Among the school board's concerns are where the early college will be located, how exactly the admissions process will work and whether all Elon faculty, staff and outside workers on

campus, such as ARAMARK employees and construction workers, will undergo regular background checks.

"Some school board members are questioning about the location of the school," said Peter Felten, associate provost. "In the past, they haven't approved schools without knowing specifically where they will be. That's still up to the university."

Though the location hasn't been determined, Francis said it would be on or contiguous with Elon's property.

Logistics on the admissions process for the early college haven't been finalized, either, Felten said, also causing the board to ask questions.

"The proposal document was 10 pages, with one page on admissions," Felten said. "It laid out the philosophy of how the admissions process would work and the timeline, but not the nitty gritty details. So school board members and others have been asking appropriate questions."

The school board raised a concern about background checks not being regularly conducted on "employees whose job responsibilities involve regular or unsupervised contact" with students, Francis said. Lawyers representing the school system have been continually revising the

memorandum of understanding with the university's lawyers.

Elon University conducts initial background checks on faculty and staff, but what other employees the description refers to is vague, he said.

"We're not sure what the document means by 'unsupervised contact,'" Francis said. "Does that mean, if a student goes into the grill and gets a drink, they've had unsupervised contact with someone? We don't know."

Francis said the language in the document would currently require the university to conduct these background checks every year.

"We don't have any problem with the background checks — all of our employees get those checks," Francis said. "But the document says we're supposed to be doing annual checks, and we don't want to be doing annual checks on everyone who works here."

Students who attend the university would take advanced high school courses their ninth and 10th grade years, and be enrolled in college courses during 11th and 12th grades, meaning they would be in class with Elon students and faculty.

ABSS will provide funding for

"If we don't get this settled soon, we won't open for fall 2012. If it's not decided before we go home for Christmas, we're most likely going to be looking at a delay."

-Gerry Francis,
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Limits of Diversity? Students discuss Residence Life's response to posters

Caitlin O'Donnell
News Editor

The recent push for diversity on Elon University's campus is not enough for one student.

"I am glad that Elon is taking all of these measures to bring in diversity," said senior Ali Garced, resident area coordinator of East Area. "However, I think the major issue Elon should be focusing on is keeping the little diversity that we already have here at Elon. I feel too little energy is spent on keeping our small diverse population interested in returning next year."

During a special College Coffee Oct. 25, university staff and faculty had the opportunity to tour the new Colonnades buildings and the Loy Center. Senior Taylor Ferguson, a resident assistant in the Colonnades neighborhood who identifies as bisexual, volunteered to leave her first-floor room open for the tour. At that time, she let Residence Life staff know she had two potentially racy posters in her room that she was told she would need approved.

One poster, displayed in Ferguson's bathroom, showed two women kissing while clothed. A second poster, near her bed, displays two shirtless women, but without any full frontal nudity.

When Dawn Morgan, assistant director of Residence Life in Colonnades, entered Ferguson's room about 15 minutes before the start of the tour, she asked Ferguson if she would be willing to remove them.

"I told her I would prefer not to because it took me forever and I'd already put a lot of holes in the wall," Ferguson said. "I didn't feel I needed to hide them. I'm comfortable having my parents and other residents in my room. I'd never been questioned or needed to take them down."

When Elaine Turner, director of Residence Life, entered Ferguson's room, she asked her to take them down in a tone Ferguson described as "sternly."

"I didn't know how to respond at that point, but I told her I'd prefer not to," she said.

At that point, Scott Hendershot, assistant director of Residence Life for West Area, said he'd be willing to help her put them back up following the tour. After being removed from the walls, the two posters were hidden behind Ferguson's bed.

"I get we don't want to make anyone uncomfortable," Ferguson said. "But they never gave a clear reason. (Turner) said it wasn't a personal attack."

Word spread quickly through the student staff of Residence Life and Ferguson said she regretted not taking a bigger stand against the action, in the moment.

"When I talked to (Morgan) individually (that morning), I told her I wasn't personally offended but I do feel it's



In preparation for a tour of the new Colonnades Neighborhood buildings during College Coffee Oct. 25, Residence Life staff removed two posters from the walls of senior Taylor Ferguson's room. Ferguson had volunteered to have her room available for students, faculty and staff to view.

AL DRAGO | Photographer

hypocritical," Ferguson said. "I have my bed illegally risen and a stolen Elon football sign hanging and no one said anything about those two things. I felt as though the things they had grounds to say something about, they didn't."

Garced said diversity is a common theme among training for Residence Life staff.

"Every day we talk about diversity and how Elon is doing such a good job," she said.

Part of that training involves simulations of how to handle situations between two residents. One example, Garced said, is between a straight student and a gay student who wants to put up a flag or poster the other does not want.

"We're taught to have them work it out amongst themselves because they're in college," Garced said. "The compromise is you shouldn't keep it on the (straight) roommate's side of the wall. The answer is never to take it down."

Garced said she would like to see more emphasis put toward the diverse relationship between students and the staff and faculty.

"I think it's the staff and faculty the

most that need to be the ones practicing what they preach, because from what I've seen, the students seem to have the least amount of problems," she said. "The problems arise when staff and faculty members are uncomfortable."

Ferguson said she wishes the situation could have led to a follow-up conversation with the rest of Residence Life staff explaining why the decision was made to hide the posters.

"They could have made a statement and explained themselves instead of covering it up," she said. "It was so censored and so hidden, it's almost worse. They told me to take it down, so give me a reason. Justify yourself. By hiding, it makes it look like they can't."

Morgan said she did not know the specifics of the situation and had no comment.

There is no specific Residence Life policy for posters, she said, unless they are a fire hazard, against code or offensive to the roommate, in which case it would be moved to the other side of the room.

Ferguson said she planned to speak with Morgan Nov. 9 during their weekly meeting.



KISS
by Tanya Chaikin

AL DRAGO | Photographer

Senior Taylor Ferguson removed posters, one pictured above, from her dorm, as requested by Residence Life staff, but she said she is concerned no definitive reason was provided.

Trading food for booze: Study finds 'drunkorexia' on the rise

Kyra Gemberling
Design Editor

With the pressure on college students to drink alcohol while also remaining thin, many now trade dinner for a beer or two, sparking concerns regarding the severity of this problem.

A new condition, often nicknamed drunkorexia, is proving to have health risks for students who intentionally skip meals to save calories for drinking.

One in five students follow this trend, and reasons for drinking instead of eating include controlling their weight, saving money and getting drunk more quickly, according to a recent study conducted by the University of Missouri.

While these reasons may seem appealing to students, not eating before a night of drinking can lead to more negative consequences than the positive outcomes students often desire, said senior Kelly Little, SPARKS Team Coordinator at Elon University.

"If you don't eat before you drink then you don't have anything in your stomach to combat the alcohol," Little said. "Your blood alcohol content (BAC) increases when the alcohol

seeps into your blood system, and there's nothing to slow that process if you haven't eaten."

Although the issue is becoming increasingly serious, Little said the condition isn't something that can be diagnosed.

"I think it's an issue, but I don't think it's a disorder necessarily," she said. "This is combining a disease with an action because the action is choosing not to eat and the disease aspect is more body image related."

Sophomore Michele Guthrie also thinks the issue is related to body image and said it should be dealt with just as an eating disorder would be, even though many would argue that it isn't a disorder.

"It's a problem, and in order to fix it people need to realize that it begins with the whole psychological self-image aspect, even if it's not that severe," Guthrie said. "Women are still resorting to unhealthy measures to improve their body weight."

While research from the University of Missouri shows women were found to be three times more likely to practice this condition than men, Little said men should still be taken into consideration. Self-esteem issues aren't limited to females, she

said.

"I definitely think it's important to include men," she said. "I think that educating people about how to drink safely is important also, as well as addressing body image issues (to all genders), even though it can be taboo."

Guthrie said making people aware that this problem exists at all is important because she had never considered it to be as serious as it has become.

"I have never consciously thought about this problem, so making people aware of the dangerous side effects of this condition would be a step in the right direction," Guthrie said.

SPARKS is working to address the issue of skipping meals before drinking by analyzing statistics and incorporating this



According to a recent study from the University of Missouri, as many as 20 percent of college students partake in drinking, rather than eating, to save money, control their weight or get drunk more quickly.

JULIA SAYERS | Staff Photographer

information into presentations on campus, according to Little.

"We talk about the best foods to eat before you drink, which are protein foods, even though a lot of people tend to think it's carbohydrates," she said. "We also list resources and counselors to talk to for discussing body image concerns, which is what this all often relates back to."

In the meantime, Little said the

public should work on portraying the issue appropriately, and the term "drunkorexia" gives the wrong impression because it's insensitive to those with serious issues like anorexia.

"I think it should be portrayed as a personal choice and a personal issue," she said. "I think the people who are dealing with it are the people who should be dealing with it, not the people who are removed from the issue."

Consent confusion: Elon staff differs on definition

CONSENT from PAGE 1

outcome or set of charges for types of violations. The consumption of alcohol, appearance of drunkenness or lack thereof, physical queues and whether consent was verbalized are just a few of the factors Gregory investigates.

"In my first meeting with the student, I'm going to talk with them and understand things and clarify things and help them understand that there's cases where they never said 'yes,' but everything else indicated consent," Gregory said. "But there are also cases where a student may have said 'yes, yes, yes, yes, yes,' but they were blacked out and they were clearly intoxicated and that's where I would say, even if you verbally said 'yes,' there were witnesses indicating you were slurring, you were stumbling. That's not consent."

Elizabeth Nelson, coordinator for violence prevention, said she has also found that students who go to her with their accounts of sexual violence or misconduct are not always practicing effective consent according to the university's definition. But the goal is for everyone to seek consent and affirm his or her own choices so they can better enjoy and understand their decisions to engage in sexual acts with others, she said.

"How consent plays out for individuals is not always going to be reflective of policy," Nelson said. "Policy is the way it should be happening, just like the other policies in place are the ways things should be happening. No one here lives in the fantasy world that everyone lives by policy, but that is the goal. The goal actually is to be giving clear and sober yes'es."

But even in the absence of these 'yes'es,' even when the university has information that effective consent by its own definition was not given, cases of nonconsensual sex have gone uncharged, according to Leigh-Anne Royster, director of Student Development.

Royster, former coordinator for personal health programs and community well-being, has heard countless students' accounts of sexual violence and assault and said she believes and practices that effective consent cannot be given in the absence of

a verbal "yes," even if body language and lack of a verbal "no" indicate otherwise.

Royster said she has seen the university fail to consistently uphold this standard during her time at Elon.

"The Student Conduct process is not the same as a criminal justice process," she said. "I don't want to say they are the same thing, but as with any process like that where you're finding fault or guilt or finding any responsibility, you need to weigh the evidence on either side. I think that where I may view something as, 'Well, that person did not give effective consent,' I haven't always seen that result in the person who perpetrated that act being found responsible for nonconsensual sexual acts."

The discrepancies between Elon's enforced interpretations of what constitutes adequate consent for sexual progression reflects a broad, socially stigmatized misunderstanding of the importance of just talking about sex, Royster said. Many other faculty and staff members would probably be surprised by the definition of effective consent, she said, and likely don't practice it in their own relationships. But she is firm in her beliefs, and said she also doesn't think effective consent can be given between two individuals having met each other for the first time at a party — a potential stage-setter for regretted sex.

Even though most students likely don't ask before engaging physically with one another, and not every nonconsensual act is violent, actively seeking approval from one's partner can be an empowering way to prevent regretted sex and unknowingly being a perpetrator, according to Royster, Gregory and Nelson. Most reported cases are not simple incidents of students changing their minds about who they went to bed with the night before, but it's possible to lead an active, healthy and nonmonogamous sex life by taking the time to proactively make decisions about what one wants, Nelson said.

"It's a real misperception to think all these people are having sex and deciding the next day they didn't want to," she said. "That's inaccurate. Statistically, it's less than 2 percent. But what is happening, and I think



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer
Leigh-Anne Royster, director of Student Development, Elizabeth Nelson, coordinator of violence prevention, and Whitney Gregory, director of Student Conduct, encourage students to discuss sex more freely to protect themselves.

Students' use of effective consent

"I hear from a lot of college students, I would never talk about, 'Do you want to kiss?' That sound ridiculous and I would not talk that way to someone.' And I understand that, but college students are doing things all the time, it doesn't have to be in that language. You're texting each other and you're Facebook messaging each other and it can be fun to talk about these things but we don't, we don't talk about how somehow there's also this disconnect between 'I'm completely comfortable being totally naked with this person, but not at all comfortable with communicating with them.'"



-Leigh-Anne Royster
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT
DEVELOPMENT

"Unfortunately, there are cases where I have to say, 'We do not have the information to find another student responsible.' I'm not saying you aren't wronged, I'm not saying this is what you wanted to happen, but based on the information that is possible for me to have, I don't have information to support finding somebody responsible. And that's where I do have to look at the rights and fairness for both parties. Because if it's not more likely than not, I can't find somebody responsible and I think ultimately that's where the fairness must come in."



-Whitney Gregory
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT
CONDUCT

this is important, is that lots of people are having sex they're not sure they want to be having and they don't feel good about it afterwards. And that, to me, is the power of consent."

Gregory said there are sometimes cases in which a lack of evidence prevents her from charging

a student accused of being responsible for perpetrating a nonconsensual sexual act, but she never wants to undermine a student's path to recovery by assigning blame to a potential victim.

"No matter what's decided for a Student Conduct process or a criminal process, if someone feels hurt, taken

advantage of, victimized, it's never healthy to say, 'Well, you're wrong,' from an advocate's standpoint," she said. "From the Student Conduct standpoint, I'm never going to say you're wrong. I may say I don't have information to support a violation of our policy, but not that you're wrong."

Elon has no plans to become 'in-network' health care provider

Emily Hines
Reporter

With the recent passing of the Affordable Care Act, some university health centers are being forced to adjust their fees because of changes under the preventative care portion of the act, which lists several preventative medications and measures that are covered under universal health care.

The Elon University R.N. Ellington Health and Counseling Center will not be accepting students' health insurance in the near future, but will continue charging students a health fee of \$55.

For a university to become "in-network," allowing students to use their health insurance coverage at the health center, the university must fill out paperwork for the various insurance companies.

"What the problem is, is getting the providers approved for all the plans,

hundreds of different ones for all of the students," said Jim Hawkins, university physician and medial director. "One central clearing house, for one set of paperwork — then it would be easy. Every company or every state has different plans, and plans within plans."

There are some companies, such as Vivature, that universities can choose to outsource this paperwork to.

"We spent a year and a half looking into it," Hawkins said. "We found a very good company, but what they were asking was extremely expensive, so right now, that is on hold."

Despite the cost, Glenn Egelman, chief medical officer of Vivature Health, said there are benefits to outsourcing paperwork.

"Affordable health care is new, but what I can tell you from clients is that students now view them as real doctors because they take insurance and went through the credential process," he

said. "Parents are thrilled because parents and students who had bills are now taken care of."

Financial issues such as health insurance coverage are steering students off campus, Egelman said. But Hawkins said he has seen no significant decrease in the number of students visiting the health center.

"Ever since fall break we have been so busy we can barely get by," he said. "It is easier for students to see us than an outside provider. If you need a specialist and you call to see them, and you are not a patient of theirs, it takes weeks. If I call first, they see you right away. We are a gateway."

When sophomore Allison D'Amora recently visited the health center with a sprained ankle, she found the waiting room was not as busy as she expected.

"All three times I have been, it hasn't been crazy," she said. "I went in September and early October so flu

season hadn't hit yet."

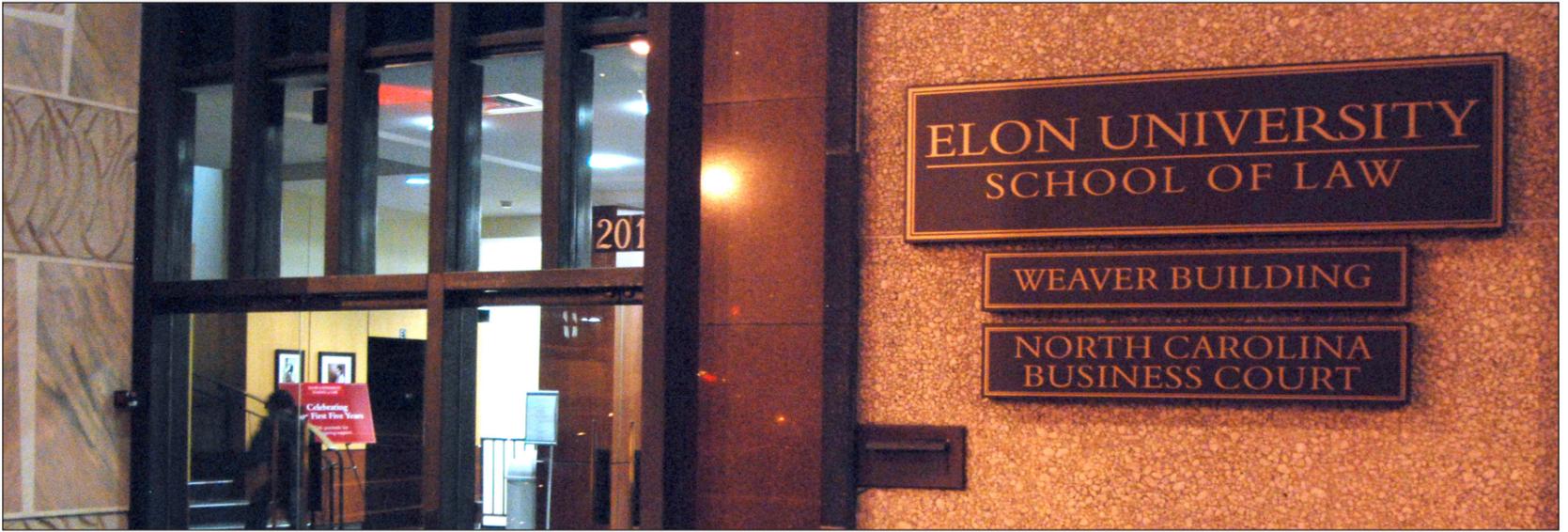
The health center served as a "gateway" for D'Amora to other providers when she went to have an X-ray done on her foot.

"I went to a center in Alamance and only had a five minute wait," she said. "I had the sheet from Health Services and I walked right in after they took paperwork."

With flu season right around the corner, the health center will be getting busier, even though it offered flu shots at the beginning of the semester for \$15.

This is a cost that could have been avoided had the Health Center been "in-network" and accepted student's health insurance.

"I did not want to pay for it," said freshman Yasmine Arrington, who didn't get a flu shot on campus. "Where I can get a flu shot for free back home in D.C. at the children's hospital, they accept my health insurance."



AL DRAGO | Photographer

The Elon University School of Law opened its doors in downtown Greensboro in 2006. Five years later, emphasis is placed on leadership and legal preparation.

Elon Law celebrates 5 years, accomplishments

New approach to study of industry

Jack Dodson
Senior Reporter

In 2007, Bernie Brown was a professor of biochemistry at Wake Forest University, 15 years after he got his undergraduate degree in the same field, when he decided he wanted something different: a career in law.

Brown enrolled in the second class of Elon University's School of Law, a then-unaccredited but highly anticipated program among North Carolina law professionals.

"There was enthusiasm in the legal community," Brown said. "It was like, this is going to be a great school. Don't worry about accreditation."

Elon's School of Law opened in 2006 with 115 students under the direction of founding dean Leary Davis. A few things made it a remarkable program to those involved: the downtown location that allowed a close relation between law firms and the school, a practical approach to law education that included a strong element of leadership and Davis' experience starting a law school at Campbell University.

Five years down the line, the School of Law is in its first year fully accredited by the American Bar Association, and its second dean, George Johnson, is building on a foundation Davis and his staff created. Now, with 365 students and a vetted program shaped by four classes, the school is moving beyond the beginning stage.

"We've sort of plateaued out, like all law schools in the country," said law professor David Crowe. "But I think the law school is going to experience the same rise in credibility and reputation as the main university. I see great things down the road."

The school celebrated its fifth anniversary Oct. 6, bringing together President Leo Lambert, supporter Jim Melvin and advisory board chair David Gergen, former adviser to four United States presidents and current senior political analyst for CNN. The school also put out a report recently detailing its first five years and highlighting key factors like the strong leadership component that set its program apart.

When Crowe joined the founding committee, a body was charged in early 2004 with looking into the possibility of the law school, and he said the group looked at many different schools to get a feel for what kind of legal program Elon would want to put together.

"One of the thematic approaches when we were looking at law schools was legal education," Crowe said. "Basically, the principal thrust of legal education is to prepare you to take the

BAR examination."

This was a common draw to law education at many of the schools he looked at during the founding process, Crowe said.

By the time Davis came on board, the idea became to fill a need in the kind of law education that was lacking — practical workplace leadership skills.

"The idea was not that the country needed another law school," Davis said. "It needed a different kind of law school."

In this way, Davis said the school is similar to its undergraduate counterpart, which places an emphasis on engaged learning.

"The two institutions as institutions of quality is a consistent message," he said. "We hope we can bring to the university what the university brings to us."

A lot of this learning style has transferred to the law school. The school emphasizes leadership and brings a practical approach to its education, with a downtown location that provides students opportunities to work with practicing lawyers.

But even when the program first started, Brown said it was a promising school. Although it was unaccredited and new when he enrolled, it was the promise of a different kind of law program and the security of Davis' background that made it an attractive option, he said.

The education he received at the law school has given him realistic experience that he brought to the workplace.

"What it has helped me do is navigate firm dynamics," Brown said. "(Like) knowing where you are in the organization and understanding that everyone starts out at the bottom."

Brown also said he's been lucky to be as successful as he has been right out of law school. His background sets him apart — an established career as a biochemist, including a postdoctoral fellowship at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he said. For other people, it's been tough to break into the legal world, a problem for law students around the country.

"What's happened in law, it's very rare," Crowe said. "It's been in this period of economic downturn — you have law firms closing. It's a rough go in law right now."

Crowe said the school is in a good position, though, with its full accreditation, and he has high hopes for the program.

"I think long-range, this law school is going to be outstanding just as the university is outstanding," he said.

'Lawyer-leaders' pioneer way to success

Rebecca Smith
Managing Editor

When Elon University's administration was working to create a School of Law, it didn't want the students walking across the stage to feel like lawyers. It wanted them to feel like more. It wanted them to feel like "lawyer-leaders."

A curriculum embedded with classes on leadership, opportunities for students to gain hands-on experience and speakers who are invested in service have fostered an environment that creates "leader-lawyers," said law professor John Alexander.

"As part of the original vision established for the law school before they set up the school, Elon University and the law school wanted to create something different," Alexander said. "That is why they created an emphasis of leadership development. The school wants to be recognized for graduating lawyers who see themselves as lawyers who will give back to the community and their profession."

During the three-year program, there are two required leadership courses. First-year students are required to take a Winter Term course that focuses on self-awareness. The class is broken into groups that create a firm and then get hands-on experience by utilizing the law school's relationship with the Centre for Creative Leadership.

Students participate in a second leadership class the following year where they are once again put into groups and assigned to nonprofit organizations. Each group helps solve their nonprofit's legal problems. During this process, they do research and present information to the class.

"It's really important for the students to get a chance to break into teams and work with real clients," Alexander said. "We know that most of these graduates will be working in lawyer teams in the future. This is another reason why it is so important that we implement leadership into the curriculum, and help students see how they work in a group

environment."

Students also have a chance to gain leadership experience through the leadership fellows program.

"It is a young, new program that is just being developed," Alexander said. "They really help us as faculty and administration, and help us know what does it mean to be a fellow?"

All leadership fellows are required to take the capstone class their third year and complete a project that showcases their skills at that time.

"Basically the first year of inaugural leadership fellows said that we have to kind of come together here because we had been asked to create something out of this program that showcased the 'lawyer-leader' example we have learned," said Jeffrey Koehler, Class of 2012 and leadership fellow.

Several projects were discussed during this brainstorm, many of which later came to fruition. A grocery on wheels project was set up and two boards were created: a pro bono board and a board that brings speakers to come talk to the school. They also decided to create a journal.

The first edition of the Journal of Leadership and Law was published online Oct. 21. The journal explores the role of leadership through interviews with attorneys in leadership positions and articles written by lawyers and students.

Koehler is the editor of the journal. "Servant leadership is a big thing," he said. "Essentially so many of these articles have shown that as a lawyer or

a leader, you exist to help people. The whole goal of leadership, I think, is that when you see there is a problem in the community that you can really get together and help."

-Jeffrey Koehler
CLASS OF 2012 AND
LEADERSHIP FELLOW

Work has already begun on the next journal. In the next issue, they hope to include more student-written content, book reviews from staff members and contributions from prominent leaders.

All students in the law program are expected to become leaders in organizations, do service work in the community and attend speakers.

Students and faculty at the school are working on the next leadership lecture, which will take place in April. Sandra Day O'Connor and David Gergen are returning as the keynote speakers. The law school is partnering with the Centre for Creative Leadership to host the speaker series.

ELON SCHOOL OF LAW THROUGH THE YEARS

OCT. 2004

The board of trustees approves the establishment of the Law School in Greensboro.

SEPT. 2006

The charter class of 115 students begins classes.

JUNE 2008

Elon Law receives provisional accreditation from American Bar Association.

2008

The school begins publishing the Elon Law Review.

AUG. 2008

Founding dean, Leary Davis, retires. George Johnson is named interim dean.

FEB. 2009

George Johnson is named the second dean of the school.

JUNE 2011

American Bar Association grants Elon Law full accreditation.

OCT. 2011

First edition of the Journal of Leadership and Law published.

Republican presidential candidates consider cutting federal higher education financial aid

John Tinkelenberg
Reporter

Debate fueled by the presidential race continues to rage concerning President Barack Obama's recent executive order, which intends to relieve some of the financial burden college students face with loans after graduation.

The executive order decreases the minimum payment on student loans from 15 to 10 percent. The order also lowers the number of years after graduation at which student loans are forgiven from 25 to 20.

Some Republican presidential candidates, like businessman Herman Cain and Rep. Ron Paul, have said on the campaign trail they do not believe the federal government has a responsibility to support higher education. But the issue has not been a priority for all candidates.

Neither former Mass. Gov. Mitt Romney nor Texas Gov. Rick Perry has education platforms posted on their campaign websites. Perry recently took heat from conservatives for allowing illegal immigrants to pay in-state tuition and Cain, who is currently leading in many Republican polls, has said

he believes those who really want a college education can reach it without the aid of the federal government. Rep. Michele Bachmann has said the president's changes are a "moral hazard."

The impact of Pell grants on federal debt is dwarfed by entitlements and defense spending. Out of an estimated \$3.8 trillion budget this year, only about \$40 billion is invested in Pell grants — roughly 1 percent.

"Student loan debt, on some level, is actually a good thing," said Steven Bednar, assistant professor of economics at Elon. "The more highly educated workforce you have, the more the economy can grow. We like to think that students develop specific skills and knowledge while in college that will be applied to the workforce, get them better jobs, and grow the economy."

In the 2010-2011 academic year, Elon students received more than \$2.5 million in Pell grants, which do not have to be repaid, and close to \$3 million in work study funds from the federal government. Most other forms of financial aid are distributed by the university itself.

Senior Jay Light said he believes the government has a fiscal responsibility to prospective students.

"Since there are a lot of people our age in this country who unfortunately can't afford college any other way, the government does have a little bit of an obligation to help them out," he said.

Junior Ronda Ataalla agreed.

"I definitely think the government should support financial aid, because all our future is in school right now," she said.

Many student loans are income-based, which means after graduation, payments are capped at a percentage of the borrower's discretionary income. Graduates with no income pay nothing. This is different than a mortgage, where the payments are a fixed amount.

Bednar said he does not see anything in Obama's proposed changes students could use to cheat the system.

"It's supposed to give



Like many other Republican presidential candidates, Herman Cain says he does not support federal funding for higher education. Several Republicans have proposed cutting government aid.

temporary relief to people that need it," he said. "I don't see people taking out extra student loans to live it up in a much nicer house while in college and only eat caviar. I don't think behavior will change because of this."

Patrick Murphy, director of financial planning, said he does not support the Republican argument.

"I don't think it is wise to cut this funding because it's mostly other areas in the budget that are the problem," he said. "With education, there

are ramifications down the road and people can't wrap their brains around it."

Regardless of the burden, Bednar said he still believes a college degree is worth the risk in a stagnant job market.

"It's harder to see the value of a college education when you graduate during a down economy and don't find a job right away," he said. "But it is important to think about the long term and know that your lifetime earnings will most likely be much higher because you have the degree."

Leaders struggle to resolve global debt crises

Michael Papich
Reporter

As mounting debt threatens the stability and growth of the United States and the European Union, both economies have developed new steps to deal with their respective crises.

Because of low growth and high debts and deficits, EU members like Greece, Ireland, Spain, Portugal and Italy have required bailouts, making investments in these countries more risky and resulting in rounds of debt downgrades for each nation.

Recently, EU leaders agreed on a plan that would increase the size of a new bailout and forgive half of Greece's debt. In exchange, Greece will accept new austerity measures, such as tax increases and cuts to benefits.

Whether this proposal will be enough to put various in-

crisis countries on more stable footing depends on the short-term gross domestic product, GDP, of countries like Greece.

"If GDP shrinks, it means that the payment that they get will become smaller and smaller," said Vitaliy Strohush, assistant professor of economics at Elon University. "It means maybe you have to give more money to Greece, so it is possible that they will need more bailout."

The United States is vulnerable to European debt, as many U.S. money-market funds hold European debt bonds.

"There is some exposure to U.S. banks of European debt, but I don't believe this is going to be a big issue, even if some of the countries collapse, in terms of the debt holding," Strohush said.

While the EU has been working to control debt in its member nations, President

Barack Obama recently announced two plans to deal with Americans' mortgages and student loan debt.

Obama's plan for student debt expands on pre-existing programs to annul student loans after 20 years of payments as well as letting those with student debt refinance and receive lowered interest rates.

The president's plan for reigning in mortgages is an expansion of a previous program that helped homeowners with federally backed mortgages. This expansion eliminates the debt-to-value limit the program originally had, so homeowners who have made consistent payments can refinance, no matter how much they owe.

"In the Great Depression, similar problem, the government set up a corporation to take over

loans and did the same basic thing, it lowered interest payments, and basically it was people refinancing," said Steve DeLoach, professor of economics. "They were dealing with the same kind of problems, everyone's got into a lot of debt."

Measures to lower individual debts in the country are critical to the United States' overall recovery. A quarter of homeowners have a greater mortgage than they do home value, and data from the New York Federal Reserve suggests that this year, student debt will surpass credit card loans as the greatest form of personal debt in the nation.

"Consumers haven't been too excited to spend money in the last couple years, so the fastest way to get the economy going again is to get consumers spending," DeLoach said. "Consumer

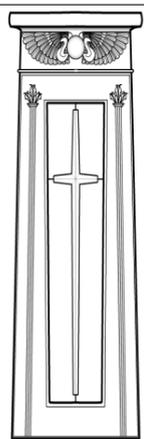
spending is 70 percent of the economy, and when wealth drops, they spend less. About 40 percent of consumer wealth is tied up in your house."

While the impact of mortgage and student debt on the American economy can be more easily tackled, it is difficult to tell how a slow-to-recover United States will impact the growth of European nations.

"Maybe there is more uncertainty among the banks, and maybe they wouldn't give out loans in Europe to firms that might hire more workers," Strohush said.

But if the personal debt situation in the United States gets much worse, this could create a bad climate for European banks.

"The debt level can affect overall uncertainty, so if there's a boom in debt here, uncertainty would be high in Europe," Strohush said.



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A team of Elon University computer science students participated in Battle of the Brains, sponsored by IBM, Nov. 5. While they were not one of the 105 teams that will go on to the world final of the competition in Warsaw, Poland, the competition provides real programming experience for participants.

Students compete in global programming competition

Nick Zanetti
Senior Reporter

Computer science majors from Elon University competed in the annual Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) International Collegiate Programming Contest against other students in the mid-Atlantic region at Duke University Nov. 5.

The contest, known popularly as the Battle of the Brains, is sponsored by IBM. Though Elon's team was not a finalist, 105 teams from regional winners worldwide will go on to compete in the world final of the competition in Warsaw, Poland.

The competition provides a reference and resume builder to all students involved, but the gold medal winners are offered an opportunity to work for IBM anywhere in the world.

The 36th annual ACM contest challenged teams of three students to use their programming skills to solve challenging, real world programs designed by computer science faculty around the country. Each team has one computer and five hours to solve as many problems as quickly as possible. Students are scored based on how quickly they answer a question and if their answer

is correct.

"The competition is really about problem solving, not just programming," said Doug Heintzman, director of strategy at IBM software group and sponsorship executive of the ICPC. "Programming is only a means to an end. This competition is about solving real world problems."

Elon entered two teams of three students into this year's regional round. While the competition is a professional asset for students who will be looking for work in programming fields, they also do it for fun.

"I thought it would be a good chance to hang out with people in your major that you don't necessarily have classes with," said senior Danielle Mullin. "It was also good to do programming in a competition setting because we don't usually have that environment in class."

Joel Hollingsworth, chair of the computing sciences department and coach of Elon's teams, said one of the biggest challenges the students faced during the competition was working as a team.

"Students have limited resources and will have to work together to use them in the most effective way possible," he said.

Hollingsworth organized a practice event online leading up to the competition where teams from Elon competed against students from High Point University.

"That helped to get us back into the swing of things," said junior Carter Kozak. "It helped us remember how to solve problems without having access to the Internet."

About 26,000 IT students will compete worldwide this year from 90 countries and six continents. The competition has grown tenfold since IBM began sponsoring it in 1997, when there were just 2,520 participants, according to a press release.

"When the competition started, it did not have the breadth and scope that it has now," Heintzman said. "After the Cold War, the world opened up, and it became apparent that there was talented people everywhere. The world is still getting smaller, and there is talent in all corners of it."

Heintzman said IBM works toward solving major societal problems like climate change and disease spread through IT, problems he said will be solved by future generations.

"It will take very bright people like the ones at this competition to find solutions to these problems," Heintzman said.

New Mormon organization in the works

Janae Frazier
Reporter

With construction of the new Multi-faith Center, it is only fitting that Elon University is in the process of forming a Latter-day Saints Student Association.

Sophomore Sarah Lau is the founder and president of the LDSSA, and said the new organization will create a community for Mormons on campus. Although Elon has numerous Christian organizations, she said, Mormonism is different than Protestantism.

"We have a different set of doctrines that we believe in," she said.

In addition to the Bible, the doctrine includes the Book of Mormon, Pearl of Great Price and the Doctrine and Covenants.

Lau also noted that Latter-day Saints interpret some aspects of the Bible differently, and Mormons are of the restored church that Jesus started.

"There wasn't something to be a beacon for other prospective students to come," Lau said. "There's nothing on Elon's website that says Elon has LDS students."

Lau said she only knows four other Mormon students and four faculty members who are Mormon. With the creation of this new organization, Lau hopes more Latter-day Saints will come to Elon.

"There is more diversity to be had," said Phil Smith, associate chaplain and director of Religious Life.

The university is looking to increase the representation of different religions on campus, he said.

"It's not only for Latter-day Saint students, but also for non-Latter-day Saint students who want to learn more," Lau said.

The organization wants to help students have a greater understanding of the religion and the Mormon culture and tradition.

One future event will be a Mormon mythbusters night to educate and disprove misconceptions about the faith. Lau said the LDSSA will also have a weekly gathering, dinners and other fellowship events.

The organization is currently in the developmental phase of becoming official, but Lau said she has received a lot of support from faculty.

"With the Latter-day Saints Student Association, my goal would be to support them as a new group," Smith said. "I'm excited to see the LDSSA come on board."

Religious Organizations at Elon

- Affinity
- Baptist Student Union
- Better Together
- Campus Outreach
- Catholic Campus Ministry
- College Life
- Elon Gospel Choir
- Elon Hillel
- InterVarsity Christian Fellowship
- Iron Tree Blooming Meditation Society
- LEAF
- Methodist Fellowship
- Muslim Student Association
- Sigma Alpha Omega

Innovation Challenge tests students' ingenuity

Nick Zanetti
Senior Reporter

Teams of up to 10 students will compete in the Elon University Innovation Challenge beginning this week, which requires students to add value to an everyday item by giving it an additional purpose.

Participants will create videos of no more than three minutes that demonstrate the value they have added to the mystery item, which will be revealed Nov. 10. Previous competition items include a water bottle and a newspaper.

"You can add any kind of value to the item. There's a lot of room for creativity," said sophomore Kavi Shelar, student organizer of the

Innovation Challenge.

The idea for the Innovation Challenge came from a similar contest at Stanford University, according to Shelar. The contest is unique to Elon, but all college students in North Carolina are encouraged to form teams.

Last year, one team increased the functionality of a water bottle by making a raft, which became a social commentary on Cuban immigration to the United States. Another finalist created a video of entertainment value in which the group made a humorous video of a water bottle car.

The videos must be completed by Nov. 14 at noon and will then be sent to a group of 10 to 12 entrepreneurship professors from other universities to

be judged.

"Usually the most creative video wins, as well as what would be the most successful and valuable item if it were actually made," Shelar said.

Donations will be made to the top three teams' charities of choice. The awards will be \$400 for first place, \$200 for second and \$100 for third.

In addition to the main prize, 10 to 15 of the best videos will be shown in LaRose Digital Theatre for the "audience prizes" Nov. 16. An audience will vote for categories of fan favorite, social concern and ingenuity. The winner of each category will receive a gift card of \$50 or more.

Freshman Dustin Swope and his teammates will be working to raise money and awareness for their

charity, Invisible Children.

"I thought the competition would be a good opportunity for our charity," he said.

Students participating said they hope to gain skills that will transfer to their future careers, as innovation is valued in many different job settings.

"You can apply entrepreneurship to anything," Shelar said. "Every company needs people with an entrepreneurial mindset because they recognize opportunities and take advantage of them on the spot."

The competition will be hosted by Student Entrepreneurial Enterprise Development (SEED) and the Doherty Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership.

Report illuminates history, helps healing

Panel discusses reconciliation in wake of Greensboro massacre

Rebecca Wickel
Design Editor

Imagine a shooting within walking distance of Elon University's campus.

It was an experience all too real for Cynthia Brown, who was a student at Bennett College in Greensboro Nov. 3, 1979, when five were killed and more injured during a civil rights demonstration.

Brown was one of six panelists who spoke Nov. 3 about the efforts of the Greensboro Truth and Reconciliation Commission, convened in 2003 in an attempt to better understand an event said to be plagued with cover-ups and corruption. After two years of work, the commission produced an extensive report founded in first-hand accounts and police records that attempts to shed light on what actually happened that day.

The seven members of the commission, which was modeled after a committee established to deal with the aftermath of apartheid, believe they have successfully created a report that accurately describes the tragedy.

"The research and development of the report was by far the most important thing," said Spoma Jovanovic, professor at University of North Carolina Greensboro. "I think it's a testimony to the value of conversation and extensive inquiry."

The research conducted



Willena Cannon (left), Cynthia Brown (middle) and Spoma Jovanovic (right) discussed effects of the Greensboro massacre.

by the commission exposed the stories of the protestors who were killed, their friends and family who escaped and the law enforcement that failed to deliver justice. The extent of the cover-up, they said, even stretched into the media, which failed to adequately address the involvement of the police force in the shooting.

"That commission was the truest form of democracy I've ever seen," said Willena Cannon, a demonstrator who was present at the massacre. "They pulled really what happened and put it in

a report, and today that report stands, rather than that horrible report they put together."

Panelists said they believe the process of examining the past to provide democracy for the present is a valuable form of justice. The panelists and victims of the massacre, were not seeking legal recourse for those who were found to be involved.

"The truth and reconciliation process can really bring up some issues for discussion in a world that is strewn with conflict," Jovanovic said. "The more that we can think about

ways to continue dealing with pain and finding ways to work together, the better."

The commission said it holds Greensboro law enforcement responsible for the tragedy. According to the commission, police knew about the Klan's plan to retaliate and the city still refuses to acknowledge involvement or truly apologize for its role in facilitating the slaughter.

"People in power concede nothing without demand," Brown said. "Even when you win battles, you have to remember that the war wages on."

Belk library adapts to new technology of digitized world

Grace Elkus
Senior Reporter

Emergent trends in digital media are forcing academic libraries to change the way they provide book content to their patrons, according to an article on Inside Higher Education.

Belk Library has responded to these trends by introducing new technology and focusing more on patron-initiated acquisition, which means the library relies on its patrons to tell it what to buy. This is especially important at a time when the library's annual budget, which is a little more than \$1,000,000, is not growing, according to Kate Hickey, dean of the library.

As time goes on, we won't be able to afford to buy things that we think somebody will use or we hope that somebody will use," Hickey said. "Most of the books that we buy now are requested directly

by faculty or librarians."

But students don't have to worry about the library not having a book they need. The library will either buy or borrow any book that a student or faculty requests, making the decision as to how to get it based on the specifics of the book.

"To buy [a book] is not just the cost of the book, but also of the shelf space," Hickey said. "But borrowing involves unpacking it and shipping costs. It's cheaper to buy a relatively inexpensive book than it is to ship it back and forth. But if it's a \$200 book for a senior thesis, we would probably borrow that."

The library responds to students' needs in more ways than just finding them a book.

Freshmen students have a specific librarian assigned to them, which is helpful for when they have questions or need assistance, according to Sundeep Mahendra,

the evening librarian.

The library also offers both a texting service and an Instant Messaging service for students who have questions but are not in the building.

"We try to reach out a lot more," Mahendra said. "We're always interested to hear what students want and what kind of services they want, and that's why we are trying things like the texting, and offering more resources in the library. We're interested to hear what's most helpful."

To keep up with the increasingly digitized world, the library invested in a fleet of six Kindles that students, faculty and staff can check out for two weeks. Although there are waiting lists for the Kindles, Hickey isn't rushing to buy more just yet.

"We used to check out laptops by the dozens every night, but there's not a demand for that because most students have theirs and bring them

with them," she said. "That may happen with the Kindle. People try them, if they like them then they'll spend the money buy one. And we may find a couple years from now no one interested in ours."

Even though more people are reading digitized books, Hickey is confident that print books will continue to exist.

"I don't think the print book is going to disappear," she said. "There's a lot of things that aren't digitized yet, and a lot of people who still grew up on the print format want to hold a book and turn the pages. Twenty years from now it will be different. I'm just not sure in what way."

Hickey is also confident that libraries that are resourceful and receptive will have no problem surviving.

"I've been listening to the death of the library for 40 years but libraries that are responsive to their users are busy," she said.

NEWS BRIEFS

Former student dies in fire

Connor McKeown, a former Elon University student who was unable to return this academic year died in a fire Thursday night, according to an email from Chaplain Jan Fuller.

A gathering of friends was held Wednesday, Nov. 9 at the labyrinth by Holt Chapel to express thoughts and memories of McKeown.

Ferry christened in honor of Elon University

The newest and largest ferry in the North Carolina Department of Transportation's fleet is associated with Elon University and was christened Monday at Mann's Harbor.

The DOT frequently affiliates ferries with in-state colleges and universities and about 200 people attended the ceremony to name the new ferry, the Motor Vessel Swan Quarter, in honor of Elon.

Bike path nixed in favor of DOT route

The city of Burlington is not going to create a new bike path because an existing route had already been designated by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. The bike route, which is along route 70, is not fully signed and Burlington will be working with the DOT to determine where new signage should be placed.

Elon University students place second in College Fed Challenge

A team of eight students from Elon University recently placed second in an open federal market simulation at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond's Charlotte Office. The competition, called the College Fed Challenge, required economics and business students to research and analyze data on current economics issues and create mock financial policies.

The Elon team, composed of juniors Thomas Gutierrez, George Piland, Charles Rice, Justin Wanner, Thomas Whyel and Jordan Duffey and seniors Brian McGerigle and Zachary Power, competed against numerous universities in the region. Jennifer Platania and Vitaliy Strohush, professors of economics, coached the team.

Senior class giving campaign begins

Members of the class of 2012 are encouraged to make a monetary gift to the university. A team of 21 seniors lead a committee working to make students knowledgeable about giving back and reach a goal of 30 percent involvement.

Correction

In the Nov. 2 issue of The Pendulum, Kirstin Ringelberg's name was misspelled.

Nov. 10 - Nov. 16

Nov. 10

- "A Thousand Thanks": 10:30-3:30 p.m., Koury Business Center
- Sigma Iota Epsilon initiation ceremony: 6-8 p.m., LaRose Digital Theatre

Nov. 11

- Team Hero care package drive: 2-5 p.m., outside alumni gym
- LGBTQ Office Open House: 2-4 p.m., Moseley 215

Nov. 12

- Rip_Chord fall show: 7:30 p.m., Whitley Auditorium, \$5 for students, \$8 for guests

Nov. 13

Nov. 14

- Entrepreneurship presentation with Mike Nelson: 4:15 p.m., LaRose Digital Theatre
- International Girls Day Celebration: 5-7 p.m., Oaks 212

Nov. 15

- Faces of Homelessness: 7:30 p.m., LaRose Digital Theatre

Nov. 16

- Elon Innovation Challenge award distribution: 4:15 p.m., LaRose Digital Theatre
- Conference on human fulfillment and meaning of work: 10:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m., Oaks 212

For more dates and information about campus events, visit the calendar on the Elon website.

International

Argentine college classrooms marked by relaxed, casual culture

Genevieve D'Cruz
International Reporter

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA — The typical, laid-back college experience in Argentina differs greatly from the stereotypical image of school in the United States.

Public education is free in Argentina, and it's clearly noted through the inner workings of the university, where there are multiple professors during one class session, students and professors arrive late and groups of students burst into classes to make announcements.

Students studying abroad have the choice to take courses from three different universities in Buenos Aires: Universidad de Buenos Aires (UBA), Universidad Católica de Argentina (UCA) and the Instituto Universitario Nacional del Arte (IUNA).

Universidad de Buenos Aires is the largest university in Argentina, while UBA is a private university and IUNA is an arts school. Although these three universities have different characteristics, they all have at least one thing that undoubtedly links them: mate culture.

Yerba mate is a South American herb native to Argentina and neighboring countries. It is used to make mate tea, which is shared with classmates or friends in any relaxed setting, ranging from the classroom to a park to an evening at a friend's house.

It can be served in a container made from wood, glass, aluminum or a gourd. In some parts of Argentina, mate is made with fruit juice, called terere, and in the summers cold mate is common.

Because mate tends to be bitter, some choose to add orange zest or other flavors to customize the drink, just as one might have a preferred type of coffee.

Sharing mate marks comfort, informality and friendship. Students bring it to their UBA and UCA classes and pass it around, and professors even share it while teaching. Many students sit in the courtyard at IUNA, drinking mate among friends.

Bringing mate into a classroom relaxes the learning environment, and suddenly everyone is on the same plane, including the professor.

"Drinking mate in class is as common and normal as drinking water," said Violeta Dorna, a student at both IUNA and UBA. "It's a way of



PHOTO SUBMITTED
The mate is the container that the tea, yerba, is drank from, and the bombilla is a metal straw that filters out the herbs. Mate can be served plain, with sugar, fruit juices or coffee beans.

sharing with your classmates. To pass around the mate during class, even to a student you don't know, relaxes the environment. Sometimes, the professor will also drink mate with the students, especially during breaks. It makes the classroom environment less formal, but there are also professors who still maintain a formal relationship with their students. It can vary between classes and professors."

In the past 30 years, drinking mate has become more acceptable in class

and is in no way disrespectful to the professor, Dorna said.

Clara Franchini, a staff member at FLACSO, the program CIEE partners with to send Elon University students to Buenos Aires, agreed and said it is an inherent tradition to student culture in Argentina.

"Mate allows the possibility of sharing something with someone without knowing them," she said. "And it's also a great way to stay awake during class."

INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

2,000 tourists being rescued from foothills of Mount Everest due to inclement weather

About 2,000 guides and tourists were stranded in the foothills of Mount Everest for several days when poor weather grounded flights from the area. The evacuation, led by the Nepalese government, also involved private helicopters, used to bring people to safety. Stranded travelers were given food and water.

While many tourists were able to secure space in hotels, many Nepalese guides reportedly slept outside and some hotels needed to turn dining rooms into temporary shelters.

A similar incident last year resulted in a severe shortage of food as tourists were stranded for about 15 days.

World weary as Iran shows signs of acquiring nuclear arms

Recent evidence collected by United Nations weapons inspectors indicates Iran has likely been working to develop its own nuclear weapons.

Because of inaccurate intelligence reports in 2003 regarding Iraq's collection of weapons, the UN team included a "credibility of information" section in its report, citing documentation of Iran's efforts to design a missile warhead, secure a source of uranium and other proof of its endeavors.

Details emerge in Murdoch case, James Murdoch testifies Thursday

James Murdoch will return to London to testify in Westminster Thursday. He will testify before a committee investigating a phone hacking scandal discovered earlier this year that involved the News Corporation. Documents released since the first round of questioning this summer as well as other revelations have brought Murdoch's account of events into question.

Murdoch, chief operating officer for the company and son of media giant Rupert Murdoch, will be questioned in regards to his knowledge of the use of phone hacking up to three years ago.

Italy's Berlusconi to resign from position as Prime Minister

Silvio Berlusconi, whose term as Italian prime minister has been rife with sex scandals and tales of corruption, is expected to resign following parliament's approval of a new finance plan.

Berlusconi's proposal includes amendments to rectify the country's monetary situation by employing austerity measures required by the European Union.

Italy is currently at its highest level of debt since the creation of the Euro in 1999.

Gay and transsexual officials mark historic Polish election

Anna Grodzka, a transsexual woman, and Robert Biedron, an openly gay man, took their seats in Polish Parliament Tuesday in an election marking vast social change in a nation previously defined by its strong affiliation with the Roman Catholic church.

Both Grodzka and Biedron are members of the Palikot's Movement, a newly developed, progressive party that recently became the third largest political group in parliament.

"It is a symbolic moment, but we owe this symbolism not to me but to the people of Poland because they made their choice," Grodzka told The Associated Press.

Correspondent's Corner



Kristen Olsen
International Reporter

DUBLIN — On a recent trip to Northern Ireland, we learned about the past conflicts between the Catholics and the Protestants. These conflicts have led to fighting in the north as recent as the 1990s.

During our visit to Belfast, we toured different neighborhoods which are still distinguished by people's religions. There is even a wall in the city that separates the two neighborhoods. While I knew a little about the conflicts before visiting, I couldn't believe the amount of segregation still present between the two groups. Most aspects of life in the north seem to come down to being either Protestant or Catholic and the littlest things such as how you say certain words or your last name often distinguish one's religion.

Coming from a country with such religious freedom, it's an eye-opening experience to visit a place where religion dictates so much about daily life and relationships.



Katie Moran
International Reporter

GALAPAGOS ISLAND — I have recently learned to not have expectations for anything. This is most specifically

referencing the Galapagos. You see BBC movies on it in biology class, and you hear about its beauty through the years, but all my expectations were proven incorrect when I got there. I didn't realize how volcanic all the islands are or how uninhabited they would be. The landscape is barren and stark at times, especially where there are lava tunnels and caves from the last eruptions. The wildlife is gorgeous and stunning but animals are not walking around every where as the BBC movies would have you believe. But the water is the clearest, most turquoise body of water I have ever seen and the native people of the Galapagos are all so proud of their land.



PHOTO SUBMITTED
Katie Moran stands by a giant tortoise at a breeding center in the Galapagos. The tortoise is more than 150 years old.

Editorial

CENSORED

Conflicting messages found across campus

Censorship.

It's a word and concept that should send a shiver down the spine of anyone who supports the First Amendment. And unfortunately, it's happening at Elon University.

Two weeks ago during College Coffee, the new Greek houses and Staley Hall in Colonnades were open for curious students and faculty members to wander and see what the inside looks like. Some students, like senior residence assistant Taylor Ferguson, volunteered to leave their doors open to those on tour.

When preparing for the tour, Ferguson was told by Residence Life staff that she needed to remove two posters hanging in her room because they might make people uncomfortable. One poster was of two women, clothed, kissing, and the other was of two women without any clothing, shot from the side, although neither genitalia nor nipples were visible. Above this poster was a sign that read "Lebanese," an homage to a "Glee" episode from last spring.

Dawn Morgan, the assistant director of residence life in Colonnades, said there is no Residence Life policy on the books about what decorations can or cannot be displayed in individual student rooms, so long as there are no fire hazards and there isn't an issue about the item between roommates. If this were the case, Morgan said a roommate meeting would be held.

But there was no fire hazard or roommate feud. Ferguson was simply displaying something she considers a part of her personal identity in the space in which she lives as a bisexual woman. And people in a position of authority told her this piece of her identity wasn't acceptable for others to view.

In other words, they censored her dorm room decorations for the sake of the assumed comfort level of others. Ferguson said she's never had anyone tell her these images make them uncomfortable and people who have heard this story call the poster removal ridiculous.

Adding to the conflicting



HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor

nature of the situation is the fact that Ferguson had violated Residence Life policies that are documented. Her bed is lofted beyond the allowed height and she has a stolen football sign in her room. The Residence Life staff chose what they wanted to enforce and in this case, that was censorship.

Meanwhile across campus in the Center for the Arts, the cast of "Hair" was gearing up to strip down. In the climactic conclusion of the first act, the performers removed as much of their clothing as they felt comfortable, and for many, that meant removing everything, standing completely naked on a stage in front of faculty, students, other visitors and even their own parents.

Although the lights were dimmed, the bodies of the performers were still visible and very little was left to the imagination. Audience members were warned with signs in the theater and one of the main characters joked about the upcoming scene in his opening monologue.

In the program, director Catherine McNeela wrote, "... my point of view as director was not to censor, nor require, the nudity, but rather to leave it as an individual option for each member of the company."

Same campus. Same student body. Completely different standards.

There have been an incredible number of emails this semester about tolerance and respect. Diversity is probably one of the most-used words in every Elon publication, speech and governing document. Any student leader can attest that supporting diversity is the topic that's been given the most attention.

Ferguson said in Residence Life training, diversity is similarly stressed and mock scenarios about handling differences between roommates with dissimilar backgrounds or belief systems are often brought up. The case that's often given is two students living together, one of which displays a lot of religious symbols. The two are

told to work it out and perhaps keep all religious items located on one side of the room. Ferguson said removing the items is never a possible solution.

As a community, we need to make a decision. Tolerate the human body or don't tolerate it. Respect the rights of students to express themselves or don't respect them. Accept that the human body can be seen by all or don't accept it. But choose quickly because sending mixed messages of tolerance in a place that has recently tried so desperately to preach respect is just plain frustrating.

And while we recognize the right Elon University, a private institution, has to censor its students' activities, it should abstain from this practice, especially when it includes silencing the voices touting the qualities Elon claims to value the most.

As for us, we urge the administration to ere on the side of "Hair," to let it all hang out and let those who celebrate the human body do so freely.

THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

The Pendulum is published each Wednesday of the academic year. The advertising and editorial copy deadline is 5 p.m. the Friday before publication. Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be typed and e-mailed with a telephone number for verification. Submissions are accepted as Word documents. The Pendulum reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters or columns may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned. You can reach The Pendulum by e-mail at pendulum@elon.edu. If you have questions or concerns about an article, contact a section editor. Please do not respond to reporters directly.

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On this week's opinions podcast, Topics, nudity and tolerance at Elon and Matt's Safe Schools law.

http://bit.ly/EPTopics11_8

See behind the scenes of the editorial photoshoot with members of the "Hair" cast as they bare it all for the camera.

<http://bit.ly/EPCensorship>

Read an additional editorial about the importance of local elections, especially here in the Town of Elon.

<http://bit.ly/EPVotingEd>

Opinions

In retail world, decking halls with signs of folly

Ever wonder why stores push gift cards during the holiday season? It's not because they genuinely want everyone to choose his or her own perfect present. I was once told by a manager it's because Christmas, despite the chaos of Black Friday, BOGO sales and mad rushes for last-minute stocking stuffers, isn't really as profitable as you might think. Revenue may be high leading up to Dec. 25, but the day after Christmas brings in millions of dollars in returns and exchanges.



Kassondra Cloos
Columnist

For almost three years, I worked at a chain clothing store where the impending holidays meant tired feet, staying hours past closing to clean up the mess left by impatient customers rifling carelessly through painstakingly folded shirts and cheesy training sessions on how to sell, sell, sell. I was hired for the holiday season before Halloween and was revolted by Christmas music long before Thanksgiving.

It seems like festive songs and the ads for holiday cheer are pushed up earlier and earlier each year, so much so that Reese's Christmas trees now directly compete with Reese's Halloween pumpkins. There are certainly more pressing issues than feeling forced to stress about holiday shopping for a few months rather than just a few weeks, but it's concerning to see how reliant our holiday happiness has become on the commercialization of Christmas.

The purpose surrounding a once family-oriented religious holiday has transformed into a universal American tradition for the sake of selling more stuff. Increasingly, we see commercials targeted at eliminating the "stress" the holidays cause. Satirical songs like "The 12 Pains of Christmas" score laughs because the inconveniences associated with months of preparation to orchestrate a single day hit close to home for almost everyone.

By extending the season to drive revenues higher, we make the holidays a sad reflection of our consumer-driven societal values rather than a happy, once-a-year occasion to take time to appreciate what



Holiday decorations like these wreaths have already taken over the seasonal section at the Alamance Crossing Target.

we already have, not what's waiting in disguise inside colorfully wrapped packages. We also draw a clear and unavoidable distinction between the haves — those who can afford to buy presents and decorations and take time off from work to spend with family or travel — and the have-nots — those who are forced to work even harder during the holidays to make up for those who don't have to.

Even family celebrations become a chore as hosts and hostesses are expected to impress the relatives with days' worth of cooking, meaning many families spend their holiday cleaning and stressing in preparation for others, including the infamous run-ins with "the in-laws."

Pushing up the holidays is fun for kids who get to spend more time adding to their lists of desired presents, but for the rest of us it puts a monetary value on what should be an intangible sense of community that can't be bought for any amount. And as quickly as the holidays sneak in, they're fast to dart out with close-out prices and shopping malls swamped with sale shoppers getting a head start on next year's decorations.



Trees and ornaments are already available for purchase and snowflakes dangle from the ceiling throughout Target.

One year, I worked at the mall from 9 p.m. Dec. 23 to 8 a.m. Christmas Eve. In about 12 hours, the whole season's work of hanging Christmas lights and posters of teens wearing winter white with smiles of holiday cheer was banished to the stockroom to make way for new arrivals. And guess what we started preparing for then? Spring.

Sorry excuse for justice

Michigan's 'license to bully' bill is shameful to former supporter

After more than six years pushing for legislation against bullying in Michigan, Kevin Epling thought he could rest easier knowing he helped make a change for troubled youth. Michigan is currently one of three states without a law prohibiting harassment in schools.



Rebecca Wickel
Columnist

That is, until Wednesday, Nov. 2, when the state Senate snuck in a clause ensuring that the bill "does not prohibit a statement of a sincerely held belief for moral conviction."

Epling's son Matt killed himself in 2002 after being bullied by upperclassmen in his high school. Would a law that prohibits bullying, unless in defense of a moral or religious belief, have prevented this tragedy?

Absolutely not. "Matt's Safe School Law" gives special rights to students to abuse LGBTQ kids because their religion forbids homosexuality. People are entitled to their religious beliefs, but not to abuse and to cause the suffering of another human being.

Lawmakers say the addition is intended to uphold First Amendment rights. That's just an excuse. The constitution does not protect anyone's ability to torment someone based on his or her sexuality, gender or religion.

I'm not saying students shouldn't be allowed to say "based on my religion, I

do not believe in gay marriage." That's fair, everyone is entitled to the tenets of his or her faith. But this law lets them say much more. It allows students that would declare the above statement to personally attack, confront, humiliate and devalue others.

This is not just about LGBTQ issues or an individual's religious beliefs. Remember the Holocaust? What about the Jim Crow South? The perpetrators of these heinous atrocities used their "sincerely held belief or moral conviction" to justify the slaughter and oppression of others. Bullying in schools may be on a smaller scale, but the same principles apply.

Democratic Michigan Sen. Gretchen Whitmer tearfully spoke out against the bill, begging the Senate not to support the injustice. But all 26 Republican senators voted in its favor. Despite 11 Democratic votes against it, the bill will now advance to the lower house.

Epling similarly released a video Nov. 3, holding the Republican members of the Michigan Senate responsible for giving a license to bully to a special protected class of students.

If the father of the bill, the father of the child for whom it is named, is against the legislation, doesn't that say it has obviously not accomplished its goal?

I am deeply saddened that Epling has to hear his son's name associated with this bill. After years of fighting for an end to the cruelty that caused Matt's death, he has come so close to accomplishing his goal. His struggle was in vain if the Senate allows this promotion of inequality to disrespect Matt's memory, and destroy the future of those bullied in school. The state of Michigan should be ashamed.

Beautifully mundane: the art of enjoying things simple, local

This past weekend, I was in the mood for an adventure. Without any idea of what we would find there,



Caitlin O'Donnell
Columnist

my friend and fellow Pendulum staff member Lauren Ramsdell and I set out for the small community of Graham, about 15 minutes from Elon's campus, ready to do some serious exploring.

We meandered up and down the quiet streets, looking for something that would catch our interest. There was the \$3 movie theater showing "Smurfs" throughout the afternoon. There were a number of law and realty offices with the shades drawn for the weekend. There was the Graham Soda Shop that we made a mental note to return to before we left.

Then, we just happened upon it — our adventure — at a quaint little shop simply known as the "Square Palette."

When we entered, we were met by tables with mismatched chairs covered with brushes, palettes and bright bottles of paint, by shelves lined with coffee mugs, figurines and vases ready for the touch of a painter's hand. But, most of all, we were welcomed by Martha Honus, the bustling co-owner of the shop who was prepared to help us create a masterpiece out of the plain coffee mugs we picked out.

For the next hour, we painted, we chit-chatted and we sang along to the radio. It was a comfortable time — she did not even know our names and yet there she was spending the afternoon with us, as if we'd known each other for years.

From Martha, I learned the art of blending colors for an effect she described as "sunset." I watched as she glazed other finished pieces with some messy green goop, before they went through the process known as "firing" to be completed.

And from Martha, we heard about the beauties of owning a small business in an even smaller town.

There's the young boy who comes in every day after school expecting to have Orangeade waiting for him. There's the man who brings his dog by regularly to check on how the business is going, since it's only been open a little more than a month. There's the local college student who is completing an art project with Martha's help, documenting every step of the process as her pieces are painted, glazed and eventually completed.

It was the kind of Saturday I love. Finding a place on a map or a local shop in town and just giving into the experience of it all.

When was the last time you put homework aside for the afternoon and just explored your surroundings? When was the last time you walked into a local shop or restaurant on a whim, not knowing exactly what you'd find, but entirely open to the experience?

It's easy to get caught up in the commercialism of it all. Everywhere we turn, we are surrounded by the big-name, national brands we have been trained to support. But while Moe's Monday and the dollar section at Target are certainly necessary experiences for any college student, don't get so lost that you forget to see the beauty of the local community and all it has to offer.

Everyone you meet has a story, so take the time to hear it.

And while the checkout lady at Kohl's may be perfectly nice, there's nothing quite like bonding with friends old and new over coffee mug painting and some classic Kelly Clarkson.

Style



HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor

The Graham Soda Shop serves classic diner food with a smile, according to residents. The shop has live entertainment 7 p.m. every Saturday night and has a 9-11 Legends Room for guests.



HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor

The Graham Cinema's previous owner Tim Matthews lives above the theater. He records jokes to accompany the telephone movie listings. His son Scott works at the cinema, keeping it a family business, despite ownership change.

Residents, visitors agree: Small town feeling alive in Graham

Rebecca Wickel
Design Editor

Friends call out to each other on Main Street. The local cinema advertises \$3 tickets. The same man owns the theater, the soda shop and the hardware store. The small town feel is unmistakable and the residents know it. Each light post wears a deep red banner reading: "Preserving our heritage, promoting our future."

The city of Graham is doing just that, despite the economic climate. Small towns are becoming a novelty, which encourages passersby to stop for a milkshake and hear about the area's history.

"People love small towns," said Tim Matthews, previous owner of the Graham Cinema. "The evidence of that is 'The Andy Griffith Show.' Everyone is laid-back, there's no traffic jams. Graham's got a little hustle and bustle, but it's still small."

Matthews owned and operated the cinema from 1984 to 2006. He recorded jokes on the theater's answering machine, giving him national acclaim from figures like Howard Stern and Jay Leno. Matthews said the famous joke line has drawn people to Graham.

"People used to come get their photos taken out in front of the theatre," he said. "Radio stations picked it up and we'd have folks coming from out of the state to see Graham and the cinema."

The small town feel extends

past the movie theater. Graham has enacted laws to keep the city atmosphere quaint.

Matthews said the city prohibits playing billiards on Sundays, spitting on the sidewalk and singing. Storefronts are not allowed to use neon signage if they did not already have it and all building exteriors must remain the same.

"There's a law that says you can't live with someone of the opposite sex," Matthews said. "They don't enforce most of them, but they're there to keep the town feeling small."

Business in Graham has been thriving under the established charm. Most stores were established many years ago and continue to operate successfully.

Dale Johnson, manager of the 51-year-old Colonial Hardware Company on Elm Street, has seen steady business since he began working there. He attributes Graham's growth to an active community.

"Christmas and summer are the busiest times," Johnson said. "The city has barbecue cook offs, a Sept. 11 memorial, car shows and a Christmas festival. Graham likes to shut down for special events, and that brings people from out of town."

The hardware store's charm is unmatched around the area. Johnson said every other independent hardware store in Alamance County has closed. Upgrading technology is not the solution, according to Johnson.

"We make our keys by

hand," he said. "Sometimes other stores send folks over here to get them done since their machines don't work."

Johnson said it's not just their service that keeps their doors open. Being in a small town builds relationships that last.

"We're good people with excellent personalities," he said. "Graham will remain that way."

Although businesspeople, tourists and residents alike are proud of the area's historic charm, some feel Graham is not all it appears to be.

"I'm here because it's a central area," said Brian Haran, owner of Fret Sounds, a guitar repair shop downtown. "I'd say it's a Catch-22. A lot of the small town charm is infiltrated by accessibility to cheap and not handmade goods."

Haran said some restaurants appear to be making home-cooked food with a smile, but not much around Graham is local.

"You can't throw a rock around here without hitting a cow, but why isn't there local beef? Same with produce," he said. "I think maybe Graham could go that way, but it's not there yet."

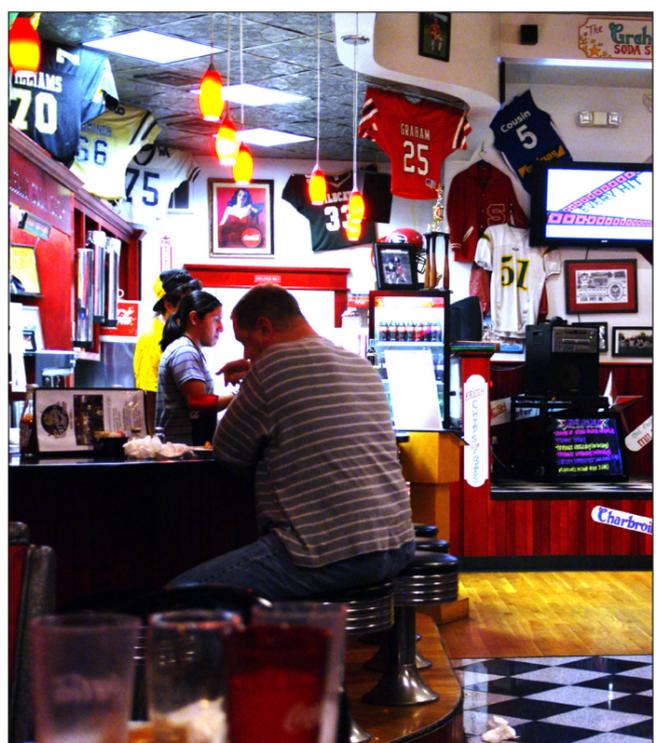
Despite the city's possible divergence from local, authentic, old-fashioned charm, people continue to flock to its shops and restaurants.

"People come out, take a ride to escape the traffic and grab a bite to eat," Haran said. "Other areas are more forward thinking, but it doesn't seem to be stopping anyone."



HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor

The antiquated Graham Cinema offers \$3 movies and free popcorn refills.



HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor

The Graham Soda Shop attracts both local residents and out-of-towners.

THE SWING

Rebecca Wickel visits Graham and meets residents at local businesses.

<http://bit.ly/theswing3>

'DEATH MASKS': students transform their faces through creative design



1. The person's hair is tucked under a skullcap to keep it out of the plaster mixture.



2. Plaster is poured carefully on the face. Moving even an eyelid could ruin this part.



3. Multiple layers of plaster are used to capture an impression of the person's face.



4. Before removing the mask, the plaster must be smoothed out to prevent cracks.



5. The plaster must be dry enough to remove. It continues drying off of the person.



Junior Rachel Jones holds a finished "death mask," ready to be used to mold prosthetic makeup. PHOTOS BY CLAIRE ESPARROS | Staff Photographer

Plaster masks precede prosthetic makeup

Kyra Gemberling
Design Editor

Chip Johnson had his first encounter with using masks and prosthetic pieces in order to become a 78-year-old headmaster in an original play called "Bippus, A, Um" when he was an undergraduate at Rollins College.

A few decades later, Johnson, who now works at Elon as an adjunct assistant professor of performing arts, followed his fascination with makeup design to teach classes on the subject. Students in his advanced makeup class are making their own "death masks."

"This is the first time we've had the advanced makeup class," Johnson said. "I teach the fundamentals in my first class and this is really the next step."

This next step requires students to create masks by making a plaster cast of their face and using the death mask as a foundation for making prosthetics out of latex pieces so they can create characters.

"Death mask' is just a term that's been used," Johnson said. "When you see the actual mask with the eyes closed, there is this kind of lifeless sense to it, hence the nickname."

The students' final project will be to design a character of their choice and use the prosthetic pieces to create their final design. Junior Rachel Jones said she hasn't decided what look to go for with her mask yet, but she's excited about the wide range of possibilities.

"We've been working on an old age project so I'll probably do something for that," Jones said. "I can also do some crazy things, like make a beak for myself or hobbit ears."

The opportunities for creativity in the advanced class is what sets it apart from the beginner class, Johnson said.

While the first class teaches basic aspects of makeup design such as correctional makeup, scars and bruises and fantasy makeup, the advanced class takes it a step further by using prosthetic pieces to be more creative with designs.

"We're looking at different styles," Johnson said. "It's a matter of having more tools in the toolbox for the makeup artist to be able to utilize."

The skills of a makeup artist come in handy in the realm of theatre by helping with the characterization of an actor's role, giving artists a significant role on set.

"As a designer, I think it's important for them to make the considerations that are given from the circumstances of the play," Johnson said. "(They have to) help clarify things about the character, such as where they're from and their age."

As for the current project, Johnson said he was happy to see his students jump in and get involved right from the start, even though the mask making process can be difficult, especially when making the plaster cast of each person's face.

"I wasn't sure exactly what to expect, so I was kind of nervous, but it was fine," Jones said. "As long as you relax, there are no problems. You just can't move your face and you have to keep your eyes tightly shut or else it can cause cracks in the mask."

Johnson hopes to offer the advanced class again in the future, and he would like to continue to do specialty projects, such as examining special effects with makeup design. But for now, he's content with a successful first attempt at teaching students the art of mask making.

"They have all seemed to be very enthusiastic about the project and the process," he said. "I'm pleased with how it's gone so far."

MORE ONLINE

Sit in on Professor Johnson's class and get a closer look at the masks.

<http://bit.ly/EPmasks>

KATHERINE WISE
Multimedia Contributor

Pinterest allows new form of expression

New social media site offers users visual bookmark bar

Rebecca Wickel
Design Editor

With Twitter and Facebook, it seems like life events do not happen unless a status update announces them. But the world of social media got a facelift, with the 2010 beta launch of digital bulletin boards that are gaining momentum on the Internet.

Pinterest, a network of users who post photos to personal collections, or "boards," is changing the way people interact on the Web. Pinners are able to access and express multiple parts of their personality, an advantage other social networks do not have.

"It's seeing people from a different side," said sophomore Alexa Carlin. "Like seeing them from what they like rather than just pictures of who they are."

When Carlin started using Pinterest in September, she said it was not the social phenomenon it is now. Its popularity at Elon exploded during the semester and now, most of her friends are pinning.

Students are not the only ones taking notice. Michelle Ferrier, associate professor of communications, requested an invite, hoping to discover how the interface helps users manage multiple interests.

"Social media has become more specific in allowing each of us to have multiple online identities," Ferrier said. "We are complex beings with multiple roles. Social media, like Google Plus and Pinterest, help us center our content around these multiple, dynamic niches."

Pinners are certainly able to function using multiple identities. Each user may create hundreds of boards based on any interest imaginable.

"On mine I have quotes, cute dogs, wedding things, preppy things, sorority life, sailing," Carlin said.

The screenshot shows the Pinterest website interface. At the top, there's a search bar and navigation links for 'Search', 'elon', 'Add', 'Boards', 'People', and 'About'. Below the navigation, it says 'Pinboards You Follow / Most Discussed / Everything'. The main content area displays a grid of boards created by 'ELON UNIVERSITY'. The boards include: 'Service Opportunities' (a group of people), 'Sports' (a football team), 'Musical Theater' (a performer on stage), 'The Pendulum' (a newspaper clipping), 'Greek Life' (a group of people in traditional dress), 'Club and Intramural Sports' (a group of athletes), 'InterVarsity' (a tree graphic), and 'Phoenix14 News' (a group of people). On the right side, there's a 'Created By' section for 'ELON UNIVERSITY' with the website 'www.elon.edu' and a 'Followers' section showing a grid of user avatars. Below that, there's a section for 'Elon's other pinboards' listing 'School of Communications', 'School of Business', 'School of Education', 'School of Arts and Sciences', and 'School of Health Sciences'. At the bottom right, it says 'CATE LESOURE | Graphics Editor'.

"Anything that interests you, you can put a board together. The possibilities are endless."

But pinning is not just for fun. Carlin has put Pinterest to practical use, now that her entire sorority is interacting on the site.

"We (had) a philanthropy event 'Mr. Alpha Chi' and we were looking for a T-shirt design," she said. "So I was looking through Pinterest. It was a way that we would have a stack of choices and it was just fun to go through them all."

While browsing Pinterest, Carlin said she does not need to worry about some issues prevalent on other social networking sites.

"It's all user driven, where Facebook has advertisements on the side that are tailored to you, and

Twitter has promoted tweets," she said.

Carlin also feels safer on Pinterest than on other sites, because she does not post pictures or information about herself. Rather, she links to other sites that have content or images she finds interesting.

Despite its differences from other sites, Pinterest still runs the risk of disconnecting younger users from reality.

"They are still teens struggling for their own identities, their own groups and their own place in the physical world," Ferrier said. "I would expect those same identity struggles will cause public vs. private, me vs. us, friend vs. outsider and independence vs. group dynamics to show up online as well. And at times it can be

a bit messy."

What she describes as "a visual RSS on steroids" has Ferrier concerned about young people taking social media for granted.

"Early adopters (of the Internet) were mainly adults who had already navigated their way through many identity issues in their younger years," she said.

But based on Pinterest's popularity, users young and old understand the opportunity it offers. Pinners can use the images they see on online stores, blogs, news sites and forums to create inspiring visual clusters, tailored to their multifaceted identities.

So prepare to add something new to your list of online activities. It's no longer just tweeting, poking and checking in. Happy pinning.

NaNoWriMo challenges participants to create

Brittany Washington
Reporter

Novelists sometimes say their story already existed before it was written down.

November is the time for aspiring novelists to finally put pen to paper.

This month is National Novel Writing Month, also known to avid writers as NaNoWriMo, an annual writing frenzy put on by The Office of Letters and Light, a nonprofit organization that develops free creative writing programs for children and adults around the world. The Office of Letters and Light's programs are "Web-enabled challenges with vibrant real world components designed to foster self-expression by building community on local and global levels," according to the site.

NaNoWriMo challenges writers to write a 50,000-word novel in one month. More than 200,000 people participated in 2010, including Elon sophomore Alice Sudlow.

"I don't remember the exact statistic, but I think roughly 17 percent of last year's writers passed 50,000 words. I was one of them, and I have the shirt to prove it," she said.

The tight timeframe and

seemingly insurmountable goal of 50,000 words causes many people to give up or just not finish by the Nov. 30 midnight deadline each year.

"NaNoWriMo was brutal and grueling, but loads of fun," Sudlow said. "It was tough to write 2,000 words a day on top of all the other assignments for actual classes. I think the hardest part was knowing that no matter how hard I worked one day or how late I stayed up one night trying to bring up my word count, I would have a break of just a few hours before I'd have to do it all over again."

Cody Greene, senior and editor-in-chief of Colonnades Art and Literary Journal, Elon's literary magazine, doesn't think it's possible to finish a novel in a month.

"What you can do in month is get some ideas on paper," Greene said. "I doubt that getting something polished, worth reading and frankly artistic is something you can do. What NaNoWriMo really is, is a great opportunity to write a lot."

NaNoWriMo has its own website where writers can track their progress, get support and meet other writers. The community is also encouraged to host and attend

write-ins, which are marathon writing sessions, in person at coffee shops and libraries.

Sudlow joined the NaNoWriMo website to keep track of her progress and get support.

"My favorite forum was one particularly set up to break writer's block," said Sudlow. "People posted random sentences, phrases, situations, quotes, characters, whatever, and anyone was free to steal an idea, provided they then posted one themselves. They also send out emails with pep talks from authors and encouraging videos from the Office of Letters and Light several times a week."

Sudlow wrote a fantasy adventure story titled, "Three Black Dots." The main character received a pink envelope with three black dots on it in the mail. Leading to other elements like dragons and the possible destruction of the world.

"(I wrote fantasy) mostly because I felt that would be easier," she said. "If I got stuck, hey, it's fantasy. I could make literally anything happen. That freedom was useful on several occasions but if you actually want to write a good book, it's not a technique I recommend."

Greene said he writes mainly short fiction, typically nowhere

near 50,000 words.

"I haven't participated," he said. "It's a pretty huge commitment and while I'm pretty cozy with my ability for short fiction, longer forms are still a little daunting."

It took associate professor of English Drew Perry five years to write his first, and recently published, novel, "This Is Just Exactly Like You."

"A novel certainly can't be written by me in a month," said associate English professor Drew Perry. "But that doesn't mean it can't be done by somebody else."

Perry said that to be successful in NaNoWriMo, writers must dedicate a significant amount of time to devote to their pursuit.

"Block out regular time at a regular space and try one's level best to avoid any and all distractions," he said.

English professor Tita Ramirez also had advice for students participating in the program.

"Make sure to write every day and try not to worry about editing as you go," she said. "Work just as hard as you can on producing a first draft, knowing that you'll revise next month. It would be a great exercise for learning how to keep the critic at bay and just produce work."

Sprinkles, frosting everywhere: cupcake decorating contest at McEwen Dining Hall



AL DRAGO | Photographer

Cupcakes were entered in to a decoration contest, won by three sophomores with a Phoenix-inspired design.

Edith Veremu
Copy Editor

A bit of vanilla frosting here, a spoonful of rainbow sprinkles there. Throw in some chocolate covered pretzels or Skittles and you've got yourself a delicious treat. That's what students at McEwen Dining Hall discovered at the Cupcake War Competition hosted by Dining Services.

The event, held on Nov. 2, was one of many planned for November, according to Kate Nelson, ARAMARK marketing manager. Each summer, Dining Services plans different events — some themed — as a way of getting students more involved with the office and to enhance their experiences in the dining facilities, Nelson said.

Dining Services often advertises these events on table tents, which is how freshman Hal Rhorer heard about the cupcake decorating event.

"We saw the table tents in Harden and we usually look at those to see what's going on," he said. "We saw the cupcake ad and decided we needed to attend."

While the event ran from 4:30-9 p.m., Rhorer and his friends arrived at the event promptly at 4:30 p.m., because they felt their participation was necessary, he said.

Toppings for vanilla and chocolate cupcakes included chocolate chips, sprinkles and less typical toppings like Lucky Charms cereal, crushed Oreos, M&M's, and, of course, frosting — chocolate, vanilla and orange colored.

Freshman Dean Shapero's

concoctions at the competition included a vanilla cupcake with chocolate frosting and a chocolate cake with orange frosting.

Shapero, who was unaware of the event before seeing it advertised, came across it when he was having dinner with his friends. He described his second cupcake as "autumn-flavored."

"It tastes like autumn, like Halloween, like fun activities," he said. "I'm not going to turn down a cupcake, especially if I can decorate it myself."

The cupcakes and decorations for the competition were made in Dining Services' Bake Shop located in Harden Dining Hall, Nelson said. All daily desserts are made at the location they are served.

Like Shapero, freshman Grace Cahill also didn't know the event was going on. She said she stumbled upon it when she came to McEwen for dinner.

"I thought it was recreational," Cahill said. "It was perfect."

Students had the opportunity to enter their cupcakes in the contest for a free retail combo meal, but some students didn't feel it was necessary.

"Just decorating my own cupcake and eating it was the only reward I want," Shapero said.

Other participants entered their cupcakes in the competition by submitting a photo of their creations to the Dining Services Facebook page. Winners were announced the following day: sophomores and friends Kalli Veldman, Danielle Baker and another friend showed off their Phoenix-inspired cupcake and will claim their prize.

Comedian combats racism, sexism through humor

Stephanie Butzer
Senior Reporter

Between her honesty on racism and her paranoid schizophrenic mother, comedian Tracey Ashley discussed a little of everything without apparent shame or regard for the audience's judgment.

The Student Union Board hosted Ashley as a part of SUBLaughs. This program brings comedians to campus to perform, usually in Irazu.

"It is basically the same thing as a SUBLive, but it is the first of the month with a comedian," said sophomore SUB member James Davies.

Ashley said her life was destined for comedy since she was born. A woman named Slappy May delivered her in a barn in Opa-locka, Fla., she said.

Even though her mother had paranoid schizophrenia, Ashley made light of the subject. She said her mom gave her the best advice: "Whatever you do with your life, be happy."

Her mother then proceeded to moonwalk into the kitchen.

"She nailed it, too," Ashley said. "That's what you do when you have a mental

illness — you say something profound and then you do a little dance."

Many of Ashley's stories focus on racism.

"I don't care about those kind of things, those things make me laugh," Ashley said.

Even as a child, she made fun of it and wondered why racism existed. She would tell people that

her dad, whom she never knew, was Batman and that nobody knew what color he really was under his costume.

She has experienced many situations involving racism. For example, one time a drunken white man asked if he could smell her. When her friend started to shoo the man away, Ashley stopped him, saying the man's reaction could be a good story.

The man said she smelled good, and Ashley asked if he was expecting to

"The musicians usually bring a very selective crowd, but laughter tends to be something that is universally enjoyed."

-James Davies
SUBLAUGHS REPRESENTATIVE

smell ribs, hickory or slavery. When the audience laughed at this joke, she said she was relieved because her story sometimes offended people. At one comedy club, she told the same tale and a woman stood up and, horrified, asked why she would mention that. Ashley responded by calmly assuring the woman that slavery had been abolished.

Even some complements she has received have a racist, or sexist undertone. At a comedy club, she was approached and told that for a woman, Ashley was really funny. She said that in the industry, a lot of people don't want to see a female comedian, but are pleasantly surprised when they do.

"It's like a slap in the face, but I know they're trying to compliment me," Ashley said.

Ashley bases her comedy around things she is passionate about. Racism and sexism are major themes, but she also pokes fun at domestic life.

"I talk about my life, now that I'm married, I talk about my husband, and

when we weren't married and were dating, I'd talk about my boyfriend," Ashley said. "I talk about race, I talk about a little sexism."

Ashley is married to, as she said, her best friend.

"We just lie around like a couple of pandas and watch football," she said. "We don't even cook the food, we just throw it at each other."

She doesn't want kids, although she said she loves them, and doesn't want to stop traveling for her shows.

"We're going to adopt some teenagers when we get in our '70s and make them mow the lawn and clean the house," Ashley said.

In her next phase, Ashley said she hopes to include more on her in-laws, and her relationship with them.

Comedians usually bring in a large audience because everybody can enjoy the performance, said Davies.

"The musicians usually bring a very selective crowd, but laughter tends to be something that is universally enjoyed," Davies said. "Especially with how stressed and busy students are here, it is important to relax and laugh a bit."

Sustainability baking contest promotes local, organic treats

Ashley Watkins
Reporter

Hot treats straight from the oven are as much a part of autumn as falling leaves and chunky sweaters. It's also a time of harvest and fresh, seasonal food.

The Office of Sustainability has developed monthly themes that promote green education and outreach. Sustainable food is November's theme, and the office is incorporating a baking contest to promote it.

"This is the first time an event like this has been hosted and we feel it is a great way for students to become more involved within the local farmers' community and also within the Office of Sustainability," said senior Kristi Jacobsen, an Elon

Sustainability intern.

Jacobsen said she hopes the contest will be a success so it can become an annual event.

"Overall, through this contest, we hope to convey the importance and simplicity of buying locally grown food," Jacobsen said. "Buying local food is incredibly important because it helps support the local economy and reduces the amount of fossil fuels burned during transport. Many local farms also sustainably produce their food by avoiding the use of harmful chemicals and genetic modification, so that's another reason to buy from the area."

The competition is open to all Elon University students, faculty, and staff.

To enter, contestants must submit a dish that has been made with an organic

ingredient or an ingredient grown locally in North Carolina. The final dish must be photographed and posted on the Elon Sustainability Facebook page or the November Local Baking Contest Facebook event page.

Submissions should include a basic description and details on where the local ingredient came from. Entries can be submitted at any time and winners will be selected Nov. 11, 18 and 30. Each winner will receive a \$20 gift card.

There are a wide variety of places to buy locally grown and sustainably grown foods nearby. The Company Shops Market in downtown Burlington offers a great variety of locally produced foods and many of the larger grocery stores also carry local produce. Nearby



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Office of Sustainability is hosting baking contest for tasty autumn snacks.

farmers' markets are Garden Valley Market in Burlington, Greensboro Farmers' market and Piedmont Triad Farmers' Market in Greensboro and State Farmers' Market in

Raleigh. More information about the contest and the Office of Sustainability can be found on the Sustainability at Elon Facebook page.

creating local fairytales

Once upon a time Zeta Phi Beta collected dresses to create happily ever afters

David Turkel
Reporter

Zeta Phi Beta sorority is putting a twist on a classic story with its Cinderella Project. By collecting prom

dresses for young women in the Burlington community who may not be able to afford one on their own, the sorority is helping create a fairytale for more than 150 high school girls.

The Cinderella Project started at Hugh M. Cummings High School in Burlington. Rhonda Robinson, a guidance counselor at Cummings, started what she called "Prom Closet" after coming to the school seven years ago, with the goal of providing free prom dresses to students.

When Samantha Simunyu, president of Zeta Phi Beta, approached Robinson about doing a service project to benefit the female students at Cummings, the two began discussing Prom Closet. From this, the Cinderella Project was born.

Our chapter has been actively involved in our community with programs that have impacted Alaman-

County," Simunyu said.

She said she has a particular enthusiasm for the Cinderella Project.

"It's an extremely neat way to foster effective change in the local community," she said.

Simunyu said the project will provide long-term benefits for the women it helps.

"As an organization founded on strong woman empowerment values we strive to provide the tools young women can use to be the leaders of their community, schools and future," she said.

While collecting dresses is at the heart of the Cinderella Project, Simunyu and the rest of Zeta Phi Beta have expanded on the original concept by creating a Boutique Day, which would allow interaction between the sorority and the recipients of the dresses.

"I don't want to merely drop off a big bag of dresses," Simunyu said. "I wanted the girls to feel special."

"Boutique Day" featured two educational workshops, a performance by the campus hip-hop group Elon's Finest, lunch, prizes and gifts. The boutique was then opened for the girls, and they were allowed to take home multiple dresses. In addition, a consultant from makeup company Mary Kay was available to give prom

makeup pointers, and all of the girls took home a Sephora goodie bag.

According to Simunyu, Boutique Day and the Cinderella Project in general have been successful with the young women of the Burlington community that it benefits.

"A lot of the young women were very thankful and were happy to have had the opportunity to participate in the event," she said.

Robinson agreed.

"It was a wonderful day," she said. "The students raved about the event and parents were more than complimentary of the activity."

Last year, Zeta Phi Beta was able to collect more than 150 dresses for this project. This year, with Graham High School added to the program, their goal has increased.

"To increase awareness of the cause, we are using as many marketing tactics as we can," Simunyu said.

The sorority chapter has started a Facebook and Twitter account for the event under the name "Tiara Couture."

"Ultimately, I'm only hoping to have as much success as we had last year," Simunyu said.



Junior Samantha Simunyu, Zeta Phi Beta president, and senior Shakinah Simeona, treasurer, will be in Moseley on November 11. They will wear the prom dresses to draw attention to their cause.

MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

Young talent wins first place in national film contest

Chalkboard animation video earns high school junior \$1,000 scholarship prize

Rebecca Wickel
Design Editor

It only took a chalkboard, camera, computer and four hours to earn \$1,000.

In September, IntelliVOL, a web-based tracking and reporting system for community service hours, sponsored a scholarship contest for high school students. Western Alamance High School junior Eric Lewis took home first prize for his two-minute chalkboard animation.

"I thought I'd have a good chance of getting at least one of the three prizes but I wasn't sure," Lewis said. "It was a good feeling. I've won other things before, it makes me happy for the rest of the day."

Without any formal video editing instruction, Lewis has a lot to be proud of.

"When I first got a camera five years ago I recorded myself doing stupid stuff like playing with fire," he said. "I just edited it from there and learned what I know along the way."

Despite this unconventional education, Lewis's video impressed IntelliVOL President and CEO Michele Pitman.

"Eric's chalkboard drawing message was simple and effective," Pitman said. "The winning videos communicated the importance of community service through drawings, personal experiences, music and text. They were all very creative."

Two other students were awarded scholarships for their entries and another received an honorable mention. Pitman said all the entries

were impressive.

"Selecting the winners was a difficult task because there were so many that were so great," she said. "Ultimately, each of the winners exhibited a different angle on community service yet they all communicated a message of the benefits of taking action in the community to make a positive difference in the lives of those around them and to strengthen the community that the live in."

The x2VOL video contest was not the first scholarship Lewis grabbed. During his sophomore year, he realized the Internet had thousands of opportunities for winning prize money.

"I've placed in for our five contests and I've only won twice," Lewis said. "But I've entered 30 or 40 contests in the past year."

Lewis has won more than \$3,500 in prize money from organizations such as DonorsChoose.org and RevereAmerica.org. He decided to invest his money in

buying equipment to continue making videos.

"The first camera I had was a Flip video camera, and I got that by selling Pokemon cards I had as a kid," Lewis said. "I used it to enter a contest and I won, so with that I bought a computer, a camera and some other stuff. It was an investment to enter another contest to get an even better camera."

With this new equipment, Lewis won another contest and put the prize money toward a new microphone. Although he considers these purchases useful for college, he will not be saving specifically for tuition yet.

"I'm waiting for the results of five contests right now," he said. "There's some that you can only spend the money on college, but the other ones I'm going to save for a car and a laptop, a few things that I'm trying to do before saving for college."

Lewis's goal is to save enough for half his tuition, so he can continue to earn scholarships and awards during his junior and senior years at university.

He hopes to attend Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va., to pursue his interests in theater and video.

"I'm actually going there next week to visit for the first time," Lewis said. "I've heard about it, and I've watched every single video they have on YouTube, like 400 videos this summer."

Whatever he decides to study in school, Lewis expects to do great things. In his x2VOL scholarship submission, he emphasized the importance of community and cooperation. IntelliVOL hopes he will continue to value these ideals.

"We are very happy to provide Eric with a \$1,000 scholarship to pursue his college education," Pitman said. "Students like Eric understand that they can make a difference through service."



Western Alamance High School junior Eric Lewis won \$1,000 in a national video competition. His chalkboard animation film was created without any formal video training.

MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

Top-6: best fall accessories

Stay cozy and trendy in autumn's chill

Justine Vadini
Senior Reporter

With the leaves changing and a fresh chill in the air, Elon University is more beautiful than ever. But the leaves aren't the only things that should change with the season. Your wardrobe should also transform with the bold hues of fall, so be sure to make room for snuggly sweaters and coats to keep you warm, healthy and looking great. Here are the top-6 fall fashion essentials for the season.



TRACY RAETZ | Photographer

1. Infinity scarf: As you pile on the layers to stay warm, your average scarf can get lost and tangled amidst all the tweed and fleece. The Infinity scarf is a trendy and practical solution. It is essentially a normal scarf, but with the ends sewn together. Try one in the season's hottest color, red, and stay super cozy by purchasing one that's wool or knit.

2. Fall boots with high knit socks: Whether you opt for brown suede or black leather boots, mix it up this fall and pair your kicks with some high knit socks in any color. For ankle boots, scrunch them down so they peek out just over the top of the boot.

3. Nordic patterned sweaters: You could go ironic with this trend or keep it low-key and chic. Think Bill Cosby. To be chic, find a thinner fabric or keep it monochromatic. Make sure you don't wear baggy pants with these heavy-duty insulators.

4. Coats: Leather, peacoat and fleece are these season's winners. Choose camel or winter white-hued leather, this year's popular styles. Make your pea coat pop with a deep plum or mustard yellow color. For optimum coziness, go for the classic fall fleece. For a fashion-forward fleece coat, buy it in a bright primary color.

5. Statement glasses: Think 1955 at Rydell High, but the nerds win over the T-Birds this time. Popular styles are found in black or tortoise frames. You can dress them up or down and make them preppy or edgy, depending on your choice of accessories.

6. Ponchos: These are easy to wear. You don't have to waste time looking for sleeves in an oversized winter jacket. This recycled fashion trend is one of the season's hottest and can be paired with almost anything in a standard wardrobe. Want to splurge a little? Cashmere is heaven. For the more frugal, wool and yarn options are both affordable and found in just about any clothing store.

the Swing

Watch The Swing at <http://bit.ly/theswing3>

Liquor by the drink vote

We interview Senior Reporter Natalie Allison who covered the recent referendum on selling liquor in bars in the town of Elon.

Editorial Photoshoot

Go behind the scenes of the The Pendulum's editorial page's revealing photoshoot and hear from the models in the picture about Elon University's contradictory stances on nudity.

N.C. Small Towns

Design Editor Rebecca Wickel reports on the sights and sounds of Graham, one of North Carolina's historic hotspots.

Sidewalk talk with Juila

Last week Elon Trustee Vicky Hunt and her husband donated \$500,000 to fund construction of a new softball field. Julia Boyd asks students what they would give Elon if they had \$500 million.

pendulum



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Nightmare in Happy Valley

Joe Paterno should be glad he's 84. At least now he can provide a senility defense if somebody brings up the fact that his statement contradicts information in the grand jury indictment of former Penn State University defensive coordinator Jerry Sandusky.



Adam Lawson
Columnist

Paterno can also take solace in knowing that after the Sandusky scandal inevitably leads to Paterno's resignation/termination as head coach that he can say he coached for 62 years under the façade of doing things the right way.

This is the type of thing that stains a legacy. And I'm not talking about a small ketchup stain. I'm thinking gasoline and lit matches being thrown onto the JoePa we thought we knew just last week.

For those late to the party, Sandusky is being charged with 40 criminal counts of sex abuse for his actions toward under-aged boys. JoePa had direct knowledge of an incident involving one of his victims, and he did little about it.

In 2002, according to the grand jury's 23-page summary of the Sandusky investigation, graduate assistant Mike McQueary walked into the Penn State locker room to find Sandusky, in the shower, sodomizing a boy about 10 years old.

A distraught McQueary told Paterno of the incident the next day. Instead of doing the right thing and going to the police, Paterno chose to inform athletic director Tim Curley. According to Paterno's testimony, he reported that McQueary had seen Sandusky "in the Lasch Building showers fondling or doing something of a sexual nature to a young boy."

Wait a second.

That makes it clear Paterno knew something wrong went down. Which begs the question: Why did Paterno deny knowledge of the incident in his statement to the public this week?

"While I did what I was supposed to with the one charge brought to my attention, like anyone else involved I can't help but be deeply saddened these matters are alleged to have occurred," he said.

Paterno went on to say the following: "As my grand jury testimony stated, I was informed in 2002 by an assistant coach that he had witnessed an incident in the shower of our locker room facility. It was clear that the witness saw something very inappropriate involving Mr. Sandusky. As Coach Sandusky was retired from our coaching staff at the time, I referred the matter to university administrators."

This is JoePa denying all responsibility. He claims to not have knowledge of what happened but he testified that something inappropriate occurred. In a case involving sexual abuse of a child, you go to the police, not the athletic director.

Curley has stepped down. So has University Vice President Gary Schultz. Paterno should be next to lose his job.

He had a moral, if not legal, obligation to inform the police. He is the czar of Happy Valley.

This scandal is big news. It will result in the end of Paterno's 62-year coaching career. And the stain of this incident will be something Paterno won't be able to recover from.

It doesn't matter that Paterno has the most wins in Division I football history. Years from now, when people look back at the JoePa era, the first thing they'll examine will be the tragedy that was Jerry Sandusky, and how Paterno had the power to stop him and refused to do so.

Athletics continues changes with addition of softball field

Sam Calvert
Online Managing Editor

Since Dave Blank, director of athletics, took the reins, Elon University has hired new head coaches for half of its teams and built two new buildings, while four others facilities have been renovated.

This was all in six years, and another new athletic site is on the way.

"We're trying to get all the facilities as advanced as possible," Blank said. "There was not enough attention to the softball field in recent years, so this was one of our top priorities."

In late October, Elon Athletics received a lead gift of \$500,000 from board of trustee Vicky Hunt and her husband, Sam, to kick off the funding for the new softball stadium. In recognition, the stadium will be named Hunt Softball Park.

The rest of this semester will involve more fundraising, and then construction will begin in three phases.

The first phase will include the actual field, the dugouts, a scoreboard, a press box and stadium seating and lighting.

"Everything that you would need to play softball will be put in phase one," Blank said.

From there, a clubhouse with locker rooms, more seating, a reception area and a concession stand will be added in subsequent phases.

But right now, all that is tangible is a parking lot.

"Once that ground breaks, it'll be reality," interim head coach Kathy Bocock said. "But even now, there's nothing but excitement."

The new softball field will be located across Williamson Avenue from the baseball stadium on North Campus.



A \$500,000 donation by Vicky Hunt and her husband, Sam, will be used to construct the stadium. PHOTO SUBMITTED

This proximity to the baseball stadium will be beneficial for both the players and fans, Bocock said. When both teams have games staggered on the same day, fans can walk from one stadium to another and catch all the action.

"Softball and baseball go hand-in-hand," Bocock said. "This will add a lot more of that by putting it together."

The new stadium will also help with recruiting, she said, bringing in a new level of talent that is associated with nicer facilities.

"Elon is such a great place to be that we get a lot of ladies interested in coming up here," Bocock said. "This new stadium will draw even better ability than we already get. It'll push us up to the next level."

Recruiting can oftentimes bring Elon into competition with bigger ACC and SEC schools, and with facilities more fitting of a Division I school,

the Phoenix will have more leverage, she said.

"We're going to be as good, if not better, than those guys, in terms of facilities," Bocock said.

This new softball complex is only one part of what Elon Athletics has been doing across the board, including building Alumni Field House and renovating Alumni Gym and Latham Park.

"They are all parts of the plan," Blank said. "It's just a matter of how to fund them. Some come sooner than others."

Construction will begin on this project in spring 2012 and the projected finish is spring 2013. That means this season will be the last for the softball team on its old field in East Campus.

And when the final game is played in May, Elon Athletics will close yet another chapter in its book as it faces change once more.

ELON ATHLETICS ROUNDUP

RESULTS

Men's Soccer
Nov. 6
Elon 1
Georgia Southern 0

Men's Basketball
Nov. 3
Elon 96
Washington and Lee 48

Women's Basketball
Nov. 6
Elon 73
Wingate 67

Volleyball
Nov. 4
Samford 3
Elon 0

Nov. 5
Elon 3
Chattanooga 0

LOOKING AHEAD

Friday
Men's Soccer vs. Furman in SoCon Tournament Semifinals — 6:30 p.m. in Boone.
Men's basketball @ UMass — 9 p.m.

Saturday
Cross country @ NCAA Regionals — All day
Football @ Furman — 1:30 p.m.

Women's basketball vs. Virginia Union — 2 p.m.

Sunday
Volleyball vs. The Citadel — 2 p.m.

Tuesday
Men's basketball vs. South Carolina — 7 p.m.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Men's golf finishes season

The men's golf team finished 15th in the Amelia National Intercollegiate Tuesday to end the team's fall season.

Sophomore Stuart Kaufman had the low score for the Phoenix, shooting a 224 to finish in a tie for 29th. Senior Tanner Norton finished tied for 63rd with a 234. Junior Eric Stone tied for 71st with a total score of 240.

University of North Florida finished first in the 15-team tournament, while Texas A&M University and Georgia Southern University rounded out the top three.

Two named to men's soccer All-SoCon Teams

Elon senior midfielder Nick Millington and freshman defender Austin Dunker were recognized by the Southern Conference for their play this season.

Millington, a co-captain, started 18 of 19 games, scoring one goal and recording two assists. He was named to the All-SoCon second team.

Dunker started 16 games and recorded one assist and was named to the SoCon All-Freshman Team. Dunker was part of a Phoenix back line that recorded seven shutouts this season.

Eddy named SoCon volleyball player of the week

Junior middle blocker Celia Rose Eddy was named the Southern Conference Offensive Player of the Week Monday.

Eddy recorded at total of 12 kills, including a career-high 11 on 13 attempts against Chattanooga Nov. 5, in two matches this past weekend.

Eddy is second on the team in attack percentage at 35.6 percent and has 92 kills on the season.

Runner sprints onto movie set

Jordan Scahill
Reporter

Elon University's men's cross country runner Nick Schneider steals second, sliding into the base just before the ball hits the fielder's glove. A natural runner, Schneider acted in a baseball movie, "Gibsonburg," about a comeback team from Gibsonburg, Ohio, this summer.

"Gibsonburg" is based on a true story about the 2005 state championship high school baseball team. The team went into the playoffs with a 6-17 record, overcoming the odds and ending the season with eight consecutive victories and a state title.

The Golden Bears are the only Ohio high school team to win a state championship with a losing overall record (14-17).

"It is an inspiring story that was a lot of fun to play a part in," Schneider said.

Schneider plays one of the athletes on the team, chosen specifically for his role as the speedster for the Golden Bears. Schneider ran the ninth fastest 5,000-meter time in Elon history last year.

"My character is quick and can steal bases," Schneider said. "I am also a jokester and play a part in the love story in the film."

The baseball scenes were filmed at three Columbus-area high schools close to Schneider's home. There were

also a number of scenes in "Gibsonburg's Ideal Bakery," which serves as a hangout for the high school players.

An exercise sports science major, Schneider fell into the role because of a family connection. The writer and director of the film, Bob Mahaffey, is a close family friend who also has a son Schneider's age in college.

"I loved getting to know other actors, and it was really interesting to see how the whole process works," Schneider said. "From the filming to the acting and watching them edit the material."

A few big names such as comedian and actress Judy Tenuta and rising star Lili Reinhart are other actors in the film. Behind the reins of Gibsonburg is an Emmy-award winning cinematographer

Ginger Kathrens, along with assistant director Jessica Bown and award-winning music producer Kelly Bryarly.

With a \$200,000 budget to shoot the film, most of the actors are college-aged students like Schneider, looking to make their big

break into the business.

After taking some time to edit the film, Mahaffey plans on entering Gibsonburg in the Sundance, Tribeca and Toronto film festivals in 2012.

"Hopefully I can use this to lead into another role in the future," Schneider said. "It

is important to put yourself out there for experiences like this because you never know what may happen."

The trailer for the film can be found online, along with the movie's website and social media pages. There is no official release date yet.



Sophomore Nick Schneider of the men's cross country team spent his summer playing the role of a baseball player in the film "Gibsonburg." MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

Volleyball team fighting for playoff spot

Adam Lawson
Reporter

Thanks in no small part to Georgia Southern University, the Elon University volleyball team's playoff odds took a turn for the better this weekend.

While the Phoenix was busy sweeping its match against the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, the Eagles put a downer on Western Carolina University's

Senior Night, helping the Phoenix get to within a game and a half of the Southern Conference North Division's final playoff spot.

The weekend couldn't have started off worse for the Phoenix. Elon's losing streak hit four in a row with a three-set loss to Samford University Friday. It wasn't all about Samford's dominance, either. Elon hurt itself with hitting errors. They committed 23 in the defeat, with 14 of those

coming in the first set.

"It's hard to win when you have that many errors," head coach Mary Tandler said.

But the Phoenix came out eager to snap its losing streak and erase the memories of an October loss to the Mocs, a team that was 3-16 entering its first match with Elon.

"That was terrible," junior middle blocker Rose Eddy said of the loss at Chattanooga. "None of us expected that."

This match was different.

After winning the first two sets with identical 25-23 scores, Elon breezed through the third with a 25-13 win to take the match. Eddy's height advantage was a huge edge throughout the match. The 6'3" junior had 11 kills on 13 attempts for a .846 hitting percentage.

"I can touch the rim sometimes when I try really hard," Eddy said. "It's gotta be tough to not be as tall."

With the win and Western Carolina's

subsequent

loss, the Phoenix enters this weekend with a reasonable shot at making the SoCon

Tournament field. Both of Elon's remaining

games are in Alumni Gym, against a UNC Greensboro

team it took to five sets before dropping in late September

and against The Citadel, who are just 1-13 in SoCon

play.

Meanwhile, Western Carolina has three games left. Two of those games are against the top two teams in the North, at Samford and home against

Appalachian State University Nov. 8. Western Carolina also has to travel to Chattanooga. If the Phoenix wins out and WCU loses two of three, Elon makes the field of eight for the SoCon tournament.

But for Elon to get there, players will have to erase the memories of their Sept. 23 loss. In that first matchup against the Spartans, UNCG's outside hitters had their way with the Elon defense. Karrian Chambers and Ariel Newman each had 21 kills on the night, career highs for both players.

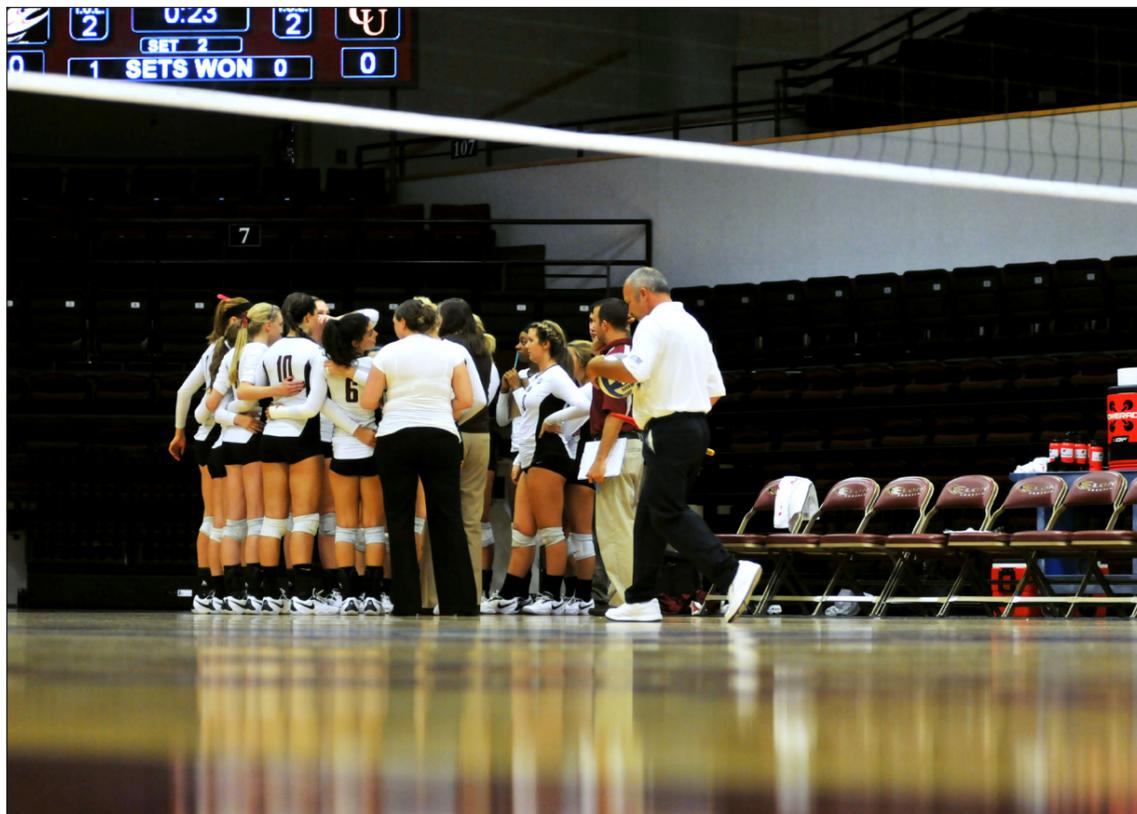
"They're really aggressive," Tandler said of the UNCG outside hitters. "Hopefully we can do a better job (Friday)."

After its matchup with the Spartans, Elon's final task is a Senior Day game against The Citadel. The Bulldogs have lost 40 of their 46 Southern Conference sets this season; before Saturday night's win over the Wofford College, The Citadel was winless in the conference. It's a scenario Eddy remembers all too well.

In 2009, Eddy's freshman year, the Catamounts were 0-15 in SoCon play before winning their last match, a 5-set victory over the Phoenix. But unlike 2009, this year Elon will have something to play for.

Eddy was so confident after the team's win over Chattanooga that she guaranteed a win over The Citadel this Sunday.

"It's not going to happen again," Eddy said of losing to the conference's worst team. "All we can do is win and hope everything works out."



The volleyball team has a 17-13 overall record and a Southern Conference record of 5-9 with just two games remaining on the team's schedule. FILE PHOTO BY HEATHER CASSANO

Back to basics, football faces Furman

Zachary Horner
Assistant Sports Editor

Three straight losses have left the Elon University football team in a hole with two games left against plus-.500 teams.

Head coach Jason Sweptson took the bye week to work on the essentials.

"We did a lot of individual work and going back to the basics," Sweptson said.

That included not turning the ball over, tackling and blocking, he said.

The Phoenix, 4-5 overall and 2-4 in the Southern Conference face Furman University in Greenville, S.C. Saturday, in its second-to-last game of the season before taking on Appalachian State University in the finale Nov. 19.

"These last two games have been circled on my calendar since I got the schedule," senior tight end Andre Labinowicz said.

Sweptson echoed Labinowicz's excitement for the last stretch of the season.

"I'm anxious for these two games because I believe we've got a group of seniors who are going to take us to a winning season," Sweptson said.

One of those seniors, running back Jamal Shuman, remains suspended indefinitely following some comments he made on Twitter after Elon's loss to Wofford College Oct. 29.

"He took it like a man," Sweptson said. "He knew what he did was wrong. He's working on his image. He's still part of our team."

But Sweptson does not think that Shuman will play on Senior Day, saying that decision will be made after the Furman game.

The Paladins (6-3, 5-2) who are ranked No. 21 in the FCS, are on a roll as of late, racking up three straight wins against tough opponents: Wofford Oct. 22, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Oct. 29 and Appalachian State Nov. 5. Both

Wofford and Chattanooga have already defeated Elon this year and the Phoenix take on Appalachian State Nov. 19.

"They're doing a great job of moving the chains and staying on schedule," Sweptson said. "Elon's defense will be challenged but we'll be ready for them."

The Paladins and their pro-style offense are led by senior quarterback Chris Forcier, who was named the SoCon Offensive Player of the Week after completing nine of 16 passes for 224 yards and two touchdowns and rushed for 64 yards against Appalachian State. Forcier is third in the SoCon in passing yards per game (195.0) and first in passing touchdowns with 19.

"Right now he's at a high level, making smart decisions out there," Sweptson said. "He's probably playing the best in the conference."

On defense, Elon junior quarterback Thomas Wilson, second behind Forcier with 17 passing touchdowns this season, will have to deal with Furman junior linebacker Mitch McGrath.

"That's somebody we've got to focus on," Sweptson said. "Tremendous speed, great awareness. He's basically a blitzing linebacker."

The Phoenix's turnover struggles have continued. After an interception and a fumble by junior David Wood on a punt return against Wofford (both of which led to Terrier touchdowns), Elon has 31 turnovers on the season, second in the FCS to Jackson State University, while Wilson's 18 picks are first. Furman has the best turnover margin in the SoCon at plus 1.11.

To pull off a big win, the Phoenix must hold onto the ball and play tight defense against a confident offense.

"They're playing with confidence and a belief they can win," Sweptson said of Furman. "We're running out of games but hopefully we can put two together."



Elon University's football team is 4-5 overall heading into this week's game at Furman University. FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO

Young man's game: coach's path changed after injury

Kacey Stark
Reporter

Standing on the sidelines, Bobby Blick, a tight end at North Carolina State University, watched his teammates' time, sweat and endless weeks of practice come to fruition. During the previous weeks of summer training, the sophomore tore his ACL, a moment that would forever reshape his role in the game.

As a sophomore, Blick was offered a position on the coaching staff while he was rehabbing from his injury. The season before his senior year he was met with the choice of remaining on the coaching staff as a Graduate Assistant, or returning to the team knowing the previous season rehabbing on the sidelines would mean little to no playing time.

Blick said the level of responsibility that continued to grow as he was on staff had increased an interest in coaching. Though he had always looked up to his father, a high school football coach, he had never planned that his career would begin so early.

Though at first it was hard watching his teammates from the sidelines, Blick said that everything happens for a reason. He was disappointed he could no longer play, but in the end, things "took a turn for the good."

"At times people are defined by what they do, but God will then rearrange their priorities," Blick said.

After years of diligently training, adjusting to who he

was without the jersey was difficult. Blick said that this experience has enabled him to support other athletes who will also have to discover who they are apart from the sport that they are passionate about.

From N.C. State to Elon University

Blick continued to coach at NC State for four seasons. When Jason Sweptson took over as head coach at Elon University, he brought Blick on staff as the tight ends coach.

Sweptson said that Blick offered "too many positives not to hire him," along with the fact that his wife and daughter made it clear they would "hate" him if he did not hire Blick. Sweptson said Blick did a "fantastic job on staff and has a bright future." Sweptson also noted that it was helpful having a younger coach on staff who was aware of current social media trends and could connect with the team.

A Young Man's Game

Blick said that being a younger coach on staff is an asset.

"It's something I've always kind of liked, being that I got into coaching early," Blick said.

Though he always was interested in coaching, he wouldn't have planned his career to start at such a young age.

"The Lord works in mysterious ways, and He led me early. So I guess that

relating with the team has always been kind of my niche," Blick said. "Dad used to tell me, 'it's a young man's game' to be able to relate and communicate on the field is what it's all about."

Matt Eastman, a junior tight end, said that he enjoys working with Blick.

"He's younger than a lot of the coaches on staff, so you know, he's just cooler, honestly, he's just cooler," Eastman said. "We have a great time in our tight end meetings; we joke and laugh, and at the same time we study film and we stay in longer than any other position group. We just have a good time working hard and learning the plays."

Plus Blick knows what it's like being in college.

"He's a little bit more in tune to what college is actually like. He understands what we do, and he understands our commitments on and off the field," Eastman said. "He's just easy to relate with."

Coaching Tight Ends

Eastman is new to the tight end position this season. He formerly played as a fullback, and said that at first he was frustrated with the change. He said working with Blick has been very helpful in learning the position.

"I'm much further along because of him," Eastman said. "He does a really good job of explaining technique. He's been really patient with me."

Eastman said Blick is the type of coach to pull you aside and address specific

issues, rather than abrasive yelling.

"He's starting to pick up on my mannerisms, he knows when I'm getting annoyed," Eastman said. "It just shows how connected he is with his players. He knows when I'm upset about something or I'm not learning something, and I'm trying to pretend like I know what's going on. He's definitely made the transition better, not just from a play-learning standpoint but from a mental standpoint."

Blick's perspective on coaching is that every athlete is wired differently.

"I like getting to know people and figure out how they work," he said. Blick said that if a player knows you care, he's almost always willing to work hard for you.

Blick said that what he loves about coaching is the relationships built. His dad, a high school coach, is his inspiration.

"He had such an impact on the players' lives that they always showed up at the house just to check in on him," Blick said. "That kind of led me into coaching. I coach for the relationships, the impact that you can have on people."

More than Football Plays

Blick says he hopes to make a positive impact, following the example of his father.

"I would love at the end of my coaching career for somebody to just say, man you helped me out a lot, you had an impact on my life, because of you I did this," Blick said. "That's why I coach. I love it."

Though he said he loves the "emotion" of the game, and loves the sport, for him coaching is more about the relationships than football.

Blick's spring break trip to aid victims of Hurricane Katrina made a visibly positive impact in one community.

"I think in a way, I'm a little bit more mature just because I can see how he carries himself," Eastman said. "He's not just this old guy teaching me plays and nothing else. If I have something that happens off the field I know I can go and talk to him, and I have." Though Eastman jokingly says he doesn't want to admit he looks up to Blick, he says, "I have a tremendous amount of respect for him."

In the future, Blick said he hopes to become a head coach. Though his first years on the sidelines were tough, Blick has embraced the coaching role and has admirable goals to teach more than just football plays.

His attitude embodies what he says is the most valuable advice he's received.

"Control the things that you can control and don't worry about the things you can't," he said. "My grandpa was a marine, and he used to say, 'FIDO' -forget it and drive on. That was one thing I always told myself, just because one door closes, another door is gonna open. Nothing good ever happens without first being positive. When times get tough, be able to rebound and keep moving forward. Know that's what you want to do, and what feel called to do, and nothing will stop you."

Men's basketball to open season with tests against UMass, South Carolina

Justin Veldhuis
Sports Editor

College basketball is back.

For the Elon University men's basketball team, the season begins with a handful of changes. Fresh uniforms, including names on the back, new bodies on the court and new hecklers in the crowd with updated chants anticipating opposing teams arrivals starting Nov. 15.

The Phoenix will open its regular season schedule with a stretch of non-conference games starting with a 9 p.m. matchup Friday, Nov. 11 against the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

"It's a great opportunity to start the season for us," head coach Matt Matheny said. "It's an Atlantic 10 team with a great basketball history."

Elon will face UMass in an arena known as "The Cage" and is expecting a sellout crowd, Matheny said.

"To put our guys in a situation where they're gonna play in a hostile environment against an Atlantic 10 team that has an extraordinary history is what we want for our program," he said. "We want to play in those kind of environments against those teams because we know we'll get better."

The team will return to Alumni Gym for its home opener at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15 against the University of South Carolina. The game marks the first time a team from a Bowl Championship Series Conference will play in Alumni Gym for what Matheny expects to be a "major challenge."

Phoenix hoops fans caught their first glimpse of the team in game action Nov. 3 when Elon blasted Washington and Lee University by 48 points in a 96-48 win in the team's only exhibition game this season.

Sophomore guard Jack Isenbarger led all scorers with 20 points and also grabbed a team-high nine rebounds. Senior guard Drew Spradlin and sophomore forward Lucas Troutman each added 14 points. Troutman also had nine rebounds and three blocks in the win.

Matheny played every man on the roster and experimented with different combinations of players on the floor. The team's starting lineup consisted of Spradlin and sophomores Ryley Beaumont, Sebastian Koch, Isenbarger and Troutman, yet Matheny said the coaching staff will

continue to test different lineups early in the season.

The team's improved depth and versatility allows the Phoenix to play more like the coaching staff wants this season, Matheny said, which is to extend its pressure defensively and get out and run in transition.

"That's the luxury we have this year," Isenbarger said. "We can play a lot of different rotations. We're deeper than we've been and our freshmen are very talented and can come in and contribute. And with that overseas trip they got implemented quicker."

Those freshmen include guards Austin Hamilton and Kevin Blake, along with forward Ryan Winters, each of whom saw the first action of his Elon career.

Hamilton, a quick guard with polished passing skills, played 17 minutes off the bench and had a stat line of four points, seven assists, three steals and no turnovers in his debut.

"Austin has a great feel for the game," Matheny said. "He sees the game very well and a lot of what he did was natural because he's still learning our system."

Hamilton said he will do whatever is needed from him to help the team this season, whether "it's getting my guys the ball to make shots or making shots my self or playing good defense."

Blake can flat out jump. He has out of the gym hops. The 6-foot-3-inch



Sophomore forward Lucas Troutman scored 14 points and added nine rebounds and three blocked shots in the Phoenix's 96-48 win Nov. 3.

guard from Toronto made his claim for the team's highest vertical with a dunk and another drive that brought the crowd in Alumni Gym to its feet.

"He doesn't jump; he flies," Matheny said.

Winters, son of former NBA player Brian Winters, is a 6-foot-7-inch forward who Matheny said "knows the game," but is adjusting its college level speed.

That speed of the game and a raucous crowd at UMass will challenge the newcomers and the rest of the Phoenix Friday night.

"They're a very athletic team and it's gonna be a good

test for us," Hamilton said. "We're excited to get out there."



Junior guard Josh Bonney had a team-high three steals in 13 minutes.

Men's soccer upsets Georgia Southern in SoCon tournament

Kyle Maher
Reporter

The Elon University men's soccer team defeated Georgia Southern University 1-0 in the quarterfinals of the Southern Conference tournament Nov. 6 in Statesboro, Ga. Elon will face second-seeded Furman University at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 11 in Boone.

The Phoenix, the sixth seed in the tournament, entered the game 6-10-2 overall, 2-5 in the SoCon while the third-seeded Eagles came in 8-7-1 overall, 4-3 in conference play.

A goal by junior midfielder Gabe Latigue in the 48th minute proved to be the difference, as Elon upset Georgia Southern 1-0. By winning Nov. 6, Elon was able to avenge its 4-2 loss to Georgia Southern earlier this year at Rudd Field.

"The team showed great character, determination and resiliency to keep a clean sheet," head coach Darren Powell said. "We scored a good goal to start the second half and we were able to hold on against a talented GSU team."

Elon dominated large stretches of the game, outshooting the Eagles 14-10 with an 8-3 advantage in

the second half. The Elon defense was able to hold the Eagles' potent offensive attack scoreless, which was an important factor, according to Powell.

"The team had a strong focus today and stuck to our game plan," Powell said. "Our team was hard to break down today, so all in all a good team defensive display."

Powell knew how important it was for his team to get this first win in the tournament, especially playing on the road.

"The team knows that to achieve one of our goals we have to win the games in the playoffs," he said. "So to get the first win is massive, as it allows our season to continue into next week. Having been on the road, we will be prepared for next weekend also. Our focus is now firmly on next Friday's match."

To have any shot at an NCAA tournament berth, the Phoenix must win the SoCon Championship, something it has never done.

The team reached the championship game only once before, in 2009, when the Phoenix advanced to the title game against Wofford College.

MORE ONLINE

This week, the sports desk discusses the Penn State situation and the NBA lockout on the Sports Jam.

Online Thursday

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HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor

All week reporters and the online team write and create content about local events for the paper and website. Every Monday night staff members work together to copy edit and design the paper.

Newspaper seeks talented students for incoming staff

The Pendulum
Elon University Student Newspaper

The Pendulum is looking for well qualified applicants with a thirst for news, strong writing abilities, photography skills, energy for page design and/or a willingness to work online with video, audio and other multimedia tools. Some positions require five office hours a week and come with a weekly stipend.

"I joined The Pendulum as a junior after transferring here from another university and it was the best decision I could have made," said Rebecca Wickel, design editor. "It's a family here, but it's also a great place to develop professionally. I'm surrounded by students with so many versatile talents, there is always something to learn from another staff member."

While the print edition is still the heart and soul of The Pendulum, it is also quickly transitioning toward a news organization with great strides into the online world. It welcomes students who are willing to shoot video and photos, create podcasts, interactive graphics and produce Soundslides photo essays.

Earlier this semester, The Pendulum launched The Swing, a weekly webcast that serves as a supplement to the print edition.

"The Swing is really ahead of the curve," said Christopher Bosak, executive producer. "Other news organizations like The New York Times have just started creating webcasts."

I think it's going to become a really significant part of The Pendulum in the near future."

The Pendulum, which has been honored with a national Pacemaker award, is a highly creative environment, seeking intelligent, committed and driven students. If you fit that description, then apply immediately regardless of your major or year.

"Seeing how my work has affected the Elon community has been a real testament to what one reporter is capable of," said Kassondra Cloos, news editor. "The Pendulum strives for great diversity of thought and every student should want to take part in shaping our community."

Applications are available online at elon.edu/pendulum and are due Nov. 21 by 5 p.m. Applications can be dropped off at The Pendulum office on the third floor of the Elon Town Center or emailed to Caitlin O'Donnell at codonnell6@elon.edu.

MORE ONLINE

Download applications, read complete job descriptions and email questions to Caitlin O'Donnell, editor-in-chief elect.

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