



BRINGING HOME THE GOLD

Communications professor wins Emmy for production work at 2010 Olympics

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PERFORMING ARTS INDOORS AND OUT

Dancers take over Elon's campus

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THE PENDULUM

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MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

The introduction of new All-Access meal plans has resulted in increased traffic in dining halls, while retail locations such as Acorn Coffee Shop, Octagon Cafe and Varsity Sports Grille have seen a decline.

Meal plans get a facelift, but not without side effects

Decrease in customers at retail locations, as students report crowded dining halls

Kate Riley
Copy Editor

Elon University student surveys reported the past meal plan system was the best in the region, noted for its variety in food options and dining locations. Elon's former meal plan system was in the top 4 percent in the country, according to ARAMARK representatives, but now, with a new meal plan system enacted on campus, the reaction from students and the consequences for dining locations have not been as positive.

Unlike the previous plan, which provided students with the option of five, 10, 15 or 19 meal combinations per week, the new basic plan for freshmen and sophomores is "all-access," which provides them with unlimited visits to the three dining halls on campus. At an

additional cost, they can purchase seven or 14 combination swipes per week to be used at Elon's retail locations.

While ARAMARK representatives insist the change reflects Elon's mission, retail locations on campus have experienced a sharp decline in weekly customers, while dining halls have become overcrowded.

Campus Reality

Max Akhlaghi, manager of Acorn Coffee Shop, has seen firsthand the effects of the new meal plan system.

"When this semester started, I was looking at the numbers and I was concerned about it," Akhlaghi said. "But as time passes, the number of students seems to be getting higher, and I'm not too far from where I was last year."

Despite Akhlaghi's claims,

ARAMARK statistics show that the number of sales at Acorn has decreased so far this semester compared to September 2010. Last year, the number of students who ate at Acorn in a given week was between 3,500 and 4,000. For the first week of September, the number decreased by 436 visits, a trend that has steadily continued. There were decreases of 623 and 872 visits in the second and third weeks, respectively.

These statistics include the number of students using meal dollars, Phoenix Cash and other forms of payment, as well as meal swipes. Some students do not have combo meal swipes or run out and may have to use these forms of payment to purchase a meal.

Akhlaghi said he regularly pays for students who don't have meal dollars, food dollars or meal plans.

"I don't think that students will give

up on Acorn because they ran out of meal dollars," he said. "But if they do come here and they don't have the mean of pay for (a meal), I use my card and pay for them. It's something that I don't want to talk about, but I do it on a daily basis."

Other retail locations, including 1889 Grill Room, Octagon Cafe and Varsity Sports Grille, have all had a decrease in the number of student customers. 1889 has had as much as a 52 percent decrease in students since this time in 2010, Octagon a 34 percent decrease and Varsity a 22 percent decrease.

Statistics show more students are frequenting the dining halls. But without a disruption. Colonnades Dining Hall has seen as 67 percent increase since the school year began,

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Elon identifies first-generation students on campus

Kassondra Cloos
News Editor

For the first time in its history, Elon University identified the number of first-generation college students in the incoming freshmen class. The Class of 2015 has about 89 first-generation students, defined as students whose parents did not attend college, regardless of grandparents' educational experiences.

First-generation students are an incredibly diverse dynamic, according to Lauren Flinn, assistant director of the Multicultural Center. They come from wealthy households, as well as low-income families, may have attended public or private high school and may or may not be minority students, she said.

"A first-generation college student is diversity, because they are bringing

a different perspective, a totally different voice to the classroom," Flinn said. "They, more often than not, tend to challenge the status quo — what is status quo — and that's really important for any institution, any democracy in general, to have those different kinds of voices because they tend to come from very different places."

Becky Olive-Taylor, associate dean of Academic Support, was a first-generation college student when she was an undergraduate and has developed a discussion and support group for first-generation students at Elon. The group, called First in the Family, had its first meeting Thursday, Sept. 22 and two students attended.

Olive-Taylor is working to increase awareness about the group so more students will get involved and a meeting time has not yet been finalized.

"I think this is going to evolve," she

said. "I don't have an agenda, I really want it to come from the kids. So my role initially will be to try to get the word out, and if there's a need, a real need, the students will come. And they're right, food always helps."

Olive-Taylor and Flinn said there are many challenges for first-generation students aside from academics. In Flinn's experience working with first-generation students at Elon, academics are hardly an issue. She said she has seen that their grades are often noticeably higher than those of their peers.

Where first-generation students tend to struggle is with social and cultural norms typical of a college campus they may have never experienced, she said.

"When they get to college, research shows it's not so much that they struggle academically but more in the environment here because of

the cultural norms of the unlearned expectations that are at a college," Flinn said. "This weekend is a perfect example, parent's weekend. When I was in college, I was like 'what is this?' Even our orientation program is very family-focused. Parents stay for a good day and a half."

Although first-generation college students are only identified in the Class of 2015, there are many first-generation students in other classes as well. The Odyssey and Watson Scholars programs are need-based scholarship programs that were recently expanded and many of the students in the programs are also first-generation.

"You might be first-generation or low income but that's not what got you here," Flinn said. "Those things didn't get you here. Your own talent and strength and resilience and hard work, that's what got you here."

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Memory of late instructor preserved through bench dedication

Kassandra Cloos
News Editor

A bench was dedicated last week in memory of Melody van Lidth de Jeude, a faculty member in the School of Communications whose death over the summer came as a surprise to the Elon community. Van Lidth de Jeude taught approximately one-fifth of the current student body through her many sections of public speaking and other courses, according to Paul Parsons, dean of the School of Communications.

"We remember Melody always wearing a smile," Parsons said. "She was a wonderful teacher, and we miss her."

Janet Fuller, university chaplain, gave an opening statement and a closing prayer at the dedication. Philip van Lidth de Jeude, her husband, and a former student both spoke of her positive impact. Parsons read quotes from members of the Elon community who submitted memories of Melody, and her genuine happiness and care for others were common themes.

"I never heard her say 'hate' in any context," said Parsons, quoting Anthony Hatcher, professor of communications. "Even to say, innocuously, 'I hate Mondays.'"

Sophomore Jordan Only, who took

public speaking with van Lidth de Jeude, said she and other students referred to her as "Hey Melody." She had the power to get students excited for class, even sections at 8 a.m., and took the time to connect with every student, according to Only.

"Hey Melody was willing to enforce the stereotype that at Elon, you're not just a number," Only said.

The dedicated bench is outside the McEwen School of Communications. Philip van Lidth de Jeude said his son told him a bench was a very fitting way to keep his mother's spirit in the minds of others.

"Mom always loved to sit on a bench outside, watch the people go by, think about what she was doing, say hello to whoever stopped to say hello," Philip van Lidth de Jeude quoted his son. "I think I can truly say that even when she didn't know it yet, Melody was all about communication and she was all about teaching."

Van Lidth de Jeude's family often joked she had "B positive" blood, Philip van Lidth de Jeude said, because it was challenging to get her to be negative about anyone or anything.

"She always wanted to remain upbeat, even right to the end," he said. "I'll tell you, the last couple of months, she just wanted to make sure



A bench was given in van Lidth de Jeude's honor.



Phillip van Lidth de Jeude spoke fondly of his wife.

she finished the semester, she wanted to make sure she finished what she was doing with her students. But she didn't want anybody to know what was happening."

Van Lidth de Jeude's passion for Elon and her students was always amazing, Philip van Lidth de Jeude said, and

he thanked the Elon community for providing meaning to her life and offering their support in recent months.

"She passed away feeling that she had accomplished what she had set out to do," he said. "And let's face it, guys, that is perhaps the best thing that anybody can feel."

Communications professor wins third Emmy

Katherine Blunt
Reporter

The annual Emmy Awards ceremony acknowledges that one of the greatest measures of success is recognition. Exceptional talent, that which raises the already elite standards of the television production industry, is awarded.

Redefining "the best" is by no means easy, but Max Negin, a communications professor at Elon University, wasn't daunted by the prospect.

Negin was recently awarded an Emmy for his production work at the Vancouver Olympics, the third of his career.

Negin started weaving his vast web of contacts as an undergraduate at Rowan University and began working at ESPN after graduation.

"The way to get most of these jobs is the networks that you build while you're in school," Negin said. "The professors are great and have great connections, but I got most of my jobs through connections with classmates or co-workers."

A contact at ESPN helped secure Negin a position at Comcast Sports Network, which he held for a brief time before teaching at Camden County Technical School in New Jersey. He made his name known by freelancing while working full-time as a teacher.

Not long after Negin began covering sports games with local broadcasting stations, Jon Slobotkin, the producer for the Philadelphia Phillies at the time, called Negin and asked him to learn a new tapeless recording system

called Ecrisure Video Simulation, EVS. Of the three men charged with the task, Negin was the only one able to master the skills needed.

"I learned how to run the machine, called an Elvis, by trial and error, asking questions and having a really patient producer," Negin said.

Slobotkin then asked Negin to travel with the team to cover both home and away games, a proposition he eagerly accepted. The production team he joined was awarded an Emmy for its coverage of the last Phillies game at the Veterans Stadium Sept. 28, 2003.

"Doing that particular show was an honor," said Slobotkin, now vice president and executive producer at Comcast Sports Group. "Max's efforts were extraordinary. Without all the skills he brought, no one would have recognized that as the award-winning show. In all the games I've worked and all the places I've traveled, I've never worked with anyone as skilled as Max at the EVS position. There is nobody better than him."

Despite his demonstrated talent as an EVS operator, Negin later switched to a more stationary job working in promotions at FOX Philadelphia.

"Promotion is totally different from doing video," he said. "It's a hybrid between sales and news. It was a time to learn more editing skills and more story telling skills."

During his first year at FOX, Negin was nominated for an Emmy for editing, and during his second year, he was awarded an Emmy for writing promotional announcements.

"The award is individual by name, but I didn't do it (by myself)," Negin



Max Negin, assistant professor in the School of Communications, was awarded his third Emmy for his work as part of the NBC studio production team during the 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

said. "One of the keys (to success) is being able to work well with others. It's one of the biggest skills you have to learn."

When the management structure at FOX changed, Negin became the broadcast coordinator for the Philadelphia 76ers and also spent time editing for HBO. A connection through that job landed Negin a position with NBC, covering the 2006 U.S. Open. He then had the opportunity to serve as the digital

replay operator during the Olympics in both Beijing and Vancouver with NBC. With his production team in Vancouver, Negin was awarded his third Emmy, a tribute to his work ethic and ability to work with others.

"You do have to have talent to succeed, without question. But how you present yourself and how you act in a group of people makes a huge difference," Negin said. "In the long run, it'll catch up with you if you're not able to get along with others."

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the **swing**

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New meal plans intended to reflect university goals

MEAL PLANS from PAGE 1

Harden Dining Hall a 79.8 percent increase and McEwen Dining Hall a 94.5 percent increase since the same week last year.

ARAMARK's Reasoning

According to Jeff Gazda, resident district manager at ARAMARK, while surveys consistently ranked Elon's meal plan system as one of the best, there was one area that required improvement — price-value perception.

The price-value perception, as Gazda put it, refers to the perceived amount of value students get for the price they are paying for their meal plan. It was these regional and national survey results, combined with results from online chat rooms and live focus groups, which led ARAMARK representatives to conclude that students wanted unlimited access to dining halls, in turn causing retail locations to lose student meal swipes.

The three dining halls, Harden, McEwen and Colonnades, are close to numerous living locations on campus and prompted ARAMARK to align with Elon's move to create more on-campus housing, according to Gazda.

"If we are going to build a residential campus, we are going to build facilities that have a more retail feel, more complex culinary palette," Gazda said.

One of the main reasons the meal plan changed, he said, was that not enough people were going to the dining halls and that the retail locations were overcrowded. And, according to Gazda, it takes more money to keep a dining hall running, which is why more swipes were needed at locations such as McEwen, Colonnades and Harden.

Gazda said ARAMARK was "trying

to meet the needs of the university" with the structure of the new meal plan.

"What these retail locations are losing is some residential meal swipes," Gazda said. "What we had last year were two residential dining facilities in Harden and McEwen that were losing swipes which was a much bigger waste of resources."

Students React

It is the students on campus that are directly affected by the change in the meal plan system. Alexandra Sherry, freshman anthropology and international studies double major, said she both likes and dislikes the new system.

"I like having All-Access because I can just go in and swipe in the dining halls at any time," she said. "But with the basic you don't get very much money at any other locations to eat. I (live) in North Area so I like how Harden is really conveniently located, but I don't like how there's not many options over the weekend for places to eat with the Basic All-Access."

She said if she could have the All-Access Plus seven or Plus 14, she would eat more at the retail locations.

"If I would change anything, it would be to have more options on the all-access basic rather than just the three dining halls," she said.

Freshman Megan McCaffrey, a psychology and music performance double major, said her rehearsal schedule creates limited time for her to eat at a dining hall.

"I really enjoy how the All-Access meal plan allows me to eat as much as I want," she said. "If I were to change anything about the meal plans this year, I would bring back cheaper



JULIA SAYERS | Staff Photographer

Students can purchase seven or 14 combo swipes in addition to All-Access at dining halls.

options for students like me who don't have time to eat on a regular basis at a dining facility."

Although this is true for many students, some have resisted the meal plan changes.

Sophomore Veronica Lee, a sophomore theatrical design and production double major, experienced the meal plan system from last year and said she prefers it.

"I think that the dining halls are extremely overcrowded, especially during peak hours," Lee said. "I think that one reason for this is because of the setup of the dining halls which doesn't allow for quick service or enough seating accommodations. I think that the all-access plan doesn't help this problem because now more people are required to eat there, making them busier and more congested."

According to an informal poll taken by The Pendulum on Facebook, 45 of the 49 students who responded said Elon should have kept the old meal plan, there aren't enough opportunities to go to their favorite places or they wish that the All-Access meal plans rolled over from week to week.

Lee also said she prefers the old meal plan system because some students cannot afford the All-Access meal plans and they don't allow students to eat at whatever food establishments they want at the time.

"I would bring back what we had last year because, from what I can remember, no one complained about (the meal plans) because they didn't restrict people to certain places," she said, "and the price was reasonable given that there weren't limitations on where we could eat."

Elon Centre Abroad in London revised, beginning fall 2012

Katy Steele
Reporter

The Elon Centre Abroad in London will be all new starting fall 2012. The changes come after Elon spent almost two years reviewing the program, ultimately deciding to change partnerships from the Anglo American Education Services to the Foundation for International Education.

"From the perspective of a student, there will be more alike than there will be different, but the differences will all be positive," said Woody Pelton, dean of International Programs.

The new program offers an expanded course catalog with 20 to 30 academic courses compared to the four or five offered in the current program, according to Heidi White, associate director for study abroad.

"I think it's just deepening what we had before," White said. "There's more opportunities and they're slightly different."

Students will now also be required to take a key course through FIE, which is a class offered in a variety of fields with a specialized focus on London

or the UK. Additionally, students will be required to participate in an experimental learning course involving either an internship, a service learning course or a research component.

"I know that classes are important," said senior Jacki Higgins, who went abroad with the Elon London Center last spring, "but I worry that this new program will be so intense that the students won't want to, or won't have the time to go exploring."

But one major advantage to the program change, according to Pelton, is that Elon students will now be immersed with students from other universities rather than only studying and living with others from Elon, addressing one of students' main concerns.

"I really wanted to interact with students outside of Elon and other than Americans," said senior Sarah Clancy, who went abroad with the Elon Centre in London last spring. "At times it felt like we brought the Elon bubble with us and were floating around London in it."

In the current program students have to commute on the tube system or take a very long walk to get to

class, according to Pelton, but the new program will house students within walking distance of the academic buildings. But for some students, the 30-minute commute was a part of being integrated in the city's culture.

"I felt like a part of the London life having to ride the bus or tube to get to class," Higgins said. "It gave me time to people watch."

Senior Ian Boyd, who also studied with the Elon Centre in London last spring, said although he loved his experience in London, he was pleased to hear about the changes being made.

"The students who experience the new London program will be very lucky people," he said.

Senior Kara Schillings, who studied abroad at the Elon Centre in London her sophomore year, said when she returned to Elon her London cohort took a few complaints to the Isabella Cannon International Centre concerning the venue where they took classes in London, and also issues they experienced with the housing company being "unprofessional and unresponsive."

Under the new company, the cost



JULIA SAYERS | Staff Photographer

The Isabella Cannon International Centre will go through a different host organization, instead of the current organization Anglo-American, for the revised London program.

of the program will not be drastically different, according to Pelton.

"Will it go up?" he said. "Yes. But it goes up every year."

Elon establishes scholarships with grant from National Science Foundation

Nick Zanetti
Senior Reporter

The National Science Foundation has awarded Elon University \$1.2 million for the training of math and science teachers as part of its Robert Noyce scholarship program. The grant money will fund student scholarships and stipends to subsidize internships at local schools.

Six math, biology, chemistry or physics students will be awarded \$21,900 each during their junior and senior years and Elon will award 18 students in total. The awards are the largest academic scholarships the university has ever awarded.

The purpose of the program is to recruit, prepare and support future math and science teachers, according to Jeff Carpenter assistant professor of

education and the principal investigator for the Elon program.

"The scholarship and internship opportunities are meant to get students more interested in teaching," he said. "Not everyone knows right away that they want to get into teaching. Having these internship opportunities helps students see what teaching is like."

The grant also supports 50 paid internships, which will be awarded in groups of 10 over a period of five years. The internships will pay about \$14 per hour, which is comparable to the money earned by students participating in Summer Undergraduate Research Experiences (SURE).

The internship salaries are funded by the NSF grant and do not come out of the budgets at participating schools. The Elon Academy, Alamance Burlington School System and

Alamance Community College have all expressed interest in the internship program, according to Carpenter.

"The internships give students an opportunity to try teaching on for size," said Tony Crider, chair of the physics department and one of the program's sponsors.

The internships and scholarships function separately from each other, so students who participate in the internships do not have to apply to the scholarship and vice versa.

Carpenter said he was motivated to bring the Noyce scholarship program to Elon to increase the number of students in math and science programs.

"We have strong teacher education programs at Elon, and we don't have huge numbers of students coming through the math and science programs," he said. "I was interested

in increasing those numbers. There is a lot of demand out there, schools are trying to hire math and science teachers."

Science and math teachers are in high demand in the United States partly because of the increasing need for scientific literacy.

"In an increasingly technical society, an increasing number of jobs require basic science and math skills," Crider said. "Unfortunately, the United States is one of the most scientifically illiterate modern countries in the world."

Crider said that from 2004-2008, one in every 10 students in his astronomy classes believed the moon landing never occurred. Crider said he views this number as a sign scientific illiteracy in the United States is a huge problem.

Pandora's Pies to bring specialty pizza to Elon

Natalie Allison
Senior Reporter

The Elon Town Center will soon welcome another restaurant, Pandora's Pies. The restaurant, which is still under construction inside, will feature specialty pizzas, salads, soups, bruschetta and a small bar.

Owned by Jeff MacKenzie and Peter Ustach, who also own the Fat Frogg, Pandora's Pies will occupy the remaining space on the first story of Elon Town Center, next to the Elon University campus bookstore, Barnes & Noble at Elon University. Smitty's Homemade Ice Cream, a local Burlington business, will lease a small space within the restaurant.

"This is a college town without a cool pizza place," Ustach said. "We want it to be a place where you can get a quick bite to eat at a reasonable price. Subway is the only other quick place to eat that's not owned by Elon."

Ustach said Pandora's Pies would be a place for people to eat in large groups or students coming in to get lunch between classes. The restaurant will offer table seating for groups of up to 10 people, as well as have a counter specifically for takeout service.

Because students have limited dining options late at night, Ustach said he and MacKenzie wanted to provide a place for students to still be able to get food after 10 p.m., a time when only Acorn Coffee Shop, Octagon Cafe and Varsity Sports Grill are open.

Sophomore AJ Kessler said since students can get pizza at Octagon and in the dining halls, Pandora's Pies

would need to have impressive options to be successful.

"If it has a reputation for being the best pizza it could do well," Kessler said. "But when you can get other junk food on the meal plan or with meal dollars, I think most people would go with that."

The restaurant's hours have not been finalized, but Ustach said Pandora's Pies would most likely be open until at least midnight Sunday through Wednesday and 2 a.m. Thursday through Saturday, opening each day at 11 a.m.

Pandora's Pies will incorporate local elements, such as 100 percent organic flour from Lindley Mills in Graham and Italian meats from San Guseppe Salami Co., a processing plant that uses livestock from Cane Creek Farm in southern Alamance County.

Sophomore Katherine Elliott said she looks forward to having the pizza shop opening close to campus and is also glad to have another local option.

"We need more local places," she said. "Burlington is very chain-heavy."

Even the furniture in Pandora's Pies will come from a local source, Ustach said. Old doors from the recently demolished Chandler, Colclough and Maynard dorms were used for the restaurant's tables.

"We bought some of the buildings' old slab doors and turned them into recycled cherry and oak tables," he said.

Smitty's Homemade Ice Cream will occupy a small portion of the restaurant. Behind a 15-foot counter, Ustach said Smitty's would have two dip wells and offer all of its homemade ice cream flavors.

Both places will accept Phoenix Cash.



ELIZABETH EVERETT | Staff Photographer

Pandora's Pies owners Peter Ustach and Jeff MacKenzie (not pictured) plan for the opening.

Students speak out against execution of Troy Davis

Caitlin O'Donnell
News Editor

A group of 30 students joined hundreds of others protesting the planned execution of Troy Davis Wednesday, Sept. 21. The Atlanta man



DAVIS

was scheduled for lethal injection at 7 p.m. for the decades-old murder of police officer Mark MacPhail.

According to a report from The New York Times, a last-ditch appeal to the Supreme Court had stalled the execution and as of 9:45 p.m., Davis and his supporters, were waiting for the court's final decision. By about 10:30 p.m., numerous media outlets reported that the Supreme Court rejected his plea for a last-minute block and the

execution would proceed that evening. He was pronounced dead at 11:08 p.m. according to a broadcast on CNN.

A branch of Amnesty International at Elon University planned the evening vigil in Moseley, which included a discussion of the history of the case. Davis was originally convicted in 1991 and has faced a total of four execution dates since, including Sept. 21.

More than 63,000 people submitted letters to the Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles, according to the Times report. Numerous other influential leaders called to clemency for Davis, including former president Jimmy Carter, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, 51 members of Congress and former FBI director William Sessions, a death penalty supporter.

Of the nine eyewitnesses that originally tied Davis to the crime, seven have since recanted or changed their statements, claiming the police coerced them.

The case highlights the problem

with both the death penalty and the overall justice system in the United States, according to junior Rachel Stanley, a co-coordinator for Amnesty International.

"You can never be certain and you can't reverse murder," she said. "The death penalty is not a deterrent of violent crimes. There are questions of guilt and innocence before and after."

Amnesty is working to abolish the death penalty worldwide, Stanley said.

"Many (people) have been exonerated after the death penalty but that's not good enough," she said. "That's not good enough for them, for their family, for their friends and people who care about this."

As the 7 p.m. deadline drew near, Stanley maintained the hope that the execution would be stayed, describing Davis as a man with immense faith who had come to terms with his future.

"They can take my body but not my spirit because I have given (it) to God," a participant read from one of Davis'

letters.

Participants also held a moment of silence and read statements aloud from witnesses now retracting their previous testimonies tying Davis to the crime.

Some claimed to have been coerced into identifying Davis as the suspect and signing statements without actually reading them, according to the statements. Others came forth with the assertion that someone else had confessed to committing the crime.

Participants expressed concern about the right for one human to decide who can live or die.

"It's not different from hangings in Medieval Europe," one attendee said. "What progress have we made?"

The group continued to monitor online updates as the evening progressed.

"No matter what happens, it doesn't end here," Stanley said. "While Troy's life may end tonight, the struggle will go on tomorrow."

Networking database yet to be used by many students

Natalie Allison
Senior Reporter

Among the list of resources and programs the Career Services offers Elon University students and alumni is the Elon Career Network. The database, which serves as a directory for job, internship and geographical networking contacts, exists for students and alumni—but few are using it.

From Sept. 1, 2010 to Jan. 25, 2011, roughly half an academic year, 130 contacts were made between students and alumni listed in the database, which includes multiple contacts made by the same individual. As of September 2011, 671 alumni and parents were listed in the Elon Career Network database, said Michelle Jones, assistant director of Career Services for arts and sciences.

"An intimidating thing for a lot of students is to email someone they don't know," she said. "Some students just don't know where to start."

Jones said the database is a great tool for connecting students and alumni based on career interests or specific regions of the country, but students should first understand how to use it.

Students can select an industry from a list provided or enter a general search term to find relevant connections. Users also have the option of searching by city to prepare for networking there.

"If a student wants to move to another city and doesn't know anyone, the person can use the Elon Network for a geographic search," Jones said.

"The student could contact someone to find out how active the alumni network is in that area, or even to meet with a warm body—someone who has an Elon connection."

When searching for potential job and internship connections, students should be open to talking to professionals with slightly different career paths from which they might choose, but who are still valuable networking sources, Jones said.

"I always advise people not to discount someone who is not doing exactly what they want to be doing," she said. "Use the database to talk to people in a variety of careers, and ask them if they know anyone to talk to in your field."

Sophomore Vasilios Katsadourous

said he plans to use Elon's networking database to talk with professionals and get an idea for what kind of career he wants to pursue.

"I want to set up a meeting about networking soon with Career Services," Katsadourous said. "I really think they can help me out."

I know a girl who graduated last year who had found an internship through the network."

Career Services relies on the Parents Council, Young Alumni Council and Alumni Association to recruit parents and alumni for the networking database.

"An intimidating thing for a lot of students is to email someone they don't know. Some students just don't know where to start."

-Michelle Jones

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF CAREER SERVICES FOR ARTS AND SCIENCES

Proposed tax for millionaires, solution to 'coddling' rich

Nick Zanetti
Senior Reporter

President Barack Obama has proposed a new tax on individuals making more than \$1 million per year. The tax is meant to ensure that the wealthy pay the same tax rate as middle-class Americans.

Obama has named his new tax proposal "The Buffett Rule" after billionaire investor Warren Buffett, who recently wrote an op-ed piece for The New York Times about what he perceives as Washington's "coddling" of the super rich, like himself.

In the article, Buffett wrote that while he was taxed only 17.4 percent of his taxable income, others in his office who made less than he did had to pay about 36 percent. The reason, according to Buffett, is that capital gains tax rates are much lower than income tax rates. Since many wealthy Americans make most of their income from capital gains, they end up getting taxed less.

Senior Tyler Zoda, an economics major at Elon University, said he agreed with Buffett's arguments.

"Warren Buffett seems like a reasonable guy to me," he said. "He makes smart investments. I would trust that if he encourages higher taxes on himself, he has good reasons behind it."

Capital gains refer to money earned on some kind of investment. If an individual buys a stock at one price and is able to sell it at a higher price later, that is a capital gain. If an individual

starts a business and makes money off of it, this is also considered a capital gain, according to Tom Tiemann, an economics professor at Elon.

Obama's proposal has met staunch resistance from Republicans who argue new taxes will stunt job growth and hurt the economy. Rob Smeaton, an Elon alumnus and pharmaceutical representative in Wilmington, said he thought the new tax would limit the ability of some companies to expand and hire more people.

"I think that at the end of the day it's a poor decision," he said. "If you take money away from millionaires and billionaires, you are taking money away from people that hire everyone else. If you take money from them it would only cause more unemployment."

Smeaton is not in the tax bracket that would be affected by the new increase.

Tiemann disagreed with many of the grievances Republicans have. Higher tax rates do not necessarily discourage investment, he said.

"Wealthy people aren't going to decide not to make an investment or start a business because the tax rate is a few points higher," he said. "If the tax rate was something like 85 or 90 percent, it would be a definite disincentive."

The new proposal comes after this year's debt crisis and subsequent deal, where politicians in Washington finally agreed to a plan that would attempt to solve America's debt problem through both increasing revenue and cutting spending.



COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS
President Barack Obama proposes a tax increase for individuals earning more than \$1 million a year to ensure the wealthy pay the same tax rate as those who received last year's cut.

Solving America's debt problem requires a combination of raising more revenue and cutting spending. But, most people are eager to cut taxes without realizing what they might lose.

"If we want to have the government services we have come to expect and gotten used to, we can't do that with the current tax code," Tiemann said. "Even if we had very little unemployment, the money we would be taking in from taxes at current rates would not cover

Income at Elon University

Elon does not have a way of tracking income of students who don't apply for financial aid using FAFSA. Half the student body applies for aid, and of those families the lowest income is \$0 and the highest is \$1 million.

the cost of all the things that Americans want, we would still be in a deficit."

President Obama loses support on college campuses nationwide

Younger generation feeling effects of recession, rising tuition prices

Grace Elkus
Senior Reporter

Support for President Barack Obama during his 2008 presidential campaign was overwhelming on college campuses. But as another election season approaches, he may find himself with fewer votes from the demographic. Students are feeling the direct effects of the recession as tuition prices increase and the hopes of finding a job diminish.

Emily Bishop, a sophomore at Elon University, said she is frustrated that her generation will have to pay for the programs that Obama has been pushing through Congress.

"His spending and regulations are causing our deficit to explode," she said. "This has terrified business owners and they aren't hiring or expanding, so our generation is going to have to pay back on all these programs that he's enforcing, like Social Security and Medicare."

But Dion Farganis, an assistant political science professor at Elon, said the recession is not likely to be the primary reason Obama has less support from college students. Farganis suspects the voting turnout will be lower in 2012 because of a lack

of enthusiasm.

"The 2008 election was a once-in-a-generation moment for college students, and I suspect many of them won't be motivated the same way in 2012," he said.

Various aspects of the country, including wars, the economy and partisanship affect students' opinions of the national government and play a large factor in how they vote. Nada Azem, an international student from Syria and a sophomore at Elon, said that how a president handles the country in a time of war affects her opinion of the government the most.

"Due to the Iraq war, Syria's prices went up like crazy," Azem said. "The United States has a lot of power in my area, so whether it is the support of Israel or a war in that area scares me. Sometimes, I don't understand why America puts itself in other countries' problems and they are miles and miles

away. But also if America doesn't help, they get blamed."

Bishop's criticism of the government stems from the decisions being made regarding the economy.

"The biggest problem is that the president has been ignoring history," she said. "In the past, whenever the government spent more than 20 percent of the GDP, taxes rose and the economy tanked."

As Americans begin to waver in their support for Obama, the decisions he makes over the next year concerning pressing national issues will be crucial to whether he gets re-elected. About 38 percent of respondents said they would support Obama against a generic Republican candidate, according to a recent Gallup poll.

But all Americans have their own ways of deciding for whom to cast their votes.

"The 2008 election was a once-in-a-generation moment for college students, and I suspect many of them won't be motivated the same way in 2012."

-Dion Farganis
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF
POLITICAL SCIENCE

"Studies generally show that people are most strongly influenced by the condition of the economy when voting for president," Farganis said. "I don't think that a president's personal qualities have as much to do with election results as things like the economy and other political issues."

Although Azem is still familiarizing herself with democracy, she has an opinion on what type of president she would like to see elected.

"I come from a country where we don't really elect," Azem said. "I find it very interesting how people have that option of choice. Since I am from the Middle East, I care about a president who will not make another war like Iraq. Sadly, we look at what benefits us personally versus what will help the world."

Like Azem, Bishop believes it is important to focus on the actions of a candidate rather than vote based on what he or she claims.

"You never want to listen to what politicians say, you want to look at what actions they have taken," she said. "Obama has sounded reasonable, but his actions are destroying the economy, and without a strong economy there's no strong country."

SGA passes bill against discrimination, creates diversity committee, makes plans for campus forums, discusses homecoming concert

Hannah DelaCourt
Senior Reporter

In response to the recent issues of diversity and the resulting campus discussions, SGA passed a bill Sept. 22 intended to emphasize the organization's stance on the issue and to promote cultural awareness on campus.

"Whereas the Elon University community was aghast at discriminatory acts on our own campus, whereas students, faculty and staff have experienced a loss of comfort on their valued college community and whereas the SGA of Elon University believes in our university's mission statement which demands respect for human differences and promotes personal integrity," the bill reads.

At the recent SGA retreat, the student government members decided they wanted to be transparent and show they were making a strong stance against the racial slur incidents

that occurred on campus.

"It shows constituents that we will not stand for something like this," said Greg Zitelli, vice president for the Class of 2014.

SGA is also forming an ad hoc committee called the Diversity Committee to deal with future issues.

In other news:

Corey Smith concert location

The location for the homecoming concert featuring Corey Smith was also discussed at the SGA meeting. Because of the size of the stage necessary to accommodate Smith and his band, the potential location for the concert is the parking lot behind Colonnades, but this has not been finalized.

There is some concern about residential areas nearby, and the possibility that the concert would have to be shut down early because of noise.

Judicial committee hearings

Following the SGA meeting, three senators went before the judicial committee because of too many absences.

The retreat the previous weekend for SGA counted as two absences if missed, and senators Chelsea Gund, Neima Abdulahi and Connor O'Donnell had prior commitments.

Continuing discussions on diversity

Wednesday night, SGA will be collaborating with Smith Jackson, vice president and dean of Student Life, and President Leo Lambert in forums to discuss the recent racial incidents. A forum will be held from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in McCoy Commons in The Oaks.

The forum was initially scheduled to start at 5:30, which conflicted with the Jewish holiday Rosh Hashanah. Several students complained the timing may have prohibited students' access to the forum and Smith Jackson later emailed the student body to change the time.

Text of the SGA Bill

"We, the Student Government Association of Elon University, condemn the acts of intolerance that occur on campus and offer our expression of sympathy to the students, faculty and staff who suffer and are affected."

"We, the Student Government Association of Elon University, promote a community of understanding, inclusion, and respect."

"In effort to display our sincere dedication to bettering campus climate and education, we shall establish the Diversity Ad-Hoc committee to both investigate areas of improvement and implement diversity education events on campus through various outlets."

New organization intends to show Elon community it's 'better together'

Rebecca Smith
Managing Editor

Diversity is used a lot at Elon University in its mission statement, in recent emails from the administration and as a descriptor for the freshman class.

One of Elon's organizations, Better Together, is looking to do more than comment on diversity and is designed to promote interfaith cooperation and understanding.

The organization was started last year by alumnus Zac Jordan, Class of 2011. The organization hopes to break down barriers and get rid of prejudice, said Anthony Hatcher, the organization's adviser and professor of communications.

"The whole point is that we are better together when we work together," Hatcher said. "You can see it even in the recent events on campus. Since the incidents of racial name-calling we had a conversation in my office. Even though our mission is interfaith, we might want

to join with the Multicultural Center at certain points."

One way the organization plans to promote interfaith discussions is through a panel in November. Three Elon faculty members, L.D. Russell, Shereen Elgamal and Thomas Arcaro, will discuss religious bias in the media, particularly in relation to the upcoming presidential elections.

"We are hoping every fall to have some sort of forum," said junior Jasmine Whaley, president of Better Together. "We also do community service that leads up to our big event in March."

Currently, the members of the organization do not have concrete plans on what event they will host in March, but they know it will focus on hunger and homelessness.

"We are going to start volunteering at food banks," Whaley said. "We are going to have two to three student organizations, religious and non-religious, that are oriented with social justice



Immanuel Bryant (left) and Mason Sklut attended a Better Together conference.

and understanding minority groups, come serve with us. After serving at the food bank we are going to have an optional discussion, what we are calling an interfaith breakdown."

The organization currently consists of 12 members and has weekly meetings to plan future events, dinners for interfaith discussions and training sessions on how to conduct interfaith dialogue. The trainings will ideally help students lead conversations in

future incidents, Whaley said.

"If ever there were another incident like the racial name-calling, I hope that Better Together, rather than holding a righteous rally, would try to heal wounds and say, 'Look guys, we need to reach out and stop name-calling and stop spreading suspicions,'" Hatcher said. "I hope it serves as a conduit for those discussions and healing methods. As cheesy as it is, at the core, we are trying to change the world."

Oxfam seeks to raise awareness of poverty issues on campus with upcoming events

Kristin Martin
Reporter

There are six billion people on the planet, and one in every seven goes to bed hungry.

Oxfam is a well-known, international organization that works toward fighting statistics like this and creating lasting solutions to poverty, hunger and injustice. Starting this semester, Elon students will be able to join in the fight, and help disempowered people receive a basic human right: food.

"One of the reasons I love this organization and was really drawn to it is that they're not just going in and giving aid," said Tyre Bigbie, club president. "They're looking at the roots and providing lasting, sustaining change. They pair with the community to create something that works for them," she said.

Oxfam's latest campaign is called Grow and is the first campaign that all Oxfam branches are collaborating on to fight hunger.

"Oxfam believes it isn't

because there's not enough food on the planet, but that our current food system is corrupt," Bigbie said.

This summer, Bigbie was introduced to Oxfam, attended leadership training and was challenged to bring her insight to Elon.

"Our main goal is educating the student body," she said.

Oxfam will host two on-campus awareness events this fall. The first on Oct. 13, when campus organizations such as Amnesty International and Periclean Scholars will host dinners that promote discussion about "where our food comes from, who's producing it and what we need

to do to have a more just food system," Bigbie said. Oxfam placemats will be in the dining halls that day.

The second event, Oxfam Hunger Banquet, will be held Nov. 17, in conjunction with Homelessness Awareness Week. Each attendee will be given a card labeled upper, middle or lower class and the percentage of students representing each class is proportional to reality. Where students sit and eat

depends on their class. The lower class will sit on the floor and will be served only rice and water. After the meal, there will be discussion.

"It's really powerful because it's a visual representation of

what the world is," Bigbie said. "When I did it over the summer, half of the people in the room were crying because it was so impactful."

These issues will not just influence student life, but academics, as well. Bigbie approached Global Experience professors about Oxfam, and they're linking it to the classroom.

"The work of Oxfam connects with the common reading and lecture in interesting ways, and it is definitely related to the global themes of study, like disempowered people," said Mark Enfield, assistant professor of education and one of the many professors teaching Global Experience this semester. "Paying attention to the food system, and how do we get food, and should we be bringing it from a long distance and where does food come from? We should all be considering these questions."

The organization is looking to create a fundraiser related to the current food crisis in the Horn of Africa to be held later this semester.

"They're looking at the roots and providing lasting, sustaining change. They pair with the community to create something that works for them."

-Tyre Bigbie
PRESIDENT OF OXFAM

Drive-by shooting injures Elon man, search for suspects ongoing

Anna Johnson
Editor-in-Chief

A resident of the town of Elon was injured during a drive-by shooting at the intersection of South Church and Delaney streets Sept. 23.

James Ricks, 56, of Ball Park Road, was shot and treated at Alamance Regional Medical Center for an upper torso and

arm injury. The suspects were described as two black men in a 1970s Chevy Nova with a loud exhaust, according to a press release from the Burlington Police Department.

Both suspects are still at large. Ricks described the driver as a black man with dreadlocks, two gold front teeth and gold earrings. There is no

description of the passenger at this time.

Ricks was traveling west on South Church Street in the left lane when he stopped at the stoplight at Delaney Street, according to the release. The grey Nova pulled up beside Ricks in the right lane, pulled out a handgun and shot into the car one time. Ricks then drove to Alamance Regional

Medical Center where he was later discharged.

The suspect and the vehicle were last seen traveling north on Shadowbrook Drive.

If you have any information regarding this case contact Burlington Police Department Crime Stoppers at 336-229-7100 or Criminal Investigations at 336-229-3530.

NEWS BRIEFS

Elon team travels to Kenya for forum about the Internet

Elon University's Imagining the Internet Center sent three students to the Internet Governance Forum in Kenya this week.

Seniors Kellye Coleman and Samantha Baranowski and sophomore Nicole Chadwick were joined by alumni Taylor Foshee and Lee Hopcraft and communications professor Rich Landesberg in Nairobi.

Professor receives NSF grant

Duke Hutchings, assistant professor of computing sciences, has received a \$14,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to develop a software tool that assists beginning computer programmers with writing code.

Hutchings will be joined by colleagues from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and Johnson C. Smith University.

Physical Plant introduces work request site

This semester, Physical Plant at Elon introduced the FIXit 24/7 online work request site for use by students, faculty and staff to report maintenance issues on campus. The site is available to anyone with an Elon username and password.

When a work request is submitted, the status of the job can be tracked online and an email will be sent when the work is finished.

Alumnus wins second Emmy

Matt Belanger, a graduate from the Class of 2005, received his second Emmy award Sept. 24.

A reporter for WGAL-TV in Lancaster, Pa., Belanger was recognized for his investigative reporting into the problem of "ghost voting" in the state legislature. According to the report, lawmakers used coins, paper clips or other small items to jam voting buttons and cast excessive numbers of votes.

He was honored by the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.

Hook residents to move back to campus this weekend

The 16 students evacuated from Hook residence hall Sept. 18 will move back to their original rooms this weekend, according to Elaine Turner, director of Residence Life.

The students were originally evacuated because of an air quality problem but the rooms have been thoroughly cleaned and ceiling tiles have been replaced. A recent air test indicated the rooms are safe.

Fifteen of the 16 students had been evacuated to Campus Trace, an off-campus apartment complex.

Corrections

In the Aug. 30 and Sept. 21 issues of The Pendulum, the number of solo piano recitals given by Professor Omri Shimron was incorrectly stated. He has performed multiple solo recitals. Also, his Fall performance has 36 variations on its theme.

In another article in the Sept. 21 issue, Elon alumnus Shawn Kennedy was incorrectly identified. He plays the bass.

Sept. 28 - Oct. 4

Sept. 28

- Hillel Food Drive: Truitt Center
- Leadership for Lunch, 12:30-1:30 p.m., Moseley 215

Sept. 29

- Sonia Nazario: "Enrique's Journey," 7:30 p.m. McCrary Theatre
- Rosh HaShanah, 6-7:30 p.m., Harden B Dining Hall

Sept. 30

- Open Mic Night: 8-10 p.m., Moseley 215
- Grand Opening of Barnes & Noble at Elon University, 11 a.m.

Oct. 1

- SUBCinema presents "Horrible Bosses," 8 p.m., Young Commons

Oct. 2

- Lieder Recital featuring Gerald Knight, 3 p.m.: Whitley Auditorium

Oct. 3

- "Miss Representation" screening: 6-8 p.m., McEwen 011
- John Douglas Powers opening reception, 5:30 p.m., Yeager Recital Hall

Oct. 4

- Dorianne Laux guest reading: 7:30 p.m., Yeager Recital Hall
- Teach for America Information Session: 4:30 p.m., Oaks 212

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

International

Bullfighting in Spain entertains some, offends others



This fight took place in Navas del Rey, a small town near Madrid. The picador, or the lancer, mounted on horseback anxiously awaits his first stab toward the bull. The main goal is to jab the bull with a lance in order to puncture the muscle on the back, causing the bull to become fatigued. Many animal rights activists oppose bullfighting and similar events, and bullfighting was recently banned in Catalonia.

Will Anderson
International Correspondent

MADRID - Bull events have a long history of tradition in Spain, where many consider them to be an art form. Bullfights, vaquillas, which involve a group of Spaniards playing in a ring with young bulls attempting to avoid personal injury, and the running of the bulls are some of the events that serve as main attractions during town fiestas.

Many Spaniards oppose the events, including animal rights activists who say the form of entertainment is cruelty since the animals die in almost all cases, but others defend the custom.

"I find bullfighting to be a meaningless sport," said Amande Neira, a college student in Villaviciosa de Odon, Madrid. "To risk your life and kill an animal is beside me. Even then, it's simply culture and tradition."

MORE ONLINE

See more photos and read about what it was like to watch the tradition live.

<http://bit.ly/EPbulls>

WILL ANDERSON
INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENT

Explosion at nuclear waste facility in France results in death, injuries

Amy Kenney
International Correspondent

PARIS - France's nuclear power industry was shaken earlier this month by an explosion at the Marcoule nuclear waste management facility in its southern Languedoc-Roussillon region. Officials reported there was no leakage of radioactive material, though the blast killed one person and seriously injured four others.

The country's Nuclear Safety Authority reported the explosion took place in an oven at the Marcoule plant, which is operated by Electricity of France (EDF), the world's largest utility company. The company called the event a "classic industrial accident," and said the oven, which was used to melt low levels of radioactive waste on pumps, tools and protective clothing, had not been working properly. A fire that followed the blast was kept under

control, EDF officials said.

Although there is no nuclear reactor on the site, fears about radioactive leakage have prompted organizations such as the International Atomic Energy Agency to investigate the issue. Medical examiners said the injured persons were not contaminated by radiation.

The event made headlines in France, which has the highest dependence on nuclear energy in the world. Nearly 80 percent of its electricity is provided through its 58 nuclear reactors, according to the U.S. Department of State website. Despite the Fukushima nuclear reactor disaster in Japan, which has resulted in severe radiation leaks and the certainty of a pricey cleanup process, France announced this June it would invest one billion euros to further develop its nuclear program.

This move was not well received by many, especially as other European countries reevaluate their stance on nuclear power in the wake of the

Fukushima nuclear disaster. German Chancellor Angela Merkel recently said her country would shut down all of its nuclear power plants by 2022, and Switzerland and Italy have made similar statements.

"Nuclear (energy) must be considered an energy of transition, and not an energy of the future," said aspiring French presidential candidate Martine Aubry Sept. 12, just hours before the nuclear incident occurred.

But, such anti-nuclear power sentiment is not shared by all French citizens.

French resident Eva Totems, a professor of French language in Paris, said she is weary of nuclear power.

"I am against nuclear energy," Totems said. "My husband is from Germany, and you can see how they are more environmentally-minded than us there - look at their plans to abandon their nuclear program. It is not the same here in France. But, of course,

electricity is not as expensive in France as it is in Germany."

While popular opinion regarding the French nuclear program has traditionally been split, some say the public attitude has turned increasingly negative in recent months.

But in June, polling firm TNS Sofres found that 55 percent of French respondents were against abandoning the country's nuclear program, even though a majority agreed an accident like Fukushima was possible within French borders.

Totems' husband, Henri, pointed to the absence of an alternative to nuclear energy.

"There have not been problems in comparison to other countries, like with Chernobyl, like in Japan," he said. "Our nuclear facilities are well constructed and have good security. So, yes, many say we need to lessen our dependence on nuclear energy. The question is, what would we replace it with?"

Correspondents' Corner



ROSEN

Millie Rosen
Haifa, Israel

On Oct. 2, my plane will touch down in Tel Aviv. I'm incredibly excited to spend the next three months immersed in both ancient and modern Israeli culture at the University of Haifa. Not only is it an opportunity to forge a stronger connection to my Jewish roots, but an academic opportunity to learn Hebrew and finish my history minor. My history courses this semester are based around ongoing issues in Israel - notably, the Arab-Israeli conflict.

We've all grown up hearing about this perpetual clashes between two ancient Middle Eastern states. Our parents and teachers have probably all told us slightly, or greatly, different versions of what's

"really" going on. It's a controversial issue, and everyone has a different opinion on it.

As a Jew, it's hard, but not impossible, to disavow my tendency to support Israel from my responsibility to cover the conflict impartially. But, I'm not so blind that I can't admit when Israel makes mistakes, takes unnecessary lives and otherwise messes up their own chances at peace. The long years of hostilities have revealed nothing if not perpetual stubbornness on both sides to compromise.

Mahmoud Abbas, president of Palestine, recently submitted a formal bid for statehood and recognition by the United Nations, but the United States, as a longtime ally of Israel, has promised to veto the proposal.

Polls suggest an affirmative answer from the UN is likely, which, although it can't force Israel to return the land, will give Palestine considerably more weight in international affairs.



DILLY

Alyssa Dilly
Seville, Spain

One of the key differences between life for Spaniards and Americans in their mid-20s revolves around unemployment. The majority of 20-something-year olds I have met still live at home with their parents and are jobless. Some have jobs promoting clubs or being lifeguards, but they agree that these are only temporary sources of income. Many are studying to learn other languages, especially English and German, or studying to become a police officer or fireman. Both of these have the best job outlook - America and Germany are the two countries that seem to be doing the best from an economic standpoint, as government service ensures job security. In America, although we consider ourselves to be in a terrible economic fix as well, it's much more common to be able to continue school to get a master's degree or to be able to find a job after college.

INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

Saudi women granted right to vote

Saudi Arabian women were granted the right to vote Sunday by King Abdullah in a move many say was prompted by the Arab Spring. Saudi women are not allowed to drive and do not have equal rights with men, but Abdullah's decision also allows women to run for public office.

It is unclear how many women will take advantage of their new freedoms, as they legally could be denied the opportunities by the men in their lives. The new law will take effect during the next nationwide local elections - in 2015.

Bullfighting banned in Catalonia

Sunday marked the last bullfight ever in Spain's Catalonia region. While it is not banned in every region of Spain, many have protested, saying it is an attack on liberty.

Anti-bullfighting activists celebrated at the final fight that took place in Barcelona, and Spain's leading broadcaster already declared several months ago it would no longer air live bullfights because of the violence it demonstrated to children.

Editorial

Celebrate First Amendment Day Freedom of speech applies to all, not just student journalism

It's the ugliest word that can be uttered in a college newsroom. And unfortunately, it's an all too frequent occurrence.

College reporters across the country wake up to find their newspapers snatched from stands, broadcasts barred from airing and their funding slashed by angry student government associations and university officials.

Censorship. It's a blight to all who value the free exchange of words, ideas and perspectives.

Students celebrated the third annual First Amendment Day Sept. 27 on campuses across the country to take note of the freedoms deemed vital by America's founding fathers.

Students at this very moment are locked in legal battles over what they may write and where they may broadcast.

Interested readers only have to go back 22 years to find Elon has a less than perfect record with censorship.

When more than 800 high school students and parents were visiting Elon in 1989, when Nan Perkins, the dean of Admissions and Financial Planning, had two staff members pull every copy of the Nov. 9, 1989 edition of *The Pendulum* from its stands. The papers were later destroyed. The reasoning behind the blatant act of censorship was a front-page story on drug and alcohol use on Elon's campus.

In a letter to the editor from

Perkins in the Nov. 16 edition of the paper, she wrote she felt the information was misleading, did not compare alcohol and drug use at other college campuses and that information in the article would portray the school in a negative light.

The censored edition was reprinted at the university's expense the following week. But as then editor Mindy Schneeberger wrote the money and apology weren't enough.

"If I were to find that the college at which I was looking at had removed newspapers, I certainly would have second thoughts about signing my application," she wrote. "Any college which would even so much as consider infringing the rights of the student press does not deserve my respect or my tuition payment."

Elon is still far from perfect and there are times when information is less than forthcoming. Students should remember that technically there isn't free speech on Elon's private campus, one of the many rights students sign away with their acceptance letter. But our papers have remained on the stands and we can be thankful for that.

While Elon can legally limit our First Amendment rights on its campus it does not mean students, faculty and staff shouldn't demand those same rights. The Elon community must require those in a position of power to right injustices and punish violators of the First Amendment.



HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor
The Nov. 9, 1989 edition of *The Pendulum* was pulled from stands because of a drug-use article. First Amendment Day works to fight censorship.

First Amendment

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

Secure your future by staying informed

Four hundred forty-seven billion dollars is a lot of money. That's the amount President Barack Obama's recently announced American Jobs Act will cost to implement. With \$447 billion, Americans could buy enough Subway foot-long subs to reach the moon and back more than 35 times. Is that a completely ridiculous comparison? Sure. Is suggesting spending \$447 billion to begin fixing America's economy equally crazy? Maybe.

But, then again, what does it matter to Elon students? They're here in a cushy private school, getting what many would call a stellar education. The surrounding universe and all the harsh realities it holds is somewhere far off in the distance, right? Not something to be concerned about at the moment.

And it may have been that exact attitude that got the United States into the insane financial mess it is in today.

When people assume, mistakes are made. Corporations go unregulated.

A market system that was literally invented by humans is allowed to grow into a monster unrecognizable to most people, the people it supposedly was invented to serve. That's the thing people forget about — the complicated world of stocks, bonds, funds and all that other jazz is all made up. Like Frankenstein and his monster, we invented it and we can control it, if we really want to.

Many Americans don't get the real causes of the financial meltdown that's been seen over the past few years. The collapse of major financial institutions, the housing market bubble, Ponzi schemes, government bailouts and so many more concepts are terms bandied about by politicians and analysts.

How much do you know about the system in which your money, your financial future and your country's financial future rest? Can you explain what has happened and can you see how to prevent it from happening again? If you

demand your candidates in office fix the problems and bring new jobs to our towns and states, do you actually have any idea how that can be achieved?

These aren't questions that have easy or straightforward answers. But there are answers out there. In the case of the American Jobs Act, Obama's solution is to mimic FDR's New Deal strategy: spending money in places where he feels everyone will benefit. He also wants to make hiring people an incentive, because the idea that giving lots of people a little money is better than giving a little group of people lots of money simply doesn't work.

For Elon students, this could mean wonderful things. Businesses that hire new workers will see payroll taxes cut if this bill passes. The jobs of up to 280,000 teachers and tens of thousands of police and firemen will be saved. Those who choose to "job share" instead of having other people fired will be eligible for special benefits. And all

of this isn't even including the billions being invested in renovating and updating roads, schools and other vital infrastructure elements and community services.

These are the things that will matter to us in a few years when we are real people living in the real world, dealing with things like where to send our kids to school, how we're going to drive to work and if we're able to keep up with the latest technology around the world.

So this is a call to educate yourself. Even if you don't support the spending Obama is proposing, at least understand the motivation behind it. Understand where we came from and how we got here, and understand what the next steps have to be.

It won't be easy and we won't all get what we want. Compromises and sacrifices will have to be made by everyone.

And if we just realize that, accept it and move on, we'll all be leaps and bounds ahead of most of the people sitting in Washington.

THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

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MORE ONLINE

One Elon University student is happy with the new meal plan.

<http://bit.ly/MPApproval>

Check out the Opinions blog for more of your favorite commentary on Elon and national events.

<http://bit.ly/EPOpsBlog>

Opinions

How will the NC constitution read in 2012? Youth voices need to be heard at polls this spring

It took less than 48 hours for the N.C. General Assembly to pass an amendment saying marriage is only between a man and a woman. Once that decision was made, the constituents of North Carolina had 5,736 hours to decide what the definition of marriage is before they enter the polls for the May 2012 primary ballots and vote on writing the Defense of Marriage amendment into the state constitution.



Rebecca Smith
Columnist

When voters are deciding whether to approve or reject the amendment, they will only be able to read the first sentence of the amendment on the ballot. The first sentence states: "Marriage between one man and one woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized in this state."

Under this law, couples in domestic partnerships, homosexual or heterosexual, could lose hospital and prison visitation rights, domestic

violence protections, child custody rights and health insurance and tax benefits.

The amendment seems redundant since there is already a law in the books banning same-sex marriage and stating that same-sex marriages performed in other states won't be recognized in North Carolina. The amendment also seems contradictory to previous statements from the General Assembly about how they would lead the state.

In January, when the Republican Party became the majority party in the N.C. General Assembly and the new lawmakers elected Sen. Phil Berger, R-Rockingham, as Senate president pro tempore, he said: "We will lead North Carolina on a path of smaller, smarter, more efficient government."

This amendment seems a clear example of big government. How can any constitution change that regulates personal behavior and hinders equal protection under the law fall under small government?

"If this marriage amendment becomes part of the constitution, will another apology follow saying basically the same thing years down the road?"

Four years ago, the N.C. Legislature approved a resolution that apologized for slavery. Senate Joint Resolution 1557 states: "The general assembly calls on all North Carolinians to recommit their state, their communities and themselves to the proclamation of their nation's Declaration of Independence and their State Constitution that 'all persons are created equal and endowed by

their Creator with certain inalienable rights."

If this marriage amendment becomes part of the constitution, will another apology follow saying basically the same thing

years down the road? Between now and May, citizens will have to decide what certain inalienable rights are actually endowed to all persons.

The referendum was moved from the November 2012 election to the primaries in order to gain support from some House Democrats. Senator E.S. Newton, R-Nash, said the amendment was not a political ploy to mobilize conservative voters. But

it seems like it could be a move to increase the percentage of conservative voters.

The Democratic voter turnout is expected to be low in the primaries because President Barack Obama and Gov. Bev Perdue will both be running for re-election without serious Democratic contenders. With the Republican nomination up in the air, the Republican voter turnout is expected to be high.

Typically, primary elections have a smaller voter turnout than the general election in November, and historically fewer young voters show up for the primaries. The youth has often helped the voice of minorities to be heard. It is the strength, intelligence and heart of the youth that have helped the LGBTQ community gain rights in the past.

Whether you agree with the Defense of Marriage amendment is honestly a moot point. The most important thing is that you get out there to vote in May. Don't just stand for something and speak up for something, but actually do something to help the community you live in reflect what you think is fair. This is a chance for Elon students to do something more than wear a sticker. A "not in my state" sticker really won't make a difference, but going to the polls might actually change lives of people across the state.

Average marriage age older, divorces increase

It is getting harder to find Mr. or Mrs. Right. Just ask any young person how their last relationship went.



Ethan Smith
Guest Columnist

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, since the 1970s the average age for newlyweds has risen from about 23 years old to 28 for men and 20 to 26 for women. Are we to blame Nicholas Sparks for writing such perfect love stories like "The Notebook," where a young romance blossoms flawlessly, ending suddenly? Or do we blame our culture for broadcasting shows like "Jersey Shore" where the focus is on partying and hooking up with different people every night?

Whoever or whatever we blame, one thing is certain: Many young people have lost their sense of romance, turning marriage into a dying institution. Gone are the days of formal courtship, replaced by the days of hooking up and making out.

Turn on the television and it's there. Take a wrong turn in the bookstore and it's romance novels galore. Then, take a good look around our campus on any Thursday, Friday or Saturday night. It is rare to see men holding doors open for women, going on dates, having intelligent conversations, establishing a strong foundation for a flourishing relationship. In many cases, boys act like dogs, hounding after women for five minutes of pleasure. This attitude seems to have replaced any desire for long-term commitment.

And while a single cause for rising marriage ages cannot be determined, many factors can affect decisions to get married.

For one, marriage is expensive. The

average wedding now costs between \$21,000 and \$24,000, according to smartmoney.com. From there, the statistics only get worse.

If a couple wants a family, they can expect to drop around \$222,360 to raise a child to the age of 18, according to an article in the June 2010 issue of The New York Times. With these staggering costs, which don't include costs of taking care of one's spouse, much less sending a child to college, marriage is facing a bleak future.

Divorce rates are also on the rise, being 50 percent for the first marriage, 67 percent for the second marriage and a whopping 73 percent for the third marriage, according to Jennifer Baker of the Forest Institute of Professional Psychology. These statistics make many people gun-shy, not wanting to make a commitment that will have adverse effects on their child and their own well-being.

Aside from statistics, people just don't seem as anxious to get hitched anymore. Many may wish to experience college as single young adults and enter the world on their career path experiencing life without being tied down to a significant other.

Ultimately, marriage is an individual choice. Only you will know when to get married and, more importantly, who to marry. It may take more time than desired, but this will allow for people to grow as individuals and bring as much to the marriage as possible. According to a survey sponsored by the National Fatherhood Initiative, people who married between the ages of 23 and 27 have the best chance for a successful marriage.

Taking time to grow and experience life without the restraints of commitment may allow for a more empowered marriage later in life. While this means the institution will suffer, it provides a chance for more working marriages if couples are willing to work to resolve issues before jumping to divorce as the answer.

LETTER TO PARENTS POST-PARENTS WEEKEND

Dear Parents,

Hope you made it home safely from Parents Weekend. It was nice to have you visit Elon. We



Dawn Peterson
Columnist

loved the meals and groceries. We were also thrilled you bought us all that stuff at the outlet mall. We apologize for all the rain. The campus is usually beautiful. Elon works really hard to keep our indirect pathways clean and lawns nicely manicured. We were hoping for a sunny day, because we wanted to show you that your money is being put to good use.

We know Parents Weekend can be tiresome with the many events Elon plans, but we're glad you enjoyed meeting our professors. Although I'm not sure my religion professor was comfortable with all your questions. Why did you have to ask if he's teaching us not to believe in God? Whatever. I'm sure he's heard worse, anyway.

How did you like the football game? I know Dad found it confusing that so few students were present, but that's just how Elon does sports. Those "This Week at Elon" emails the school sends out make it seem like athletics are a big part of our college experience. In reality, we leave football games after the tailgates. We're sorry we forbade you from wearing the "Proud Elon Parent" sticker. But everyone already knows that the middle-aged people roaming

campus last weekend were parents of Elon students. We appreciate that you shell out loads of money every year for us to go here, but those stickers are just awkward.

We know our apartment wasn't what you were expecting, even though the days prior to your arrival were spent scrubbing unidentifiable sticky substances off the floor, washing month old sheets and confiscating unmentionables. It's just that it's impossible to keep our room clean when there's so much studying to do. Please disregard the random student who popped in yelling about six packs and hotboxing cars. His parents couldn't make it last weekend.

We're sorry you're disappointed about that tattoo we failed to hide from you. But you were young once too, right? Mom, I know you're concerned that some of our college friends may be negative influences. Maybe you're right. We will only give you limited access to our Facebook profile so you won't have to see photos of us with our friends you don't like. It's clear you think most of our photos are inappropriate, anyway.

After you left on Sunday we spent the entire day doing the homework we put off to hang out with you this weekend. But we eventually finished all of it. Dad's reminders of the academic purpose of college are always helpful. We often forget exactly why we're here.

It's great to hear you still believe in us and know we'll find success in all our endeavors because we are special. We sometimes worry that we haven't met your expectations, so it's wonderful to hear you still feel that way after all this time. We really do appreciate everything you do for us.

Can't wait for the next Parents Weekend!

Sincerely,
An Elon Student

Environment, movement work together at dance concert

Ashley Fahey
Features Editor

A large crowd gathered around the Academic Village, as a group of dancers made their way through the grass, trees and pathways that comprise Elon University's campus on Sunday, Sept. 25.

"Dance in the Landscape," a site-specific dance concert that took place entirely outdoors, explored how dance and the natural world interact with one another to create choreography that can not be replicated in a traditional dance studio.

"It feels more natural to move around the surroundings of the trees, leaves, grass and the buildings," said Jason Aryeh, assistant professor of performing arts and artistic director of the concert. "The audience is very close to the dancers as compared to the proscenium stage. This freely establishes an audience-performer relationship which the dancer learns to connect by pulling the audience's focus to their world."

The interaction between the dancers and the audience members was nonstop. The show deviated from the norm of having audience members sit back to leisurely enjoy the performance by having many members of the audience physically moving out of the dancers' way as they ran, leaped, stepped over and slid through the terrain of the Academic Village.

"Dance in the Landscape" consisted of two pieces, one of which had four components to it. Both pieces explored the theme "Land of Our Birth."

"This idea involves how related dance moves into nature, or blends into our own environment," Aryeh said.

The performers were able to use all structures in the Village, from the grass to the trees to the amphitheatre.

"My dancers and I generated movement inspired by the site and received spatial direction from the various structures at Lindner Pavilion," said Jen Guy Metcalf, adjunct professor of dance and one of the choreographers. "The dancers found such creative ways to use trees, sidewalks, steps, lamp posts, grass and even pine needles in the choreography."

Metcalf's piece, titled "The Travelers," explored railroads and the concept of people traveling. It illustrated the relationship between the railroad and the local area that inspired her choreography.

"I did a little research on the area and



Two performances based around the theme "Land of Our Birth" took place in the Academic Village as part of "Dance in the Landscape." TRACY RAETZ | Staff Photographer

read that Burlington was a community born of the railroad," she said. "I liked the idea of people traveling via the railroad, so I wanted to create a dance that traveled from one location to another on a clear path or track."

Although site-specific pieces present challenges that rarely occur within a studio or stage, such as the weather, both Aryeh and Metcalf said the experience is well worth it.

"The dancers get the opportunity to feed their strength, emotions and focus from the audience," Aryeh said. "Nature takes its place in the silence or music and relates to the performer as he or she draws inspiration."

Aryeh's piece, constructed in four parts, was choreographed centrally around the amphitheatre in front of Lindner Hall. He used famous pieces, such as Louis Armstrong's "What a Wonderful World" and "King of Pride Rock" from Disney's "The Lion King," as well as instrumental music and silence

through all the parts.

Rehearsing for "Dance in the Landscape" was difficult for the dancers.

"Different challenges appear with each site, but this one posed a challenge that was out of our control," Metcalf said. "There were a few days that we could not have rehearsal outdoors because of the rain. At our dress rehearsal, the dancers had to perform in some puddles and in soggy grass."

Despite the gloomy weather during the days prior to the concert, the sky was clear and sunny the day of the concert.

While site-specific concerts are not frequent at Elon, both Aryeh and Metcalf emphasized the enjoyment of the process.

"It is exciting to teach new students about site-specific work and to watch the upperclassmen continue to develop their creativity when choreographing for the landscape," Metcalf said. "I love creating site-specific dance because of the countless possibilities."



The rainy weather during rehearsals created challenges like mud and soggy grass. TRACY RAETZ | Staff Photographer

'Collage' celebrates arts, looks to future through song and dance

Rebecca Wickel
Design Editor

Who will take over when I leave?

For music theatre majors, this question was answered at "Collage," a program of Broadway song and dance held Sept. 23 and 24 in Yeager Recital Hall.

The annual performance featured the university's music theatre department, welcoming first year students who will continue the department's commitment to the arts.

It marked one of the first times new students in the program worked with the upperclassmen, and served as a bonding experience for the department.

"It's kind of this kick start for the year, coming together for the first time, performing with the brand new first year students," senior Alexa Magnotto said. "I remember when I was a first year, sitting on the sides and watching everyone perform. You get to see what's going to happen for you in the next four years and how you're going to be able to participate in something that happens every single year."

In addition to older students embracing the new freshmen, "Collage" showcased student work. All of the numbers are selected, choreographed and directed by students, with the help of director and faculty member April Hill.

"'Collage' is a revival of Grand Night, (a senior musical revue) and we repeat

most of the same numbers and replace the seniors that have graduated," she said. "But this is entirely student-run. I facilitate certain things but it's student directed, which is great."

Coinciding with Family Weekend, "Collage" encouraged families to experience the music theatre department.

"There's lots of community love coming together and lots of parents coming to see their kids perform at Elon, some for the first time," senior Kennedy Caughell said.

Catherine McNeela, performing arts professor, announced several new alumni who had recently got professional jobs at the beginning of one performance.

"The program has definitely grown," Hill said. "We have students performing on Broadway and theaters all over the country and even internationally. It's a busy, difficult program, but it really pays off for the students."

In the closing number seniors reflect on their departure from the Center for the Arts.

"It's interesting and very surreal," Magnotto said. "The last song was written by two graduates, Dan Gibson and Chris Staskel, and the lyrics are very true to our lives right now. It's great because we're the first class that has been able to perform it for all four years."

Whether they were joining "Collage" for the first time, returning to the stage or taking that final bow, students created a memorable occasion.

"It's definitely community building,"



The annual Collage performance unites incoming musical theatre majors and returning students. CLAIRE ESPARROS | Staff Photographer

senior Katie Chung said. "It's the first time we get to sit in a rehearsal with our entire department, and it's kind of cool for the freshmen to see what's coming, and for the seniors to see this is what they're leaving."

The freshman class joined the upperclassmen on stage for the first time of the night when they sang the final song 'I Will Turn to You,' which served as a passing of the torch from one class to the next.

"The last number was in one word magical," freshman Daniel Bevin said. "I could not hold the tears from coming every show. The words 'what I thought was yesterday is already four years past' really resonates with me having just been a senior and starting my new journey here as a freshman. Every moment has the potential to pass in front of our eyes before we even know it and I am going to try my best to never take one single second for granted."

Local tattoo artist uses ink to narrate

Libby Dean
Reporter

Chris Burgess received his first tattoo, a yellow round smiley face in the center of his arm, at age 14. He did it by his own hand. With Indian ink, a sewing needle and thread and clumsy, puerile hands that had not yet perfected the steady handedness that comes with years of artistic practice, he carved the face into his arm.

"What's goin' on, brother man?" Burgess, one of the main tattoo artists at Rare Breed Tattoo, asks with a smile as he answers his cell phone. He has a heavy, playful Southern drawl that comes from being born and raised in Burlington. Wearing a loose-fitting black T-shirt over his stocky, athletic stature, sandy blond hair, tanned skin and his airy nature, Burgess looks more like a surfer than a tattoo artist.

Then you notice his arms. The cold eyes of Father Lucas Trevant, Anthony Hopkins' character in the film "The Rite" stare out from Burgess' forearm, squished between a zombie from "Night of the Living Dead" and "Candy Man." Pumpkin Head, Lost Boy, the devil, Pin Head and other horror movie characters sprout up along Burgess' left arm, covering almost every area of skin. Burgess recites the names of these grim and gruesome characters fondly, as if reminiscing of old friends. His goal is to have a full arm of tattoos, or a complete sleeve, of these characters.

Burgess also has tattoos on his arms, shoulders and stomach and plans to add more.

Even before one walks into Rare Breed Tattoo, the feeling is palpable. This stop is far-removed from the simple, Southern, understated style of downtown Burlington.

With its sinister décor, colorful clientele, the thick, musky scent of incense and the sound of hard rock leaking out its doors, the store stands out and seems to thumb its nose at tradition, choosing instead to embrace

followers of an alternative lifestyle.

"I don't think anyone sets out to become a tattoo artist," Burgess said.

Burgess was born into a family of artists. His father and grandmother were both artists. His father focused on sketches, graphite and pictures of nature while his grandmother focused on acrylic paintings of ocean and scenery.

Burgess said he's always been drawn to the darker side of things when it comes to artwork: skulls, zombies, demons, etc. This fascination transitioned seamlessly into tattoo culture.

Burgess has worked at Rare Breed Tattoo for the past two years, but said he didn't get his start in the tattoo business until later in life.

After a brief job as a welding technician following high school, Burgess needed money quickly. He tapped into his innate interest in art and drawing and started designing flash, or the designs of tattoos that people can choose from for their tattoos. He liked how the skin felt as he drew as opposed to drawing on paper.

"It's so personal," he said. "Everyone's skin is different, everyone's skin has different stories behind it."

Burgess said he loves tattoo as an artistic outlet because it is so intimate and every tattoo and every person is different. Burgess also liked how giving and receiving a tattoo is a long, involved process and he gets to know his clients. His proudest accomplishment as a tattoo artist was a full sleeve traditional tribal tattoo, which took five months to complete.

"A tattoo is the ultimate expression of one's inner self on the outside and that's why we do it," Burgess said.

That smiley face he drew on his arm at age 14 is now covered up by the sinister visage of The Candyman, part of the sea of characters on his left arm. Burgess said this sleeve of tattoos was a tribute to his mother and one



LIBBY DEAN | Photographer
Chris Burgess is a tattoo artist at Rare Breed Tattoo. He gave himself his first tattoo at 14.

of his fondest childhood memories. Every Friday night, he and his mother would venture out to the closest movie store and buy the latest horror movie release, along with a classic horror film, and watch them together.

An entire arm full of monsters, villains and demons glaring and foaming at the mouth wouldn't be the first thought that comes to mind as a loving gesture toward one's mother, but that's exactly what it is. Beneath the skulls, the blood, the thick black gauges in his ears and the throaty chanting of the heavy metal music blaring from his tattoo station, Burgess is friendly and disarming—a Southern gentleman who happens to be adorned with demons and monsters. He greets every customer with a warm smile and a quick hug, as most of them are returning customers seeking Burgess out personally.

Greenhouse connects art and science

Stephanie Butzer
Senior Reporter

By the end of the fall semester, there will be a new reason for students to make the trek out to Arts West. A greenhouse, which will be different from the one by the McMichael Science Building, will be placed before the sculpture walk between Arts West and Manning Avenue.

"This idea only emerged when the greenhouse was sitting in pieces behind Powell House," said Samantha DiRosa, associate professor of digital art.

Environmental studies didn't have space for the greenhouse. The faculty began talking about other places on campus for it.

"Arts West has quite a bit of open green space and great south-facing sunlight," DiRosa said.

With a greenhouse so far away from Powell House and so close to Arts West, many hope it will result in academic connections between the two buildings.

The greenhouse by McMichael is used strictly for scientific research. The one to be constructed by Arts West will attract engaged learning projects for many majors and will have several different features and purposes.

The reasons for building the greenhouse vary. According to DiRosa, it's "to create an experimental engaged learning space for interdisciplinary collaboration, helping to connect science and art disciplines, and foster community in an area of campus that desperately needs it."

The construction of the greenhouse is a hands-on, engaged learning project of the ENS 360 green design class, taught by environmental studies professor Robert Charest. Art students will assist with the project on non-class days.

There will be plants in the greenhouse, but DiRosa said it will be a little different.

"It won't be an entirely traditional greenhouse," she said. It will have several features that make it a truly "green" building.

"Part of the design challenge and the



MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer
Environmental art students are constructing a new greenhouse near the Arts West building.

architecture challenge is that we're not planning on having electrical power and we're not planning on having running water," Charest said.

The greenhouse will feature a rainwater catchment system, LED solar lighting, photovoltaic pumps for water circulation and plant art. With the solar lighting on at night, DiRosa envisions it to glow like a lantern.

"The greenhouse will be a beacon for creativity and experimentation at Arts West," she said.

The greenhouse is not specific to only student use and contribution. In March, an artist will come to the building and work on environmental art installation. This will make use of plants and recycled animatronics to

make "plantbots."

Once it is completed, the greenhouse will serve several purposes. It will be used, as many greenhouses are, to grow plants for the community. But it will also be used to map phototropic responses in plants, for subjects of still-life drawings and photographs, and as a place to put plant sculptures. In addition, it will attract more attention to the sculptures between campus and Arts West.

"I think there's already a green culture here at Elon in terms of the new buildings that are going up, but I think it's good for students to actually participate in the designing and buildings of something like that," Charest said.

A new way to recycle

We all know it's important to recycle, but sometimes it's hard to keep track of the best way to do it.



Sarah Carideo
Columnist

Which recycling numbers are allowed? Do I leave the cap on or take it off? Should I rinse this out?

A particularly troublesome object is the carton

because it's part paper, plastic and aluminum.

According to Earth911.com, there are two types of cartons. The first kind is shelf-stable cartons, which are made from paper with a thin layer of plastic and aluminum to preserve products without refrigeration. The second type is refrigerated cartons, which are used for cold items.

Shelf-stable cartons contain on average 74 percent paper, 22 percent plastic and 4 percent aluminum. Refrigerated cartons contain about 80 percent paper and 20 percent plastic.

Despite seeming like a small portion of the waste stream, because cartons are mostly paper they are a valuable recyclable material.

Fun fact: a common misconception about refrigerated cartons is that their paper is coated with wax, but according to Resource Recycling Systems, these cartons have a thin layer of plastic over the paper.

Sometimes I fold up my cartons and throw them out and sometimes I toss them in with the recycling just in case because I don't know what to do with them. Now cities across the country are starting to develop recycling programs to help this problem.

In 2008, only 18 percent of U.S. households had access to carton recycling programs, according to the Carton Council. Since the Council formed in 2009, that number has nearly doubled to almost 36 percent, with 40 million households in over 40 states now able to recycle cartons curbside or at a drop-off center.

The Council is a group of carton manufacturing companies that boast having the lowest environmental impact within the packaging industry. They are striving to reduce their impact further by expanding recycling programs across the country.

The companies include Elopak, Evergreen Packaging, SIG Combibloc and Tetra Pak.

Even bigger companies like Tropicana Products are trying to promote the importance of recycling cartons. They recently teamed up with Waste Management to launch a national initiative to increase the rate of carton recycling.

To separate the layers of a carton, the cartons are put in a hydro pulp machine and are agitated in the water until the layers detach. From there each layer is recycled in different ways.

Cartons have an average of 94 percent product and 6 percent package, which is great for you and they are more transportation efficient, so less fuel is used because of fewer shipments.

Now it's confirmed: cartons do benefit you and the environment. So make sure to rinse it out, fold it up and you'll feel a lot more confident in your recycling decisions.

How to: stay active this fall

Edith Veremu
Copy Editor

Summer has officially ended and your summer clothes will soon take a back seat in the closet, if they haven't already. The rainy weather and cooler mornings have forced students to layer up and reach for comfort foods like pizza, chicken strips and mac and cheese. But the weather shouldn't be an excuse not to stay fit this fall.

Head over to the expanded Stewart Fitness Center.

The gym was redone this summer and it has ample space to accommodate newer equipment and more students. Equipped with cardio machines, a larger weight-lifting area and more room to stretch, Stewart Fitness Center should be the No. 1 place to get your adrenaline pumping. The center also has studios where you can take group exercise classes ranging from cycling to kickboxing to zumba. Keep an eye out for free classes advertised on E-Net or Campus Rec's website.

Take advantage of the changing weather.

On the days that allow for cool-weather clothing, grab some friends and throw a Frisbee on the lawn or kick a soccer ball around. Or clear your mind on a 15-minute bike ride that follows the bike trails on campus. You can burn between 250 and 400 calories on an hour-long bike ride. That's just about enough exercise to burn the calories consumed from a Chick-fil-A chicken sandwich. Warm days in the fall come often in North Carolina, so take full advantage of them.



The newly renovated Stewart Fitness Center is one way to stay fit. The expansion includes updated exercise equipment. The Fitness Center also has group exercise classes available.

FILE PHOTO BY JULIA SAYERS

Walk.

It's pretty straightforward, unless you're following the crooked paths on campus. Walking is one of the easiest things you can do to stay fit. If you live off-campus and your daily commute is between 10 and 15 minutes, leave your car at home twice a week and walk. If you live in places like Danieley, ditch the BioBus and admire Elon's changing landscape as you walk to class.

Join an intramural or club sports team.

So you're not a varsity athlete. Big deal. Join an intramural or club sports

team. It's not difficult to grab some friends and create a team, whether your interest is no-broom Quidditch or dodgeball played with a volleyball outdoors. Intramural and club teams keep you active, and they're a great way to meet other people on campus or from other colleges in the area.

Make space in your room.

If you prefer being indoors, there are ways to stay active without leaving home. Make space in your dorm room or apartment to do a 10-minute Pilates workout. There are instructional videos online for you to follow along with, or you can check out fitness DVDs from Belk Library.

Top-6: ways to improve your online social media footprint

Alexa Johnson
Reporter

1. Google yourself.

This is not a joke. Sure, it may seem a little narcissistic to creep on yourself, but the first step to making sure the whole wide interweb is displaying a favorable portrait of you is to see what pops up. Have a common name? Is it similar to a Canadian pop singer-songwriter? Include "Elon" and the floodgates will open. If nothing shows up, or only compromising pictures appear, you're in a social media pickle (and not a good kind, like Vlasic), so keep reading to figure out how to grow your Web presence.

2. Get your name in a publication.

Don't stop reading, hear me out. One of the best ways to make a search engine acknowledge you exist is to force your way onto a website that will be in the top hits. How? Unless you are actively making news happen and get mentioned in a story, this suggestion will require some hard effort: writing. Pen a story for The Pendulum or apply for an internship with a website you enjoy and get a shiny byline. This not only will get your name out but also showcase your talents—what could be more efficient?

3. Keep your Twitter public.

Simmer down and listen. While

it's perfectly acceptable to keep your Facebook private (but watch out for those picture tags and make sure that profile picture is appropriate), Twitter is a different beast. Facebook is primarily a dumping ground for the day-to-day and being "friends" with your parents so they feel cool and tech savvy, whereas Twitter is a non-stop informational feed to the world. The point is to gather news, be it from The New York Times or David Lynch, and spread it while growing your followers, and thus your sphere of influence. Keep in mind that if your name is attached to your Twitter account and a potential employer sees your feed is private, it's an immediate red flag. "What is this person tweeting about that needs to be protected?" If those 140 characters are really that dangerous, stick to texting or mouth-to-mouth communication.

4. Buy a domain.

Not satisfied with needing to type in your school name to appear on the first page of Google results? Cave in and buy yourself a website. It's simple: find yourself a nice Wordpress theme and register with www.GoDaddy.com and before you know it, your website will be the very first hit. But it's important to ignore the urge to buy some ridiculous name (nothing along the lines of www.cuteboyswithcats.net) and stick to your name, or something very close if that option is unavailable.

5. Use social media efficiently and effectively.

We've all heard about Google+ and

LinkedIn, but do you use them? How often? Exactly. It's hard to keep up with every new social media tool that comes out of left field, and it's important to realize that you don't need to use them—just understand how they can be used. Time will be better used by carefully cultivating a few tools and keeping them up to date, instead of signing up for everything, then forgetting those accounts exist. Another smart, and free, Web solution is to keep all social media links in one place. You have a Twitter, Wordpress, YouTube, Spotify, Flickr and more? If it's something that showcases your talent or brands you, put it all in one place that potential employers can find, such as flavors.me.

6. Don't stop a bloggin'.

Think the Wordpress you made for a class was a waste of time? Search engines don't think so. What else is a necessary evil? Leaving comments. Yes, lots of time after reading an interesting article, one will scroll to the bottom of the page and read terrifying things that unintelligent and evil folks say, but that doesn't mean everyone else should forgo saying something substantial. If you use your name while writing something worth saying, not only will that show up on Google, but you'll seem smarter by comparison, and if the website is credible, they will assume you are an active media participant.

Getting social to land a job

Ross Wade, assistant director of Career Services for the School of Communications, invited iMedia students to join him as he



Kelsey Trabue
Columnist

presented at the Triangle Social Media Club (SMC) meeting to discuss how job seekers can successfully utilize social media in their job search. It was held at iContact, a social media and marketing management

company, in Morrisville.

At the SMC Triangle meeting, we iMedia students had the opportunity to network with social media gurus from the Triangle area and absorb their advice. I found it kind of funny that although I am socially active and have used social networks for a while now, I found myself feverishly writing down notes as the different members handed us some straight-up social media gold.

There are several easy concepts that even the technologically non-savvy can understand. First, because of the overall reach that each platform has, it is a good idea to have accounts with Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

OK, simple enough, but where to go from here? The key to successfully boosting your profile, specifically within Twitter and LinkedIn, is to develop your purpose. What are you trying to say or portray? Find the direction in which you want to take your online presence and then narrow it down. If you can't automatically think of something, try to think of a service that you feel deserves attention.

Among those who attended the meeting was Lisa Sullivan, digital media marketing director of Fonville Morisey and founder of @TweetDivas, a group of women in the Triangle area who tweet and use social media to build online relationships and communities. She saw a need for a women's group of Triangle tweeters for social good and created one. It eventually led her to the job she has today.

Several members of SMC Triangle discussed the term "thought-leader." To become a thought-leader means you have become a trusted source of knowledge in whichever topic or area you have chosen to focus your content on. It is OK to tweet about your lunch because it shows that you are human. Just don't make your eating habits the only kind of thing you tweet about. Think about what you want to share with the world and make sure it is valid.

Also, do not wait for a job posting. I believe one attendee cited this as "shooting yourself in the foot" and another said, "you've already lost the job." Use social networking to connect with potential employers.

Asking others for something they can't give you turns them off completely and makes them uncomfortable. Instead, ask for an informational meeting or share your knowledge with that person and include your resume for reference.

Let's hypothetically say you got a job through social networking. Your self-branding isn't over yet. Maintenance is key when it comes to self-marketing. I urge you to not let yourselves go, but stay up-to-date. So, go ahead. Put yourself on the line. You need a job, don't you?

Peter Buffett packs McCrary

Audrey Horwitz
Reporter

The most formal aspect of Peter Buffett's "Concert and Conversation" was his maroon velvet jacket.

Buffett kept it casual throughout his performance with cellist Michael Kott in Friday, Sept. 23 in McCrary Theatre.

The performance featured Buffett's original music, as well as a conversation about his upbringing, human rights advocacy and his philosophy on how to live a meaningful life. He emphasized that the performance was a conversation and encouraged the audience to interrupt at any time to ask questions.

Buffett began the performance with a song from one of his early records, titled "(Searching For) A Place Called Home." This led to a discussion of what it was like growing up in Omaha, Neb. with billionaire father Warren Buffett. But having a billionaire father didn't make the younger Buffett complacent.

"We didn't grow up with money," he said. "We grew up with values."

He displayed a slideshow of family photos, poking fun at his dad for pale skin in a beach photo. The photos and stories he shared made it clear that the Buffetts are a normal family, despite the patriarch's successes.

It was evident that even his mom had a sense of humor when Buffett revealed to her that he wanted to grow up and be a musician.

She responded, "Honey, you can't do both."

Despite his mom's comment, Buffett emphasized that his parents genuinely encouraged him to follow his passions, not the family business.

Buffett also talked about his time at Stanford University, however brief. An audience



Peter Buffett (left) performed and spoke during Family Weekend. Buffett uses his music and speaking tours to encourage people to follow their dreams.

MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

member asked if he finished college.

"No, I didn't," Buffet said. "But I don't recommend that route."

During the conversation, Buffett explained how he acquired \$90,000 of Berkshire Hathaway stock at the age of 19. He said the money gave him ample freedom to explore his passions. One of his first music gigs came from a neighbor who was doing 10-second animations and asked if Buffett would score them. These films turned out to be MTV logos. Buffett showed the audience clips of the animations, prefacing them with, "Remember, it was the '80s."

Having his music on MTV granted Buffett fame in the industry. He was asked to record music for many commercials. He thought that was great, but wanted to do more than sell a product.

"I wanted to tell a story," Buffett said.

He got the chance in 1990 when "Dances with Wolves" premiered. Kevin Costner asked him to score a scene from the movie and, naturally, Buffett took the job.

"When Kevin Costner asks if you're busy, of course the answer is no," he said.

The scene he scored was the final dance scene and critics called it the pivotal moment in the film. An audience member

asked how long it took to score the scene.

"The wonderful thing about the best music is that it comes pretty darn quickly," Buffett said. "Essentially, it took a night."

One of Buffett's last pieces was "Blood Into Gold." The song was a combined effort of Buffet and Akon and its message is to end human trafficking. This is an issue Buffett and his foundation, NoVo, are concerned with.

Buffet said it will take work to solve this problem.

"It's going to mean changing the way we relate to each other," he said.

His view on social equality struck a chord in some Elon

students considering the recent incidents of racial discrimination on campus.

"I had no idea what to expect going into the performance," sophomore Mat Goldberg said. "But I really enjoyed it. His passion for others was uplifting."

Buffett ended the performance with the song "Can We Love?" He had the audience sing the last two verses with him and got a standing ovation.

Sophomore Savannah Chaisson said she enjoyed the concert as well.

"I thought the combination of the concert and conversation was unique and powerful," she said.

Performing arts department develops student improv troupe

Homecoming performance looks to entertain, amuse in between football and music

Rebecca Iannucci
Copy Editor

Homecoming Weekend just got a whole lot funnier.

Fred Rubeck, chair of the department of performing arts, has selected eight students to participate in an improv group set to perform at this year's homecoming.

The creation of this group comes at a time of ease and convenience for the performing arts department, according to Rubeck.

"The other staff and faculty are so busy mounting the other productions that we're doing," Rubeck said. "We needed something that wouldn't be onerous on the costume designers and scenic designers and people like that. This would be perfect for that, and a lot of fun."

After 12 students auditioned for the group, Rubeck selected eight of them for the production. Three men and three women comprise the main company, with one host and one referee completing the troupe.

"There is a wide range of experience and ages in this group and it will be a challenge for us, at first, to get

to know each other as a team and a creative group," junior Sean Liang said. "Once we start learning how each other plays, we will start to get a grasp of where we can start as a team and how we can excel."

In recent weeks, the cast has had plenty of exposure to improv comedy, Rubeck said. Improv artist Scott Eck visited Elon for an intensive weekend-long master class, which came just after The Second City's sold-out performances in McCrary Theatre earlier this month.

"We have had a tradition of improv going on in our department for several years," Rubeck said. "But it has been a very big semester for improv."

But the experience will not be without its challenges. Sophomore Caroline Klidonas said she believes there is still a lot to learn before the show goes on.

"The biggest challenge will be not trying to be funny," Klidonas said. "With such a huge, energetic audience, it's hard not to get wrapped up in the possibility of being judged and the fear of not getting a laugh. We're just going to have to let go of that fear and be open and connected to each

other as an ensemble."

Rubeck's improv group is one of several outlets for students looking to pursue comedy on Elon's campus. The performing arts department also houses Technical Difficulties, a group that meets once a week to practice improv skills.

There is no shortage of creative opportunities for students, according to Klidonas.

"I think that if you look for it, you will find it," she said. "If a student isn't satisfied, they have the luxury of a campus community where it is possible to write your own comedic script and make it happen."

Depending on the success of this year's homecoming performance, Rubeck said he would consider making the group a tradition.

"I think if it works, we'll do it again," Rubeck said. "It might be the kind of thing where we elevate Technical Difficulties down the road and they become a standard troupe that we can send out to do things, like go out on recruiting missions to high schools. There's a lot of things that can happen with a group like that."

Homecoming 2011

Go ahead and start marking your calendars now, because Homecoming Weekend events are just next month.

Friday, October 21

National Pan-Hellenic Council
Step Show
7 p.m.
Alumni Gym

Corey Smith Concert
9 p.m.
Location TBA

Instant Laughter: An Evening of
Improvisation
9 p.m.
Yeager Recital Hall

Saturday, October 22

Stop Hunger Now Service Event
9-11 a.m.
East Gym

Elon vs. University of Tennessee-
Chattanooga
3 p.m.
Rhodes Stadium

Tailgate
12:30-2:30 p.m.
Across Campus

Sunday, October 22

Gospel Choir Service and
Reception
10 a.m.
Whitley Auditorium

Alumni Worship Service
10:30 a.m.
Elon Community Church

Elon's Renaissance man: Bill Morningstar

Sam Calvert
Online Managing Editor

When Bill Morningstar joined the Elon University basketball coaching staff in 1972, there was a caveat that doesn't exist today: The assistant basketball coach had to also coach golf.

Morningstar had played basketball for the Fighting Christians from 1961-1964 and had returned to his alma mater to coach. After eight years as assistant coach and seven years as head coach of the basketball team, his tenure ended.

But this spring, Morningstar will begin his 40th year as the men's golf coach.

"They hired me as an assistant professor, assistant basketball coach and then they said, 'Oh, by the way, you've got the golf team,'" he said. "I don't know anything about it. I don't play golf. Well, that comes along with the job."

In his first five years as the golf coach, his record was 91-14. In 1982, 10 years after he took the job, he was named the NAIA National Coach of the Year.

In 1988, Morningstar was inducted into the Elon Sports Hall of Fame for his time on the basketball team as well as his time coaching both basketball and golf.

This all came after taking a job as the assistant basketball coach.

"It just worked out," Morningstar said. "We had great success. We were winning. The second year we won the conference and district and finished seventh in the country, and it just snowballed."

That success then spread when then-Director of Athletics Alan White asked Morningstar to start a cross-country program at Elon.

"Dr. White asked me if I would just get it started, since I coached cross-

country in high school," Morningstar said. "I guess it took 12 years to get it started."

Morningstar is a coach at heart, having coached basketball, tennis and cross country at his former high school for seven years before coming to Elon. It doesn't matter what sport he is coaching; he loves winning and figuring out how to win.

But that translates a little differently into his coaching style.

"He'll be the first to tell you that he's the van driver," sophomore golfer John Somers said. "His teaching style is pretty laid back. He wants us to do it on our own."

There aren't mandatory practices, but instead Morningstar expects the team to want to spend time practicing and getting better, Somers said.

He lets the players take control of their own golf games, senior golfer Tanner Norton said. Instead of having a designated practice schedule, Morningstar allows the players to work on what they individually need to work on.

"When I get on the golf course, I like the fact that I'm in control of that," Norton said. "If I'm hitting it bad, it's nice to be able to do what I need to do to get better."

Morningstar's philosophy is that the player is the only one that can beat the golf course, and therefore it is up to them to do so. He helps them when he can, but he can only do so much.

"I just have to hope the kids love it enough," he said. "Because I love it."

That passion comes through Morningstar's voice and laugh, something Norton said he'll never forget about the coach.

"You can tell he loves what he does," Norton said.

Coaching is what Morningstar has wanted to do all his life. Since he was a young boy, he said he's thought of nothing else.



MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

Head golf coach Bill Morningstar has coached basketball, cross country and golf for the Phoenix.

To this day, he's never wished he could do anything differently.

"My occupation is like I've been on break all these years," he said. "If you love what you do, it's not a job. Mine's not a job."

Even still, like an old coaching mantra, Morningstar takes it one year at a time, never signing more than a one-year contract in all his years of coaching.

Morningstar said he's unsure as to whether he will sign yet another contract at the end of this coming season.

"When you get a little age on you, you start thinking. 'You're running out of years,

he said. "Forty years has been a great run, so will it be 41?"

MORE ONLINE

A look through Morningstar's history at Elon.

bit.ly/EPmorningstar

SAM CALVERT | Online Managing Editor

Practice begins early for baseball

Zachary Horner
Multimedia Editor

The crack of bats. The thwack of gloves. The overcast chill in the air? The date on the calendar?

September seems like an odd time for college baseball since the season does not start until February. But Elon University baseball head coach Mike Kennedy already has his players on the field, on the mound and in the batting cages.

"I've got a lot of (friends) who play at different schools, so we compare notes, and I'd say that Coach Kennedy definitely is the first, if not in the very top tier, of preparation in the fall," junior outfielder Niko Fraser said.

This includes three-hour practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with time at the plate and time on the field.

"The biggest thing is to try to make it as game-like as possible," sophomore pitcher Grant Fisher said. "Coach Kennedy always preaches we try to take the fall as serious as possible. It's our best gauge to see where we're at and where we need to get to for the spring."

Kennedy returns seven of his nine starters to the 2012 squad, including sophomore second baseman Sebastian Gomez who led the team in batting average at .305 in 2011, and Fraser, who was second with a .300 batting average.

Kennedy said he is always open to a non-starter proving himself worthy of a spot.

"Last year is last year. It's a new year and our guys tend to know that," Kennedy said. "We base everything on effort and performance. You have guys who have experience and success rightfully coming in with an edge, but if they're out performed they're not a starter."

One of the positions the coaching staff is trying to fill is at shortstop. Second-team All-Southern Conference shortstop Neal Pritchard graduated and signed a free agent contract with the St. Louis Cardinals in June. Kennedy points to shortstop and the closing pitcher role as the two important positions to fill.



AL DRAGO | Photographer

Assistant Coach Rob Huffstetter offers advice to a player during a conditioning practice.

"We've got some guys battling out for that right now," he said. "(Chris) Bresnahan looks a lot better than he was (last year). Joey Tomko's going to be a good player for us. We have three or four guys in the mix for that position."

But Kennedy said he is more concerned with the closer position.

"If I had to say right now that would be the biggest one for us," Kennedy said. "We had two guys last year: Mitch Conner and John Brebbia. Nobody on this team has closed and that will be an issue for us."

Along with the bullpen, the leadership role is important for the Phoenix, Kennedy said. With only two seniors on the roster, the coach is looking for younger players to step up.

"You learn a lot about how much talent can take you," Fraser said. "You have to pick up on the small things. There's a lot of really talented guys and if you want to be successful at this level or the next, you really need to be good at the small things. You can't rely on your talent like you used to."

Kennedy and his players hope working on the little things will lead to another SoCon title this spring. But for now, they will keep hitting balls, fielding grounders and preparing themselves for the season ahead.

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& West Burlington Wine Company

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10% off on solid cases
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Free tastings Fridays

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EMPORIUM

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Women's soccer extends unbeaten streak, begins four-game roadtrip



MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

The women's soccer team extended its unbeaten streak to four games as the Phoenix tied Samford University 1-1 Saturday, Sept. 24, and defeated Chattanooga 8-2 Monday, Sept. 26.

In the Southern Conference opener for Elon, the Phoenix started down 1-0 with a goal by Samford in the 13th minute. Elon answered with a goal in the 25th minute by sophomore midfielder Simi Dhaliwal. Both teams battled it out for the remainder of regulation plus 20 minutes of overtime, to claim the 1-1 draw.

Against the Chattanooga Lady Mocs, the Phoenix got off to a fast start, scoring four first-half goals and cruising to an 8-2 victory. Five different players scored for the Phoenix, while freshman Bethany Houpt, who was named SoCon Freshman of the Week last week, assisted on three goals.

Beginning Friday, Sept. 30, the Phoenix will begin a four-game roadtrip, starting with Elon taking on Davidson at 7 p.m.

Men's soccer to open SoCon play against Appalachian State

Justin Veldhuis
Reporter

The Elon University men's soccer team will be looking to snap its current two-game losing streak when the Phoenix begins its Southern Conference schedule at home against Appalachian State University at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1 at Rudd Field.

The Phoenix is coming off a 5-1 away loss to Radford University on Sept. 24. Elon scored first in the 19th minute when freshman forward Jason Waterman redirected a pass from junior defender Jahan Threeths into the net. The goal was the first of Waterman's Elon career and put the Phoenix ahead 1-0 at halftime.

The scoreline changed quickly and often early in the second half, as

Radford scored three goals in a three-minute span starting with a penalty kick in the 47th minute. The early second-half goals changed the course of the game, head coach Darren Powell said.

"They were able to score three goals and really set the tone," Powell said. "We were a little shell-shocked and unable to get back in the game. It's tough to recover when you concede three goals in three minutes. It was a bizarre three minute span that I haven't seen in my coaching career."

Powell said the team has to think ahead to its upcoming conference schedule and not dwell on the loss.

The team's goal is still to win the Southern Conference, which is always very competitive, according to Powell. He said his team has played a harder

early non-conference schedule than some other SoCon teams, including two losses against then-ranked No. 21 UNC Charlotte and then-No. 11 Old Dominion University.

"We play some very tough games in preparation for league play," he said. "Hopefully playing that tough schedule will prepare us for the league games."

Elon's first SoCon matchup Saturday, Oct. 1, is against an Appalachian State team that ended the Phoenix's season last year in a SoCon tournament game in Boone.

Threeths said every SoCon game counts if the team hopes to reach its goal of winning the league, but added there is some extra incentive playing Appalachian State.

"They knocked us out so it's one of

those games we wish we can get back," he said. "Now we get a chance to make it right and play like we expected."

Elon enters the game with a 2-5-1 record while Appalachian State is now 4-2-1 and riding a four-game unbeaten streak.

"They are a very athletic team and a little bit under the radar," Powell said. "They've gone through some recent adversity and seem to be pulling together. They will be a good opponent."

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 7 p.m.
vs. Appalachian State

Women's tennis team serves at Kopper Top

Kassandra Cloos
News Editor

The Elon University women's tennis team recently had the opportunity to volunteer at Kopper Top Life Learning Center, an organization that specializes in therapy for disabled individuals.

The nine girls on the team and their head coach, Elizabeth Anderson, spent three hours one Saturday feeding the horses Kopper Top uses for therapeutic and recreational horseback riding.

The girls had expected to work with some of the children who receive therapy at Kopper Top, according to Anderson, but instead they worked to feed the animals with the expired produce Kopper Top gets from stores like Costco.

"It's a great organization," Anderson said. "They do a lot of great things. When the kids are on the horses, their faces just light up and they really enjoy it."

Senior Kaylyn Smialek is majoring in special education and said she hopes to work with special needs children after graduation, possibly at a school in her hometown of London that has already offered her a job.

Although she did not work directly with any kids while she was at Kopper Top, Smialek said she saw one young autistic girl working on her fine motor skills by riding a horse, learning how to hold the reins and use direct commands like "stop" and "go."

"They were doing general occupational therapy things kids would use on a day-to-day basis," Smialek said. "It's really

good for the movement of their bodies because sitting on the horse really helps their muscles a lot. A lot of children with autism need those fine motor skills."

The tennis team has been corresponding with Kopper Top and is hoping to go back this year, junior Briana Berne said. The team is also planning events to support Kopper Top, such as selling raffle tickets to fundraise and having the organization bring some of its animals to one of the upcoming matches to raise awareness.

"It's good to not go to a place once and then leave it behind," Berne said. "They're good people, they're doing good things."

While Smialek, Berne and Anderson said they are all looking forward to continuing their relationship with Kopper Top, they all encouraged other Elon students to get involved, as well.

"I recommend anyone going to see the work they do," Smialek said. "We really thought it was an amazing experience."

Elon students as a whole have been incredibly valuable to the organization, said Deborah Meridith, its executive director.

"I couldn't survive without Elon students, I'll be honest," she said. "The whole university is just great."

Volunteering with Kopper Top was beneficial for the team, too, Anderson said.

"Doing things out of their usual routine is good," she said. "They bond a little more, put things in perspective a little more — the life and lifestyles we have — and I think sometimes that can carry over to the tennis court, too."

Volleyball looks to rebound from early season losses

Adam Lawson
Reporter

Last year, the Elon Phoenix volleyball team started its Southern Conference schedule 2-0 on its way to winning the SoCon North Division crown.

This year, the team started 0-2 in conference play and looks to rebound to defend its division title.

Trailing the match by two sets early Sept. 23 against UNC Greensboro Spartans, the Phoenix rallied back to send it to a fifth and final set. But in that decisive set, the Spartans got out to an 11-5 lead, took all the momentum the Phoenix had built and didn't look back, winning the set 15-7 and taking the match.

"We had all the momentum," coach Mary Tendler said. "Volleyball is a game that goes back and forth unlike any other sport. They just got hot at the right time."

Against College of Charleston on Sunday, the Cougars started hot and never let up. Charleston got out to a 16-8 lead in the first set en route to sweeping the Phoenix in three sets by a convincing 25-15, 25-11, 25-19 score.

"I definitely don't think they're a better team," said senior right side hitter Traci Stewart. "They just got the better of us today."

Last year, the Phoenix started 2-0 in conference and won five of its first six SoCon games leading to an 11-5 record. This year, the team will have to fight from behind.

"We are the North Division champions," junior outside hitter/middle back Carly Ledbetter said. "We have a target on our back and teams want to beat us."

Fortunately for the Phoenix, the conference year is young and it still has

time to show that it can compete.

"The good thing is we do have 14 matches left," Tendler said. "The conference championship isn't won or lost in the first weekend."

This weekend, the Phoenix has its first conference home matches of the season when Elon takes on Western Carolina University and Appalachian State University. While the season is young, the team would like to get on the winning ledger soon.

"Every game is a must-win for us," Ledbetter said.

Elon faces Western Carolina Friday and looks to pick up its first win in the conference. Western Carolina is 1-1 in the conference, fresh off a win against Tennessee-Chattanooga and a loss against Samford University. But the Catamounts, who lost their match a year ago against the Phoenix, struggled throughout the nonconference schedule and their overall record sits at 6-11.

Saturday, Elon will host Appalachian State, who beat the Phoenix in Boone last year and are 2-0 in the conference this season after beating Samford and Chattanooga. Overall, Appalachian State has a five-game win streak that includes a win over Wake Forest.

Through hard work and learning from its mistakes, the Phoenix looks to get back to .500 in conference play after this weekend.

LOOKING AHEAD

Friday 7 p.m.
vs. Western Carolina

Saturday 7 p.m.
vs. Western Carolina

Sports



After the game, Elon players celebrate their 18-15 victory. The game was won on a 33-yard field goal in overtime by junior kicker Adam Shreiner, improving Elon's overall record to 3-1.

AL DRAGO | Photographer

Phoenix to face No. 1 Georgia Southern

Jack Rodenfels
Sports Editor

Despite leading in almost every statistical category against The Citadel Sept. 24, it took everything the Elon University men's football team had to kick a 33-yard field goal in overtime and scrape by with an 18-15 win against The Citadel.

Although Elon heads into this weekend's matchup against Georgia Southern University at 3-1, two of Elon's wins have come in the last drive of the game, and by a combined four points.

The Phoenix knows what it needs to work on and what to change as it hosts the No. 1 ranked Eagles Saturday, Oct. 1.

"Going against the No. 1 team in the country, we can't be careless with the football," head coach Jason Swepson said. "We were lucky these past two weeks because we were better than the two other teams, but when you're the underdog, you can't be giving freebies away."

Swepson said this referring to the game against The Citadel, as well as the Sept. 17 matchup against North Carolina Central University where the Phoenix lost 5-0 in the turnover battle, yet still managed a 23-22 victory, Elon knows turnovers need to be averted to have a chance to win.

"It's going to take no turnovers on offense and an increased presence from the defense to beat Georgia Southern," senior running back Jamal Shuman said.

Junior quarterback Thomas Wilson has had six interceptions and two fumbles lost in four games.

"We're going to get Thomas (Wilson) corrected this week," Swepson said. "It's hit home with him, especially in conference play, and I have full

confidence that he won't be careless with the football heading forward."

Luckily for the Phoenix, the Eagles play the same base offense as Elon saw in its previous game against The Citadel. Employing a triple-option attack, Georgia Southern leads the Southern Conference in rushing with 416 yards per game, scoring 48.3 points per game.

Since the Elon defense got an example of defending the triple option against The Citadel, the team will look to employ the same strategies against the Eagles.

Saturday's game will pit Georgia Southern's No. 1 overall offense in the conference against Elon's No. 1 defense in the SoCon so far this season.

"Against The Citadel, the defense played outstanding for us and kept us in the game," Swepson said. "It put our offense in a good position to move the ball."

Two notable players from the game against The Citadel will be relied on heavily as Elon faces the Eagles this weekend.

Junior kicker Adam Shreiner connected on four of six field goals for the Phoenix against The Citadel, including the game-winner in overtime. His performance garnered him SoCon Special Teams Player of the Week with his career-best four field goals.

Junior defensive back Blake Thompson was honored by the College Football Performance Awards as an honorable mention selection for Defensive Back Performer of the Week. Thompson recorded a career-high 13 total tackles against The Citadel.

"We have confidence in our team, we just need to put it all together this weekend against one of the best teams in the nation," Swepson said.



Junior Adam Shreiner kicks the game-winning 33-yard field goal in overtime. Elon won 18-15.

AL DRAGO | Photographer

LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday 1:30 p.m.

vs. Georgia Southern

Can't make it to the game, but don't want to miss any of the football action? Follow the Phoenix online with The Pendulum this weekend.

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