

# THE PENDULUM

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## Dangers on the playing field

### Intramural injuries a lingering possibility

Max Garland  
Assistant News Editor

Head injuries have sidelined sophomore Garcian D'Cruz from intramural sports for seven months and counting.

"Two concussions in 72 hours is pretty bad, so I haven't been on the football field ever since," he said.

There is limited data available for intramural sports injuries, as most schools, including Elon, keep injury records confidential. But one study finds intramurals carry a similar, if not greater, amount of injury risk.

Research published in a 2014 edition of the *Recreational Sports Journal* investigated the injury rate of eight intramural sports at an unidentified private college in the southeast for two years. The injury rate was 5.56 per 100 participants.

That's a higher rate than what was found in research from the *Journal of Athletic Training*, which pegged the rate of injury for 15 NCAA sports as 13.8 injuries per

1000 athletic-exposures (practices or games) from 1988 to 2004.

Concussions — often attributed to high-speed tackle football — are a possibility in any intramural sport.

D'Cruz sustained his two in a three-day period in October while playing in a coed flag football league.

"The snap was botched on the play, and I went to dive for the ball," D'Cruz said of his first concussion. "But another player's cleats hit me in the head. I was on the ground for about five minutes after that."

According to Brandon MacCallum, assistant director of Campus Recreation, Campus Rec staff is at every intramural game to help assist with any injuries, administer first aid or call 911 in the event of a severe injury. Staff members are trained on how to spot concussion symptoms, but they are not trained in testing for concussions.

A staff member

pulled D'Cruz out of the game and asked him if he felt dizzy. He said he was fine, so she allowed him to go back on the field. D'Cruz played in another game three days later.

"The play was a Hail Mary pass, and I was a receiver," he said. "I caught the ball, but I fell backwards and whiplashed my head on the ground. I

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## Searching for hope a world away

After Nepal earthquake, Elon University does what it can

Caroline Fernandez  
News Editor

For many, tears flowed.

They gathered not only to send support to Nepal — a nation left picking up the pieces of destruction and loss after a magnitude 7.8

earthquake Saturday — but to also lend support to Elon University community members from the affected regions, helpless and far from home.

As the sunlight filtered through the large windows of the Sacred Space in the Numen Lumen Pavilion Monday afternoon, University Chaplain Jan Fuller, along with about 30 other community members, gathered, lit candles and asked, "Why?"

"I want to light a candle today in the search for meaning," Fuller said as she opened the campus gathering in the aftermath of Saturday's Nepalese earthquake. "I myself am in a quandary where I don't understand."

The country's worst recorded earthquake in 80 years hit around noon local time about 50 miles northwest of Kathmandu, Nepal. It is in an area that, according to the U.S. Geological Survey, is one of the most seismically hazardous regions on Earth.

It uprooted tens of thousands of Nepalese, destroyed entire villages and killed thousands, but also left shockwaves thousands of miles away at Elon, especially for freshman Surya Shahi, a citizen of Nepal.

Between muffled tears and deep breaths, Shahi spoke before the gathered room of supporters.

"Why am I here?" he asked. "There is always

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## Elon Poll: Close 2016 race, caution on religious freedom

Michael Bodley  
Editor-in-Chief

Following the nationwide controversy over Indiana's passage of its Religious Freedom Restoration Act, North Carolinians are erring on the side of gay rights over religious freedom, according to an Elon University Poll released Tuesday. A hypothetical 2016 presidential matchup provided a closer outcome, with Sen. Hillary Clinton carrying a 3-percentage point advantage over former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush among registered voters in North Carolina.

Nearly two-thirds of all respondents said a business shouldn't be allowed to refuse service to people who are gay — regardless of religious belief — but 51 percent of Republicans said business owners should have that right.

In the upcoming election, Clinton's political status may make her an early target for criticism, said Kenneth Fernandez, director of the Elon University Poll and assistant professor of political science, in a statement.

When respondents were asked about favorability among potential

candidates from both parties — some announced, some not — Clinton came in fourth behind Scott Walker, Marco Rubio and Elizabeth Warren. But no clear favorite has yet emerged in the traditional battleground state.

"However, Clinton's lower scores are partly a reflection of how well-known she is, whereas large chunks of the population seem to have difficulty rating most other candidates," Fernandez said in a statement.

Within the state, the race for governor of North Carolina is even closer, with incumbent Gov. Pat McCrory-Rep. leading Attorney General Roy Cooper-Dem. by a slim 45-43 margin.

"Though early results show Roy Cooper polling well against Pat McCrory in 2016, three things are important to remember," said Jason Husser, assistant director of the Elon University Poll and assistant professor of political science, in a statement. "November 2016 is a long time from now. Preliminary results may simply reflect quick reactions to party labels. And McCrory retains strength in his base: less than one-sixth of those voters who approve of McCrory said they would vote for Cooper."

### SENDING HELP TO NEPAL

If you want to donate to the relief efforts in Nepal, visit one of these websites:

- American Red Cross
- CARE
- Oxfam
- Stop Hunger Now
- World Vision

\*The above organizations are humanitarian aid organizations that Elon partners with throughout the year and ones that are currently providing relief in Nepal, as recommended in an email from Smith Jackson, dean of student life.

## INTRAMURAL from cover

passed out for about 15 seconds, then I regained consciousness.”

The Campus Rec staff member recommended D’Cruz not return to the game.

“But they didn’t tell me I couldn’t go back in,” he said.

D’Cruz said his cloudy judgment from the concussion and

Cottle immediately drove D’Cruz to Alamance Regional Medical Center, despite his friend’s protests.

If not immediately diagnosed, concussions have a small chance of leading to a life-threatening blood clot, according to BrainLine.org.

The CT scan given to D’Cruz in the emergency room showed no signs of internal bleeding, but the concussion symptoms were evident. D’Cruz was fine. His playing days were less so.

MacCallum said he is confi-

“If you get hit in the head at all, you shouldn’t be allowed back in for a half or a quarter,” D’Cruz said. “I had my concussion, and I had a teammate with a huge gash on her forehead, and they didn’t call anyone. We just had to take care of it ourselves.”

KJ Heman, an intramural basketball team captain, said he has had a different experience.

“The Campus Rec staff is really well-trained,” Heman said. “They give whoever is hurt the proper attention they need real quick.

The competitive nature of players like D’Cruz can make things difficult for Heaton, who also fills out injury reports and administers first aid.

“In a game last fall, a player hurt his knee and was in a lot of pain,” she said. “We called 911, and by the time the ambulance arrived he said he didn’t need one anymore. If there is a bad injury but the player doesn’t want to call an ambulance, we have to know if they are going to seek medical treatment. That’s so Campus Rec can’t be held accountable.”

These types of situations are more common in the Gold Leagues, the designated competitive league for some intramural sports, than in the more casual

Maroon Leagues.

“In the Gold Leagues, you’ll find more kids trying to play through injuries,” Heman said. “If you’re in a lower league, you’ll find more kids that will say, ‘Oh, it’s just intramurals — I’ll sit out.’”

The Gold Leagues, and intramurals in general, are not seen as dangerous as varsity sports. A slower speed to the game and more caution involved give intramurals a lower risk of injury, according to MacCallum.

“In larger institutions having an official medical staff for intramurals might be possible, but that wouldn’t be so here, especially with the costs,” he said. “Our student staff is doing a fine job right now.”

“WE UPDATED OUR EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN . . . WE CHECK IN WITH THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER AND TRAINED MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS . . . TO MAKE SURE WE ARE FOLLOWING THE RIGHT PRACTICES.”

BRANDON MACCALLUM  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS RECREATION

his competitive spirit convinced him he was OK to return. The ball snapped once more, and he didn’t remember the play his team called in the huddle ten seconds earlier.

Back at home with no memory of how he got there, D’Cruz still did not feel like himself. His friend Jordan Cottle, a senior exercise science major, administered a concussion test, asking D’Cruz to say the months of the year, the alphabet backwards and basic information about himself.

D’Cruz failed the test.

“A friend called me because Garcian had some memory loss and seemed a little loopy,” Cottle said. “I know Garcian fairly well, so I could tell even before asking him questions that he was not himself and should probably be taken to the hospital.”

dent in Campus Rec staff members to keep students safe, noting their required training in first aid, CPR and AED for lay responders through American Red Cross.

“We updated our emergency action plan two years ago,” he said. “With the new one we check in with the Health and Wellness Center and trained medical professionals in North Carolina to make sure we are following the right practices. That has really improved our ability to respond to emergencies.”

Joe Vossen, an attorney for United Educators, wrote in a February 2014 article that club and intramural sports lack the oversight of varsity programs. Students participating in intramurals may not realize they have a concussion and fail to receive proper treatment.

They’ll stop the game, get the injury report filled out and fix them up here or get them to the hospital.”

The staff’s efficiency helps when there are particularly gruesome injuries, according to Heman.

“It’s usually a jammed finger or a sprained ankle, but I saw a kid this year snap his pinky in half,” he said.

Junior intramural referee Amy Heaton makes sure to call fouls early, preventing the game from becoming too physical and increasing the likelihood of injuries. She said indoor soccer might have the strictest rules for all intramurals.

“The people playing indoor soccer complain about the rules being so weird,” she said. “But it’s to make the chances of getting hurt as low as possible.”

## Student hit by car begins rehabilitation

Michael Bodley  
Editor-in-Chief

Gabriela Rosales, the freshman who was critically injured after she was hit by a car on campus in mid-March, has been transferred to WakeMed Health and Hospitals to begin the rehabilitation phase of her recovery.

Last week, Rosales was assessed by a team of therapists to design her rehabilitation plan — which is expected to take three to five hours a day, according to the freshman’s Caring Bridge page.

The recovery has been said to be slow for Rosales. Within the past few weeks alone, Rosales has progressed from a semi-conscious state to being able to breathe on her own and move her arms and legs, according to her Caring Bridge page.

After the accident, her par-

ents, Carmencita and Roberto, traveled from their native Nicaragua to be with their injured daughter. The couple established the Caring Bridge page to consolidate information about the recovery process.

Following a long process that has involved a tracheostomy surgery — to open her windpipe and allow Rosales to breathe on her own — a tube inserted in her throat to allow her to speak, when she can, and other medical measures, Rosales’ Zeta Tau Alpha (ZTA) sisters said they’re anxiously awaiting her recovery.

“Our whole was devastated by the accident,” said junior Alex Daigle, president of the Eta Zeta chapter of ZTA at Elon University, in a statement. “Gaby had just joined ZTA, but she had already made such an impact on our sisters. She is always in our hearts, and we are optimistic about her recovery.”

## Festivus brings mud damages, university ceases to provide hoses

Caroline Fernandez  
News Editor

Trails of mud surfaced across campus and throughout residence halls following Festivus Sunday afternoon, causing damages and Physical Plant cleanup crews in the days to come.

Festivus, an annual student-run event started by students more than a decade ago is separate from the university and brought students together off campus in the Sheridan Apartments.

Robert Buchholz, director of physical plant, said damages from Festivus included muddy handprints on a column in Colonnades D, a sink clogged with mud in Danieleley C, mud on a carpet in Danieleley N and mud markings near Lindner Hall, the Global Neighborhood and seven Mill Point buildings.

He said he does not know the estimated cost in damages.

One thing was missing on cam-

pus from recent years: hoses outside of residence halls, provided by the university.

SGA President Avery Steadman announced during the April 23 SGA Senate meeting that Elon University would not be providing hoses outside campus residences for Festivus because of concerns over the growing size of the event.

In years past hoses were provided outside of residence halls so students could clean themselves and rid their clothes and shoes of the mud.

This year, MarQuita Barker, associate director of residence life for operations and information management, said residents will incur fines for any damages in the residence halls.

“Students tracking mud are charged for cleaning and damage,” she said. “If no one takes ownership, we have community charges.”

Barker said in an email that Residence Life did not provide hoses for a long time but did in the past

two to three years.

“Festivus is not a university sponsored or supported event, so we did not offer hoses as an effort to not enable students,” Barker said. “Individual staff members did not have the option to provide hoses.”

According to Buchholz, he and his staff, under direction from Student Life, did not provide hoses this year.

“It would have helped if the event coordinators had more hoses and resources for people to clean themselves at the event instead of students dragging mud across campus,” Buchholz said.

James Perry, Town of Elon assistant police chief, said his department had eight to ten officers present at the event, which is typical.

He said the event led to the injuries of two female students, one with a mild head injury and the other sick from a previous illness. He said their current condition was not known.

## INTRAMURAL STATISTICS

40%

of Elon students participate in at least 1 intramural sport

166 total teams currently playing

140

total students are employed in ten different areas of Campus Rec, making Campus Recreation the largest student employer on campus

5

sports currently playing  
Indoor Soccer, Softball, Sand Volleyball, Kickball, 5v5 Outdoor Basketball

Statistics courtesy of Campus recreation

STEPHANIE HAYS | Design Chief

## NEPAL from cover

a reason for everything. I'm here because I'm a proud citizen of my country. I'm here because reading about the death toll and the amount of people going homeless pains me. I'm here because I believe and pray."

Shahi said that people can't just send prayers and good thoughts at a time like this—people need to do something.

"I urge you to do something about it," he said. "We need to take action."

He said that while he and Leena Dahal, a sophomore who is also from Nepal and is an assistant news editor for The Pendulum, are still figuring out a way the campus can lend support.

Shahi said people can act now by donating money.

"Every dollar that we give counts," Shahi said. "As a university we need to work together to help those in need. We urge you all to help in any way possible."

Students came to the event in support of Shahi and Dahal.

Taking up a row of seats, sophomores Emily Collins and George Whitaker, along with freshmen Genny Tankosich and Carolina Bohn, all a part of a B.F.A. cohort with Shahi, sat in support of those close and far away.

At the conclusion of the gathering the friends embraced and consoled Shahi.

"I feel so awful that he is so far away," Collins said. "Not being able to communicate must be extremely hard. All of us want to be here for him to support help and love him in any way we can."

As of publication, Nepal's Home Ministry estimates that the quake killed more than 4,000 people in Nepal and another 61 and 25 in neighboring India and China, respectively, while 7,180 people were injured and tens of thousands are estimated to be left homeless.

The earthquake damaged villages — many where a reported 70 percent of houses were completely destroyed — as well as iconic landmarks.

Before Saturday's earthquake, the Dhara-

hara Tower, built in the 19th century, stood as the tallest building in Nepal at 203 feet. The quake reduced it to rubble, with only the base remaining.

Conor Grennan, the author of Elon's 2014 common reading book "Little Princes" — a book that centered on an orphanage in the heart of Kathmandu — tweeted Saturday about the children in the orphanage.

"Next Generation #Nepal kids and staff are safe - our buildings stayed upright, thank God. Many are not safe. Please pray for them," Grennan wrote in a tweet.

He added Monday that the children are sleeping outside and the organization has about two weeks of food and water left.

The destruction was noticed and understood by many on campus.

After prayers and remarks were made at Elon's gathering, Fuller made closing remarks and advocated for people to continue to support relief efforts.

"We will continue to act," Fuller said. "We will continue to join Surya and Leena and do whatever we can to help."



Students gathered in the Sacred Place in Numen Lumen Pavilion Monday in remembrance of the



The city of Kathmandu, Nepal recovers from the magnitude-7.8 earthquake that struck Saturday and left thousands homeless, injured and dead.

# Wastewater spillage Burlington's second in five days

Max Garland  
Assistant News Editor

A wastewater overflow of approximately 27,400 gallons from Burlington's sanitary collection system went into Bowden Branch, a tributary of Little Alamance Creek. It was the second large-scale Burlington wastewater spill in less than five days.

Large amounts of yarn wrapped around a piece of wood in a pipe located at 833 Queen Ann St. caused the blockage and subsequent spillage at 6:30 a.m. Thursday, according to Rachel Kelly, Burlington's public information officer. The spillage ended at 8:35 a.m.

"The sewer pipe was in an area where several industries are located, including one that

works with yarn," Kelly said.

The overflowing wastewater flowed into a storm drain connected to Bowden Branch, approximately 15 minutes away from Elon University's main campus.

Kelly said the only known effect of the overflow was the death of several fish in the creek.

"That's the result of the water coming in having a higher temperature than the creek water," she said. "Burlington is still waiting to get more test results back about it."

According to Michael Kingston, a professor of biology at Elon, bacteria from the waste also has an adverse effect on the fish.

"Whenever you release waste into these streams, the bacteria go crazy," he said.

"They'll consume all the oxygen in the water and there's nothing left for the fish. The fish die because of that."

Yarn has never been an issue with an overflow, according to Michael Layne, Burlington's stormwater manager.

"We're definitely going to follow up with the yarn industry here," Layne said. "But this is probably an isolated incident."

On April 18, about 20,000 gallons of wastewater flowed into Servis Creek, also located in Burlington, because of a grease buildup.

In January, 3.5 million gallons of sewage spilled into Haw River in a span of two days after a line broke at a Burlington treatment plant.

Kingston said wastewater spillage has been an issue in the past for North Carolina due to hog lagoons, areas where pig waste is stored.

"About 20 years ago, we used to have all of these lagoons, and sometimes waste would get into the streams when the dams wouldn't hold," he said. "The ammonia from the waste is toxic, and that produces a lot of dead fish."

Kelly said Burlington cleans 20 percent of its sewer lines each year, more than the 10 percent required by the state of North Carolina.

"We're making an education campaign for our residents about not throwing grease down the drain," Kelly said. "That will make overflows less of a possibility."

# WASTEWATER SPILLS IN BURLINGTON

Jan 31, 2014:

3.5 million gallons of wastewater are spilled into Hall River.

April 16, 2015:

27,400 gallons of wastewater are spilled into Bowden Branch.

April 20, 2015:

20,000 gallons of wastewater are spilled into Servis Creek.

There have been **73** sewage spills totaling **44** million gallons since 2008

# It's a marathon, not a sprint

*Relay for Life increases money donated by almost 40 percent*

Caroline Fernandez  
News Editor

They gathered, remembered, honored and relayed.

More than 900 people — including students, faculty and community members — walked, fundraised and walked some more Friday as Elon University's Colleges Against Cancer (CAC) chapter hosted its third annual Relay for Life.

The event, built on fundraising efforts that started with TriathELON in October, raised \$70,098.33 at the 6 a.m. conclusion Saturday.

This year's Relay for Life raised almost

40 percent more than last year's \$50,078.23 total.

There was an increase in attendance, too. Last year, the event drew around 800 people total. This year, 860 participants were registered before Friday and 100 more trickled in throughout the evening.

More than \$7,000 of the money raised this year came not just from donations and events, but also fundraisers that evening.

Five food trucks — a new addition — were present for no charge and each donated part of their profit, which totaled \$600 to Relay for Life, according to Sam Murray, director of operations.

Fundraisers hosted by individual teams,

including Alpha Omicron Pi's "Smash a Car," Sigma Phi Epsilon's Saturday morning breakfast and the chance for participants to rent and hold puppies, comprised \$7,000 of the money raised for The American Cancer Society.

Money was not the only thing donated—hair was also given.

Seventeen people cut their hair Friday for Pantene Beautiful Lengths, which requires donated hair to be at least eight inches long.

Sophomore Hannah Lanzillotta, a volunteer who cut her hair, is familiar with donating hair — she's done it three times.

"Donating my hair is such a big deal to me because it's one more part of me that

I can give back," Lanzillotta said. "I try to give as many of my blessings back as possible, like money, time. I'm in the global bone marrow and plasma donation registry, and hair. These are all things that I'm very fortunate to have even though I usually take them for granted."

Four hours into Relay for Life Friday evening, the large lights surrounding Francis Center Field flickered off and participants, with glow sticks in hand, inched their way to the perimeter of the track for the Luminary Ceremony, a central part of not just Elon's event but also others throughout the country.

Luminary bags were sold leading up to the event for donors to write on to honor a loved one affected by cancer.

Slowly, glow sticks lit up as a reader called different people surrounding the track who have been affected by cancer: survivors, mothers, fathers, daughters, sons, grandchildren, friends.

Sophomore marketing and social media committee member Jessie Brown lit her glow stick in honor of her mother, who was diagnosed with breast cancer when Brown was five, and for other close family members and friends who have been touched by cancer.

She first became involved with Relay for Life six years ago when she was a freshman in high school.

"I saw what an amazing organization the American Cancer Society is that I couldn't help but continue my involvement in any way possible," Brown said. "Relay for Life has shown me how strong our Elon community is and how we can come together to end something that touches and impacts so many of us."



Students walk around Francis Center Field in support of Elon's third annual Relay for Life, which raised a total of \$70,098.33. PHOTO COURTESY OF REBECCA VENETIANER

## Dressing up in drag for Elon's Pride Week

Sophia Asmuth  
Multimedia Editor

Spectrum, Elon University's LGBTQIA organization, wrapped up its annual Pride Week Thursday, April 23 with the second annual Dragstravaganza show.

While the words "fabulous" and "fun" may have come to mind for some, one word trumped them all: "acceptance."

More than 150 students, visitors, professors and coaches from organizations across campus and packed into The College Street Taphouse to support performers who donned drag for the night.

Matthew Antonio Bosch, director of the gender and LGBTQIA center, held the title of Master of Ceremonies for the night. Simply referring to him as a host would not do the evening justice—Bosch's pink blazer, blonde wig and chunky earrings represented the unmistakable persona of Hillary Clinton.

"If you're from Elon, say 'heeyyy'... and if you're not, say 'heeyyy,'" Bosch said with his debut on stage. The crowd erupted to both, and Bosch added, "Drag is universal, honey."

The Elon bubble burst, as many local community members performed as well. TJ Bremner, a visitor, danced on stage wearing form-fitting jean shorts and a sparkly crop-top.

"It's an important culture that often gets overlooked," Bremner said. "It incorporates everyone—both gays and also allies [of the LGBTQIA community]."

Joel Harter, associate chaplain for Protestant life at Elon, attended Dragstravaganza as his first drag show.

"I appreciate that they're having fun and welcoming everyone else, too," Harter said.

For all the entertainment drag shows have provided, the drag culture has been under heavy scrutiny recently. The website and forum, Bilerico Project, added to the criticism.

In a post titled, "Drag Culture Hurts the Transgender

Community," Brynn Tannehill claims drag queens give a misleading representation of what it means to be a transgender.

But Bosch used the Dragstravaganza event to educate as well as entertain many newcomers. He asked the audience, "What is the difference between being a transgender and being a drag performer?" Bosch explained that the former wear clothes typically worn by the opposite sex during their everyday lives, while drag queens and kings dress in more outlandish costumes for entertainment purposes.

Stormie Daie, a drag queen and Elon alumna, further negated the current criticism that drag is anti-feminist.

"Drag queens are an unabashed will of the feminist strength," Daie said. "When men embrace the feminist characters as they truly are, they become drag queens."

As a gay rights activist, Daie believes it's one of the purest forms of queer culture and necessary for breaking social norms.

"That's not where every drag queen is, but that's where we should be," Daie said.

There are plenty of drag queens and kings that identify as straight.

"Drag performances are more about gender performance rather than sexual orientation," Bosch said. "They make us think, 'what is it about the gender binary that we need to precede?'"

Brianna Moragne, a junior at Elon, took a chance with the idea of gender performance and volunteered to participate in the "Drag Race," a dance-off between two audience members.

"My personality is big, so it doesn't matter if it's guys' clothes or girls' clothes—I'll dance," Moragne said. She took the persona of "Broseph" on stage and was victorious in a dance mash-up consisting of "Partition" by Beyonce, "Boyfriend" by Justin Bieber and "I Like Big Butts" by Sir Mix-A-Lot.

Now in its second year, Dragstravaganza has more than

doubled its audience. All the proceeds benefit Time Out Youth, a charity in Charlotte that helps LGBTQIA youth.



NICOLE OSGOOD | Staff Photographer  
Matthew Antonio Bosch, director of Elon's LGBTQIA association, dressed as Hillary Clinton for Dragstravaganza.

# Are IUDs the next big thing?

Morgan Smith  
Senior Reporter

Though it's by far the most effective form of birth control, young adult females have for years been reluctant to embrace implanted methods – but that looks to be changing fast, according to a recent Center for Disease Control (CDC) report.

An IUD is a small contraceptive device that is inserted into the uterus. Within the past 10 years, statistics show that IUDs are quickly becoming the most popular form of long-acting, reversible birth control.

"We encourage teenage girls to use long-acting forms of contraceptive," said Ginette Archinal, physician and medical director of Student Health. "It's more effective because there's no chance for human error."

Crystal Stanley, Nursing Department Manager at Westside ObGyn in Elon, agrees.

"Long-acting, reversible contraception is great," Stanley said. "It's a really effective form of pregnancy prevention, especially IUD use."

Sophomore Jessica Geralis has wanted an IUD for years.

"IUDs are much more effective and more convenient than the pill," Geralis said.

Although IUDs have recently become more popular, their popularity makes up only a slice of the ever-growing birth control market for women.

According to the CDC, in 2015, only 7.1 percent of women using contraceptives chose IUDs.

It's a jump from the 2005 rate where only .04 percent of women used IUDs, but they still can't compete with the pill, used by 17 percent of women.

Despite the fact that IUDs are the most effective form of birth control with a 99 percent success rate in preventing pregnancy, historical controversy over IUD use causes skepticism in many women.

According to Archinal, IUDs don't have history on their side— older models were known to cause infection. And that perception hasn't necessarily faded.

"In the mid-1970s, when IUDs were becoming popular, they were made with a microfilament that attracted bacteria, leading to endometrial infection," Archinal said. "That's when IUDs got a bad rap."

The FDA approved the first progesterone containing IUD, Mirena, in 2000.

"Mirena is slightly smaller than the copper IUD," Archinal said. "At that point in time, everyone was aware that IUDs don't, in fact, cause pelvic infections. Because of this, IUDs have become much more accessible."

To build off Mirena's success over the years, in 2013 a new and improved IUD, Skyla, was released on the market with the highest pregnancy prevention rate and smaller dimensions, making it easier to use for women.

"Because Skyla is much smaller, the female body won't reject the implant," Archinal said. "I truly believe we will see an even bigger increase in IUDs with Skyla."

"I would love to switch to an IUD," said freshman Erica Freund. "I forget to take my pills often. It would just take the worry out of things."

A big step was taken with the release of Mirena. Many insurance companies will pay for most of an IUD, and some can even be put in free of any fees.

"I really think insurance companies covering IUDs will be an incentive for girls to get one," Geralis said. "If my insurance paid for it, I would get one tomorrow."

Like most any other medication, there are downsides to IUD use. Though concerns over side effects may dissuade some would-be IUD users, Archinal said bad experiences tend to be the exception, not the rule.

"The negatives to IUDs are pretty basic," Archinal said. "Some bodies just do not react well to having a foreign object inserted into the uterus. Some people will experience cramping and irritation."

In addition, many women won't have regular cycles. "Although some see it as a drawback, a lot of women see that as a positive aspect of progesterone IUDs," Stanley said.

Archinal wants to remind girls that with taking the

pills comes the possibility of human error.

"Girls need to remember that if you take antibiotics, vomit, or have diarrhea, for example, your pill may not be effectively absorbed," Archinal said.

For females lost in a sea of options, the Health Center can provide some direction via an appointment, Archinal said.

For those who might not be comfortable paying a visit to the health center, Westside ObGyn also specializes in assisting women while selecting a form of contraception, without much in the way of a cast.

Archinal believes that IUDs are the future of contraceptives. Though they may be slow to catch on, the benefits are clear to the doctor who has seen thousands of Elon University patients during her time here.

"They truly are a medical breakthrough," she said.

## IUD USAGE

.04% in 2005



7.1% in 2011

SOURCE: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## IN COMPARISON

### Skyla

- Easy insertion due to small size
- Body will not reject implant

### Liletta

- Newest
- High accuracy rate in preventing pregnancy (99.45% success rate)
- Most accessible (Medicines360 program lowers price significantly)

## THREE-BEDROOM LUXURY STUDENT HOUSING



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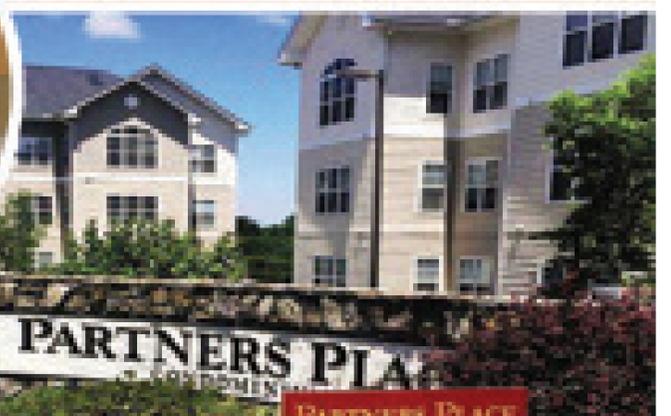
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## Cheat Sheet: The arrest, death of Freddie Gray



*Want a complicated news story explained? Email [pendulum@elon.edu](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu) and find it in next week's Cheat Sheet*

### What happened to Freddie Gray?

Gray was a 25-year-old black man who died from a severe spinal cord injury April 19, a week after being arrested in Baltimore. It is unknown at this time what caused the injury or what happened inside the van in which police placed Gray, but it is this uncertainty that has ignited protests and claims of police brutality.

### Why was he arrested?

Gray was arrested April 12. After a foot chase, he fled unprovoked after seeing police, who then pursued and tackled Gray and arrested him after finding a switchblade in his pocket, according to court documents. The switchblade wasn't seen until police caught Gray. He was arrested without the use of force, according to Baltimore Deputy Police Commissioner Jerry Rodriguez.

### How was the injury sustained?

Two bystanders recorded moments of Gray's arrest on their cell phones. The videos show Gray screaming while being dragged by officers. Once inside the transport van, street surveillance video picked up sound of Gray talking inside the van at 8:54 a.m. Police called the ambulance at 9:24 a.m. according to the video. Once Gray was taken out of the van, he couldn't breathe, according to Rodriguez.

What happened in that time period is unknown, although Police Commissioner Anthony Batts said in an April 17 press conference the officers "failed to get [Gray] the medical attention in a timely manner multiple times."

### What happened afterward?

Gray was placed in a transport van after his arrest. Within 30 minutes, police requested paramedics to transport Gray to the University of Maryland Medical Center's Shock Trauma Center because he fell into a coma. While in the hospital, Gray underwent surgery for his injured spinal cord. His spine was 80 percent severed at the neck, and he had three of his vertebrae were fractured, according to his family. Gray died that Sunday.



Protesters took to the streets in Baltimore April 25 in the wake of the death of Freddie Gray, who died April 19 from a severe spinal cord injury that is speculated to have come from a police arrest April 12.

### What has been the reaction?

Protests in Baltimore began April 21. On April 25, some protesters threw objects at helmeted police officers and damaged police vehicles while marching from Baltimore City Hall to Inner Harbor. Six officers were injured, and 35 people were arrested.

On April 27, seven more officers were injured in Baltimore during protests. Officers were armed with shields and used tear gas while demonstrators used rocks and bricks according to the Baltimore Sun. Demonstrators later set fire to police vehicles and looted a CVS drug store.

The Baltimore Orioles delayed their Monday night game after police ordered them to close the gates to their ballpark. Governor Larry Hogan declared a state of emergency in Baltimore Monday and activated the National Guard.

### What's the investigation's status?

Six Baltimore police officers are suspended during the police department's investigation of Gray's arrest. The investigation should be finished by May 1, according to Batts, and prosecutors will determine if charges should be filed. The U.S. Department of Justice is also investigating the case.

## News Briefs

### Downtown Burlington to host Active City Streets May 2

The fourth annual Active City Streets event will take place Saturday, May 2 in the streets of downtown Burlington.

The day will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Front Street in the Company Shops parking lot with Alamance County and the Jack O'Kelley Sertoma Club's Celebrate Sound 5k walk/run for hearing health.

The festival will feature events such as a Zumba class, a bike rodeo, face painting and a life-size game of Chutes and Ladders. Tennis shoes are encouraged for the free event. Food trucks will be present, and all of Burlington's downtown shops and restaurants will be open during the event.

### Elon Law, Vermont Law School announce dual-degree environmental program

Elon University School of Law announced April 22 it will offer a dual-degree program with Vermont School of Law beginning fall 2015.

Participants of the two-and-a-half year program will receive both a Juris Doctor degree from Elon Law and a Master of Environmental Law and Policy degree from Vermont Law School, the top-ranked law school for environmental law.

"We at Elon Law are delighted to partner with Vermont Law School to equip students to address many of the most pressing challenges facing businesses, governments and international institutions today," said Luke Bierman, dean of Elon Law, in a statement released by Elon Law School. "We are not only broadening opportunities available to Elon Law students through this partnership, we are also creating more avenues for future lawyers to address major societal challenges, and we're excited to do so in this instance with the nation's premier environmental law school."

In addition to having the opportunity to take Vermont Law School online courses, Elon Law students enrolled in the program will spend two summers taking environmental classes at Vermont Law School's campus.

During their second summer at Vermont Law School, students will have the opportunity to work at the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic.

"Reflecting Elon Law's experience-based approach to legal education, the JD/MELP dual-degree program will be infused with on-the-job learning, including full-time residencies in environmental law organizations," said Faith Rivers James, Elon Law associate dean for experiential learning and leadership, in a statement released by Elon Law.

## CRIME REPORT

### April 26 VANDALISM

• E. HAGGARD AVE., ELON: Police responded to a report of a handicap parking sign in the Danieley C parking lot being damaged. A student was cited for both damage to the property and underage consumption of alcohol and was released without incident.

### April 25 VANDALISM

• STATION AT MILL POINT, ELON: Police responded to a call about the window at the entrance of

building 281 of the Station at Mill Point being damaged. The damage was committed by kicking the window, according to police reports. The investigation determined that it was an accident and there were no charges.

### April 25 DRUG VIOLATIONS

• W. TROLLINGER AVE., ELON: Two police officers responded to a call of a head injury Saturday morning at a West Trollinger Avenue house. Police smelled a strong odor of marijuana and searched the residence. They

found various drug paraphernalia including two bongos and a small marijuana leaf jar. The suspect, an Elon student, was issued a citation and the paraphernalia was confiscated.

### April 25 FOUND PROPERTY

• S WILLIAMSON AVE., ELON: Police found a red Huffy mountain bike in the grass close to the intersection of Trollinger and Williamson. There was a trail in the grass leading to the bicycle. It was taken to town maintenance for storage and tagged for evidence.

## EDITORIAL

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

# University should minimize Festivus damages

## *Administrators ignored popular student-run event, pass consequences on to Physical Plant*

Elon University administrators did their part in muddying up campus when they chose not to provide hoses outside residence halls for students celebrating Festivus Sunday, April 26.

Traditionally, students who participate in Festivus leave trails of muddy footprints and ruined clothing behind them as they trek home to shower and recover from the festivities.

This year, lacking hoses — and perhaps sobriety — with which to clean off, these students undoubtedly created a mess for Physical Plant staff, who don't deserve such treatment.

The mud students tracked across campus and into their dorms had to end up somewhere.

Robert Buchholz, associate vice president for facilities management and director of Physical Plant, said some of it ended up plastered on buildings.

The university hasn't always deprived students of the tools necessary for cleaning off.

MarQuita Barker, associate director of residence life for operations and information management, said the university has provided hoses for students to use after the event for the past few years.

But this year, administrators decided against it because Festivus is not a university-sponsored event, and they

didn't want to "enable students."

According to Barker, the goal of not enabling students with hoses was to stop the growth of Festivus as a campus tradition. She confirmed that any hoses outside campus buildings were provided independently of the university.

There's little that can be done to stop Festivus from taking place. Entertainment news organization "Bro-Bible" has been involved, and, after all, Festivus has a reputation to uphold.

As an event planned by an independent group of students not recognized as an on-campus organization by the university, Festivus is almost completely free of the administration's control.

If administrators can't stop it and won't join it, they might as well prepare to deal with it. The university should do something to minimize the damage, and pre-emptive hoses are a logical solution.

Barker said mud-induced damages inflicted on residence halls would result in fines for individual students. If no one owned up to damages, community fines would be imposed.

This tactic sets students up to receive fines even if they didn't attend Festivus and creates additional work for the people responsible for containing and fixing the wreck-

age of the event.

It was inconsiderate of university administrators to expect Physical Plant staff to clean up a mess that was exacerbated by the university's efforts to restrict an event that doesn't align with the crystal-clean image the administration would like to portray.

Students who created messes and caused destruction on university property should be penalized. Physical Plant workers should not.

Of course, Festivus is one of Elon's less glamorous events. It's coordinated by students. It's not catered by Aramark. There are no nametags. Maroon and gold balloons don't fill the air.

It's not at all surprising that university officials would want to prevent the tradition from growing in popularity. But withholding hoses was the wrong way to go about it. In fact, it was counterproductive.

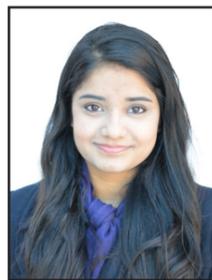
It prevented students who took part from doing what they could to minimize the damage. It imposed unwarranted fines on students who chose to not participate but whose neighbors or roommates did. And it left Physical Plant workers to deal with the carnage.

Not supplying hoses for muddy students isn't going to deter them from attending Festivus — it only keeps them from hosing off afterward.

# Rising from the ashes and the rubble

## *Sharing the Phoenix spirit with Nepal during its recovery*

The past few days have broken those in the Nepali diaspora in ways that I can't quite articulate.



Leena Dahal  
Columnist

We have spent hours clutching digital screens, desperately dialing numbers, finding hints of solace in something as simple as a "share" button and feeling utterly impotent and useless.

As we continue to wait for word from loved ones and stare helplessly at messages

describing the ongoing suffering and trauma faced by our relatives who have sat outside in the rain consumed by absolute fear of the ground beneath them, we have felt powerless. Our hearts ache for our people as we watch the destruction from afar.

But as our brothers and sisters at home dig relatives out from the rubble and continue to find ways to quell the suffering, humans from Indonesia to Vancouver who simply care are assembling to share necessary information and solicit vital funds to help rebuild the nation of Nepal.

Elon needs to join that list.

While Nepal may seem like a far-off, foreign country, we are bounded together in more ways than one. Elon University serves as

a living, breathing form of the promise of recovery in face of tragedy. We proudly share the narrative to everyone we know: the university burned to the ground, "rose from the ashes" and hasn't stopped climbing since.

It's a story that has also been written into Nepal's history. Facing unimaginable trauma time and time again, Nepali people are woven together by the same spirit that allowed Elon to pick up its own broken pieces 92 years ago. For the past few days, that same resilience in Nepal has been continuously tested and is in desperate need of reinvigoration.

While my someday-children may not be able to fully grasp the joy of playing in the magical Durbar Square — an ancient city within Kathmandu that was founded in the third century — or witness the protective power of Dharahara Tower — a monument built in the 1800s by royal rulers that watched over our beloved city — I hope to share with them a story of a nation that rose from the rubble.

I hope to tell them the story of a resilient spirit that stood bravely in the face of tragedy, and how a world — including the community I love and call my alma mater — united to restore her.

This is more than a trend on social media, a picture shared on your timeline or a heart-breaking story captured in 180 characters. This is more than Connor Grennan, who has come to define Nepal for many in our community.



Citizens of Nepal work together to clear rubble away after the April 25 earthquake.

This is more than "global engagement" or anything listed on classroom syllabi or mission statements. This is much, much more than something Smith Jackson said in an email.

I'm not asking you to empty your wallets or saying that other worthy causes in the world right now don't deserve attention. They all matter.

This is just an urgent plea, an earnest request for you to recognize that the distance

between our homes isn't as great as you may think and that Nepal deserves your prayer, thought and financial support, in whatever capacity — even when it stops trending on social media.

*Please follow Elon For Nepal (#ElonForNepal) to find out how to donate to Nepal's relief efforts and to remain up-to-date with the situation in Nepal even when it stops trending.*

## THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

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

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## Engaged, not absent

*Take advantage of SURF Day presentations*

At Elon University, the end of each school year is marked by Spring Undergraduate Research Forum (SURF) presentations on what is affectionately referred to as SURF day. Unfortunately, many students treat SURF Day — and its accompanying cancellation of classes — as something meant to only benefit presenters, students who have spent anywhere from months to years doing research.

The chance to view the results of our fellow students' research on SURF Day provides us with invaluable learning opportunities by allowing us to see applied knowledge that's not limited by the walls of a classroom.

For those who choose to participate in it, SURF — and even undergraduate research as a whole — has indeterminable value. Research allows students to extend their learning experiences so they relate more directly to their personal interests. In many cases, it can even offer insight into possible career paths.

But the benefits of undergraduate research are nothing new. Students are exposed to the concept and benefit of research through new student orientation, classes and personal accounts. Students have a multitude of different reasons for pursuing undergraduate research, and SURF Day serves as an especially effective method of sharing their results.

But SURF Day also grants those who aren't presenting a way to actually engage with the concept of research.

It bothers me that many students

choose to view SURF Day as a "free day," rather than a legitimate day to increase their learning. This reputation seems to largely stem from the cancellation of classes on SURF Day, supposedly to allow students to attend presentations. Unfortunately, many simply see the situation as another day off.

Non-presenters' attitudes demonstrate a lack of respect toward students who have devoted so much of their time applying themselves to their research. To approach these researchers' hard work with such apparent apathy only diminishes the value of their efforts and can even make anyone who might be considering research in the future apprehensive to explore it further.

We may know the prescribed benefits of research — and those are undoubtedly important — but research can also be personally gratifying if it is recognized and acknowledged by one's peers. Considering the range of disciplines and topics presented on, it is more than likely that there are SURF presentations of at least some interest to every Elon student. There are very few excuses that justify not supporting our fellow students as they display their work.

This year's SURF Day was yesterday, Tuesday, April 28. Consider how you spent it. Did you attend any presentation sessions, wish any presenters luck or contribute at all the day's events? Or did you sleep in late because classes were canceled?

It should be our collective goal as Elon students to bring out the best in each other. To do this, we must each make a decision on what we want our role to be. By giving SURF presenters our attention, even for 20 minutes, we can show that the time and effort they put into their research was hardly spent for nothing, and that their decision to take learning into their own hands was worth it all along.



Tim Melton  
Columnist

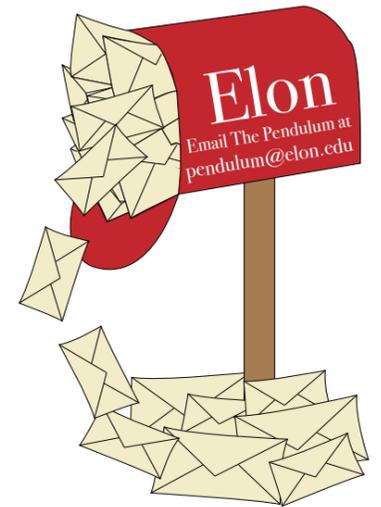
## Letter to the Editor

Written by Catherine Palmer, senior

To the Elon community:

I am sickened and outraged by the latest incidence of racial prejudice and attack on our campus. How many young African-American women (and men) must suffer fear and humiliation before we speak up? Although racism is a complex system of oppression with deeply seeded roots, it is also a matter of personal integrity and responsibility. If you are part of the majority, you have the moral responsibility to educate yourself about your own status of power and privilege. This does not mean that as a white person you are automatically racist, nor does it mean you are being blamed for your privilege. It means that you have been born into circumstances that make your life easier than the lives of many of your fellow citizens, and to live authentically and justly, it is paramount that you recognize those advantages.

Racism extends beyond the inclusivity and celebration of diversity, or lack thereof, on a college campus. It shapes the way that we, as Americans, interact with each other, with our government and with our economy. While African Americans account for roughly 13.2 percent of the American population, they represent 39.4 percent of the total incarcerated population. African Americans are at a much higher risk of heart disease and stroke, cancer, HIV/AIDS, diabetes and influenza as compared to their white counterparts. Nationally, 59 percent of African-American men who enroll in a four-year college graduate, while 80 percent of white men who enroll in a four-year college earn their degrees. These disparities are not random. They stem from a cultural belief that black lives matter less than white



lives. This is not acceptable.

Part of the Elon mission statement is to create "informed leaders motivated by concern for the common good." Live up to that challenge. Do not sit by passively and wonder why riots and protests over police brutality are erupting all over our nation.

Do not allow yourself to be confused by the definition of cultural appropriation. Do not be tricked into thinking that racism does not affect you in some way. Educate yourself. Ask questions. Most importantly, think critically about what it means to be concerned for the "common good." What role do you play in society, and how can you personally create spaces for dialogue, for difference and for positive change? The task of eradicating racism should not fall to those who already shoulder the burden of a racist society. We, as a campus community, as a nation, have a duty to act.

Submit a letter to the editor at  
[elonpendulum.com](http://elonpendulum.com)

# DOCTORS' ORDERS

## AN OPEN LETTER TO KANYE OMARI WEST



Lauryl Fischer & Frankie Campisano  
Columnists

This past week, the Elon University Student Union Board sent out the list of potential artists for our Fall 2015 Homecoming Concert. If you haven't voted yet, you should take care of that. There are a lot of cool bands on the list including Walk the Moon, Young the Giant, Panic! at the Disco and MisterWives, who can all put on one heck of a show. As can Fall Out Boy, despite the fact that they're laughably out of our budget.

But what if there was a way for us to have our cake, eat it and then have some more cake without having to wait 10 minutes to swipe back into the dining hall? In case that metaphor wasn't totally clear, the cake is music.

You know who might be the perfect headliner for

our Fall Concert? Kanye West. Think about it.

It's no secret Kanye West wants to be the next Walt Disney, Steve Jobs or one of those fashion designers us mere mortals don't recognize. It's also no secret Kanye is a big fan of Tesla CEO Elon Musk. Also a matter of public record: Elon University is only the second most relevant 'Elon' in the world.

If we can convince Kanye that the prestige of the Elon name has in some way rubbed off of Mr. Musk and onto our school, maybe Kanye will agree to perform. Let's rename West dormitory in his honor and invite Kanye to the commemoration. He'll be thrilled to know the building has been a testament to his legacy for more than a century.

But what if that's not enough to convince the voice of a generation to perform at lil' ol' 'lon? And at a bailout-level discount? Let's put Elon's most talented creatives to the task. Call on the Kanye Wests of our own campus, if you will. Pause the Lumen scholarships, see if someone can get Neil deGrasse Tyson on the phone.

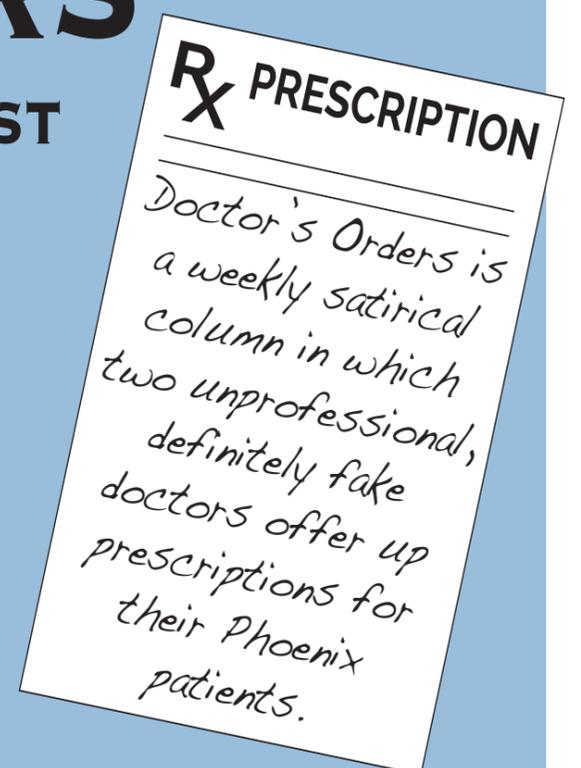
Some of you might be worried that Elon's student body is too white for Kanye West. That's a little presumptuous of you, but luckily Kanye is more concerned with classism these days. And Elon is positively oozing with classism. Classism out the wazoo. More classism than actual classes, and that's the Elon Guarantee.

Yeezus, we humbly come to you on this day to ask you to grace us with your presence and give Elon University the most historic concert it could ever hope for. There are those among us — the truly faithful of your

flock — who have followed your word since "College Dropout."

Now, years later, our lives have taken us here, to a school where the past few hip-hop shows have been so bad that this hyperbolic, satirical column will attribute them to actually causing college dropouts. B.o.B.'s concert was shut down due to noise complaints and Ludacris arrived late enough to phone in a few verses and remind us to see Fast 7, in theaters now.

Save us, Kanye West. You're our only hope.





# The Village Grill: Est. 1985

**Lauren Phillips**  
Assistant Style Editor

Palm trees may not be the first things that come to mind when thinking of Burlington's Huffman Mill Road, but they're the first things diners see as they approach The Village Grill.

From the outside, the restaurant — with its teal, peach and seafoam roof and a sign that looks as if it was made using clip art — seems like it would be more appropriate in a beach town or vacation destination. The tropical trees out front certainly don't match the law firm, the nail salon or any of the other shops in the neighboring Huffman Mill Village strip mall.

But The Village Grill is a Burlington institution, and its light, tropical-esque fare has earned it a spot on the Burlington dining scene.

Established in 1985, The Village Grill has been around long enough for it to gain a loyal following from area residents and Elon University faculty and staff. Elon students don't visit the restaurant very often, though, according to co-founder Wayne Bunting.

"We see more of them when mom and dad are in town with them," Bunting said.

The Village Grill is just down the road from Panera Bread and Starbucks, spots Elon students visit regularly. Its unmistakable sign is even visible from the ever-popular Cook Out. But financial factors, not distance or lack of recognition, may be keeping students from the Grill.

With a focus on seafood and poultry, the

restaurant may come off as too expensive or formal for the typical college-student dinner. But slightly steeper prices shouldn't stop true seafood enthusiasts from getting their fishy food fix. While signature dishes such as the "Crab & Shrimp Cakes" or the "Lime Cilantro Salmon" come in at about \$18 a plate, the Grill also offers less-pricey dishes like the "Cheeseburger from Paradise."

Before The Village Grill, Bunting and his co-founder Randy Cox first worked together at The Cutting Board, another Burlington eatery.

The Cutting Board's menu is centered around red meat, primarily steaks and burgers. When Bunting and Cox started The Village Grill, they took another focus. They made the Village Grill white-meat centric, with the majority of menu items consisting of variations of grilled chicken and fish.

"We wanted to present a healthier side in the interest of the consumers," Cox said.

The Village Grill isn't Bunting and Cox's only collaboration. They also opened Blue Ribbon Diners in Burlington and Mebane in 1990 and 2006, respectively.

The menu at The Grill contains steak dishes now, but when it was founded the focus was on lighter fare. Even today, the most popular item on the menu is the signature "Key West Chicken."

The restaurant serves the chicken in several different dishes, though the most popular are the "Grilled Chicken Pasta" and the "Key West Chicken Salad." The Grill's "Key West Chicken" is marinated in a sweet marinade made with key limes, among other ingredi-



At The Village Grill, fresh seafood and lighter fare contributes to the overall bright atmosphere.

ents, that sets it apart from the average grilled chicken.

"We've gone through a couple remodelings, but our menu is still focused on Key West Grilled Chicken," Bunting said. "We're still doing the same things we did 30 years ago."

The Grill's most popular seafood dish is its "Lime Cilantro Salmon," which is grilled with a soy-lime baste and topped with lime-cilantro butter. All seafood dishes are also served with a choice of house or Caesar salad.

"We do all salad preparation in-house,"

Bunting said. "Everything is fresh."

All the seafood The Village Grill serves is also fresh. In addition to salmon, the menu features tuna, shrimp and tilapia, with other seafood dishes — including mahi mahi — as occasional specials. The menu is seasonal, Bunting said, to ensure all ingredients are fresh.

For diners 21 and over, The Village Grill boasts an extensive wine, beer and drink menu. Regardless of age, The Village Grill has a plate to fit every palate.

# Signing for awareness

## *Sign and Dine teaches students sign language while eating*

**Miranda Siwak**  
Senior Reporter

Silence.

Many U.S. citizens who are deaf or hard-of-hearing do not have the luxury of communicating something as simple as a food order. Sign language can help with communication, but only a fraction of the population knows how to use it.

Sport and Event Management students hosted a dinner to raise awareness for American Sign Language (ASL) and the local deaf and hard-of-hearing community April 27 in the Numen Lumen Pavilion. The dinner benefited the Communication Services for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing (CSDHH) in Greensboro.

Students came up with the event for SEM 427, a practical course within the sports and event management major that allows students to apply the principles they learned in classes to plan their own events.

"This is a unique event," said sophomore Elizabeth Zimmerman. "We had a taco dinner, and the wait staff are trained, certified sign language interpreters and we had menus that have translations with the signs."

The SEM 427 course, as a service-learning class, requires students to create, promote and manage an original event that will benefit a local community. Students must select an event and then plan, organize and execute it, according to sport and event management department chair Hal Walker.

"In SEM, we stress the importance of transferable skills, and there is no better way

to learn these skills than by running a live event," Walker said. "Planning, organizing, staffing, directing, leading, budgeting are all critical skills necessary for success in the real world. Students take ownership for each of these aspects, and they always learn a great deal about themselves and others."

The idea of a sign language restaurant was first proposed by a student who was also taking an ASL course. As a whole, the class was interested in pursuing this unique and fun concept and raising awareness for a local organization.

"The event was inspired by a restaurant in Toronto called Signs," said freshman Lauren Miskovsky. "This restaurant hires only deaf waitresses and waiters, which encourages the hearing world to be exposed and to use American Sign Language and menus are created so each item is shown with its corresponding sign in ASL."

The event management students thought it would be an engaging challenge to bring a restaurant like Signs to Elon. When deciding on the event, the class thought recreating the signing concept was a different way to bring awareness to the deaf and hard-of-hearing community to the Elon campus. They decided on a taco bar where patrons would be able to say exactly what toppings they wanted using sign language they learned from images on the menu.

"This was such a fun experience," said sophomore Michelle Kohlmann. "It made me more aware of the deaf community and made me want to learn more."

The event had a "steady stream" of pa-

trons attend, Zimmerman said. Learning the signs proved challenging for diners, but the trained interpreters serving as the evening's wait staff eagerly helped people learn the proper signs.

"I've never learned sign language before," said junior Maya Sank. "It's harder than I expected to not speak."

Along with organizing the event, students also needed to find a specific organization to support. To keep the awareness close to North Carolina, they decided on CSDHH.

"CSDHH focuses on giving deaf people in the central North Carolina area resources they need to succeed in a hearing-based world," Zimmerman said. "Our goal is to

raise funds and awareness to things they and we are passionate about. We wanted to stay local, to show that the Elon community cares about the people in the surrounding areas."

The event served as a way for both the students to organize an event on their own and for the community to learn more about the CSDHH and deaf and ASL culture. Attendees enjoyed having conversations and practicing how to order in ASL.

"I thought it was a really good turnout for its first year," said junior Emilie Rowand. "I thought it was really cool how many community guests they had from the actual organization."



Juniors Jon Bass and Aaron Weber practice conversation through sign language.

# Diverse disciplines of SURF Day 2015

*Undergraduate researchers demonstrate curiosity, talent through presentations*

Brett Gubitosi  
Senior Reporter

As students spend their school year doing work for classes, jobs and extracurriculars, some have a little more on their plate as they develop and conduct their own research in any given field.

The Student Undergraduate Research Forum — more commonly known as SURF Day — is an opportunity for students to present their original research in front of students, faculty and staff.

Introduced at Elon University in 1993, SURF has showcased undergraduate research for more than 20 years. It is one of the ways Elon provides opportunities for students to practice professionalism and apply it to a future career.

This year, there are a few changes in SURF. Now, there are student moderators during the sessions and symposia presentations — pieces spanning across three or more departments.

Meredith Allison, associate director of the Undergraduate Research Program, said SURF is an excellent way for students to study a single in-depth project for an entire year or longer.

“It is so different when you can study one thing for so long,” she said. “It improves writing, presentation and professional skills. All the research is not coming from one place all the time. We value cross-campus participation.”

At this year’s SURF, 203 students presented original research ranging from communications, science, religion, sociology and other fields.

## Memory through music

For his undergraduate research, senior Elon College Fellow Jake Sokoloff intended to capture and connect generations through memories sparked by music in a project titled: “They Can’t Take That Away from Me: Stories from an Unforgettable Generation.”

To gather his information, Sokoloff visited the Village at Brookwood, a senior living retirement community in Burlington, and conducted in-depth interviews with individuals older than 75.

During the interviews, he played songs definitive of their generation, such as “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” and “New York, New York,” to recall memories connected to these songs.

Sokoloff first developed the idea four years ago from his close relationship with his grandmother. Although the research relates to the events of her generation, Sokoloff said our generation could also relate to the common themes of childhood, love and work. His research looks at humanity, culture, music and the power of physical communications with others.

“So often we ignore the people who can’t keep up in the same way society expects us to,” Sokoloff said. “It’s amazing how much we can learn about ourselves and life if we take the time to slow down and listen.”

Sokoloff’s research culminated in two one-hour performances. Each performance entailed parts of the conversations the residents had with Sokoloff, performed by the residents and set to music. While some told other residents’ stories, others told their own stories in the performance.

“The residents telling their stories give voice to this often unheard generation,” Sokoloff said.

Sokoloff wants to use music to bridge generational gaps. His dream is to one day start a company that connects interviews and music to document the collective cultural history and experience of U.S. citizens across generations. This hypothetical company would combine the efforts of the project Story Core, which creates an oral history of the United States through conversations, and the nonprofit Music and Memory, which helps individuals with Alzheimer’s remember more through music.

“I want to use music, which is so visceral, to trigger these conversations and stories, and take it to be presented on a larger scale,” Sokoloff said.

Through his experiences with undergraduate research, Sokoloff became passionate with the idea of connecting people through common musical experiences. Sokoloff referred to his research as a playground for his education.

“I wouldn’t [otherwise] have fallen into this passion that may turn into a career for me,” he said. “It’s more fulfilling than simply fulfilling graduation requirements.”

Sokoloff’s mentor, professor of Performing Arts Jane Wellford, enjoyed working with him and seeing his enthusiasm for his research.

“Getting to know Jake through our Elon College Fellows research over his four years, I learned that he is not only a talented music theatre major but an individual who will do well in life,” Wellford said. “I love the fact that Jake dares to dream big and make things happen.”

## Practicing the art of pop

Senior Honors Fellow Brooke Jenkins appreciates the straightforwardness of pop music.

“Simplicity in pop music is a beautiful thing,” she said. “It creates something people love. That’s definitely art.”

For her research, entitled “Songwriting and Arranging in Styles of Popular Music,” she studied specific albums from 10 different pop musicians — including Lana del Ray, Mika, Fall Out Boy and Taylor Swift, among others — and wrote original songs based on the styles of these musicians.

Jenkins said some artists were easier to emulate than others. Her favorite was the style of Mika, which pushed her to be more “poppy.” Writing in the style of Fall Out Boy was the most difficult for her because of the clever wordplay and lyrics they usually incorporate into each song.

Throughout the research process, the most difficult aspect was writing songs similar to artists without ripping them off. She said it was difficult to follow melodic patterns without copying, especially with Lana del Ray’s music.

As a music production major, Jenkins has always enjoyed listening to and writing music, but she learned to appreciate pop music more with her research.

“Lots of people look at pop in a very formulaic way,” she said.

Prior to her research, she wrote many original songs, most of them folk- and acoustic-based, once a week while at Elon. After exploring pop music, she is more confident in songwriting, which she hopes to make into a career.

“I don’t see songwriting as overwhelming anymore,” Jenkins said. “To do it professionally, you have to just keep writing.”

Jenkins believes her research is an important contribution to the field of music theory. She said there is no pre-defined way to study and analyze pop albums, and her research helps build some structure for the field.



MIRANDA SWIAK | Design Editor  
Caleigh Erickson presents research on Cedric Klapish’s films.

Her mentor, Clay Stevenson, a lecturer in music, has seen Jenkins’ songwriting progress.

“At the beginning of the process, her music was fairly predictable in that she wrote in a specific style and maintained a certain sound,” he said. “As she studied artists and styles she adopted a number of interesting techniques, and her music became more varied and interesting.”

Jenkins said participating in undergraduate research has changed the way she looks at music.

“It has been a defining element of my undergraduate career,” she said. “It lets me focus on what I want to do going forward. It’s what you do beyond classes that allow you to create something really meaningful.”

## Click for a first impression

Senior Elon College Fellow Sara Hess’ research investigates individuals’ first impressions through online contact and profiles such as Facebook. Her research is titled “The Exploration of the Pit Bull Stigma in an Online Environment: An Analysis of Impression Formation and Online Discussion Groups.”

Her work, classified under the new psychology field Human-Animal Interactions, focused on the negative perceptions of the pit bull dog breed, which is stereotyped as an aggressive and mean breed. This degrading impression extends to pit bull owners as well.

Hess said people’s views on the breed have changed since the Michael Vick dogfighting incidents of the 2000s, which showed pit bulls aggressively attacking each other.

“They were regarded with respect, but now a majority of people hate and fear them,” she said.

To study her claim, she set up two mock Facebook pages. One featured a profile picture of a girl with a pit bull, the other a profile picture of a girl with a labrador. She found that more people liked the Facebook page with the Labrador.

Hess connected her study to first impressions that people experience online and in person.

“The choice of a dog you choose to adopt or the choice of a phone you choose to buy can affect the way people see you,” she said.

Hess stressed that today, online first impressions are more important than ever.

Paul Fromson, professor of psychology, mentored Hess. He said her research was a unique addition to research done on first impressions. Fromson also said he learned about his own perceptions of the dog breed during research with Hess.

“I now know that pit bulls are not as inherently aggressive as they are often portrayed in the media,” he said. “But if I was walking down the street and saw one in a yard up ahead, I’d probably steer clear. I certainly wouldn’t approach it going, ‘Nice doggie, nice doggie.’”

Fromson said undergraduate research not only helps the individual but also the greater community of academics.

“The questions we investigate and the methods we use to pursue answers are embedded in our disciplinary communities,” he said. “Research doesn’t end until we have shared our work with members of those communities.”

Students worked on their research throughout the semester and shared it with their peers and faculty on Tuesday, April 28.



TOMMY HAMZIK | Managing Editor  
Mary Rouse presents on hypocrisy in the foreign policy of the United States and Soviet Union for her undergraduate research.

# Light from the darkness

## 'Next to Normal' presents themes of mental illness

Ally Feinsot  
Senior Reporter

Darkness.

A crippled mind. A dysfunctional family. "Next to Normal" brought the struggles of mental illness to life at Elon University April 23 – 26.

The musical deals with themes such as suicide, drug abuse and grieving. The storyline centers on matriarch Diana Goodman, who is suffering from bipolar disorder after the loss of her child.

Linda Sabo, director and associate professor of performing arts, watched the original cast perform a song from the Pulitzer Prize-winning show at the Tony Awards and was immediately intrigued.

"The music is beautifully written, and I thought it would be a challenge for our students because of the contemporary rock sound," Sabo said.

Elon musical theater majors are primarily classically trained, but with the help of faculty trained in contemporary and rock singing, Sabo said the vocally demanding show was a challenge students were willing and able to take on.

Over the course of two days, 150 students auditioned for the show, singing various pieces from the show and, later in the audition process, songs for specific characters. The show was double cast, with each cast performing three times.

Senior Zach Teague, assistant director, said actors are belting taxing rock ballads for almost the entirety of the show. The decision to double cast the production not only gave students more opportunities to perform but also prevented vocal straining.

"Next To Normal" was performed in Roberts Studio Theatre, one of the newest art facilities on campus. Teague said Roberts Studio Theatre — a black box theater — catered perfectly to "Next to Normal" because of its ability to allow audiences to connect with the characters on a deeper level.

"It is such an intimate space, so the audience is able to catch things that they wouldn't normally catch in a big theater," Teague said. "It's cool because it feels like you're in it with them and really feeling the strong emotions of the characters."

The black box is constructed with black sheets hanging on stage and around the theater, which was intended to represent Diana Goodman's psychological problems by giving audience members the impression they were looking into the "walls" of her mind.

Sabo wanted the show to be as abstract as possible while playing with the black box theater setting. The actors move cinematically through each scene with psychological-based choreography.

"Next to Normal" highlights mental illness, a topic peo-

ple often avoid for fear of facing stigmas and ignorance from others. Junior Lizzie Markson, who played Natalie Goodman, said she expected the dark themes of the show to be hard to handle but considered working with them an enjoyable and educational process.

"Most of the characters are in such a dark place, but I've found that you just have to lose yourself and immerse yourself in the role," Markson said. "It is definitely emotionally exhausting because it's so intense, but we try to keep each other laughing to keep us sane."

As assistant director, Teague helped actors develop their characters and find motivation in their scenes. Watching rehearsals continuously led him and the cast to become more comfortable with the depressing topics in the show.

"We did so much research on electro-shock therapy, grief and mental illness medications," Teague said. "We wanted to steer the actors in the right direction of handling such an emotionally driven show, but they were already so mentally prepared from day one."

Markson said playing Natalie gave her the opportunity to explore and express deeper emotions.

"[Teague] has said to me, 'I wish I could show you a video of yourself from the beginning of rehearsals to now,'" Markson said. "I'm constantly being pushed to take risks."

Sabo said she was amazed how the cast could understand and perform the material so well, especially the two actors who played Diana, a 40-year-old bipolar woman.

"Each generation gets smarter and more sophisticated at a much earlier age," Sabo said. "This maturity translates into their acting, and you immediately suspend disbelief, convinced that they are truly going through what the characters are dealing with."

Although the characters are part of what seems like a normal suburban family, what lies beneath the surface is the overarching theme of the show: the challenges of mental illness.

Sabo hopes this focus will make the audience more educated and aware of mental illness.

"The finale is called 'Light,' and I think that encompasses the overall theme of the show," Sabo said. "You may have to search long and hard, but there is hope at the end of the tunnel."



PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY LINDA SABO

Students explored dark themes including mental illness while performing 'Next to Normal' last week by telling the story of a dysfunctional family overcoming the loss of a child.

# Thesis projects explore emotions through art

Caroline Perry  
Senior Reporter

Guns. Pills. Alcohol.

For senior Kaitlin Stober, using controversial subject matter is the best way to evoke emotional responses from her audience.

Stober will be presenting a series of still-life oil paintings. She hopes to display multiple realities and diverse perceptions through her work by focusing on windows.

"I use windows as the canvas for my work because of the visual benefits inherent in the reflective yet transparent glass surface as well as the rich symbolism surrounding windows," Stober said.

Students striving for the bachelor of arts and bachelor of fine arts worked through the final stretch for their thesis exhibition, an end of the year show of their art-making endeavors.

Ann Kaplan, assistant professor of art, has been preparing for this show with seniors in her seminar capstone course for the past semester.

"I think what's really captivating about this year's group is that they're really deeply exploring divergent and multiplicitious realities," Kaplan said.

The thesis exhibition runs May 1-19 and will feature multiple works from different students in Kaplan's class. There will be a variety of media ranging from paintings to digital print to drawings to large-scale film featured to showcase each artist's thesis.

Senior Sarah Wasko wants to inspire personal contemplation from the audience of the exhibition. For her piece, Wasko masked her face with turquoise glitter and had photos taken.

"Children's art usually depicts a hyperbolized version of our world," Wasko said. "I have masked myself in children's art materials to allude to this masking and hyperbolizing of different parts of ourselves."

Wasko looks at popular social media platforms as a contemporary mask of sorts.

"We are constantly hiding some aspects of ourselves while playing up others, whether we are aware of it or not," she said. "Think Facebook, Instagram — everything we do."

Her thesis impacted her a lot more than she originally anticipated.

"It has made me question a lot about my own identity, how I choose to present myself and



Seniors incorporate a variety of movements and genres of dance during their final seminar performance.

RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer

what devices I use to do so," Wasko said. "The work is pretty bizarre, but so are we. And that's kind of the point."

Desmond Harrell's thesis examines Beyonce in a religious

context. He wanted to show the direct connection between power and race, especially in such a highly regarded figure.

"My piece includes a collage of images printed on canvas," Harrell said. "The background, which was inspired by traditional African kente cloth, not only serves as the background but it encompasses Beyonce, creating space and depth within my piece."

Originally, Harrell worked with smaller scale images, but has since transitioned into ones of a larger scale. He decided to switch to larger images because of the overwhelming feelings his exposition gave him and to strive for a larger impact.

"What I hope to achieve with this piece is to put in perspective calling people like Beyonce 'Queen Bey' or LeBron James

'King James,'" Harrell said.

Kaplan believes the students' work is interesting, dynamic and colorful.

Although there are minor differences between BAs and BFAs, students in both disciplines worked diligently to complete their projects.

"The BFA is designed to be more of a pre-professional program, while the BA allows greater flexibility for interdisciplinary work," said Michael Fels, associate professor of art and chair of the department of art and art history.

The exhibition will be in Gallery 406 in the Arts West building. Artists featured in the exhibition will present brief statements explaining their theses at a reception beginning at 5:30 p.m. May 1.



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY SARAH WASKO

Senior Sarah Wasko covers herself in turquoise glitter to represent the mask separating childhood.

## ELON MYTHS

# Homemade Acorn cookies

Danielle Deavens  
Senior Reporter

Soft, chewy and full of flavor, Acorn cookies — Elon University's favorite guilty pleasure — tempt students from behind their glass display case while students wait to order a coffee or sandwich. The cookies beg to be bought.

There's a flavor for everyone: chocolate chip, peanut butter, peanut butter chocolate chip, pumpkin spice, oatmeal raisin walnut, double chocolate, coconut pecan and carnival.

"I can't resist," said freshman Zach Monick. "It's impossible to walk by the case and not get one. I tried to give them up so that I could save money, but that only lasted a week."

Unfortunately, this cookie cutter vision doesn't add up.

When students bite into the "fresh-baked goodness," they assume the batter is whipped up in Acorn's kitchen early in the morning and baked to golden-brown perfection before its doors open.

Acorn's famed cookies are baked in-house, but the batter comes premade in a box.



LANE DEACON | Staff Photographer

Students will often microwave their Acorn cookies, which are baked with premade dough.

"The cookies are from Otis Spunkmeyer and baked in house daily, with the exception of the oatmeal raisin cranberry which are made by David's," said Mike Bellefeuil, director of operations for Aramark at Elon. "They are baked in house, as well."

This cookie dough isn't as fresh as it seems, either. Otis Spunkmeyer is known for its frozen, individually-wrapped "thaw and serve" Sweet Discovery cookies. Sweet Discovery claims to produce the top frozen cookie dough in the United States. It comes

in 20 flavors — and a few of them are displayed at Acorn.

Even though the sweet treats aren't made in house, student opinion stands strong.

"I love Acorn cookies," said freshman Tommy Mackey. "I love Acorn in general. Cookies are definitely a big part of why I love it. It's not gonna change my opinion. It doesn't really bother me."

It even intrigues some of them.

"Sometimes you can see them in the back squishing them together to make a bigger one," said sophomore Ashley Hill. "I didn't really care. I'll still eat them."

Some are even shocked they are made in the cafe at all.

"I did not even know that they were baked here," said sophomore Sophie Natan. "I just assumed that they were shipped in, but they're still super delicious so it does not change my opinion on them."

It may be a tough pill to swallow, but that's how the cookie crumbles. Acorn's famous cookies are baked with love, even if the dough travels to Elon in a cold box.

Want an Elon myth debunked? Email us at [pendulum@elon.edu](mailto:pendulum@elon.edu).

# Decision making with Rich Skrosky

Let's hope this doesn't become an annual question.

Spring practice is over, and as we progress into the summer and fall, the same question surrounds the Elon University football team:



Tommy Hamzik  
Columnist

Who's going to start at quarterback?

It's head coach Rich Skrosky's second season, and it's the second straight year this question is at the forefront of discussion. He's

made it clear he won't decide between redshirt freshman Connor Christiansen and true freshman Daniel Thompson until the fall.

Actually, after last week's spring game, Skrosky said he didn't know when he'd make the decision.

"I don't even have a date," Skrosky said.

"Will it be after the second scrimmage? We're not even going to say '1' and '1A.'"

Christiansen, the 6-foot, 188-pound native of Fishers, Indiana, redshirted last year under Mike Quinn and John Loughery, both of whom are now gone.

He's got the experience edge over Thompson, who's 6-foot, 198-pounds and graduated high school early to enroll at Elon in February.

That's perhaps why Skrosky put Christiansen with the first-team offense during the spring game. Christiansen and Thompson both saw reps with the first team during spring practices.

Since Christiansen has been in the system for a year now, it'd be easy to think he has the upper hand.

"After the [James Madison University] game last year, I was like all right, it's my time," Christiansen said. "I'm always going to go in like I'm No. 1. I'd be cheating myself if I didn't ... I sat on the sidelines

for the first time in my life — and I hated it. I don't want to do that anymore."

Neither quarterback stood out during the spring game, with Christiansen throwing for 125 yards on 12-of-24 passing with an interception and Thompson going 7-of-20 for 101 yards. Christiansen threw one interception and was sacked three times — Thompson was sacked four times.

Christiansen made the play of the night, faking a spike and running in for a 2-yard touchdown as time expired. It was the game's only touchdown.

Thompson, though, had some of the more impressive throws. Both went long to begin a handful of drives, but the longest pass play was Thompson's 33-yard completion to freshman Josh Ramseur early in the second half.

On his first drive, Thompson stepped up for a 17-yard completion to junior Demetri Allison on 3rd and 15.

Three plays later, on 3rd and 8, he hit junior B.J. Bennett for an 11-yard completion and a first down.

"I thought I made some stupid mistakes, some dumb reads and stuff like that," Thompson said. "I think everything I did was correctable."

That's good, because Thompson has plenty of time to correct for all that.

Drawing this quarterback competition out is more annoying than anything. Since he was with the first team during the spring game, can't you just say Christiansen is currently the starter?

"We're not even going to come close to saying that," Skrosky said. "We're going to let it play out. I think it'd be unfair for both of them if we said, 'OK, you've had 15 practices. Let's make a decision.' We're going to let them compete throughout the summer and go into fall camp."

Excellent. Thanks for the suspense, Rich. See you in August.

# Defense dominates in Spring Game

*Increased reps help defense take strides of improvement*

Alex Simon  
Senior Reporter

Throughout spring practice, the Elon University football team has seen the number of players in camp dwindle — especially on the defensive end.

This is, in part, because of graduating seniors, as well as some injured players.

For the players who are still at Elon and are still participating in spring practices, the lack of depth means an increase in practice time for other players.

At the spring football game on Saturday night, the defense shone brightest at Rhodes Stadium, as the 6-3 final score showed that the increased reps are paying off for many of the returners on defense.

"We found out we are a lot stronger mentally," said junior defensive lineman Dominic Bourne. "As a team, it took a lot out of us to keep going and going — especially for us linemen since there were only three interior linemen."

Bourne had two sacks as he played for the maroon team, both coming in the first quarter of the two-quarter scrimmage.

The 6-foot-2, 270-pound junior, who had 14 tackles in ten games last season, finished the evening with a total of 4.5 tackles.

Bourne and his fellow defensive linemen's work caught the eye of head coach Rich Skrosky.

"I've been pleased with the defensive line, and that's even with a couple guys that are out," Skrosky said. "[Junior] Jack Williams was out, [sophomore] Dondre Howell, who we think is going to be a factor, was out, and we've gotten really good productivity."

Another lineman who had a big night was senior Rob Sullivan, who finished the night with four tackles and 1.5 sacks as he split time between the teams.

"Rob was a solid player last year," Skrosky said. "But this is really Rob's first offseason he's had, as he had shoulder injuries the last two offseasons. So he's bigger and stronger and a really athletic kid."

Elon lost two standout senior linebackers after last season as Jonathan Spain and Odell Benton finished their time at Elon. At the position, Elon will be counting on junior John Silas to continue his produc-



Freshman quarterback Connor Christiansen scrambled into the endzone as time expired to notch a 6-3 win for the maroon team.

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

tion from last year, when he was second on the team with 100 tackles.

But while Silas had 1.5 tackles Saturday, the standout linebacker of the spring game was senior Alexander Dawson, who had a game-high 7.5 tackles for the white team.

Dawson also added one sack toward the end of the second quarter, stopping the maroon offense on fourth down with less than three minutes to go.

After the game, Dawson was complimentary of his fellow defensive players, honing in on the defensive lineman.

"I feel, after seeing them get all of the reps, they are a lot better conditioned now," Dawson said. "I'm seeing a lot of improvements from last year, which may not have happened if more players were involved or

if we were a healthier team."

Senior Julius Moore, who had the lone turnover, will lead the secondary for the Phoenix.

Moore caught the ball off of a deflection from fellow defensive back sophomore Chris Blair and returned it 23 yards.

Moore was the leader in interceptions for the Phoenix in 2014 with four and was fourth in tackles with 67.

Blair was third on the team in tackles with four, sliding right into the same spot he occupied in the 2014 season, during which his 98 tackles also was third-best on the team.

Blair and Moore will be joined by senior defensive backs Miles Williams (55 tackles in 2014) and Jeremy Gloston (49 tackles

in 2014) in the secondary, forming Elon's most experienced unit on either side of the ball.

With the spring practices completed, all of the players will go back to working out and getting ready for final exams. Then, after a little time off, they will return for summer workouts, with fall practice starting in early August.

On the final day of contact practice, Skrosky took one last chance to evaluate his team and liked what he saw.

"There were things that happened during the course of the spring that when you put the tape on at night after practice, you said, 'Hey, that drill is showing up,'" Skrosky said. "So that's a sign that we are honing in on our fundamentals."

# Elon baseball is peaking at the right time

*Despite injuries, team has potential to excel going into postseason*

For the Elon University baseball team to remain competitive, its pitchers will need to improve and have more faith in its defense.



**Bryan Anderson**  
Columnist

Though the team is suffering from injuries, it is on the brink of unlocking its potential.

After winning two of three home games last weekend against the No. 22 University of North Carolina at Wilmington, the Phoenix has proven it can compete against

the best.

“If you had told me coming in we’d get two out of three, I’d take it,” said Elon head coach Mike Kennedy after Sunday’s doubleheader. “We did enough. I thought we played really well for two games on both sides of the ball.”

It is clear Elon can generate enough offense to support its pitchers. The challenge lies in getting pitchers capable of executing the fundamentals by throwing strikes.

This is not a foolproof system.

On Sunday, Elon lost 14-6. Pitchers threw several balls catching too much of the plate. On April 19 and April 21, the team surrendered 14 and nine runs, respectively.

But at the end of the day, the pitchers do not need to throw gems to win ballgames.

A plethora of offense from a variety of players makes the Phoenix one of the most competitive teams in the Colonial Athletic Association.

The Phoenix scored 47 runs in its five games last week, including a 14-run performance Friday against UNCW. Senior first baseman Chris King ended a 1-for-29 drought with a two-RBI double and finished the weekend 3-for-12.

Other players who had been struggling prior to the weekend also delivered in clutch situations.

Austin Leoney, a junior catcher who entered the weekend with no hits in previous 10 at-bats, went 5-for-9 (.556) against the

UNCW Seahawks in his three starts.

While new players contributed, familiar ones helped as well.

Senior infielder Casey Jones hit 7-for-12 (.583) in the weekend series and had at least one hit in all five games last week and has recorded a hit in 10 of his last 11 games. On Friday, he tallied four hits and three RBI.

Although several batters made significant contributions, sophomore third baseman Nick Zammarelli received CAA Player of the Week honors.

gether some pretty good at-bats. The result is we’re starting to score runs.”

As the Phoenix dominated offensively, it excelled on the mound throughout much of the week.

Sophomore Nick Beaulac pitched well into Friday’s game. Across seven innings of work, he surrendered three runs, two of which were earned, on four hits. He also finished the night with eight strikeouts.

Beaulac converted from a reliever to a starter April 18 when he pitched the first

Nine games remain on the team’s schedule. Six of the games are against CAA opponents. The Phoenix will travel to Hofstra University this weekend and return to Latham Park May 8-10 to host the University of Delaware.

According to the CAA website, Elon has an easy road ahead on paper. Hofstra is in last with a 3-15 record in CAA play while Delaware ranks sixth at 7-8 in the CAA.

Elon is currently in fourth place with a comfortable two game lead on College of William & Mary. Since six teams are able to advance to this year’s CAA Tournament hosted at College of Charleston, Elon will easily make the tournament.

But the Elon should not be content with a fourth place regular season finish.

The Phoenix has a .500 (33) combined record against College of Charleston and UNCW — currently the top two teams in the CAA — and could secure a third place finish relatively easily.

Since the top two seeds get a first round bye from the CAA Tournament and the Phoenix lost two of three games at William & Mary earlier this season, the No. 3 seed would provide the Phoenix with an enormous advantage.

It would allow the team to play a much easier opponent on paper.

So what stands in Elon’s way of succeeding? Injuries.

Sophomore starter Matt Harris has a concussion and does not yet have a timetable for returning, according to Kennedy.

Junior starter Michael Elefante is also out because of soreness. He will be getting an MRI this week, so his status is unknown.

On the positive side, the Phoenix proved it could win a series against the top team in the CAA without two of its key starters.

It is a shame Elon cannot put its best players out on the field.

But with new stars emerging and slumping hitters getting back on the right track, so much promise remains.

“WE’RE HAVING FOUR, FIVE OR SIX GUYS PUT TOGETHER SOME PRETTY GOOD AT-BATS. THE RESULT IS WE’RE STARTING TO SCORE RUNS.”

MIKE KENNEDY  
ELON BASEBALL COACH

Zammarelli was 5-for-7 in Sunday’s doubleheader, going 4-for-4 in the second game. He earned six RBI. He also hit two doubles and a homer.

“I’ve been feeling pretty good at the plate, so hopefully this is one of those games that really gets me in a groove,” Zammarelli said after the doubleheader. “But as a whole, we swung it really well this weekend.”

Elon’s most impressive offensive feat occurred Friday when each of its nine starters recorded at least one hit. According to Kennedy, there has been significant growth in the number of batters stepping up.

“We’re having more than one or two guys have quality at-bats,” Kennedy said. “We’re having four, five or six guys put to-

gether some pretty good at-bats. The result is we’re starting to score runs.”

five innings against Towson University and has enjoyed early success since assuming a different role in the pitching rotation.

If there is one obstacle the sophomore faces, it is his command and accuracy. On Friday, he allowed three walks. He also threw a whopping 110 pitches.

“I’ve got to keep my pitch count down a little more and try not to walk as many guys,” Beaulac said following his win on Friday. “I was trying to throw to hitters more.”

Kennedy has successfully shifted his pitchers’ mindset. For much of the season, Elon’s starters and relievers tried to throw past hitters and find the perfect pitch.

They allowed too many free passes as a result.

## Baseball walk-on assumes increased role

### *Nick Beaulac is succeeding as a routine starter*

**Bryan Anderson**  
Sports Editor

The road to starting has been a difficult journey for Elon University sophomore Nick Beaulac.

He narrowly got cut before the 2014 regular season. He underwent surgery before pitching at the varsity level. But he persevered through the challenges.

“He was a kid who was a walk-on that has been through some trials and tribulations with having surgery and being cut,” said head coach Mike Kennedy. “You could go through a list of things, and he’s kind of just stayed the course.”

Beaulac’s first obstacle was making a smooth transition from high school to college. According to Kennedy, Beaulac didn’t understand the complexities of Division I Baseball and the amount of time it took to prepare for a game.

Over time, Beaulac worked harder to land a spot on the roster and become a routine pitcher.

He started in relief at the beginning of the season, but was thrust into a starting role after two of the Phoenix’s regular starters suffered injuries.

Over the course of the baseball season, the team has struggled to generate consistency on the mound. In the wake of recent injuries to starters Matt Harris and Michael Elefante, Beaulac had to tackle a bigger leadership role.

He debuted as starter April 18 at Towson University.

In five innings of work, Beaulac was rocky. He walked five batters in a 92-pitch outing. While his high pitch count forced him to exit the game early, he struck out nine batters and only allowed one run on two hits.

“I just needed to realize that I got to trust my defense,” Beaulac said. “If I pitch to contact, my defense can make plays behind. So I’ve just got to get more comfortable pitching.”

Kennedy saw enough potential in Beaulac and decided to have him start Friday against the nationally ranked, CAA-leading University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

Beaulac delivered a dominant performance by allowing two earned runs and four hits across seven innings. He struck out eight hitters while walking three.

But there are still some adjustments that need to be made on the hill.

“I guess I’m still trying to get comfortable



Sophomore Nick Beaulac has shifted roles from a relief pitcher to a routine starter.

out of the windup,” Beaulac said. “I’ve been out of the pen most of the time, but I settled in after a while.”

While he looks to improve on the mound, he feels more confident knowing he has a strong offense able to support him.

In his two starts he notched the win thanks to his hitters. At Towson, the Phoenix generated 13 runs on nine hits. When playing UNCW Friday, Elon scored 14 runs. With his win Friday, he improved his overall record to 4-1 and lowered his ERA to 4.19.

## Million helping Phoenix stay afloat in CAA

**Robbie Nanna**  
Senior Reporter

In the 47 contests the Elon University softball team has played in this season, one player has flown relatively under the radar. Though she is absent accolades from the Colonial Athletic Association so far, she currently ranks fourth in team batting average for the Phoenix.

Sophomore Carey Million has earned her role as a true utility player. She's spent time as catcher, infielder and outfielder while energizing her team.

"Good things happen when you put your team first and play for a bigger cause," Million said. "It takes the whole team to win...there's no better feeling than being successful when your team has success."

The Roebling, New Jersey, native received several high school honors while attending the Hun School of Princeton. She earned spots on the All-Prep first team, All-Mid Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) and the "Star Ledger" teams her sophomore, junior and senior years. She was named the New Prep Player of the Year in 2013 and was selected as the Princeton Packet Player of the Year her senior year in 2014.

She made a connection with Elon and head coach Kathy Bocock while deciding on a university to attend.

"I had several great experiences at Elon

softball camps in the past," Million said. "Coach gave off this enthusiasm and love for the game. I felt like I could learn a lot from Coach Bo. I felt at home with the team and chose Elon for its academic reputation as well as its beautiful campus."

In her rookie season for the Phoenix, Million made an immediate impact. She played in all 52 games and started 48, mostly behind the plate. Although she only posted a batting average of .189, she recorded six doubles and four home runs in her 23 hits. Complementing her offensive performance were the 14 RBI and 16 runs scored for the season.

The impact from her rookie season earned Million a spot on the starting lineup the opening day of her sophomore season — a position she has yet to lose.

Her statistics have improved between her freshman and sophomore years, allowing her to retain her starting position.

She currently has eight doubles, 37 hits and 18 RBI.

According to freshman teammate Kiandra Mitchum, the softball team is confident in its abilities and doesn't concern itself with outside criticism.

"Every game matters, and that is motivation to keep us working hard," Mitchum said. "If we all play like we know we can and don't worry about what other people think, we can do great things."

With a little more than a week until the

CAA Championships begin, Elon is in a tight race to the postseason with one series remaining against the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

Though the Phoenix has a tough journey ahead, players like Million attempt to keep

the team's morale as high as possible.

"I expect myself and my teammates to continue to play with the intensity and pride that we have done this entire season," Million said. "We are going to finish strong and compete in the CAA tournament."



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer

The Elon University softball team is tied for third in the Colonial Athletic Association.

## New country, new adjustments to golf

*Scotland native Heather Munro adapts to new weather conditions at Elon*

**Nathan Smith and Bryan Anderson**  
Senior Reporter and Sports Editor

College has been quite an adjustment for Heather Munro, a freshman Dundee, Scotland, native on the Elon University women's golf team. Even so, she found herself leading the Colonial Athletic Association Women's Golf Championships after the second day of the three-day tournament.

After shooting a 2-under par on the day to go 3-under for the tournament, she put herself and her team in position to win the individual and team championships. Munro finished the tournament with a 217 — 1-over par — to earn the individual runner-up title in the CAA Tournament. She also helped the Phoenix capture second place in the team competition.

"The last day was disappointing," Munro said. "But if I had been told I'd come in second at the start of the week, I would have taken it. I think it was a good start to my freshman year."

When transitioning from golf in Scotland

to golf in the United States, Munro had to adjust to the different course conditions.

"The weather's a lot different," Munro said. "When I came in, I had a really low ball flight because it's so windy back home. When I came out here I made it a lot higher because the greens here are more receptive than at home."

Munro is aware of her strengths and weaknesses as a player and has worked to develop her game throughout the season.

"I've been working on my putting a lot with [head coach Chris Dockrill], and it's slowly getting there, but there's still a lot of work to do," she said.

According to Dockrill, Munro has improved the weaker areas of her game.

"She's worked extremely hard two weeks prior going into the [CAA Championships]," he said. "And the things that she was having trouble with, she did very well, especially her short game area."

But the improvements in her game have been more mental than physical, according to Munro.

"I think I've improved a lot — not so much golf-wise — but how I think my way around the course," she said.

Team play was something unfamiliar to Munro, who had primarily focused on individual play during high school.

"Obviously, team golf is a lot different from individual golf," she said. "I have to think about saving strokes for the team compared to saving strokes for myself."

As a member of the Scottish women's national team, Munro competed in several competitions across Europe, including the 2013 Girls' European Team Championships and the 2014 Scottish Ladies Open.

Since the golf season is year-round, Munro began her college career Sept. 14 and ended her debut season April 19 in the CAA Championships.

Her best finish in the fall came during the William & Mary Invitational from Sept. 14-16, 2014, tying in fourth after shooting 3-over in her first tournament as a Phoenix.

In the spring, her best finish was when she shot a 14-over to tie for 10th place in

the FGCU (Florida Gulf Coast University) Eagle Invitational.

Although her best performances dipped from fourth to 10th, she trained hard throughout the season.

"I was a bit apprehensive going into [the CAA Championships]," Munro said. "I had been a bit inconsistent at the start of the spring season and I felt like it had all come together. But you never really know for sure."

Munro will compete in events like the British Ladies Open this summer to continue her development.

Dockrill has increased expectations for next season, not only for Munro but for the team as a whole.

He said the women's golf team is strong from top to bottom, so there will be more events in the fall against highly ranked opponents.

"There's no question that she's [Munro] going to be a strong player next year," he said. "I see her really expanding on what she did this year, especially looking at how she performed this season."

## Colonial Athletic Association standings

Women's lacrosse				Softball				Baseball			
SCHOOL	CONF	OVERALL	PCT	SCHOOL	CONF	OVERALL	PCT	SCHOOL	CONF	OVERALL	PCT
Hofstra	6-0	11-5	.688	James Madison	17-0	40-6	.870	Charleston	13-2	32-9	.780
James Madison	5-1	13-4	.765	Hofstra	14-3	30-11-1	.726	UNCW	12-3	29-11	.725
Delaware	4-2	11-6	.647	Towson	8-10	31-19	.620	Northeastern	10-5	20-22	.476
Towson	3-3	8-8	.500	Elon	8-10	26-20	.565	Elon	11-7	22-20	.524
Elon	1-5	8-8	.500	Charleston	7-11	24-26	.480	William & Mary	9-9	19-22	.463
William & Mary	1-5	5-11	.313	Drexel	6-11	18-21	.462	Delaware	7-8	18-15	.545
Drexel	1-5	4-12	.250	Delaware	5-12	27-21	.563	Towson	6-12	12-29-2	.302
*updated through 4/28				UNCW	5-13	19-24	.442	James Madison	4-14	15-25	.375
				*updated through 4/28				Hofstra	3-15	15-25	.375
								*updated through 4/28			

# Top Photos



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer  
 Left to right: Sophomore Marissa Costner and seniors Casey Brown, Tori Cazes and Natalie Beach show their support at Relay for Life April 24.



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer  
 Freshman Hannah Olson steps up to the plate in Elon's softball game against Longwood April 21.



NICOLE OSGOOD | Staff Photographer  
 Junior Lauren Fisher performs at Spectrum's Dragstravaganza April 23, the end of Pride Week.



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer  
 Left to right: Freshman Maura Jarman and seniors Sophie McNeill, Chauncey Pauley, Quinn Czejkowski and Rachel Mehaffey participate in the senior seminar dance performance.



