

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017
ELON, NORTH CAROLINA

THE PENDULUM

SERVING THEN, SERVING NOW

Six Elon veterans relive their lives in war and at peace

ANTON L. DELGADO | Assistant News Editor | @JADelgadoNews



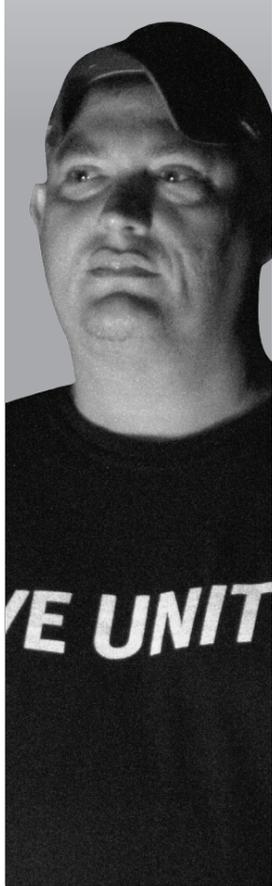
Billy Crayton



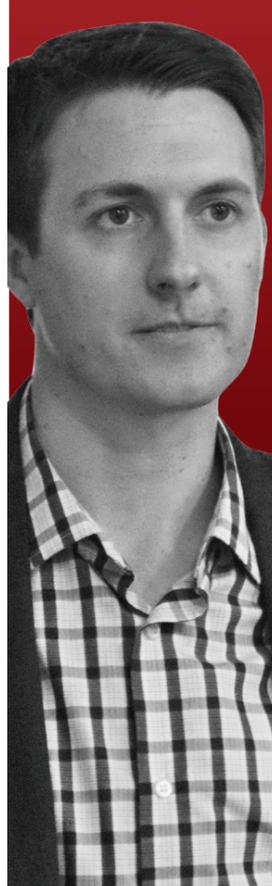
Bill Burpitt



Robert Buchholz



Rodney Parks



Alex Luchsinger



Will McGowen

From afar, Elon mourns a Texan tragedy

Texas' worst mass shooting in history
touches Elon lives

Anton L. Delgado
Assistant News Editor | @JADelgadoNews

Broken to her through a text from her dad, sophomore Nicole Plante discovered the news of Texas' worst mass shooting in history occurred less than an hour from her home in San Antonio.

Residents of the city were some of the first to hear of the Sutherland Springs church shooting that left 26 dead and 20 wounded.

Plante is not the only student from Texas at Elon. According to the Office of the Registrar's 2017 Fall Report, there are 80 students from the state.

After receiving the news, Plante immediately texted her mother. With no immediate reply, her panic rose. Despite knowing that the odds her mother was at the same church was almost impossible, Plante couldn't help

See **TEXAS** | pg. 3

DRIVING A BIOBUS, TEACHING a class, directing Physical Plant, serving in the Registrar's Office and working toward a Master of Business Administration are all jobs being done today by veterans at Elon University.

Students, faculty and staff walk past veterans every day without ever knowing what they did for their country.

Six Elon veteran's years of service took each of them through many of the United States' worst conflicts. By serving in Korea, Vietnam, Lebanon, Iraq and Afghanistan, some saw conflict as early as the 1950s and as late as 2012.

Elon has more than 20 veterans on campus, according to the Veterans Day Committee. The U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs reports there are almost 10,000 veterans in Alamance County alone.

With Veterans Day on Nov. 11, the Elon community will gather to honor the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Team Hero, a student organization dedicated to supporting veterans and active service personnel has been working closely with the Veterans Day Committee to organize the ceremony.

"It is so important to recognize the people who have sacrificed so much to give us the opportunity to live our lives and go to a school like Elon," said sophomore Isabella Ponterio, president of Team Hero. "It is easy to forget there are people behind the service."

Veterans on campus opened up about their experiences in the service, how it changed their lives and how it eventually brought them to Elon.

See **VETERANS** | pgs. 8-9

IF YOU GO

What: Veterans Day Ceremony

When: Nov. 10 | 11 - 11:30 a.m.

Where: LaRose Digital Theatre

Agenda: Remarks will be given by Isabella Ponterio and Bill Burpitt and a video salute to veterans will be played at the ceremony

Elon's football success rests in the hands of a freshman

Alex Hager
Web Producer | @awhager

As Elon University football's breakout season rolls on, it seems like the Phoenix's success has been nothing short of magical.

After a 9-39 record over the last four seasons, Elon is 8-1 and on track to make the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) playoffs for the first time in program history.

What's more, they're doing it all with a true freshman quarterback under center.

Elon's success has largely been because of role players stepping up in unexpected ways, and freshman quarterback Davis Cheek has been no exception.

In the last three games, Cheek has post-



Davis Cheek

See **FOOTBALL** | pg. 17



NEWS • PAGE 3
Nationwide search for new Communications Dean begins



LIFESTYLE • PGS 10-11
Fall dance concert leaps onto the stage this weekend



SPORTS • PAGE 18
Basketball teams hopeful for season opening games

THE PENDULUM

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print edition appear on
this page. Contact enn@elon.edu
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correction or a concern.

CALENDAR

NOV. 9

A Thursday Inspiration
9:50 A.M.

Numen Lumen Pavilion

Fall dance concert
6 P.M.

Roberts Theatre

Chorale concert
7:30 P.M.

McCrary Theatre

NOV. 10

Veterans Day ceremony
11 A.M.

LaRose Digital Theatre

Fall dance concert
6 P.M., 8 P.M.

Roberts Theatre

Wall Street prep
9 A.M.

Reed Finance Center

NOV. 11

Wall Street prep
9 A.M.

Reed Finance Center

Fall dance concert
2 P.M., 6 P.M.

Roberts Theatre

NOV. 12

Birth of Baha'u'llah
(Bahai) celebration

All day

Numen Lumen Pavilion

Fall dance concert
2 P.M.

Roberts Theatre

CONTACT

WHEN WE PUBLISH:

The Pendulum
publishes weekly on
Wednesdays.

Elon Local News
broadcasts Mondays at 6
p.m.

ELN Morning
broadcasts Thursdays at
9:50 a.m.

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broadcasts Tuesdays at
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CORRECTIONS

On Page 12 of the Nov. 1 edition of The Pendulum, the name of the actress playing Dolly Levi in "Hello, Dolly!" was misspelled. Her name is Chloe Robin not Chloe Robins. The Pendulum regrets the error.

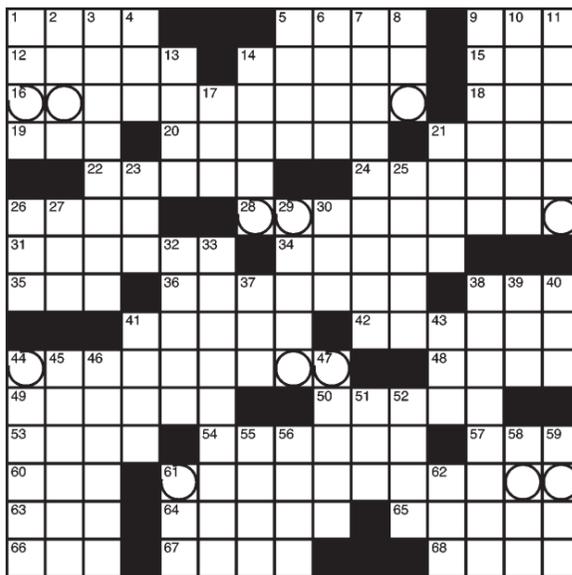
GAMES

FOR RELEASE NOVEMBER 8, 2017

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 "That cracks me up!"
 - 5 "___ and the Swan": Rubens painting
 - 9 Paper Mate product
 - 12 1936 Olympics standout
 - 14 Goes it alone
 - 15 "Te ___": Rihanna song
 - 16 *Golfer's guide for measuring distances
 - 18 Playful bite
 - 19 House vote
 - 20 Like much store-brand merchandise
 - 21 Contact lens solution brand
 - 22 Soft boot material
 - 24 Winner's wreath
 - 26 Church seating
 - 28 *Philatelist's find
 - 31 On ___ of: for
 - 34 Family guys
 - 35 Overhead expanse
 - 36 Superhero in an armored suit
 - 38 Place for a hot stone massage
 - 41 "Uncle Tom's Cabin" novelist
 - 42 Became clear to, with "on"
 - 44 *Hybrid retriever
 - 48 Tough to learn
 - 49 "Finally!"
 - 50 One of his stories is the source of the "sour grapes" idiom
 - 53 Relax in the tub
 - 54 Sonny and Cher, e.g.
 - 57 Sulu portrayal John
 - 60 Kin of net
 - 61 *Winter warming spell
 - 63 Fla. neighbor
 - 64 Athlete's rep
 - 65 Facebook option
 - 66 Mario Bros. console letters
 - 67 Exercise break
 - 68 Casino conveniences
- DOWN**
- 1 Georgetown hoopster
 - 2 On the road
 - 3 "These are the reasons"
 - 4 "Go on ..."
 - 5 Place for a hoop
 - 6 Musk of Tesla Motors
 - 7 Kid's drawing tablet
 - 8 Pose a question
 - 9 Bakery-café chain
 - 10 "8 Mile" rapper
 - 11 Orange juice specification
 - 13 Customer-drawing sign word
 - 14 Waste conduit
 - 17 Supreme being
 - 21 Road grooves
 - 23 "Miracle on Ice" team, for short
 - 25 Yoga position
 - 26 "Masterpiece" network
 - 27 "There's a mouse in our house!"
 - 29 Sleep study subject
 - 30 Ewe guy
 - 32 Low-calorie brews
 - 33 Place for big headlines
 - 37 Hooting bird



By C.C. Burnikel

11/8/17

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



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11/2/17

- 38 Popular mobile app ... and, as shown by circles, what the inner parts of the answers to starred clues do
- 39 ___ capita
- 40 Mix in
- 41 Badlands Natl. Park site
- 43 Detective's question
- 44 Garage container
- 45 1962 Lawrence portrayal
- 46 Peruvian pack animals
- 47 Not skilled in
- 51 Lux. setting
- 52 Tofu beans
- 55 Change for a five
- 56 Fourth-down play
- 58 Inflict pain on
- 59 Is in arrears
- 61 Cookie container
- 62 Article in some hip-hop titles

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY - THE RISE OF GOOGLING



The concept of search engines is as old as the Internet, but their everyday use by nontechies is not. The Pendulum published the article, "Looking for something? Try a search engine!" this week in 2005.

Beginning in 1994, search engines such as Lycos, Excite, Infoseek, Inktomi, Northern Light and Altavista all tried to establish monopolies. These names are unknown to most students today because by 2005, Google was already establishing itself as a leader in the digital realm. According to statistics published by How Stuff Works in 2005, 47 percent of Americans

used Google as their primary search engine, 23 percent used Yahoo and 19 percent used other search engines including Netscape, Dogpile, MSN and more.

The search engine revolution was beginning to spark concern about online privacy. The Pendulum reported, "Nowadays, people are 'Googling' their future employers, blind dates and even their best friends." The Elon University community was advised about how search engines make it easier for people to find information online and warns students to be cautious about what exactly they are sharing to everyone.

PERSONAL PRIVACY

The increasing popularity of search engines in the 2000s raised concerns about internet privacy

NEWS BRIEFS

Maker Hub opens applications for \$300 project grant

Applications for the third annual Elon University Kickbox Competition are being accepted until Dec. 4.

Hosted by the Maker Hub, this competition encourages students to submit creative ideas for the chance to win \$300 and the resources to bring their ideas to life. Students may apply as individuals or in teams.

Last year's projects included a sound reactive LED guitar, a high-tech dog collar, 3-D printed jewelry and a lucid dreaming app.

Interested parties may attend Kickbox's interest meeting 4:15 - 5:15 p.m. Nov. 28 in the Maker Hub's downtown location.

Changes to Winter Term class schedule

Winter Term is a time for students to embark in a unique academic environment by taking classes in the month of January.

This year students are focusing on health, intercultural engagement, media and politics. Students can also take themed classes related to these four themes, which can be found on Ontrack.

Consistently, Winter Term classes have been listed for three hours a day. This year, classes will be four hours for the first three days.

Alumni organizations honor members

The Elon Black Alumni Network (EBAN) held an awards ceremony on Nov. 4 celebrating the important accomplishments the alumni have done to maintain relationships and support Elon University's community. EBAN gave five awards and six need-based scholarships during this event.

The LGBTQIA Alumni Network also recognized five of its members during an event on Nov. 4. These members were recognized for their dedication to building an inclusive and respectful community in the university. Each of the members have seen awareness of and advocacy for the LGBTQIA community grow.

SGA sponsors Inclusivity Week

The SGA will be promoting Inclusivity Week on campus from Nov. 6-13. Many student organizations are hosting an event to promote inclusivity and diversity.

The Arabic Language Organization will be promoting a panel about what it means to be Muslim on a college campus today.

On Thursday, Brandon Belle from the Center for Race, Ethnicity and Diversity Education and the Black Student Union (BSU) will be speaking in LaRose Theatre.

SGA and BSU will be co-sponsoring a town hall meeting on race relations later that day.

On Friday, SGA will be having a photo campaign using the hashtag #FindMeAtTheIntersection from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Speaker's Corner.



A DEAN IS A LEADER WHO WORKS WITH THE FACULTY COLLECTIVELY TO MAKE GOOD THINGS HAPPEN

PAUL PARSONS
DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATIONS

Paul Parsons, dean of the School of Communications, speaks during the alumni luncheon in the Snow Family Grand Atrium, Nov. 3.

CAROLINE BREHMAN | PHOTO EDITOR

Victoria Traxler

Contributor | @ElonNewsNetwork

A LEGACY DIFFICULT TO FOLLOW

The end of Paul Parsons' tenure begins a nationwide search for his successor

After Paul Parsons, the founding dean of the School of Communications, announced he was stepping down, the Elon University community was left wondering what the search for his replacement would entail.

Since Parsons has been with the School of Communications, it has become both a nationally recognized and accredited school.

"We're one of 18 private universities with an accredited communications school," Parsons said. "We just went through our third accreditation review last week. I knew I wanted to go through that before I would announce that I would be stepping down as dean."

In addition to the achievement of accreditation, Parsons' other accomplishments during his time include the creation of new programs in the school such as Live Oak Communications, Elon Docs and Maroon Sports.

"We've created this package for our students that we think will prepare them well for whatever [their] job titles are in the future," Parsons said.

Jessica Gisclair, chair of the department of communications, commends Parsons' legacy at the school.

"Dean Parsons has built a wonderful reputation of being a collaborator," Gisclair said. "He is very open about sharing his rationale, and he solicits our opinions about those rationales. I'm hoping that kind of transparency and open dialogue continues."

Parsons agrees that transparency and dialogue are key attributes of a successful dean, alongside other characteristics.

"A dean is a leader who works with the faculty collectively to make good things happen," Par-

sons said. "I think that what was a positive during my time as dean was to align the School of Communications with the aspirations of the university."

Provost Steven House will be commencing the open search for a new dean.

"I've consulted with President Lambert, President-elect Book and I've sent names to the academic council," House said. "They are going to give me their feedback, and some time next week I will invite each individual to be on the search committee."

After the search committee is assembled, they will write a prospectus describing Elon University, the School of Communications and the attributes they are searching for.

House hopes the search will be conducted immediately after the committee is chosen, continue through spring semester, have a chosen candidate announced by April 1, 2018 and the new dean begin June 1, 2018.

Parsons, having been the founding dean, is leaving big shoes to fill in the eyes of faculty and staff.

"We're looking for someone who would be able to continue his legacy," House said. "We're looking for someone who will be able to keep Elon as one of the top schools of communi-

cations in the country, keep it accredited and work with its board members — it's a big job."

Gisclair hopes to find someone who has a strong leadership role in academia, and will challenge and continually improve the faculty. The concept of leadership as a dean incorporates a great deal of responsibility and poise.

"In order to lead you have to have the ability to listen, the ability to take those opinions that you receive and make it part of the greater good for everyone," Gisclair said.

Echoing the concept of collaborative leadership, Parsons is on the same page as other faculty members. "People do want leadership, but they want it to be participatory leadership," he said. "A wise dean understands that and works with people to make good things happen."

This search for a collaborative leader will be a national search.

Challenges that are unique to the School of Communications include the continuous changes and advancements of the communications world outside of Elon, and what that means for students currently in the program.

"The curriculum will always be a challenge," Parsons said. "Our world of communications is changing so rapidly that it's almost as if we have to keep

talking about what the students need for the communications environment that we anticipate four years from now."

In addition to a changing curriculum, Gisclair anticipates an overall change in the student body.

"The educational systems across the United States are really going to have a smaller pool of applicants potentially in the future because we don't have enough students who will be going to college," Gisclair said.

With a potentially smaller pool of applicants, Gisclair believes there will be effects that the dean will need to anticipate.

"The way we position ourselves as a School of Communications that is accredited is going to make a big difference in drawing the attention of students who want to major in one of our five majors," Gisclair said.

Parsons also anticipates challenges and changes accompanying a possible restructuring of faculty within the school.

"The school, interestingly enough, has not yet had a faculty retirement," Parsons said. "After seventeen years without a retirement, I suspect we will start having retirements in the next five years."

Future faculty retirements will also mean a change in dynamic.

"When that happens, the new dean will have an opportunity to shape the faculty [and] the ability to address new curriculum areas that may be emerging," Parsons said.

Overall, the search for a new dean will be a meticulous investigation to fill the legacy that Parsons will leave behind.

"I deeply appreciate what Paul Parsons did for the university and the college," House said. "We are a unique institution and are looking for people that will continue to make us unique and excellent."

TEXAS | from cover

but worry.

"You hear of shootings happening all the time nowadays, and it's tragic, but there's something so different about it happening close to your home," Plante said. "I called her multiple times and broke down because she wasn't answering."

Though Plante was safe and far from home, the distance only added to her anxiety.

"It's really hard being far away because I don't know if anyone I know is there," Plante said. "I can't be there to support my community, and my family that is there dealing with the tragedy."

EFFECT ON ELON

According to the Office of the Registrar's 2017 Fall Report, there are 80 students from Texas.

Elon is also the home to the First Baptist Church of Elon, which is less than five minutes from campus.

David Durham, an associate pastor for the church was in shock after hearing about the

shooting.

"We need to recognize that we are all connected, that we were all created by God. These are our brothers and sisters in Christ and because of that we grieve — we pray," Durham said. "It's not a one-time prayer, it's an ongoing prayer. An ongoing prayer for healing within their community, for families of the victims, for our nation and for the world."

While thoughts and prayers from across the country have been pouring into Texas since the shooting, Jan Fuller, university chaplain, worries that this is not enough.

"I am all for thoughts and prayers. My heart has been breaking for the people close to the situation, and I do want to support them," Fuller said. "But I also worry that they will sound like empty words. This week it's Texas, but next week it is going to be a different state. And we can support those people, but eventually we have to do something about the epidemic that is upon us."

Fuller does not believe the site of the



THIS WEEK IT'S TEXAS, BUT NEXT WEEK IT IS GOING TO BE A DIFFERENT STATE AND WE CAN SUPPORT THOSE PEOPLE, BUT EVENTUALLY WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE EPIDEMIC THAT IS UPON US.

JAN FULLER
UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN

shooting makes the massacre any worse than the others the country has previously gone through.

"It isn't any worse that it was in a church, that is plenty bad enough, but it has been in a nightclub, a concert, a movie theater and a school," Fuller said.

For Plante the shooting will affect churchgoers both in Texas and around the country.

"Those people were at a church, trying to worship a God that they believed in, doing what they thought was right and all of that was disturbed," Plante said. "For churchgoers, it might be hard to go back to church. You think of church as a safe place but now it's not, nowhere is safe."

Back at Elon, Plante urges students to realize the community is not immune to what happens around the United States.

"I've been immune to the awful and tragic events that happen every day, but this one hit so close to home — it really showed me that I can't be immune," Plante said. "It showed me I need to care about all of them."

New neighborhood built to focus on activism

Elon's newest neighborhood scheduled to open August 2018

Abby Gibbs

Contributor | @elonnewsnetwork

It's been more than six months since the East campus gym was demolished, but three residential halls will take its place by August 2018.

NEW HOMES

The East Campus Residential Neighborhood will provide housing for 309 freshmen and sophomore students.

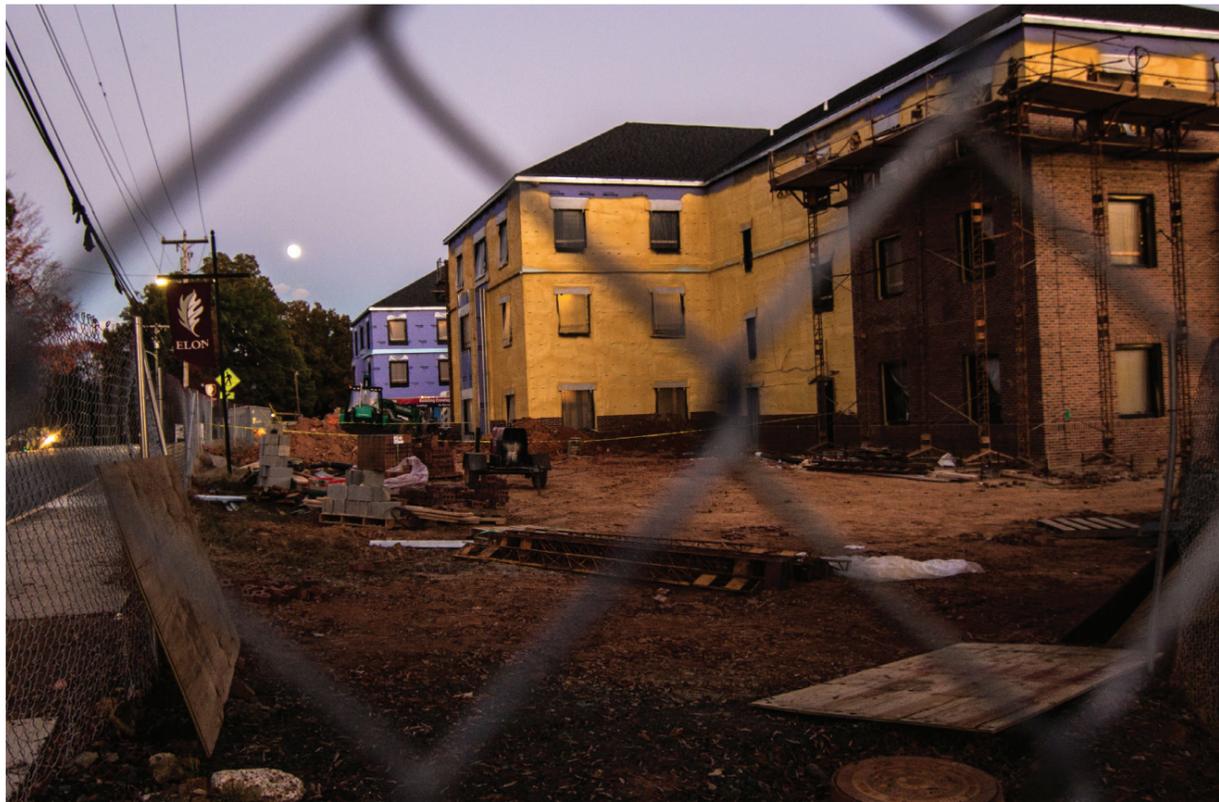
While the name of the East campus residential neighborhood has not been determined, it will provide

housing for 309 students — both freshmen and sophomores — according to Brad Moore, director of construction management.

The neighborhood's construction comes as a response to Elon's rising number of enrolled students.

"This is a near-term priority because we need the additional beds to provide housing for students on campus," Moore said in an email.

Traditional features of the neighborhood will not be unfamiliar to students. "The exterior of the dorms



Construction on the east side of campus across from the Historic Neighborhood parking lot scheduled to be finished by August 2018.

ABBY GIBBS | CONTRIBUTOR

will have a consistent architectural style as the rest of campus. The interior will be similar to other residence halls on campus with double rooms," Moore said.

Each floor will have a lounge, kitchen and study spaces with common areas placed in the middle of each floor.

The implementation of forums is part of the neigh-

borhood's initiative to allow students to gather and promote political activism in relation to the neighborhood's theme of civic engagement and social innovation.

Mark Dalhouse, faculty-in-residence for the East campus neighborhood, described the planned theme as contemporary.

"I think both of those areas couldn't be more timely,

because they address two of the issues in the country right now of citizenship and active involvement," Dalhouse said.

Coincidentally, the neighborhood will be open prior to the 2018 midterm election cycle.

Dalhouse foresees the neighborhood's atmosphere consisting of students talking about current

issues because they will have the space to discuss them openly.

"There is going to be a lot of energy along with [the 2018 elections]," Dalhouse said. "We want to create a community where students can get together, debate the issues and sharpen one another intellectually."

To combine political awareness with community

involvement, several Living and Learning Communities (LLC) will be added to further the topic of debate. Dalhouse hopes to cocreate a new LLC in the East campus residence halls with Bob Frigo, associate director of the Kernodle Center for Service Learning and Community Engagement.

The proposed name for the LLC, Paideia, derives from the Greek concept of educating one another for citizenship.

"We want to provide an experience that connects these students early on with the Burlington community, and affords opportunities for students who feel passionately about certain issues to get involved," Dalhouse said.

Other previously established LLCs, such as the Leaders in a Global World, will be moved to East campus to further promote the tone of the neighborhood.

Though planning for the neighborhood has been geared toward freshmen and sophomores, Dalhouse recognizes that spreading awareness about the neighborhood will be necessary for the neighborhood's success.

"We've talked about trying to establish an ongoing identification with the neighborhood," Dalhouse said. "It takes time, but it seeps into the culture."

Decorative string light policy frustrates students

Residence Life says halogen bulbs are a potential fire hazard in dormitories

Ariana Reyes

Contributor | @elonnewsnetwork

Festive decorations can make dorm rooms feel more like home, but string lights — arguably one of the most popular decorations — are against Elon University's Residence Life policies.

Ian Reynolds, assistant director of Residence Life for facilities and housing operations, said they're prohibited for safety reasons.

"String lights are typically made from a halogen bulb of different variations, and halogen bulbs can heat up to very high temperatures," Reynolds said. "If they crack, the spark can ignite and cause a fire."

Reynolds said even though he has only been at Elon for three years, he said he believes the rule extends as far back as residence halls have been around. Elon News Network was unable to confirm this.

All Resident Assistants (RAs) are instructed to tell their residents to take these down if they see them. Failure to remove them will result in a fine for the resident.

"We have regular health and safety inspections during the semester where student staff go into their spaces and they inspect for prohibited items primarily," Reynolds said.

Junior Gavi Schankerman, an RA on the first floor of Virginia Hall, said he trusts his residents to abide by the rule or find alternative decorating options.

"I care that my residents are following rules, but if they tell me that the string lights are battery operated, I will believe them," Schankerman said.

Freshman Dorothy Boudett is one of Schankerman's residents. She said she decorates her room with these lights and does not understand why these lights are prohibited.

"I feel like they're a good way to show festive attitude toward the holiday," Boudett said. "I don't really get how they're hazards, so I think it's kind of a stupid rule."

Freshman Srijia Dutta, another res-

ident on the first floor of Virginia, has battery operated lights, but said she did not understand the rule either.

"If it was really a big problem, then other schools wouldn't allow it," she said.

She questioned the relevance of the rule as she then asked, "How many statistics do you hear about things happening from string lights?"

Wake Forest University's housing policies do not specifically prohibit string lights. Davidson College's housing policies, as posted on the college's website, allow the lights with some guidelines: "Holiday lights should not be strung through suspended ceiling tiles or near fire suppression sprinkler heads and should not come into contact with any wrapping paper, metallic foil, etc. Decorative lights must be turned off and unplugged when no one

is in the room."

According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International's (ESFI) website, consumers should use caution when decorating with string lights.

"They can increase the risks of fire and electrical injuries if not used safely," ESFI said. To avoid fires, their site recommends using reputable lights, carefully inspecting strands for frayed or exposed wires and avoiding overloaded outlets.

Dutta said she believes Residence Life should be more concerned with up-

holding other regulations. "If residents are abusing [string lights] or causing some sort of a problem because of them, then the RA should interfere," Dutta said. "But other than that, I think there are more pressing matters at hand that they should be a little more concerned about."

REE PLUMLEY | DESIGNER

CHEAT SHEET

Trump's campaign officials indicted after investigation

Joshua Miller, adjunct assistant professor of political science, discusses Trump's campaign team's indictment

Jessie Newman
Contributor | @elonnewsnetwork

Last week, Justice Department special counsel Robert Mueller announced cases against three members of President Donald Trump's former campaign as part of the ongoing investigation into ties between the president's campaign and Russia — Paul Manafort, former campaign chairman; Rick Gates, Manafort's business partner and George Papadopoulos, a foreign policy adviser.

Q: What launched the investigation into Russian inference in the election?

A: The consensus in the security apparatus that there was evidence of Russian interference in the election, which really generated the support in Congress to say that we must allow for some kind of special election to proceed. There were a number of people around Trump's campaign that really ex-

posed themselves to this kind of scrutiny. There's also the reports that were put together by a group of conservative donors to try to find intelligence on Trump that the Democratic National Committee bought and that the Hillary campaign bought. The revelations that it was actually a group of conservative donors, I think, work to sort of poison the well between Trump and the Republican Party.

Q: What effect could these charges have on the Trump administration?

A: A lot of this will depend on the Republican Party. Even if the charges are true, there really is no precedent for saying that collusion with a foreign government itself is actually illegal. This will depend on whether the Republicans are willing to enforce a lot of these rules. And if the Republicans don't, at least until we have a series of elections when Republican members might lose seats as a result of backing Trump, it won't have a big role in pursuing their legislative agenda. And I think that is the type of gamble they are taking right now.

Q: Trump tweeted Oct.



Paul Manafort on July 19, 2016, on the floor of the Quicken Loans Arena at the Republican National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio.

TOM WILLIAMS | PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICES

31, 'Few people knew the young, low level volunteer named George, who has already proven to be a liar. Check the DEMS!' What does this Tweet mean?

A: Before the bully pulpit turned into Twitter, you would expect the president let his communications staff deal with that messaging. With Trump, I think at least for the moment, you just take that as him distancing himself.

The question that will be politically significant is even if he doesn't come under personal scrutiny legally, there are the questions of how this reflects on his leadership style and ability of selecting

his advisers. A lot of people will say even if Trump doesn't go to jail, he's selecting people who are.

Q: In light of George Papadopoulos' guilty plea, do you think more members of the Trump campaign will be found guilty?

A: It depends whether Manafort is willing to bend to whatever pressure is going to be exerted on him on unrelated charges. In interviews with Ty Cobb and Trump's legal team, they don't appear to be particularly worried. But we'll have to see.

If Manafort is faced with 10-20 years in prison as a result of

massive embezzlement, then that might make him turn.

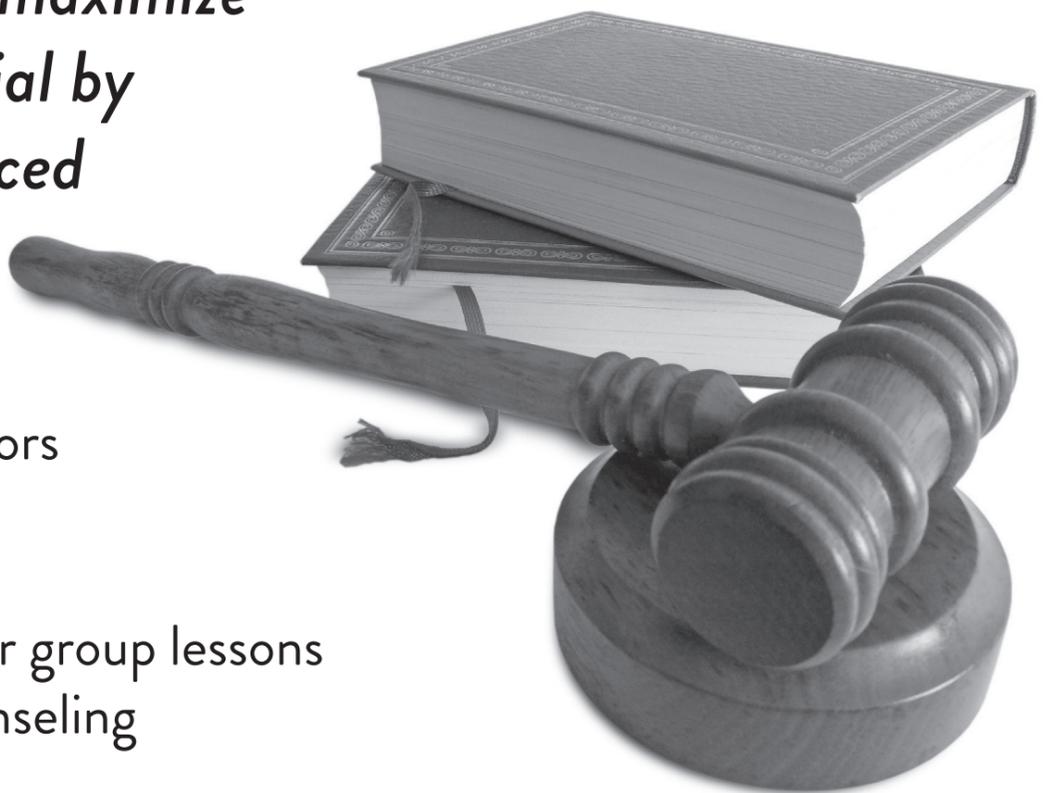
Q: Will Trump be able to be tried while in office?

A: How much this is going to actually affect Trump himself is really hard to say. According to Dershowitz and a few other legal scholars, there may actually be no way for Trump to be tried while he is in office because he has absolute power to lift any kinds of legal prohibitions against anyone. I think that kind of institutional power will really insulate him, and then whether that will affect his base is another kind of question.

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DEVOTED SENIORS CROWNED

HOMECOMING ROYALTY

Sarah Johnson

Contributor | @sarahjohnson05

UNDER A MIST OF rain and the bright lights of Rhodes Stadium, Gabby Vance and Alonzo Cee were crowned Elon University's 2017 homecoming royalty during halftime at the Elon vs. Towson game last weekend.

The two seniors, selected from a group of 19 on the court — 15 females and four males — felt shock simultaneously and elation. Cee was surprised to the point he wasn't sure if he had heard the announcer right.

"I walked out very slowly because I was sort of shook," Cee said. "I just didn't know what to do."

Both seniors agree that this year's court represented some of Elon's best students. Cee and Vance said every member of the court gives their all to the community of Elon and deserved this recognition.

But the day was about so much more than that.

"You don't run for yourself, but you run for the Elon community," Vance said. "Picking a philanthropy that you really care about and having that be your drive and motivation makes it so that it's not about you in the end. It's about Elon as a whole."



CORY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Seniors Alonzo Cee and Gabby Vance were crowned Homecoming Royalty on Saturday after campaigning for philanthropies close to each of their hearts.



CORY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gabby Vance

GABBY VANCE, A POLITICAL science major from outside of Annapolis, Maryland, ran for Homecoming Royalty to support suicide prevention. Vance said that in high school, a good friend died by suicide, something that has affected Vance's life since. She said it is an issue that has come up each year during her time at Elon, and is something that is more relevant now for the Elon community than ever.

"I know so many people that have been affected by this, and hopefully this is providing some people with just a bit of peace," Vance said.

Senior Hannah Clifford, one of Vance and Cee's biggest supporters throughout their quest for Homecoming Royalty, found Vance's choice in charity to come at just the right time for Elon's community following the death of student Breslin Wiley. Wiley died unexpectedly on Oct. 28. Town of Elon Police are investigating it as an "incident of self harm."

"She wanted to win for the sole reason of showing support for the hundreds of students on campus who had lost a friend, a teammate or a brother," Clifford said. "Moments like that are the times that we get the chance to see who someone really is. She shows love and respect and greater sense of duty toward this institution, and all the people associated to it, than almost anyone else. And on top of that she has a heart big enough to fill up the whole damn football field."

For Vance, winning had nothing to do with her and everything to do with her philanthropy. She was hesitant about running until she learned she could run with a philanthropic organization. When her name was called as the winner, Vance said she couldn't hold back the excitement, shock and love she was feeling. Vance walked across the field to receive her tiara with eyes full of tears.

"I think I cried just because my philanthropy is so important to me," Vance said. "Just to get awareness out about suicide prevention means so much to me, and even more than myself, just benefiting all of Elon's community meant everything to me."

Not only is Vance a suicide prevention advocate, but she is also a Leadership Fellow, a New Student Orientation leader, a member of the Epsilon Delta chapter of Delta Delta Delta sorority and a part of Intervarsity Christian fellowship. She says one of her most formative experiences



IT HAS TRULY BEEN A DREAM COME TRUE. I NEVER WOULD HAVE EXPECTED THIS AND JUST FEEL SO LOVED BY EVERYONE. IT WAS HONESTLY ONE OF THE BEST DAYS OF MY LIFE.

GABBY VANCE
SENIOR

was found working as an orientation leader. This experience allowed Vance to view the complex transition into college over many years and work with a variety of students.

"It just really has shown me all that Elon has done for me, and I think that's really special," Vance said.

Though she's an outspoken member of Elon's community today, Vance said running for Homecoming Royalty is something she never would have thought about four years ago. She first set foot on Elon's oak-lined paths as a shy freshman, noting that Homecoming Royalty wasn't really a part of her personality.

"I would have never done something like this in high school, but throughout my time at Elon I have felt so much love and encouragement," Vance said. "This school has given so, so much to me, and I'm happy to finally feel like I've given something back."

One of the members of Elon's community who supported Vance — even escorting her onto the football field on Saturday — is senior Devon Spieker.

"Gabby Vance is honestly one of the most incredible people I've met in my life. As a role model in my own life, she has a certain kind of compassion that makes anyone who's talking to her feel important and unique," Spieker said. "She is dedicated to Elon through her many involvements and in normal, everyday moments. I couldn't have imagined a better fit for the court."

Alonzo Cee



I HAVE BEEN SHOWN SUCH LOVE THAT I JUST WANT TO BE ABLE TO GIVE BACK.

ALONZO CEE
SENIOR

ALONZO CEE, A STATISTICS major from New York City, walked across the field with confidence to receive his crown. Cee's philanthropy focuses on supporting pancreatic cancer research through the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center.

Cee has personal ties to pancreatic cancer. The father of one of his fraternity brothers in Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. passed away this summer from pancreatic cancer. Cee said his fraternity has tried to raise as much money as possible for this cause that has been near and dear to them.

"This was a really good way to say to our brother, 'We're still thinking of you even though you've graduated, and we want to raise as much money as possible to continue the legacy of your father,'" Cee said.

While Cee is involved in fraternity life, he said one of the things that makes him different is the expansive amount of dedication he has in various areas of campus. He started off with club baseball and worked with WSOE, the campus radio station. Cee now works as a tour guide, a part of the inclusive Community Council and as a Greek Life Senator for SGA. He also served as president of the National Pan-Hellenic Council last year.

"I've basically been all over the place, and I pride myself in having friend groups in different areas on campus and being able to talk to people and build relationships," Cee said.

Others have noticed Cee's involvement around campus, too.

"He has done amazing things for NPHC, SGA and in his everyday life, and shown to be a true leader in the community," Clifford said.

Cee, who says he generally walks with confidence, found himself unsure in the moments before the Homecoming Royalty winners were announced.

"With this I was sort of skeptical about myself winning. I was very surprised that my name got called," he said.

Despite the nerves and uncertainty, Cee has never doubted that he is supported at Elon.

"I have been shown such love that I just wanted to be able to give back," Cee said. "I feel thrilled to be able to represent Elon and have had such great support from the beginning."

One of the biggest endorsements echoed by both Clifford and Spieker is how driven, lovable, passionate and kind both members of homecoming royalty are.

FAILING FORWARD



CAROLINE BREHMAN | PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Caroline Dean will wrap up her time at Elon University with a long list of accomplishments, but her most recent endeavor focuses on students' "flops."

Caroline Dean, the face behind Phoenix Flops, uses her failures to motivate her leadership on campus

Meagan Gitelman

Contributor | @meagan_gitelman

When senior Caroline Dean scrolls through her Instagram page, she believes people are only showing the "perfect" part of their lives. For Dean, it has been her mission to change that.

FOLLOWERS
The Phoenix Flops Instagram page has 685 followers.

While most Elon University students have likely seen Phoenix Flops on their Instagram feeds with stories of failure, not everyone knows the face behind the movement.

In her fourth year at Elon, Dean juggles school work with multiple organizations. She works as an office manager for Elon Volunteers, is an apartment manager for Residence Life and is a small group leader and worship coordinator for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. In addition, Dean is a member of the Presidential Student Leadership Advisory Council, and served recently on the Presidential Search Committee, which recently selected Connie Book for president after an eight-month search.

What some people might not know is that Dean is also one of the co-founders behind a recent movement on campus: Phoenix Flops.

"It's a creative celebration of failure," Dean said. "We are on a mission to find out how failure pushes people toward success."

Failing at Elon

While Dean is a leadership figure for many on campus, she admits that her own fear of failure stopped her from pursuing various interests at Elon.

"Elon students aren't resilient because they're not allowed to fail," she said. "That's just not part of our culture. It's really shamed if you do, so they don't try things."

But despite this fear, Dean says failure is unavoidable.

"Everyone has a very specific definition to their own life," she said. "For me, my definition of failure is not trying something out of fear, or not pursuing something or someone because of fear."

Dean says her biggest failure at Elon came sophomore year when she applied for the Lumen Prize — Elon's largest scholarship for undergraduate research — and was rejected.

"I really had a semester — if I'm being frank — of just spiraling downward," Dean said. "I was so confused. I was like, 'What do I do?' My identity as a scholar has been ruined."

In that moment, Dean said she felt inadequate compared to her peers. She felt as though she had dedicated too much of her Elon career to academics and not enough time forming close relationships. She thought about giving up on her research — and even dropping out of school completely.

"I distinctly remember talking to my professor and saying, 'I don't think I can do this anymore,'" Dean said. "And she said, 'Caroline, this is when you decide who you are going to be, and I know that you are not a quitter.'"

But at the time of rejection, Dean didn't realize this as the defining moment that would lead to the creation of Phoenix Flops.

The formation of Flops

Dean explored failure further during her junior year through her work on the Presidential Student Leadership Advisory Council. The council consists of a group of student leaders who meet regularly with President Leo Lambert and senior staff to discuss issues on campus, initiatives and plans for the university.

At one meeting, the council had a discussion on failure and resilience at Elon — something that piqued Dean's interest.

"I'm really interested in risk and failure in college students, and how that's allowed in academic curriculum, how that's involved in college campuses," she said.

As a senior at Elon last year, Elon admissions counselor Tyson Glover sat on the advisory board with Dean. He shared a personal experience with failure with the board about when he tried out for Elon's swim team not knowing how to swim.

"Long story short, I literally had to be saved by the lifeguard," Glover said. "I literally had my Phoenix Flop because I tried to dive in the pool and belly flopped. It was just horrible. But it paid off. I came back, made a lot of friends and I'm glad that now I know how to swim."

Glover and Dean co-founded Phoenix Flops together through their work on the advisory council, both sharing in a passion for failure.

While his swim team tryout was a lower-stakes failure for Glover, he says his story resonated with other students in the room, particularly Dean. She says failure is an essential part of the college experience in promoting growth.

"Failure is important because it allows us to become the person we need to become. And for anything to grow there's a lot of stripping away that needs to happen in order for the true self to come out," she said.

Glover and Dean weren't the only ones in the room who believed in the importance of failure. Jana Lynn Patterson, associate vice president of Student Life and dean of student health and wellness, was also involved in the discussion as a member of senior staff who attends the meetings.

"We're at a crossroads of people really being able to say, 'I'm struggling,' or 'this didn't work' or 'I'm not doing well,'" Patterson said. "Getting out of the sense that everything lies under a perfect bubble in the Elon world."

Dean says it was Patterson who jokingly came up with the name that became the movement.

"And the whole room just died in laughter and now we're like, 'Ha, joke's on y'all,'" Dean said.

Patterson became a mentor for the Phoenix Flops movement, and with the support of her office, Phoenix Flops was launched in spring 2017.

What is Phoenix Flops?

Elon students were first introduced to Phoenix Flops on their Instagram feeds. Social media was the first step for Phoenix Flops, and Dean said this was intentional.

"You're scrolling through your feed and everyone's pretending to be perfect, and then boom: someone says 'I flopped,'" Dean said. "The interruption of that within people's social media feed was really helpful psychologically, and I think that really began to create some buzz."

These individual stories from the Elon community all led up to Phoenix Flops' big launch to campus — a documentary with the same name.

Dean and Glover collaborated with communications student senior Keith DeWitt to create a short documentary to pitch Phoenix Flops to campus on the big screen. The documentary premiered May 4, 2017 in Elon's Turner Theatre, featuring prominent community members such as President Leo Lambert and Burlington Mayor Ian Baltutis.

Dean recalls being brought to tears on the

night of the premiere, which she says was one of the greatest moments of her time at Elon.

The documentary wasn't the end goal of Phoenix Flops, but just the beginning.

Now, 685 followers later, the Phoenix Flops Instagram page continues to share positive stories of failure from members of the Elon community.

Dean and Glover have started a series of "Flops Workshops," designed for students to discuss what failure looks like to them, what failure looks like at Elon and how to grow from those experiences.

"Our slogan is, 'Failing forward or failing flat,'" Dean said. "When you failed, did you move forward and learn from it, or did you fall flat? What was the difference? And why did you experience those differences?"

The two co-founders are working to integrate these workshops into leadership training on campus through Residence Life, New Student Orientation, teacher's assistant and Leadership Education and Development training workshops.

In addition, Dean has worked to get Elon University recognized as part of Harvard University's Resilience Consortium, a national group of universities all committed to creating innovative campuses through the mission of resilience, failure and risk on college campuses.

Continuing the movement

As Dean prepares to graduate, she and Glover are working to assemble a team to carry on the Phoenix Flops movement.

Dean says she hopes Phoenix Flops is something that sticks around long after they're gone, and allows students the freedom to not be perfect — in and out of the classroom.

"Something that would be a dream for me is that professors really adopt it as allowing for innovative failure in the classroom," she said. "That's something that's really tough in the world of academia and really constrains students."

But she says her first hope is that Phoenix Flops continues to help students maintain their well-being in college.

"For right now and forever, I hope it's used mainly as a way for students to take care of themselves."



FAILURE IS
IMPORTANT BECAUSE
IT ALLOWS US TO
BECOME THE PERSON
WE NEED TO BECOME

CAROLINE DEAN
ELON SENIOR

BILLY CRAYTON

BioBus Operator

**KOREAN WAR**
(1950 - 1953)CRAYTON
SERVED -
1953

The Universal Military Training and Service Act passed in 1951, led to the induction of more than 1.5 million men into the military during the Korean War. But Billy Crayton was not one of those men.

"I went in on my own accord," Crayton said. "I volunteered because I wanted to go."

As a corporal in the U.S. Army, Crayton served in the Korean War in 1953 by driving an ambulance for the 1st Cavalry, 15th Medical Battalion. He transported wounded soldiers from the frontlines of the conflict to aid stations where they would receive vital medical attention.

"It was scary. You had a big red cross on each side, each end and one on top," Crayton said. "They weren't supposed to shoot at the ambulance, but that was the biggest target they had, believe me. I was glad to get out of there."

Despite the fear of driving from the frontline and back, Crayton knew this job is what his country needed him to do most. The experience



PHOTO COURTESY OF BILLY CRAYTON

Top: Billy Crayton takes a break from driving the BioBus' West Line Loop Nov. 2.

Left: Sitting atop the ambulance he would later drive in Korea, Crayton poses in Okada, Japan, in 1953 before being sent to war.

changed his life and armed him with skills to be later used in civilian life.

"There was a whole lot you could learn," Crayton said. "And a whole lot you didn't want to remember."

Crayton has translated those driving skills and is now a BioBus driver for Elon University.

BILL BURPITT

Professor of Management

**VIETNAM WAR**
(1955 - 1975)BURPITT
SERVED -
1967 - 1968

Bill Burpitt lectures during his "Strategic Management" class Nov. 1.

Growing up in a military family, Bill Burpitt enlisted in the army in 1966 at the age of 20.

With the rest of the 1st Aviation Brigade, Burpitt served in the Mekong Delta region during the Vietnam War from 1967-1968. His service taught him to be more aware of the fragility of peace.

"I became very cautious about assumptions regarding the stability of this cocoon of peace we live in," Burpitt said. "We can lull ourselves into thinking, 'I'm fine, I'm safe,' without realizing that chaos is just on the other side of the wire."

During the Tet Offensive of 1968, one of Burpitt's friends was killed in action. When brought home, Burpitt visited the parents of his fallen comrade

and continued to do so throughout the years. Only then did he realize the constant pain gold star families carry with them.

"Their tours of duty went on for years and years. Parents who have lost children in the service have also served their country. They paid a much more painful price and for much longer," Burpitt said. "When I go home I can drop my gear in the closet and forget about the war, but the parents of those soldiers that never came home — they can never forget."

Serving in the military later allowed Burpitt to continue his higher education. This eventually led him to Elon University where he now works as a professor of management and as the head of the Veterans Day Committee.

Army
15th
Medical
Battalion
1st Cavalry**Army**
1st Combat
Aviation
Brigade
4th Infantry
Division

1950

1953

1967

1969

1983

ROBERT BUCHHOLZ

Director of Physical Plant



Above: Robert Buchholz sits in front of Alamance Fountain before entering a facilities meeting for Physical Plant.

LEBANESE CIVIL WAR
(1975 - 1990)BUCHHOLZ
SERVED -
1983

Post Vietnam, Robert Buchholz knew the military needed men to fill the ranks. After graduating college, he joined the Civil Engineering Corps in 1976 planning to serve for only three years, but he ended up staying in the Navy until 2002.

Twenty-six years of service took Buchholz all over the world and into the center of the Lebanon Crisis. Buchholz's time in Beirut came less than three weeks after the deadly 1983 Beirut barracks bombings. The attacks were caused by two suicide bombers driving garbage trucks laden with explosives that killed 241 U.S. Marines and 58 French Peacekeepers. Buchholz and the Civil Engineering Corps were ordered to handle the aftermath of this attack.

"It was something to see, — the destruction that a garbage truck could do," Buchholz said. "Our unit was redeployed to build up defenses and restore power to that part of the area."

After Lebanon, Buchholz was sent to the Philippines to oversee construction of Clark Air Base, which was the United



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBERT BUCHHOLZ

Left: Buchholz (third from left) poses in Clark Air Base in Manila, Philippines, with other members of the Navy Construction Office.

States' largest overseas air force base at the time.

"I've worked in all sorts of situations and it's amazing what people do when they step up and do what has to be done. I enjoy working with people like that," Buchholz said.

At Physical Plant, Buchholz says he is surrounded by simi-

larly hard-working individuals.

"The people that I worked with in the Navy are the same type of people that I work with now in the Physical Plant," Buchholz said. "They work hard. These guys pull together and do what needs to be done, and I love working with people like that."

ALEX LUCHSINGER

Assistant Professor of Communications

WAR IN IRAQ
(2003 - PRESENT)
LUCHSINGER SERVED - 2005

Marine Corps Security Battalion

The challenge and discipline of the Marine Corps led to Alex Luchsinger's enlisting in the military at age 18.

Within three years, Luchsinger was deployed to al-Anbar Province, Iraq, as a soldier in a Security Battalion. It was his mission to protect the convoys traveling throughout the province.

"From day one in Iraq it was very intense," Luchsinger said. "It was a very violent year ... we would have IEDs on every single convoy."

In 2005, during a security patrol in the city of Khan al-Baghdadi, Luchsinger's vehicle was hit by an Improvised Explosive Device. The explosion resulted in a traumatic brain injury, the effects of which he still feels today.

"I still have some lingering effects like headaches and dizziness," Luchsinger said. "But overall the recovery has been fine."

For his injuries, Luchsinger was awarded the Purple Heart. He then retired from the Marines in 2006, but that was not the last time he would be in combat. After earning his undergraduate and master's degree, Luchsinger was hired by CBS News.

As a journalist embedded with the 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines, Luchsinger was deployed to Helmut Province, Afghanistan,



Above: Alex Luchsinger speaks to students in his "Television News Reporting" class Nov. 6.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEX LUCHSINGER

Left: Luchsinger stands on top of a Iraqi police station in al-Anbar Province during a security patrol in 2005.

stan, in 2011. This deployment caused him to reflect on civil-military relations.

"There is a big gulf between the veteran and the civilian populations," Luchsinger said. "A sociologist at school once said to me, 'When a democracy goes to war, everyone should share the burden.' And that has just not

been the case."

After Afghanistan, Luchsinger returned to the United States where he is currently finishing his first semester at Elon University as an assistant professor of communications.

"I've really liked Elon so far," Luchsinger said. "It has been a good fit for me here."

1984

1990

2005

2011

2017

RODNEY PARKS

University Registrar

GULF WAR
(1990 - 1991)

PARKS SERVED -
AUG. 2,
1990 - FEB.
28, 1991

Navy Hospital Corps

As the son of a Vietnam veteran and a lead miner, Rodney Parks was faced with two choices at the age of 18 — the mines or the military. The Sunday after his high school graduation in 1988, Parks was on a train to boot camp.

In the Navy, Parks became a hospital corpsman specialist and was deployed to Italy where his tour was cut short by the start of Operation Desert Storm in 1990. Parks was redeployed to Egypt where he served throughout the majority of the Gulf War.

At the end of the conflict, Parks was sent to an army hospital in Germany to aid the wounded coming directly from the frontlines.

"We didn't have a lot of casualties from the fighting, but we had a lot of injuries," Parks said. "The wounds were pretty vicious — especially the gunshot wounds. We would do the best to piece them back together and send them on their way."

While serving in the hospital led to long hours of stress and focus, Parks knew he was making a difference.

"Being there and just helping really made you feel that you were performing a good duty for the work that you were doing. It was valuable," Parks said.

Following the end of the Gulf War, Parks taught at the school of health sciences at the Naval Acade-

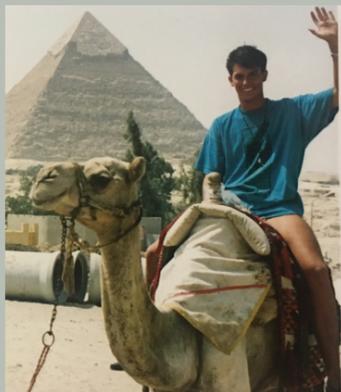


PHOTO COURTESY OF RODNEY PARKS

Top: Rodney Parks speaks to his "Wilderness and Adventure Therapy" class around a bonfire at the ropes course Nov. 6.

Bottom: Parks waves in front of The Great Pyramid Cheops (also known as The Great Pyramid of Giza) in Egypt in 1991.

my and later went on to work in the registrar's office at the University of Georgia. His work at UGA led him to Elon University, where he now works as the university registrar, assistant to the provost and an assistant professor.

WILL MCGOWEN

MBA student

WAR IN AFGHANISTAN
(2001 - PRESENT)

MCGOWEN SERVED -
2011 - 2012

Army 4th Infantry Division

Will McGowen had always felt the call to serve in the military. And after 9/11, he knew it was a call he needed to answer.

"I was at a very pivotal age for Sept. 11, but really for the long drawn out wars in Iraq and Afghanistan," McGowen said. "I felt the country needed as many people as they could get, and I would rather go then someone else go. I was young, I was able-bodied, I was single. It just made sense to me."

As a captain with the 4th Infantry Division, McGowen was in charge of a combat outpost in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. For nine months he faced the dangers of insurgency.

"It was crazy. We would do daily and nightly patrols to try to reduce the hold that the enemy force had on the local population," McGowen said. "We worked a lot with the police and the Afghan National Army, training them to take a lead in everything we were doing."

After returning from Afghanistan, McGowen began his job search and found Glen Raven, a fabric manufacturing and marketing company where he now works as a manufacturing manager.

On top of work, family and his reserve service, McGowen is also pursuing a Master in Business Administration at Elon.

"I chose Elon because I wanted the in-person learning," Mc-

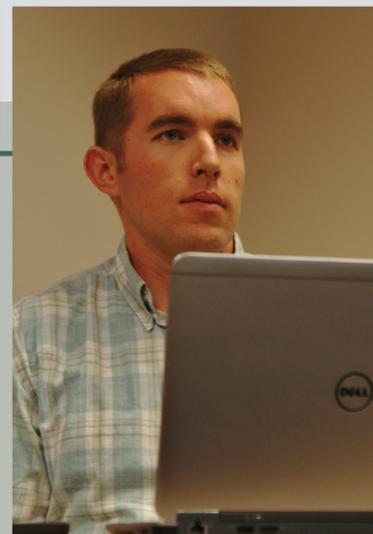


PHOTO COURTESY OF WILL MCGOWEN

Top: Will McGowen listens during his MBA "Management and Organizational Behavior" class Oct. 30.

Bottom: While deployed in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, McGowen poses in full combat gear.

Gowen said. "I've had some really good classes, good professors, learned from other students and am looking forward to continuing my education."

McGowen is aiming to graduate from Elon with his MBA in May 2019.

FALLING INTO DANCE

2017 Fall Dance Concert features six original numbers by faculty, guest artist and students

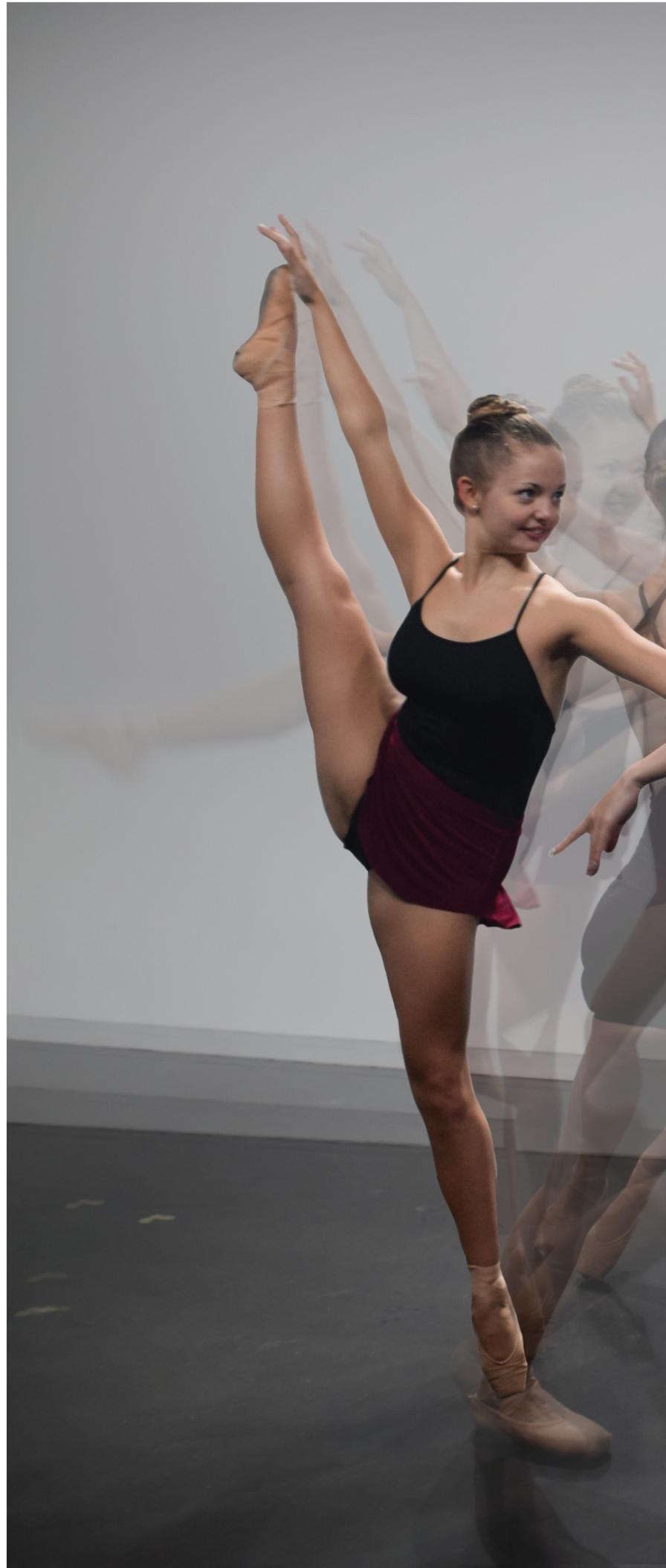


DIEGO PINEDA | Contributor | @Diego_Pineda19

The production
ADJECTIVE process of a dance concert mirrors the structure of a spider web
NOUN. The center is the concept of the show
NOUN. Each strand
NOUN attached is a different contributing part
NOUN — from the director to the dancers, choreographers, crew and costume designers. As the performance approaches, the different strands begin
VERB to connect.

Sophomore dancer
NOUN Meg Boericke did not have much connection to other strands when she was cast in this year's fall dance
ADJECTIVE concert during the first week
NOUN of school. She soon became more aware of the many parts that all lead up to the final product — when the lights go on and she is standing
VERB in full makeup and costume, ready to perform.

This year's fall dance concert will be running from Nov. 9-12 in in Roberts Studio Theatre
PLACE Scott Studios at Arts West. It will be featuring six
NUMBER bers, ranging from contemporary ballet to a piece inspired by "Mad Libs," and a guest artist piece by Kira Blazek inspired by the 80s, 90s, and early 2000s. It will also two
VERB feature student choreographed numbers.



Planning for the concert

PHRASE

JEN GUY METCALF, ASSISTANT professor of dance and artistic director of the show, begins thinking of concepts or ideas for the show about a year in advance. She does a lot of research through websites, books, movies, music and photography to find a concept for her piece and the show itself.

"I gather all that and start to generate movement inspired by my research," Metcalf said. "I teach that to the dancers not in a linear way. I just teach the movement, and I start to edit and shape the dance."

While directing the path

of the concert, Metcalf, along with faculty in the dance department, also selected student choreography in December 2016 during a salon showcase. From that salon, they decided what pieces of students taking the choreography course would go to national conferences and which will be in the fall dance concert.

"We encourage our students to explore," Metcalf said. "We place emphasis on crafting choreography and developing movement."

The opportunity for students to showcase their choreography onstage allows them to have professional experi-

ence outside the classroom.

The works in this year's fall concert are mainly contemporary in dance style and music. The piece Metcalf choreographed is a contemporary pointe piece. Aside from choreographing her piece, Metcalf also mentors the student choreographers and offers feedback so they can improve certain parts of the dance.

"We have helped them to improve their choreographic work and encourage them to coach their dancers in the performance of the piece," Metcalf said. "Not only do the choreographers improve, but the dancers also develop as artists as a part of this pro-

cess."

One of the dances Metcalf is most excited about is called, "Don't stop (verb ending in -ing)," which is part of the Mad Limbs course.

This course was inspired by a conference presentation and is a play on the words "Mad Libs," the word game. Renay Aumiller, assistant professor of dance, and Metcalf helped develop and teach this course, which was open to all university students and consists of students with a variety of academic interests, such as dance majors, dance minors, communications majors and business majors. There was no casting for this piece because

the cast includes everyone enrolled in the course.

"It's an example of our scholarship finding its way into the classroom," Metcalf said.

The performance of this dance will be different every night of the show since it has a focus on improvisation through verbal communication and physical movements.

"I find such great pleasure in the rehearsal process, but what is really exciting is when the students take everything they have learned from class onstage, and you can see evidence that they are truly learning and developing as artists," Metcalf said.



WE HAVE HELPED THEM TO CHOREOGRAPHIC WORK AND COACH THEIR DANCERS IN THE PIECE. NOT ONLY DO THEY IMPROVE, BUT THE DANCERS ARTISTS AS A PART OF THE

JEN GUY METCALF
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF DANCE



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DIEGO PINEDA AND ALEX TOMA
Sophomore Meg Boericke and senior Alexandra Fung rehearse their pointe choreography.

Pushing and Pulling through dance

PHRASE

WHILE TAKING THE “CHOREOGRAPHY I” course, junior dance major Brittany Pappaconstantinou remembers using numbers to make dance. She did this through the chance method. By using this, she would get a list of numbers such as her phone or zip code.

“Each number is a sign to movement,” Pappaconstantinou said. “It would be like zero push arm, one pull leg, two push head, so we would randomly create these phrases based off of that.”

STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHY

Junior Brittany Pappaconstantinou was selected as one of two student choreographers featured in the fall concert.

From this, she was inspired to make a contemporary modern duet which she presented at the December salon showcase and was selected as one of two student choreographies featured in the fall concert.

“I focused the momentum of pushing and pulling,” Pappaconstantinou said. “They are constantly partnering so pushing and pulling each other’s weight.”

After being selected, Pappaconstantinou began rehearsing with the two classmates she casted for the piece. They rehearsed twice a week for one hour each time last year and this year they rehearse once a week for about an hour and a half. She used the chance method with the dancers to find movement that would fit the piece. She describes being on the choreography side as “nerve-wracking and exciting.”

“It’s hard to make a duet when you’re one person,” Pappaconstantinou said. “It was really difficult for me to plan [the movements] because I didn’t really know how it would look like on their bodies and how it would work out.”

As she rehearsed for the piece, Pappaconstantinou had to learn to detach herself from being a friend and classmate to the dancers and become a choreographer. The mutual respect they all have for each other helped them have a collaborative effort in rehearsals.

“They try to be respectful and offer good suggestions like if they think something would work better or something does not feel right,” Pappaconstantinou said. “They let me know and it honestly it is really nice to work with people who respect you as a friend and as a choreographer because they give you suggestions but also listen.”

Pappaconstantinou was able to receive feedback and guidance from faculty such as Metcalf while making the choreography and rehearsing.

“I think the faculty have really pushed me this year as a choreographer,” Metcalf said. “I would not have been able to do it without them and their encouragement.”

The help from Metcalf especially helped her with deciding the lighting design and other components Pappaconstantinou had never dealt with as a performer.

Contrary to other pieces in the show, Pappaconstantinou’s does not have a specific meaning. There is no relationship between the dancers, but there is a lot of partnering throughout.

“I am interested to see what the audience takes away and what type of meaning they put to it,” Pappaconstantinou said. “It is really just about the structure of the piece that I was thinking about.”

Balancing pointe shoes and books

PHRASE

SOPHOMORE MEG BOERICKE CHANNELS the temper tantrums she would throw when she was younger and growing up with her older brother to get into character for Kira Blazek, the guest artist’s piece.

This piece explores dance through the ages using music of Stevie Nicks, The Ya Ya’s and Hole.

“It’s very like, ‘It’s not a phase mom’ type of mood and feeling and very 90s,” Boericke said. “It’s all about trying to empathize with the audience so, what can I do to make the audi-

ence think that I’m angry throwing a temper tantrum.”

Boericke is also in Metcalf’s pointe piece, which is not as upbeat and high energy as Blazek’s. She has to do a lot of compartmentalizing to figure out what she needs to do while performing both pieces since they are so different from each other. With a lot of competition circuits coming up, Boericke is pleased to see what Metcalf is doing with contemporary pointe.

“I feel like it’s much more relevant with the type of dance that’s trending right now, so it’s very

edgy,” Boericke said. “You still have a lot of the classical elements, the lifts that we do can be seen in classical ballets, but she takes it in a more modern and contemporary mood, which I think can make this dying art a little more relevant to today’s times.”

As a strategic communications and dance double major, Boericke stays busy studying and rehearsing. She is able to manage her time and balance both areas of study by staying organized, eating healthy and being physically and mentally prepared.

“Trying to study for

five different tests at once and being able to keep all the information organized in their respective areas is difficult,” Boericke said. “There are times when you have to forsake a little bit of your social life just to get a few extra hours of sleep.”

Through the challenges Boericke faces with her two majors and dance concerts, she enjoys dancing and giving meaning to the pieces she performs.

“It’s my best form of empathy and communication,” Boericke said. “It’s the reason I am able to connect with my friends because a lot of times I’m

FALL DANCE CONCERT

Date: Nov. 9–12
Time: Thursday: 6 p.m.
Friday: 6 and 8:30 p.m.
Saturday: 2 and 6 p.m.
Sunday: 2 p.m.
Location: Roberts Studio Theatre, Scott Studios at Arts West
Admission: \$13 or Elon student ID

put in pieces where I haven’t actually experienced what it is I’m trying to convey, but I have to relate it to my own experience in order to shuffle off the details and break it down to the base emotions.”

TO IMPROVE THEIR AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO THE PERFORMANCE OF THE CHOREOGRAPHERS ALSO DEVELOP AS S PROCESS.



1

CAROLINE BREHMAN | PHOTO EDITOR

HOMECOMING *unites young and old Elon students*

LAST WEEKEND, ALUMNI, STUDENTS, faculty, staff and members of the Elon University community came together to celebrate Homecoming.

The weekend included numerous events for current students and alumni to celebrate their shared Phoenix pride.

Selected from the 19 members of the Homecoming Court, seniors Gabby Vance and Alonzo Cee were crowned Elon's 2017 Homecoming Royalty during halftime at the Elon vs. Towson football game.

Later, the football team felt similar elation after beating Towson 33-30 in

double overtime.

Pop singer Jon Bellion headlined the Homecoming weekend annual concert Saturday night. Freshman Ben Warters opened the show with a live DJ performance. Warters was followed by Clark Beckham, who was the first runner-up during American Idol in 2015.

Alumni came back to the university to reflect on old memories and to see the change on campus life. The class of 1967 celebrated their 50th reunion. They joined together to laugh about the memories of friendship on campus.



2

COREY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



3

COREY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



AJ MANDELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Pop singer Jon Bellion performs as the headliner for the 2017 Homecoming concert at Elon University Nov. 4.

President Leo Lambert poses with his grandson after being presented with a specialized jersey at the Homecoming game Nov. 4.

Freshman forward and center Karolis Kundrotas shoots a layup against a Randolph College defender on Nov. 1.

Elon football fans attempt to catch a T-shirt at the Homecoming game.

Wide receiver Kortez Weeks protects the ball from a Towson defender during Elon football's Homecoming game at Rhodes Stadium Nov. 4.

Freshman Stephen Baime sings a note at the Twisted Measure concert in Whitley Auditorium Nov. 3.

Junior Loren Brunson, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., performs at the Homecoming step show Nov. 3.



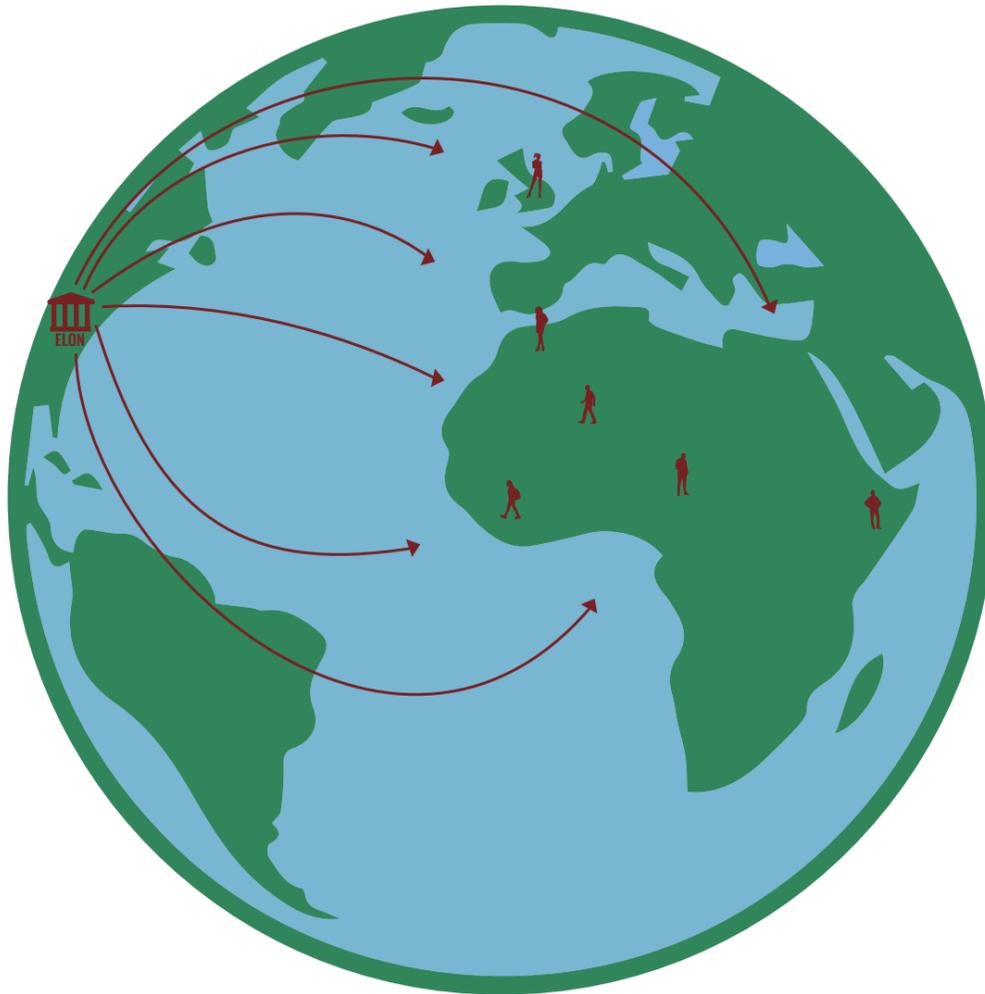
AJ MANDELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



COREY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



OLIVER FISCHER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



HANNAH SICHERMAN | DESIGNER

STAFF EDITORIAL

More support is needed following acts of terror

HOW WE SEE IT

Elon University students who choose to study abroad should be better supported and prepared for coping with terrorist attacks.

Elon University is proudly ranked as the No. 1 university in the United States for study abroad by the Institute of International Education (IIE). The ranking, announced in 2016, boasts that Elon sends more students abroad than any other masters-level university. IIE is not the first organization to praise Elon in this way — The Princeton Review, Business Insider and other college ranking lists have recognized Elon as the No. 1 school for study abroad.

Across campus, 83 percent of Elon students study abroad at least once — including Study USA programs such as Elon in Los Angeles, Elon in New York and others. Over Winter Term, the Global Education Center (GEC) offers more than 30 three weeklong programs. There are also several summer programs or travel-embed-

ded classes students can go on so they are able to have a global experience regardless of their financial situation, major or other involvements.

Recently though, the fear of acts of terror has cast a shadow over the joys of going abroad. In recent years, acts of terror — including domestic terrorism here in the United States committed by Americans and acts of terror internationally committed by larger terror organizations — seemingly occur almost every other week. These tragedies can have great emotional impact on anyone, especially those in close proximity to the situation.

Elon students have been abroad when recent attacks happened in Brussels, Paris, London, New York and Barcelona. The university has done a great job in responding and checking

on the mental well-being of these students immediately after these attacks have occurred, but better support is needed in the long term.

There is no real way for students to prevent or protect themselves from terror attacks. To view these attacks as a reason to avoid an abroad opportunity would be giving into the psychological and emotional war that terrorism is all about. All students should feel empowered to go abroad and experience the world outside of their university, but it is important that there is a support system in place for students if an attack were to occur.

Even though this issue remains prominent, it is unclear what the university is doing to prepare students for the possibility of these attacks. On the GEC website, there are lists of advice for students at all points of the study abroad process — including the planning, application, preparation and return. In the preparation stage, it outlines how students can prepare themselves emotionally and mentally

for the transition into going abroad, as well as information needed in terms of health and safety while abroad.

The website does not clearly outline what students should do if they encounter an act of terrorism abroad or who to talk to if they need help. With Elon students being thousands of miles away, it is crucial that the faculty of the GEC works to reach all members of our community, especially in times of violence and danger.

Experiencing an act of terrorism while abroad can be a deeply troubling, anxiety-inducing experience, and our students need to be supported. This support could come in the form of an extra orientation session, counselors available via email to talk with students or an educational opportunity for students to learn more about the scope and impact of terrorism. Whatever it is, we must recognize that acts of terror are possibilities when students study abroad, and we should be taking this threat seriously without inducing fear into students.

SENATOR OF THE WEEK

Attend different campus events to learn new perspectives



Connor Torossian
SGA Senator

My name is Connor Torossian, and I am a SGA Senator from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Last semester my friend Morgan Bodenarain, executive president of SGA, invited me to the N-Word Forum, an event organized by the Black Student Union. Before she asked me to go, I had seen posters promoting the event around campus and, to be honest, had no interest in attending. But Bodenarain insisted I attend with her.

The second we walked into the room, I noticed that I was in the minority. This was an

experience I have never had as a white student on Elon University's campus. The forum was about the use of the "n-word." Being white in a room of nearly all minority Elon students, this was an extremely uncomfortable feeling. Rarely would I intentionally put myself in a situation in which I knew I would be uncomfortable, but this was an exception.

In a discussion on a PowerPoint presentation on the origin of the word, I heard multiple comments, some with which I disagreed, and I mustered the confidence to

stand up and make a comment from my own perspective. It was widely disagreed with, and an interesting discourse followed.

After hearing many different perspectives on the idea, my own opinion on the topic of discussion changed in a way. The conversation showed me that putting oneself in an uncomfortable situation with a group of people with differing opinions truly open a person's mind to new ways of thinking about a topic.

This is why it is very important for everyone to respectfully engage in conver-

sation about uncomfortable topics with people that disagree with you because one of two things will happen: Either you will end up strengthening your own beliefs, or you will end up changing your beliefs. Both can be positive outcomes.

I challenge you to question the beliefs you strongly hold by talking to someone with a different viewpoint. Go to a campus event that you do not want to attend so that you are exposed to new ideas. If all of us do this often, our society will become more civically engaged and educated.

WHAT IS SENATOR OF THE WEEK?

Elon News Network is pairing with SGA to showcase different SGA members each week and share their stories with the Elon community. This bi-weekly installment can be found in print or online at elonnewsnetwork.com.

THE POWER IN PEN AND PAGES



Jake Lenett
Columnist

If you had the opportunity to travel back in time and meet your past self from years, months or even weeks ago, would you? If you aired on the more adventurous side and answered yes, I know how to satisfy your appetite for introspection. Sadly, it does not involve the use of a time machine. The solution is rather uncomplicated: journaling.

Hear me out — think about how much happens throughout the course of a day, week, month or year. We develop different levels of relationships with various types of people, adapt our routines and expand our repertoire of knowledge. In spite of this, it is rare that we contemplate it all, and I find that to be a sorely missed opportunity.

Your college years can be a hectic time of academic pressures, social experiences and significant personal growth. Because of this, it is often too easy to fixate on what is happening next, instead of reflecting on the present. But why take the time out of our busy schedules to simply think about things that have already

happened? For starters, reflection is not only powerful, but necessary for individual development.

When we reflect on memories and begin to analyze them we not only draw lessons from seemingly insignificant occurrences, but also gain a more genuine understanding of ourselves. That is enough of a reason to pause for reflection — even if you only devote 30 minutes out of your week to the act. The question then becomes: How can we analyze our own experiences in the most profound, yet least burdensome way?

By allocating time to reflect through our own writing — I'm talking undistracted, unfiltered, pen-to-paper writing — we acquaint ourselves with the impact of our own life experiences. An extra emphasis on the physical act of pen-to-paper writing — the careful consideration of each word — that sharpens our perspective and matures our thought.

In the context of a journal, writing about ourselves creates a window into our own psyche, and allows us to solve issues without debate or altercation. Instead, individual matters are settled via internal inquiry and expression, which I find to be a much healthier method of resolving conflict. Writing functions as merely part of the therapeutic process of journaling — reading your own words is of possibly even greater value.

Summoning the voice from your own journal holds a literary mirror to your face, so to speak. You aren't necessarily talking to yourself, but interacting with the deep-seated facets of your own character. In essence, journals force you to face your own perspective, which upon reading,

may prompt you to think more acutely about your own experiences and identity.

Likewise, the journal also serves as an unrivaled archive for your own thoughts. Even if you searched through every recorded database on Earth, you would not be able to find such an accurate representation of yourself. Medical documents may record every illness and vaccination you have ever had, but do not tell the stories of how you felt that time your mother cooked your favorite dinner when you were bedridden with the flu.

Your social media profiles

may consist of every post or image you have ever interacted with, but neglect to describe how you felt beyond just a few lines of text and an emoji. In terms of authentically representing you, no other medium can begin to rival that of a journal.

For the past six months, I've been keeping a journal of my own, and it has quickly become one of my most prized possessions. To address the obvious, yes — I do recognize how atypical it is to keep a journal, particularly because I am a man. Regardless of whichever gender you identify with, everybody can benefit from writing in a journal.

I, too, am not immune to this societal pressure. I refer to my little black notebook in which I record my

innermost thoughts, feelings and ambitions as a journal — not a diary. For me, journaling has meant being able to finally channel my deepest emotions without the fear of judgement from opening up to other people. My journal also acted as a sort of therapist, and granted me the ability to express myself without having to explain myself to anyone. Additionally, the journal never judges, shames or questions the legitimacy of



AN EXTRA EMPHASIS ON THE PHYSICAL ACT OF PEN-TO-PAPER WRITING — THE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF EACH WORD — SHARPENS OUR PERSPECTIVE AND MATURES OUR THOUGHT.

my own thinking. If anybody was to judge, it would only be my future self.

A journal also serves as a unique time capsule that records your own personal growth. Perhaps you may conclude that previously overwhelming events turned out to be relatively insignificant in the grand scheme of things, or vice versa. You may even decide to pass your

writing on to future generations. This cements your place in history. Someday, long after your passing, somebody might stumble upon your journal and reminisce in the deepest elements of your thought. Journaling ensures that you are, to some degree, immortal. So go ahead, put pen to paper and start writing.

LUCIA JERVIS | DESIGNER

Staff members are the guardian angels of Elon



Stephaine Ntim
Columnist

I was first introduced to Elon University's E-Rides program this fall. The transportation program — offered from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Monday-Thursdays, and from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. on Fridays — takes students across campus and to locations within a one-and-a-half mile radius from the Moseley Student Center. It is an extension of the on-campus hospitality program promoted at Elon.

I first met Mike, an E-Rides driver, on the third day of using the service. He greeted me with a warm smile. We engaged in a simple conversation, as most people do when they first meet. He briefly told me about his family, his love for motorcycles and he inquired about my day. I thanked him for taking me to my place

of residence and we parted ways for several days.

Ever since that early interaction, Mike has become more than a driver to me — he has become an adviser, someone in whom I can confide.

When I fret about my academic course load, he regularly imparts his wisdom, reassuring me that everything will be fine. His genuine interest in my well-being on campus is something I attribute to the community Elon staff members cultivate.



TO THE ENTIRE STAFF, I'D LIKE TO EXTEND MY SINCEREST GRATITUDE FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE FOR THIS COMMUNITY.

I have met several individuals like Mike — Elon staff members who care about students and want us to succeed. With time, they remember

our names, take note of our personalities and can sense our mood. They respond to our fatigued and despondent looks with positive and kind eyes. Even though our meetings

are brief, the staff members I encounter still manage to leave a lasting impression on my day.

The first person to take note of my writing for Elon

News Network worked in dining services. I received positive feedback from her, which inspired me to continue writing. She only mentioned it once, but I will remember it for a long time.

These hardworking individuals each share the position of influencing our experiences over four years. The staff make up so many moving parts of the system that is Elon.

The staff take care of our residences, our classrooms.

They provide meals for us. They transport us from place to place.

They care about us. I care about them, too.

They are like our guardian angels, protectors, so to speak.

They see us at our lowest moments, and at our proudest moments, too.

They know us even before we know them.

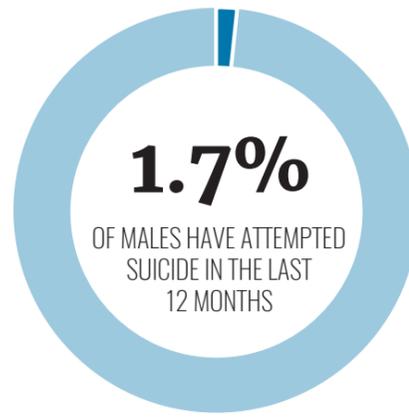
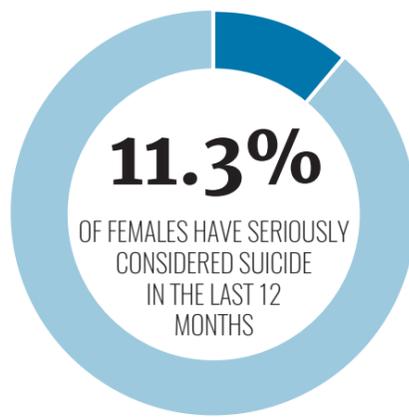
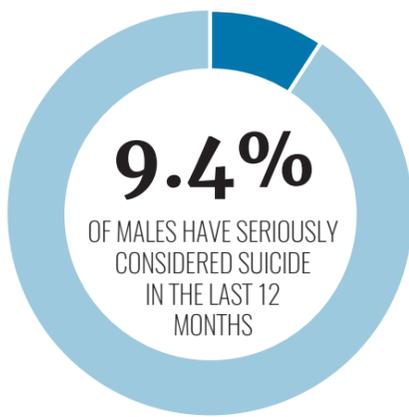
When we are ready to depart this place, they will have seen our full transformations — from freshman to senior year.

I wouldn't know Elon without them.

To the entire staff, I'd like to extend my sincerest gratitude for all you have done for this community. Without you, Elon would not run as a well-oiled machine. Thank you for taking care of the moving parts so we can continue to grow as individuals eager to learn and try to do good.

In the spirit of the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, I encourage the entire student body to pause and thank these guardian angels for their service to our Elon community.

Mental illness affects everyone — let's take it seriously



STATISTICS COURTESY OF AMERICAN COLLEGE HEALTH ASSOCIATION
MEGHAN KIMBERLING | DESIGNER



Olivia Ryan
Opinions Section Editor

We all need to do more talking and a lot more listening.

Elon University is no stranger to suicide. In the last three years, we've lost Trent Stetler and Demetri Allison to suicide. We lost two bright, beautiful and promising young lives, and I cannot help but wonder whether these losses could have been prevented.

When I was 13 years old, I tried to take my own life. My life had barely even begun, but I was at a place where I genuinely thought I had no reason to live. No matter how many people told me they loved me or how much positivity I had in my life, I was in a mental state where none of that mattered.

Looking back, it's a strange feeling to explain. I knew there was love and light around me, but I couldn't see it. It felt like I was drowning and people kept reaching out their hands to save me, but I was too tired to reach back. I still can't make sense of why — I just did not want to live.

But I was lucky. I survived this and got the help I needed. The support I received from family, friends and professionals ensured that I would never try to hurt myself like that ever again. My family has always been open to talking about mental health. Even now, as a 21-year-old college

senior, I still call my mom almost every day to check in about how I'm feeling. But even though I grew up in a positive environment open to mental health discussions, it is still hard for me to seek help at times because the negative stigma surrounding mental illness is so strong.

Though I've been addressing my mental health through therapy and medications for close to 10 years and I've always been rather open about my struggles, I still find it difficult to seek the help I need because it is so easy to feel like admitting I have mental illness is a sign of weakness.

I'm lucky that even though I feel the effects of this negative stigma, I've been constantly surrounded by an accepting community and people who have encouraged me to talk and been willing to listen. Many others are not that lucky — and we need to actively work to change that.

For many, the issue lies in the stigmatization and trivialization of mental health. According to College Degree Search, two times as many men ages 20-24 die by suicide than women in the same age group. Men are also four times as likely to die by suicide, while women are three times as likely to attempt it. But men are largely excluded from conversations on mental

health, and we have seen the effects of this on our campus.

There are events and forums and speakers and meetings all throughout the year addressing the issue of mental health on our campus, but the problem remains. It may seem like we're doing everything we can, but we cannot give up on supporting our students.

The sheer likelihood that another suicide could shake our campus in the near future is disheartening to say the very least. According to College Degree Search, six percent of undergraduate students have "seriously considered" suicide in the past year. Roughly 1.5 out of every 100 students have attempted it. There are about 1,100 suicides on college campuses each year. Suicide is the second leading cause of death among adolescents aged 18-24.

Though it sometimes seems like a problem we can't fix, I wholeheartedly believe suicide is preventable. I've seen too many people lose themselves to suicide. I don't want to lose another. None of us do. So it is time for us to finally take this issue seriously — and most importantly, include every member of the Elon community in the conversation. Talk, listen and remember that you are not alone.

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

Counseling Services
(336) 278-7280

Campus Safety and Police
(336) 278-5555

Student Life administrator-on-call
(336) 278-5555

SUICIDE ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES

6%

Six percent of undergraduate college students have "seriously considered" suicide in the last year.

1,100

There are approximately 1,100 suicides on college campuses each year.

No. 2

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among adolescents aged 18 to 24.

STATISTICS COURTESY OF COLLEGE DEGREE SEARCH

Turn pain into power during difficult times



Christian Galvano
Columnist

The Script sings in their song "Superheroes" something that applies directly to what I have been pondering my whole life: "Every day, every hour, turn that pain into power."

Why is it essential in our lives to turn pain into power? Why do we struggle and what is the healthiest way to deal with it? These questions run through my head all the time. I was never good at bouncing back from bad situations — I always used to deal with my feelings in the wrong ways. I used to go home, sleep, eat, drink, watch TV and succumb to laziness in hopes of getting over a mistake.

Every single person on this planet has regretted something. I don't have to do any research to tell you that because we are all guilty of "human error." The day we understand how to deal with our human error is the day we learn to minimize it.

For example, I absolutely hated that I was not accepted to the Communications Fellows program here at Elon University. I wanted to be a part of that cohort so badly. In high school, I worked five days a week while also juggling school work, social life and family issues. When the time came to apply for the communications fellowship other admitted students were discussing in an Elon group chat, I applied half-ass.

When I ended up not even getting an interview, I thought I wasn't good enough and dealt with the situation by partying with friends and making bad decisions.

When pain is present from a time of despair, I think we all have two choices on how we are going to cope. What I did — what my mom calls "the easy route" — is the first way someone can deal with it. When we mess up, whatever the circumstance is, we can take our anger and go out of control. But the best way of coping is the option everyone should take: focusing, gaining strength and positively changing that anger or sadness into something better.

Now the question is: Where do we begin to turn our pain into power? The way I see it, this is split into three steps.

First, you have to address the situation. Think about what just happened to you, and see what reinforcements you can do to bring

up the situation. My poppy used to say, "Just make it better." And honestly, he was not too far off.

Take time to reflect. Talk to people about your times in despair. Try to think what went wrong, and see if that will affect your decisions in the future.

Second, think out how you will apply your energy. When my grandfather died at the age of 70 from heart disease, my dad told me, "No Galvano lives past 70." This made me think. I started to question a lot about my lifestyle. I addressed the situation and thought of a way to apply my sadness and frustration from this unfortunate family circumstance. I began to eat a lot healthier. I no longer ate the blood-clotting, fatty foods that have been killing generations of grease-loving Italian-American families like my own. When I started to apply my despair in this positive way, I felt a lot better about myself.

Finally, you have to stay consistent with your commitment

to turn your anger or sadness into something better. People are going to tear you down, rip your heart out and try to blame it on you. That's just the way life is. You have to stay committed no matter what the circumstances are.

Do not overfill your dedication because that's how you get run down. Sometimes, that after-work margarita is healthy and essential. Tony Robbins once said, "Stay committed to your decisions, but stay flexible in your approach." This is important to keep in mind — stay on track and don't lose your mind in the process.

Remember the big ideas: address, apply, retain. If you follow these steps, it's almost impossible to fall behind. Everything happens for a reason, so when a time of stress and pain slaps you across the face, use that pain as motivation to be stronger.

I believe this is absolutely essential. Please deal with sadness and anger in a productive and positive way. Dealing with life's difficulties in a negative way can lead to alcoholism, drug abuse, self-harm, criminal activity and more.

Don't make the mistake of putting your pain into an unhealthy lifestyle. Turning pain into power — as the Script puts it — is "how a superhero learns to fly" after all.



THE BEST WAY OF COPING, IS THE OPTION EVERYONE SHOULD TAKE: FOCUSING, GAINING STRENGTH AND POSITIVELY CHANGING THAT ANGER OR SADNESS INTO SOMETHING BETTER.



Quarterback Davis Cheek returns to the sideline during a game against the Towson University Tigers Nov. 4 at Rhodes Stadium. Elon went on to defeat Towson 33-30 in double overtime.

ALEC MANDELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FRESHMAN PHOENIX FLIES HIGH:

QUARTERBACK DAVIS CHEEK EMBRACES LEADERSHIP ROLE

FOOTBALL | from cover

ed 959 yards and completed 67 of his 102 passes. On the season, he's racked up 1821 yards and completed 63 percent of his passes. That yardage total is the third-most in the conference, and the third-most of all freshmen in the FCS.

His performance has turned heads across the league and across the country. So far this season, Cheek has been named Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) rookie of the week twice, and offensive player of the week once.

To top it off, he's been put on the watchlist for the Jerry Rice award, an honor given to the nation's best FCS rookie at the end of the season.

Early in the season, it wasn't hard to see that junior running back Malcolm Summers was making the biggest contributions to Elon's offense. As the team's only option at quarterback had no college experience, Summers quickly became the cornerstone of Elon's offense, putting up 755 yards through six games, giving him the most rushing yards in all of the FCS at the time.

The Phoenix climbed the national rankings and made a name for itself, and Malcolm Summers was the biggest reason why.

Just as Elon established itself as a national contender, Summers went down with a torn hamstring against the College of William & Mary, sidelining him for the remainder of the season.

Suddenly, the surging team's future was uncertain. With Summers out, Elon needed to find offense elsewhere to stay on its trajectory. Now, three games and three wins

later, the Phoenix is proving they can produce even without the running back that helped the program gain recognition.

In Summers' absence, much of the weight fell on the shoulders of Cheek, and the young quarterback is proving he can perform in the face of that pressure.

At only 18 years old, Cheek has stepped into a role as a leader of the seventh-best FCS team in the nation, but it certainly hasn't been easy.

Elon has gone undefeated against FCS teams this year, but that 8-0 record certainly doesn't tell the whole story.

Nearly every contest that the Phoenix has won has included some late-game drama. Just as an undefeated record has come to define Elon's season, so have come-from-behind wins and almost-blown leads.

Understandably, Cheek's performance has been less than stellar at times. He faltered against Albany, completing only 53 percent of passes and racking up 81 yards. Even against Charleston Southern, in a game that challenged skepticism of Elon's potential in 2017, Cheek struggled. He only completed 47 percent of his passes, looking less than spectacular.

But now, when Elon has needed him the most, Cheek has stepped up.

In the past three games, as Elon's offensive strategy shifted to include more pass plays, Cheek has had a hand in six of the team's 10 touchdowns. His poise on the field is impressive for someone who had never played college football before August of this year.

More than just putting up numbers, Cheek has earned the trust of his head coach.

"We have total trust putting the

ball in Davis' hands because he's a really good player," said Elon head coach Curt Cignetti. "He studies, and he makes good decisions on the field and he thinks like a coach a little bit."

While Cignetti has a long history of coaching experience at schools like the University of Alabama and North Carolina State University, this season is his first with Elon, making he and Cheek recent arrivals to the program.

While Cheek's play has garnered him plenty of attention, he's gotten help from his receivers along the way.

The team's leading receiver, Kortez Weeks, is also a true freshman. He's pulled in 49 catches this year, averaging 13.02 yards per reception and has proven a reliable option for Cheek downfield.

Cheek has connected with senior wide receiver Tre Lennon plenty of times as well, adding 31 catches and 419 yards to Lennon's name.

The young quarterback has adjusted quickly, finding chemistry with his receiving corps and proving he can play the college level, but his job won't be getting easier any time soon.

The Phoenix is in the regular season's home stretch. Only two regular season games remain and one of them is against last year's FCS National Champions, the 9-0 James Madison University Dukes.

With two of the hardest games of the season on the docket and the looming challenge of a playoff run in the near future, Cheek still has plenty of work to do. Regardless of how the season ends, though, he's made his presence a pivotal part of the team that's begun to redefine Elon football.



Freshman quarterback Davis Cheek attempts a pass during the game against Towson University Nov. 4. The Phoenix won the game on Saturday, their eighth straight.

ALEC MANDELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CHEEK BY THE NUMBERS

63%

Completion percentage for Cheek — the 17th best percentage in the FCS.

13

Number of touchdowns Cheek has thrown so far — 44th best in FCS.

1821

Number of yards Cheek has thrown for so far — 46th best in the FCS.

202.3

Yards per game, which is good enough for 49th best in the FCS.

Phoenix dominates in lone preseason game

Head coach Matt Matheny is confident with returners

Erik Webb
Sports Director | @ErikWebbElon

After cruising to a 99-63 victory in its only preseason exhibition game, the Elon University men's basketball team is confident moving forward into the season. Returning its top five scorers from last season, there have been no significant changes to the Phoenix lineup.

"Experience is a strength of this team," said ninth-year head coach Matt Matheny. "Veteran leadership kind of goes along with that."

Based on the practices and the sole exhibition game, Matheny said he believes this team is special.

"We have the potential with this team to be as good of a team as we've had in a long time," Matheny said. "I believe that. Now, we're not there yet, but we have a chance. We have potential ... because of the talent we have and the experience that we have."

The experience showed in the exhibition game, as 14 of 15 Elon players saw action. The only player to sit out was senior guard Brian Dawkins who was resting a sore knee. The freshman class and its potential depth are some things Matheny said have a chance to be a strength of this year's team.

"I think we have some talent in the freshman class," Matheny said. "I really think they will help us this year. I'd love to play eight, nine guys - I'd love that. We might be able to."

Junior guard Danian Swoope says that he believes minutes will be taken or gained during practice.

"I expect us all to play a little bit this year," Swoope said. "The leaders on the team are pushing the younger guys and the younger guys are getting better every single



CORY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior forward Jack Anton attacks the rim for a layup against Randolph College in an exhibition game Nov. 1 in Alumni Gym. Elon won 99-63.

day and they're going to be ready to play in any type of situation."

The play Swoope is referring to will revolve around some changes to the speed of the game for the Elon squad. The Phoenix looks to play a little bit quicker than fans are used to seeing.

"It's not going to be anything that's just glaring," Matheny said. "We're going to try to be a little quicker in our pace and motion offense. What does that mean? It just means that we expect to move the ball quicker. We're willing to shoot quick and we're going to emphasize that more."

"Play a little faster ... catch the teams on their toes, well on their heels, and basically just try and mix

up how we play a little bit, little different from last year," Swoope said. "Let our playmakers make a little bit more plays than they did last year. There's a lot more spacing this year with all the shooters on the floor, and that's a lot of fun for all five of us on the court."

With all of the returners on the court, junior forward Tyler Seibring said he feels something different during the game.

"We have experience and chemistry the way we trust each other and the way we trust people to shoot," Seibring said. "We have a lot of guys that can knock down shots across the space of the floor. It's just going to be a group of guys that have fun during the season com-



WE HAVE THE POTENTIAL WITH THIS TEAM TO BE AS GOOD OF A TEAM AS WE'VE HAD IN A LONG TIME ... BECAUSE OF THE TALENT WE HAVE AND THE EXPERIENCE THAT WE HAVE.

MATT MATHENY
HEAD COACH

peting."

"The main thing is that guys are just playing with confidence," Swoope said. "We put a lot of work in during this offseason. We are starting to see it, like Tyler just said.

It's just exciting for me to see it too."

The next test for the Phoenix will be preseason-ranked No. 1 Duke University on Friday, Nov. 10. Elon will make the short trip to Durham for the 7 p.m. game.

Women's basketball looks to be in high form

Phoenix hopeful for the 2017-2018 season after exhibition game

Erik Webb
Sports Director | @ErikWebbElon

After securing a spot in the NCAA tournament by winning the conference last year, there was a question of whether the team would behave differently on the court after replacing half its team.

FRESHMAN POWER

Guard Saadia Munford was the standout newcomer, scoring 12 points for the maroon and gold and assisting on three others.

Six new faces on the Elon bench did not seem to change much for the women's basketball team as the Phoenix dominated in its lone preseason game of the season, defeating the Anderson University Trojans on Sunday night, 102-47.

"We see a lot of that in practice every day, flashes of greatness," said head coach Charlotte Smith. "I felt like the team did a really good job of being poised in the post, being patient and not trying to overdo it and just making simple."

"I'm pleased with the performance of the freshmen," Smith said about the newcomers. "There are



SAMANTHA STEINMAN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior guard Shay Burnett dribbles the ball up the court against Anderson University in an exhibition game Nov. 5. Elon won 102-47.

going to be ups and downs, times where they don't execute and don't know what they're doing out there, but I tell them don't worry about whether or not you're making mistakes - I just want you to play hard. I feel like they all went out there tonight and played to the best of their ability in terms of competing."

Returns on the team said they feel the same way about the fresh-

men. "I think all of them are showing a lot of growth," said sophomore guard Lexi Mercer. "I think they're all doing really well about stepping up and they have their jitters, but after the first half you could see in the second half that they felt more comfortable out on the court."

Four of the six freshmen on the Elon squad played during the game

on Sunday, with the other two not dressing. Guard Saadia Munford was the standout newcomer, scoring 12 points for the maroon and gold and assisting on three others. Guard Ariel Colon and forward Jaylin Powell tacked on nine each for the Phoenix.

"It's definitely an adjustment for our team having a lot of young players," Mercer said. "We've kind of just

broken things up and taken it one step at a time, and I feel like they're doing really well at becoming acclimated to our system and it's starting to work out well for us."

"Even though we're young, we have a lot of good depth," Smith said. "Our freshmen have done a really good job in preseason of coming in to watch extra film to understand what we're doing out there. It felt like we did a really good job tonight, and I think the more that they learn and get acclimated to our system, the better we'll be in terms of our depth."

After winning the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) conference last season, Elon checked in at No. 10 on the preseason CollegeInsider.com Women's Mid-Major poll, falling from its No. 3 ranking at the end of the previous season. The Phoenix also received one vote in the first USA TODAY Coaches Poll, tying Elon for No. 49 in the national with Villanova and Boise State.

The season for Elon will begin Nov. 10 at home, when the Phoenix welcomes the Winthrop University Eagles for the 7 p.m. game.

"I'm hoping that this non-conference season goes well and that carries on into the CAA conference games," sophomore center Ra'Shika White said.

As the season begins, there is one goal that White wants to obtain more than anything else.

"I'm hoping we get another ring on our finger," White said.



Elon University men's soccer team members huddle at midfield after a game against James Madison University, en route to a 7-4-6 record during the 2017 season. SOPHIA ORTIZ | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SPORTS BRIEFS

Football freshmen recognized after eighth-straight win

Freshman kicker Owen Johnson and redshirt-freshman running back Brelynd Cyphers received honors from the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) this week.

Johnson was named Special Teams Player of the Week, following a game-winning field goal to lift the Phoenix above the Towson University Tigers 33-30 on Saturday. Johnson hit a career-high four field goals in the game, including two in overtime to help secure Elon's eighth-straight win.

Cyphers received praise as the CAA Rookie of the Week after rushing for 129 yards on 14 carries, the first 100-yard performance of his career. Cyphers has four touchdowns this season and averages 46 yards per game for the Phoenix.

Elon remains in the No. 7 spot in the national rankings of the Football Conference Subdivision as it goes for its ninth-straight win on the road at the University of New Hampshire on Saturday at 2 p.m.

Volleyball closes out Alumni Gym

The Elon University volleyball team finished out its career in Alumni Gym this weekend, capturing two wins and celebrating the seniors on the team.

The Phoenix defeated Hofstra University 3-2 on Friday and swept Northeastern University 3-0 to close out volleyball's 46-year run inside the Alumni Gym. The victories were the 15th and 16th on the season for Elon, keeping them in the hunt for the sixth and final spot in the Colonial Athletic Association tournament.

The two seniors on the team were celebrated on Senior Day Sunday prior to the match against Northeastern University. Outside hitter Sydney Busa had 24 digs on the weekend, moving her two short of 10th-most in program history. She would also become one of only two players in program history in the top 10 in both career kills and digs. Middle blocker Michelle Klein, the other senior and team captain on the squad, was injured 20 minutes into the first game of the season and has been sidelined ever since.

Men's golf finishes fall slate

After placing sixth this weekend at The Battle at Stono Ferry in Hollywood, South Carolina, the Elon University men's golf team concluded its fall season.

Freshman Quade Lukes finished the tournament in fifth place, his second top-5 finish of the year. Lukes birdied four of the last seven holes to shoot a 68 in the final round, bringing his three-round total to 208 (-8).

Charlie May was the only other top-25 finisher for the Phoenix. May shot 217 (+1) and placed 23rd.

Basketball teams prepares for season

Posting a perfect record in singles play, junior Maria Paraja led the Elon University women's tennis team in its final weekend of play this fall.

Playing at the Kitty Harrison Invitational at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Paraja went 2-0 in singles play before teaming up with fellow Phoenix junior Suzanne Zenoni to go 2-1 in doubles play over the three-day event.

Many Elon players posted solid records at the event including sophomore Alex Konjaev, who posted a perfect 2-0 record in singles play, and freshman Erica Braschi, who went 2-1 in her matchups.

Men's soccer knocked out of tournament

Elon loses to College of Charleston 2-1 to potentially end season

Roman Costa
Contributor | @romangcosta

Despite losing to the College of Charleston 2-1 on Saturday night in the first round of the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) tournament, the Elon University men's soccer team still has a slim chance at extending its season.

After going 7-4-6 this year, the Phoenix is eligible for an at-large bid into the NCAA tournament. If not picked next Monday, Elon's season is over.

In the CAA quarterfinals game this weekend, the game-winner came in the 66th minute, when Elon conceded a penalty and Charleston senior striker Leland Archer delivered calmly from the spot. The Cougars were then able

to keep Elon from scoring over the final 24 minutes, securing the victory and punching its ticket to the semifinals.

The Phoenix took the lead in the 23rd minute, when senior forward Elijah Agu scored off of a beautiful strike from outside the 18-yard box just seconds after coming on as a substitute. But the glory was short-lived, as Charleston responded with a goal just six minutes later when senior forward Leland Archer placed a header, past the Elon keeper.

The season started extremely well for Elon - it got off to a 3-0-1 start and was not defeated until it met conference rival and No. 14 ranked University of North Carolina at Wilmington in its ninth match of the season. After playing to a record of 3-0-5, the Phoenix went on a 0-3-1 skid before bouncing back and winning four of its final five contests.

Elon's victory in its season finale against Delaware on Oct.

28 saw it qualify for the CAA tournament for the fourth consecutive season. But, head coach Marc Reeves' squad was unable to advance past the first round in his inaugural season at the helm of the program.

Senior midfielder Elijah Agu finished the CAA season with a team-high four goals despite missing multiple games due to an injury and a violation of team rules off the field. Agu also led his team with four assists. Freshman midfielder Ronni Mleczkovicz had an impressive premiere season at Elon, providing three goals and three assists from the midfield. With Agu graduating in the spring, it will be important for younger players such as Mleczkovicz to step up and fill the gap that will inevitably be left by Agu's absence.

Also graduating this year is senior defender Jonathan Coleby, who has been invaluable to Elon's defense throughout his entire col-

legiate career. Coleby started in all 19 games as a freshman, and has remained healthy and in-form since. Coleby and Agu are the only two seniors on the roster, so coach Reeves will be excited to have the bulk of his team back for next season.

The Phoenix have scored eighteen goals while conceding just eleven, effectively earning a goal difference of +7. Seven different players scored for Elon, suggesting that nearly the entire team can be a threat in front of the goal. Redshirt-junior goalkeeper Matthew Jegier, with the help of his defense, came up with an impressive 10 clean sheets this season after facing 189 shots and only conceding 11 goals.

As Reeves prepares for his second season, he will have a strong foundation to build upon. Though the Phoenix was knocked out in the first round of the CAA tournament, the coaching staff and players alike will be eager to return to action next season.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

RESULTS **0-0**
NOV. 1 RANDOLPH COLLEGE/ELON 99-63

SCHEDULE
NOV. 10 DUKE/DURHAM 7 P.M.
NOV. 11 WILLIAM PEACE/ELON 7 P.M.
NOV. 14 FURMAN/GREENVILLE, SC 7 P.M.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

RESULTS **0-0**
NOV. 5 ANDERSON UNIVERSITY/ELON 102-47

SCHEDULE
NOV. 10 WINTHROP/ELON 7 P.M.
NOV. 12 NC A&T/GREENSBORO 5:30 P.M.

MEN'S SOCCER

RESULTS **7-5-6**

NOV. 4 COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON/MT. PLEASANT, SC 1-3

VOLLEYBALL

RESULTS **16-13**

NOV. 3 HOFSTRA/ELON 3-2
NOV. 5 NORTHEASTERN/ELON 3-0

SCHEDULE
NOV. 10 COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON/CHARLESTON, SC 3:30 P.M.
NOV. 12 UNCW/WILMINGTON 1 P.M.

THE PHOENIX FOCUS

FOOTBALL

RESULTS **8-1**
NOV. 4 TOWSON/ELON 33-30

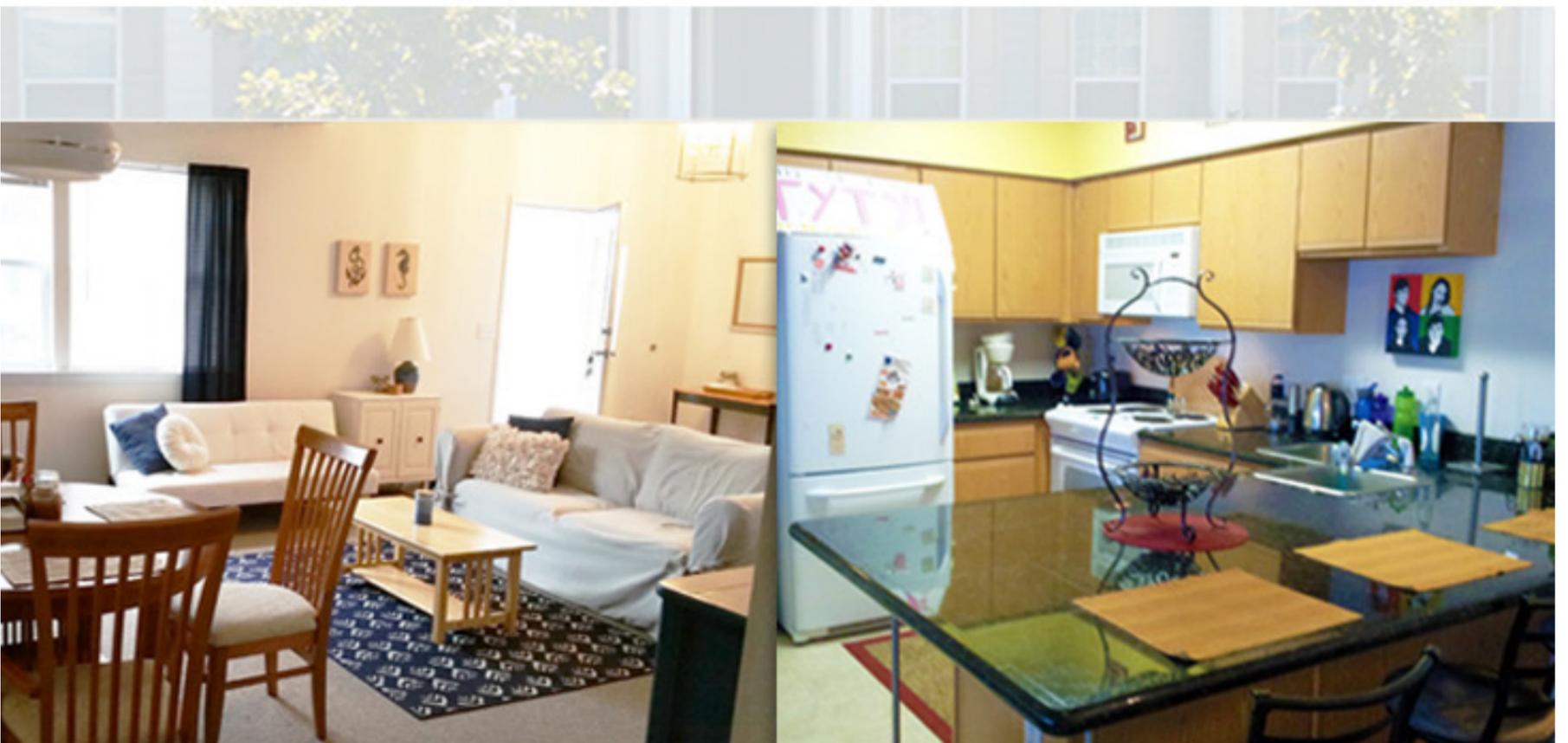
SCHEDULE
NOV. 11 NEW HAMPSHIRE/DURHAM, NH 2 P.M.



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