

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2022
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THE PENDULUM



SEENA GRANOWSKY
CO-FOUNDER OF ELON'S GENDER STUDIES



CHARLOTTE SMITH
FIRST BLACK WOMAN ELON WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL COACH



CONNIE BOOK
FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT OF
ELON UNIVERSITY

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

In this special edition, The Pendulum takes a look at women's history at Elon University and the surrounding community from 1882 to present day.



GLENDA PHILLIPS HIGHTOWER
FIRST BLACK FEMALE STUDENT AT
ELON UNIVERSITY



MARY CARROLL
FIRST BLACK HOMECOMING QUEEN AT ELON



SENIOR ALYSSA MERITT
FOUNDER OF ELON MAINTAINING
PAN-ASIAN RESPECT, EQUITY
AND SOCIAL SERVICE

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Students, staff share what Women's History Month means to them

ESPORTS WOMEN • PAGE 7A

Elon's Esports women share what it's like being in a male-dominated club

LADY IN OFFICE • PAGE 8A

Town of Elon Mayor Emily Sharpe shares her experience as a woman in office

CHEAT SHEET

THE CHEAT SHEET IS AN INTERVIEW WITH A RELEVANT EXPERT TO EXPLAIN COMPLEX TOPICS

THE NOMINATION OF JUDGE KETANJI BROWN JACKSON



Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson delivers remarks on her nomination by President Joe Biden to serve as associate justice on the United States Supreme Court on Friday, Feb. 25. Jackson's hearings began Monday, March. 21. KENT NISHIMURA/LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

Liza Taylor, professor of political science and policy studies, discusses President Joe Biden's Supreme Court nomination

Betsy Schlehuber
Elon News Network | @betsyschlehuber

Senate confirmation hearings for Ketanji Brown Jackson's Supreme Court nomination began March 21. President Joe Biden nominated Jackson at the end of February after Justice Stephen Breyer announced his retirement. Jackson is currently a federal judge in the D.C. appeals circuit.



Liza Taylor

Liza Taylor, professor of political science and policy studies, spoke with Elon News Network about Jackson and her possible influence in government. Taylor specializes in feminist and social justice coalition politics. She discusses the recent nomination in the context of representation and the perception of Biden's presidency. *This interview has been edited for clarity.*

What is Jackson's background and has she influenced the courts in the past?

"This will be the first time we have someone who's been a public defender. People are talking about that as being a big deal because she has a different perspective. If you are defending people, you have a different perspective, especially on criminal justice, so that's a big deal. The fact that she's a Black woman is a big deal as well."

How do you think Jackson's nomination will influence how the rest of Biden's presidency will be perceived?

"It'll make a lot of people really happy, and it will probably upset a lot of other people. Obviously, people who are skewing more to the right or center are probably already critical of this decision. But many people to the left of the center are going to be appreciative that, first of all, he is following through on a promise that he would nominate a Black woman. The fact that he's doing that is good and will stand him in good stead with the people that already support him.

If he did have support from people right and center, they may not be impressed with this decision. But it's all to be expected. It's possible that, for people on the left who have been questioning anything about Biden, this is a way for him to signal his more left-leaning and progressive commitments.

From what I've learned from people who do study the court and what they have to say about this nomination, there's a lot we don't yet know about her ideologically, where she stands. The assumption is that because of her background, because she is a Black woman who has been a public defender and has an understanding of criminal justice from the perspective of those who have been accused, she's

going to come with a certain standing, have lived experiences about the way that individuals interact with the law, and especially law enforcement. That, I think, will be unique. It's hard to pinpoint exactly where she stands on things."

Currently, the Supreme Court seats six conservative judges and three liberal judges. How would Jackson's presence on the court influence the conservative majority, if at all?

"On one hand, you can say, 'Look, it's not going to do much.' But the late Ruth Bader Ginsburg and other people acknowledge that even in those dissenting opinions, you are potentially shifting the understanding of the other people on the court. So that could have a possibility of influencing the conservative majority. I don't know how much that still happens, especially in this court, because this is a very divided court, and I don't know how open the conservative majority are to learning from the lived experiences of people who aren't like them.

Research has shown having even just one Black person on a court with a bunch of other white people, for instance, will potentially shift those white people's perspectives on issues related to race, simply because they are listening to the perspective of someone who's lived a different reality than they have. If she writes dissenting opinions and is very vocal on those dissenting opinions, maybe that will shift other people's thinking. I don't know that it will change rulings.

This isn't anything anyone's jumping up and down about, because it's not shifting anything fundamentally on the court. We're jumping up and down simply because she's the first Black

woman. Sonia Sotomayor made this exact point when she was confirmed. She was very upfront about it. She said, 'Look, I do see things differently as a Latina woman. And to think that we're going to make decisions in a way that's completely detached from our lived experiences is a bit foolish.' So yes, you do need people from these different perspectives with different lived experiences. I think it could possibly make a difference."

What do you think Jackson's nomination will mean for future representation among minority people in government?

"She's bringing a certain lived experience, which then means a certain understanding of the law that could shift legal decisions.

It's true, symbolically, if we go back to gender and politics in terms of representation, the more people who are in positions of power, the better chance there will be other people that look like them in positions of power. There's potentially that effect, but I don't actually think that's the most important effect. We now have a completely different perspective on the law from someone who's lived a different experience. And also Jackson's encounter with the law has been different because of being a public defender and things like that.

That's way more important than the extent to which her being here means more women of color will be in other positions of power. It's not just that she's there representing Black women. She's coming as a Black woman with certain experiences and understandings of power and the law and everything else that may not be accessible to people who come from other experiences."

A LOOK INTO WOMEN’S HISTORY AT ELON

1892



COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Irene Johnson Cook was the first woman to graduate from Elon College. She became the first female faculty member in the French, mathematics and history departments at Elon University — where she worked from 1892 to 1900. Johnson Cook helped found and was also the first woman to hold an officer’s position for Elon’s first student publication: Elon College Monthly.

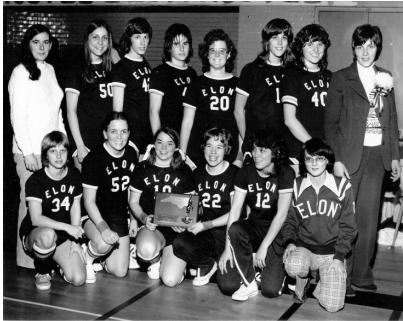
1920

Toshio Sato became the first Japanese woman to graduate after obtaining a bachelor’s degree in philosophy.



COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

1971



COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Women’s sports at Elon University earned varsity recognition in 1971. Since then, the women’s teams have claimed more than 30 regular season or tournament championships and earned 13 postseason appearances.

1979



COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Mary Carroll became the first Black woman to be named homecoming queen.

1991

Isabella Cannon, class of 1924, was the first woman to receive the Elon Medallion, a service award that began in 1989. The Elon Medallion is presented to individuals, who in some official capacity, have rendered outstanding service to the college. She also was the first female of Raleigh in 1904. Elon’s Isabella Cannon Leadership fellows program is endowed by her, along with the Isabella cannon Centre for International studies.

1998

Kebbler McGhee Williams class of 1998 became the first Black woman to be appointed to the Board of Trustees.

2011

Charlotte Smith became the first Black woman to be head coach of women’s basketball.



COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

1910



COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

As the first dean of women at Elon University, Bessie Urquhart oversaw the women on Elon’s campus. She was responsible for women’s accommodations and regulation enforcement. Urquhart was also a professor of domestic science and physical culture.

1930

Ruth Jones Kernodle, class of 1906, was elected as the first female member of the Board of Trustees.

1963

Glenda Phillips Hightower, the first Black woman to attend Elon College, arrived at Elon in 1963 and was intended to graduate with the class of 1967 but transferred during her sophomore year. She was the first full time Black student at Elon and also received a full scholarship to the university.



COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY

1971



COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Sandra Kay Yow became Elon’s first female head coach for the women’s basketball team from 1971 to 1975. She also coached the women’s volleyball team and women’s tennis team.

1988

The women’s and gender studies program started at Elon in 1988 by professors Seena Granowsky and Martha Smith. Today, Elon’s women and gender studies program only offers students to pursue a minor.



COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

1993

Tonya Taylor became the first Black woman to hold the position of editor-in-chief of The Pendulum. Taylor graduated from Elon in 1994 with a B.A. in communications and journalism.

1998

Sherrika Stanley class of 2000 became the first Black woman to be resident of the Student Union Board.

2018

Connie Ledoux Book became Elon University’s first female president. Before becoming president, Book was an assistant professor within the School of Communications beginning in 1999. From 2004 to 2006, Book was also the department chair for the School of Communications.



COURTESY OF ELON UNIVERSITY

WHAT DOES WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH MEAN TO YOU?

Students, faculty and staff around campus share what women’s history means to them



“JUST CELEBRATING WOMEN AND WHAT WE’VE WORKED VERY HARD FOR, AND JUST MAKING IT EQUAL BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN.”

KYLA ALALOUF
FRESHMAN



“I’M NOT A WOMAN, SO I DON’T EXPERIENCE THE SAME THINGS THAT WOMEN DO. SO I THINK FOR ME, PRIMARILY, IT’S ABOUT UNDERSTANDING THINGS THAT I’LL NEVER EXPERIENCE IN MY LIFETIME.”

CHASE SOLOMON
JUNIOR



“TO ME, IT JUST MEANS A MOMENT TO SHINE A LIGHT ON THE WOMEN WHO REALLY MADE THIS COUNTRY, MAKE THE WORLD, WHAT IT IS. ... WE HAVE FOUNDING FATHERS; THE ONLY TIME YOU CONSIDER SOMETHING MOTHER OR WOMANLY IS THE NATION ITSELF, LIKE WE’RE SUPPOSED TO REPRESENT TRADITION, AND THAT’S IT. BUT WE BUILT ALL THIS, WE DO AMAZING THINGS. SO YEAH, IT’S AMAZING. IT’S A SPOTLIGHT ON US, EVEN THOUGH IT SHOULD BE THERE ALL THE TIME.”

JAMILIYAH ISMAIEL
SOPHOMORE



“I IDENTIFY AS NON-BINARY ... IT’S IMPORTANT THAT NO MATTER WHAT YOU IDENTIFY WITH, FOR THERE TO BE A MONTH FOCUSING ON EMBRACING WOMEN, EMBRACING JUST WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A WOMAN ... IT’S ABOUT EMBRACING CULTURES RELATED TO WOMEN.”

KAI SWANSON
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF CINEMA AND TELEVISION ARTS



“AS A WOMAN OF COLOR, AS A WOMAN AND A PERSON OF COLOR, THOSE TWO THINGS AREN’T NECESSARILY ALWAYS CELEBRATED AND EXPLORED, AND SO HAVING THAT TIME IS REALLY VALUABLE. I ALSO THINK THAT SO MUCH OF HISTORY IS WOMEN’S HISTORY THAT IS OVERLOOKED OR IGNORED OR NOT CELEBRATED THE WAY IT SHOULD BE BECAUSE IT HAS THAT CONNOTATION OF FEMININITY, WEAKNESS OR LACK OF VALUE, SO THE FACT THAT THERE IS A MONTH AND THAT IT’S FOR WOMEN IS SO COOL.”

DEENA ELREFAI
SENIOR



“WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH TO ME MEANS RECOGNIZING THE HISTORY OF WOMEN BEING OPPRESSED IN OUR WORLD AND HOW FAR WE’VE COME, AND ACKNOWLEDGING HOW FAR WE STILL HAVE TO GO, BUT STILL TAKING THE TIME TO CELEBRATE THE PROGRESS THAT’S BEEN MADE.”

TASIA THEOHARIS
SENIOR



“IT’S EVOLVED FOR ME IN A LOT OF WAYS. IT’S HONORING THE PEOPLE THAT CAME BEFORE YOU, THE WOMEN THAT HAVE DONE AMAZING THINGS AND SHATTERED THE GLASS CEILING, BUT IT’S ALSO ADMIRING THE PRESENT AND CURRENT DAY WOMEN WHO ARE DOING AMAZING THINGS THAT WE MAY NOT HEAR ABOUT AS OFTEN OR AS FREQUENTLY... I HAVE A SON, SO I THINK A LOT ABOUT WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO RAISE HIM AS SOMEONE THAT CELEBRATES WOMEN AND SUPPORTS WOMEN. EVEN AT HIS AGE, HE’S IN FIRST GRADE, BUT IT’S NEVER TOO EARLY TO CULTIVATE THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GENDER EQUITY AND TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THERE ARE SYSTEMS THAT ARE UNFAIR.”

ALLEGRA LAING
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR GLOBAL DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION



“IT MEANS WOMEN UPLIFTING EACH OTHER, BECOMING UNITED AND CELEBRATING OUR STRUGGLES TOGETHER.”

KINGA SREDNICKA
FRESHMAN



“IT’S GREAT TO SET ASIDE TIME ON THE CALENDAR TO RECOGNIZE WOMEN LEADERS, AND I WOULD ARGUE THAT ALL WOMEN ARE LEADERS. I HAVE THIS BELIEF THAT WE ALL LEAD FROM WHEREVER, WHATEVER ROLE WE HAVE, WHATEVER POSITION WE HAVE, WE CAN MAKE CHANGE ... WHEN WE SEE PEOPLE LIKE OURSELVES, IT GIVES US HOPE THAT WE CAN ACHIEVE, WE CAN LEAD.”

CONNIE BOOK
PRESIDENT OF ELON UNIVERSITY



“I REALLY LOOK UP TO ALL OF THE WOMEN THAT ARE IN MY FAMILY, SO MY GRANDMA AND THEN MY MOM, BUT ALSO MY THREE SISTERS. I ONLY HAVE THREE OTHER SIBLINGS THAT ARE ALL SISTERS, SO GROWING UP WITH THEM, I REALLY APPRECIATE WOMEN’S SPORTS AND I UNDERSTOOD THINGS FROM THEIR PERSPECTIVE, AND I’M LOOKING UP TO THEM THIS MONTH.”

COREY MCCALL
FRESHMAN



“JUDGE KETANJI BROWN JACKSON, PRESIDENT REBECCA NEIDUSKI, AND PROVOST BROOKE BARNETT AT BUTLER.”

JEFF STEIN
VICE PRESIDENT FOR STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

WHO IS A WOMAN THAT YOU LOOK UP TO?

Students, faculty and staff around campus share women who inspire them



“MY MOM IS SO STRONG AND SHE MOTIVATES ME EVERY SINGLE DAY. SHE’S A BIG RUNNER, AND SEEING ALL HER EFFORT, PHYSICAL AND MENTAL. I THINK IT’S REALLY EMPOWERING TO SEE HER DO AND HOW SHE’S A GENERATION OLDER THAN ME AND PAVING A GOOD PATH FOR ME.”

HANNAH HATTORI
COORDINATOR OF REGIONAL ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT



“I’M A REALLY BIG MICHELLE OBAMA FAN. I QUOTE HER KIND OF ON A DAILY BASIS, MY MOM AND I ALWAYS SAY THE QUOTE, ‘WHEN THEY GO LOW, WE GO HIGH,’ AND I ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT ONE. THAT’S A BIG ONE FOR ME.”

CAROLYN HORNOR
FRESHMAN



“MY MOM ... JUST BECAUSE SHE’S MY MOM, SHE MADE A LOT OF SACRIFICES FOR ME TO BE HERE.”

NATE ROMANO
FRESHMAN



“I’D HAVE TO SAY FRIDA KAHLO. I’VE BEEN LOOKING MORE INTO ART RECENTLY. I’M ACTUALLY A BIO MAJOR, BUT I FIND IT FASCINATING AND LEARNING MORE ABOUT HER LIFE STORY AND HOW SHE JUST PERSEVERED AND CONTINUED DOING WHAT SHE LOVED REALLY INSPIRES ME.”

CHRISTY MCKIERNAN
FRESHMAN



“MAYA ANGELOU ... BECAUSE WHEN I WAS YOUNGER, I WAS REALLY BAD AT READING AND WRITING AND ALL THAT STUFF. I WAS ALWAYS BEHIND IN MY CLASSES. AND MY GRANDMA WOULD GIVE ME POEMS BY MAYA ANGELOU AND I WOULD READ THOSE AND THAT’S HOW I BECAME A BETTER READER, A BETTER WRITER, AND I JUST REALLY ADMIRE HER AND LOOK UP TO HER NOT ONLY AS A WOMAN, BUT ALSO AN AFRICAN AMERICAN POET.”

MYASIA RAGLAND
SENIOR

EMPRESS strives to become Elon's first Asian sorority



Elon sophomore Sonali Schroder speaks during at a weekly EMPRESS chapter meeting on March 9. Schroder said she feels like she's been able to find herself and be proud of her identity since joining.

JOSEPH NAVIN | PHOTO EDITOR

With their recent spring recruitment, the organization continues to uplift the Asian women community

Jess Baker
Elon News Network | @jmbakered

Senior Alyssa Meritt remembers spending her freshman days in a repurposed storage room brainstorming ideas for a club. The brainstorming sessions soon turned into the creation of Elon Maintaining Pan-Asian Respect, Equity and Social Service, also known as EMPRESS.

Now, three years later, the organization recently completed its spring recruitment at the beginning of Women's History Month, celebrating new members and recognizing the importance of uplifting the Asian American community at Elon.

"EMPRESS was created to have a safe space for Asian women on campus and to bring that space into the spotlight," Meritt said. "We are a minority group of students, we are small in number. It's nice to see yourself represented on campus."

EMPRESS is currently looking to become the first Asian sorority on campus. In order to become a recognized sorority, EMPRESS must charter itself through the National Panhellenic Conference, in which the official documentation is drafted and signed to allow Elon University to create a new chapter of an existing sorority. EMPRESS tried to charter itself in fall 2021, but was unsuccessful due to a lack of interest. Despite the unsuccessful charter, Meritt said the organization is still trying this year.

"Chartering a sorority is trying to bring people closer together than we thought possible because the Asian community is so spread out," Meritt said. "We want to be a family. We want to be closer. We want to keep pushing people to do better the way you would in a family."

Currently, the organization functions

like a sorority on campus by setting GPA requirements, participating in philanthropic endeavors and hosting cultural events.

Elon's sororities either follow the Panhellenic Association or the National Pan-Hellenic Council, both of which promote cooperation and cohesiveness within the greek community. Sororities must have formal recruitment, sponsor social events, promote service opportunities and encourage educational programs throughout the year. There are currently 10 Panhellenic Association sororities and three National Pan-Hellenic Council sororities on campus.

March will be used to connect with other women in the organization, especially with the three new members from spring recruitment. An older member, sophomore Sonali Schroder said she feels like she's been able to find herself and be proud of her identity since joining.

"We want to start to form a cohesive group and a close knit community to make sure our new members feel at home within EMPRESS," Schroder said.

Though EMPRESS is geared toward Asian American women, the group is open to all women on campus who are interested in uplifting and celebrating Asian culture. Junior and EMPRESS member Alana Evora said this was the first place she found "home" on campus.

"Society doesn't inherently make space for women, unfortunately," Evora said. "EMPRESS is actively trying to do that for ourselves and for others on campus. Womanhood is nurturing women and creating space for them."

President and sophomore Vibha Maheswaran said the organization does a good job with helping students find relationships, especially at a predominately white institution like Elon University.

"It's hard to find people on this campus to relate to," Maheswaran said. "We all really find strength and being able to relate to each other. Not only relate to each other, but present that on campus as



JOSEPH NAVIN | PHOTO EDITOR

Senior Alyssa Meritt, founder of EMPRESS, speaks at the organization's meeting inside Moseley Center on March 9. Meritt said EMPRESS is where she had her first positive experience in a women's organization.

“

EMPRESS WAS CREATED TO HAVE A SAFE SPACE FOR ASIAN WOMEN ON CAMPUS AND TO BRING THAT SPACE INTO THE SPOTLIGHT.

ALYSSA MERITT
SENIOR

we are very happy and secure and proud of Asian culture and want to share that with all of Elon."

With EMPRESS bringing Asian women on Elon's campus to a spotlight, Meritt said this is the first time she had a positive experience in a women's organization.

While EMPRESS plans to use Women's History Month to connect with one another, they're also working to become one step closer to being officially chartered. Meritt said the organization is also preparing to celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander month in May.

These upcoming events and bonds will all happen in the Asian Pacific Islander room on campus — twice the size of the repurposed storage room Meritt found herself in three years ago.

"For years we've been making fun of the closet that we sit in, and it's a real room now," Meritt said. "The journey of the API room is in line with the journey of EMPRESS and seeing how we can still have our meetings here, but our people can spread out. That is the most amazing thing to me."

ELON WOMEN PAVE THE WAY IN ESPORTS



Elon University freshman Caroline Morrison plays a game in the Club Esports room during a team practice on March 7. Morrison is one of six women who are a part of Elon University's Esports Club.

LUKE JOHNSTON | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Three women talk about their experiences in Elon’s male-dominated Club Esports

Abigail Hobbs
Elon News Network | @abigaillhobbss

Freshman Grace Mills is one of six women in the Elon University Club Esports. Now, she will also be the first woman on its executive board — serving as event coordinator.

Esports, electronic sports, is competitive video gaming with over 474 million viewers worldwide as of 2021 with a \$1.08 billion market revenue, according to a Venture Beat report in 2021. Elon’s Club Esports has over 450 members who play League of Legends, Overwatch, Rainbow Six: Siege, Super Smash Brothers and more. They meet in the esports lounge in Global Commons.

The esports realm is widely male dominated, with women making up 30% of viewers and 35% of gamers according to MSNBC. At Elon, only 6 of the 450 members are female.

Despite the club being male dominated, Mills said she doesn’t let the men walk over her, especially when it comes to making sure that men are not degrading women in the club.

“I’m the type of person who if you say something misogynistic, even if you’re playing a game and I’m in the vicinity, I will call you

out on it,” Mills said. “Because I frankly don’t care and that needs to be something that more people are getting called out on.”

As a child, Mills expressed her interest in gaming through Wii and later progressed to Xbox and PC gaming at Elon. She plays on Overwatch, Siege and Valorant for Club Esports.

“

WHEN IT COMES TO ACTUALLY PLAYING VIDEO GAMES WITH RANDOM PEOPLE IN THE WORLD, YOU DO HEAR PRETTY MEAN THINGS QUITE OFTEN, AND A LOT OF SEXIST COMMENTARY.

ALEX GAINES
CLUB MEMBER

Freshman Alex Gaines said that while the men at Elon are very welcoming of female players, other people on the Internet are not.

“When it comes to actually playing video games with random people in the world, you do hear

pretty mean things quite often, and a lot of sexist commentary,” Gaines said.

Junior Club Esports President John Spitznagel credits the increase in women participating to Elon’s new esports gaming facilities located in Global Commons.

“They came in and they saw the space and they’re like, ‘Oh, I really want to join the team,’” Spitznagel said. “So having a space on campus and just a central location really has started to bring more women into the club and just enter the world of esports.”

Spitznagel said that Twitch — a live-streaming platform that is used primarily for video game streaming and esports competitions — has helped promote and normalize women in esports. Out of the 7.57 million active streamers on Twitch, 35% are female, compared to the 18.5% in 2017, according to Stream Scheme.

“I think with Twitch and live streaming, female influencers are growing,” Spitznagel said. “I definitely think it’s going to bring more and more women into the gaming scene, specifically esports, probably in the next couple years to come.”

Mills and Gaines have both watched female Twitch streamer Pokimane — a gamer with 9 million followers who has faced sexism online as a woman in esports.

“She streamed one time without



Elon University freshman Grace Mills plays Overwatch in the Club Esports Room on March 7. Mills is one of six women on the Club Esports team and the first one to serve on the team’s executive board.

LUKE JOHNSTON | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BY THE NUMBERS

450

students are members of Club Esports.

6

women are members of Club Esports.

makeup and people bring up that image, like just a screenshot of that. And they’re like, ‘This is what you look like, don’t forget,’” Mills said. “There’s no need for that. And she is highly, highly successful. And so I just have to be like, ‘She can do this, I can do it too.’”

As a woman in the club, Mills said she holds herself to a very high standard and still has a lot to prove.

“I don’t want to say I have a chip on my shoulder because that is such an old term, but I have a lot to prove, like most of us do, and I work my ass off for it,” Mills said.

LADY IN OFFICE:

EMILY SHARPE SHARES EXPERIENCES AS MAYOR

Mayor increases female representation in town government

Avery Sloan
Politics Editor | @averysloan

Growing up, Emily Sharpe's mom told her that she could be anything she wanted to be when she got older — except a politician. Today, Sharpe is doing exactly what her mom advised against and serving as the current mayor of the town of Elon.

Sharpe was elected as mayor in 2021, and she is the second female to hold the position. The first, Beth Schmidt, resigned 25 years ago. Previously, she was the seventh woman to serve on the Board of Aldermen when elected in 2017.

Sharpe said one of the reasons she was initially interested in joining the Board of Aldermen was because it was all men.

"I don't see myself being any different than the male mayors, just having a different perspective," Sharpe said. "Women in general, always bring a different perspective, we have different lived experiences."

As mayor, Sharpe said her number one goal is to bring people together, including both full time residents and students.

"One of the things that we hear from residents are, they complain about the trash that's on the street," Sharpe said. "One of the things that I did to bring people together was inviting student groups and residents and even children, my own six-year-old, will come and we do litter sweeps."

Sharpe is also interested in finding new avenues of sourcing, such as grants. This is because the town's main partner, Elon University, is a non-profit organization — meaning it cannot be taxed. Sharpe said, finding new sources of funding is necessary in order to keep Elon as one of the safest college towns in the nation.

While Sharpe didn't grow up interested



Emily Sharpe with the 2020 Main Street Champion award. While the formal awards ceremony took place virtually, the town wanted to recognize Sharpe's efforts in person at their monthly meeting. Sharpe was elected as mayor in 2021, and is the second female to hold the position.

in politics, her family was community oriented, causing her to take an interest in town issues, before she even knew what the Board of Aldermen did.

"My mom volunteered all the time, and when I first ran for this, being on the board of aldermen, I thought it was a volunteer role," Sharpe said. "Her just raising me to be community minded, with that kind of altruistic characteristic of myself really has helped me."

Representation of all kinds is important to Sharpe and she feels that this is what helps create a board that represents the community. Sharpe also said that while she hasn't personally faced discrimination as a woman in politics, she knows that has not always been the case historically for women in office, which pushes her to make female representation even more important.

"At one time, women couldn't own land, women couldn't vote. I certainly couldn't sit where I am right now," Sharpe said. "I haven't personally experienced a lot of barriers in terms of being a female in political office or elected office, but that certainly hasn't been the case for people who've come before me."

Town manager Rich Roedner has worked with Emily Sharpe since he began his position over two years ago. He previously worked with predominantly female and male boards and feels representation for both is important.

Roedner said that having Sharpe, a younger board member and more gender representative person, has led to an increased amount of enthusiasm for the town.

"She does bring a different view of life and Elon than previous boards have," Roedner

said. "We have a younger board than I think we've had in the past, both in terms of age, but also in terms of experienced elected officials ... We have an active board right now that really wants to see things happen in the community."

With her gender being a part of her identity in office, representation is something Sharpe feels is very important and is what helps shape Elon's community.

"Different education levels are represented on this board, different occupations are represented on the board," Sharpe said. "The more representation you can have from various different groups, just brings more perspective, you're not just seeing decisions being made by the same type of person over and over, and then your decisions that you make on the board are more likely to truly represent your community."

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THE PENDULUM

CANDIDATES

VIE FOR VOTES

NADINE JOSE



CHASE SOLOMON

ANDREW LYMM

Voting to fill the 44 open positions on Elon's Student Government Association will be held March 28-29

Avery Sloan | Politics Editor | @averylsloan

THREE STUDENTS WILL COMPETE for the top role in Elon University's Student Government Association — student body president. Junior Chase Solomon, sophomore Andrew Lymm and junior Nadine Jose began

campaigning for the SGA election on Monday, March 21.

Voting will begin March 28 at 8 a.m. and conclude March 29 at 5 p.m.

Out of 44 seats available and 18 races for SGA, there are two

contested races this spring. Last year, out of the 38 SGA elected positions, there were four vacancies and 12 uncontested positions.

See **SGA** | pg. 6B

Elon chooses new dean of inclusive excellence

Jonathan McElderry comes from Wake Forest University and will be a senior leader for Student Life and Inclusive Excellence

Nyah Phengsitthy
Managing Editor | @nyahphengsitthy

In just a few months, Jonathan McElderry will join Elon University as the new dean of inclusive excellence — a role responsible for leading student-centered initiatives and advancing the inclusive goals in the Boldly Elon strategic plan.

Coming from just down the road at Wake Forest University, McElderry currently serves as the school's assistant dean of students and executive director of

the school's Intercultural Center.

While he is set to begin full time July 5, it won't be his first time connecting with the campus. McElderry has been acquainted with Elon since 2016, serving as a guest lecturer for courses and participating in leadership conferences hosted by the university, including past Intersect leadership and diversity conferences.

"I just kept coming back," McElderry said. "Something just kept drawing me back to Elon. I really enjoyed engaging with the students, the students really seem to be really loving their experience there."

McElderry's experience in higher education comes from a number of places — Wake Forest University, University of Missouri, ACPA-College Student Educators International, Journal of African American Males in Higher Education,

“

I WANT TO SEE THE NUMBERS. BUT I ALSO WANT TO HEAR FROM STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCE.

JONATHAN MCELDERRY
INCOMING DEAN OF INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

the LeaderShape Institute and more. While the wide variety of experiences has taught him many things, there's one definite perspective McElderry will take with him to Elon: understanding that each university, program and department works in its own way.

"For me, it's taking time to review data, both qualitative and quantitative. I want to see the numbers. But I also want to hear from students, faculty and staff about their experience," McElderry said. "I know for my first couple of months, I want to take the time to learn and figure out the nuances of Elon, and then I will be able to jump right in with lots of ideas and different ways to engage."

See **INCLUSIVE** | pg. 6B



NEWS • PAGE 4B

A look at Elon University's COVID-19 history



LIFESTYLE • PAGE 7B

Habitat for Humanity chapter focuses on housing insecurity



SPORTS • PAGE 8B

Elon baseball players to play for the Burlington Sock Puppets

THE PENDULUM

A PUBLICATION OF
**ELON NEWS
NETWORK**

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Elon News Network is a daily news organization that includes a newspaper, website, broadcasts and podcasts. Letters to the editor are welcome and should be typed, signed and emailed to enn@elon.edu as Word documents. ENN reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of ENN and will not be returned.

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Ted Thomas, Anna Topfl, Tucker Price and Ranya Russo contributed to the design of this edition. Katie Everitt, Gram Brownlee, Abigail Hobbs and Madalyn Howard contributed to the copy editing of this edition.

EDITORIAL POLICY:

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

CORRECTIONS POLICY:

ENN is committed to accurate coverage. When factual errors are made, we correct them promptly and in full, both online and in print. Online corrections state the error and the change at the top of the article. Corrections from the previous week's print edition appear on this page.

Contact

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CORRECTIONS

In the March 9 edition, the original version of the Graham City Council article conflated the city ordinance that governs “parade and street events” with the ordinance that governs “protests.” The revised version clarifies the authority of the Special Events Committee and includes updates about the committee’s role in approving a candlelight vigil for Wyatt Outlaw, as well as the city council’s approval of several events at its meeting on March 8. Elon News Network regrets this error.

CHEAT SHEET

THE CHEAT SHEET IS AN INTERVIEW WITH A RELEVANT EXPERT TO EXPLAIN COMPLEX TOPICS

Peace talks resume in Russia-Ukraine war

Safia Swimelar discusses the U.S. response to the war in Russia and Ukraine

Ellis Chandler

Elon News Network | @ellis_chandler

Safia Swimelar, professor in the departments of political science and policy studies and coordinator of the international and global studies program, offers insight on the nearly one-month war between Russia and Ukraine. She discusses the use of social media, the refugee situation and indirect engagement by the United States as peace talks are set to resume between the two nations.

This interview has been edited for clarity.

Why should students put a focus on the war in Russia and Ukraine?



Safia Swimelar

works. I think one of the things that this was teaching us is that there are certain international norms that we’ve established that the U.S. established with other countries at the end of World War II about territorial boundaries, about state sovereignty, about how states should act. And what Russia has done with invading a neighboring sovereign state is against all of those norms.

As a major power in the international system, the United States is expected to try to uphold those norms, even though sometimes we violate them ourselves. I think all students and citizens should care when the international system is disturbed in this way. We benefit from stability from the political side, from the economic side. Something like this with a major power that has nuclear weapons, that’s a major power in the Security Council, that is a major part of the global economy — when they engage in this kind of aggression like they have, then it affects everything. We’re seeing it affect our economy. I saw a meeting just today, a panel on how this is affecting the boardrooms of America, right. So whether you study finance, or whether you study politics, or whether you study really anything, you should care that there’s this kind of instability happening in the world that could affect the whole rest of the world.

We also know that conflicts that happen in Europe, if we just go back historically, they spread out right — the refugee crisis spreads out. Europe is our major trading partner, it’s our major ally. So when Europe is disturbed and has instability, both economic and political, it’s going to have an effect on us. And then I think, lastly, I think we have a responsibility to care on the moral level when we see that a country is totally unprovoked and millions of people are being forced from their homes. We claim to be a major human rights supporter around the world. When we see war crimes and crimes against humanity, which is probably what we’re seeing in Ukraine now, I think we have a moral responsibility to be aware of what’s going on to try to help if we can, and of course, to respond the way that we have been responding.

One thing I might add about the connection to young people is globalization and social media, that this is the first really major war where we’ve had social media. I think we’re seeing that in two ways, one, that those involved in

“I think students should care in terms of just being citizens. As students, they’re learning, and so they’re learning about how the world



(MARCUS YAM/LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS)

Police cordon off a residential area damaged by what authorities call a Russian bombardment in Podilskyi district of Kyiv, Ukraine, on March 18.

the war can use social media for their own perspectives on the war. Russians are using it to convince people that their side is right. But I think more so it’s allowing young people to get involved and to learn about what’s happening through social media in a way that back in the ’90s or so, we wouldn’t know what’s happening. And now we’re getting to see videos of a mother and her child leaving Ukraine heading to the border or people who were injured in the rubble in a particular attack. I think that’s making us feel closer to the conflict in a way that previous generations, like my generation when I was in college, couldn’t feel connected to an international event in the same way that we are now. Hopefully that means people would pay attention more and maybe care more because they’re hearing about it more, but it also shows that all sides are using digital technology and media to communicate and actually to fight the war in the digital realm. We talk about information warfare and media warfare, and that’s another aspect of the war is a competition about the narratives in the space of social media in the digital world.”

When responding to human rights conflicts, do you think some of these major global powers, including the United States, are responding how they’re supposed to?

“I think the U.S. and our allies are responding as much as we probably can. ... You haven’t seen this kind of major, coordinated, global, transnational response to something probably since South African apartheid system in terms of sanctions on all sides — cultural, economic, political, diplomatic. So I think it’s definitely the right response. I think some of it hasn’t gone far enough. There are hundreds of other Russian elites who benefit from the regime who are not under sanction. So some have called for that for those to be sanctioned. So I think it’s the right amount.

I understand the calls that people are making for more military intervention, like for delivering fighter jets or actually getting involved directly. I think that becomes way more complicated because it would cause the United States and NATO allies to be directly engaged in conflict with Russia, and we’re sort of indirectly engaged right now. I think it is another level to talk about direct engagement, so I think we’re at the right level of engagement, and if Russia goes even farther, which it looks like it is, then we will need to continue to put pressure the way that we already have been on again, on the economic front, the political, diplomatic and cultural front.”

Is history looking to repeat itself in a sense?

“I guess some people have compared this to the Cold War, saying this is like

Cold War 2.0. I think it’s too early to say that. But I do think that Russia has positioned itself as anti-Western, that it’s positioned its own identity as sort of distinct from Europe and the West because of its illiberal, undemocratic nature. That is a little bit similar to what we had during the Cold War.

You could say Ukraine is kind of a proxy war, where we are engaging with Russia, but again, in an indirect way. So there’s a little bit of overlap, but the system has really changed. We don’t have two centers of power: the communist center and the capitalist center. We really have one global economy, and capitalist Russia as part of that. So there’s a lot of things that are different about it, and we also have different kinds of norms. The norms about human rights and war crimes were not the same in the 1960s as they were today. If you look at the interventions that we have done in the name of human rights in the 1990s, that kind of changed a lot of our thinking on that. So there are some similarities, but I think there are probably more differences.”

Is there anything students should be on the lookout for in the next few weeks?

“The war is kind of stalled right now. The Russian army is not able to take the capital, but they have pretty much taken a good part of the south. I think we should watch and see how that’s going to progress because we’ve already heard that there might be 10 to 15,000 Russian troops that have died, which is a very high number for a war that’s only been in its fourth week now. I think people should be watching for some kind of opening or some kind of a situation where peace talks or a compromise might be possible because the war is not going the way that Russia thought it might. But I think students also need to be on the lookout for continuing to put on the pressure. If you are really into an international brand that is making millions of dollars in Russia, send them a tweet or a message on whatever social media or email them to say, ‘Hey, you’re supporting a regime that is breaking all fundamental norms and laws of society, and you should not be making money off of that.’ I think there are things we can do on that side, in terms of people’s power to put pressure on companies and things like that.

I think the other might also be to just continue to look at the refugee situation. There are lots of Ukrainians that live in the United States who have heritage and are even directly from Ukraine, and a lot of them are hoping to bring their family over who are not able to stay in Ukraine. It’s not that we are hosting Ukrainians in our house the way that Polish people are because we’re very far away. But I think being on the lookout for people here who need our help and our support who may have family from there or may be from there themselves.”



The trees along both Lake Mary Nell and Phoenix Drive are seen in bloom on March 21, the first day of spring.

JOSEPH NAVIN | PHOTO EDITOR



Senior Miso Kim chats with senior Payton Casarico at College Coffee on Tuesday, March 22.

ABBY REED | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Elon pitcher Shea Sprague prepares to catch a ball during the game against the Army Black Knights on March 20. Elon lost 5-6 and won the three-game series 2-1.

JOSEPH NAVIN | PHOTO EDITOR



Freshman Kendall Kohn sits in Moseley Center on March 22 without a mask after the University lifted the mask mandate.

ERIN MARTIN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Senior Taylor De Castro fills out a visual survey during the town hall discussion on March 22 that reviewed the university's current master plan.

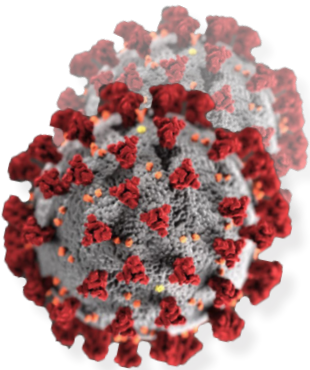
ERIN MARTIN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

QUARANTINES TO MANDATES:

A look at Elon University's timeline of events since the COVID-19 pandemic began

Nyah Phengsitthy
Managing Editor | @nyahphengsitthy

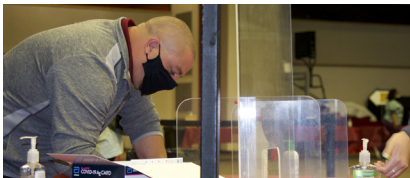
IN MARCH 2020, STATES across the United States were declaring a state of emergency and the World Health Organization confirmed the world to be in a pandemic. Students across the world were sent home — in-person learning was suspended, campuses closed and the world became more digital as online connections increased. Since the pandemic began, Elon University has faced a number of challenges, updates and events regarding COVID-19. This timeline will look at how the university has operated the past two years — beginning with sending students home back in March 2020 to recently lifting its indoor mask mandate.



2021

JAN. 20

Elon University announces goals to administer vaccines on campus to students, faculty and staff to aid vaccination rollout. Faculty and staff are able to receive the vaccine as part of phases two and three of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services plan.



FEB. 10

Elon Athletics announces limited fan attendance for spring football season. Rhodes Stadium will operate at 7% capacity under North Carolina's COVID-19 mass gathering limitations.

FEB. 24

Gov. Roy Cooper lifts modified stay-at-home order as COVID-19 cases decline.

MARCH 2

Student workers and faculty become eligible for COVID-19 vaccine in Group 3.

MARCH 26

Elon University announces in-person commencement for class of 2021, with a limited number of guests being allowed to attend.

APRIL 30

Elon University announces a new mask policy in line with CDC guidelines — vaccinated students do not have to wear a mask outside except in crowded settings.

MAY 13

CDC announces fully vaccinated individuals can go most places without masks, no longer needing to wear face masks or remain six feet apart from others in most indoor and outdoor settings.



APRIL 1

Elon University schedules campus vaccine clinics as town eases COVID-19 restrictions.



MARCH 11

Faculty and staff prepare for transition to online classes. Information Technology assisted in helping faculty after they were told they would be online for a two week period.

MARCH 17

Academic programming transfers online. The tentative date for students to return to campus is set for April 6, 2020. Online classes began March 23, 2020.

MARCH 10

North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper declares a state of emergency in response to five new cases of COVID-19.

MARCH 4

Students are forced home from abroad, and promised reimbursements from the Global Education Center.

MARCH 20

Alamance County confirms its first case of the coronavirus. The Alamance County Health Department announced that the affected individual was placed in isolation after exposure. The town of Elon Mayor Jerry Tolley declares a state of emergency and plans to restrict gatherings.

MARCH 30

Elon University cancels the remainder of in-person classes for the semester and postpones graduation.

APRIL 18

Elon University cancels on-campus admissions events for prospective and admitted students through April 30, 2020, in order to maintain physical distancing.

MAY 22

President Book offers a of resiliency to Elon Un class of 2020 during a p recorded ceremony hel confer degrees to the se



APRIL 24

The town of Elon police cites 17 students for violations of the town of Elon's State of Emergency declaration and North Carolina's stay at home order.

JUNE 8

Elon Univers it will hold in classes for th beginning o The plan for is titled "Rea

2020

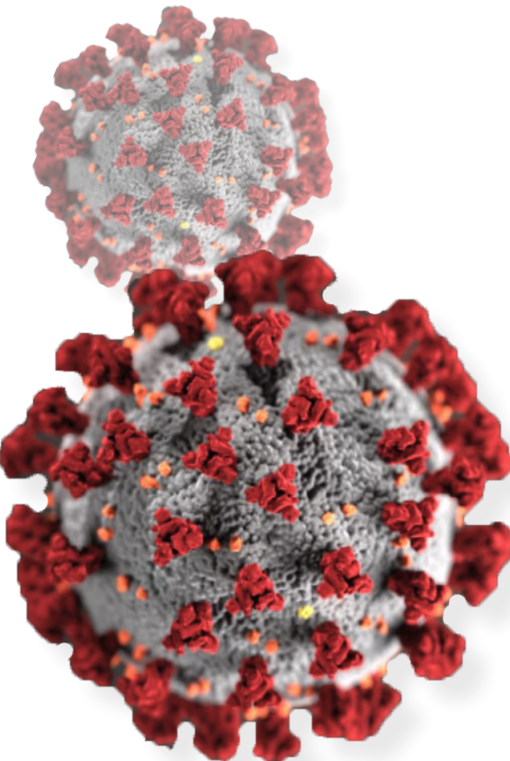
2022

JAN. 25

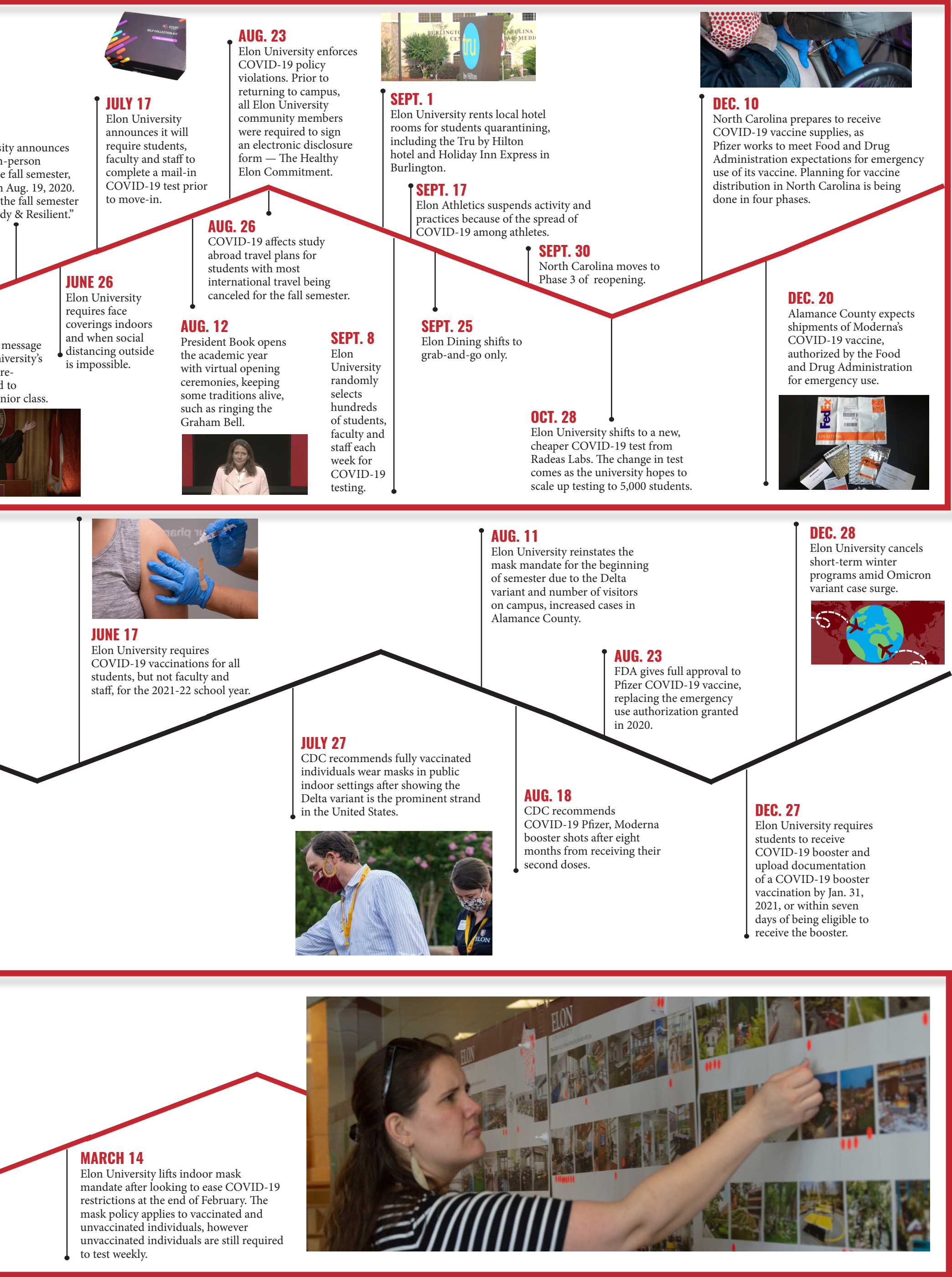
Elon University announces a mask mandate extended into spring semester due to high transmission of the Omicron variant.

FEB. 7

Elon University announces that over 97% of students are booster compliant, including students who received the booster dose of the vaccine and those who have exemptions — whether medical or religious — as well as deferrals.



ELON UNIVERSITY COVID TIMELINE



McElderry to work with the Boldy Elon strategic plan, campus inclusivity

INCLUSIVE | from cover

According to Randy Williams, vice president and associate provost for inclusive excellence, the search committee identified three qualified finalists for the role, and “each one was exceptional in their own way.” But it was McElderry’s record of generating student success and his aspirations to produce greater outcomes that aligned with Elon’s priorities in inclusive excellence.

The search began in November 2021, Williams said, and the announcement was made in mid-March. Though search timelines vary and there is no standard length because of factors like level of a position, timing in the year and scheduling search participants, Williams said the university was fortunate to have had an efficient and successful search.

“The dean of student inclusive excellence position is an attractive one that clearly demonstrates how it fits into Elon’s overall efforts toward creating a thriving community for all members,” Williams wrote in a statement to Elon News Network.

McElderry’s role will also include him working closely with Willams, joining the leadership teams for Student Life and Inclusive Excellence.

“His familiarity with Elon indicates an understanding of our efforts and how he can contribute to them,” Williams wrote. “He will work in solidarity with students and colleagues to create a community where people strive to dismantle oppression and where individuals flourish.”

McElderry said one of the main attractions to the role was the Boldy Elon strategic plan, where he will mainly focus on “Thrive,” which outlines building a healthier and more diverse, equitable and inclusive community.

“I was really excited to see inclusive excellence listed as one of the main goals,” McElderry said. “Throughout the plan, whether I was a student, a faculty, staff member or an alumni, I can see how I fit into the strategic plan for the institution.”

As a student on the search committee, senior Howard Chi said he learned a lot from looking at the applicant pool, especially with his interest in higher education. After speaking with McElderry, he said he’s noticed one major thing about him.



COURTESY OF JONATHAN MCELDERRY

Jonathan McElderry said one of the main attractions to the role was the Boldy Elon strategic plan, where he will mainly focus on “Thrive.” He comes from Wake Forest University as the school’s current assistant dean of students and executive director of the school’s Intercultural Center. He will begin his term July 5, 2022.

“He’s very much a project oriented person, he’s ready to create programs,” Chi said. “And I think that innovative mind was probably what attracted a lot of the students.”

McElderry’s role will also include guidance and support for the Center for Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity Education and the Gender and LGBTQIA Center. After speaking with students about their perspectives on what makes an excellent dean for inclusive excellence, Chi said he hopes McElderry will look at the meaning of inclusiveness and diversity beyond the names.

“The term inclusive and diversity inclusion at Elon is not just having departments of representation, but also having these different departments work together,” Chi said. “The CREDE and the GLC should be able to work together ... and I think Dr. McElderry should be in his position not a glue, but someone who can facilitate the connection between these

“

I KNOW WHAT IT’S LIKE TO SHOW UP AT COLLEGE AND NOT KNOW HOW TO NAVIGATE AND NOT KNOW WHERE TO FIT IN. I FELT LIKE I HAVE A LOT OF EXPERIENCE, ESPECIALLY AS A FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT.

JONATHAN MCELDERRY
INCOMING DEAN OF INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

multiple departments so we can be truly diverse and inclusive.”

Besides being a facilitator for these departments and also working as a visionary, strategic and collaborative leader, McElderry said he also hopes that students at Elon will understand that he’s been in their shoes before.

“I know what it’s like to show up at college and not know how to navigate and not know where to fit in,” McElderry said. “I felt like I have a lot of experience, especially as a first-generation college student.”

When he officially returns to campus in July, McElderry said he’s excited for this “natural transition,” as he’s always found his way back to the university.

“I’m ready to hit the ground running, ready to meet the students, ready to work with the faculty and staff. I’m looking forward to the summer. I truly, truly am excited.”

Student Government Association faces vacancies, voting

SGA | from cover

This year, SGA is changing the structure of the senate. Part of the reason for this is to have greater representation, according to Love School of Business Senator Trevor Molin. This past term, the student government included 51 positions. 38 are elected offices, leaving the remaining 13 positions to be appointed by the president.

The new structure for the upcoming term will have 44 total positions – all elected. Eight of these positions will be filled in the fall by the class of 2026.

Molin said the goal is to have more positions filled by voting, though he recognized this doesn’t change the pattern of vacant and uncontested positions.

“In the past, it was always over 10 people being appointed, so we wanted more people to actually be elected by votes,” Molin said. “Some people raised the issue ... saying, ‘We already have unfilled seats, what’s this going to do?’”

Molin said having uncontested positions hurts SGA and the student body they represent. Because of this, he feels it is SGA’s responsibility to get more people to run for positions.

“I ran unopposed my first two years, and that definitely affected

how I campaigned — it didn’t make me campaign really,” Molin said. “I ran opposed last year for executive vice president and that was such a different experience. ... I think it made my ideas better and it made me as a candidate a lot better.”

Student Body President Jack Corby said he thinks people don’t run for SGA because they don’t understand what goes into the role, which is something he hopes the new model can help fix by having positions that have more well defined roles.

“I hope the new model in SGA will really work with students ... so everyone feels a lot more included and represented through SGA,” Corby said. “There’s a healthy number of students on campus right now that don’t really know what we do just because we’re not reaching them, and that is part of the reason this new model is being phased out.”

Madison Holmes, election chair and class of 2022 senator, agreed that part of the reason people don’t run for SGA is because they don’t know what they do.

“We’ve had info sessions on what SGA is, and unfortunately, those info sessions aren’t really heavily attended as we would like it to be,” Holmes said.

Molin also hopes in the future with an updated structure, SGA

is able to have a larger impact on the student body, as he says this would both help with students knowing what SGA does, and help to make SGA a more meaningful organization. In this updated structure, SGA will have more people that are not senators, such as the cabinet and judicial branch, making it so more things will occur outside of their weekly meetings. In the new model, cabinet meetings and the chief and associate justices will meet outside of senate meetings, which Molin says will help decisions happen faster.

“One of my biggest issues with SGA generally is that we’ve just been relegated to people with money and I want to do more than that,” Molin said. “We have to decide things as a body every Thursday ... that can make us move really slowly sometimes.”

Corby said having vacancies that are filled by appointment is an issue, as these positions are still getting filled, but he said he understands the importance of competitive elections and in the future hopes more people will run.

“People deserve to have the best people representing them, whatever that means to whoever’s voting,” Corby said. “But giving people options means that they get to elect the better person to represent them.”

CLASS OF 2025

SENATOR (5)
BO DALRYMPLE
JACK SHEPPARD
ALEXIS COOPER
CHARLOTTE MCCORMICK
CLAIRE COHEN
ROBIN FALKOW
JACK PRAHINSKI

PRESIDENT
ALEXA MORRISSEY

TREASURER
CLARE RUDOLPH

CLASS OF 2024

SENATOR (5)
DEMETRIA HALL
ETHAN MCDERMOTT

TREASURER
RYAN LOCKWOOD

CLASS OF 2023

SENATOR (5)
TREVOR MOLIN
GRACE CLIFT

PRESIDENT
LILY KAYS

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT
CHASE SOLOMON
ANDREW LYMM
NADINE JOSE

FINANCE BOARD (4)
JAMISON SKELLEY

CHIEF JUSTICE
COLE MEIXSELL

ASSOCIATE JUSTICES (3)
ANDREW HARTLE

SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES SENATOR (5)
CURRAN GILSTER
RUSH LACOSTE
BOYD BURRUSS
ALEXANDER SILER
CHASE ALBRITTON

SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATIONS SENATOR (3)
BRYSON BYRNES
BRITT MOBLEY

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES SENATOR
RACHEL ALBERTAZZI

DR. JO WATTS WILLIAMS SCHOOL OF EDUCATION SENATOR (2)
HANNAH HANSON

VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION
WILLIAM WOOD

VACANT POSITIONS:
CLASS OF 2024 PRESIDENT
CLASS OF 2023 TREASURER
VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE

LIFESTYLE

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AIDS BURLINGTON

Elon’s chapter works locally on housing insecurity

Abby Reed
Elon News Network

To this day, Kevin Gilmore ‘96 thinks about his Winter Term trip where he slept on a wooden bunk bed in a tent city with 50 other people. In January 1993, then a freshman, Gilmore traveled in a van with 13 other Elon students to Homestead, Florida, to rebuild houses destroyed by Hurricane Andrew in August 1992.

“It is strange that after all these years, that was a three-week experience, yet I still stay in touch with most of those people,” Gilmore said.

Gilmore was a part of Elon’s Habitat for Humanity chapter, which was chartered in 1988, along with the Center for Service Learning. The group, Elon’s longest standing community partnership, works toward providing affordable housing and is a subset of the Elon Volunteers program.

According to Elon’s Habitat for Humanity adviser Sadie Richey, housing insecurity is prevalent in Burlington and students have the ability to affect this.

“I think that it is nice on both ends for Elon students to interact with folks in the community but also on the other hand for people in the community to see Elon students as not just a nuisance,” Richey said. “You are able to learn a lot about the prevalence

of housing insecurity in the Elon community. ... There are people who are displaced from their homes in Burlington.”

Today, Elon’s Habitat for Humanity chapter is active in the local community. Around 50 students participated in Habitat projects in the Fall 2021. On Saturdays, eight Elon students spend three and a half hours working on housing construction projects including putting up the foundation, painting and installing trim.

“You don’t need to have any construction experience,” Richey said. “They have a construction manager there who will teach you everything you need to know for that day.”

Senior and student director of the Habitat chapter Faith Glover started out going on builds with friends and enjoyed them so much that she worked up to becoming a director. Glover said she finds being able to get out into the community the most rewarding.

“The coolest part to me about Habitat is that you get to work alongside individuals in the local community and I think that is something that not a lot of Elon students get to do,” Glover said. “Elon is such a bubble and I think better understanding the surrounding communities is super important.”

Glover also said there is a “sweat equity” policy in Habitat which requires all new homeowners to work a certain number of hours whether it be on their home or someone else’s. There is usually



COURTESY OF SADIE RICHEY

Students in Habitat for Humanity work on a Martin Luther King Jr. service day.

a homeowner on site helping students build, according to Glover.

Students in the program also participate in shifts at the Habitat ReStore in Alamance County. Tasks at the secondhand store include organizing donations, pricing objects and helping with checkout.

Habitat ran a “Stud-a-Thon” last semester, where members of

Elon’s fraternities painted wooden studs with their fraternity colors. The studs are to be installed in homes this semester.

Gilmore — awarded the Distinguished Alumni Service Award for years of service both during his time at Elon and beyond – went on to become the first paid employee at Sussex County Habitat for Humanity in Georgetown, Delaware.

“The thing I love about service is it brings people together who in the normal course of life may not normally associate with each other,” Gilmore said. “You come together as human beings and interact with each other. It helps us become a more complete people.”

To get involved with Elon’s Habitat for Humanity chapter, students can register for build or store shifts on Phoenix Serve.

ELON EATS ELON EATS IS A COLUMN THAT REVIEWS RESTAURANTS AND FOOD VENDORS IN THE LOCAL AREA

Why Brewbike’s coffee could use a few improvements



Eddie Keefe
Freshman

IF YOU GO
Brewbike Coffee

Where: 100 Dalton McMichael Drive
Elon, NC 27244

When: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

When I heard about the new coffee shop on campus, Brewbike, I knew I had to try it. It is located below Clohan Dining Hall and is made by students for students. It collaborates with different schools to create new unique coffee products to sell. There was a lot of hype surrounding Brewbike’s grand opening due to the promotions around campus, making even a non-avid coffee drinker like myself want to try it.

When I walked in, I noticed that it did not have as much space as the normal coffee shop, taking up only a small corner on the first floor of Clohan. I was going to order a vanilla latte, but because it mainly focuses on cold brew recipes, I was only able to order a small cinnamon sugar cold brew with oat milk and vanilla syrup. Although this flavor is its most popular online through its website and in-store, it was disappointing because I was used to the vast menus other shops in the area have. But I also knew this was

its opening week, and every shop is different and has its own specialties. Brewbike specializes in flavored brews made with whole ingredients, such as its Peppermint Mocha, Chocolate, Pumpkin Spice and Chicory flavored brews.

Compared to other coffee shops on campus, like Irazu Coffee and the Oak House, I noticed that Brewbike had the smallest cups for the highest price of \$5. It also had a very small amount of pastries available. On the other hand, the customer service was exceptional, fast and very courteous since I, like many other students, was unfamiliar with the menu. The cinnamon sugar had a prominent aftertaste, but I wish it had been more present throughout every sip. The drink was light but was also watery and had less flavor than my normal coffee, even with the added milk and syrup. The drink tasted similar to a churro, but was less sweet. The coffee itself still gave me added energy, like I had hoped it would.

Overall, I would recommend Brewbike to any Elon student to try since it is more unique, though it is just opening and still getting the hang of the business. I would rate it a 7/10 because it does its job as a coffee shop with a calm environment and friendly staff, but its options do not compare to what other coffee shops provide for customers in the area, especially for a cheaper price. I can’t wait to retry Brewbike’s menu items in a few months and hopefully see more options available in the future.

If you have any questions or a review idea, please reach out to me at ekeefe5@elon.edu.

EDDIE’S SCORE

7 of 10

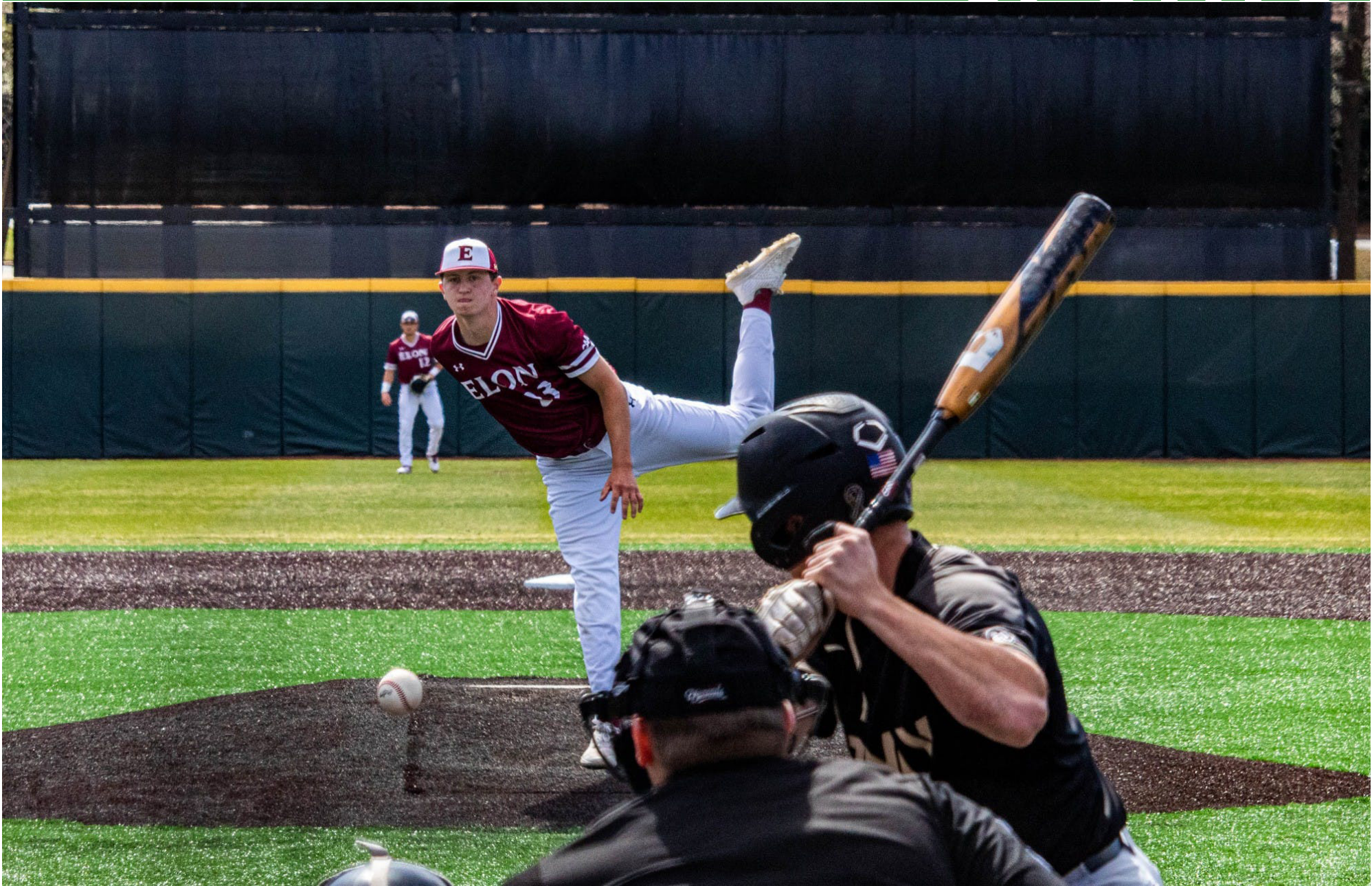
Every week the restaurant reviewed is given a score out of 10.



EDDIE KEEFE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A cinnamon sugar cold brew with oat milk and vanilla from Elon’s newest coffee shop: Brewbike.

SPORTS



Elon pitcher Shea Sprague pitches the ball during the game against the Army Black Knights on March 20. Elon lost 5-6.

JOSEPH NAVIN | PHOTO EDITOR

SUMMER WITH THE SOCK PUPPETS

Three Elon baseball players will play for the Burlington Sock Puppets this summer

Jacob Kisamore
Sports Director | @jacobkisamore

Freshman pitcher Sam DiLella did not know much about the Burlington Sock Puppets prior to this season. But when Elon baseball head coach Mike Kennedy informed him of his selection to play for the organization this summer, he did his research and became intrigued by the chance to play for the team.

“It’s going to be a good opportunity,” DiLella said. “The competition level and talent is pretty solid. We’re really excited.”

The Sock Puppets became a summer collegiate baseball team in 2021 and is a member of the Appalachian League, a minor league that offers college players from around the country a chance to play organized baseball in the summer. The league has a Player Identification Committee composed of USA Baseball staff members and college coaches that select college players to play for the league’s 10 teams.

DiLella is one of three Elon players that will play for the Sock Puppets this summer, along with freshman pitcher Shea Sprague and freshman outfielder Vince DiLeonardo. The committee takes players’ geographic ties into consideration when assigning players, and this is the second consecutive year where at least one Elon player has been assigned to the team, as sophomore Cole Reynolds was on the team’s roster last season.

For Sock Puppets general manager Anderson Rathbun, having Elon baseball players helps the organization build

connections with local fans who may have watched them play their spring college season.

“We’re really, really excited for all three of them,” Rathbun said. “Having that Elon tie and being a pipeline to develop Elon baseball players is something that we’re really, really proud of.”

Freshman success

None of the three players have started a game for Elon this season, but Rathbun said playing for the Sock Puppets will help them improve before they return to Elon in the fall.

“

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SHEA SPRAGUE
PITCHER FOR SOCK PUPPETS

“I don’t know how much time they’re going to get in the spring, but they’re going to see a lot of playing time this summer and we’re really excited to see them develop,” Rathbun said.

DiLella has appeared in seven games

out of the bullpen this season for Elon and has thrown five strikeouts in just over seven innings pitched. After starting all throughout his high school career, DiLella said coming out of the bullpen has been an adjustment but he is happy to be seeing playing time this early in his career.

“Having the opportunity to play as a freshman has been great,” DiLella said. “We’ve been playing some really good competition and just getting that exposure at this level is awesome.”

Sprague, who has also appeared in seven games, said he has learned a lot from Elon’s upperclassmen pitchers and hopes to continue making contributions from the bullpen throughout this season.

“Any guy we run out there you have the most confidence in, whether it’s me, Sam or anybody else,” Sprague said. “It’s just fun being part of and contributing to a really good pitching staff.”

Looking forward to the summer

The Appalachian League will feature players from conferences all across the country this season, including the Power Five leagues. The Sock Puppets roster will have 35 players this summer, including 27 from Division I schools and 11 from Power Five teams, both up from last season.

Sprague said the competition will help him gauge where his game is and force him to be focused on delivering strong performances.

“The better competition you play, the sharper you have to be, and when you’re playing good competition every day in the summer, you’re going to have to be sharp every time you step on the mound,” Sprague said. “It’s just going to get us so much better.”

While Sprague is excited to meet and interact with new players this summer, he said he is glad to have two Elon teammates

on the team with him.

“We’re going to be able to get better and hold each other accountable, but also just hang out. It’s nice to have a couple familiar faces with you in summer ball,” Sprague said.

The Sock Puppets’ season begins June 2 — five days after the final game of the Colonial Athletic Association Baseball Championship — and will play their home opener on June 6. The team’s final regular season game is scheduled for Aug. 6.

ROSTER BREAKDOWN

35

Players on the Sock Puppets 2022 roster overall. **11** are from Power Five Schools, **27** are from Division 1 schools and **3** are from Elon.

- SAM DILELLA**
7.1 innings pitched (7 appearances)
5 strikeouts
3 walks
3.68 ERA (earned runs against average)
- SHEA SPRAGUE**
10.2 innings pitched (7 appearances)
9 strikeouts
1 walk
2.53 ERA
- VINCE DILEONARDO**
Three appearances (1 starts)
0-5 in at-bats