

THE PENDULUM

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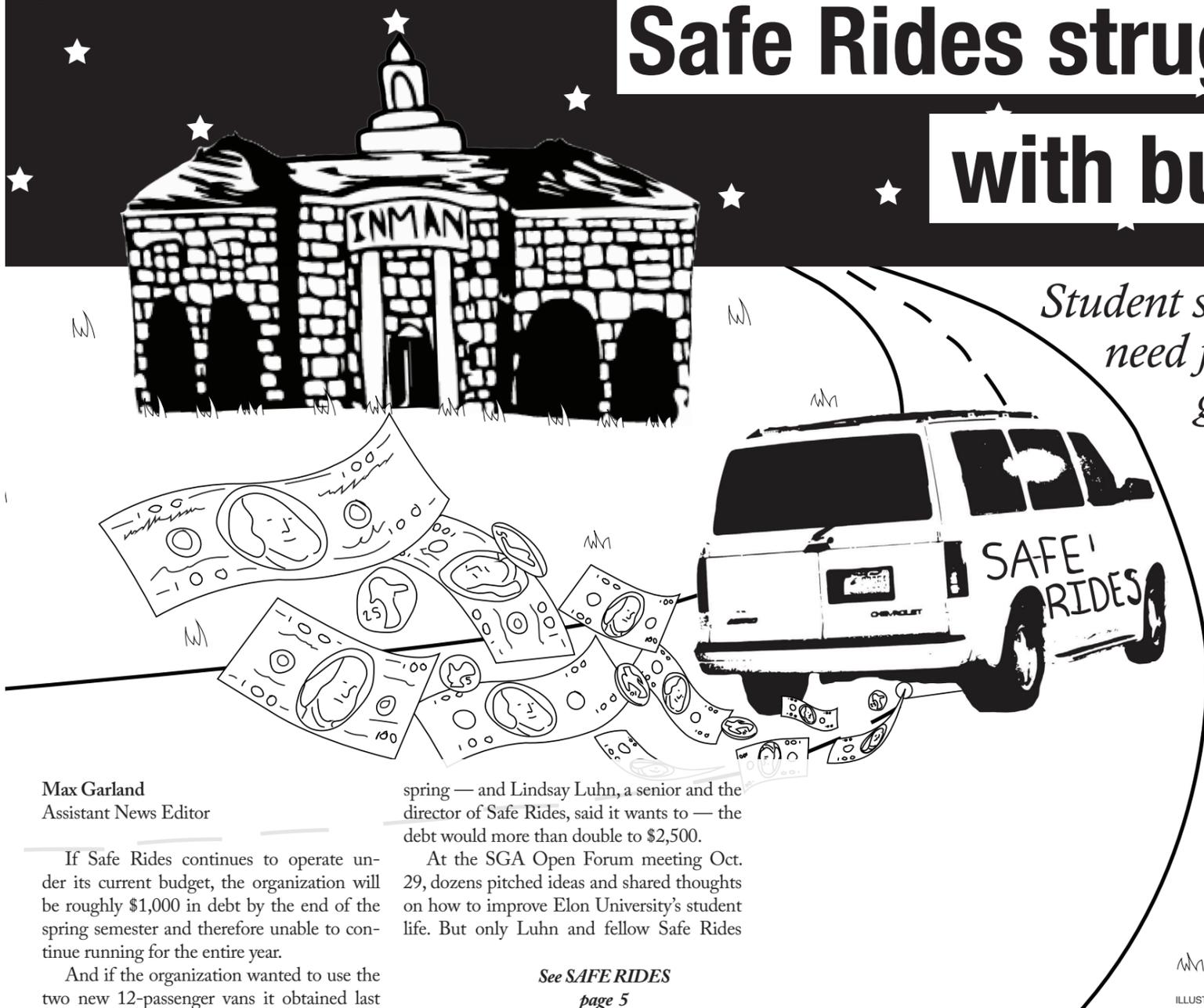
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Safe Rides struggles with budget

Student service may need funding for gas, repairs



Max Garland
Assistant News Editor

If Safe Rides continues to operate under its current budget, the organization will be roughly \$1,000 in debt by the end of the spring semester and therefore unable to continue running for the entire year.

And if the organization wanted to use the two new 12-passenger vans it obtained last

spring — and Lindsay Luhn, a senior and the director of Safe Rides, said it wants to — the debt would more than double to \$2,500.

At the SGA Open Forum meeting Oct. 29, dozens pitched ideas and shared thoughts on how to improve Elon University's student life. But only Luhn and fellow Safe Rides

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ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE HAYS | Design Chief

PARC holds grand opening

Max Garland
Assistant News Editor

It took some time, but the Phoenix Activities and Recreation Center (PARC) received an official nod from Elon University Tuesday afternoon with the PARC Grand Opening Ceremony.

Members of Elon University's senior staff gave brief speeches and mingled with dozens of Campus Recreation and Student Union Board members, along with Danieley Neighborhood residents, to celebrate PARC's impact since its Sept. 21 opening.

The space, located just behind Danieley Center flats H, I and J, features a fitness center, Campus Recreation offices and two basketball courts. Smith Jackson, vice president and dean of student life, said it will be used for athletics and much more.

"PARC was designed to be a student space," Jackson said during his speech.

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Elon Town Center sold

Former owner continuing with Park Place at Elon

Caroline Fernandez
News Editor

Elon Town Center was sold Oct. 30 by local EDG Properties, LLC to New Market Strategies, a firm of investors based out of Stuart, Florida.

As of early Tuesday evening, it was unknown the selling price of the building, which has an assessed value of more than \$3 million, according to the Alamance County Tax Administration Records.

John McDonald, co-owner of EDG Properties LLC, said the decision to sell Elon Town Center came from a business opportunity in a currently popular market.

"Right now, there's a lot of activity in the commercial real estate industry," McDonald said. "Potential buyers are looking for multi-tenants and good tenants, which the Town Center has."

Representatives at New Market Strategies could not be reached for comment by Tuesday evening.

The 24,000-square-foot, three-story building opened August 2011 and sits on North Williamson Avenue between West College Avenue and West Lebanon Avenue.

It houses local pizza restaurant Pandora's Pies, Smitty's Ice Cream and Barnes & Noble Bookstore, as well as offices for The Pendulum and Guy Carpenter, a business management consultant.

Despite the sale of Elon Town Center, EDG Properties, LLC will continue to oversee the construction of Park Place at Elon, a four-story building on West Haggard Avenue slated to house apartments and retail space. McDonald said construction on Park Place is moving along as planned and should be completed by June 2016.

Ciolkowski's burst at final second wins CAA XC championship

Alex Simon
Sports Editor

With 100 meters left, Elon University men's cross country freshman Nick Ciolkowski wasn't sure he was going to win the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) championship Oct. 31.



Nick Ciolkowski

"I didn't know if I was going to catch [College of William & Mary junior Faris Sakallah] coming down that straightaway," Ciolkowski said. "That last lunge was really a Hail Mary kick, you

could say."

Ciolkowski's win is the second individual title in two years for Elon since joining the CAA, as Luis Vargas '15 won last year's cross country

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Hoverboards gravitate onto Elon's campus pg. 12

SPORTS



Volleyball player says goodbye to the sport she loves pg. 19

Solar panel plans questioned by Town of Elon

Elizabeth Kirkhorn
Senior Reporter

EcoPlexus Incorporated, a leading developer of solar-powered energy farms in the United States, has set its sights on a plot of land just outside Elon University, but has been unable to convince the Town of Elon to support its plans.

The 70-acre space that EcoPlexus is seeking to obtain is currently zoned as residential and would need to be deemed rural land in order to be the site of a solar-powered farm. Unfortunately for the San Francisco-based company, Elon's planning committee voted against rezoning the land in October.

Sean Tencer, a member of the planning board, said that EcoPlexus' proposal was voted down because it did not fit with the town's current land-use ordinances. The planning board holds to the belief that this plot is the Town of Elon's only space to expand and that it needs to remain unclaimed.

EcoPlexus is seeking to appeal the planning board's ruling and recently gave a presentation to the Board of Aldermen and Mayor Jerry Tolley to convince the council to overturn the judgment.

Nathan Rogers, a utility-scale project developer for EcoPlexus, represented the corporation at the Board of Aldermen. He explained that EcoPlexus' solar farm would make use of a 30-acre tract of land, although they are asking that 70 acres be rezoned. The extra land is intended to surround the panels at the farm so that a foliage buffer can be cultivated around



The 70 acre space EcoPlexus is looking to obtain is located at 911 North Manning Ave.

them. Rogers said that most jurisdictions require a vegetation buffer of at least 10 feet surrounding solar panel plants. The farm is estimated to run about \$8.5 million in construction costs, and its address will be 911 North Manning Ave.

If built, this farm will signify EcoPlexus' 10th successful project. Three of these solar farms would be in North Carolina. This would be Elon's second solar-powered farm, the first being Elon University's Loy Farm, which is creating power for Duke Energy.

One of Rogers' key arguments is the

tax benefits that rezoning the land would bring to Elon. His presentation stated that it may generate around \$19,000 per year in revenue. He also stresses that the farm would help the environment.

"Solar is safe and environmentally friendly. That's why it is being adopted worldwide," Rogers said. "Elon would become a leader in clean energy."

Additionally, Rogers claimed that the project does not require public services, will provide around 60 new jobs for construction workers in the area, and will not have negative impacts such as noise or odor.

Rogers spent the majority of his presentation playing to the emotional appeal of the project, and highlighting the wants of those living near or invested in the land in question. The area was originally rural before suburbia began developing and encroaching on the farm space. The Johnson family is the current majority owner of the land which EcoPlexus is courting. Willie Johnson, the matriarch of the family, was represented at the Board of Aldermen by her daughter and several other relatives.

"We want our land to stay rural," Johnson's daughter said before the board. "We support the environment and clean energy, and my mother wants our land to go to that cause."

Rogers attempted to contact 10 individuals who live on the border of the plot. While three of them could not be reached, Rogers did speak with seven. Of these, three were unwilling to comment. Rogers attested that while they supported the project, they did not want to make a public or political stance regarding it. The remaining four signed letters to be considered by the Board of Aldermen stating their support for EcoPlexus and the solar-powered farm project.

The Board of Aldermen is expected to vote on EcoPlexus' rezoning application later in the month. Davis Montgomery, member of the board, will not be voting because he is employed by Duke Energy, a potential partner on the project.

The vote has already been postponed several times as the appeal continues to bounce back and forth between the counsel and the planning board.

Intersect Conference to unite students in 'telling their truths'

Leena Dahal
Senior Reporter

The Intersect Conference planning committee aims to fill rooms throughout Elon University's Moseley Center Nov. 13-14 with powerful voices seeking to identify, narrate and celebrate their truths.

Intersect Conference is the university's annual leadership and diversity conference for students hosted by the Center of Leadership and the Center for Race, Ethnicity & Diversity Education. Clint Smith, the main keynote speaker for the conference, inspired this year's theme: "Tell your truth."

Smith is an educator, poet and activist known for several recitations, lectures and presentations, including a TED Talk where he recited one of his poems, "The Danger of Silence." In the poem, Smith highlights the ways in which telling their truths empowers the students he has worked with.

"I think that the idea of leading with vulnerability is something so important and powerful, and telling your truth is the way to do that," said sophomore Olivia Ryan, Intersect Conference co-coordinator. "It's all about being honest about your experiences and thoughts and encouraging others to do the same."

Ryan said Smith's poetry resonated strongly with her and the entire Intersect Conference planning committee, reverberating beyond the computer screen they watched the TED Talk on.

"His perspective of being a teacher gives him an interesting look at what it means to be a leader, considering his leadership in the classroom," Ryan said. "All together, I hope students are encouraged to tell their truth and live honestly [from Smith]. I hope they are also given a new perspective on race issues in America and are driven to make change where they can."

More than 125 people have already registered, with a majority of those stu-

dents hailing from Elon and others from regional institutions, including High Point University, Warren Wilson College and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Registration is still open, and all students are encouraged to register. Participation is free for all Elon students, and registration includes four meals: a dinner during the first keynote speaker, a dessert during a social networking event following the dinner and breakfast and lunch on the following day.

According to Ryan, there will be six workshop sessions and two keynote speakers, L.D. Russell, senior lecturer in religious studies, Friday night and Clint Smith Saturday.

During each of the workshop session, students will be able to choose from four workshop titles, each representing and honoring "tell your truth" — the conference theme — diversity, leadership and the event's four pillars: power and privilege, oppression, social change and organizational development. The pillars were chosen in 2012 as elements of the "intersection" between diversity and leadership, and they stay consistent for every Intersect conference.

One workshop Ryan is particularly excited for is a presentation by Jodean Schmiederer, associate dean of students for leadership and honor code.

"She will be talking about how simply engaging with others' differences is not enough to fully learn, you must also do a critical reflection," Ryan said. "I hope that students learn [through this workshop] to gain a better understanding of other people's perspectives and how they can better lead and make change at their universities."

Intersect is a product of two previous conferences in Elon's history. One of those events was the Diversity and Leadership Conference, which was created in 2009 through the Multicultural Student Council, a group that existed under the Multicultural Center (now the Center

INTERSECT CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 13TH & 14TH

- TWO-DAY DIVERSITY AND LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
- FREE FOR ELON STUDENTS
- VISIT WWW.ELON.EDU/INTERSECT FOR INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION!

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PHOTO SUBMITTED BY OLIVIA RYAN, INTERSECT CONFERENCE COORDINATOR

The Intersect Conference will take place Nov. 13-14 in the Moseley Center.

for Race Ethnicity and Diversity), with a mission to assemble students, faculty, and professional staff from the university and the surrounding community for engaged learning.

The other was the Leadership Development Institute, which was created in 1997 through the Center for Leadership by Rex Waters, dean of student development, and John Barnhill, former director of the Center. The vision was to help students create and maintain sustainable organizations by providing intentional time and resources to improve the leadership transitions in organizations. In 2012, they were united to form "Intersect Conference," to further the intersections between leadership and diversity at one event.

"Intersect provides a context for students to discuss topics that can easily make people feel uncomfortable," said Dana Carnes, Associate Director for the Center for Leadership. "We all have pieces of our identities that make us both

privileged and oppressed and talking about it can be difficult."

Carnes said student leaders on campus need self-awareness and the ability to create social change to develop their organizations.

"Together, these intersectionalities of leadership and diversity create space for crucial dialogue and learning," Carnes said.

Ryan said the convenience of the conference and its status as a powerfully unique experience at Elon should both be reasons for students to go. She also added that the conference highlights the talents of Elon's faculty, staff and students while also giving students the experience of meeting and mingling with students from different institutions who share a common interest of diversity and leadership education.

"But most importantly, no one will know about your unique experiences unless you tell them honestly," Ryan said. "And Intersect is a platform for that."

Fewer education majors, more minors emerge

School of Education sees recent drop in students seeking degrees

Simone Jasper and Sarah Wood
Asst. News Editor, Senior Reporter

While the number of students receiving education degrees has declined in the past decade, the School of Education has added minors to attract more students to the department's curriculum.

Decline in degrees

According to the Elon University Fact Book, the number of Education majors has decreased from around 100 students to 60 within the last decade. The School of Education includes undergraduate degrees within two departments: Education and Health and Human Performance.

Deborah Long, interim dean of the School of Education and professor of education, said the "why" is complicated.

"[The decrease in Education majors] is caused by the working conditions, public sentiment and lack of financial support," Long said. "The testing also makes it very difficult to be creative and actually put into practice what you learned in your teacher education programs."

The cost of Elon is another possible reason behind the decline of education majors. Since teachers receive low salaries, students may have to deal with more substantial student loans or debt for an extended period of time compared to other majors.

"The tuition, room and board at Elon is pretty stiff," Long said. "Coming to Elon and being a teacher, a lot of students from North Carolina may opt to attend state schools instead because they will come out with fewer loans."

According to Richard Mihans II, chair of the Department of Education, the information in the Fact Book might not reflect the actual number of students graduating from the School of Education. Some students choose to major in other areas but still obtain licensure, he said.

"We're working with the registrar and Office of Institutional Research to count students in [our department]," Mihans said.

Senior Emma Lindsay, who



Sophomore Jossie Geyer works in Mooney, which houses the School of Education. Within the past decade, the number of education majors has declined.

NADIA NOBREGA | Staff Photographer

hopes to become an Exceptional Children (Special Education) teacher, realizes many people have the "those who can't do, teach" mindset in regard to the education profession.

"Teaching is lowly regarded when it comes to being an actual profession," Lindsay said. "Other professions view teaching as something to do when you can't do anything else. That is far from the truth, but unfortunately, it is what most people believe."

The decrease in education majors is not just an Elon issue — it is effecting both the state and the nation. WBTV reported a 20-40 percent drop in enrollment to schools of education across North Carolina colleges.

Because of the lack of teachers within the United States, there is a higher demand for certain types of education professions in the workplace. In a 2014 article, Western Governors University predicted a need for 440,000 Special Education teachers by the year 2020.

"Of course I am worried about getting a job after graduation," Lindsay said. "But, at the same time, EC teachers are always in

demand, and the teacher turnover rate in many states is high. If you look in the right places, there are positions open with children who are waiting to be loved."

Adding minors

Despite the decline in education degrees, students interested in the education field have added minors in recent years.

Mihans said when the school noticed that fewer students received education degrees, it adapted by adding minors.

"The classes were packed, especially in 2006 to 2008," he said. "We weren't really concerned, and we were in our own bubble. That jolt of decline was good for us. It was an opportunity to say, 'How can we benefit other students on campus?'"

Within the past two years, the school has added three minor programs — adventure based learning, teaching and learning and wellness and health education. With these programs, the school now has five interdisciplinary minors.

Before adding minors, most education classes were only open to majors. Now — with more than 100 students pursuing ed-

ucation minors — classes have a mix of students.

Long said students are interested in the minors for several reasons. She said they help prepare those who want to enter post-grad programs, such as Teach for America and the Peace Corps. She also believes the minors help students navigate education policy.

"Every student has a stake in health and education," Long said. "Everyone is going to be a taxpayer, and many will have leadership positions. It's important for students of Elon to have knowledge of those things. The best way to do that is with minors that work with other majors."

Students with minors in the School of Education have different majors, ranging from African-American studies to journalism.

Junior Emily Ciuffetelli, a theater studies major, chose the teaching and learning minor to pursue her passion of education through the arts.

"I think it's great, especially for my specific needs," Ciuffetelli said. "I knew I wanted to integrate education, but I didn't want to be a double major."

Junior Shelby Allen, a human service studies major, is also a teaching and learning minor. She said the minor gives her a chance to learn about the education field without necessarily preparing her for a classroom setting.

"I want to be a counselor, working individually with students," Allen said. "The education minor would help me make a track in my major because it's so broad."

But as one of the first students to declare the teaching and learning minor, Allen said there have been some drawbacks.

"Because I'm not an education major, I don't have the background that other students have," Allen said. "I go into the 200-level or 400-level course, and students use terms I'm not used to."

Attracting students

To attract people to its programs,

the school created a recruitment committee two years ago. Faculty and students on the committee inform others on campus through several efforts, including College Coffee tables and digital signage.

The School of Education also offers a Teaching Fellows program, which prepares students for teaching and receiving North Carolina licensure. Teaching licensures provided by Elon are valid nationally, not just in the state of North Carolina.

"Our Teaching Fellows program is great," Long said. "A lot of times people who interview for the Teaching Fellows that don't get in [the fellows program] still come here because they are so impressed with our education program at Elon."

But even with the additional new minors and other promotional aspects, Long believes that no one should be forced into teaching if it is not their true passion.

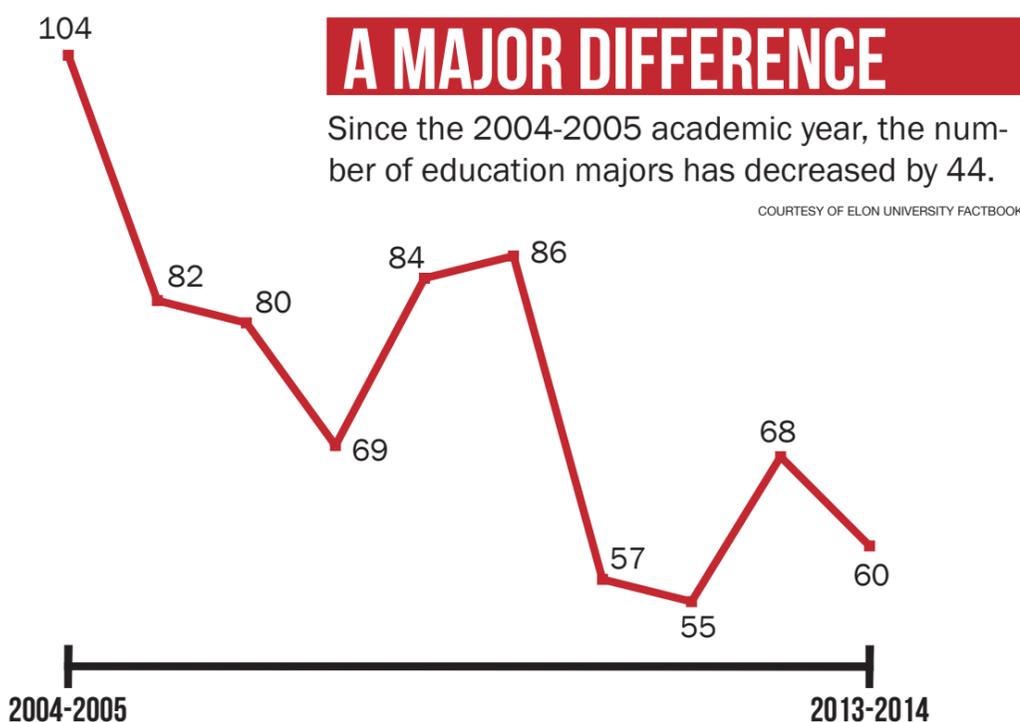
"I wouldn't want to recruit anyone into teaching unless that is really what their passion was," Long said. "It is a challenging profession but very rewarding. Teaching is missionary work. It's a calling, not just a job. It has never to me been about the money. It has always been about the work."

As a teacher, Lindsay wants to make a difference in children's lives both academically and personally.

"I believe that each and every student needs to know that someone is there to support and love him or her," Lindsay said. "Through teaching, I can help children see strength and potential that they did not even know was there."

Long hopes the tide will turn and teachers will begin to earn the proper respect that other professions already receive.

"People need to start thinking about education as an investment," she said. "We got to wake up and realize that we have to make this investment in our futures."



The ELONimators are coming

Students and faculty explore the possible introduction of Elon's first animation club

Leena Dahal
Senior Reporter

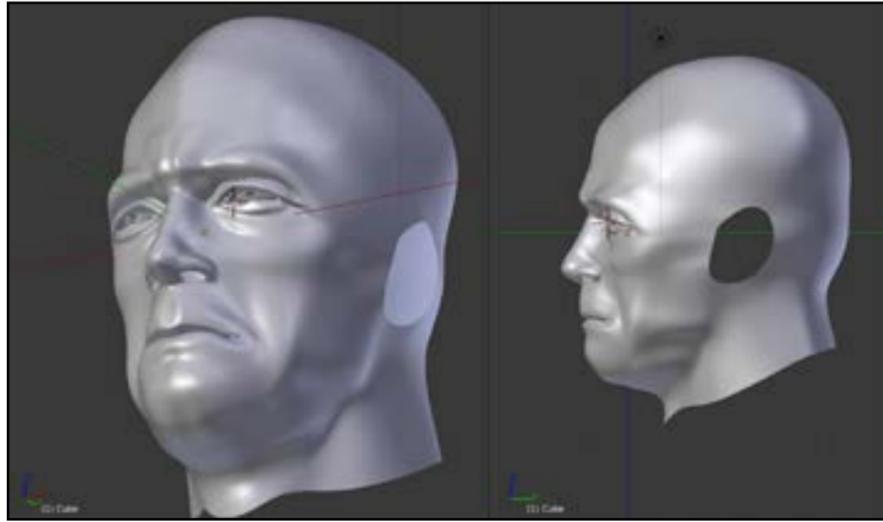
When Ahmed Fadaam, assistant professor of communications, decided to teach a course on animation in spring 2015, he doubted the chances of the class filling up. After all, he thought, very few classes specifically tailored to animation had been offered by Elon University's School of Communications.

By the time registration closed, the course had reached the maximum capacity of 18 students, and Fadaam found himself turning down students. This is when he was faced with an enlivening realization: there is a sizable number of students interested in animation at Elon.

Fadaam stuck to this realization while teaching the course, and approached his new students about the possibility of somehow uniting those who shared a mutual interest in and passion about animation. One of those students, senior Jessica Grembowski, was captivated by the idea.

Grembowski, who had interned with Big Idea Entertainment under Marvel Animation the semester before enrolling in the animation class, said she had personally found a future with animation work but had wished for more opportunities to showcase her passion and expertise at Elon — and not just in internship and work experiences.

"In the past, animation would always be a niche study. There were specific schools you would go to if you wanted to study animation," Grembowski said. "Now it's different because animation is everywhere — it's in personal projects, motion graphics and even a BuzzFeed video, so there should



Ahmed Fadaam shares his project of Arnold Schwarzenegger on the Facebook group.

be no reason why a community of students, faculty and staff interested in learning about and doing animation shouldn't exist."

Fadaam, who has had extensive expertise in the arts and whose PH.D. dissertation focused on using 3D graphic softwares and creating virtual empowerment sculptures on screen, said the students' interest in creating a club pushed him to pursue the idea.

It began with a Facebook page created Sept. 28. The title of the page and the tentative name for the club was "ELONimators," a play on "Terminator," the blockbuster starring Arnold Schwarzenegger.

The Facebook page describes ELONimators as "a group of Elon students, faculty, and staff who are interested in learning about animation." The group uses open-source softwares such as Blender for modeling and animating. The projects they write

they will hopefully submit to festivals and contests.

From an Arnold Schwarzenegger 3D animated sculpture to a turn-around head of a robotic character, Fadaam and other students have already begun sharing animation news, works and personal projects.

While the activities of the group are currently limited to the Facebook page — since the School of Communications has to officially approve the club — Fadaam said it is clear that the interest is there both nationally and at Elon.

Grembowski said because of the existing community interest and the emergence of animation as a leading area in communications, she hopes the School of Communications will respond well to the initiative.

"The School of Communications is all about doing the latest and greatest stuff,"

Grembowski said. "I think it just took so long for students to show administration that there is interest and that the students themselves would drive that interest and move it forward."

Fadaam added that with the pervasiveness of animation within the field of communications, animation would be a skill worth adding to students' skill sets.

"Animation is becoming very important to the industry," Fadaam said. "Even though Elon does not have a major or minor dedicated for animation, I think adding this other skill set to our students' abilities would be very useful for them, especially after their graduation from Elon."

Grembowski said the club fosters a community for experts and beginners alike and that the student leaders hope to plan introductory classes for newcomers to get acquainted with the various animating software. But to her, animation is more than a class and a club: It's a passion she hopes to foster as a possible lifelong career.

"In both of my internships with departments under DreamWorks and Marvel Animation, I would wake up every Monday morning and feel amazing," Grembowski said. "I want to continue doing something that would make me enthused to go to work and I found that in both my internships."

She said she hopes even more students — no matter their level of expertise — will help move the club forward while shaping and exploring their existing skill sets.

"Animation is a great way to express imagination and imagination is limitless," she said. "You can take and create anything in the world and make it what you want it to be — and that's charming to me."

Rubio shines in third GOP Debate

Trump and Carson civil despite previous heated exchange

Emmanuel Morgan
Senior Reporter

Front-runners Ben Carson and Donald Trump displayed unexpected amity while Marco Rubio performed impressively in the GOP economical debate on CNBC, according to the New Yorker. This comes after days of Trump verbally attacking Carson because the real estate mogul plunged behind the former neurosurgeon in the most recent Iowa Poll, according to Business Insider.

Rubio's answers were polished and practiced, especially when he fended off early jabs from Jeb Bush, who slashed his campaign costs by more than 40 percent because of lack of fundraising and decline in popularity in recent polls. The two Floridians' exchange occurred when the former Florida governor attacked the current Florida senator over an editorial in the Sun-Sentinel newspaper reporting that Rubio "hates his job."

"Marco, when you signed up for this, this was a six-year term, and you should be showing up for work," Bush said. "You can campaign or just resign and let someone else take the job."

Rubio had a reply ready.

"The only reason you're doing

it is that we're running for the same position and someone has convinced you that attacking me will help you," he said.

After this response earned him applause from the audience at the University of Colorado-Boulder, Rubio expressed his respect for Bush. He then turned the conversation back to his own campaign.

"My campaign is going to be about the future of America, it's not going to be about attacking anyone else on this stage," he said.

Trump defends Carson

Trump and Carson exhibited little negativity toward each other, and Trump actually defended the soft-spoken doctor when Ohio Governor John Kasich attacked both their tax plans, suggesting they would sink the nation further into debt and calling them "a fantasy."

Trump lashed back, denouncing one of Kasich's companies and criticizing his poll numbers.

"This was the man that was a managing general partner at Lehman Brothers — a financial service that went bankrupt in 2008 — when it went down the tubes and almost took every one of us with them, including Ben and myself," Trump said. "[Kas-

sich was once] such a nice guy ... but then his poll numbers tanked. That's why he's on the end [of the debate stage], and he got nasty."

Media and Clinton targeted

Another key component of the debate was the conflict between the candidates and mainstream media in general. On numerous occasions, presidential hopefuls seemed irritated with the moderators because of questions ranging from intentional instigative statements to trivial problems such as governmental fantasy football regulation. The fiscally minded moderators also seemed poorly prepared to control the talking time allotted to candidates, displayed by the margin of Carly Fiorina's 10 minutes, 32 seconds to Rand Paul's six minutes, 15 seconds.

"The questions that have been asked so far in this debate display why the American people don't trust the media," said Ted Cruz, R-Texas. "The questions being asked shouldn't be trying to get people to tear into each other, it should be, 'What are your substantive solutions to people at home?'"

The Republican candidates also spent a substantial amount of time discussing how they



Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio speaks in Pennsylvania on Oct. 15. He starred in the most recent GOP debate, held Oct. 28.

would attempt to defeat Hillary Clinton, the Democratic front-runner, who recently testified on her involvement in the 2012 Benghazi attack. Fiorina was especially vicious in her critiques of the former Secretary of State, condemning her for her economic policies, including a 92 percent job loss to women during

her support of President Barack Obama's policies.

"I may not be your dream candidate," Fiorina said during her closing argument, "but I assure you I am Hillary Clinton's worst nightmare, and in your heart of hearts you cannot wait to see a debate between Hillary Clinton and Carly Fiorina."

SAFE RIDES from cover

executive board member and senior Ryan Kaufman asked for recommendations to solve the long-standing, student-run program's budget issues.

"We've recently calculated our budget for Safe Rides, and the way things have been running, we've been finding that we will not have enough funds to run for the entire [academic] year," Luhn said to the open forum participants.

Safe Ride's budget for the 2015-16 year is \$13,000, with \$11,000 allocated to gas and vehicle repairs, according to Luhn. The service has spent just \$2,769 of the \$11,000 so far, but the dangers of driving during the winter months, which often creates a need for more repairs, can increase spending quickly.

The issue of Safe Rides' funding has persisted throughout the years as the campus and student body have increased in size, according to senior Avery Steadman, SGA's president. The Safe Rides members didn't ask for a special allocation from SGA, instead opting for suggestions from the forum participants on how to remain below budget through fundraisers and other activities. For now, the focus remains on the present for Safe Rides members.

"We definitely do not have enough [funding] at this point," said Josh Fritz, a junior and Safe Rides captain. "That's it. It always comes down to the money."

Budgeting an Elon staple

Safe Rides has been active since 1992 with the goal of preventing students from driving under the influence. It provides transportation to students within one mile of campus from 10

p.m. to 2 a.m. on Thursdays and extends those hours to 2:30 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Its drivers, navigators and dispatchers are student volunteers.

The service is popular as always — in September, Safe Rides transported 2,378 students, according to an E-Net article. But Kaufman said if Safe Rides doesn't receive the necessary funding, the free service would have to be cut one to two months before spring semester ends.

"If we don't have enough money, we can't run, because we need enough money to buy gas," Luhn added.

The budget issue began last spring with the addition of the new vans. After the open forum, Luhn said with the total number of vans rising to seven, gas costs increased. The vans were added after Safe Rides worked with SGA on the 2015-16 budget, and it was difficult to project costs since the vans were new to the program.

"It was the first time Safe Rides acquired two new 12-passenger vans," Kaufman said. "There was no way to talk with SGA as to how much gas money we actually needed at the time. But we're trying to work that out with them now."

Steadman said although SGA funding is provided for Safe Rides, the service has had trouble staying under budget. She said she is optimistic about its future, though.

"I feel like a lot of people would donate to a service like Safe Rides," Steadman said. "Students here are attached to it and understand its importance."

Fundraiser opportunities and openings

Since fundraising seems like Safe Rides' best option to continue running through the academic year, the service has made an opening for a fundraising coordinator position.

"We'll be working on adding fundraising into the way that we operate," Luhn said. "We're going to hold profit shares this semester,

SAFE RIDES

- Safe Rides' budget for the 2015-2016 school year is \$13,000
- \$11,000 of the \$13,000 is allocated to gas and vehicle repairs
- Currently \$2,739 has been used, but repairs are expected to increase
- In Sept. 2015, Safe Rides transported 2,378 students
- On Oct. 22-24, Safe Rides transported 803 students

and we're going to hold an event in the spring and try to get some fundraising and reach out to people."

Luhn and Kaufman both said a major point of emphasis for Safe Rides is to raise awareness of the program in general. Keeping the service active for the entire academic year would help students avoid unnecessary risks, according to Luhn.

"We don't want any of our friends or any of our peers to have an issue with drunk driving on campus," she said.

Other Safe Rides positions are open for application besides fundraising coordinator, including head captain, treasurer and group volunteer coordinator.

PARC from cover

"We didn't have a space primarily dedicated for student events before, and [President Leo Lambert] said students needed a spot to gather, throw events and just have fun."

Jackson also emphasized the university's need for an indoor recreation space, especially for intramural sports, as well as a large area for Danieley Neighborhood residents to gather.

"[PARC] will better connect Danieley to Elon's campus," Jackson said. "There have been hundreds of students that have come to the new Daniel Commons, and with PARC along with that, Danieley is so much more connected."

Lambert followed Jackson's speech with a broader view of the PARC's impact.

"When we looked at our current strategic plan, the Elon Commitment, we knew building a residential campus environment was an important strategic part of it," he said of Elon's inspiration to build PARC.

The PARC was originally scheduled to open at the beginning of the school year after being under construction since February. Brad Moore, associate director of planning, design and construction, told The Pendulum in September that the opening was delayed because of issues placing the gym floor.

The wait was worth it, according to Allison Forhan, SUB's creative design and marketing chair.

"This space provides a really good opportunity for Elon to unite its students more," Forhan, a senior, said. "Right now, there are lots of small pockets of activity around campus. PARC will change that."

Journalist shares stories of memory experts

Joshua Foer's learned techniques, tricks revealed at Whitley Auditorium

Sarah Wood
Senior Reporter

Science journalist Joshua Foer showed a half-packed Whitley Auditorium audience a list of 100 random words. He then issued them a challenge.



Joshua Foer

"If I gave you 100 random words and gave you 15 minutes to remember every single word on that list, could you do it?" Foer said.

For the Oct. 28 speech "Nature of Memory," Foer talked an audience of Elon University faculty, staff, students and community members through his history with memory techniques.

The freelance journalist became a memory expert by turning a routine job assignment into a passion for learning to improve

his memory. He was sent on assignment by Slate Magazine to the United States Memory Championship. There he found people memorizing numbers, first and last names of strangers, poems and entire decks of cards in two minutes.

"Everyone who competes in the contest all have average memories," Foer said. "They trained their memories. Everyone there knows about those memory techniques, techniques that were forgotten about."

That got him thinking. To cover the Memory Championship story, he immersed himself into the life of a memory contestant. He even bought old high school yearbooks from Goodwill and tried memorizing the students' first and last names every morning.

"I actually found it fun," Foer said. "It wasn't about training my memory — it was training my creativity that I don't normally recognize."

Foer's newfound interest in memory tricks inspired him to return to the memory competition, but this time as a contestant rather than a journalist. Unexpectedly, he won the contest and established the new U.S. record for fastest memorization of a deck of cards: one minute and 45 seconds.

"It was interesting to learn about how just an average man, who never planned on memorizing anything, could win the memory competition," freshman Danny Wallowicz said. "It just shows that you don't have to be a genius."

During his talk at Elon, Foer didn't just explain his own history with memory techniques — he also presented a variety of memorization tactics commonly practiced by contestants at the championships he attended as a journalist and a competitor.

One contestant at the first championship he attended taught Foer some of his techniques, such as a trick to put names to faces more quickly.



NADIA NOBREGA | Staff Photographer

Journalist Joshua Foer presented tricks he learned from covering memory experts Oct. 28.

"The first rule of memory is you have to be paying attention," Foer said. "The second trick is to somehow associate that person's name with a physical presence. How do I connect something that's memorable to its name?"

He also learned a technique called the memory pyramid, which helps people remember large numbers by correlating each number with a consonant.

For example, say a person wants to remember the number 92. Nine is paired with the letter "p," while two is paired with the letter "n." Creating a word such as "pen" allows the person to remember the number easier.

"The memory competition is similar to an arms race," Foer said. "Every year someone comes up with a technique that allows you to cram as much as you can in your head, and then everyone ends up using that technique."

By creating unique relationships of memorized content based upon ancient techniques, Foer said memorizing anything is possible.

People are generally better at memorizing visual words rather than concrete information. They also remember the first and last things they hear in a conversation or discussion.

"Make information weird, colorful, sexy, funny and emotionally resonant," Foer said. "Something that riles you up."

Freshman Kaitlin Welch found his speech insightful and helpful in terms of improving study habits.

"I learned many things," Welch said. "The unique techniques that Foer demonstrated to us tonight are techniques that are applicable to our study habits here at Elon."

Foer ended with the idea that improving and strengthening memory comes from within.

"They are just tricks at the end of the day," Foer said. "These tricks work because they make you work, they are forcing you to pay attention and make it meaningful in an artificial way."

JOSHUA FOER

- Published in The New Yorker, Esquire and the New York Times
- Moonwalking with Einstein, an international best-seller, is his first book
- His TED Talk "Feats of Memory Anyone can Do" has nearly 4 million views on ted.com

Money, major changes factor

To cut costs and class sizes, universities may need to

Kate Nichols and Eric Goodnow
Reporters

As of 2014 and in years past, Elon University has prided itself on its four-year graduation rate, currently marking in at 76 percent. Academic advisers such as Phillip Motley note that faculty and staff find it peculiar when students do not graduate “on-time,” questioning what went wrong as that is not indicative of most at this university.

“If a student comes to me and says ‘I’m thinking of taking on an additional year,’ I’m thinking, why?” Motley said. “Is it to stay in school longer, or did you just really not plan this out well? It’s not the norm around here.”

Students on campus guided through graduation plans are encouraged to meet with advisers on a frequent basis to ensure that the institution maintains a high four-year rate. Still, several students today are carving out longer-term academic paths, and even Elon now includes a six-year graduation rate on their webpage of 81 percent. The problem of exceeding this four-year graduation rate has become so prevalent that many institutions of higher learning are basing statistics on a six-year time frame for four-year institutions in order to raise graduation rates on school publications.

Many flagship institutions today are the large public schools that most people imagine when they think of colleges. And according to *The New York Times*, of 580 public four-year schools only 50 of them are able to graduate more than half of their students in four years. So why are students taking on fifth and sixth years more and more?

College is Way Too Fun

For many college is the best four, or five, years of their lives. It’s the first real taste of freedom in many young people’s lives, without the true responsibilities that the real world holds. So it’s no surprise that many students will succumb to the many distractions that are readily available. Current Elon fifth year Nick Gutierrez was hit hard by these distractions right from the start.

“Freshman year I partied a little too much. I partied too much freshman fall and freshman spring I was making up for that,” Gutierrez said. “Sophomore fall I did even worse. I failed 4 out of 5 of my classes.”

From parties, to sports and campus organizations, it’s all too easy for today’s college students to extend their glory days. And as if college life wasn’t tempting enough, today’s job market makes university life seem even more appealing. According to a *Slate*.

com article, 8.5 percent of 2014 college graduates go unemployed and an additional 16.8 percent are what is known as underemployed, meaning they are working part-time or working a service job rather than something in their field because there aren’t enough openings.



KATE NICHOLS AND ERIC GOODNOW | Reporters

An Elon student signs up for financial aid. Often, need-based or scholarship-based financial aid enables students to take a fifth year at Elon.

These numbers may even lead students to make excuses as to why they need to take a fifth year, such as taking on an additional minor in order to need more classes. The thought of more than four years in college has become such commonplace nationally that it is changing the terminology some people use. *New York Times* columnist David Leonhardt says, “Many college students today assume they will not graduate in four years. Some even refer to themselves as second- or third-years, instead of sophomores or juniors.”

Finances

As with almost anything in life, money is a driving force behind taking a fifth year.

Most noticeably it is a big reason private schools boast a much higher four-year graduation rate. It’s no surprise that private institutions can be many times more expensive. This leads to students and parents who are paying for a private education to really push to graduate on time in order to avoid paying upwards of \$50,000 for an additional year of school.

Another money related issue that comes into play when considering a fifth year is financial aid. Many students who are receiving need-based, or scholarship-based financial aid can be

set up to take a fifth year without the worry of having to give an arm and a leg in order to do so. One example is Gutierrez who says he only pays \$3,000 a year thanks to the school’s need-based financial aids, making his decision to take a fifth year much easier.

Lastly, paying for college, whether public or private, is never easy. So therefore a lot of

students will elect to be part-time students in order to lessen the financial load that college bares. Student adviser Phillip Motley touched on the issue when advocating the concept of taking a gap year.

“Not a lot of people take a gap year,” Motley said, “but when they do it’s usually for financial reasons, and every time they seem to come back more focused on school and what they want to do after.”

Some will use the extra time to work in order to make money for the additional years they will spend in school. A more extreme version of this are students who will take a whole semester or year off in order to work and save money to pay for school before they return to campus.

Class Overload

Similar to Elon students with overambitious course loads, undergraduates worldwide are taking on additional college years due to confusion, major changes and generally looking to gain more academic knowledge in additional classes of fascination for the student. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, about 80 percent of students in the United States end up changing their major at least once. This issue has gained prevalence in recent years, but one *NBC News* report from 2005 proves that looking back ten years, this confusion

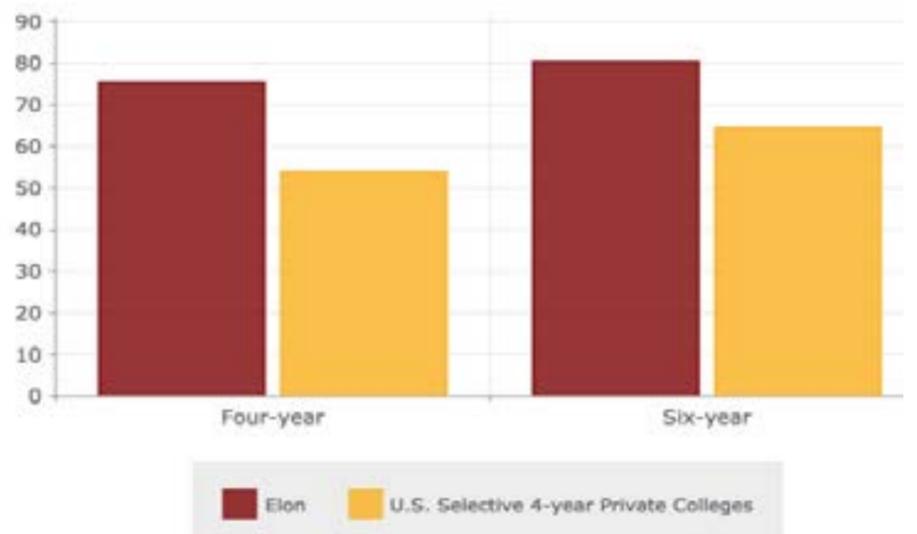
for incoming first years contemplating their major choice is nothing new. Looking one decade back, “50 percent of those who do declare a major, change majors—with many doing so two and three times during their college years.” Author Gayle B. Ronan offers guidance to incoming students on choosing wisely and efficiently, but today, major change continues to skyrocket, as students essentially pay for extra classes as a way of exploration that may in turn leave less space for major requirements in the long run. Along these lines, one Elon freshman, Jane Samson, cites her main college focus as exploration, not meeting graduation requirements.

“I want to do a lot of exploring instead of just throwing myself into my major,” Samson said. “I’m really excited to throw myself into things and find out what I want to do.”

Students may also be held back not only due to major change, but also with overcrowding in classrooms that pushes back graduation requirements. According to Judith Scott-Clayton of *The New York Times* in her article, “The Rise of the Five-Year Four-Year Degree,” overcrowding, especially at public institutions, is another factor that may prevent students from taking the courses they need. Scott-Clayton points out that this issue acts as a continually detrimental and vicious cycle for students, because as students get locked out of classes for over

“I AM A FAN OF WELL-ROUNDED EDUCATION, BUT CERTAIN GENERAL REQUIREMENTS ARE UNECESSARY AND AT TIMES DAMAGING.”

CHRIS DENHART,
AUTHOR OF “THE RISE AND FAIL
OF THE FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE”



COURTESY OF ELON.EDU

Elon ranks in the top 10 percent of U.S. private universities in four-year graduation rate.

into rise of fifth-year students

address extended stays by eliminating aid after 4 years

capacity, there is a better likelihood that they will stay around longer, only adding to the overpopulated campus troubles.

“Unfortunately, having students hang around for five years ultimately does nothing to solve overcrowding,” Scott-Clayton wrote, “rather, it ensures that it will continue into the future.”

To make matters even more difficult, Forbes contributor and author of “The Rise and Fall of the Five-Year College Degree,” Chris Denhart, denotes unnecessary prerequisite courses as a means for steering students towards that additional year in school.

“Certain courses must be taken in series, and are only offered once per year and to miss that course means waiting a year to take that one class,” Denhart said. “With extremely rigid, and not to mention at times unrelated course requirements, students are left out to dry with no alternatives. I am a fan of a well-rounded education, but certain general requirements are unnecessary and at times damaging.”

Five-Year Programs

Other rising trends for undergraduate students looking to extend their college career include intentional fifth-year undergraduate programs such as one at Northeastern University. As part of the Northeastern five-year co-op program, students are set up with two or three full-time internship or co-op positions through the school, with housing options available. This way, come graduation students have a strong working background and numerous networking opportunities. A four-year graduation plan was not even allowed at this university until 2010, as the institution has always been an advocate of co-ops and hands-on job experience while in school.

In reference to the program, the Northeastern webpage says that, “the integration of study and practice produces a more powerful learning experience. Co-op provides students with different perspectives on their classroom studies and during the learning process.”

As opposed to other reasons for taking an additional year at a university, five-year programs such as these exist for students who may have been on track to graduate

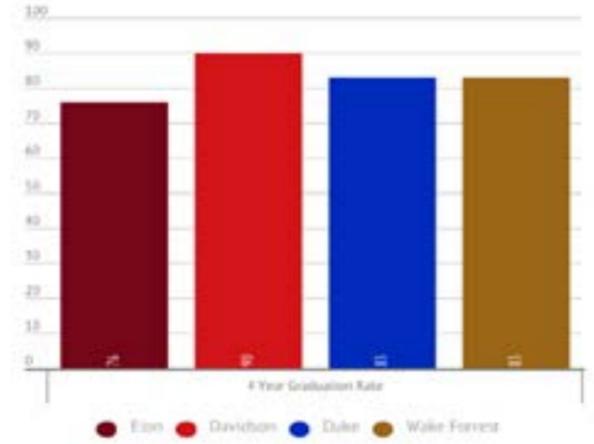
on-time throughout their entire college career, but simply chose to get more work experience before graduating with the guidance of university mentors and advisers on hand.

How to Make a Change

While there are a myriad of reasons one might take on a fifth year, this new trend is creating problems for students all-around. Partying or over capacity classes, for instance, are making for more students on one campus at a time, leading to vicious cycle that has been created for incoming students now unable to get into their classes. Another result of this new movement towards a fifth year is a smaller workforce. With some students simply “sticking around,” whether by choice or not, how can we get back on track for a higher four-year graduation rate?

There is no formula for getting students out of school in four years, yet state influence may make a difference. Chris Denhart says that capping schools’ state funding based on graduation rates may put more pressure on universities to get

Major NC Private School's 4 Year Graduation Rate



KATE NICHOLS AND ERIC GOODNOW | Reporters

their students out in the traditional four years.

“Mid level schools that do not pride themselves on high four-year graduation rates, a metric that the top private and public schools compete on, are more than willing to let a student hang around and toil away for 5, 6 or 7 years while collecting tuition,” Denhart said. “Perhaps a policy shakeup that ties state funding to graduation rates, four years, is necessary to combat

this negative incentive.”

American economist and Center for College Affordability director Dr. Richard Vedder also speaks to the effectiveness of cutting costs, suggesting that schools should take control of this situation by eliminating aid after four years.

“Cut off student aid after 4 years,” Vedder said. “And for state schools, end student subsidies for fifth-year students. Things would change — fast.”

ELON UNIVERSITY
Doherty Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership

Upcoming Events: Fall 2015

Ashton Newhall Lecture

Featured on or in:

seventeen

TODAY **InStyle** & more!

Thursday, November 5
5 p.m., Whitley Auditorium

Jess Ekstrom founder of

Headbands
of hope

A socially conscious company that designs and sells headbands. It uses portions of the proceeds to give headbands to children with cancer.

Triple Impact Challenge

****Open to all Elon students!**** Register at www.elon.edu/tripleimpact

Cash prizes!
(\$200-\$500)

Pitch workshops available!
Contact sackerman@elon.edu

5-minute pitch competition!

2 tracks:
New Business Ventures
or
Social & Environmental

Wednesday, November 11
4: 15 p.m., Lakeside Hall

Winter Term 2016

Open to all Elon Students!
Contact skelly25@elon.edu | Under \$2,000

Innovation in America
BUS270A

****Embedded travel to the Silicon Valley!****

Cheat Sheet: New House speaker



Speaker of the House Paul Ryan walks on stage at the 2014 Conservative Political Action Conference. He was elected speaker Oct. 29. PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., newly elected Speaker of the House, plans to ignite a unique fervor to the potent position, according to a recent interview on CBS's "Face the Nation." Instead of acting like a "dictator," the 2012 Republican nominee said he hopes to encourage more inclusive and collective measures in regard to enacting policies.

"I don't think leadership should be trying to, you know, covet power and write legislation," he said on "Fox News Sunday" Nov. 1. "I think I want to have a more participatory process, which is really what the founders envisioned the House to look like. And that is something that so many of us, myself included, have been concerned about the way this place has been run."

When he was elected speaker, Ryan urged House members to work together, saying the institution was "broken." Divisions within the Republican party influenced Former Speaker of the House John Boehner's decision to step down.

Stance on key issues

Ryan said he will encourage his colleagues to be ambitious and "take some

policy risks" to resolve prominent issues in the nation, including a comprehensive tax reform and repealing President Barack Obama's Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, popularly known as Obamacare. Most notably, Ryan has been adamant in professing his opposition to the Commander-in-Chief's illegal immigration policy, saying that Obama abused his vetoing power and tried to single-handedly fix the problem.

"Look, I think it would be a ridiculous notion to try and work on an issue like this with a president we simply cannot trust on this issue," Ryan said in an interview with CBS's "Face the Nation." "He tried to go it alone, circumventing the legislative process with his executive orders, so that is not in the cards."

Role in the upcoming election

In July 2015, Ryan criticized Donald Trump for his provocative statements on immigration, saying the presidential hopeful's remarks were not congruent with the Republican party's values. Nonetheless,

Ryan said he would support the GOP 2016 presidential nominee.

"Every one of these people would be a far better president than Hillary Clinton," he said in a recent interview with ABC News. "We're having a good primary process. It's cathartic, it's helpful."

Boehner's influence on Ryan's new position

Boehner used "Catholic guilt" to persuade Ryan to accept the new position. In a Nov. 1 interview with CNN, Boehner recounted his conversation with Ryan, saying, "This isn't about what you want to do, this is about what God wants you to do."

Boehner, who gave an emotional farewell resignation speech Thursday Oct. 29, knew Ryan was the best fit for the job even though he was hesitant about taking the position.

"Paul was the right guy, at the right time," Boehner said in the same interview. "I know he didn't want to do it. He kept telling me he didn't want to do it. But it was obvious to me that he was the right person for the job."

News Briefs

Link Transit Website running

Link Transit, the fixed route transportation system that will serve Burlington, Gibsonville and Alamance County College in 2016, launched its company's website. The site linktransit.org is now the online presence for information regarding Link Transit, such as frequently asked questions, news, and contact information. Along with the website, the agency also created a Twitter account; @LinkTransitNC, which will be used for Link Transit updates, news and photos. This will also include route changes, and schedule modifications.

Nominations for Young Elon Alumni Council Award Now Open

Nominations for the Elon's Top 10 Under 10 Alumni Awards are now being accepted. From now until Nov. 25, Elon's Young Alumni Council encourages people to nominate Elon University Alumni '06-'15 who have experienced professional success or contributed greatly to the Elon community or beyond. The nomination form can be found on the Elon website and any further questions can be directed to Jill Hollis '13, coordinator for Alumni Engagement, at jhollis@elon.edu. Those selected will be recognized at an April ceremony.

All Christian Night of Worship, Nov. 5

Sponsored by the Truitt Center for Religious Life, a Night of All Christian Worship will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday Nov. 5 in McKinnon Hall. All of the Christian groups on Elon's campus will be in attendance and the event is open for anyone who is interested. Urban Doxology, a Richmond, Virginia urban ministry and Kelly Glow, an Atlanta based singer, will also be performing. Christian Life at Elon will also be hosting a series of important conversations on religion and race during Winter Term. Contact Tiya Bolton at nyeelabolton@gmail.com for more information.

Acorn Fund applications due Nov. 9

Applications for the SGA Acorn Fund are due Nov. 9. The association will award two \$4,500 prizes to students for original inventions, organizations or other initiatives. All applicants must attend a workshop 6 p.m. Nov. 4 in Belk Library 113. More information can be found at the SGA office or by contacting Laura Orr at lorr4@elon.edu.

CRIME REPORT

Oct. 28
SEX OFFENDER CHARGED MORNINGSIDE DRIVE, BURLINGTON: A Burlington man was charged with felony failure to report a new address as a sex offender and held under a \$10,000 secured bond, according to a Burlington Times-News report. The man did not report his most up-to-date address since Aug. 12, the report added.

Oct. 30
ARREST ON FELONY CHARGES NORTH CHURCH STREET, BURLINGTON: Two men were arrested Friday without incident at their Burlington homes in connection to an Oct. 24 shooting at Black Jack's bar on North Church Street, according to a

Burlington Times-News report. One man, 21, was charged with attempted murder, three felony counts of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, inflicting serious injury and misdemeanor carrying a concealed weapon into an alcohol establishment. The other, 23, was charged with a felony count of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, inflicting serious injury and misdemeanor counts of carrying a concealed weapon into an alcohol establishment.

Three people were injured in the shooting, and two of them went to Alamance Regional Medical Center to receive treatment. The two men arrested were fighting in the bar, and it escalated with one firing a gun at the other, according to the report.

Oct. 31
FOUND ILLEGAL SUBSTANCE SOUTH HOLT AVENUE, ELON: Town of Elon police found a clear bag containing a white substance around noon Saturday in the area of South Holt Avenue and West Summerbell Avenue. The substance, found to be cocaine through a roadside field test, weighed approximately 1 gram.

Town of Elon police conducted a foot patrol in the area after an Elon University police officer said he received an anonymous Live-Safe — a safety app — tip on a substance being seen in the area. The substance was seized and submitted to evidence.

Get a flu shot, fight disease

HOW WE SEE IT

The Center for Health and Wellness offers flu shots and other services to keep students healthy. Take advantage of them.

Staff Editorial

It's the beginning of November, and, at the risk of sounding like nearly every health service in the country, we have to ask: Have you gotten your flu shot yet?

Flu shots are just one of the many resources Elon University's Center for Health and Wellness offers to help students take care of themselves while they're at Elon. The last fall offering for students was Monday, but students can still receive shots at pharmacies in the Elon and Burlington area, some of which can be reached by taking the BioBus.

When students don't use these resources, they're risking their own well-being, not to mention that of their friends, roommates, classmates, coworkers and anyone else they come into contact with.

Emails from Jana Lynn Patterson, associate vice president for Student Life and dean of Student Health and Wellness, have provided information about getting flu shots on campus since classes started.

Don't spend another Winter Term with the flu. If you haven't gotten your flu shot,

get on that, because flu season starts mid-November and lasts until March. Find your way to a pharmacy as soon as possible.

More than one study has pegged the rate of student vaccinations as low, hovering anywhere from 8 to 20 percent, compared to a recent CDC statistic that found 42 percent of adults were vaccinated in the 2012-2013 flu season.

At most, the shots cost \$20, or so, and a sore arm, and for students with insurance, there usually isn't any cost at all.

The on-campus flu shot clinics were just one of many services offered by the Office of Student Health and Wellness to improve and maintain student health. Other services include blood tests and counseling sessions at the Center for Health and Wellness.

The Center for Health and Wellness isn't the best solution for everyone, though. It recently became appointment-only, so students with urgent problems should go to an area urgent care clinic.

The hours are limited, as well, so any late-night or weekend emergencies have to be



FILE PHOTO BY ALLISON RYNGARZ
The R.N. Ellington Center for Health and Wellness is located at 301 S. O'Kelly Ave. It offers health services for students, faculty and staff.

treated at an off-campus facility.

Get to know what the Center for Health and Wellness can do for you. Its location on South O'Kelly Avenue makes it more convenient than pharmacies in the Town of Elon and Burlington, and you can even charge any fees to your tuition bill.

Students need to be willing to take advantage of these opportunities, even if it means a trek out to the Center for Health and Wellness.

Don't wait until you're sick with the flu or the dreaded Elon plague. Be proactive. Check out Student Health and Wellness' services before you start sneezing.

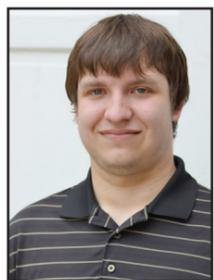
HEALTH SERVICES

- Phone: (336) 278-7230
- Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m.- 6 p.m., Fri. 8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m., Sat. - Sun. 11 a.m.- 3 p.m.
- Location: R.N. Ellington Center for Health and Wellness, 301 S. O'Kelly Ave.
- Sample of services: Evaluation and treatment of acute illness and injury, well-woman and physical exams, health education and counseling, allergy injection service, vaccines and other injections

Map your course(s) with care

When registering for classes, diversity is key

With the momentary high of Halloween now fading, it's time once again for students to register for courses for the upcoming Winter Term and spring semester.



Tim Melton
Columnist

Just keep in mind that registration is not just for finding courses with a favorite professor or avoiding the dread-

ed 8 a.m. classes — the decisions made during registration can have significant effects on one's college experience and beyond.

Unfortunately, registration can sometimes be a pitfall for students by inviting them to select courses solely based on major or minor requirements, rather than their interests.

In some cases, it seems that students only want to take these requisite courses, paying little mind to the multitude of alternative options presented to them.

While it is important that students constantly remain aware of what they need to take

to graduate, this sort of tunnel-vision approach can often be challenging to one's development as a student.

The problem is that we sometimes become too focused on making every academic decision a matter of practicality. This is to be expected, of course, when we have to pay tuition for attending college, thus making the possibility of "wasting time and money" a real and valid concern.

But I think that this perspective devalues the importance of exploring one's interests, that being able to learn something new (and possibly discover an interest or passion for a com-

pletely new subject) is well worth its investment.

College is an essential time for expanding one's horizons, not only to develop skill sets that might be applied to future careers but also to help shape more well-rounded individuals.

To this end, I believe it's necessary that students consider courses well outside their majors, perhaps even beyond their established comfort zones.

This opportunity to find new and exciting courses outside of one's primary academic interests is often used as a selling point for Winter Term, but I think applying this perspective to

semester-long terms is just as important.

To the students preparing for registration, consider what you want to take away from college going forward, and consider the limitations you might be putting on yourself. If you're an art student, take a look at the social sciences. Likewise, if you're majoring in computer sciences, take a chance on a literature course.

These unique interactions between students and courses are worth so much more than just "studies outside of the major" — they create more interesting individuals and, in the broader sense, a better community.

THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

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

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

'Life doesn't always run smoothly'

I should have known to expect the unexpected on Halloween Eve. I put on my cheetah-print pajamas and climbed in bed



Jenna Barone
Columnist

for the night, ignoring the warning a girl dressed as a sexy black cat had given me earlier.

"Halloween is a marathon, be prepared," the cat told me. "Be Prepared." It was a warning I laughed at. It was a warning I didn't take seriously. It was

a warning well-spoken by an Elon University upperclassman who knew better than a freshman.

Unluckily for me, I didn't remember her and her warning until I found myself running across campus, cheetah-print pajamas and all, at 3 a.m.

It all began when I planned to attend a Breast Cancer Awareness walk in Greensboro with Colleges Against Cancer Halloween morning. I had an early wake-up call, and I had decided to turn in early on Halloween Eve to conserve energy.

But a series of mishaps involving a puppy, a roommate's twisted ankle, an ibuprofen-caused stomach irritation and a snoring temporary roommate forced me out of my bed and into the costumed chaos of Halloween Eve.

It was a little bad luck, but I'm sure I'm wasn't the only one to encounter minor disruptions that night. I'm sure there were plenty of other students around Elon staring at the ceiling, wishing the pregame in their suite would end. I'm sure of it.

So, to those of us who seek sleep: When life gives you lemons, make pumpkin soup. We simply need to handle the inconvenience with grace and class.

I darted across campus — without shoes — from Danielely to Sloan, where a friend promised a spare bed, girls screaming "We're cheetah girls, cheetah sisters" at the sight of my obnoxious cheetah-print pajamas all the way there.

On arriving at Sloan, I found the dorm room inhabited by five other people — a get-together in the room of what was supposed to be my bed for the night. Awkwardly introducing myself and babbling an explanation of my situation, I ran out of the room faster than a cheetah.

Only as I left did I realize that one of the girls was dressed as a sexy black cat.

Each direction I turned, a sexy black cat seemed to stand waiting for me, arching its back and blocking the path with a flash of an evil eye. Why weren't responsible actions enough to deserve a decent night's sleep? I realized Halloween weekend was completely out of an individual Elon student's control, and those of us staying in for the night would have to dodge the superstitions to the best of our ability

Three phone calls later, I finally crashed at a friend's dorm at HBB and unfortunately slept past the time the cancer walk had ended. So much for resting up for the Breast Cancer Awareness walk.

This sleepless night taught me that Acting responsibly doesn't always guarantee a productive — or restful — weekend. Whether you believe in superstitions or not, sometimes life — in the form of black cats — messes with our perfectly aligned schedules, plans and obligations. Life doesn't always run smoothly. Instead of fixating on what we can't control, we must instead maintain a flexible schedule and adjust to circumstances.

But I'm not going to lie — if I see another sexy black cat any time soon, I just might scream as if I'd seen a ghost on Halloween night.

The Pendulum is renewing its efforts to serve as a voice of the Elon University community. Each week, this space will feature a column from a member of the community. Want to participate? Contact us at pendulum@elon.edu.

Campus Voices

All in a year at Elon

Five weeks. Five weeks is the amount of time I have left as a student at Elon University.



Erin Robertson
Catholic Campus Ministry

There are seven months until I walk across the stage under the oaks with the rest of my class. At the start of

this last semester, I anxiously started a countdown to Dec. 10. That is the date of my last and final exam, marking the end of my Elon career.

But after a whirlwind of a semester and watching the days pass quickly, I want to hit the brakes, roll down the windows and breathe in as much of Elon as I can get.

As I reflect on the past years spent strolling around the red brick pathways, I can't help but smile at all of the quirky things that brought me joy.

Freshman year, it was sitting on the stoop outside of Brannock, soaking up the sun, playing sand volleyball and setting up my hammock for the first time.

Sophomore year brought about the incredible experience of working with Salvation Army through Elon Volunteers. That was also the year I fell in love with Belk Library, spending many nights doing

more socializing than studying in my favorite spot on the first floor.

The fall of my junior year, I was abroad in Montpellier, France, but

jumped right back into things in the spring. This is when my weekly breakfast at Skid's began, and I was entranced by its genuine staff, authentic diner atmosphere and delicious food.

Elon brought many enticing events and places into my life, but what's even better are the people it introduced

me to. Relationships are what make these experiences we have so memorable.

I'm blessed to have lived with my roommate for all four years and to be a part of the welcoming and faith-filled

Catholic Campus Ministry staff and community. There's something special about being able to walk around campus and knowing that you'll

always see a friendly face.

All of this makes it sound like living on my own and obtaining a bachelor's degree were peaches and cream, and that's absolutely not the case — just ask my roommates, who often hear my complaints of stress and anxiety stemming from various areas of my life. I have made more mistakes and

faced more challenges than I ever imagined, but from every one came a lesson.

I have learned that there's a delicate balance between work, play and relaxation. My eyes have been opened to the value of diversity, humility and mental health.

I'm thankful that these lessons shaped me and taught me how to live in this crazy world. These lessons are just as much part of why I loved these past four years as the easy moments.

The point of this column is to demonstrate all that encompasses a college career at Elon University. Everyone's journey will be unique and tailored to who they are and what they enjoy.

To all of those who have more days, weeks, months or years left on this beautiful campus than I do, remember this: The days are long, but the years are short. Your four years will be over before you know it.

I encourage you to make every day count and to take advantage of this rare opportunity you have to learn inside and outside of the classroom, go on adventures, make mistakes, be a part of a community, value friendships and create memories.

“THE DAYS ARE LONG, BUT THE YEARS ARE SHORT. YOUR FOUR YEARS WILL BE OVER BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.”

DOCTORS' ORDERS REGISTRATION GAMES



Lauryl Fischer & Frankie Campisano
Columnists

Halloween is dead. The pumpkin spice latte has disappeared into the night from whence it came once again, and peppermint rains down from the wintry heavens.

Yes — longer lives Christmas, which starts creeping up on us in stores before Halloween even has a chance to scare anyone (and don't even mention Thanksgiving, whose caricatures of pilgrims and Native Americans are looking an awful lot like Columbus-style racism these days.) Happy holidays, Elon University!

With the season of rampant consumerism disguised as giving comes the

season of registration. Think of it as a present for all of you good little children — registration for all, from the higher Elon powers that be. While we've not quite switched to full-on "Hunger Games" — or "Game of Thrones" — style registration, it's still a cutthroat world out there. And it's no game.

Maybe you'll get lucky, and the classes you want to take will actually be offered next semester. Maybe lightning will strike twice, and you'll be able to snag a spot. If you're an underclassmen, registration is a crapshoot, and you'd better be ready to compromise for those of us on our way out the door (we're talking graduation, not the big dining hall in the sky).

You might think it's unfair that these things are done based on seniority or credits, but hey. This is America. More accurately, this is Elon.

If you wanted something better than slim pickings, then next time take a full 18 credits. Heck, take more. If you haven't learned that that's the Elon way, then catch up, kid — it's nearly the end of the semester.

Taking a left turn with absolutely no warning aside from that previous clause, congratulations to the entire Pendulum

Rx PRESCRIPTION

Doctors' Orders is a weekly satirical column in which two unprofessional, definitely fake doctors offer up prescriptions for their Phoenix patients.

staff for winning a Pacemaker. We hear it's a pretty big deal. And technically, we won, too. We're now Pacemaker-winning columnists, technically. We're not sure what that means, exactly, but it definitely gets our hearts racing.

Taking another left turn — those new Snapchat Terms & Conditions are awfully invasive. Not that they weren't one of the sketchier apps on the block to begin with. Eh, no one's going to do anything about it. In fact, forget we said anything. Untake this left turn.

Good luck with registration, folks. If you're sticking around for Winter Term, take something fun, especially if it will fulfill a requirement. If you're taking Winter Term off, do you have another spare \$12,000? We've got loans we ought to start paying off.

Letters to the editor

Make an investment in Elon University

Think about your time at Elon University. What you have done, who you have met, where you have gone and, most importantly, who you have become.

Courtney Sola
Senior Class Giving Committee

I talk about my Elon experience at least three times a week as I walk around campus with prospective students and their families. I tell them about every caring faculty member I have encountered, every staff member who has encouraged me to be my best and every student who has made a positive impact on my life. I talk about my experiences, my happiest moments on Elon's campus and the things I will miss the most when I leave.

At the end of my tour, I always tell families how my dad asked me when I committed to Elon, "Is it worth the investment?" Even then, I knew it would be. And now,

four years later, I swear that I would pay double, even triple, to start my Elon experience all over again.

My return on my investment in Elon has been more than I could ever imagine. I have gained lifelong friends and experiences that will take me far into my future, but most importantly, I have found home. And that is priceless.

Your time at Elon is an investment. It is an investment in yourself and your education. It is an investment that was made possible by the investments of past Elon alumni — and now it is our time to give back.

Think about it: Your tuition only covers 80 percent of the cost of your education and includes the cost of maintaining Elon as is. What does it not include? Your state-of-the-art lab equipment in McMichael, the grass you've played flag football on and the Phi Beta Kappa Commons where we all gather on Tuesday mornings.

Where do these wonderful things and more come from? Elon alumni. Without them and their generous gifts, Elon would cease to exist.

It is because of those who have invested in me that I have invested in Elon through the Senior Class Giving campaign, and why I encourage all seniors to do so as well. Make a thoughtful gift to help support the next generation of Elon students.

You have the ability to choose from hundreds of designations around campus — anything from student scholarships, athletics, specific majors or departments. Simply choose where your gift could make the greatest difference.

Donate to the Senior Class Giving campaign in the amount of \$20.16 or any other sized donation at www.elon.edu/makeagift and invest in the future.

Help us help you create your life story

In 1989, a young man arrived at St. Norbert College in De Pere, Wisconsin. He had been your typical overactive leader in high school, but as someone who avoided alcohol, he felt socially out-of-place and awkward in the college environment.

Still, at orientation he knew that if he didn't step out of his comfort zone, he'd be missing out on the opportunity to create a meaningful college experience.

He nervously decided to cross the room and talk to people he didn't know.

In 1991, a 17-year-old young woman was a new student at Florida State University. She never quite had the right clothes and kept her Jheri Curl longer than she should have. Then the boy that she had the biggest crush on

asked her roommate out. She knew that she could either sit in her room crying or she could find something to fill the void.

She walked to the student union and tried out to be an orientation leader.

Although by their senior years he had become the president of his local fraternity and she was a member of the orientation head staff, without those first steps, their college experiences and lives would not have been the same.

Those experiences helped them become people who help students get the most out of their

students have fantastic Elon experiences right from the start, but others do not. The task force is examining the student experience and recommending ways to help students connect with intellectual and social experiences in healthy, meaningful and engaging ways.

How meaningful are the relationships you're creating? How purposeful are you in picking activities that will add depth to your learning? What is the contribution of Greek life to Elon's social climate? If going to a house party isn't your scene, what do you want to do on a weekend night?

The task force is spending this academic year digging into these and other topics because we want to make sure every student's Elon experience is as rewarding as it can be.

This month, the task force will be gathering information from students about their social and out of class experiences. We hope you will participate in one or more of these sessions. There will be two community-wide town halls: at 4:15 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10 in the McBride Gathering Space and at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11 in McKinnon Hall.

There will also be "idea walls" across campus Nov. 3-6. Pick up a marker and write your thoughts on the wall. We will be conducting small group interviews with students in the next several weeks — if you get an invitation, come and let us know what you think.

Finally, be on the lookout for a survey on social climate and out-of-class engagement that will be sent to the entire campus in November.

You also can send us an email (social-climate@elon.edu) if you'd like to be interviewed or if you have some thoughts about changes you'd like to see or things we should keep just as they are.

Take the first step in helping us help you create your life story.



The 72 percent

In fall 1999, my next-door neighbor asked me how I felt about my new place after having moved from Illinois to North Carolina two months earlier. I told Mrs. Tice that I loved it here, as the weather closely resembled that of Egypt at this time of year, while the smiling faces and caring gestures reminded me of home, where I was always among

family and friends.

Things did not change much over the next 16 years. My appearance, with my Muslim attire, never got in the way of cheerful interactions, and my Egyptian accent did not get in the way of making friends and engaging with my community.

Several universities trusted my husband and me with student education, while school districts and sports teams relied on us as involved parents and active volunteers. We answered more questions about Islam than I can count and have participated in interfaith events and service activities with numerous churches and groups.

It comes as a great surprise to learn that a recent poll conducted in North Carolina by Public Policy Polling found that 72 percent of primary voters in North Carolina believed that a Muslim should not be allowed to be president, and that 40 percent of this group was also likely to say that Islam should be illegal.

Either things have changed too much too fast, or I have been really lucky to have been mainly surrounded by members of the 28 percent who invoke reason and reject ignorance and bigotry.

It is amazing how being a Muslim would not get in the way of being a cardiologist managing critical healthcare, a college professor guiding the intellectual development of a generation, an activist defending the disenfranchised of all backgrounds, but it may have a negative effect on presidential candidacy.

I wonder how such generalization could be validated and how people who think this way address the questions and

concerns that their opinion raises.

Should there be any consideration for a Muslim candidate's academic background? History of civic engagement and coalition building? Experience with the political process? Voting record and views on the issues? Are the 72 percent willing to risk losing a well-equipped leader who is dedicated to honor and serving his country and base their decision on the presidential candidate's faith tradition?

If that is the case, I wonder which Islamic tenets cause this apprehension, and which credible sources revealed the risk to them. I also ask what happened to the separation of church and state, and whether neutrality toward religion stops at Islam.

What makes a Muslim presidential candidate any less American than a Presbyterian real estate tycoon who collects bibles and pledges to be the greatest representative of Christians if elected, or a Seventh Day Adventist neurosurgeon who attributes his success to faith and determination and proudly shares his favorite Bible verse?

The image of America that the 72 percent envision is not clear to me, but I am perfectly clear on the America that the rest of us know and want to maintain.

Our America continues to be a pluralistic society that accepts all — it is a place where individuals are valued on the merit of their contributions to society. In our America, political campaigns do not cause seasonal changes to guiding principles — it is a place where reason prevails to substantiate opinions and inform decisions.

In our America, individuals do not denounce faiths and traditions that are different from their own, and do not ask others to deny parts of their religious doctrine, redraft their religious text, or reject a portion of their guiding principles.

In our America, members of the electorate ensure credibility and accuracy of any information that they receive and are not fooled by politically-motivated comments and flashy media tactics. We reserve our right to check out sources and question wild claims, and we are constantly reminded how religious affiliation and personal integrity are not mutually exclusive, and that applies across the board.



Naeemah Clark
Associate Professor of Communications



Jon Dooley
Assistant Vice President for Student Life

Rolling back to the future

Hoverboards make their way to Elon



DIEGO PINEDA | Staff Photographer

Demetrius Oliver will use his hoverboard, decked out with plastic rims and flashing lights, with his son, while giving himself a break from his strenuous exercises from football.

Danielle Deavens
Senior Reporter

Some call them hoverboards, others call them mini-Segways, but the companies who sell them use “self-balancing scooters.” What started as a mildly popular accessory among celebrities like rapper Wiz Khalifa and actor Quincy Brown has trickled down from the masses to Elon University’s campus.

To hoverboard the user shifts weight forward, and the board moves forward and vice versa. To stand still on the scooter, the user must distribute weight evenly in the middle of both feet. Spinning in a circle requires the user to tip the outer foot either forward or backward while keeping weight on the other foot evenly distributed.

Most hoverboards come with LED lights that are activated when the scooter is in motion. It takes two or three hours to fully charge the board for up to six hours of constant riding. For students using it to get from class to

class, the battery can last all day.

Though it may sound complicated, riding the scooter is surprisingly easy once you get the hang of it, according to junior Demetrius Oliver. When starting out, it may be helpful to try it on a flat but soft surface indoors to minimize injury in case of a fall. The hoverboards work on anything from asphalt to carpet, as long as the terrain is relatively smooth.

Hoverboarding around Elon

On sidewalks, in hallways and even on main roads, students can be seen moving around on scooters of all colors and models, getting around a few miles per hour faster than everyone else.

Oliver, wide receiver for the Elon University football team, got his hoverboard because he wanted a more fun form of transportation.

“One of the guys on the team got one and we all tried it out,” he said. “It seemed fun, so I got one.”

He bought one in late September on Amazon.com for \$290. Looking back, the investment,

which may seem steep to some, was about much more than following in the footsteps of a fellow football player.

“It’s an easier and faster way to get around campus,” Oliver said. “It’s also less taxing on the legs. Being that I’m an athlete, it’s a good option.”

To get to class, he drives from his Crest apartment, parks in the Colonnades lot and rides the scooter across campus.

Though it may require less legwork, riding these scooters is a test of core strength and balance. Shifting weight to execute turns, maneuvering around pedestrians and riding across bumps or inconsistent terrain presents challenges to a hover board rider. Oliver admits he has fallen a few times, but he has gotten so confident with his skills, he puts himself to the ultimate test.

“I have a son,” Oliver said, “and I hold him while I ride it. He loves it.”

With his 1-year-old in tow, Oliver spins in circles and rides around his apartment alongside

teammate and fellow hoverboard owner, sophomore Daniel Everett.

Everett purchased his hoverboard at a mall in Greensboro just before Oliver, his roommate, got his. Everett paid \$400 for it, more costly than Oliver’s because of the addition of bumpers. Along with the plastic bumpers around the wheels, Everett’s board has a shimmery gold paint job.

Even with the higher price and flashy upgrades, Everett is not afraid of damaging his scooter. In fact, when other students see him riding it and ask for a test drive, he rarely says no.

“As long as they sign the verbal liability waiver in case they fall off,” he said, jokingly.

Safety precautions

With the influx of hoverboard use on campus, some students have compared the scooters to Heelys, a shoe brand that became popular in the early 2000s for sneakers with wheels hidden in the heels. In schools across the nation, these shoes were banned due

to safety concerns.

In the United Kingdom, regulations for hoverboard use have already been established. The “self-balancing scooters” are being treated like Segways — they are only approved for use on private property because they do not meet criteria for proper licensing necessary for public use.

So far, these kinds of strict regulations have not been imposed in the United States, where there is not much of a precedent of Segway usage. As the scooters get more popular, more rules may come, but for now, Elon Campus Safety and Police will be filing the hoverboards under the same category as skateboards, roller blades and inline skates.

When asked in an email about the university’s policy toward hoverboards, Elon University Chief of Police Dennis Franks said, “the student handbook covers this type of conveyance.”

The handbook has not been updated to include hoverboards, but because they are being treated like other small transportation devices, the policy is strict:

The boards can be used on campus, but not on sidewalks or streets in the Town of Elon, the handbook said. Users are expected to wear protective gear — helmets, elbow pads and kneepads — at all times to avoid injury, for which the university is not liable.

Franks said the comment of protective gear is only a recommendation to keep operators of the hoverboards safe.

To answer the question on everyone’s minds: “these activities are not allowed inside any building and grinding and rail sliding are not permitted at all,” according to the handbook.

The policies are clear, but so is the popularity of the two-wheeled toy. As more and more students invest in the trend, it seems hoverboards may be here to stay.

A Buyer’s Guide to Hoverboards

Brand	MonoRover	Erover	HKCUBE	Swagway	IO Hawk
Charge Time	2-3 hours	2 hours	1-2 hours	2-3 hours	3 hours
Maximum Incline	15 degrees	15 degrees	15 degrees	15 degrees	15 degrees
Maximum Range	10-15 miles	10-15 miles	10-12 miles	20 miles	10-12 miles
Top Speed	7 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	6 mph
Price	\$359.99	\$255.99	\$267.75	\$399.99	\$267.99

Source: Self Balancing Scooter Reviews

KATE BRAUNSTEIN | Design Intern

Speak Out for Syria brings refugee awareness

Ally Feinsot
Senior Report

Speak Out for Syria (SOS) was founded at Elon University this fall to educate the community and fundraise for the millions of refugees in need to help the approximately 9 million Syrians fleeing their home country after a civil war outbreak in March 2011.

Senior Molly McDermid, an international studies major with a concentration in the Middle East, said the organization is only in its beginning stages, focusing mainly on the education process in its first semester rather than fundraising.

“We want to do another panel or show a documentary because our main concern is that people see the words ‘refugee crisis’ but they don’t necessarily know what is attached to it,” McDermid said.

She added that there is often a stig-

ma associated with the word “refugee,” as people often confuse it with the word “immigrant.”

“These are not people who are leaving their country to find better opportunities,” McDermid said. “They must leave their country — otherwise there is a high chance that they will be killed.”

In spring 2014, senior Albert Waters studied abroad in Jordan, gaining firsthand knowledge of the Syrian refugee crisis. His experience and passion for the issue led him to become involved with SOS.

Waters said SOS is planning to raise money for two organizations — the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and the Migrant Offshore Aid Station (MOAS). SOS compiled a list of several organizations that work with and for Syrian refugees and narrowed it down to one large — IRC — and one small — MOAS — organization.

“We found statistics that would allow us to determine which organizations use donations most effectively,” Waters said.

The IRC specializes in refugee assistance like providing blankets, shelter and food to those in Europe and the Middle East, while MOAS is a smaller operation based out of Malta that sails around the Mediterranean picking up refugees out of the water.

The idea for SOS developed out of a September panel discussion titled “Perspectives on the Global Migration-Refugee Crisis.” Panelists included Niklaus Steiner, director of the Center for Global Initiatives at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Haya Ajjan, assistant professor of management information systems at Elon and a native Syrian.

The panelists discussed the difference between migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, and analyzed laws that prohibit people from being accepted into countries, which is where the term “asylum seeker” derives from.

Following the panel discussion, a group of students held an interest meeting to discuss what could be done to support the Syrian refugees, and they decided to create SOS.

Though it is a new organization, SOS is promoting itself through Moseley tables, College Coffee and a Facebook page at the end of September, which amassed more than 100 likes overnight.

Sophomore Ben Driscoll heard about the organization through a friend and wanted to join because of SOS’s mission

of educating Elon about the refugee crisis.

“I feel that students need to be educated about the crisis and the impact it has had and will continue to have on people’s lives,” Driscoll said. “I am also really passionate about humanitarian work and would be interested in pursuing that field in the future.”

SOS hopes to partner with other organizations on campus who are Middle East or volunteer focused, as well as hosting fundraisers for students to become educated and donate to the cause.

“It is important for our age especially to be educated and be global citizens,” McDermid said. “There are millions of things going on around the world, and at any given time there is going to be a conflict or crisis somewhere, so it is important to know what is going on.”

Though he graduates in the spring, Waters hopes to see SOS thrive in the coming years and said the organization is in good hands, as several of the leaders of SOS are freshmen who have taken charge and are passionate about the cause.

Waters said having a presence on campus is important, as it continues raising awareness of the cause, something he emphasized is crucial for tackling the refugee crisis.

“I really want people to not forget about the Syrian refugee issue and refugees in general once it is out of the news cycle,” Waters said. “We need to keep it on people’s minds and make them realize that it is a human issue. Whether you see it in the news or not, these things are still happening to people.”

SYRIA REFUGEE CRISIS

More than 50% of Syria’s population has been displaced
More than 4 million refugees are in five countries

- Turkey hosts 1.9 million, more than any other country
- Lebanon hosts 1.2 million, or one in five people
- Jordan hosts about 650,000, 10 % of the population
- Iraq hosts about 250,000
- Egypt hosts more than 125,000

Around 220,000 people have been killed and 12.8 million people need humanitarian assistance in Syria

Source: Amnesty International

Fall Dance Concert will bring new works to Elon

Alexandra Schonfeld
Senior Reporter

Elon University’s dance students and faculty will soar to new heights with the Fall Dance Concert beginning Nov. 6.

Though the dance concert is an annual performance, this year it will be held in the Roberts Theatre in Scott Studios for the first time. Artistic Director Jennifer Guy said she’s very excited to be in the new space as it gives a fresh look to the show.

The performance will include works choreographed by students and faculty along with Gerri Houlihan, a guest choreographer who is world renowned for choreography and dance.

This show has been a year in the making. The student choreography featured in the concert has been in production since last fall. First conceptualized in the “Choreography 1” or “Choreography 2” courses, routines were then performed to an audience for selection.

“After the presentation, the audience members gathered and selected those three works,” Guy said. “We thought it was a great opportunity. We’ve been doing this for a while — for our students to dig deeper into their work and develop costumes and lighting and get experience on a stage.”

The student pieces featured vary in length, number of dancers and style. Including all seven works, the show will run about an hour long with no intermission.

Houlihan’s featured dance was first performed in 1993 at New World School of the Arts in Miami. Her process of teaching the dancers their choreography was less collaborative than some of the other pieces because she had a clear vision from previous performances.

“[Houlihan] had a piece already set and so we learned different movements of the piece from her and from watching video of it,” said freshman Brennan Kolbo, who is

featured in Houlihan’s piece. “After everyone knew different sections, then she cast different parts to different people.”

Kolbo said Houlihan’s piece is quirky, as well as deceptively athletic.

“Just watching it I’m like ‘Oh that’s so pretty, that’s funny,’” she said. “Then when you actually do it, by the end I’m out of breath because I’m sprinting everywhere and lifting people.”

This is Houlihan’s first year working with Elon students, but Guy hopes she will return for future collaborations.

Guy’s piece varies from Houlihan’s because she was very collaborative with the students. In an effort to challenge herself, Guy wanted to create more movement on the spot with the dancers, having them add their own dance phrases.

The piece took about six rehearsals to reach full development.

“I was very involved with the students,”

Guy said. “It was almost like we were co-authors or co-movement generators — it was a really fun experience. I came in with the phrase altered state, and that’s how we generated movement and idea.”

During one rehearsal, Guy asked her dancers a series of questions to help compose new phrases for the piece. A phrase is a moment of choreography, similar to a sentence in a book, Guy said.

“I asked them, ‘Which movement do you feel most comfortable doing?’ ‘Which movement is most challenging for you?’ ‘Which movement makes you feel awkward?’ and ‘Which movement is the most comfortable?’” she said. “I wrote those down and we made a phrase based on those responses. They had no idea that was going to happen.”

When audiences first enter the theater, they will see LED lights illuminating a stage covered with feathers and lamps

filled with water. This is the stage set for Coordinator of the Dance Program, Lauren Kearns’ piece. The piece is a solo that incorporates aspects of the set.

In addition to viewing the dance portion of the evening, Guy recommends that audiences arrive to the venue early to see movies created during the Elon in LA program last summer.

Guy participated as a professor in the Elon in LA program for three years now and wants to display the pieces her students worked on this summer in her “Dance for the Camera” course.

Accompanying the movies, there will also be a series of photographs of dancers displayed for the audience to enjoy.

The show runs from Nov. 6-8. On Friday there are two shows at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. On Saturday, performances are at 2 p.m., 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and one show on Sunday at 2 p.m.



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer

Elon Dance Company members prepare to dance in guest artist Gerri Houlihan’s piece for the Fall Dance Concert, entitled “Every Little Moment.”

English meets the environment

Professor synthesizes two fields with teaching

Megan Garnache
Copy Intern

Lecturer in English and Environmental Science Michael Strickland's garden is many things: a classroom, a project, a practice in sustainability. But to Strickland, the Elon University Community Garden is more than that. It's a labor of love, and it's his home away from home.

Strickland runs the garden with the help of the Garden Studio course. He has been teaching English for 34 years and has been an environmental studies professor for 20. The two subjects seem worlds apart, but according to Strickland, the two overlap with each other in more ways than one.

"Environmental studies are an interdisciplinary field," Strickland said. "There's a science aspect to it, but there's also philosophy, history, geography, religion. The environment and nature are often important subjects for writers. For me, there's a big overlap in American writing."

But Strickland's connection to the environment didn't start with teaching. He grew up on a farm, where he learned the ins and outs of farming.

"By way of my upbringing, I got involved in agricultural economics," said Strickland, who studied sustainable farming and the rural sociology of "farm folks" at Naropa Institute in Boulder, Colorado.

The Elon Community Garden was created by Breanna Detwiler '07 as a Honors Fellows thesis project, and Strickland's studio class has been working on it since 2010.

"Strickland signs off all his emails with the quote 'Put your good where it does the most,' and that's who he is as a person," said senior and garden manager Alyssa Adler. "He puts in so much outside time and effort into making sure every student is succeeding and being the best they can be."

Strickland's effort applies not only to his students, but to his garden, which he has been improving since the class began.

"There were two major challenges we faced with the garden," Strickland said. "The first was finding a space for the garden in a good location on campus. The farther from the center of action you move it, the less time students will spend in it."

The garden is currently located behind the Sklut Hillel Center on College Avenue. According to Strickland, it was initially located across the railroad tracks but moved so students could have easier access.

Location is important for the garden — the two events it puts on during each school year, the Pumpkin Festival in the fall and the Strawberry Festival in the spring, draw in students who may not recognize the bright-blue fence behind the Hillel Center as something they're allowed to use.

It also ensures that Garden Studio students, who are required to spend a minimum of 40 hours in the garden per semester, will log time outside of class caring for the garden.

Besides overcoming location challenges Strickland also had a few pesky critters to deal with.

"The second challenge was groundhogs," he said. "Students would spend a week planting,



Michael Strickland combines English and environmental science throughout his teaching.

and everything would get ripped up. We had rabbit problems before, but they were manageable."

The resident groundhog, nicknamed Archie, is why the blue fence surrounds the garden.

Strickland's class is designed to teach students about food production and sustainability through work at both the garden and the Elon Environmental Center at Loy Farm. But Strickland believes the class can be more than just a lesson — it can be a valuable part of sustainability at Elon.

"I think more students should be involved with food production on campus," Strickland said. "The garden and [Loy] farm could provide more to dining halls. But for that to happen, changes would need to be made."

Some of the changes Strickland has in mind include an expansion of Loy Farm to include more fruit — there is an heirloom apple orchard on-site, but it's still young — and small animals like chickens. He also mentioned the possibility of a Living-Learning Community (LLC) centered around sustainability and farming that would take care of the garden and Loy Farm as part of their room and board.

The garden takes sustainability into account in everything it does. Its annual Pumpkin Festival, which took place Oct. 30, served food in reusable bowls and composts and recycled most, if not all, of its waste.

"There are so many things going on, so many pockets of intelligent people," Strickland said. "The Office of Sustainability is understaffed but talented."

When & Where facilitates meetups

Courtney Campbell
Style Editor

Last fall, senior Devin Mehra began using the dating app Tinder, but was frustrated by the messaging feature — the back-and-forth mental games that led nowhere. So he created his own dating app, When & Where, now available on Elon University's campus.

"Let's say the guy takes six hours to get back to you. Does that mean

you wait six hours, when clearly you just read the message and he probably just read the message too?" Mehra said. "I was thinking to myself there has to be a better solution to this than sitting around desperately by your phone, 'Has this person texted me back yet?'"

Unlike other dating apps such as Tinder, Bumble and Hinge, When & Where gets straight to the point. If users see someone they're interested in, they pick a

time or place to go out. The two users agree when and where to meet before they can message in the app, but users don't necessarily have to follow through with the meetup after messaging.

"I like to think of it as an icebreaker," Mehra said. "Let's say you don't actually meet up at the time and place you agreed upon, but we keep talking and the idea comes up. By initially agreeing on the time and place when you first talk, I think it's more natural to talk about meeting up."

Users connect to the app through Facebook, allowing them to set a profile picture, write a description and choose up to five tags, such as "Rec League All Star," "Chocolate Lover" or "Spunky" to describe themselves. Preferences can be set for age range and gender.

Every 24 hours, a user is given five different matches who are on campus rather than showing everyone available within the user's preferences. Mehra believes this will cause users to think harder about who they choose to chat with.

"I think the problem with apps like Tinder is when you're given that many options, the profiles almost become objects, and you don't really think of them as people," he said. "With this app you have to think about it harder. You have to think about them more as people than as faces on the screen."

With about 350 users on Elon's campus, there are a finite number of matches to go through, so even-

tually old matches will reappear.

Mehra had the idea for the app back in November 2014, but with no knowledge of programming, he needed some help. Luckily, his family friend Daniel Shaffer was willing to code for him. In January, Shaffer had Mehra physically draw out every screen of the app.

"I felt that he was very, very passionate about it," Shaffer said. "He thought everything through, which was really nice."

In March Shaffer began coding, and launched the app in July.

According to Shaffer, programming the app was a bit difficult because he needed to create a system that tracks all the whens, wheres and matches, as well as that he incorporates geographic data and the ability to connect to Facebook.

Since the app is still in its infancy stage, there are a few bugs that need to be fixed, such as buttons overlapping on the screen. Mehra plans to fix this through updates and hopes to add push notifications to remind people to open it.

"It's one thing to have people downloading the app, it's another thing to have people looking at it and opening it," he said.

Right now, Shaffer recommends promoting the app over any big developments.

"Innovators' dilemma is not knowing when enough is enough," Shaffer said. "The app is at a point where it's good enough to do marketing. It's his baby right now. I've told him the app's great right now, and his time should be spent get-

ting the word out."

At Elon, Mehra has been promoting When & Where through word of mouth and presenting at different organizations, such as fraternities, sororities and clubs. He is also incorporating social media by posting about the app and sharing an interview on Facebook.

Currently the app is only available at Elon because to develop and market social apps, marketers need to start in concentrated areas, so users aren't scattered where they can't reach each other.

So far, Mehra has heard a few success stories from users.

"There are people I have spoken to, who I don't really know, that have met up with someone they never met before and met up at [The] Oak House," he said. "It's a really cool thing to have people you don't know actually using the app and using it the way you visualized."

After marketing on campus, Mehra hopes to expand to nearby campuses or to Boston, where his brothers go to school.

He also wants users to get more creative with the wheres in the app by choosing unique locations or meeting up with their friends to hang out through it.

"You can pick the most obscure locations, you can do [The] Oak House but you can also do Lakeside Dining Hall or Phoenix Card Office," Mehra said. "Yes, it's a dating app, but I want people to have fun with it and not take it so seriously."

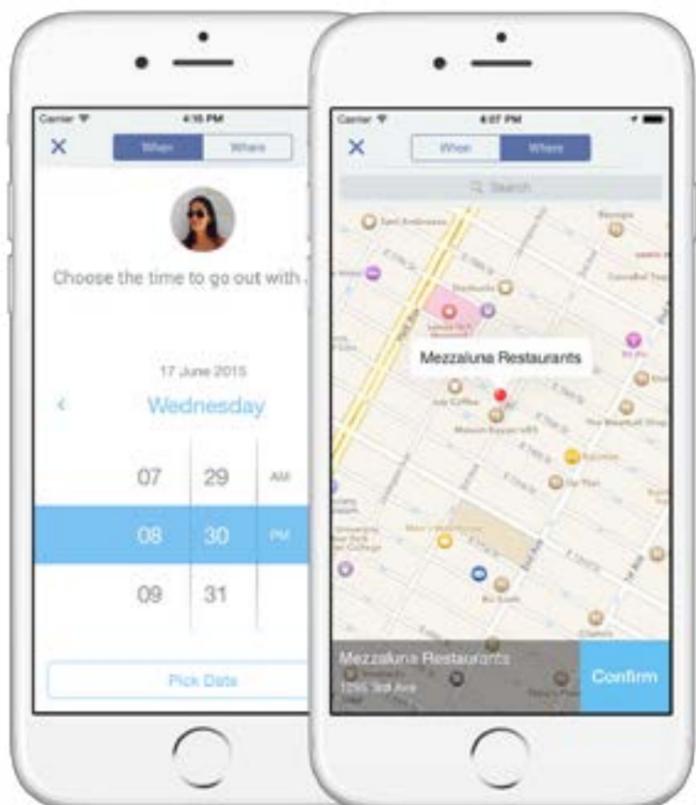


PHOTO SUBMITTED BY DEVIN MEHRA

To messaging, matches must pick when and where to meet up in the app.

Bodies for a backrest

Army Ranger leads himself to life of 'normalcy'

Alyssa Potter
Reporter

Josh Manning, a 29-year-old junior at Elon University and former American Army Ranger, recalls a mission while on deployment as what was meant to be a typical “cut and dried” operation — the work done and the “bad guys” gone.

It wasn't his worst day — it was one day. With 116 confirmed dead on Afghani soil, only one was an U.S. soldier.

“We went out on this one mission, and there was a cave,” Manning said. “We were just going to drop a bomb on it, clear and walk through to make sure everyone died or we would go in and ‘clear’ the rest.”

But that's not what happened in July 2011, 11,000 feet high on a mountain in the Paktika province of Afghanistan.

“No coalition forces had been there in six or seven years,” Manning said. “We made contact as soon as we landed, but got shot at so we ran.”

Twenty three and a half hours later, Manning and his battalion were still running.

“We got to the top finally and dropped a bomb in the cave,” Manning said. “A lot of people had dispersed because of radio activity. We started clearing it. Every time we rounded a corner we got into direct contact, it was pretty much non-stop.”

It wasn't his worst day, he said. But it left him lying against a stack of bodies just for a backrest, death as a reprieve from life.

Choosing the army

Manning never planned to get into a life full of this kind of trauma.

ARMY RANGER GRADUATION

- 58% overall failure rate
- 36% fail within the first four days
- 14% fail due to administrative reasons
- 8% fail due to academic reasons (medical or administrative)
- Approximately 34% repeat at least one phase of Ranger School
- 61% are repeats due to patrols

Source: U.S. Army

When he graduated high school, Manning knew he didn't have the financial means to attend college. So, he turned to construction and worked alongside his dad, a sub-contractor, after graduation.

“I felt a big void in my life, though,” Manning said. “I needed something different, and I didn't know what it was.”

Partway through Manning's first year out of high school, one of his friends returned home from basic training and talked to Manning about it. Within the following days, Manning went to talk to a recruiter in Greensboro.

“It caught my attention because I felt the sense I would be doing something worthwhile,” Manning said.

Plus, he only needed to fulfill the minimum three-year contract in order to leave and have the funds to pay for college.

Five days later, he left — not telling his parents or current girlfriend — and didn't look back.

Once he completed his basic training and first 15-month deployment, Manning's commander approached him and asked if he had any interest in doing something different by becoming a ranger.

“I didn't even know what a ranger was,” Manning said. “But I went to selection, passed and became one. Between 2009-2013, I was a team squad leader and up for my second enlistment.”

To become a ranger, Manning had to graduate from ranger school. Ranger school is 61 days of intense physical and mental tests, from maneuvering mountainous terrain to swamps, building bridges to climbing cliffs — all on one or two meals a day and often only 30 minutes to an hour of sleep per night.

“You realize you can go so much farther than you ever thought possible,” Manning said.

But ranger school gives graduates a small taste of deployment. Manning said it is a respectable feat and a premier leadership school. But he completed the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program (RASP) as well, which is what made him a member of the elite 75th Ranger Regiment.

With Ranger Battalion, Manning endured eight weeks of tests and shooter tactics.

“They would play a lot of games on us,” Manning said. “We would go to sleep and wake up being thrown in the water. They would set up tents and say, ‘Anyone that wants to quit can go to the tent and get sleep and eat’ — there was even a keg. Everyone was flying over there.”

Everyone except Manning. He stayed, learning to blow gates in and breach doorways, doing tasks from sun up to sun down with little to no breaks.

Deploying for relief

“Deployments for us are actually a break,” Manning said. “We might be up all day and night but



Josh Manning with other soldiers and Army Rangers who became his friends during deployment in 2011.

then we get a ‘day rest’ — we come back from mission, and it's your time to do whatever you need to do to decompress. It's not time with our families, but it's our time.”

Deployments at Manning's caliber as a ranger typically last four to six months because of their mentally challenging aspects.

“Every night we have contact — fire fight. We fast-rope in from a helicopter or walk seven kilometers, carrying 100 pounds of equipment by yourself, we're each our own fully-functioning unit.”

Missions, Manning said, would include blowing doors and going directly into the target area, getting whomever was present, interrogating them and finishing any other duties. Then they would come back to camp, debrief, sleep and start over.

“I know he's had a lot of gruesome, unimaginable experiences abroad — the kind that don't necessarily make national news,” said close friend and senior Kathleen Hupfeld. “Through getting to know him better, I've developed a much deeper, more personal appreciation for all of the sacrifices that our military makes for us.”

Returning to 'normalcy'

But Manning didn't always believe he would get better when returning home. In fact, during his deployment part of him believed he wouldn't make it home at all.

“The hardest thing was coming back,” Manning said. “In the moment when you see your friend get shot, you have to walk over him and eliminate the threat. Then you come back to the United States and have to get in the swing of things, there is no time to decompress.”

Manning said he saw friends of his die. Some were married or had kids. One, he said, had a child due two weeks later.

“I don't really term it ‘survivor's guilt,’” Manning said. “But I struggled with the idea of why couldn't it have been me. Here I am, a sin-



Josh Manning sports the ranger gear he wore while deployed in Afghanistan.

gle guy, I was just doing my job — it could've been me.”

Manning was determined to reverse that negative thought, recognizing that he should take advantage of the things in place for him.

He went to counselors, addressing thoughts of suicide and working to unblock emotional pain. Upon returning home, his emotions switched on and off uncontrollably.

Manning shut down, quit going out socially and pushed people away. He equated past pain to a stigma of weakness, and it was difficult to open up. His initial step in receiving help was going to the Department of Veterans Affairs, but the aid he received didn't prove to be enough.

“The first thing they want to do is throw a bunch of pills down your throat,” Manning said.

He took medicine but stopped on his own accord and sought counseling, breaking down walls and, though it was uncomfortable, reflecting on the trauma he experienced.

But Manning said he would not alter his past, no matter its present pain.

“All in all, it did make me a different person,” Manning said.

Becoming a Phoenix

Two years later, he came home. Manning, 27 at the time, enrolled as a freshman at Elon just down the road from his childhood home — a place he never believed he would return to.

“I was originally going to go to [North Carolina State University] for engineering,” he said. “I had been out of school nearly 10 years at that point, and the small class sizes attracted me to the idea of private school, and, after talking to a few people, I realized I liked the idea of computer science instead.”

Manning said two summers ago in 2013 he ran into Elon's Delta Upsilon chapter president and, through their discussions and subsequent friendship, Manning knew Elon was the right choice for him. He found a home once more in the roots he left behind.

“Josh handled the transition just as well as any new student would,” said senior Andrew Mitchell. “People gravitated to him quickly because they found him interesting and different, which I think kind of shocked him at first. The change in lifestyle between the army and Elon is ridiculous, as expected, but he did great, and is still doing great.”

Football's 'four-game season' starts with win

First CAA road victory is step in right direction for Elon



Alex Simon
Sports Editor

During the Elon University football team's bye week, the coaches littered the meeting room and locker room walls with signs reading "Four-Game Season."

"It's really been the focus," said redshirt freshman quarterback Connor Christiansen. "I think it's awesome because everything that happened in the last seven games doesn't matter. It's these next four games that will."

"If we win out, we've got a chance to make the playoffs."

After the first of the four games left on the schedule, a 21-7 victory over Stony Brook University Oct. 31, head coach Rich Skrosky is proud of the way his team embraced the mentality of a fresh beginning.

"There was a re-energized freshness about our play," Skrosky said. "The bye week helped in setting that mindset, and we played well. Now, we need to improve these last three weeks."

For Christiansen, who threw a 50-yard touchdown pass to sophomore wide receiver Tre Lennon in the first half, the "four-game season" could not have started any better.

"That was awesome, and it was a lot of hard work showing off," Christiansen said. "That was definitely the way we wanted to start."

Skrosky saw the energy as an intangible difference, but noticed two tangible keys in the victory.

"If you win the turnover battle and the big-play battle, you're going to win the game," Skrosky said. "When you're plus-2 in turnovers and plus-7 in the big plays — and their biggest plays were just 15 passing and eight rushing — I would have to think the probability of winning is in the 90-percent range."

This week's game against the No. 12 College of William & Mary provides Elon with one of the toughest challenges of the season. Skrosky sees the Stony Brook game and the William & Mary game as a clash in playing styles.

"The hard thing with [William & Mary] —

you can load up the front against Stony Brook and they drop some balls, but William & Mary is not going to do that," he said. "So we need to play as effective as we did in the run game, but at the same time, we can't be exposed in the pass game."

The Tribe defeated No. 14 James Madison University 44-41 last week, and Skrosky noticed the way that William & Mary went with "the ebbs and flows" of the game as something Elon should try to emulate.

"They were behind pretty much the whole game — somewhere between 12 and five points — and they never really panicked," Skrosky said. "That's the sign of a veteran team, and we need to be doing the same thing."

"If we go down a little bit, no big deal. Handle that ebb, if you will, and react to it and be good on both sides of the ball. We're going have to score points, there's no question about it."

Skrosky has been striving for big plays from the offense, and was pleased with the three scores on plays longer than 20 yards. Each quarterback — freshman starter Daniel Thompson and Christiansen — threw a touchdown pass against the Seawolves, leading Skrosky to say there is no system set for playing time.

"We really don't have a formula with the quarterbacks," Skrosky said. "They both practiced well going into the game, and they both played well. They both did some good things. I think you're probably gonna see both of them [against William & Mary] unless something crazy happens."

Skrosky wishes he could predict when each quarterback would play each series, but beyond the first few drives, the decision is "a gut instinct" for Skrosky. Christiansen is not as concerned with the playing time or the opponents left — he feels confident in his teammates and in the team's chances for the last three games.

"As long as we play our game, and as long as we go out there and not let the opponent get in our head," Christiansen said. "We just got to play our game and play to the best of our ability. As long as we can do that, I think winning these next three games is a very strong possibility."

CROSS COUNTRY from cover

meet. The freshman took the lead with just a few meters left and won the individual CAA championship by just 0.7 seconds.

That moment — when Sakallah looked back with just a few dozen meters left and gave Ciolkowski a window to close the gap — defined the race.

"My high school coach always told me that looking back was a sign of weakness," Ciolkowski said. "He would tell me, 'If you're chasing somebody and they are looking back, you've already beat them.' I saw him looking back, and thought I had a chance. I used all of my energy and went for it."

Head coach Nick Polk said that the victory would not have been possible if Ciolkowski did not follow the pre-race strategy.

"If they went out fast or went out slow, [Ciolkowski] was going to go right out front and put himself in position to potentially win the race," Polk said. "If he got out-kicked and didn't win, at least he gave himself a shot."

Once the race started, though, the other runners made Ciolkowski face an unexpected challenge.

"William & Mary guys went out really fast — that's probably the fastest that Nick has started a race in his life," Polk said. "But he hung in there, weathered the storm, and one by one, William & Mary runners dropped off, until it was him and [Sakallah] and he was able to take it all the way to the line."

The men's team finished third out of the

six schools at the championships in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina behind William & Mary and Northeastern University. Seniors Reed Payne (25:34.6, 15th) and Ryan Gwaltney (25:42.5, 18th) were the other top-20 finishers for Elon.

On the women's side, junior Kimberly Johansen (20:58.0, sixth) and senior Elyse Bierut (21:03.8, eighth) both finished in the top 10 to lead the team to a third-place finish out of nine schools, behind William & Mary and James Madison University.

Though Polk said the teams performed well, he was hoping for better.

"I was hoping for second place on both sides," Polk said. "I thought that was a realistic goal, so I think we underachieved a little bit. But on both sides, almost everyone ran a personal best, so it's hard to come away feeling too bad about that."

For Ciolkowski, the NCAA Southeast Regional Championships in Charlottesville, Virginia, provides a unique challenge: his first 10,000-kilometer race.

"I've run 10K races for fun a few years ago, but never competitively," Ciolkowski said. "I'm excited to see how I do — I've thought I tend to do better at the longer distances. But saying that and actually running that are two different things."

Both Ciolkowski and Polk believe that he can run in the top-25 at the Regionals, which would give him All-Regional designations.

"If he can get in there and be competitive, that would be a great start," Polk said. "That'd be the highest finish any Elon runner other than Luis [Vargas] has ever had."



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Freshman runner Nick Ciolkowski (4647) won the Individual CAA Championship Oct. 31.



JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer

FOR LIVE-TWEETS OF ELON VS. WILLIAM & MARY (NOON NOV. 7), FOLLOW @PENDULUMSPORTS

The Phoenix Focus

Updated as of Monday, Nov. 2

Football

RESULTS

Oct. 31 

21-7

	1st Q	2nd Q	3rd Q	4th Q
Elon	7	0	0	14
SB	0	0	7	0

Nov. 7
Home Noon 



JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer

STANDINGS

	Conf.	Overall
Richmond	5-0	7-1
William & Mary	4-1	6-2
James Madison	4-2	7-2
Maine	3-2	3-5
Towson	3-2	5-3
Villanova	3-2	4-4
Delaware	2-3	3-5
New Hampshire	2-3	4-4
Elon	2-3	3-5
UAlbany	1-4	2-6
Rhode Island	1-4	1-7
Stony Brook	1-5	2-5

Men's soccer

RESULTS

Oct. 31 

1-0

	1st half	2nd half	OT
C of C	0	0	0
Elon	0	0	1

Nov. 4
Home 7 p.m. 

STANDINGS

	Conf.	Overall
Hofstra	6-2-0	11-7-0
Elon	6-2-0	13-4-0
Delaware	5-2-1	9-6-3
C. of Charleston	4-3-1	7-7-2
UNCW	3-3-2	8-6-3
James Madison	3-3-2	4-9-4
William & Mary	2-6-0	7-8-2
Northeastern	2-6-0	3-11-2
Drexel	2-6-0	3-14-1

Volleyball

RESULTS

Oct. 31 

2-3

	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4	Set 5
Elon	24	26	25	13	7
Del.	26	24	18	25	15

Nov. 6
Away 7 p.m. 

Nov. 7
Away 7 p.m. 

STANDINGS

	Conf.	Overall
James Madison	11-2	21-5
Towson	10-3	23-4
UNCW	9-3	18-6
Hofstra	8-3	17-9
C. of Charleston	6-6	14-12
Delaware	4-8	12-13
William & Mary	3-9	9-16
Elon	2-10	6-20
Northeastern	1-10	4-22



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Cross Country

MEN'S

RESULTS

CAA Championships - 8K
 Oct. 31 | Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

Runner	Place	Time
Nick Ciolkowski	1	24:22.3
Reed Payne	15	25:34.6
Ryan Gwaltney	18	25:42.5
Ian O'Leary	23	26:01.3
Carlos Andino	35	27:00.1

WOMEN'S

RESULTS

CAA Championships - 6K
 Oct. 31 | Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

Runner	Place	Time
Kimberly Johansen	6	20:58.0
Elyzse Bierut	8	21:03.8
Shelby Cuddeback	14	21:38.0
Coralea Geraniotis	15	21:45.6
Kaitlin Snapp	23	22:03.4

Men's golf

RESULTS

Hummingbird Intercollegiate
 Nov. 1 | Cullowhee

Player	Place	Score
Jared Mactas	T5	68 (-3)
Troy Beaver	T10	69 (-2)
Charlie May	T19	70 (-1)
Jonathan Dilanni	T39	74 (+3)
Philip Loeb	T42	75 (+4)
Dexter Blank	T42	75 (+4)
Robbie Seebold	T46	76 (+5)



JACK HARTMANN | Staff Photographer

Men's soccer seniors ready to capitalize on last ride

With one regular season match left, 10 seniors hope for deep playoff run

Wesley Share
Senior Reporter

After scoring the game-winning goal for the No. 19 Elon University men's soccer team's Senior Night match against Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) rival the College of Charleston, senior defenseman Nathan Diehl says the seniors are ready to capitalize on this last ride to the playoffs.

"This means the world to us — all 10 of us," Diehl said.

The victory secured Elon a first-round bye and the No. 2 seed in the CAA Tournament.

The goal came on a crafty find from senior midfielder James Brace, securing the team both a co-CAA regular season championship to be shared with Hofstra University as well as a first-round bye in the conference tournament.

Diehl and Brace are two of the 10 seniors on the team this season, a class that has carried the Elon attack all season long. Five of Elon's six highest scorers in terms of total points are seniors, with only freshman forward Jaiden Fortune breaking up the group.

The majority of seniors were part of the Elon teams that won the Southern Conference in 2012 and 2013. They even stayed afloat in the midst of a tough jump competition-wise to the CAA, finishing fourth

in the conference before shouldering the majority of the load that helped complete the meteoric rise to the top this season.

"It's bittersweet knowing that we're winding down to the end of our college soccer careers," Diehl said. "Some of us may want to continue onwards after this, but as long as we're here living in the moment, we're going to make the most of this [opportunity]. Our mindset is to win at all costs."

With only a Nov. 4 rescheduled game against Radford University left on the regular season schedule, the focus is almost exclusively on the conference championships, with the hopes of eventually reaching the NCAA tournament. The CAA tournament begins on Nov. 7. Elon will play the winner of the quarterfinal match-up between the University of Delaware and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington Nov. 13, both of whom they beat during the regular season.

Wearing a bright grin on his face, Diehl insists the team, especially the seniors about to begin their final pursuit of higher accomplishments, is supremely confident.

"Hopefully we'll come out of the conference tournament, and hopefully make the NCAA's and do well," Diehl said. "Even when the fouls and the plays aren't going our way, we grind through it. That's what our team is built on, and that's just been the foundation of our successes all year."



Senior defender Nathan Diehl (19) is mobbed by teammates after scoring the winning goal Oct. 31.

Women's soccer finds positives despite rough run in CAA

.500 season shows multiple improvements during second CAA campaign

Nathan Smith
Senior Reporter

As far as women's soccer goes, the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) is one of the best conferences in the NCAA. At the conclusion of the regular season, six of the 10 conference teams were ranked in the top 70 of the NCAA's Rating Percentage Index (RPI).

The Elon University women's soccer team was not one of those six teams, finishing 10th in the conference. And yet, head coach Chris Neal sees a lot of good that came out of the season.

"Everything worked out as I expected from an improvement standpoint, but the only thing that didn't cooperate were the in-conference results," Neal said. "We were athletically more dynamic up top and at the

back we had a little bit more experience this year and understanding."

A closer look at the numbers tells the story of the team's season, and the team pointed to a few key statistics that make it hard to ignore the improvement. The most telling statistic is the team's goal differential. In 2014, the team had a differential of -20, a number that drastically changed.

"In 2015 we had a goal differential of +7. We scored 26 and gave up 19, so that's a 27-goal differential swing in one year," Neal said. "And in league play last year we conceded 20 goals — this year we only conceded 13."

The swing in the goal differential happened not only because the offense scored more goals, but also because the defense conceded fewer as well. The Phoenix had twice as many shutouts as it did last sea-

son (eight to four), which included twice as many shutouts in CAA play (two to one).

The Phoenix also had better success offensively, scoring nearly 1.4 goals per game, sixth in the CAA and nearly double its average last season.

"I think from top to bottom we were improved in all phases. Experience is a big deal at the highest levels," Neal said. "You just look at a lot of the teams that are atop the league, the common denominator is a tremendous amount of experience, especially with their key players. That maturity physically and mentally is priceless, and I think in the offseason we'll be able to take advantage of that."

Neal looked to a few games during the season — namely against Drexel University, James Madison University and Towson University — as games where his club really improved.

"We were getting in and behind defenses in breakaway type situations and those were quality chances that we were not able to create at all last year," Neal said. "The quality of chances we were creating, while unfortunately not coming away with goals, were as good as anybody in the league created."

In fact, the Phoenix scored nearly twice as many goals as they scored last year (26 to 14) and took more than 100 shots than they had the season before, demonstrating the quality chances Neal pointed to.

After any difficult season, the key for a team is to come into the preseason strong and confident — something the players thought the team did well from the beginning.

"A big expectation coming into the season was just to build off of our last year," said senior defender and captain Mel Insley. "Last season, our first season in the CAA, was an eye opener for us, both as players and as a whole team collectively, so we wanted

to prepare ourselves to the best of our ability for this season, physically and mentally."

This being her last season, Insley was very proud when she reflected on all that her class had been through, including the transition from the Southern Conference to the CAA.

"We challenged all the classes below us to just be the best they can, to work as hard as they can on the field and off the field to put themselves in the best possible situation," she said. "As long as we knew they were all putting in what they could and had heart with everything, that's all we could ask from them, and I think that's something that we'll definitely leave behind."

While the seniors leave their legacy behind, those with time left in their Elon careers can see the path left before them.

"I think we took massive strides in getting where we need to be for next year," junior midfielder Alexis de Groot. "The CAA is a very physical conference, and we need to make sure that we're up to the challenge and I really do believe that we're going to continue improving next year."

Although certain statistics tell a story, a team's win-loss record will continue to be the statistic that they want to change the most — and while the team is aware of that, they are also aware of the improvements that happen from one season to the next.

"Although our results in the league were only marginally better than the previous year, the players are very conscious — they see how much hard work was involved in the offseason to start closing the gap athletically, and also closing the gap from a soccer standpoint," Neal said.

"The most important thing is that the players do see how we competed on a much different level than we did the previous year, and that is going to be the main motivation in the offseason."



Freshman midfielder Lauren McKeever (9) prepares to send the ball towards goal Oct. 11.

From tiny Ohio village to Elon college starter

Terry developing into budding star for volleyball in freshman year

Kyle Lubinsky
Senior Reporter

For many collegiate athletes, picking a school can mean leaving behind family and friends to experience life in a new place. For Elon University volleyball freshman outside hitter Kam Terry, though, picking a school meant starting a new way of life.

Terry is originally from Marengo, Ohio, a village of less than 350 people off Interstate 71. The majority of the village's residents live on farms, and many do not attend college.

Growing up, volleyball was not Terry's passion — she played basketball.

"I didn't get into volleyball until about fifth grade," she said. "I actually hated it the first time I played, so I quit, and then my mom forced me to go to tryouts in seventh grade."

Although she agreed to try volleyball again, the sport was still not Terry's only passion. She juggled basketball and softball as well. But when she reached high school, she knew that volleyball was her main focus.

Terry was a four-year starter at Highland High School in Sparta, Ohio. The outside hitter set numerous school records, kills in a single season (517), kills in a single match (36) and aces (79). She was also named to the Division III All-Division, All-District and All-Ohio teams in both her junior and senior years. Off the court, she was named a scholar athlete and graduated at the top of her class.

As a junior in high school, Terry played at a showcase in Indiana. Elon assistant coach Tina Readling watched Terry compete and contacted her soon after.

"It was about three months before I committed," Terry said. "It wasn't that long."

Terry knew she wanted to attend Elon as soon as she set foot on campus. The Southern setting and time spent with the team made her decision easy.

Terry has been a major contributor to the Phoenix offense this season. She currently sits fourth on the team in kills with 143, averaging just fewer than two kills per set. She is also fourth on the team in points scored, with 163.5.

As the season has progressed, Terry has found a rhythm. She has performed well re-

cently, finishing three games in a row with double digit kills — 12 against James Madison University Oct. 24, 12 against the College of William & Mary Oct. 28 and 13 against the University of Delaware Oct. 31.

"She's really providing a lot for our team," said head coach Mary Tendler. "Earlier in the year, her consistency wasn't there. It seems like in the last while here, she's been really consistent match to match and looking really confident."

Her transition has admittedly been a difficult one. Terry struggled with consistency early on this season, tallying kills in certain games but committing errors and not scoring points in others.

"It was pretty intimidating at first, being like, 'There are 20-year-olds on my team, and I don't know what I'm doing,'" she said. "The biggest thing was just getting my confidence up. [It] really helped when the team started supporting me more and I started getting really into it."

Her breakout match came Oct. 8 against the College of Charleston. Terry finished with 18 kills, leading both teams.

In high school, Terry's role was based on getting kills and staying at the net. Tendler has focused on developing Terry's blocking to take advantage of the athlete's height of 5 feet, 11 inches. So far this season, she has recorded 25 blocks, including a three-block performance against Kennesaw State University Sept. 12.

"It takes a while when you transition from high school to college," Tendler said. "The biggest thing for her transition has been blocking. We're asking her mentally to do a lot more blocking-wise."

Terry has also made a difference for the Phoenix on the attacking end. She is currently fourth on the team in service aces with eight.

"It's great experience for her, what she's doing," Tendler said. "Not just hitting and blocking, but when she goes back and serves, she scores a lot of points. She's very valuable to the team."

Though Terry has needed time to transition to the faster-paced game, she has had no trouble fitting in with the rest of the team.

"Everybody's passion for the sport is some-



Freshman outside hitter Kam Terry (16) digs a ball against William & Mary Oct. 28.

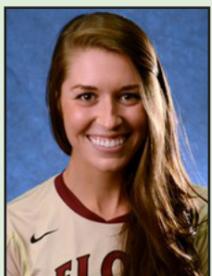
thing I haven't ever experienced on a team before," she said. "Even on my club teams, I don't ever think there's been that drive. We

love volleyball, we're here to play volleyball and that's really nice that we all have that passion together."

Megan Gravley says goodbye to volleyball

Elon University volleyball senior outside hitter Megan Gravley injured her knee Oct. 17 against the College of William & Mary. Gravley posted a status on Facebook one week later, stating that the injury ended her volleyball career. With her permission, The Pendulum is printing her first-hand account.

I began playing volleyball when I was a twiggly middle schooler looking for another activity to occupy my time. Since I didn't yet play a fall sport, I decided to pull up some kneepads (that were way too big for my chicken legs) and give volleyball a try. Throughout my seventh and eighth grade years, my coach — Coach Davidson, now Kelley Davidson Johnson — taught me to love the game.



Megan Gravley
Senior volleyball player

It is not until now when I looked back and realized she had taught me so much more than the game of volleyball, but the game of life.

Throughout my adolescence, I clung to the team-oriented system of the sport. I relied on my teammates on the court, but even more so off the court. High school led me to become involved in Triangle Volleyball Club, a highly competitive

(think AAU-ish) travel program located in Morrisville, North Carolina. I made some of my best friends through Triangle, many of which I still talk to regularly and occasionally see on the other side of the net.

I was privileged to play for a high school coach — Nicole Stemier O'Connell — who pushed the program to greatness each year. In 2010, our necks were draped with State Championship medals and we could call ourselves the best in the state. Not many people get the chance to say that, and I will never take that moment for granted. Thanks to my Apex teammates and coaches, I fell in love with the sport every day I walked into the un-air-conditioned, memory-filled gym.

This brings me to now. I have been fortunate enough to call myself a Division I student athlete for the past four years at Elon University. I have devoted my life to the sport, as I've attempted (key word) to balance a social life, academics and existing as a varsity athlete. The chaos seen daily as a student-athlete is something for which I will always be thankful (I'm sure some of my

fellow student athletes just cringed, but it's true).

Last Saturday at an away match at William & Mary, I went up to hit a ball and came down on my left leg, tearing my ACL, MCL and meniscus. There were tears and there was pain, but the worst part was the repeating film reel of my middle school, high school and collegiate careers playing in my brain. All of that was gone. That — in all honesty — was the most painful part of it all.

I certainly know that I am not the only one to have their athletic career uncontrollably cut short by an injury. It is a common occurrence in sports, which is entirely too unfortunate. To be honest, I wouldn't wish this on my worst enemy, as it is both a harsh physical and mental battle. The pain of not being able to put on an Elon jersey, step on the court and compete with my teammates masks any physical pain I may feel. However, I always make a point to think "It could be worse," as this is a very minor setback in the scheme of things. It is certainly devastating at the moment, but —

to be honest — is quite a minute obstacle.

I'm surrounded by awesome people and have the most incredible support system — my coaches, teammates, family, boyfriend, friends and, yes, opponents. It's these people who are getting me through and they have no idea how much I thank God for them every single day.

I want to use this obstacle to try and spread an important message.

I encourage you to think about the most important thing you do — whether it is a job, competing in a sport, taking care of your family, etc. Whatever you value, put your heart and soul into it. Sure, there will be some days you would rather go sit in the middle of an erupting volcano than lace up your shoes or sit in your cubicle, but there will come a time when you won't be able to do it anymore. Whether you tire out, succumb to an injury or just get too dang old (as my dad always says) to do what you love, there will be a time when you have to sit on the sidelines and just watch. I encourage you to not take this time for granted, as I sometimes did.



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