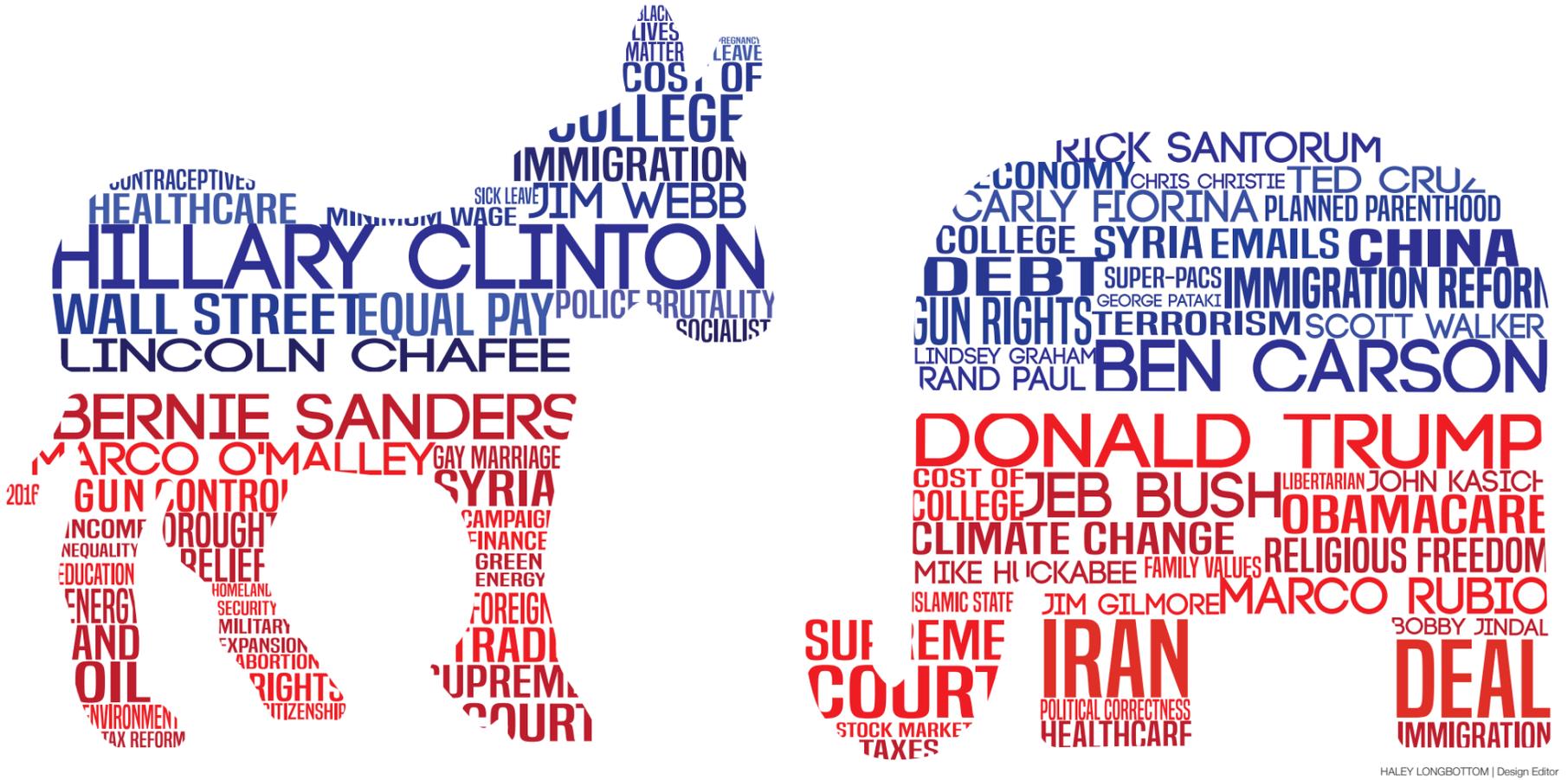


# THE PENDULUM

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## With elections, political interest pops *Though a year away, students are eager now*



HALEY LONGBOTTOM | Design Editor

### Black Student Union rebrands organization

*Meant to serve as 'umbrella organization' for similar groups*

Leena Dahal  
Senior Reporter

During the height of the civil rights movement 55 years ago, two students at the University of San Francisco made a historic bet. The bet — that it was possible to build a black student movement on a predominantly white campus — manifested into the creation of the first recorded Black Student Union (BSU).

The name “Black Student Union” became a movement. Operating under the same title, black students in institutions across the nation have united to keep the bet and the solidarity it fostered alive for decades.

After years of acts of racial discrimination and bias across campus and the nation, the title has traveled to Elon University.

The organization serving as a community for black students at Elon, formerly known as the Black Cultural Society has rebranded itself and its initiatives this year with the name Black Student Union.

#### A necessary change

Senior Alexandre Bohannon, BSU president, recalled a time a freshman student walked up to him and said, “I want to make a change on Elon’s campus, but I just think my voice doesn’t matter.”

To Bohannon, the moment was just one of several in which he has encountered the effects of racial discrimination at Elon.

These sentiments culminated with national events surrounding race and acts of

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Caroline Fernandez and Michael Bodley  
News Editor and Editor-in-Chief

Ever since the first presidential candidates announced their runs earlier this year, a slow but steady buzz has been building at Elon University around the direction the country could take, depending on who wins the White House.

As debate season swings into high-gear, a storm of media coverage has propelled campus conversation, with groups of liberals and conservatives divided down party lines opponents each call radical.

#### Increased interest around election year

Many students attribute the increasing number of active political voices at Elon to the upcoming presidential elections.

“I feel like the political attitudes at Elon are more energized in election times,” said senior Maggie Bailey. “There’s a lot more activity with getting people registered to vote

and more opportunity for students to engage in political discourse.”

The uptake is obvious through numbers.

Elon College Democrats saw an increase in active members from about 10 to more than 40 from the 2014–2015 school year to the fall 2015 semester, according to treasurer Sophia Kane.

Interest in Elon College Republicans also increased, though not as dramatically. According to Vice President Georgios Tarasidis, the number of active members has “steadily increased” in recent years, growing from about 20 to more than 30 active members in one academic year.

#### Support for Sanders builds

Elon students’ interest showed Sunday evening when they piled into cars and caravanned to Greensboro for a rally in support of presidential candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT).

Kane said more than 40 Elon students

went with Elon College Democrats, a number that doesn’t include students who went on their own.

“To see that more than 40 people signed up to drive to Greensboro on a Sunday night shows a lot,” she said. “We had about five people who went to Hillary Clinton in Charlotte [in 2014].”

Young peoples’ admiration of Sanders and his attention to their needs isn’t confined to North Carolina.

During the rally, Sanders called his candidacy a “political revolution,” specifically for its ability to capture the attention and votes of a group some say has lost interest in the political system because of dysfunction: millennials and other young people.

“Sanders sends a clear message that people, especially youth, want to back up,” Kane said.

One of Sanders’ major messages resonates

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### Mynt Boutique becomes more college-friendly

*In an effort to cater to students, shop’s prices drop*

Lea Silverman  
Senior Reporter

When sophomore Alexa Trost first entered Mynt Boutique, a chic women’s clothing store, last year, she was drawn in by the cute clothes filling the racks. But after seeing the high prices, she left and didn’t bother to go back, knowing she couldn’t afford the clothing.

Many Elon University students on a budget head to downtown Elon, treat themselves to one of the locally owned restaurants in the

small strip and will still often overlooking Mynt for fear of bursting the bank.

But Mynt, owned by Whitney Sandor, has been open for 12 years, is trying to fit into the college student lifestyle and wallet by lowering its prices after opening a second location in Durham.

“We are refocusing this store to be more college oriented,” said manager Amber Meadows.

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RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer

Mynt offers a small but diverse collection of boutique clothing items from brand names like Free People and Tory Burch.

# New programming communities join The Loy Center

## *LIVE, Service Learning-Corps now occupy Pi Kappa Phi and Sigma Pi houses*

Leena Dahal  
Senior Reporter

After the Epsilon Theta chapter of Sigma Pi and the Epsilon Alpha Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi were suspended for hazing last year, the empty houses in the Loy Center served as reminders of the string of suspensions and citations associated with fraternities at Elon University last year.

In an effort to improve the image of fraternity and sorority life at Elon out of a situation that shed negative light on it, the administration decided to fill the spaces with initiatives to strengthen the community within and around the Loy Center.

Leaders Impacting Value-based Experiences (LIVE) and The Service Learning-Corps, two newly created communities, now occupy the previous Pi Kappa Phi and Sigma Pi houses, respectively.

Comprised of members of several sororities, LIVE is centered on promoting and fostering a sense of community within the Loy Center. The Service Learning-Corps is made up past members of the Service Living Learning Community.

### Shaping Greek Perceptions

"It started with trying to fill the houses," said Ginna Royalty, a sophomore and member of LIVE. "And then we tried to figure out the ways we could build more of a community within the Loy Center because it often gets labeled as a separated part of campus."

Royalty said their introduction to the area is an important way to shape perception around fraternity and sorority culture at Elon.

"I think [the new communities] are

good for the future of fraternity and sorority life at Elon," she said. "Especially with what happened last year, I think these group activities will help connect this part of campus with the rest and hopefully make it portrayed in a more positive light."

### SLC-Corps promotes service

The Service Learning Community (SLC), the oldest LLC on campus currently housed in Virginia Hall, is specifically open to freshmen. When they begin the next year as sophomores and a new freshman class moves into the SLC, the upperclassmen join the SLC Corps (the community's version of alumni). The SLC-Corps run a mentor/mentee program for the freshman SLC members.

Over the summer, SLC-Corps members were invited to move into the Loy Center as a physical space for these activities.

They also serve as a way to promote service in the Loy Neighborhood by making everyone aware of different service opportunities that Elon Volunteers! has to offer.

"There are a lot of service opportunities on campus that we do not think people are always aware of," said Danielle Satterfield, a junior and member of the SLC-Corps house. "We would like to advertise these events and make them known in this community."

Satterfield said the group is planning to host a variety of events in the neighborhood to promote philanthropy, including a Trick-or-Canning project to collect canned foods for Allied Churches during Halloween.

As for next year, Satterfield said the decision on whether they will remain in



Members of LIVE, sophomore Ginna Royalty and junior Madeleine Ker, study together in their Loy Center house. The new LLC has brought together a variety of Greek-affiliated women.

the house is not theirs but that they hope they can remain where they are.

"We think it would be a cool opportunity to build a lasting relationship between fraternity and sorority life and the SLC," she said. "Also, since the house is so close to the hall that the SLC lives on it makes the SLC alum in the house more accessible to the current SLCers."

### Generating new ideas

Walk into the former Alpha Kappa Alpha house and you find a desk cluttered with sticky notes of ideas for future programming events. Plastered on the walls are long white sheets of paper — places for members to elaborate on these ideas.

The nine girls behind these ideas are

each responsible for a designated section of "programming" — targeting specific areas or offices on campus.

Though each of them are affiliated with a different sorority on campus, they hope to leverage their experiences in sorority life to generate new ideas for building a sense of community within the Loy Center.

Madeleine Ker, Elon junior and a member of LIVE, said while it may take time for the group to get adjusted, she already feels a sense of community — especially within the house.

"Even though it's confusing when I describing to people where I live," she said, "Being here is just a cool opportunity to be part of uniting the Loy Center to a greater part of campus."

## Elon shows well in U.S. News rankings, but falls short in diversity

Max Garland  
Assistant News Editor

Diversity has once again been identified as a weak point for Elon University, this time from a national point of view.

U.S. News and World Report released the 2015 edition of its annual college rankings Sept. 9, and Elon placed first in three categories among master's-level universities in the South: best overall school, undergraduate teaching and innovation. The university also earned high marks in percentage of students studying abroad.

"This year's rankings by U.S. News, which are partially based on the results of a national survey of higher education leaders, demonstrate the reputation Elon has for excellence in teaching and innovation," said Dan Anderson, Vice President of University Communications.

Elon fell short, though, in rankings of diversity.

Its campus diversity index, which can range from zero to one depending on the percentage of ethnic minorities on campus, was a 0.27, below the average among similar colleges. The highest score on this year's index was a 0.68 tie between Marymount University and University of North Carolina-Pembroke, while the lowest was Hampton University's 0.10.

Additionally, Elon placed last in its category in economic diversity. U.S. News' criterion for the category was the percentage of students receiving Pell Grants during the 2013-14 school year, and only 9 percent of Elon students received Pell Grants that year. The grants are dispensed by the federal government — not the university — but can indicate the number of low-income students at a school.

### ELON UNIVERSITY PLACED...

**First** in undergraduate teaching

**First** in innovation

**Last** in economic diversity

**Last** in percentage of international students

**...among Southern regional universities in U.S. News & World Report's 2015 college rankings.**

KATE BRAUNSTEIN | Design Intern

Elon also tied with 25 other universities for last in percentage of international students with 2 percent. St. Thomas University in Miami placed first with 18 percent of its student body made up of international students.

Dean of Multicultural Affairs Randy Williams, Jr. said in an email it was not a surprise Elon topped the list in undergraduate teaching and other areas, but he added that the rankings are "no indication of perfection."

"Our student ethnic and economic diversity are areas for improvement," Williams said. "Though many of the schools ahead of Elon in the rankings are public institutions, which tend to be more di-

verse than private ones, we are ambitious in creating a more diverse community for the richness it brings to the enterprise of education and not simply for rankings."

According to Williams, Elon's Class of 2019 is more than 1 percent higher in terms of ethnic diversity than the previous class, and international enrollment has also increased.

As for economic diversity, Anderson said Elon is attempting to increase support for Pell-eligible students through the 10-year Elon Commitment strategic plan, and will focus on building its endowment in its next fundraising campaign to promote those efforts.

"The size of Elon's endowment, relative to peer private universities, limits Elon's financial aid resources," Anderson said. "This makes recruiting Pell Grant-eligible students and international students more difficult."

Anderson said "good progress" has been made in Elon's goal of tripling international student enrollment through the Elon Commitment plan.

The U.S. News and World Report has been ranking colleges in terms of academics since 1983. Diversity rankings have been a recent addition. The rankings are geared toward prospective students rather than a way for universities to size up their competition.

"Taking into account how well a school supports its students from freshman year through graduation is important," said U.S. News' chief content officer Brian Kelly in a press release. "To find the best fit, students should consider a range of factors, from financial aid offerings and location to campus size and majors. The process can be overwhelming, but our rankings and

advice content are a great place to start."

Freshman Graham Kulig said people he knew brought up Elon's rankings to him once he made his college decision, but it wasn't a factor to him before that.

"It's nice to hear people say, 'I heard Elon was ranked the most beautiful campus' or that they saw it was ranked the best college in the South, but I didn't really look into it," he said.

Sophomore Ben Driscoll said he prioritized the reputation of the School of Communications above the overall ranking of the university, since he's a communications major. He added that U.S. News' measures of diversity don't account for individual experiences.

"Diversity isn't only based on socioeconomic background or something similar," Driscoll said. "All of us come from different places and have different perspectives on things. I think that can also be considered diversity."

The rankings have not been immune to criticism from the media, either. In a 2013 article for The Atlantic titled "Your Annual Reminder to Ignore the U.S. News & World Report College Rankings," John Tierney wrote that much of an institution's ranking comes from a reputational measure through peer assessments from college presidents and provosts instead of hard data.

"Critics say this component turns the rankings into a popularity or beauty contest, and that asking college officials to rate the relative merits of other schools about which they know nothing becomes a particularly empty exercise because a school's reputation is driven in large part by — you guessed it — the U.S. News rankings," Tierney wrote.

# Danieley recreation center nears opening



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer

The Phoenix Activities and Recreation Center will open Sept. 21 in the Danieley neighborhood.

Caroline Fernandez  
News Editor

Elon University students are closer to having an additional space to work out and stay fit.

The new recreation building in Danieley Center is scheduled to host a soft opening Sept. 21, according to Rex Waters, dean of student development.

Brad Moore, associate director of planning, design and construction, said that the building, which sits behind Danieley Center flats H, I and J, received a temporary certificate of occupancy.

The building was originally scheduled to be accessible to students when school began. According to Moore, the opening was delayed because of issues with the placement of the gym floor.

The center, which has been under construction since February, will be called the Phoenix Activities and Recreation Center (PARC), Waters said.

“We’re excited about it,” Waters said. “We think it will add a lot to the area.”

The small fitness center — open to students who live in the Danieley neighborhood, 6 a.m.-midnight during the weekdays and 10 a.m.-10 p.m. during the weekends — will house seven cardio pieces, dumbbells, a cable machine used for weight training and a general floor area for activities, according to Waters.

In addition to the fitness space, there

## CENTER FEATURES

- **Weekday Hours:** 6 a.m.-midnight
- **Weekend Hours:** 10 a.m.-10 p.m.
- **Scheduled soft-opening:** Sept. 21
- **Equipment:** Seven cardio pieces, dumbbells, cable machine

will also be two basketball courts and offices for Campus Recreation.

Planning and funding for the center was initiated in October 2014 when the Board of Trustees approved a proposal for the 14,850-square-foot recreation center.

At the time the board also approved a 4,000-square-foot expansion to Daniel Commons, which opened in August and includes classroom and study space, as well as an Einstein Bros. Bagels.

In addition to construction and additions in Danieley Center, it was announced Sept. 1 that Elon purchased 19.5 acres of land west of campus.

The purchased land is the preferred site of the proposed convocation center.

# Event to bring consent strategies to Elon

Simone Jasper  
Assistant News Editor

As sexual assault continues to be a key issue at colleges and universities across the United States, a national speaker will address the topic of consent to Elon University students Sept. 24.

The event, “Can I Kiss You?,” is sponsored by the Department of Health Promotion and its SPARKS peer education program. Mike Domitrz, founder of the Date Safe Project, is scheduled to talk about sexual assault risks and bystander prevention strategies at two separate presentations at 4:15 and 7:30 p.m. Sept. 24 in McKinnon Hall.

“He frames the conversation around violence prevention in a way that’s great for students, especially with the language asking about consent and how to step in,” said Whitney Gregory, director of health promotion and student concerns outreach.

Domitrz spoke at Elon last year and previous years. Gregory said it was important to bring him to campus again.

“Every time, there’s been such a positive response from all students across the board,” Gregory said. “We were so reluctant to have Mike Domitrz this year because it might be redundant. But students thought it was still relevant.”

The talk comes at a significant time of the school year. For new students, the period between arriving on campus and Thanksgiving break is commonly known as the “red zone,” when they are most vulnerable to sexual assault.

Domitrz uses audience participation and personal stories to emphasize the importance of consent. Although he has been speaking for nearly 25 years, he keeps information up-to-date, according to Gregory.

“The way that Mike Domitrz creates his message is weaving in current events,” Gregory said. “I’ve seen him three times, and each

time has been different — sometimes significantly so.”

Senior Kaitlin Snapp, a SPARKS team leader, has also listened to Domitrz speak several times. She said she has noticed other students have been more willing to talk about consent after attending the program.

“Mike talks about consent with college students in a way that’s not awkward,” Snapp said. “He uses humor and makes the student body more comfortable with approaching the topic.”

According to a 2014 report from the White House Council on Women and Girls, one in five women has been sexually assaulted in college.

The national Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) Act, which recently went into effect, aims to reduce the risk of sexual assault. The act requires colleges and universities to offer prevention and awareness programs, disclose dating and sexual violence claims in annual crime reports and follow minimum standards for disciplinary procedures for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

To combat sexual assault and promote healthy relationships, Gregory’s department hosts programs throughout the school year, especially during Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April and Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. Other programming includes training for student leaders and peer education workshops.

The Department of Health Promotion recently worked with other campus organizations to change its “Consent is Sexy” campaign. The phrase is now “Consent is...” and allows students to complete their own definition of the word.

“We broadened the campaign and let students fill it in for themselves,” Gregory said. “We changed it because sometimes consent is sexy, and sometimes it’s not. But it’s necessary and critical.”



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# Path to Class of 2019 presidency

## *Kenneth Brown Jr. faced challenges before Elon, SGA*

Emmanuel Morgan  
Reporter

When Kenneth Brown Jr. was helping his seven younger siblings and parents move into a bug-infested hotel room four years ago, his mother, Tabitha Brown, embraced him with tears in her eyes and said, “Tell me it’s going to be OK.”

When Brown told her he was elected Elon University’s Class of 2019 president last week, she teared up again — this time for a better reason.

“I was so happy for him,” she said. “He is a phenomenal dude, and I’m glad he’s my son. He keeps finding a way to overcome tremendous odds.”

Brown has overcome hurdles since his birth. An underweight infant at 3 pounds, 14 ounces, Brown lived in an incubator for three months until he could properly breathe on his own. He had to wear braces on his legs to support himself while learning to walk as a child.

Throughout his life, he and his family moved between houses and hotels because of financial difficulties.

“Growing up like that was weird because I never wanted to see my parents fail,” said Brown, a Greensboro native. “They would always put up this front that they were Superman, but occasionally they would let their guard down. So when they did blow up over financial arguments, I had a hard time trying to explain it to my little siblings.”

Brown arrived at Elon ready for a new start. He said he wanted to be involved with multiple campus organizations like Elon Local News but was unsure whether to give SGA a try. After multiple conversations with his roommate, Kyle Albertelli, Brown began to prepare for his campaign as class president.

“When he asked me whether or not he should run, I told him, ‘What do you have to lose?’” Albertelli said. “If you win, that would be great — if you lose, you gave it everything you had.”

Once interest meetings and campaigns began, Brown said he realized how daunting and formidable the competition for the presidency was. Doubts and uncertainties began to creep up in his mind, especially when he

heard the success other candidates were experiencing.

But he persevered when his confidence was at its lowest.

Brown wrote, “I’m winning this” on the white board in his room as motivation to keep fighting even when he was feeling down.

“At that point, I knew I really wanted to win,” Brown said. “I wasn’t going to let my self-consciousness get the better of me. I had been through too much in my life already to let that happen.”

By posting to social media at least once every two hours, Brown’s campaign, featuring the slogan, “I’m fighting for you,” began to reach voters through his Facebook, Twitter and YouTube accounts.

“As first-years coming to a new place, we need someone that will fight for us and give us a voice,” Brown said. “We need someone that’s going to stand up and help us as we make one of the biggest transitions in our lives.”

Freshman Connor Quinn, one of Brown’s supporters, said he voted for him because he felt Brown was the right person for the job.

“I felt that he was in it for the best reasons and would do what needs to be done,” Quinn said.

After the votes were tallied and Brown was announced the winner, he immediately called his mother to tell her the news. She said that leading others is in her son’s blood and that this job will come naturally to him.

“He has set the bar high in our family,” Tabitha Brown said. “‘Impossible’ or ‘I can’t do it’ aren’t allowed to be said in our household because he is living proof that anything can be done. I just want people to embrace him because he just wants to touch lives.”

Brown’s term is set for one year before re-elections take place again. In the time he has as president, he said he hopes to represent his class to the best of his ability.

He doesn’t take his new position lightly.

“I am one of the most unlikely people to be running this class,” he said. “But that’s the way I like it. There are so many paths we can go in life, but we chose the path that led us to Elon. We’re here now, so we need to work together to make Elon better for ourselves, the future classes ahead of us and the community as a whole.”



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer

### KENNETH BROWN JR.

**Hometown:** Greensboro

**Position Won:** President

**Intended major:**

Communications

**Favorite on-the-go snack:**

Granola bars

**Dream dinner party:** Abraham Lincoln, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Bill Clinton



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## Elon Dining, Residence Life propose cooking classes as part of neighborhood programming

Morgan Abate  
Online Editor

When upperclassmen move from flats or residence halls into the Oaks Apartments or Station at Mill Point, they are no longer required to have a meal plan. But despite this policy, Elon Dining is looking for ways to engage with those students still living on campus.

Starting this semester in Mill Point, Elon Dining has proposed the possibility of cooking classes for residents as part of the neighborhood’s programming.

Pulkit Vigg, resident district manager for Elon Dining, explained that the department has held events for Mill Point — such as inviting food trucks to campus — but there has not been a lot of regular programming. According to Vigg, campus dining had been asking questions about expanding programming.

“What do we do constantly for residents? What would the need be for them?” he said. “And we found that a lot of students use the community garden [to grow food] and cook.”

Thus, in conjunction with the Residence Life staff in Mill Point, Elon Dining began to envision what cooking classes would look like within the neighborhood.

“Everyone is strapped for time nowadays,” Vigg said. “So it’s five-ingredient cooking that is small and easy to do.”

Darron Daniels, a senior apartment manager in Mill Point, supports the idea.

According to Daniels, the cooking classes are something that can make students feel at home and even more independent.

“They are really helpful for students as they enjoy living in an upperclassmen community and prepare to cook on their own when they graduate,” Daniels said.

In addition to cooking classes, Vigg said Elon Dining also hopes to host wine and food pairing nights in the depot kitchen at Mill Point. According to him, when students enter the workforce and begin to host meals and clients, they will need to understand what types of wine works well with certain meats, fish and other foods.

Residence Life has also planned a similar event for Mill Point residents. According to Phil Smith, owner of The Oak House, Residence Life hosted a Wine and Painting night last spring in the bar and lounge after exams.

“It was a really cool use of the space,” Smith said. “It was kind of out of their space, but walkable.”

The event was successful enough that another Wine and Painting night has been planned for 7 p.m. Nov. 5.

“We have an upperclassmen-living lifestyle and are becoming more independent adults,” Daniels said. “It’s great to know we live in a community where there are a lot of resources to help us.”

# A refreshing take on alcohol consumption

*Lori Hart visits Elon to discuss students' alcohol choices*



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALPHA OMICRON PI

Lori Hart spoke to an audience of Elon students Sept. 10 at Whitley Auditorium about the effects of binge drinking and overconsumption of alcohol on their future goals and dreams in life.

**Sophia Asmuth**  
Multimedia Editor

CAMPUSPEAK's Lori Hart ended her talk, "A Few Too Many: Our Campus Culture of Alcohol," with one crucial piece of advice: "Use [your bowels] as any excuse to get out of an uncomfortable drug-related situation."

"Let's be real," Hart said, "No one has ever looked at a friend and said, 'Stay, we'll clean up your [expletive].'"

Students filled Elon University's Whitley Auditorium Sept. 10 as Hart took a humorous approach to alcohol choices. She encouraged students to "begin with the end in mind" and picture their future 10 years from now. The audience shared their future aspirations of world travel, financial stability, romantic relationships and dog ownership.

"If you are a person in this room that drinks alcohol and does drugs, I want you to think about what you clapped for and how these drugs affect that goal," Hart said.

Nothing Hart said was new. She summarized the five factors that affect blood alcohol content: quantity of al-

cohol, rate of consumption, weight, the amount of time taken to drink the alcohol and the gender of the consumer. She went on to explain a 1993 Harvard study that produced the term "binge drinking" — the consumption of five or more drinks in one sitting.

"For such an overdone topic, she made it unique," said senior Evan Skloot, president of the Eta-Sigma Chapter of Zeta Beta Tau at Elon.

Skloot said he was particularly impressed with Hart's ability to connect to both men and women.

Elon was recently named the fourth safest college town in the United States, according to Safe Wise. But the consequences of binge drinking and overconsumption are still apparent.

"Alcohol-related crimes are the top [at Elon]," said Mike Brewer, patrol lieutenant in the Town of Elon's Police Department. "Assaults and damage to property usually occur from people who have been drinking alcohol."

Senior Felicia Cenca, president of the Epsilon-Chi chapter of Alpha Omicron Pi at Elon brought Hart to the campus to have a realistic conversation about alcohol.

"The risks that come with alcohol use are hard to talk

about for many of us as students, but openly addressing it seemed to be like one step in the right direction," Cenca said.

Hart addressed these risks with students by asking them to list some. The first yelled: "Death." The room erupted in laughter. The next comment: "Sometimes, I feel alienated because I don't drink."

No one laughed.

Senior Conor Janda — part of the 20 percent of college students who abstains from drinking, according to the American College Health Association's National College Health Assessment from spring 2014 — agreed that it can be difficult to be social and refrain from drinking.

"I do not think that people explicitly or purposefully alienate those who don't drink, but drinking is so pervasive in Elon's culture that staying sober requires a certain level of isolation," Janda said.

"We all clap to the same tune ... We're all looking to build a life that we want," Hart said. At this event, the consumers, the abstainers, the sorority sisters, the fraternity brothers — the Elon students — clapped together.

## POLITICS from cover

with college students who wonder what lies beyond graduation.

The senator said that, for college graduates, job prospects have improved from 2008 lows, but there's still a long way to go.

"If you are a college graduate, you are desperately trying to find a job commensurate with your education," Sanders said. "And that is often very hard to do."

The disparity can be especially clear when it comes to the cost of college.

Jax Preyer, a high school senior from Chapel Hill who attended the speech, recently applied to Elon to potentially join next year's freshman class. She called the cost of college in the United States "completely absurd."

Elon's total cost of attendance this academic year comes to \$46,670, an increase of 3 percent from the year prior and a 27-year low in terms of percentage increase.

"We've kind of been conditioned to feel like it's normal, but, really, we've been duped," said Preyer, 17, of the cost of college.

Preyer said Sanders' policy line to her is not radical, though she admitted she saw how others could see the self-described socialist in a different light. The senator reinforced his claim that few of his ideas haven't already



HALI TAUXE | Photo Editor

More than 9,000 people attended Bernie Sanders' rally Sunday, including many Elon students.

been done in another country, despite attacks from Republicans who call his agenda radical to the point of ridiculous.

Ideology aside, some say just voting is im-

portant — no matter the candidate. Elon, like many college campuses, can at times be apathetic when it comes to elections, said junior June Shuler, a representative of Elon Votes, an

organization dedicated to civic engagement.

"Voting — no matter the party line — matters," Shuler said.

Tarasidis said that many students in Elon College Republicans align themselves with Marco Rubio and Jeb Bush, with others also supporting John Kasich and Donald Trump, who has received more support than expected.

Kane isn't surprised by the rise of odd-ball candidates such as Trump and Sanders, though. She said the uncharacteristic backgrounds and ideals of current front-runners grab people's attention.

The larger pool of candidates for voters to choose from draws interest from a wider range of people.

"It's an exciting time because no matter what your views are, you have an array of candidates who any student can relate to," Kane said. "That's creating more of a discussion on campus."

While political discussions on campus are prominent right now as the country is at the peak of watching for the next presidential nominees, in non-election years, discussions dip with the lack of attention.

"Elon's political climate is similar to the country in that the political climate increases around election year," Bailey said. "I think Elon does a good job of trying to engage students in politics and trying to keep discussions open with panels on current events."

# Local police parade remembers 9/11



Sophia Asmuth  
Multimedia Editor

On the 14th anniversary of Sept. 11 on Friday, it was difficult to imagine that it has only been 14 years since the attacks. Then again, it was hard to realize it hasn't been longer. The police and fire departments came together Friday to ensure that no matter how long or short the time may feel, the nation remembered the nearly 3,000 people who were killed in the terrorist attacks.

With the parade, several of the Burlington Police Department officers offer reflections.

Officers present at the parade said they appreciated the acknowledgement for law enforcement that the event brought.

Chief Jeff Smythe of the Burlington Police Department, who has been an officer for 30 years, said 9/11 is a good reminder for people to appreciate police officers.

"The silent majority is too silent too often," he said. "As the negative national media directed toward the police comes to the forefront, we're starting to see some folks step up and say, 'wait a minute, we need our police.'"

Many of the officers felt the direct effects of the 9/11 attacks as they were working in the U.S. Military at the time.

Jerry Christian, a patrolman for the Burlington Police Department, served 28 years in the U.S. Military prior to his work with the police department. He was deployed to Afghanistan after the Sept. 11 attacks.

"It gives me a lot of thanks that I was there at the time and maybe able to change some things in that part of the world, but now we're here trying to help our own country [as police



Local children and their families line the streets of Downtown Burlington Sept. 11 in support of the police within the community and all who lost their lives in 2001.

officers]," he said.

Christian simply urged the public to continue acknowledging Sept. 11, "Just try to remember... we don't really want nothing [sic] in return," Christian said.

"The kids seem to appreciate us coming through, and as a result they are more aware of this day than the adults sometimes are."

Graham Sappington, Master Police Officer, served six years in the U.S. Airforce prior to his current eight years of service for the Burlington Special Response Team.

"The country's never been closer than in the days, weeks and years after Sept. 11," he said. "Sometimes we stray away from that, but we're all in this together. We just got to figure that out, and maybe this parade will help that happen."

"As we get further removed from a tragic event we tend to forget how bad it felt that day,

and how we all came together as Americans — not as different types of people — but as Americans. We all held hands under one flag. If we get back to that, it'll be nice."

While the day marks a time of sorrow felt across the nation, all the officers agree that the parade gives a sense of renewal and connectivity — especially with the school children.

David Carter, chaplain of Alamance County Sheriff Department, said he appreciated youth support.

"The kids come out wearing red, white and blue while waving flags," he said. "They make banners during art class, and they show their patriotism. They're just really excited to see us. Really, as officers, it makes the hair on the back of our necks stand up because they are just so excited to be a part of this."

And the Elon Elementary students chanted, "U-S-A, U-S-A, U-S-A."

## New IFC fraternity coming to Elon

Tommy Hamzik  
Managing Editor

A new Interfraternity Council (IFC) organization is coming to campus as one of the changes new Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life Dan Fail is implementing in his first year at Elon University.

Fail said in an email that Elon has decided to add a new IFC organization, but the school is still in the selection process. The finalists will be on campus the week of Oct. 19, and the presentations are open to all.

This decision comes after two IFC organizations were suspended from campus and a third had activities suspended for a portion of last year because of hazing investigations.

Fail said nothing is solidified yet, but changes in the recruitment process for IFC and Panhellenic Council (PHC) organizations are pending.

For IFC fraternities, Fail said the dates for fall recruitment have changed to end on a Monday, which he said will allow for deeper conversations with recruits.

"While no decisions have been 100 percent set in stone, we are looking to make all of the processes more valuable for the members and potential new members, in both information and conversations," Fail said.

Fail said the change doesn't specifically relate to National PanHellenic Council (NPHC) fraternities and sororities because "their intake process is very different from the recruitment processes."

Fail said the PHC has unanimously voted to adopt a two-tier total system, which means the fall members — or maximum chapter size — will be adjusted by semester to account for graduating seniors and new members.

Fail, who arrived on campus in the summer to take over for Shana Plasters, the former director, said he's been meeting with departments and directors on campus to understand the perception of fraternity and sorority life at Elon.

After hazing allegations, the Epsilon Theta chapter of Sigma Pi and the Epsilon Alpha chapter of Pi Kappa Phi each received suspensions that will last until 2017. The Lambda Lambda chapter of Kappa Sigma's new member activities were also suspended during the spring.

## BSU from cover

discrimination on campus during his time at Elon. Race relations incidents occurred in 2013, when a student drew racially and religiously offensive symbols on two students' whiteboard, and in 2014-2015, when multiple racial slurs were directed at students. There have been a host of similar instances in recent years.

In a similar vein, sophomore Alonzo Cee, BSU's special events director, said he is often asked about how it feels being a person of color at a predominantly white institution while he serves as a campus tour guide.

"I would love to be able to tell [prospective students] that we have a spectacular community here that will accept them straight away, but it's something we are continually working on, and that is the truth," he said. "BSU is trying to help expedite that process."

Bohannon said while the name-change was necessary to expedite this process, it doesn't mean that the organization is retracting its 45-year-long history as the Black Cultural Society.

"We have learned from our history as being BCS and we will continue to keep many

of those traditions alive," he said "But with the organization's recent reputation for having a lack of unity, and with everything going on nationally and on campus, there was a need for change and rebranding to make a statement."

To Bohannon, the word "society" doesn't quite capture the purposeful power that the word "union" does. But of all the connotations associated with "union," the one that he feels matters most is "unity."

Cee agreed and said BCS was lacking in its ability to provide unity.

"BCS last year was a home for the black community, but in my opinion as a first-year student, it did not seem that inviting," Cee said. "The connotation behind BCS wasn't very positive, at least according to people who have been at Elon longer."

To Cee, "union" promotes a firm statement about solidarity — something he said he thinks is necessary on a campus where there are more than black students on a campus of more than 6,000 students.

"We want BSU to be a space where we come and celebrate all different identities and intersections of what is under the spectrum of 'black,'" Bohannon said. "Our goal is to educate the greater community but also provide an avenue for unity and solidarity for black students."

Bohannon hopes the newly branded

BSU will also serve a more centralized role as the umbrella organization for all other black organizations on campus.

Other changes in the organization include a restructuring of executive staff roles and positions, as well as the creation of several member-led committees.

While changes are in store, Bohannon hopes the organization can continue collaborating with departments and other groups on campus.

### New events and initiatives coming

From a "Black Student Success Week," which culminates in a pool party to future rallies to their most popular event, the Fashion Show, BSU has already executed and will continue to plan themed educational and cultural events throughout the year.

Cee urges the entire community — not only those who identify as black or people of color — to participate in these events, since the educational component is what he believes can create a more accepting community at Elon.

"There are people who are there for the cause and are willing to learn, but there are a lot of people who silence our voices and are just coming to events just to feel good about themselves," Cee said. "That's why education is so important."

Some of the events Cee is leading surround topics including diversity, racism, micro-aggression and the N-word.

Bohannon also previewed an "Intersection Series," a program featuring discussions around holding intersecting identities within the black spectrum. This, he hopes, will highlight the diversity among black students at Elon.

### A brief snapshot of Black Cultural Society

BCS was established in 1975, 12 years after Glenda Phillips Hightower became the first black student to attend Elon and the same year John Roscoe became the first black individual appointed to Elon's board of trustees.

Its purpose, written by inaugural chairs Rodney Evans '75 and Don McLaughlin '76, was to "promote understanding and a sense of unity among Black students; encourage Elon College to achieve a greater awareness and appreciation of the culture and achievements of Black people; attack with vigor all injustices and inequalities that may exist on the campus of Elon college with respect to Black people; and support and assist in any way possible the communities immediately surrounding Elon College." Membership was open to all regularly enrolled full or part-time students.

# Cheat Sheet: Iran Nuclear Deal



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE  
**President Barack Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry meet with a group of veterans and Gold Star Mothers — mothers who have lost children in combat — to discuss the Iran Nuclear deal in the Roosevelt Room of the White House Sept. 10.**

The new Iran nuclear agreement, composed by President Barack Obama, would lift international sanctions against Iran in exchange for a halt to their nuclear program and could begin to be implemented by the end of this month, thanks to recent backing by Senate Democrats.

The deal automatically takes effect Thursday, giving opponents in Congress little time to push for legislation to end the agreement.

But the deal is one of Obama's most significant pieces of legislation of his presidency. Its future in relation to the United States could change with the next president. Several Republican presidential candidates oppose the deal, including Donald Trump and Ted Cruz, who both appeared at a "Stop the Iran Nuclear Deal" rally Sept. 9.

The finer details of the agreement remain a hot-button topic for presidential candidates, and the debate is expected to continue well into election season.

## U.S.-Iran Relations

The United States began imposing oil and gas-related sanctions on Iran after the Iranian Revolution of 1979, which marked the overthrow of Western-supported Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi regime and subsequent replacement with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's Islamic republic. The sanctions expanded in

1995 to include firms dealing with Iran and in 2006 after Iran refused to suspend its uranium enrichment program.

The United States has spearheaded the effort for continued enforcement of the sanctions, which the majority of Western governments have followed. The primary argument for the sanctions is the West's fear of Iran developing a nuclear weapon, which a lack of restrictions would make easier for Iran to carry out.

The tide began to turn at the beginning of Obama's presidency, when a senior U.S. diplomat met one-on-one with a top nuclear negotiator for Iran. In 2013, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and Obama spoke by telephone, leading Obama to say he believed Iran and the U.S. could reach a solution.

After extended discussions between Iran and six world powers — the United States, France, Germany, Great Britain, Russia and China — the framework of a nuclear deal was announced this April. A more comprehensive, official version was announced in July.

## Specifics of the deal

The deal focuses on Iran's capability to create a nuclear weapon and the ability of Western countries to keep an eye on its weapon production. Under the agreement, Iran cannot build a nuclear weapon and must

allow inspections by Western countries for the next 15 years. In return, the United States lifts its previous sanctions.

Iran must limit its uranium enrichment to 3.67 percent (below weapons grade), eliminate 98 percent of its uranium stockpile and cut its number of centrifuges, which assist in uranium enrichment, by two-thirds. Iran must also give the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) more access to its nuclear sites.

In return, the United Nations will lift Iran's arms embargo within five years, unfreeze Iran assets in foreign banks and lift international trade sanctions. The deal provides no fixed time for the sanctions relief, which would give Iran incentive to comply.

## What's next?

The UN Security Council's unanimous endorsement of the nuclear deal in July made the agreement enforceable under international law. Once the IAEA verifies Iran's compliance to the deal, the UN will begin to lift the sanctions.

The United States' backing of the deal was dependent upon a third of the House and Senate to approve Obama's agreement. Senate Democrats blocked a Sept. 10 resolution led by House Republicans that would force Obama to veto the legislation.

## News Briefs

### SPDC to host Job and Internship Expo Sept. 22

The Job and Internship Expo, hosted by the Student Professional Development Center, will take place 2-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22 in Alumni Gym. The expo allows students to meet with a variety of organizations and discuss internship and job opportunities. Through the expo, students will also be able to see what immediate opportunities are available for on-campus internships and jobs. Business casual or professional attire is required, and no RSVP is necessary for attendance.

### Sidewalk on West Haggard closed

Recent construction on West Haggard Avenue has rendered the adjacent sidewalk hazardous for pedestrian use. The sidewalk, located in front of Park Place, is closed from Skids Restaurant to Manning Avenue. Elon University Campus Safety and Police said people should avoid walking by the construction site, and signs have been posted to alert pedestrians of the closed sidewalk.

### Beetle population threatens trees

A statewide beetle quarantine was issued by Steve Troxler, North Carolina agriculture commissioner, Sept. 10 because of an invasive beetle that kills trees by planting larvae that burrow through the trunk. The quarantine means the beetle — the emerald ash borer — cannot be taken anywhere outside of the "quarantine border." The emerald ash borer, found across the United States, is responsible for the death of millions of trees since 2002. Fourteen other states have instituted their own quarantines. Trees are currently being treated for damage done by the beetle.

### Sewer upgrades close hiking trail

The hiking trail at the Guilford Mackintosh Park closed Friday, Sept. 11 and will remain closed until further notice, according to the Burlington Recreation and Parks Department. Work related to the upgrades of the sewer system caused the closure to the trail is the only one in the area closed as a result of sewer improvements. Guilford Mackintosh Park and Marina will remain open during regular hours.

### Professor fatally shot at Delta State University

A history professor was shot and killed in his office at Delta State University Sept. 14 in Cleveland, Mississippi. Another employee at the university is a suspect in the shooting, according to CNN reports. The university was on lockdown after the shooting as police worked to clear buildings on campus, reports said.

## CRIME REPORT

### Sept. 8

#### LARCENY

EAST COLLEGE AVE, ELON:

Two Elon University students were arrested for felony breaking and entering, misdemeanor larceny, possessing stolen goods and injury to personal property after damage to a Volkswagen Beetle was reported on the afternoon of Sept. 8. The car's windshield was broken, and a large cushion and small ottoman chair were stolen from the inside.

### Sept. 10

#### LARCENY

WEST HAGGARD AVE,

ELON: One "sidewalk closed" sign and two detour signs from Samet Corporation were reported as stolen from the new Park Place construction site Thursday afternoon.

### Sept. 12

#### HARRASSMENT

ORANGE DRIVE, ELON:

A woman reported to Town of Elon Police Department Saturday night that a man had been calling her phone constantly and banging on her door asking for money. She hired the man over the summer to mow her lawn, but she said he had been coming to her house asking for advancements in his payments. The man

fled from her residence after she threatened to call the police. He left the area before he was able to be located, police reports said.

### Sept. 13

#### ATTEMPTED BURGLARY

WEST LEBANON AVE,

ELON: A man reported Sunday morning he woke up and heard people talking in his living room. After they left, he searched the apartment and said no items were missing. Another resident in the same complex said someone tried to get into his apartment through the front door around the same time. No suspects have been identified, according to police reports.

# Editorial

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

## Prepare to adjust Greek perceptions

*Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life hopes to improve relationships on campus*

Fraternities and sororities tend to get a bad rap in the media. Most recently, controversial recruitment videos, racist chants and hazing incidents have captured national attention. Traditionally, fraternities and sororities are associated with excessive drinking, drug use, sexual promiscuity and generally bad behavior — see “Animal House” or “Neighbors.” Movies and TV shows like these often neglect to include the good parts of being a member of a Greek organization: a commitment to philanthropy, opportunities for leadership and a supportive community, to name a few.

At Elon University, the Office of Fraterni-

ty and Sorority Life — formerly the Office of Greek Life — is making an effort to improve the relationship between Greek organizations and the rest of campus and the general perception of Greek organizations on campus. But these efforts can't be one-sided. Members of these organizations must hold themselves to higher standards, but people not involved in Greek organizations must also reconsider any Greek life biases they may hold. Most importantly, all Elon students, faculty and staff must be prepared to face changes as they come.

Dan Faill's arrival as a replacement for Shana Plasters in the role of Director last

June was the first major change to come to Greek life at Elon. The second was the shift in name from Office of Greek Life to Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. These changes seem minor, but they are the first of potentially many changes intended to adjust the perception of Greek organizations at Elon. The changes already made and those to come offer Elon students, affiliated or not, a rare opportunity to change the way a large part of campus — 39.8 percent of undergraduate students were involved in fraternities and sororities as of spring 2015 — relates to the rest.

Fraternities and sororities have the potential to be as damaging to a college campus as they can be empowering, and strict rules and measures put into place against these organizations reflect that. The relationship between Greek organizations and administrators, students, faculty and staff needs to change, which is one of Faill's goals. In the few months he has been at Elon, he has worked with offices across campus to improve relationships between Greek organizations and the rest of the university.

“I want to be the best advocate I can,” Faill said in an email.

What he means by that is yet to be seen. In his email to The Pendulum, Faill was vague on details regarding the potential changes in store for fraternities and sororities. He emphasized values, though, and said one of his purposes is to make fraternities and

sororities at Elon “value-based organizations.” How this purpose will manifest itself is still unclear, but it's certain that Greek life at Elon is changing. Change is, by definition, an adjustment. Everyone at Elon, regardless of his or her membership in a fraternity or sorority, will soon have to be open to it, even — especially — if it is difficult or changes the status quo.

Last year, two IFC fraternities — the Epsilon-Theta chapter of Sigma Pi and the Epsilon-Alpha chapter of Pi Kappa Phi — were investigated and suspended until 2017 for hazing. The fraternities' suspensions perpetuated stigma regarding the damaging effects of Greek organizations on Elon's campus. But they also took attention away from the positive accomplishments of these organizations, one being the more than \$200,000 Elon's Panhellenic Council, Interfraternity Council and National Pan-Hellenic Council organizations donated to charity during the 2014-2015 academic year.

The changes already put into effect and those in progress may benefit fraternities and sororities in the short-term, and hopefully their positive effects will also provide long-term benefits for the larger Elon community. But change can't happen without the help of the whole community. Elon must be open to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life's efforts. This is an opportunity we won't get again — it's up to us to take advantage of it.



Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority prepares to welcome its new members after spring 2015 recruitment. More than 600 women took part in formal recruitment that year, a record at Elon. FILE PHOTO BY JANE SEIDEL

## The problem with expectation inflation

*In defense of mediocrity: an excerpt from the millennial college experience*

Lately, I've been thinking, “Maybe I'm mediocre.” And even more lately, I've been thinking, “So what?”

Growing up in the age of participation trophies, I have been led to believe, like many others of my generation, that I am special — perhaps even destined — for great things.

After a pretty successful stint in high school that only reinforced these pretensions — not to mention my anxiety about fulfilling them — I find myself in an up-and-coming university. I'm keeping up, but I certainly don't feel “great.” And I'm beginning to worry that I'm running out of time. Mark Zuckerberg had

already invented Facebook by the time he was my age — and do I even need to bring up Justin Bieber?

The college-advice crowd seems to be divided between the “just follow your dreams” camp and the “real life will chew you up and spit you out, millennial scum” camp, and the higher up the socioeconomic ladder you get, the more you run into the former. So everyone here keeps asking me, “What is your passion?” Like if I

could only answer that question, college would unlock a lifetime of happiness, a fulfilling career, success in my field — greatness.

“I'D RATHER BE  
MEDIocre ON MY  
OWN TERMS THAN  
GREAT ON ANYONE  
ELSE'S.”

I still don't know what to say, but not wanting to get left behind by all the other passionate, potentially great young people, I pick a major and buckle down. I'm still a contender, but I'm starting to wonder why I'm busting my hump.

What are we competing for? A high-profile position

at a Fortune 500 company? A New York penthouse? Fame and/or fortune? How many of us can actually make it to the top, and how many will crash and burn trying?

I'm not even sure that's what I want. I think about Amazon, and how in the companies that now represent success, “human resources” are meant to be used up and replaced with new ones. Even at the top they're still competing, often for the jobs they already have.

What happened to a 30-year government career and a pension to retire on? It has become our definition of mediocrity. We're so afraid of boredom we've chucked security out of the window.

I bet no one asked my mom what her passion was when she started school. And maybe she wasn't competing for the big leagues, but she led a life that I would be proud of. Living in an age of unprecedented choice, I'm beginning to see the case for an arranged marriage with a career. It gives you time to cultivate a life outside of chasing the next promotion.

When it comes down to it, maybe I don't care what I do for a living. I just want to be a mensch. I don't want to lead my life based on somebody else's priorities. I'd rather be mediocre on my own terms than great on anyone else's.



Hali Tauxe  
Columnist

**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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## Upperclassmen want more SGA engagement

Last week was a big one for Elon University's SGA. If any incoming Elon freshmen were unaware of SGA's existence, the recent election of officers for the Class of 2019 and



**Tim Melton**  
Columnist

Thursday's Call to Honor ceremony certainly made its presence known — to younger students. SGA uses events like these to

show students exactly what kind of services they can expect from their student government. Self-promotion is hardly a new or original tactic for a university organization, but how well does SGA maintain this momentum of interest?

When I was a freshman, I was interested in SGA as a means of connecting university officials with the student body. SGA's role in the Call to Honor only further confirmed its legitimacy in my eyes. But as my first year progressed, I began seeing less and less of SGA. Now, in my junior year, the program has sadly become a nonfactor in my college experience.

This is not to say that I think SGA is unneeded or inactive — nothing could be further from the truth. But I question how something as seemingly essential as student government could have become so removed from my mind during my time at Elon.

To me, the problem with SGA is its relationship with older students — or significant lack thereof. While the organization undoubtedly provides numerous resources and benefits to students, these are often underwhelming when compared to other student-oriented programs, such as the Student Union Board. Yes, anyone interested in SGA can always find ways to become involved, but this does not necessarily speak to the general student population, especially upperclassmen.

Then again, the issues with SGA's student involvement and presence may be coming to an end.

As reported by The Pendulum, nearly 1,000 freshmen students out of 1,520 voted in the elections — a significantly greater voter turnout than in past elections. This increase in interest has largely been attributed to more activity on social media and more advertisements for the election posted around campus.

Clearly, there is initiative within SGA to improve its standing among other student organizations and to maintain the student interest it has so effectively gained.

I may never be able to regard SGA as one of Elon's essential programs — simply put, it has been too inconsistent for me to fully trust it. But I choose to remain optimistic that the organization's visibility on campus can only improve with time.

Hopefully, by the time today's freshmen are reaching their last year of college, they will still feel the presence of SGA as their voice to the university.

# Campus Voices: *Stop talking, start listening*

Americans from all over the country are frustrated with their government, and rightfully so. The past seven years have been an exercise in gridlock, with Republicans in Congress determined to block any initiative on any issue made by the president. Our politics have become tribal — too many people reflexively support their "team" without really considering the tension that lies at the heart of any issue. We have lost



**Caroline James**  
College Democrats

our ability to compromise or empathize, to see the world, however briefly, from a point of view other than our own.

Many students are uninspired by our current political system and feel apathetic about voting. The phrase "the lesser of two evils" in regards to political candidates gets thrown around frequently. But soon our generation will inherit the responsibility of stewardship. We cannot be complacent anymore. We will have to decide what kind of world we want to make for ourselves, our families, our fellow citizens. And while we may have different visions for

the kind of world we want to live in, we will all have to live in it together.

I believe one of our generation's greatest challenges will be to stop talking past each other and to start listening. To stop seeking conflict and to find room to compromise. To take a moment to put ourselves in the shoes of others in order to understand struggles and perspectives that may not be part of our own backgrounds. We need to try our best to confront the challenges we face as a nation head on and with an open mind, instead of hiding behind ideological blinders. Because the challenges we face are plenty.

Regardless of what you believe about the cause of climate change, it is happening, and our generation will have to grapple with the consequences. Regardless of what you believe about income inequality, it is real, and the gap between the haves and have-nots will continue to grow and create tensions that could tear our society apart. Regardless of what you believe about immigration policy, immigrants have been and will continue to be central to our economic strength and a vital part of future economic growth.

Our world is changing rapidly, even if our government is not keeping pace. Our campus is becoming increasingly diverse. We are being

joined by students with a wide range of backgrounds, perspectives and world views. Can we create an environment on campus that allows for constructive dialogue that respects all points of view? Can we learn from each other?

It would be beneficial for us all to do so.

The year ahead will test the strength of the Elon community. As we enter the 2016 election cycle, there will be heated discussions about our competing visions for the United States and how best to address the many challenges we face. I hope that we can have these discussions while avoiding the reflexive polarization that permeates politics today.

We can and will disagree about many things. But we do not have to be disagreeable. We can rise above the attacks and half-truths so common in the public arena today. We can have a respectful, fact-based discussion of important issues. It is our choice. And given the seriousness of the challenges our generation faces, we'd be wise to work together.

Fifty years ago, in a similarly polarized country, torn by racial and class division, President Lyndon Johnson offered this warning: "These are the stakes: to make a world in which all of God's children can live, or to go into the dark."

It's a warning worth heeding today.

## University Chaplain: *What can you fit in a backpack?*

There are 20 million refugees in the world at this moment, more than at any other time in history. This news is, and ought to be, deeply distressing. There are 20 million human beings fleeing for their lives.



**Jan Fuller**  
University Chaplain

The summer I turned 11, there was a war in Jordan, where I lived, and my parents — being in religious work — decided not to be evacuated as the inevitable conflict loomed. The U.S. Embassy advised my parents that we should act as if no one was home. So we hid. I knew enough to be frightened when the bombers screamed over and the anti-aircraft guns across the street blasted into life.

We lived for most of the summer in the

hallway and under the dining room table, not using any lights or making any noise, sleeping on two twin mattresses put end to end and playing word games in the dark.

Dad announced, one day, that we must prepare to leave suddenly. He gave each of us kids a paper bag to put beside the door: "Whatever you could put in this bag, you can take with you. Get it ready and leave it by the door." I struggled to figure out what I wanted in my bag: my guitar books, a doll, a special box of trinkets? None of it made sense. Finally, I settled on shirts, underwear and socks.

One day, a phone call came. Under the cover of darkness we scrambled into the back of a truck — holding brown towels over blond and red heads — onto a cargo plane and out of the country. I think we took our paper bags, but I don't really remember.

I know a family who left Iraq with literally nothing but the clothes they were wearing.

Some Syrian families left with one backpack of medicine, plastic-wrapped phones and currencies and a pair of shoes, ready to toss it overboard if the boat got too full. What matters at a time like that?

It bears asking, in our Elon University community — if you had to leave suddenly, with one small backpack of belongings, what would go in it? What matters enough for you to lug it over a border?

Think about it. Too many of our sisters and brothers in the world are making these decisions.

7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16 in the McBride Room, Peace and Conflict Studies offers a faculty panel on the migration crisis. That evening, we will announce an initiative to help refugees. A little backpack empathy will go a long way toward opening our very fortunate hearts to those who are carrying backpacks of socks halfway across the world.

# DOCTORS' ORDERS IS THIS GRAMMERGATE?



**Lauryl Fischer & Frankie Campisano**  
Columnists

First of all, we've got to address this: Somebody left their cocaine outside the Moseley Center. (Check the crime blotter in last week's Pendulum for details).

Get it together, Elon University. Apparently coke is even bigger than Pepsi on this campus.

Now onto our topic for the week: The Homecoming concert headliner is Andy Grammer, with The Summer Set opening. (They're the lesser-known version of 5 Seconds of Summer, proba-

bly, and 5SOS is the lesser-known version of One Direction, so this is low.)

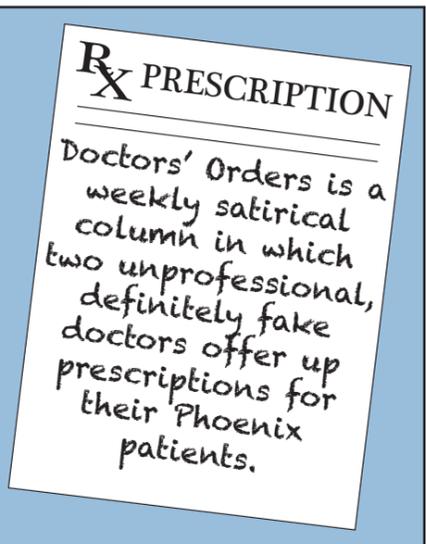
We don't know whether it's because of the presumably miniscule budget or decision-makers who don't actually listen to music but instead imitate human function and walk among us (or, for the sake of argument, let's say both), but that's who we're getting. And before playing at Elon's homecoming Oct. 17, Andy Grammer will be playing at High Point University Sept. 26. Yes, we're getting High Point's leftovers. But, hey, at least there are five people excited about The Summer Set — the members of the band.

But it's not like Elon has a history of great concerts. The police had to shut down B.o.B. because of noise complaints (just who did he think he was, having a loud concert that was heavily advertised and announced well in advance?), and Ludacris barely showed up for his performance last spring. Was Timeflies just a collective halluci-

nation we all shared? Remember the Acorn cookie rap? If you don't, you're probably doing too much Pepsi.

Unfortunately, this is a very bad case of Elon epically failing in simple democracy. Now we have to worry about our intellectual climate, our social climate and our political climate. It's all that coke in the air, contributing to Elon's own version of global warming. The proverbial ice caps of the student mind are melting.

We mean, it'd be one thing if the student body voted for Andy Grammer and now we are left to reap what we sowed. We could understand if these dark horse "choices" were popular artists, but was anyone clamoring for this lineup? Were there some last-minute write-in ballots from Andy Grammer fanatics? Is there bribery afoot? Should we check Student Union Board (SUB) emails? Is this GrammerGate?



The answer to that question is definitely no, because nobody really cares that much. The response to the concert has been fairly muted, especially compared to years past.

To make matters worse, Andy Grammer was leaked by another on-campus news organization before SUB could make the formal announcement. So there's been a whole lotta drama over the Homecoming concert. At least we've got a growing coke problem, right?

# Keeping the vegan diet in college

## Students eat meatless with limited dining options

Ally Feinsot  
Senior Reporter

Senior Audrey Coates has been vegan for about two years. After struggling with an eating disorder, she started to research different healthy diets and began to eat vegetarian. When she did not see positive results in terms of her health, she completely cut out meat and dairy from her diet.

Eventually, Coates wants to become a raw vegan, a vegan diet where cooked food is not eaten.

“There are weeks where I’ll detox and eat completely raw,” Coates said. “At Elon it’s hard to be a raw vegan because you need to continuously buy vegetables and fruits in such massive amounts, which can get pricey.”

Eating healthy in college can be a challenge. With Late Night at McEwen Dining Hall, Smitty’s Homemade Ice Cream and Cook Out, Elon University students have many temptations and opportunities to snack late and eat junk food. For some, making an extra effort to eat healthy is an important part of their lifestyle, a mentality which resonates especially with those who follow a vegan diet.

A vegan diet incorporates vegetarian dietary restrictions of no fish, meat or poultry, and avoiding dairy and eggs. Some vegans are also strict about not wearing or using animal products.

### A change for health

Sophomore Ariella Bresky has been health conscious since she was a child. She was never a true meat eater, other than occasionally eating chicken, later developed a dislike for the way it was produced, cutting meat out completely.

When she was 16, Bresky stopped eating dairy products because her body was unable to produce the enzyme that breaks down lactose. During her freshman year of college, she made the impulse decision to cut out animal products completely and adopt a vegan diet.

“I think it is inhumane how animals are treated in factories and slaughterhouses,” Bresky said. “Even if a product is labeled ‘grass-fed’, the bottom line is that they are being killed for consumption by humans.”

Many vegans are passionate about animal rights, refusing to wear or purchase clothing and accessories made from animals. But while Bresky would not go out of her way to buy a vest made out of animal fur, she would not be opposed to wearing a leather accessory if, for example, it was given as a gift.

Junior Stephanie Scro has been gluten-free since she was young. In preparation for a jaw surgery last summer she wanted to feel healthy, so she started following a vegan diet. She began eating a strict plant-based diet and saw good



Senior Audrey Coates, who follows a vegan lifestyle, buys a variety of produce for her meals instead of eating at Elon’s dining halls.

internal results.

“My pH levels were very alkaline, and I felt the best that I’ve ever felt in my entire life,” Scro said.

Once she became a vegan, she said she started to crave only “healthy” foods and eventually her entire family followed suit.

“My dad went to the doctor one day and coincidentally was told he needed to be on a raw vegan diet,” Scro said. “It’s a lot easier eating vegan when I’m not at Elon since I have my whole family to support me.”

Vegans, especially those who are health conscious, can find themselves spending more by consuming more produce and organic foods.

“I buy all my food organic at the Burlington Co-Op and cook my meals in my apartment because I don’t have a meal plan,” Scro said. “If you don’t have a kitchen or a car, it is definitely challenging to live this lifestyle.”

Elon students have several options for eating in dining halls, but for those with dietary restrictions, finding options that abide by their specific diet can be challenging.

Due to the smaller population of vegans and vegetarians, there are consequently fewer options in dining halls for students. But according to Pulkit Vigg, resident district manager for Elon Dining, it is still manageable with options like Green World at 1889 in Colonnades Dining Hall and Freshii, which can be ordered vegan.

Elon Dining has also been honored by the Humane Society of the United States for having Green World on campus.

“In addition to these two locations, vegan options are sprinkled all over campus with appropriate menu identifiers in place to help students find the product,” Vigg said in an email.

Bresky said Green World in Colonnades Dining Hall does have vegan options, but there

is not a huge variety. Last year, she dined there once a day because lunch and dinner were the same meals.

Despite Bresky’s fears of cross contamination between vegan and non-vegan foods in dining halls, Vigg said Elon Dining has a consistent training program for the staff to deal with dietary needs and all necessary checks are in place to prevent such contamination.

Luckily, Bresky was able to make many of her meals in her common room kitchen. But buying groceries on top of having an all-access meal plan proved to be expensive.

Coates added that even though Elon has vegan options at Freshii, Green World and the Oak House, choices are still quite limited.

“I spent the summer in LA, and there are so many vegan restaurants there,” Coates said. “Being a vegan is much easier when you are located in an area that promotes healthier lifestyles.”

### Moving beyond stereotypes

Vegan and vegetarian diets are often scrutinized by critics who claim those who follow these diets are malnourished and are not getting the same nutrients as people who eat meat and dairy products.

“My motto is to just laugh at everything and joke around about it,” Coates said. “If a guy asks me where we can go on a date, I just say, ‘Oh, I actually only eat grass.’”

Coates said research has proven that the food pyramid, popular in U.S. schools, is incorrect and people do not need as much protein as it suggests.

“All plants contain enough protein per calorie that your body needs to survive,” Coates said. “People think vegans need to eat tofu and

other replacements, but you’re already getting those nutrients from vegetables.”

Although a meatless diet can be healthy, vegans still need to make sure they are getting enough calcium, iron and zinc through supplements or dark, leafy greens. According to the National Institutes of Health, there is a risk of vitamin B12 deficiencies, found in animal products, and can lead to anemia and muscle weakness, so supplements should be taken as well.

Bresky said consumerism also highlights the need for protein.

“The media affects people’s opinions to get them to be good consumers and buy their products,” Bresky said. “Meat is expensive, therefore commercials and advertisers drill into our heads that we need meat in our diets, so we buy it.”

Although meat is a way to get protein, it’s not the only way. Anyone — not just vegans — can get protein from beans, quinoa, lentils and seeds like chia and flax. These seeds can be incorporated into smoothies and juices for a healthy and filling snack.

“I have a juicer and really like making my own green juices,” Scro said. “I’ve basically taken over my kitchen with fresh produce.”

For students without their own kitchen, Freshii now offers cold-pressed juices, a filling and healthy option to get protein and nutrients.

Scro added that there are a lot of surprising alternatives to meat and dairy products. Dairy is inflammatory, so she chooses flax, almond or unsweetened vanilla milk instead. To substitute for eggs, Scro likes to add applesauce to recipes.

Social media provides inspiration for vegans and those who are interested in living a healthier lifestyle. Instagram accounts like @freeleethebananagirl and @fullyrawkristina post recipe ideas and food inspiration.

Bresky spent this past summer in New York City, so using Instagram was a way for her to become more familiar with the area by visiting vegan dining spots she saw on her feed. Blossom was one of her favorite dining spots, a vegan restaurant chain that ranges from casual dining at their cafe on the Upper West Side to an upscale restaurant in the West Village.

While eating vegan can prove challenging while in college, Bresky said determination and passion are key in abiding by the diet.

“Research, watch documentaries and find a reason for why you want to do it,” she said.

To find a support group, Scro suggests exploring vegan options and connecting with vegans online and on campus. She added that becoming a vegan should be a decision for yourself, not for anyone else.

“Concentrate on how great you feel being vegan no matter how hard it is,” Scro said. “When you find that determination, you will start to feel amazing and never look back.”

## WHAT AUDREY EATS IN A DAY:

**Snack (optional):**  
85 percent dark chocolate or a spoonful of peanut butter.

**Breakfast:**  
Banana and peanut butter with raw oatmeal, walnuts and a light maple syrup drizzle.

**Lunch:** Mixed greens or spinach salad with dried cranberries, walnuts and apple slices.

**Dinner:** Pasta or rice with a mix of stir-fried veggies, like corn, spinach, carrots, mushrooms and green beans.

**Dessert (optional):**  
Strawberries and pineapples in chocolate fondue.



# NC Jelly Donuts

**Caroline Perry**  
Senior Reporter

Most Saturday mornings for students are a time to relax, hang out with friends and get a mid-morning meal. While brunch is becoming the trendy meal for young adults who fill their plates with eggs Benedict, pancakes and bottomless mimosas, a slightly faster and more economical option is munching on a doughnut.

NC Jelly Donuts is conveniently located just a few minutes from campus to fulfill that need.

While Dunkin' Donuts may be the go-to option for many students hailing from the Northeast, NC Jelly Donuts has been making strides in the doughnut game. It's been in business for more than four years and is finally finding its market in college students with affordable prices and a diverse array of doughnuts.

"There were so many choices," said sophomore Ginna Royalty. "It was so hard to choose because they

all looked so delicious."

The large glass case inside NC Jelly Donuts features almost any flavor of doughnut desired, and the vibrant colored, sprinkled doughnuts almost beg to be posted on Instagram.

## Plenty of options

The adventure-seeking doughnut eater has the opportunity to sink his or her teeth into almost any wacky combination imagined. Along with standard options like glazed and cake doughnuts, NC Jelly Donuts also features chocolate coconut, blueberry- and strawberry-iced doughnuts among many others.

The store also lets customers create their own filled doughnut. To do so, pick a doughnut and a filling, and the employees will make it instantly. Customers can choose from chocolate, butter cream, raspberry, custard, blueberry, apple and lemon.

Located on South Church Street



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

**There's a seemingly unlimited amount of doughnut and filling combinations to create at NC Jelly Donuts.**

in Burlington, NC Jelly Donuts is a seven-minute drive from campus, and the doughnuts are affordably priced. One glazed doughnut is priced at 70 cents, and for \$8.50, students can get a dozen.

Luckily, customers don't have to sacrifice the taste of the treats from NC Jelly Donuts with their low prices. Royalty highly recommends their glazed doughnut.

"Glazed doughnuts are a huge indicator of if you have a good doughnut shop," Royalty said. "[NC Jelly Donuts is] everything you're looking for in a glazed doughnut. There is absolutely a great amount of glaze and it's so big."

NC Jelly Donuts has also received high praise for its powdered donuts.

"Their powdered donuts are the bomb," said sophomore Kayla Hoey. "It's ridiculous how much I love them."

If students want a smaller bite,

they should consider the shop's doughnut holes as an alternative to Dunkin's Munchkins. At only \$1.25 for a dozen, the enormous donut holes are deliciously coated in a sugary glaze and can easily be stashed away for later.

## Made fresh daily

NC Jelly Donuts makes its doughnuts every morning, ensuring the customer gets the freshest, fluffiest product. Its obsession with doughnut perfection pays off with customer satisfaction and loyalty.

"You can definitely tell the difference that it's homemade," Royalty said.

She intends on frequenting the shop a lot in the future. But Royalty's one criticism of the doughnut shop was of the chocolate cake doughnut.

"For some reason it was drier than the other cake doughnuts," she said. "I don't know if it has some-

thing to do with the chocolate component, but regardless I'll be going back soon to get more of their other doughnuts."

NC Jelly Donuts is open at its Burlington location 6 a.m.- 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. They also have a location in Mebane with the same hours.

The NC Jelly Donut shops are currently owned by Sreyrath Chao, who is originally from Cambodia, but moved to California in 1992 and worked in her uncle's doughnut shop.

These doughnuts could be a great addition to a club meeting, sorority or fraternity chapters, class presentation or breakfast. There is a doughnut for everyone at NC Jelly Donuts.

The only downside of going to NC Jelly Donuts? Choosing what doughnut to get.

"They rock," sophomore Ginette Andre said. "I love all their selections and they were delicious."



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

**Enjoy a doughnut inside the store or take a dozen for a snack later.**

## MYNT from cover

With a second location, Mynt now has an opportunity to diversify items between the two stores. The Durham store will now house all of the more expensive and high-end items that used to turn off Elon students.

The majority of clothing tags used to show prices over \$100 for brands like Free People, Tory Burch, Rebecca Taylor and Lilly Pulitzer.

Today, few of the prices exceeded \$100, besides higher-end jeans and shoes. Students can shop at Mynt for more than just special events or when their parents come to visit.

"I noticed with college students that some would come in and buy higher priced items and others would come in and say that they wouldn't pay that much for a dress," said junior Paige Jordan, a sales associate at Mynt. "But I would tell them that it's not the store, it is the brand."

The quality and high level of fashion at Mynt are not changing from the drop in prices. The trendy feel of the store rings as true as ever, even with the more affordable brands, including Brand, Vince and Amanda Uprichard. For special events, Mynt will still provide some big-ticket items.

"On big weekends like Parents' Weekend or graduation or formals, we are going to have more expensive items coming back to accommodate those needs," Meadows said.

The drop in prices has been good for the store and for the extended group of people who want to shop there. More students are hearing about the affordable prices, along with other women in the surrounding area who are looking for stylish clothes.



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer

**Mynt Boutique, commonly known for its expensive clothing, has recently lowered to prices more-suited to college budgets.**

"It has definitely gotten the word around," Jordan said. "People have noticed it and liked it. We have gotten a lot of good feedback."

Expanding to a wider demographic in Durham has allowed the store the opportunity to make the Elon location completely unique to students' preferences.

"Now that mostly everything is under \$100, we just want to be Elon's one-stop shop, so that no one thinks to go to Greensboro or Durham," Meadows said. "It will kinda' be y'all's own little boutique."

Having two locations also caters to Elon students' fashion needs. If students see an item of clothing from the store in Durham, the sales associates at the Elon location will be able to bring it to the store in a few days, for items not usually stocked at the Elon store.

Now, though Trost said she left the boutique her first time without any purchases, she would go back with the lower prices.

"I've always liked their display clothes, so I might go in at some point," Trost said.

# A deadline like no other

## Students make magic with '24 Hour Plays'

Courtney Campbell  
Style Editor

Putting on a play from start to finish usually requires more than a year of writing and editing, a few weeks of casting and a couple of months of practice and technical rehearsals. But every year, Elon University's Department of Performing Arts students manage to write, direct and perform six different plays over the course of 24 hours.

This year's "24 Hour Plays," held Sept. 12, was led by senior Hunter McCormick, president of Elon's chapter of Alpha Psi Omega, the National Theatre Honor Society. Since classes began, she has been collaborating with the board — vice president and junior Ferginho Philippe-Auguste, secretary and junior Douglas Del Pizzo and treasurer and senior Allison Pichowicz — to put the event together.

"It's something I'm super passionate about," McCormick said. "I've always been super involved in it, and I knew I wanted to be in charge of it. This is the No. 1 way of getting involved with theater if you're interested in it. It's a quick way to perform for a short time commitment."

According to McCormick, "24 Hour Plays" is a yearly tradition that has always been on the department's calendar. This time around, there were six writing teams, six directors and 40 actors — the biggest group of performers yet.

Together, they created six 10-minute-long plays, making the show just over an hour long with transitions.

"24 Hour Plays" extends beyond the Department of Performing Arts. Sophomore Bob Minton, a human services major, acted in one of the plays.

"Everyone's really good," he said. "It's nice that I'm not an acting major but they still gave me a part where I can have fun. It's phenomenal that this has happened in the past 24 hours."

### Working under pressure

The schedule for "24 Hour Plays" is tight. At 7:30 p.m. Friday, everyone meets briefly to go over the schedule, and writers and directors can see the actors they are working with. When 8 p.m. comes, everyone leaves except the writers, who have until 6 a.m. to finish their script.

"They're always funny," McCormick said. "The way it works is when we get the writers in the room they pick a genre out of a hat. They have no idea what they're writing about. That's kind of the challenge of it."

Another challenge is that one specific line must be repeated in every skit, which doesn't always work out well. This year's line — "That was not a very nice way to pull me closer" — was easier to include than previous years.

"We had it in there during the first scene," said writer and senior Jillian Hannah. "The line was so generic we could put it anywhere."

This was Hannah's second year writing for "24 Hour Plays," making her more prepared for the deadline. Collaborating with senior Rebecca Frohlinger, they hashed out ideas that worked with



A group of fraternity brothers need to retrace their steps to find a missing swan in "Dude, Where's My Swan?"

the genre of mystery and a cast of mostly boys until one stuck — a fraternity party — and finished their play by midnight.

As soon as the writing process is over, the board prints the script and the directors come in. They are then assigned their writers, allowed to read the plays and go through a quick casting by choosing actors by their headshots.

At 7:30 a.m., the actors go into separate rehearsal rooms and have the rest of the day to rehearse. During this time, the board is also running around gathering props and making sure everyone's plays are appropriate.

The show is presented at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in the Yeager Recital Hall — ready or not.

"I have never seen a 24 hour play where it has been unsuccessful," McCormick said. "I think it really teaches students about work ethic and how to accomplish things thoroughly and specifically, but quickly as well."

### 24 hours of changes

For a less stressful 24 hours, the board has made a big change by extending the tech time from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. with 30-minute slots, instead of 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. with 20-minute slots. Although it's more time-consuming for the board, those 10 minutes allow for each skit to completely work out their kinks.

"People would run over and people would get nervous, but it always works out," McCormick said. "Hopefully it'll calm some tempers."

For the first time this year, the department is a licensed college to do "24 Hour Plays" through the "The 24 Hour Company," a New York based theater company specializing in 24-hour plays and musicals.

Over the summer, Mark Armstrong, head of the company,



Seniors Sam Rozier and Jordan Bollwerk battled it out in "Sell Out Smash."

reached out to Fred Rubeck, chair of the Department of Performing Arts, and wanted to recognize the department for creating "24 Hour Plays" each year.

As a licensed school, the department has to use the "24 Hour Company" logo, link to their website and receive shout-outs from the company on Facebook and Twitter for their performance. Additionally, every summer the company hosts a national festival in New York, and the department can apply to send two people to perform in it.

"Obviously, it's not guaranteed, but it's super exciting," McCormick said. "We're getting known for doing this."

Though McCormick said some of the plays end up being a bit "cheesy," "24 Hour Plays" gives writers the opportunity to dip their toes into play writing and see how people are going to respond. Often times, writers will expand their 10-minute play into a full-length one.

Directors also have an opportunity to test the waters by managing under a tight time constraint.

Freshman Hayden Palmer decided to participate as a director because he wanted to see if this was the path for him.

"It has gone fantastic," Palmer said. "I have actors that are so smart and are great on stage. Everything flowed so well, it's been a smooth process."

Palmer also said his play — a comedy mystery — was easy to work with because it wasn't binding and allowed the actors to add and have fun with it.

McCormick said "24 Hour Plays" is one of the most popular events of the year and there is always a sold-out house. This year, there was so much overflow they live-streamed the event in the Isabella Cannon room in Moseley.

"We discussed putting on two shows but decided against it because it's magical to have that one show, and doing it twice would lose its magic a bit," McCormick said. "The audience is always amazed. It's like, 'Wow, how did that even happen?'"

For more Multimedia coverage go to [www.elonpendulum.com](http://www.elonpendulum.com).

## "24 HOUR PLAYS"

### Oh, To Be Young

Written by Matthew Cesari

Directed by Becca Nipper

### Dude, Where's My Swan?

Written by Becky Frohlinger & Jillian Hannah

Directed by Becca Nipper

### Chasity Chardonnay: An American Girl Story

Written by Jesse Allison

Directed by Rachel Martinez

### Sell Out Smash

Written by Sam Rozier & Jordan Bollwerk

Directed by Sam Rozier & Jordan Bollwerk

### Inimicus

Written by Evan Coury

Directed by Evan Coury

### 1986

Written by Lauren Richards & Bronte Scoggins

Directed by Caroline Colino

# New faces boosting Elon offense early

## Transfer Vandermaas-Peeler, freshman Fortune leading way

Jordan Spritzer  
Assistant Sports Editor

There's only room for one striker in head Elon University men's soccer coach Chris Little's offense. The second-year head coach favors a formation with true wingers out wide and a play-maker in the center midfielder position playing right behind the striker.

With the departure of Jason Waterman '15 at the end of last season, Little has handed over the reigns of the striker position to a pair of new faces, senior forward Cooper Vandermaas-Peeler and freshman forward Jaiden Fortune.

Vandermaas-Peeler, a University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill transfer, has started in all five matches for the Phoenix, scoring two goals as well as assisting two more.

Fortune has also appeared in

all five matches, making each appearance off the bench. The Bedford, England, native has scored three goals — tied with senior forward Caue Da Silva for a team high — and also leads the team in assists with three.

"He's obviously scoring goals, but he's also making goals too," Little said. "You can see his spirit. [His] determination to do things is there, and as a forward, he needs to take his chances — and he has."

### Cashing in on opportunities

Elon fans got their first opportunity to see Fortune in action in Elon's home opening 4-0 victory against Davidson College Sept. 12. The match was scoreless late in the first half when Little brought in Fortune for Vandermaas-Peeler. Just about two minutes later, Fortune gave Elon the lead.

"As a center forward, I'm always thinking about scoring goals," Fortune said. "Coming in and to be able to make an impact like that was really good."

Fortune's highly touted pace and strength were on full display in the buildup to the goal. Fortune received a pass from senior midfielder Eduardo Alvarez, out-muscled his defender and blasted a powerful shot past the Davidson goalkeeper.

After the goal, Fortune ran over to the Elon bench, where he was swarmed by his teammates.

"We kind of do everything for each other," Fortune said. "Coming from where I was at before, Orlando City, we were kind of a close team. And now coming to Elon, to be honest I feel like we're even closer."

Fortune would score his second goal of the match in the 51st minute, with Vandermaas-Peeler still on the bench, and nearly completed his hat trick when another shot went off the post. He received a generous round of applause from the crowd when he was substituted off late in the second half.

Despite playing less than a full match at Rudd Field, Fortune feels at home at Elon.

"I like that close unity [Elon] has," Fortune said. "Seeing everyone so close to the pitch and being able to give the fans a show was really great," he said.

### From a defender's eyes

Senior defender Sam McBride battles with Fortune daily in training, and is able to see up close the trouble Fortune can cause for opposing defenses. He said Fortune doesn't look like somebody three years younger.

"It's definitely not easy," McBride said. "He's so strong and he can turn you at anytime. I'm always thinking I have to be on my toes at all times and I think that's why I play well out here because I'm going against the best [in training.]"



Freshman Jaiden Fortune (14) lunges for the ball in the 4-0 victory over Davidson College Sept. 12.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JACK HARTMANN



Senior Cooper Vandermaas-Peeler (15) gets ready to send the ball into the box against Davidson College Sept. 12.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JACK HARTMANN

Fortune said he's used to playing against older players, but admits there was a lot to adjust to when he came to Elon.

"When we first started training I was nervous playing with older, stronger and faster guys and just getting used to that," he said. "But I feel like the way I play I'm really going to adapt well to the college game."

Despite being positioned as a central striker, Fortune likes to revert back to his youth days as wide player.

"From when I was 7 to when I was about 13, I was a right winger, so that was kind of my first natural position," he said. "I feel like I do drift out each wing sometimes. The best players in the world can play all over the place and it brings another dynamic to your game."

Fortune said he already senses the chemistry with his teammates

in attack. He credited Little's drill in training, which are designed to work on forward movements and interchanging positions.

### Making quite the first impression

Vandermaas-Peeler has slid right into Little's starting lineup since joining in the spring. He scored Elon's first goal of the season against DePaul University Aug. 28 and has been very accurate, scoring with two of his three shots on goal.

Little said Vandermaas-Peeler's and Fortune's styles of play work well with each other.

"In an attacking sense, [Vandermaas-Peeler's] very intelligent with his awareness of space," he said. "It's a good complement we've got a guy who drops in, drags defenders around and then you have another striker who comes in and really has lots of

pace and strength so it's difficult for teams to defend."

Vandermaas-Peeler also helps out on Elon's defense, which has kept four clean sheets its first five matches. Little said Vandermaas-Peeler's mobility and versatility helps close in on defenders when Elon's pressing high up the field.

"Those clean sheets don't just happen," Little said. "It's from really hard work. I'm delighted for [the players], it's something they really take ownership of and to get four clean sheets out of five is fantastic."

McBride said despite the hot start, it's no time for the team to be resting on its laurels.

"We're happy right now, but we have to make sure we don't get complacent," he said. "These wins have been really big but I think we need to keep our heads straight there's a long season ahead of us."

SPORTS SCHEDULE: SEPT. 16 - SEPT. 22

### Wednesday, Sept. 16

Women's volleyball v. UNCG | 7 p.m.

### Friday, Sept. 18

Men's soccer v. Drexel University | 7 p.m.

Cross country @ Adidas XC Challenge

Men's tennis @ Duke Fab Four | TBD

Women's soccer @ Gardner Webb | 7 p.m.

### Saturday, Sept. 19

Men's tennis @ Duke Fab Four | TBD

Football v. North Carolina A&T | 6 p.m.

### Sunday, Sept. 20

Men's tennis @ Duke Fab Four | TBD

Women's soccer v. Charlotte | 6 p.m.

### Monday, Sept. 21

Men's Golf @ Janney VCU Shootout | TBD

### Tuesday, Sept. 22

Men's soccer @ University of South Carolina | 7 p.m.

Men's Golf @ Janney VCU Shootout | TBD

# Finally, a win: Elon ends losing streak

*Phoenix overcomes clock malfunctions, 3 overtimes for victory*

Alex Simon  
Sports Editor

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. — The mental and physical exhaustion was palpable for two-time captain and senior defensive back Miles Williams after the Elon University football team's game against Gardner-Webb University.

And yet, even as his shoulders slumped under the weight of the equipment and the exhaustion, Williams couldn't contain his joy after his team's 21-13 victory in three overtimes.

"We grinded for that one," he said. "We worked to prepare this week, and to see that work pay off on both sides of the ball and on special teams...that's big, man. That's huge to see. I can't stop smiling right now, to be honest with you."

Head coach Rich Skrosky agreed with his captain, even as he focused on areas of improvement.

"I can't be any happier for the 64 guys here and the guys who didn't make the trip," Skrosky said. "Because we know how much time and effort they give. They keep grinding at it, and that's what they did tonight."

## A play away from a shutout

After 59 minutes, 57 seconds of shutout football, Elon needed one fourth down stop to end a 10-game losing streak and get a win against Gardner-Webb.

The Phoenix didn't get the stop, as Runnin' Bulldogs sophomore quarterback Tyrell Maxwell found junior tight end Mike Estes for a 3-yard touchdown, sending the game to overtime.

"It was a letdown — we really wanted the shutout to begin with," Williams said. "We feel like, when it's that time of the game, we should focus a little bit more. But we knew we had overtime. We had stopped them all game, and we were confident that we would go in there and make a stop in overtime."

After the teams traded field goals in each of the first two overtimes, redshirt freshman

Connor Christiansen found true freshman Corey Joyner for 25-yard touchdown pass on the first play of the third overtime. Elon took the lead, 21-13.

With three straight stops, including one that knocked Maxwell out of the game, the defense had another chance to end the game with a fourth down stop.

This time, senior defensive back Julius Moore intercepted Gardner-Webb red-shirt sophomore backup quarterback Chase Arrington's first throw of the night to end Elon's 10-game losing streak and 10-game road losing streak.

Williams drew a connection between the game against Gardner-Webb and Elon's last road victory, a 28-25 victory on Oct. 5, 2013, at Furman University.

"The last win was against Furman, right?" Williams asked. "We stayed in the same hotel against Furman. I was kind of joking about it, saying, 'Maybe we should stay in the Crowne Royal every week and stay there every weekend, even on home games.'"

The defense stood firm for the Phoenix, as the Runnin' Bulldogs could only gain 305 yards on 95 yards. For Skrosky, another unit shined.

"The nice thing to see tonight is that each phase played a pivotal role," Skrosky said. "Like [junior punter] David Petroni and a few punts he had were massive. [Senior kicker] John [Gallagher] in overtime [even after he] missed a pretty easy kick early on."

## Where's the power?

There was one element about the game that was unusual. The electronic scoreboard and the play clock both flickered in and out of power throughout the night with varying degrees of usability.

According to Marc Rabb, Gardner-Webb's assistant athletic director for athletic media relations, a lightning strike hit the transformer that controls the scoreboard and play clock while the Runnin' Bulldogs played their first game of the season. The athletic department at Gardner-Webb thought it had fixed the transformer, but the power started flashing in and out in the middle of the second quarter.

Eventually, the referees decided to take matters into their own hands, with one official in charge of the game clock and another in charge of the play clock. After the game, Skrosky went out of his way to praise their efforts.

"You won't hear this much from coaches, but I'll compliment the officials tonight," Skrosky said. "I think they really did a good



## Game Day

**Date/Time:** Sept. 19 | 6 p.m.

**Location:** Elon, N.C.

**Stadium:** Rhodes Stadium

**Series History:** NC A&T leads, 6-4

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job of trying to manage the game. You talk about extra stress — now one guy is keeping the game clock and another is keeping the play clock — they did the best job they could."

## Good when it mattered

The offense struggled throughout the night for the Phoenix, only mustering 209 yards on 73 plays. Skrosky, previously an offensive coordinator, didn't harp on the negatives too long.

"Offensively, we didn't play great," Skrosky said. "But then you get into overtime, and you're able to score a touchdown on the first play of the third overtime, it's pretty good."

And it was that score in the third overtime that gave the defensive unit the opportunity to secure the win. After shutting down Gardner-Webb all night, the defense controlled the outcome of the game.

"[The defense] wouldn't have it any other way," Williams said. "We want the game to be on us. It was on us from the first snap, and I feel like we couldn't ask for a better ending."

By the time Moore caught the interception and took a knee to down the ball in one motion, the defense had propelled Elon over all obstacles — three overtimes, clock errors, even a small amount of rain — and rolled out of Boiling Springs with a victory.



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer  
Corey Joyner caught two touchdowns.

## Football Brief

### Mitchell earns national honor

Pendulum Sports Desk

Junior linebacker Corey Mitchell was named the STATS FCS National Defensive Player of the Week for his efforts in the Elon University football team's 21-13 victory over Gardner-Webb University.

Mitchell, who was also named Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Defensive Player of the Week, had a career-high 18 tackles that night, eight of which were solo tackles. Additionally, he had three tackles in the three overtime periods.

He also forced a fumble in the third quarter, which directly led to Elon's first touchdown and broke up a pass. Mitchell leads the entire CAA with 24 tackles through two games this season.

Mitchell is the first national player of the week for Elon since Aaron Mellette was recognized Nov. 19, 2012 and the first Elon defensive player to be awarded a national player of the week recognition since Chad Nkang Nov. 17, 2006.



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer  
Corey Mitchell (24) tackles a Wake Forest player on Sept. 3. Mitchell was named STATS FCS National Defensive Player of the Week for Sept. 12.

# Women, men both win at Elon Invitational

Emmanuel Morgan  
Reporter

The general consensus around cross country is that it is an individual sport. But if you asked Elon University sophomore Sam Geha about that stereotype, he would tell you something much different.

“As much as this is an individual sport as this is, it’s really effective for the group to run as a team and help each other all the way,” Geha said.

The Phoenix used the “pack running” style along with stout individual performances from Geha and senior Elyse Bierut to capture both the men’s and women’s crowns on its home course at the Elon Invitational on Sept. 12.

“We just hoped to do well today and doing so in front of all the fans, faculty and staff was incredible,” Geha said.

The outcome of the event, which featured both men and women’s teams from North Carolina A&T State University, Averett University, Bennett University, William Peace University and Catawba College, was never in question. Individually, Geha was runner-up on the men’s side, posting a time of 26 minutes, 8 seconds. On the women’s side, Bierut trotted across the finish line clocking in a time of 18:13. The

rest of her teammates quickly followed her, the last finishing one minute, 51 seconds after her.

“Coming into this, [head coach Nick Polk] told us to work together as much as possible and stick with the Elon pack,” Bierut said. “I wanted to stay with the pack for the majority of the race but by the last half mile I picked it up and gave it everything I had. I think I did well today. I have some things to work on but overall I think I’m in a good spot right now.”

Elon’s Nick Ciolkowski (26:10) and Reed Payne (26:26) finished right after Geha. Brigid Brennan (18:58) and Bridgette Harrell (19:00) were in third and fourth, respectively, on the women’s side.

This pack running style is something Polk implemented upon his arrival a year ago, and something he wants to focus on again. Although he is happy that individuals performed well in the event, Polk still wants the team to perfect this technique.

“It was good to get a win,” he said. “In a meet like this, we had to get together as much as possible and run as a group. We did that for the majority of the race, which is good, but now we have to work on doing it for the whole race. Overall, we were pretty strong and it was a great start for the team.”



The mantra around the Elon University cross country team has shifted toward pack running, which was successful for both the men and women at the Elon Invitational.

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

## Sports Briefs

### Women’s soccer ends scoreless streak



Kelly Siewers tries to avoid two defenders in a match against Coastal Carolina.

The Elon University women’s soccer team gave up a goal for the first time in five matches against the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, but the Phoenix kept its unbeaten streak alive with a 1-1 draw in Greensboro.

A Phoenix goal in the first half and a Spartans goal in the second sent the game into overtime, the second time the Phoenix has had an overtime match this season (Elon won the other, 1-0, over Davidson University Aug. 23). There was little threat from either side during the two overtime periods, and each team had to settle for a draw.

The first half was mostly balanced until the Phoenix struck in the 34th minute. Senior defender Mel Insley scored a goal almost-identical to the one she scored Sept. 11 against Coastal Carolina Uni-

versity, putting a free kick in the back of the net from 20 yards out to give Elon the lead going into halftime.

Before the second half could even get going, the game was already tied. The Spartans’ senior forward Chesney White hit a shot from 8 yards out to tie the match 20 seconds into the second half, breaking a Phoenix shutout streak of 421 minutes.

The goal was the first allowed by junior goalkeeper Taylor Mohr in four appearances. There were plenty of shots on either side, but the Phoenix outshot the Spartans on target, putting 12 shots on goal to the Spartans’ five.

The Phoenix (5-1-1) rides its unbeaten streak into its next match at Gardner-Webb Sept. 18. UNCG moved to 2-5-1.

### Volleyball struggles at Popcorn Classic

The Elon University volleyball team traveled to Valparaiso, Indiana, to play in the Popcorn Classic last weekend, going 1-3 over the four matches. Elon struggled in both matches Friday night, falling to Loyola University Chicago in four sets (25-13, 25-20, 23-25, 25-18) before being swept by the host team, Valparaiso University (25-21, 25-18, 25-16). Saturday, the Phoenix first lost 3-0 (25-16, 25-20, 25-23) to Kennesaw State University but rebounded with a sweep (25-15, 25-20, 25-13) of Savannah State University in its fourth and final game of the tournament.

The Phoenix had a slow start against Loyola, losing the first set 25-13. Though the second set stayed close for a time, the Ramblers pulled away from the Phoenix, leading by as many as nine before winning the second set 25-20.

In the third set, the Phoenix started the set on a 10-4 run before winning the set 25-23. But Loyola would regain its composure. The Ramblers didn’t trail in the fourth set, en route to a 25-18 win and the victory in the match.

Offensively, Loyola bested the Phoenix in kills, 61-45. Elon junior middle blocker Ally Karle and junior outside hitter Kayla Agae each had nine kills while sophomore outside hitter Sydney Busa added eight more. Senior

setter Ana Nicksic had 20 assists and freshman defensive specialist Maddie Jaudon tallied 18 digs.

The second match was much of the same for the Phoenix. The Phoenix struggled on offense throughout the match, tallying no service aces. Karle and senior outside hitter Megan Gravelly led the Phoenix in kills, finishing with six each. Nicksic and sophomore setter Sydel Curry each had 11 assists. Curry also led the team in digs, finishing the match with 10.

Elon got off to a rough start against Kennesaw State Saturday morning. Busa continued her hot streak from Friday’s matches, leading the Phoenix in kills (13), tying for the most digs (10) and tallying four blocks. Curry was also stellar with 24 assists and nine digs, while Jaudon added 10 more digs.

The second match of the day broke Elon’s losing streak. The Phoenix bested the Tigers in all major categories, including kills, aces, blocks, assists and digs. Busa again came up big for Elon, tallying seven kills, nine digs and three aces. Curry added 25 more assists, and sophomore middle blocker Michelle Klein led the Phoenix with seven blocks.

The Phoenix (3-9) returns to Alumni Gym 7 p.m. Sept. 16 for a home contest against the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

# Top Photos



HALI TAUXE | Photo Editor  
**A cuddly corgi gives a cheerful grin at Elon Community Church's Dog Day Mixer Sept. 13.**



HALI TAUXE | Photo Editor  
**Bernie Sanders greets a crowd of fans at his rally in Greensboro Sept. 13.**



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer  
**Two actors perform in "Oh, To Be Young," written by Matthew Cesari and directed by Becca Nipper, during "24 Hour Plays."**



HALI TAUXE | Photo Editor  
**American flags line the paths through Young Commons on the 14th anniversary of 9/11.**