

THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA • WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2015 • VOLUME 41 EDITION 21

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Same space, new cut *Local opens eco-friendly hair salon*



Brooke Troxler styles McKayla Owen's hair in her new business, Enlighten Eco-Friendly Salon. She occupies the space that was once Eleonore's Hair Design.

DIEGO DAVILA | Staff Photographer

Caroline Fernandez
News Editor

Elon University students now have a new option for taming their mane.

The space that Eleonore's Hair Design occupied on North Williamson Avenue since 1980 was recently rented out to a new leasee, Brooke Troxler, who opened Enlighten Eco-Friendly Salon Sept. 15.

In the week Enlighten has been open, the business saw a heavy flow of interested customers.

"I made rent and paid all of my bills within three days," Troxler said. "After my shift I just sat down and started crying. You don't want to go into anything expecting it to go that well."

Change leads to opportunity

Troxler, a 21-year-old Burlington native, graduated from Leon's Beauty School in 2013 and then worked at salons in Burlington and Mebane.

But though she was doing what she was passionate about, her career plans weren't falling into place.

"I kept moving on to other salons to try other environments, but

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Danieley recreation facility opens doors

Max Garland
Assistant News Editor

After a delayed opening, the Phoenix Activities and Recreation Center (PARC) quietly debuted its fitness center Sept. 21, giving Danieley Neighborhood residents a space to exercise closer to their dorms.

PARC, which houses a fitness center, two basketball courts and an office for Campus Recreation, is located behind Danieley Flats buildings H, I and J and is a more reasonable trek for the roughly 800 students living in the residential neighborhood compared to the walk to Koury Gym, near Moseley Center.

"It's really nice since it's a shorter walk from where I live," said freshman and Danieley resident Rayven Young. "I never went to [Koury Gym] because it was too far away."

Only Danieley residents have swipe access to the building. Young said while she was at the fitness center Monday, gym-goers opened the door for students throughout her time there. The doors were ajar Tuesday morning.

"A lot of people weren't able to get in here yesterday because the doors were closed," Young said. "They thought any Phoenix card could get them in."

Freshman and Colonnades resident Margeaux Baker said the quality of the exercise equipment, which consists of seven cardio pieces, dumbbells and a cable machine, impressed her.

"It's smaller than I thought it would be," Baker said of the fitness center. "But overall, the space is really nice."

A more elaborate grand opening for PARC is planned for a day toward the end of the month, but no official date has been confirmed, according to Rex Waters, dean of student development.

Elon Dining looks at Historic Neighborhood revamp *Upcoming plans outlined, discussed at recent SGA Senate meeting*

Caroline Fernandez
News Editor

Elon Dining construction projects and remodels will extend to Historic Neighborhood in the next few years with recently revealed plans for a total renovation of the almost 60-year-old McEwen dining hall.

The renovations will begin June 2016 with Acorn Coffee Shop, which will be finished by August 2016, according to Chris Fulkerson, assistant vice president for administrative services.

McEwen Dining Hall renovations are also scheduled to begin in July 2016 but are not set to be finished until August 2017.

Future renovations and enhancements to McEwen Dining Hall, which opened in 1956, are long overdue in comparison to other areas of campus, Fulkerson said.

"McEwen hasn't been completely ren-

ovated in 25 years," Fulkerson said. "We want to get as up to the level as other areas."

Potential plans were presented to SGA Sept. 17 as Elon Dining gauged interest and advice during the senate's weekly meeting. The conversation with SGA was the second meeting they've had on this topic, according to Fulkerson. The first was with senior Avery Steadman, executive president.

Hybrid purchasing options

A question that led to a major topic of discussion among Pulkit Vigg, resident district manager for Elon Dining, and SGA was whether to make the options in the renovated dining hall retail or all access.

Many SGA senators said restricting a dining area to retail or all access creates a divide between new students and upper-

ELON DINING CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE OF HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD RENOVATIONS



STEPHANIE HAYS | Design Chief

classmen who have different meal plans.

With that discussion came the alternative of creating a hybrid dining style, meaning that the dining area in McEwen would house dining possibilities that accommodate all access plans and others that require retail.

"I think hybrid would be a better option," said junior Steven Armendariz. "I

know students who come in with all access basic and can't pay for retail locations. I think hybrid is faster and more efficient."

Jana Lynn Patterson, associate vice president for student life, believes a hybrid

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¡Viva la comunidad latina!

Elon women's soccer and El Centro celebrate Hispanic Heritage month

Morgan Abate
Online Editor

Five and a half minutes left in the half. The goalie dives to her left to block a shot. It deflects off her, but she cannot get to the rebound shot in time. The ball rolls just underneath her and into the net.

“¡GOOOOOOOOOOL!” an announcer screams. “¡De la numero 13, Sydney Schilling!”

The Spanish booming from the loudspeakers Sunday evening at Elon University's Rudd Field might have sounded strange to those walking past — but if they stopped for a minute, they would have noticed the flags of seemingly random countries placed along the back fence of the field.

The flags of these Spanish-speaking countries were placed on Rudd Field as part of a collaborative effort between the Elon women's soccer team and El Centro de Espanol to celebrate Hispanic Heritage month.

Sylvia Munoz, associate director for the Center for Race, Ethnicity, and Diversity Education (CREDE), said coach Chris Neal contacted her at the end of the spring semester to ask if she wanted to sponsor an event with the team for Hispanic Heritage month.

The celebration included homemade traditional food made by members of El Centro and CREDE, a free soccer clinic, Spanish announcements and commentary by Eduardo Alvarez and Miguel Salazar — two members of the men's soccer team — and Twitter up-

dates in both Spanish and English.

“It's nice to see,” Munoz said. “At the same time, it's nice to use students in a good way to make them feel appreciated and celebrate their culture. No one had to twist their arms.”

The event kicked off at 5 p.m. with a soccer clinic for elementary school-aged players instructed by some players from the men's team.

Angela MacDonald, whose daughter and son play for Gibsonville Parks and Recreation, brought her kids to expose them to a university environment and to have them learn skills from older players.

“We've heard about the Elon clinics during the summertime, but it's never been something that's in our budget,” MacDonald said. “We thought we'd come out here and check this out as an opportunity to learn skills.”

Freshman from the men's soccer team volunteered to help lead shooting drills, one-on-ones and mini scrimmages. Between drills, kids challenged themselves to take the ball from the feet of the Elon players, not letting the misses distract them from their goal.

“All of them are really excited to play,” said freshman defenseman Nick O'Callaghan. “It reminds me of when I was a kid and used to come out here, loving to kick the ball around.”

Munoz said the hope was to have more of the Hispanic and Latino community at the clinic, since the night celebrated their heritage and culture. But the clinic was planned at the last minute, without time to let school districts and townships know of the event.

MacDonald was one of few residents out-



MORGAN ABATE | Online Editor

The CREDE partnered with the Elon men's and women's soccer teams to lead shooting drills for local youth to celebrate Hispanic Heritage month on Sunday before the women's soccer game.

side of Elon who did know of the clinic, but not until several hours before. Her friend, Ginny Drewery, received a text from the coach of the men's team asking her if she was coming to the event around 3 p.m. Without that connection to Elon, though, the two mothers would not have known it was happening. They both said they would have liked for it to have been advertised in newsletters, and hope that there will be more in the future.

Munoz said marketing the event was the hardest part. Next year she plans to put more effort into communicating the clinic and the Hispanic Heritage month celebrations in general to the wider community.

“We can connect with soccer,” said Diana Prieto Vinas, assistant director of El Centro. “I mean, it's big in our countries, and we can celebrate and connect both things. It's like we share something.”

Alamance Cares offers HIV testing in Moseley

Leena Dahal
Senior Reporter

Equipped with packs of free condoms, a poster board filled with facts and the question “Would you like to get HIV tested for a \$5 Walmart gift card?” a Burlington-based organization is using a Moseley center table to spread their educational programming and testing services to the Elon University student body.

Alamance Cares, the nonprofit agency behind the table, is focused on preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS, Syphilis and Hepatitis C through awareness, education and testing in Alamance County and surrounding counties.

Starting as a grassroots organization initiated by Burlington residents who had family members that had been diagnosed with HIV or AIDS in the 1990s, Alamance Cares has been spreading awareness, promoting pre-

vention and supporting the community for more than 15 years.

Though the group has been providing free testing and educational programming at Elon for more than seven years, its services were only being offered in the Student Health Services Clinic. When the center moved to South Campus three years ago, the organization did, too.

But this year, after realizing the disadvantages of an office so far away from the campus center, the organization has decided to use a table in Moseley as its primary platform — providing the information and testing services to students amidst the hustle and bustle of the heart of campus every month.

Working more closely with SPARKS Peer Educators, Elon's student organization that seeks to provide health-related programming and resources, Alamance Cares is determined to make its presence known throughout campus.

Why get tested?

Alamance Cares offers these services to at risk populations, which includes college students.

According to Brenda Beam, program director of Alamance Cares, college students who engage in unsafe sexual behavior are at risk for HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C and Syphilis.

“Anybody engaging in unprotected sex is at risk for HIV,” she said. “And in college, where there are high numbers of students getting intoxicated, many people can have multiple sexual partners. This puts them directly [at] risk.”

Beam said for students thinking about whether or not they should get tested for any sexually transmitted infection or virus, the answer is simple: if you have had unprotected sex, especially with someone who has had

more than one sexual partner, you need to get tested.

The tests Alamance Cares offer — HIV, Syphilis and Hepatitis C — are all free. Students interested in being tested will be able to do so with privacy and confidentiality. They can sign up at the Moseley table and get the tests done immediately in a private room on the second floor, or they can visit the Alamance Cares office on South Church Street in Burlington.

The HIV test simply requires a swab test, and results are available in a matter of minutes. Syphilis and Hepatitis C tests require blood withdrawal and the results take three to four days.

HIV in Alamance County & North Carolina

Beam said many people overlook the fact that HIV/AIDS is still a daily reality for many across the country and the world.

According to the Department of Health, there were nine cases of HIV in Alamance County between January and June 2015. In the same time frame a year ago, there were 11.

In its most recent annual report, posted in December 2014, the Department of Health found that the number of people diagnosed and living with HIV infection in North Carolina was 28,526.

In a report released by the Center for Disease Control, about 50,000 people get infected with HIV each year in the United States, and about 36.9 million people are living with HIV around the world. Last year, 1.2 million people died from AIDS-related illnesses.

Beam said as long as unprotected sex and risky behavior — including the sharing of needles — exists, the possibility of the spread of HIV does, too.

“The key to managing the situation is ear-

ly detection,” she said. “The sooner you diagnose it, the higher your chances to cure HIV before it become AIDS.”

Beam underlined the importance of protection during sexual activity and full disclosure with your sexual partner.

“It's not unusual for a couple to come to us and say, ‘We've been dating for a while and think we want to engage in sexual activity — can we get tested?’” she said. “The more partners you have, the more at risk you are.”

Breaking the stigma

The fact that many students shy away from the question, “Have you had unprotected sex?” is not new to senior and SPARKS Peer Educator, Ana Sofia Adames.

She recalled how some students quickly moved away from her SPARKS's table at the Org Fair at the sight of condoms.

“There should be no shame in talking about [it] or trying to stay protected,” she said. “Remaining safe and getting tested if you didn't is the best thing to do for you and your partner.”

Beam said while she faced hesitation, she was pleased that 11 students were tested during the 60-minute period.

“Even if some people just did the tests for a Walmart gift card, that's fine,” she said. “The point is they were able to get tested and learn about the risks and prevention of these health-related issues.”

Beam advised community members who feel hesitant about approaching the table to come with a friend or visit their office.

Adames said the fact that the table is placed in the center of campus is a positive step in talking about sexually transmitted infections (STIs) on campus.

She urges students to approach the table because they can have a direct impact on changing culture around discussions about STIs and safe sex.

ALAMANCE CARES

Who: Alamance Cares, a non-profit agency focused on preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS. They are offering HIV testing for free for all Elon students

When: October 15, 2015

Where: Moseley Center

Why: College students are at risk for HIV/AIDS and should get tested if they have engaged unsafe sexual behavior

Beyond the stadium bleachers

Smith LLC looks to bond residents over sports

Max Garland
Assistant News Editor

Residents of the first floor of Smith Hall gathered for an Elon University football tailgate on a recent Saturday to rally around a familiar topic — sports. It was the first of several sport-related activities the floor will participate in together throughout the academic year.

Smith's first floor houses the Sports, Participation & Networking (SPN) Living Learning Community (LLC), which is in the midst of its first semester as the newest LLC on campus, along with the Elon Innovation House in Trollinger.

The idea for the LLC was initially proposed in the spring as an option for the rising number of students majoring in Sport & Event Management. The number of declared Sport & Event Management majors has grown from 115 to 192 in the past 10 years, according to the 2014-2015 Elon Factbook.

"The goal for this LLC is to provide a community of guys with opportunities like connecting with athletes and coaches on campus or going to sporting events," said T.J. Bowie, faculty adviser for the LLC and Elon's coordinator for residential campus dining and engagement. "We basically want to see how sports fit into the big picture for them and their careers."

Cole Krajeski, a senior and RA for the floor, said the experience boils down to people on the floor bonding over sports, even for those who aren't directly involved with Sport & Event Management or sporting activities on campus.

"It's been great so far," Krajeski said. "One night we all watched the [Sept. 10] Patriots game, and we're thinking about making some trips to Carolina Hurricanes games."



Freshmen Jon Eckel, Joey Staten and John Hubley are all members of the newly-established Sports LLC in all-male Smith residence hall.

Other events planned for the LLC include organized trips to Elon sporting events and minor league baseball games, the ACC Men's Basketball Tournament and a trip to U.S. Whitewater Center, a training facility for whitewater rafting and other outdoor sports.

The LLC is one of the 18 active groups on campus — it's also the only one located in male-only Smith Hall, meaning female students can't become members of the LLC. Krajeski said the purpose of the location was not to exclude women

— instead, it was to give Smith residents something to bond over.

"Female students are definitely involved in sports here, and they should be," Krajeski said. "We're just trying to make something the guys in Smith can rally around."

National studies indicate LLCs have a positive impact on the residence hall they're located in, Bowie said, who is one of three faculty advisers for the LLC along with assistant professors of sport and event management Mark Cryan and

Craig Schmitt.

Despite Smith Hall's reputation as one of the wilder residence halls on campus, Krajeski said the LLC will only add to the positives Smith already has.

"One thing a lot of people don't know about Smith is that Residence Life surveyed students on campus, and people there are actually happier than anywhere else on campus," Krajeski said. "This is something they can get behind in a constructive manner, but they've already been happy here from what we can see."

Elon to expand flu clinic times, locations

Simone Jasper
Assistant News Editor

With flu season approaching, Elon University is expanding its preparations to keep students healthy.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, flu outbreaks can begin as early as October. The CDC recommends vaccinations for everyone older than six months to protect against the illness.

Jana Lynn Patterson, associate vice president for student life and dean of student health and wellness, said the university plans to offer flu shot clinics for students on campus this fall.

Student vaccines will be administered from Midtown, a Whitsett-based pharmacy, and students can pay with their own health insurance. Faculty and staff will have separate vaccine clinics that align with the university's health insurance.

Elon has offered flu vaccines in past years and administered about 500 during the 2014-2015 school year.

"We'd like to increase that number," Patterson said. "The CDC says that — in addition to hand washing and normal prevention procedures — vaccines are the best way to prevent the flu."

To increase student participation, Elon is expanding the hours and locations for the vaccine clinics.

"We are trying things differently this year, with some in the evenings and on weekends," Patterson said. "And we're not only doing it in Moseley, but also in the residential neighborhoods. I hope it will increase the number of students getting flu shots."

But some students are choosing to forgo the vaccine. Senior Zach Wellman said he won't get a flu shot, even if the clinics are at convenient locations.

"I never really have gotten them," Wellman said. "I usually have a really strong immune system, so it wasn't worth it."

On the other hand, junior Dan Griffin said he's getting a vaccine after having the flu two years ago. He said he prefers the on-campus flu shot clinics to alternative locations.

"I used to go to the doctor at home, which is a process," Griffin said. "I can show up wherever they have them on campus and get one."

Off campus, local pharmacies offer flu shots, including the Target and CVS on the University Drive BioBus route.

Besides vaccinating, Patterson's department is encouraging students to take other preventive measures. It will display information about these habits on posters and digital boards across the campus. The department also plans to set up a table in Moseley to distribute information about the flu.

Patterson plans to start getting the word out in October because the vaccine is designed to protect people throughout the flu season.

"I would encourage students that they do come ahead and get a vaccine," Patterson said. "I don't like when students don't get vaccines and get sick around exam times or in January or February."

According to Arlinda Ellison, public information officer for the Alamance County Health Department, the flu season in the county usually peaks in January. The department operates under guidance of both the CDC and the state health department and urges residents to get vaccinated.

"We encourage them to get the shot, especially older people, kids and people with compromised immune systems," Ellison said.

FLU FACTS AND FIGURES

Prevention

Get vaccinated yearly and early

Frequently wash hands with soap and water

If sick, cough or sneeze in tissues and be sure to stay at home and away from others

Peak flu season

December to February

Symptoms

Chills, fatigue, 100-degree fever or higher, cough and/or sore throat, headaches and/or body aches

Task Force examines race relations at Elon

Less than 25 percent of black students feel 'safe on campus'

Leena Dahal and Hannah Silvers
Senior Reporter and Copy Chief

The findings of the Elon University Presidential Task Force on Black Student, Faculty, and Staff Experience has been sparking discussion throughout campus on the disconcerting emphasis black and non-black survey respondents placed on lack of diversity, inclusivity and support black students, faculty and staff at Elon.

The report, which was released to the campus community last week as a by-product of responses from a December 2014 campus climate survey, reveals, among other findings, that “less than a quarter of black survey respondents said they felt safe on campus.”

Senior Tony Weaver said he identifies with the more than 75 percent of black students who feel unsafe on campus. But to him, safety goes beyond the physical.

“From my perspective, there are times on this campus where I don’t feel safe,” Weaver said. “But it’s not only because I’m in fear of physical harm. It’s more of a sense of not belonging. While it isn’t something I experience often anymore, I completely understand how students could feel unsafe.”

Beyond the issue of safety, the report also draws attention to the disparity between black and non-black respondents’ attitudes toward inclusion at Elon, stating that “overall, black students, faculty, and staff respondents were less positive than non-blacks.”

In particular, 41.1 percent of non-black student respondents rated Elon’s campus as “positive and inclusive,” while only 16.3 percent of black student respondents categorized Elon in the same way.

In the same vein, 73.9 percent of non-black faculty and staff respondents said they feel Elon includes black identity in its efforts to be an inclusive community, while only 39.4 percent of black faculty and staff respondents felt the same way.

The Task Force and its process

Elon’s Presidential Task Force was appointed in November 2013 and charged by President Leo Lambert with making Elon a more supportive environment for

black students, faculty and staff.

The development of the Task Force couldn’t have come at a better time. Fall 2014 saw black students constitute the lowest admittance rate of all ethnic groups. The years before and after, Elon became the scene of several racial incidents, including acts of racial bias in 2011, 2013 and 2015 that prompted campus-wide outrage.

As part of its mission, the Task Force emailed a survey on campus climate to students in December 2014. The online survey, comprised of a series of questions on a standard Likert scale as well as areas for free response, sought to collect both quantitative and qualitative data to understand the experiences of black students, faculty and staff at Elon.

According to the report, 11 percent of undergraduate and graduate students and 28 percent of employees fully completed the survey. These respondents included 36 percent of the self-identified black student population and 30 percent of the black-identified employee population.

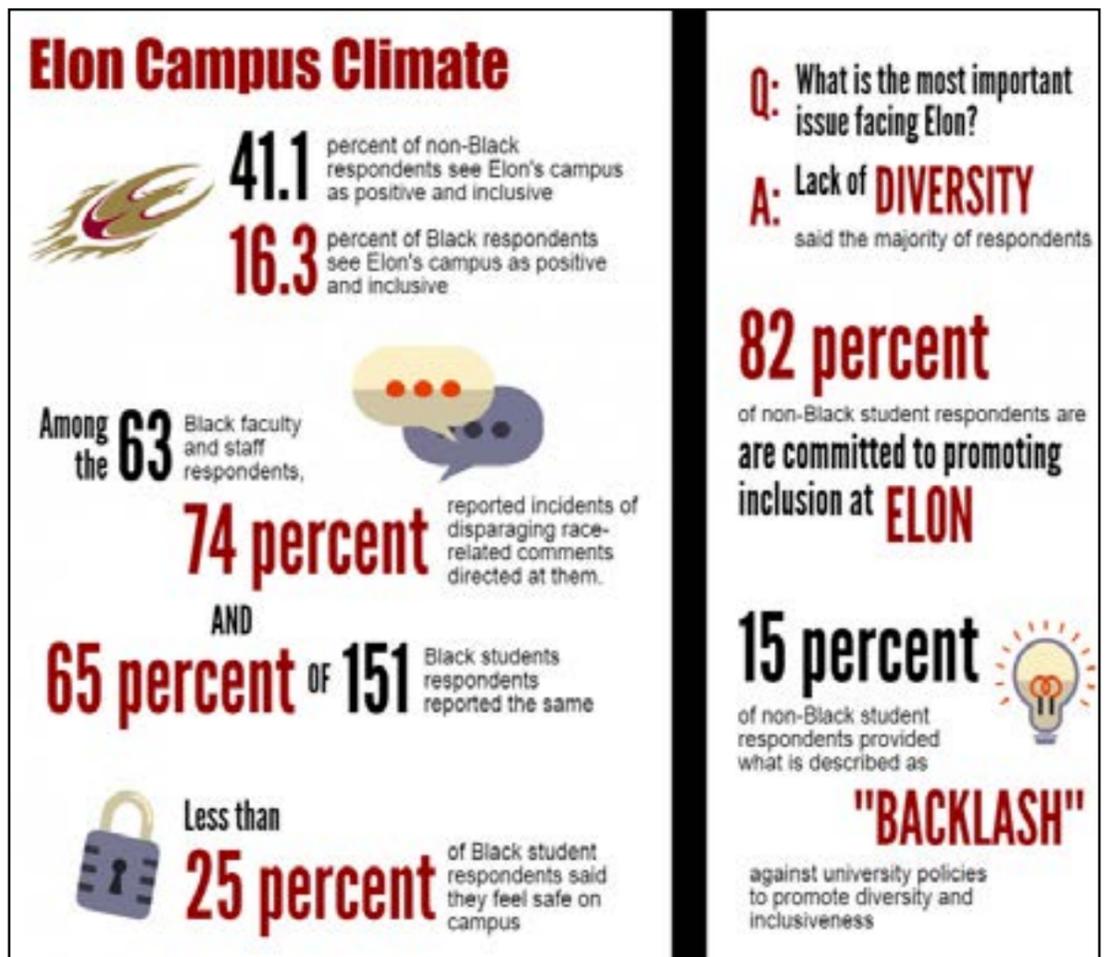
In spring 2015, a series of focus groups with students, faculty and staff were also held to gain a deeper understanding of information revealed in the surveys. To account for all kinds of students the online survey, task force members also held one-on-one interviews with several students, faculty and staff.

Recommendations and reactions

The list of Task Force recommendations spans six printed pages and includes 16 proposals, many featuring multiple parts. Some, such as the suggestion to “host socials that bring together student organizations and groups of different races and ethnicities,” are reiterations of past university efforts to encourage inclusivity.

But others stand out — such as the recommendation to partner with the Elon Core Curriculum “to deepen and promote central components like power, privilege, and oppression related to race and ethnicity in the core curriculum.” In the same section, the report also proposes adding a “diversity offering” for freshmen as a required element of the Elon Core Curriculum.

The university has offered ses-



MORGAN ABATE | Online Editor

sions and workshops sponsored by the Anti Defamation League (ADL) before, even offering four-hour “A Campus of Difference” workshops throughout last Winter Term, according to Elon’s website.

The report acknowledges Elon’s efforts in the area of diversity education, though it went on to state that “community members who may be most in need of education surrounding white privilege are able to opt out of” programming that would be beneficial to them and the community, like workshops or training sessions.

The Task Force recommended addressing these concerns by making certain programming mandatory — and one way to do that, they stated, is to incorporate discussions of race and ethnicity into the core curriculum.

Weaver said Elon is making the right decision.

“Elon is a place of higher education,” he said. “With things like race, privilege and institutions of oppression becoming even larger issues in the United States, as a liberal arts university, it is their responsibility to educate students

on it. Education is the cure to ignorance.”

Starting the discussion, according to Weaver, is Elon’s obligation. The resulting conversation and education can do the rest of the work.

“In my opinion the best way to strengthen inclusivity would be to remove the taboos around discussing race and make the entire student body engage in the conversation,” he said. “No matter how uncomfortable it makes them.”

Freshman SGA class president Kenneth Brown Jr., recently elected freshman president of SGA, couldn’t agree more.

“It’s going to get more people talking,” he said. “It’s all about process and how to incorporate these ideas, how to keep the conversation going.”

To keep the conversation going, the Task Force advocates for more than just mandatory diversity and inclusivity seminars. The same section of the report includes recommendations to establish a Living Learning Community dedicated to challenging issues of racism and to host a conference

alongside other local universities, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, to discuss issues of race and racism on predominantly white campuses.

At the end of the day for Weaver, any action on the university’s part that brings the topic of race into the open is a smart one.

“Many people don’t want to talk about race because it makes them uncomfortable,” he said. “That must change. I think conferences and student seminars are a step in the right direction.”

To senior Evan Gaskin, change starts with students being more open to discuss inherent privileges and biases.

“Many feel that a discussion of privilege and oppression is only meant to guilt-trip or blame them,” he said. “Hopefully, this conversation will be seen as an opportunity to care for others more effectively.”

According to Randy Williams, dean of multicultural affairs, hard copies of the Task Force report are available for students at the Center for Race, Ethnicity & Diversity Education (CREDE) in Moseley 221.

MCEWEN from cover

option will include more students and benefit student life.

“I think it would build a stronger sense of community,” she said. “If you have a hybrid space where folks can eat together, there will be more of a sense of community.”

In an unofficial count, SGA unanimously suggested that a hybrid of retail and meal plan options in the future would be best. Vigg didn’t know what retail options could be included, because student surveys and focus groups will later determine that.

Elon Dining also gauged opinions on what should go inside the dining space in the future.

“I feel like something that is lacking for the space is a space to hang out,” senior Conor Janda said. “In KOBC

you have the rotunda areas, but there’s not that space in McEwen.”

Janda said he could see the benefit of having televisions in the dining halls.

Plans are still in the early conceptualization stages, but Fulkerson said they have considered making the building one level, instead of the current two floors.

Senators compared McEwen Dining Hall to other large student spaces on campus.

“We gave you some ideas,” Fulkerson said. “You can’t hold us to all of them because we haven’t looked at building yet. We have to do feasibility study. Can we cut a hole in the floor? We don’t know.”

The future of Acorn Coffee Shop

The other part of the Historic Neighborhood dining remodel includes Acorn Coffee Shop, which garnered atten-

tion back in the spring when Elon Dining announced plans to turn it into a Starbucks — plans that have been put on hold for at least one year.

When Vigg asked what is missing in downtown Elon, senators responded with ideas on how to make Acorn better.

“A deli with fresh sandwiches made,” said senior Sean Barry. “Something like Boar’s Head, but better. Acorn is the exact same as a Boar’s Head sandwich but could be much better.”

Vigg also suggested using the current Acorn space to serve burgers and milkshakes.

When looking toward the future and deciding what dining options to offer and what to change, Vigg said he takes his job seriously.

“I don’t want to be like other schools,” he said. “I don’t want to say, ‘They have it, so we have to have it.’ It should be, ‘Elon has it, so we should have it.’ Right now, we are building something for the present and future.”



CAROLINE FERNANDEZ | News Editor

John Roddey, a junior, gets a haircut from Brooke Troxler, who uses only eco-friendly materials.

HAIR from cover

I wasn't really happy," she said. "I then thought, 'If I'm not finding it, I'd might as well create it.'"

Around the same time, Eleonore Dunn was forced to close Eleonore's Hair Design after 35 years of service due to health reasons.

A native of Germany, Dunn has been in the Elon area since moving to Alamance County with

her husband in 1969. Her children went to Elon Elementary and Elon Middle School.

"There wasn't a salon in the area, and I wanted to open one for the community," she said. "It was also nice because if my children needed me, I was close."

"I enjoyed what I was doing, and it was hard for me to quit. I would still be doing it if I wasn't forced to quit for health reasons."

This past summer, Troxler heard from Dunn's grandson, who proposed the idea of her

renting the space.

"Everything happened so fast," she said. "But when the opportunity came up, it felt right, and I took it."

Remodeling the space

After signing a five-year lease in early August, Troxler got to work on renovating the interior with help from family and friends.

They installed new floors and tore down two walls to open up the space, which Troxler said she

designed to have a clean, young and earth-tone feel to it.

The earth-tone colors and natural lighting also complement the salon's use of strictly eco-friendly products, which are 100 percent biodegradable, gluten free, vegan and haven't been tested on animals.

Owning a business at a relatively young age has been unique for Troxler.

"A lot of my friends are seniors in college, and they still don't know what they want to do," she said. "But here I am. It's crazy how everything is working out."

Troxler didn't go into being a first-time business owner on her own — she said she had the support of her family, who still live in Burlington.

"We are really excited for her," said Dorris Troxler, her mother. "She's young, being 21, but we knew this is something she wanted to do. She's really impressive to have accomplished so much this young."

Brooke Troxler doesn't have any employees or assistants — it's a one-woman show.

"I'd love in the future to have an assistant who would learn and gain experience," she said. "But for right now, I like being by myself."

Starting off strong

Many students and customers have responded well to the new look and presence of the shop.

"Besides not having a grocery store, the only thing that isn't in walking distance is a hair salon,"

said junior and customer John Roddey. "I like it because on the outside looking in, it looks young and fresh."

As of right now, the business, which offers haircuts, blowouts, color treatments and waxes, is open 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., Tuesdays-Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Fridays and 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturdays.

"I'm taking everything day by day," Troxler said. "You have to be humble about things. I don't expect next week to be the same as the last."

SERVICE MENU

Haircuts & Styles

- Women's Cut | \$40
- Men's Cut | \$22
- Specialty Style | \$55
- Blowout | \$28

Color

- Single Process | \$70
- Retouch | \$60
- Gloss/Toner | \$15

Treatments

- Awapuhi | \$25
- Olaplex | \$40

Waxing

- Brow | \$12
- Lip | \$8

Math Department seeks research help

Students and faculty creating models of dengue fever

Max Garland
Assistant News Editor

Nearly 8,000 miles away from Elon University's campus lies the heart of dengue fever in Africa. Junior Kelly Reagan never thought she would be voluntarily researching the mosquito-borne virus, or that it would be something she would spend years of her college experience on.

"I didn't think I would be interested in dengue fever, but here I am, excited to be talking about it," Reagan said. "I now know that it's a very important topic and this study will help efforts in preventing the spread of dengue fever later on."

Reagan's research on modeling the spread of dengue fever is part of a larger project on the disease with mathematics professors Karen Yokley and Crista Arangala, along with other STEM majors. The project, which began last spring, is looking for new students with an interest in applied mathematics to expand its coverage.

"There are a couple of students we're talking to right now, and we're definitely hoping to bring more people into the fold," Yokley said.

Though the project is math-focused, Yokley said students can tailor their research to their interests—from biology to computer science or even economics—and can contact her or Arangala to find out how they can get involved. Reagan decided to take a public health approach to her research, focusing on how the disease spreads by people traveling to and from work.

"A lot of people in Africa go into the cities to work, where the fever is more prevalent," she said. "So when people are traveling to the

city and then returning home, it could spread further. My model looks at if they're getting fever in the city, how quickly will it spread in their home area?"

When Reagan signed on as a freshman, she didn't immediately lean toward the public health effects of the disease. But her status as a math major and a biology minor piqued the interest of Yokley, who taught Reagan's calculus class. She asked if Reagan was interested in helping with a research project that would combine math and biology.

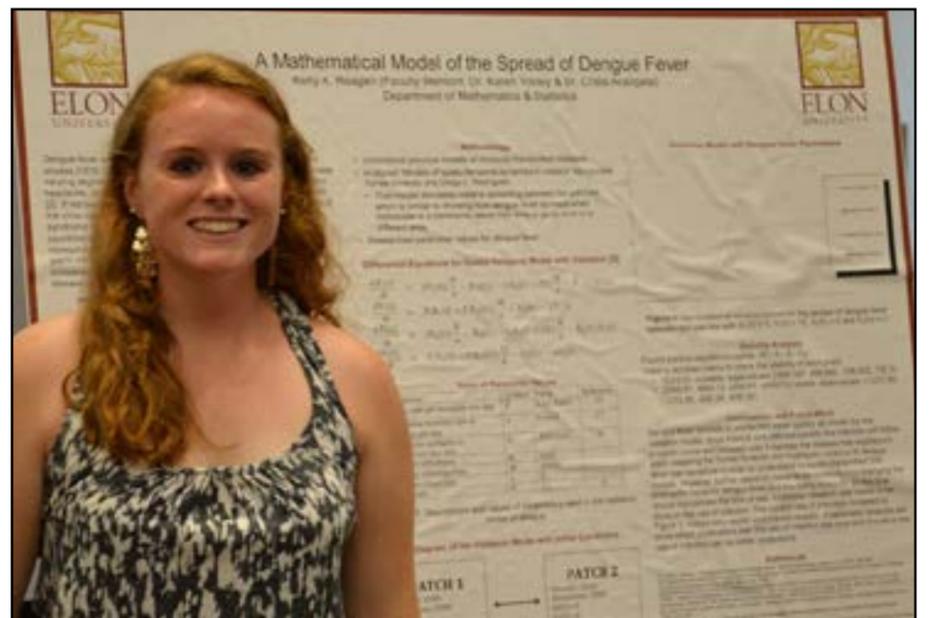
Reagan said, "yes," and began working with Yokley and Arangala in spring 2014, using a malaria transmission model as a guideline to model another mosquito-borne illness. This helped with Arangala's original vision—she started the research project after receiving a Fulbright award to teach and study in Sri Lanka from February to August of last year.

"There were researchers in Sri Lanka who were modeling dengue fever, so this is the Elon continuation of the work they've been doing," Arangala said.

Arangala and Yokley saw this as an opportunity to involve STEM majors in a research project that could advance methods to contain and treat dengue fever.

"When you have something like a disease, there are so many different aspects of it to look at," Yokley said. "We saw this project as a way to have a combined effort with our students to get involved in that."

Their effort is one of many attempting to figure out the disease. A 2010 study published by the U.S. National Library of Medicine determined 50 to 100 million people a year are infected with dengue fever. And it's not just limited to Africa—New Delhi, the capital of India, has reported more than 1,800 cases in



COURTESY OF E-NET

Junior Kelly Reagan presented her research on the spread of dengue fever in Africa at Elon's SURE conference. The project is focused on mathematics and is looking for student assistance.

the past few weeks, according to a BBC report.

Symptoms of dengue fever range from high fever and joint pain to severe cases of bleeding and shock. There is no cure for the disease, only treatments.

"As long as dengue fever is prevalent and mosquito-borne illnesses continue to affect people, we need to look at the different aspects of it and make better models," Arangala said.

The team's research has received plenty of attention. Reagan presented "A Mathematical Modeling of the Spread of Dengue Fever" at Elon's Summer Undergraduate Research Experience poster session in July. In October,

Elon will be hosting a dinner for the North Carolina branch of the Mathematical Association of America, where Reagan will present her research along with other students involved in the project.

The project doesn't have a definite timeline, but future research could focus on modeling the disease strands of dengue fever and how it's contracted, Arangala said. Reagan said she might begin to study the biting rate of mosquitos carrying the disease and how the time of day affects their activity. But the next step in research depends on who joins the project.

"Any new students would be great," Reagan said. "If they're enthusiastic to learn, that is someone we would like to work with."

The Focal Point sheds light on global issues

Leena Dahal
Senior Reporter

Wedged between a segment on French music and billboard hits, junior Oly Zayac strives to spark conversations surrounding global issues one Sunday night at a time.

The Focal Point, the WSOE program she helps lead, pursues one goal: addressing national and international issues.

Her goal brought together Mussa Idris, assistant professor of anthropology, sophomore Alex Ball and junior Ben Lutz in an in depth conversation on the global refugee crisis Sunday.

Throughout the 60-minute segment, the complex issue was treated without any panel-like formalities or complex terms. Instead, it was broken down and given a local context.

They group delved into political complexities involved in the mass migration of Syrian refugees to Europe and the barriers of asylum-seeking processes in border European countries.

Idris, whose area of research regarding refugees primarily lies in North Africa, urged the community to tackle the refugee crisis as a global phenomenon, not necessarily concentrated to certain regions of the world.

“This is not something that should only be left to European countries,” he said. “Communities all over the world — including the African union — can provide support and help.”

Idris also shared his personal experiences when he was a political refugee in the United States from Eritrea.

Lutz, whose undergraduate research revolves around the Jordanian response to the Syrian refugee crisis, highlighted

the layered treatment he said the topic deserves.

“It’s such a multifaceted issue that involves more than one country, community or issue,” he said. “So it should be treated that way.”

He urged the community to seek educational opportunities and service learning initiatives in Greensboro, a national “hub” for refugee communities. The Kernodle Center for Service Learning offers a variety of programs that cater to new immigrant and refugee populations in Alamance County and Greensboro.

Ball served as an example of a student who has sought to help the global refugee crisis in the local context. Ball leads the Global Neighborhood’s First-Friends Initiative, a program that pairs the neighborhood’s students with a new immigrant refugee family in Greensboro. Students this year are working with a family from the Democratic Republic of Congo, offering them English and computer classes.

The Kwitondas are a family of nine, including seven daughters ranging from ages 7 to 20. Ball said through opportunities to visit them in their home, the students have formed a mutual bond of trust and friendship.

“The educational component goes both ways,” he said. “They learn something from us and we learn so many things from them.”

Ball stressed the importance of finding local ways to tackle global issues.

“There’s only so much a panel can do,” Ball said. “By going out there and helping the local community, so much more can be done.”

Idris underlined that by shaping the refugee experience in Greensboro, stu-

dents are directly impacting the global issue.

“The crisis is a global phenomenon,” he said. “Supporting your local efforts, even if it seems smaller on scale, will be impacting this larger, worldwide issue.”

Zayac said an issue as large as the Syrian Refugee Crisis required a variety of student and faculty perspectives.

“Unless you follow the issues surrounding the crisis on a daily basis, they might not make a whole lot of sense,” she said. “I hope that with bringing Dr. Idris on the show, students could get a better understanding of the crisis as a whole as well as his experience as a refugee. And in bringing Ben and Alex, students could have a better understanding of how to get involved no matter how small.”

To Zayac, having students and professors discuss these issues in lay terms helps perpetuate the significance behind the crisis — especially when it may seem distant to college students.

“We watch the news and hear stories, and these might affect us emotionally,” she said. “But we can’t truly understand a story until we hear it from someone we connect with.”

Zayac envisions the show as a platform that allows students to contribute to a conversation and is dedicated to breaking larger conversations down in the perspective of Elon students.

As a firm believer in the power of dialogue in sparking further discussion, interest and change, Zayac said she thinks the importance of the show transcends its weekly 60 minutes on air.

“When we involve ourselves in these conversations, it allow students to open up a whole new level of discussion,” she

“THE FOCAL POINT”

What: A radio show that breaks down national and international issues into a local context for listeners

When: Sundays 7-8 p.m.

Where: 89.3 WSOE

Who: Junior Oly Zayac & guest panelists

said. “We are no longer listening — we are part of the conversation. We can create the conversation.”

The show officially began two years ago, and Zayac has been involved with it for the past year and a half.

Next week, Zayac, and her team of news directors on “The Focal Point,” hopes to tackle the heated election campaigns from both the democratic and republican sides.

When choosing their topics of discussion, they try to emphasize issues that are prevalent in the news but also relevant to the Elon community and college context.

Lutz, who said he was thrilled to be part of the show, said the most powerful aspect of it is what happens after the show ends.

“When people talk about what they heard and continue the conversations [after the show], that is directly impacting intellectual climate,” he said.

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Carousel Festival breaks the cycle

Event brews up change with local vendors, beer gardens

Max Garland
Assistant News Editor

A local focus

After 27 years of face-painting, magic shows and youth-centric events, the Burlington Carousel festival rebranded itself for this year's iteration this week.

The festival added the new "Under the Trees" section, which took up a third of the festival area and featured local vendors, food trucks and bands throughout the day.

"Under the Trees" began last year, but it was unnamed and a fourth of this year's size, according to Mary Faucette, special events coordinator for the City of Burlington.

"Last year, it just had face-painting, three food trucks and a magic show," Faucette said. "So maybe a thousand people across the two days. This year's is much, much bigger."

Faucette said the goal of the push for the "Under the Trees" section, along with two Carolina Brewery beer gardens added to the Sept. 19-20 event, was to connect better with millennials while still maintaining a kid-friendly atmosphere.

"We wanted to connect with an audience that once came to the festival, like young professionals and recent college graduates," she said. "We wanted it to be an experience where you could come and hang out whether you were up in the beer gardens or with friends [who] have children."

The changes worked, Faucette said. City of Burlington estimates a couple thousand people showed up to last year's festival. Faucette said they "very easily" could have surpassed 10,000 on Saturday alone with the crowd this year's festival brought in.

The crux for the "Under the Trees" section was the variety of local vendors set up in the shade of Burlington's city park.

"We had four or five downtown Burlington merchants come here and set up," said Morgan Lasater, the festival's co-coordinator. "So we're really trying to connect with all that's going on in the community here."

The vendors specialized in arts, crafts and clothing. Southern Glen, a boutique shop in Burlington, sold long-sleeved T-shirts and hand-stenciled chairs. Mary Katherine's, Dandy Designs and Angie's Homemade Goods were also among the downtown Burlington vendors present. Grit & Grace, a gift shop located in Mebane, was also present, selling tank tops and wall art.

"It's great to see the focus of the fair shift more from the event and entertainment part of it to local shops playing more of a factor," said Southern Glen owner Chelsea Dickey.

Grit & Grace owner Angela Bobal agreed that buying local is a rising trend.

"Now people are asking more and more if something is locally made," Bobal said. "There's more awareness, and this will help with that."

Food also made its way to the "Under the Trees" section. Food trucks for Southern Comfort Catering, Dusty Donuts and Gussy the Greek clustered together selling their cuisine. For those that needed caffeine boosts, The Blend & Co., a coffee shop located in downtown Burlington, sold chai lattes and cold coffee brews.

"When you go here, you see all of your friends in the community," said The Blend



MAX GARLAND | Assistant News Editor

The Bulltown Strutters march through the Artist's Valley at the Burlington Carousel Festival.

& Co. owner Holly Treadwell. "Most of the people here [in "Under the Trees"] are mostly a downtown Burlington group, so it's really fun to connect with each other."

Other festival activities

The introduction of the Carolina Brewery beer gardens to the festival, one near the main stage and the other in the "Under the Trees" section, helped change the feel of this year's event, Faucette said.

"It's easy here," she said. "It's relaxing. It doesn't feel like you're going to a carnival-type of festival like in the past. You're going to where you feel like you're in your backyard hanging with friends."

The gardens had Sky Blue, Flagship IPA and Copperline Amber on tap. Faucette said the masses didn't flock to the gardens as a

whole, but it helped contribute to more young adults coming to the festival.

Activities for children still had a presence at the festival. The kid's art tent, a recurring magic show and the carousel drew in families throughout the weekend.

Local bands played on the three festival stages throughout the two days. The main stage featured The Black Lillies — the festival's headliner — Darkwater Redemption and Eric & The Chill Tones. The Thataways Stage near the art tent had performances from the Alamance Jazz Band and the Graham High School Band. The new "Under the Trees" stage showed Honey Magpie and Sweet T & the Biscuits.

"We're two years out from our 30th anniversary," Faucette said. "And when you've had a festival for 28 years you try to think outside the box and keep it new and fresh."

Forum sheds light on European refugee crisis

Morgan Abate
Online Editor

She grew up running through the streets of Damascus, surrounded by family and friends. Now, the streets she walked on as a young girl are minefields, covered in rubble from bombings and explosions. Palmyra, a place she visited often in her youth, lays in ruin, destroyed by the fights of the Islamic State group.

Many of her family members still reside in Syria.

Once, while speaking with her family over the phone, the line dropped. She assumed the connection had just been lost — the usual.

"Usually they call right back if this happens, but I waited about half an hour," said Haya Ajjan, assistant professor of management information systems. "They said to me, 'Did you hear the explosion when we were on the phone?' The explosion was so strong it shattered their window. They just said, 'We were lucky this time.' This is the fear I live through every day."

While Ajjan's family is still internally displaced in Syria, 4 million people have fled the country for neighboring ones, and now for Europe, which is facing a migration crisis. More than 460,000 refugees and migrants have traveled across the Mediterranean this year. Of that number, 99 percent have arrived on the shores of Greece and Italy, according to the latest statistics from the International Organization for Migration.

On Sept. 16, Elon University hosted a forum allowing community members to ask questions and educate themselves about the refugee crisis, its causes, how European nations and the United States are responding and the process for seeking asylum.

The forum featured Ajjan and three other panelists who have studied immigration, human rights and politics regarding the two, including the language used to describe those crossing the Mediterranean.

"There are four terms to describe what is going on in Europe today," said Niklaus Steiner, director of the Center for Global Initiatives at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "The first term is migrants. The second is refugee. The third is immigrants, and fourth is asylum seekers."

Swinging doors

Steiner explained the word "migrant" as a general term that is then broken down into two subcategories: immigrants and refugees. Within the category of refugees are asylum seekers, people who want to permanently become part of a new society because they are being persecuted for their beliefs in their home country.

Some countries, such as Germany, have opened their borders to refugees. Germany is on track to receive more than 1 million asylum applications this year, prompting the government to temporarily increase border control.

"Germany has a demographic crisis," said Safia Swimelar, an associate professor of political science and policy studies at Elon whose research has focused on the Balkans, which faced its own refugee crisis in the early 1990s. "There are not enough people to keep the economy going. And the refugees coming are educated, not uneducated like many think."

Europeans are now turning to the United States for help. For a country that has historically been the most accepting of refugees and asylum seekers, the United States has taken in fewer than 1,000 Syrian refugees. Recently, President Obama announced the United States would accept 10,000 Syrian refugees during the next fiscal year.

But Swimelar said the United States can do better than that.

"Our country is so big," she said. "There are so many towns that are great places for refugees, like Lincoln, Nebraska. And bring-

ing in refugees helps the economy, it doesn't drain it. It brings in opportunity. We have to tell the Obama administration and our Senators that 10,000 is not enough. We need to bring in more."

Extending a helping hand

When senior Ashleigh McGrath studied in Amman, Jordan, last spring, she had an idea of how bad the refugee situation was. She worked with and met refugees, which changed her perspectives on international humanitarian aid.

"There was a family of nine that had been sponsored by the UNHCR [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees]," she said. "And the money just stopped coming. It made me more cynical of international organizations."

McGrath met this family while she was in the northern part of Jordan visiting a village that had taken in Syrian refugees, giving them a life that she said is much more comfortable than the camps they would be in otherwise.

University chaplain Jan Fuller has a similar idea in mind.

As the conversation in McBride came to a close, Fuller announced a plan for the Tru-

itt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life to help resettle Syrians.

"Our hope is to serve people who are being resettled in the U.S.," she said. "This crisis is going to go on for a long time, and we have plans for immediate, small things to do, and then services that we may be able to develop based on other models done in other places."

Fuller wants students to take charge of the idea and turn it into a campus-wide effort. In the next few days, she plans to gather all of those interested to plan what this effort might look like.

"We know that the thing we cannot afford to do is nothing," she said. "And over the past two years and in the past weeks, some of us have shaken our heads, and our hearts are breaking for other members of the human race who are in these terrible situations."

Two years ago in the same space in the Numen Lumen Pavilion, faculty members — including Ajjan — spoke about the worsening crisis in Syria. And in April 2013, Syrian-Americans and a representative of the Syrian Opposition Coalition discussed how the crisis would end.

Two years later, not much has changed.

"I'm still wondering, why doesn't the world see Syrians?" Ajjan said. "What does it take for them to notice us?"

Panelists

Haya Ajjan

Assistant professor of management information systems

Mussa Idris

Assistant professor of anthropology

Niklaus Steiner

Director for UNC Chapel Hill Center for Global Initiatives

Safia Swimelar

Associate professor of political science

Cheat Sheet: **NC** State Budget

News Briefs

Who passed the budget and when was it passed?

After more than three months of delays, Gov. Pat McCrory signed off on the \$21.74 billion state budget Sept. 17. The 429-page state budget and 207-page financial report is a product of many months of uncertainty, debates and negotiation between the House and the Senate. The ending House vote was 81-33.

What matters most about this budget?

Some education changes include restoring annual funding for school districts for driver's education programs and teachers' assistants. The original Senate budget would have cut these items. The budget also brings back a tax deduction for medical expenses, which is available for filers of all ages.

Will budget changes affect Alamance County?

The plan restores historic preservation tax credits, which expired at the end of last year. This program helped spark redevelopment in Glencoe, Graham and Mebane, according to the Burlington Times-News.

Piper Kerman to speak at Elon

The author of "Orange is the New Black" is scheduled to speak at Elon University next week. Piper Kerman will deliver "Gettin' Outta This Place" 7:30 p.m. Sept. 30 in McCrory Theatre as a part of the Liberal Arts Forum Lecture Series. Kerman's book, drawn from the author's experience in a federal prison, is the basis for the Netflix series of the same name. Kerman advocates for criminal justice reform in the United States. Admission to the talk is \$13 or free with an Elon ID.

DOJ considers appeal in county sheriff case

The U.S. Department of Justice is considering an appeal in the case against Alamance County Sheriff Terry Johnson, according to the Burlington Times-News. The case is waiting on an authorization by the Solicitor General, and the federal government has until Oct. 6 to make the decision, according to the report. A federal judge ruled in August that Johnson was not guilty of racial profiling or discriminatory policing charges. The DOJ began investigating Johnson and the sheriff's office in 2010 for allegations of these practices against Hispanics.

NC to award \$5 million in film grants

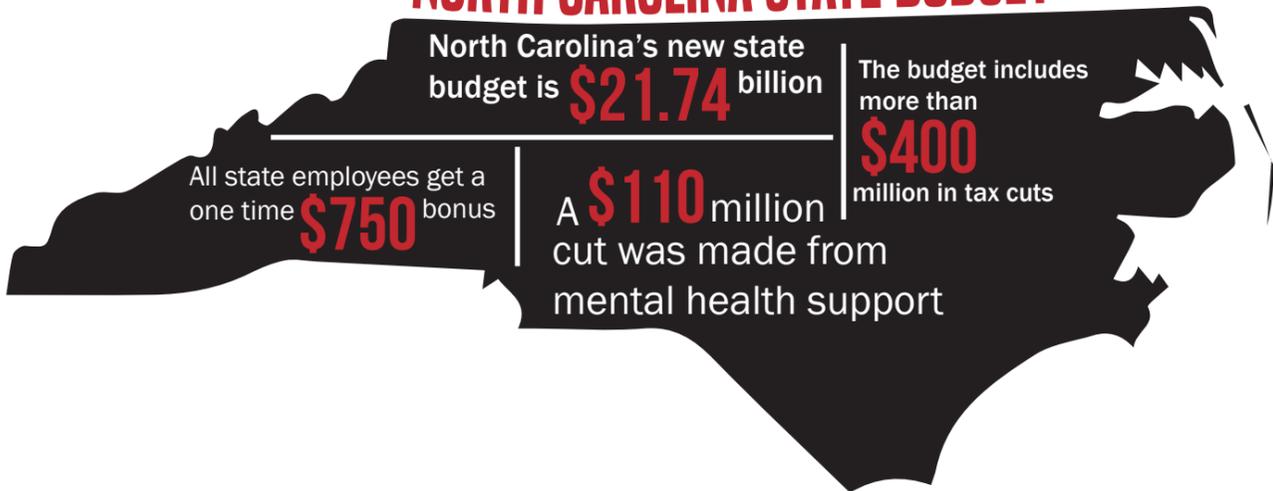
Three productions will receive \$5 million in film grants from North Carolina. John Skvarla, commerce secretary, made the announcement Sept. 18, according to the Associated Press. The productions — a television pilot, an HGTV show and an independent film — were chosen from 17 applications. Production is set to begin this fall.

Maker Hub opens in Colonnades

The Maker Hub, a space in the lobby of Harper Hall in Colonnades, recently opened on campus. Instructional and Campus Technologies sponsors the center, which encourages students, faculty and staff to learn and make projects. The center houses basic hand tools as well as equipment for 3D printing, computing, electronics, e-textiles and mobile programming.

Upcoming events at Maker Hub include "Mobile Wednesday" 6 p.m. Sept. 23; "Maker-Gami" 9 p.m. Sept. 23; "Arts and Crafts for Tinkerers" 11 a.m. Sept. 24; "Everything 3D" 4 p.m. Sept. 25; "Gamer Fix" 11 a.m. Sept. 26; and "Nifty Knitters" 4:30 p.m. Sept. 26. Student workers are at the hub during operating hours, Sunday – Thursday 11 a.m. – 11 p.m. and Friday – Saturday 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BUDGET



Why did this year's budget take so long?

The spending plan, which was supposed to be passed by July 1, underwent the longest delay in budget passing since 2002. The delay was primarily attributed to disputes over policy and spending. In July, it was reported in a state press conference that the Senate proposal differed over several areas from the budget plan the House passed. The Senate pushed for tax cuts while the House did not. Another area of disagreement, which included pay increases for state employees and teachers, called for smaller increases in Division of Motor Vehicles fees and fiscal health.

All state employees get a one-time \$750 bonus with the new budget. The budget increases salaries for some state employees, including Highway Patrol Officers, correctional officers and community college workers.

The budget expands sales taxes to all repair, maintenance and service providers. It also includes more than \$400 million in income tax cuts.

A \$110 million cut was made from regional mental health support, creating a financial burden on the state's eight regional mental health agencies. With the new budget, North Carolina residents will also pay higher Division of Motor Vehicle fees.

What is a state budget anyway?

A state budget is a document that outlines the government's proposed spending and revenues for a fiscal year. It also includes the prioritized list of capital improvement projects and projects financed by various revenue sources.

In other words, state budgets outline areas that may require significant spending, such as transportation, construction of highways and aid to localities. They indicate the amount of governmental spending directed to education systems, health systems and any other governmental municipalities.

CRIME REPORT

Sept. 18 LARCENY AVENUE OF TREES, ELON: A man reported Friday that his orange and black backpack leaf blower, along with a push broom, a yard rake and a snow shovel, were stolen from the front yard of his residence at an unknown time. The man left the tools approximately 10 feet from the roadway while doing yard work and later discovered they went missing.

Sept. 19 VANDALISM E. HAGGARD AVENUE, ELON: An Elon University student reported to Town of Elon police that his BMW's front windshield was damaged by someone with an unknown object in the parking lot of his apartment complex around 1 a.m. Sept. 19. When he went to his car later that night, he saw the passenger side of the front windshield was splintered. No one present in the apartment heard or saw any damage occur, according to police reports.

Sept. 20 VANDALISM E. TROLLINGER AVENUE, ELON: A Town of Elon resident reported to police Sunday morning that he saw his mailbox had been damaged when he woke up that morning. The mailbox was barely hanging onto the post and had a footprint mark on the top of it, according to police reports. The man said it was the third time someone has damaged his house's mailbox.

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.

Job expos need to cater to all majors

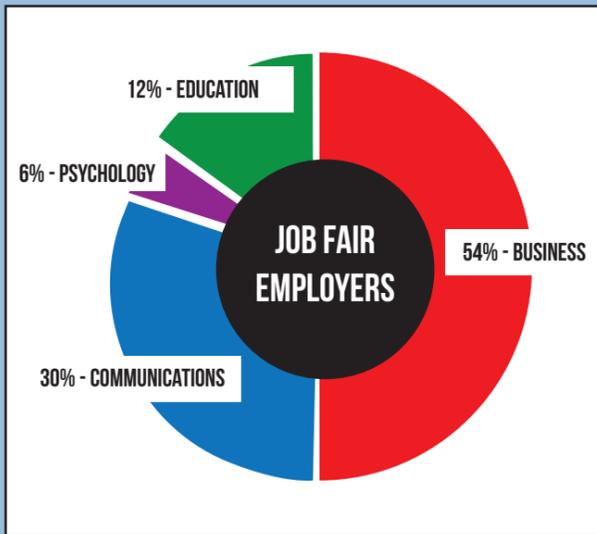
Elon University's semiannual Job and Internship Expos offer students of all years opportunities to interact with potential employers. But these expos, including yesterday's, have consistently focused on business students, with communications students receiving comparatively little attention and students of other schools receiving even less.

The Student Professional Development Center (SPDC) is working to change this, but, right now, the majority of employers at the expos are still looking for students from the business school, with growing interest in communications students. While the number of employers looking for students from different majors has increased, it's still not enough to provide a fair balance across disciplines.

Elon is a liberal arts school. One would think students studying liberal arts here would receive equal treatment as students of the other schools. More than 2,500 students are majoring in the arts and sciences — a higher number than either business or communications — but the majority of employers at Elon's job expos are looking for students from the Spencer Love School of Business, with the School of Communications coming up second.

The app that helped students navigate yesterday's Job and Internship Expo allowed students to filter employers based on what majors they were looking for, the availability of interviews and types of positions.

According to the app, 50 of the 91 employers at the fair were looking for business students — accounting, economics, entrepreneurship, finance, management, marketing or sales majors or minors. Only 28 were looking for communications students, and the app doesn't differentiate between communications majors, which include journalism, strategic communications, media analytics, and sport and event management. Majors from the College of Arts and Sciences and



STEPHANIE HAYS | Design Chief

the School of Education had even fewer employers listed.

The professional schools prepare students for professions, but these students aren't the only ones looking for jobs. Students working toward degrees from the College of Arts and Sciences don't necessarily want to go to graduate school, medical school or law school. These students, like their peers in the professional schools, are working toward degrees that will help them find jobs.

Arts and sciences majors already have to deal with the common belief that they will be unemployed at higher rates than other majors. They should be supported in their job hunt as much as students of professional schools are.

Sara Shechter, assistant director of career services for the College of Arts and Sciences, said she and others at the

SPDC are working to provide this support.

"Arts and sciences is a priority, and we're pushing for more opportunities with that," she said. "I think it's really moving in the right direction."

Ashley Pinney, associate director of corporate and employer relations for the School of Communications, is bringing more communications companies to Elon. She has counterparts in the College of Arts and Sciences and the School of Business who are tasked with doing the same for their schools. Pinney's position was created last September, and in the months since, she said the SPDC has seen a marked difference in the number and range of employers interested in coming to meet with students.

A major difficulty Pinney faces, she said, is convincing high-profile communications companies to come to campus. Many prefer to set up virtual meetings, and while Pinney said she wished they would come to physically meet with students, Elon's small size makes that unlikely.

Having virtual employers is better than nothing, though, and it allows students to have similar interactions to those they would have with an in-person representative. The number of virtual communications employers at yesterday's expo was more than double last year's number, which Pinney said is progress.

As Elon continues to grow, this will become less of a problem: More employers will come to campus, and students will be able to enjoy the benefits of having attended a prestigious school whose name employers recognize and respect.

Until then, though, students and faculty need to work with the SPDC to find employers who recognize the potential of Elon students from all majors and who are willing to invest in coming to campus for expos or information sessions.

Sports LLC should be less restrictive

If it had been available when I was a freshman, I absolutely would have applied.



Tommy Hamzik
Columnist

But the Sports, Participation & Networking (SPN) Living Learning Community (LLC), which is focused on sports and ties in with the Sport and Event Management (SEM) department, is new to Elon University this year.

According to its page on Elon's website, those in the SPN will "participate in intramural sports on campus as well as attend local sporting events" and "plan social events that interest them and engage with faculty members ... outside of the classroom." The description also mentions meet-and-greets with Elon coaches, group dinners and trips to events such as the ACC Tournament and minor league baseball games.

Sounds great. This would have been immensely appealing to me — a self-described sports person — when I was looking at housing options as an incoming freshman, probably even more so than the Communications LLC. What's not to like?

Oh, the location.

It's on the first floor of Smith Hall. That

means the SPN is not an option for women.

Elon consistently seeks to improve in regard to inclusivity, as seen in its gender-inclusive housing on campus: the Gender and Sexuality LLC in Colonnades A and the Station at Mill Point. But the SPN, one of the newest LLCs, is Elon's only single-gender LLC.

I lived on the second floor of Smith my freshman year with loads of people who were passionate about and followed sports. Talks of fantasy football were common while waiting for the showers. Freshman baseball players occupied much of the first floor.

Sports always have been and always will be a big part of the culture in Smith.

Under the requirements section on the SPN page, it clearly states, "Students must be male in order to live in Smith Hall." After that, it asks that students show an interest in sports, whether it be in participation, study or working in the field.

Many women are majoring in SEM at Elon, and even more are interested in and care about sports. That's not even to mention all the women who participate in club or varsity sports.

They fit the second requirement for the LLC. The only problem, then, is gender.

Having a gender restriction for an LLC is going against the fundamental basis of LLCs. While they're supposed to draw people with similar interests together, they're also supposed to support and encourage learning from



HALI TAUXE | Photo Editor

Freshmen Kyle Budlow, Wil Loughborough and Michael Morris are residents of the all-male Sports, Participation & Networking Living Learning Community in Smith Hall.

people who've had different experiences with those interests.

There are plenty of horror stories about women, particularly in the media, being treated unfairly in sports: Amelia Rayno of the Minnesota Star-Tribune revealed in August that she had been sexually harassed by recently-fired University of Minnesota athletic director Norwood Teague.

But this is also an exciting time for women in the sports world. The United States Women's National Soccer Team just won the World Cup, and Serena Williams was two victories away from a calendar Grand Slam.

Wouldn't it benefit the men living in the SPN, who likely focus their fandom on Tom Brady and Kobe Bryant, to live with women who grew up idolizing Williams and soccer players like Mia Hamm?

I understand the brotherhood component of this. I've heard athletes speak about how their teams are brotherhoods and families. But some are sisterhoods, and that should be recognized in the SPN.

I absolutely would've applied for the SPN if it had been available two years ago. I'm sure I would have enjoyed it.

I know some women at Elon would, too.

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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Campus Voices:

The tragic misutilization of English

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

When my daughter was small and angry with me, she called me the Mean Mean Monkey Queen (Thank you, “The Wizard of Oz”), so I thought that if I ever had a grammar column or blog, I’d use the name Mean Mean Grammar Queen, since having taught grammar, linguistics and writing for four decades probably qualifies me for that title.



Kathy Lyday
Professor of English

The problem is that I walk a thin line between grammarian and linguist in my life.

Grammarians tend to make the rules, throwing usage to the wind, while linguists tend to make the rules based on usage.

So if I received the following inquiry,

“Dear MMGQ: When is it alright to use ‘alright?’ Sincerely, Confused,” as a grammarian I would have to say, “Never! ‘Al-right’ is not a word” — although technically it was a word in Old English — but as a linguist I would have to admit that it is a word now because people use it. And it’s everywhere: T-shirts, close-captioning and song titles, to name a few.

However, although “alright” is widely used, I still don’t like it. I could go into the specifics of why “all right” doesn’t work like “all together/altogether,” “all ready/already” and “although,” but who really cares? Even spell-check doesn’t.

My students are surprised when I suggest just doing away with “whom” and the apostrophe — since many use neither properly anymore. I show them the many examples from my collection of signs with words that need apostrophes — or don’t. The Stans Plaza sign, with its “its” vs.

“it’s,” is my “go-to” example.

I do draw the line at “irregardless,” “there/your” for “their/you’re,” agreement and tense errors, case errors (“Him and me are going to the mall.” or “between you and I”), and another pet peeve — comma misuse.

Some punctuation is variable, but a comma can change a sentence’s meaning completely, as shown by the popular example, “Let’s eat Grandma” vs. “Let’s eat, Grandma.”

I don’t even mind a preposition at the end of a sentence, as long as it isn’t “Where’s my car at?”

I do object to people “utilizing” things when they could just “use” them or “conversating” when they should be “conversing.” I don’t like “than” being used as a preposition (We are faster than them.) or “like” being used as a conjunction (I feel like I’m losing.). Again, it’s rules vs. usage,

and usage is winning.

As a grammarian, am I railing against nit-picky details that no one really cares about any more? Am I becoming one of those English teachers who correct signs in supermarkets? Is the tsunami of social media washing the rules out to sea, never to be used, just debated?

I want our students to write well, to use the English language in a sophisticated way, to be aware that some rules should be followed while others are negotiable, that language usage changes with context. What little grammar training we get in school is largely forgotten after eighth grade.

We have no “grammar police,” no academy whose purpose is to dictate how others should speak. And from a linguist’s point of view, that’s a really good thing. Grammar handbooks, websites, dictionaries and teachers can give us enough guidance — if they can agree.

Truitt Center celebrates ‘Feast of Sacrifice’

For those of you who I have not had the pleasure of meeting, my name is Anna Torres-Zeb, and I serve as the Muslim Coordinator at Elon University. I cannot believe that it has been nearly two months since I started — I am truly loving it!



Anna Torres-Zeb
Muslim Life Coordinator

Last week, I, along with several colleagues and students, returned from a week of learning, networking and friendship-building at the Presidential Interfaith Campus Challenge in Washington, D.C. The program was hosted by the White House and invited interfaith leaders, students and policy-makers from around the world.

This week, the memories from the week have been turning in my head as new reflections, insights and renewed excitement for the work we do in

building bridges of friendship and learning with communities of belief and experiences that may be different than our own.

As I have been going through the week’s notes, one line stands above the others: “Interfaith work is no longer about mere tolerance, it is about appreciating and seeing the beauty in other people’s faiths.” To be the best contributors and participants in our worldwide community of brothers and sisters in faith and humanity, we must learn to consciously seek out the beauty in that which may be beyond our traditions, customs and everyday experiences.

This week, the Muslim and Jewish communities will be coming together to celebrate two important days for our communities: Eid al Adha and Yom Kippur. We are excited that these two holy days fall on the same calendar day this year and cannot imagine missing the opportunity to celebrate and learn together. This shared celebration will take place tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Numen Lumen

Pavilion. We also invite you to join us in another opportunity for learning and community building: our annual Eid al Adha Celebration Oct. 1.

Eid al Adha translates as “Feast of Sacrifice” and commemorates the willingness of the Prophet Abraham to follow the commandment to slaughter his son. This story of the Prophet Abraham is recognized in many of our traditions. I had the pleasure of sitting with Rabbi Meir and engaging in scripture to learn from one another about this narrative within our traditions. On Oct. 1, we hope that all communities of faculty, staff and students will join us for an evening of food, learning and fun. We will have food from a diversity of cultures — it really is something you won’t want to miss!

I hope that coming together to celebrate will serve as an encouragement to all of us to constantly and consciously seek out the beauty that exists within all of our communities.

Please join us!

DOCTORS’ ORDERS TECH: IT’S TIME TO UPGRADE



Lauryl Fischer & Frankie Campisano
Columnists

There’s an app for ordering appetizers, apps for making appointments, apps for renting apartments, apps for anything you can think of — and this year, that includes the career fair.

When’s the last time you heard someone refer to a “program?” Who needs brochures and booklets? No.

Elon University is stepping into the 21st century with this handy-dandy Job Expo app that will give you, the student, the ideal Job Expo Experience, which is

what we’re all most concerned about.

When we heard they were rolling this out, we immediately thought, “Wait, is this going to be like Tinder — but for careers?”

Swipe right on the job of your choosing, left for all the losers. When you get a match, you get hired. Or you could just hook up for something more casual — an informational interview, maybe — and if it goes well, you could connect on LinkedIn. At the very least you can send a flirty message to break the ice.

That’s not actually what the app looks like at all because Elon didn’t call us to consult, but that’s OK — we’re holding out hope that you can still find your love-match even without Tinder technology, and that one day our freelance appistry will be recognized by the establishment.

Rejoice, ye Phoenixes, Elon’s finally moving in the right direction. As they say in most sci-fi dystopian movies: The future is now!

The Elon we know and tolerate will be completely different in five years. Professors could be replaced by robots. Students could be replaced by robots.

And then the robots will inevitably be replaced by slightly better, slightly more aesthetically pleasing robots every September when Apple announces its updates for the year. And we’re all going to buy these robots even if they basically do the same thing and are out of our price range, because it’s Apple.

Either Google or Apple will straight up buy Elon in the next couple of years, as colleges across the country are streamlined into Corporate America. (Side note: we’re hoping Apple wins that bidding war. Elon’s always been pretty sleek, so it’s a better fit for the brand, honestly.) And it all begins with this new app. It’s a brave new world, friends.

But even if things progress at a slightly less robopocalyptic pace, we’re on the cusp of another technological boom.

So, how are there still classes that don’t use Moodle to log course documents, assignments and due dates? Why is there an exasperated emphasis on overpriced, dust-collecting shelf ornaments, affectionately referred to in polite company as “textbooks?” The Internet provides access to better, cheaper resources

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

that can better accommodate visual learners and even remove the hassle of droning lectures.

It’s getting harder and harder to accept these stone-age stalwarts instead of their space-age Star Wars counterparts. And at this point, you have to get with the times!

Even if you’re a neo-luddite for aesthetic reasons, you’ll never get a job at the job fair if you’re acting like having a flip phone is so cool.

We don’t actually know how you function at all with a flip phone. If you use a flip phone, reach out to us and we will try to crowdfund you a cellphone from this decade.

It’s time to upgrade.

‘Collage’: a mashup of performances

Students prepare for time-honored, sold-out show

Danielle Deavens
Senior Reporter

As Elon University celebrates its annual Family Weekend, its musical theater department will put on a different time-honored event — one that, like the university, is an ever-changing standby the community has come to love.

“Collage” is a performance that includes every musical theater student and takes more than just creativity — it takes a great deal of time as well.

Since the performance is on the Family Weekend schedule, students have the opportunity to showcase their work to their visiting families.

“It’s really just a great opportunity for parents of incoming freshmen to come see the work that the depart-

“COLLAGE”

When: 7 p.m and 8:15 p.m. Sept. 25 and 26

Where: Yeager Recital Hall

ment is doing,” said junior musical theater major Dan Lusardi. “I feel like that’s the purpose, to give the visiting parents and idea of what [the department] is all about.”

The title of the event hints to audiences that they should expect a vast collection of different student performances, which faculty director Linda Sabo, associate professor of

performing arts, calls a “revue” or a series of sketches, songs and dances, dealing with issues satirically.

“Collage’ is a musical revue of numbers put together mainly by the students,” she said in an email. “Most of these numbers come from our spring revue called, ‘A Grand Night for Singing,’ and a couple are from last spring’s freshman showcase.”

Because these songs are originally performed during the spring semester, students begin conceptualizing the performance for “Collage” very early.

According to Lusardi and his “Collage” partner, sophomore Drew Redington, preparation for “A Grand Night for Singing” begins mid-October the year before. Auditions are held just before Thanksgiving break, and rehearsals begin in

late February or early March for the late April show.

This means work on the pieces to be performed at this weekend’s “Collage” started nearly a year ago. There is one major difference between “A Grand Night for Singing” and “Collage,” though: roles held by the department’s recent graduates need to be recast.

Lusardi and Redington understand this shift first hand.

“The fun thing about this was a senior originally did our duet with me, so since he graduated, [Lusardi] had to learn it in two days,” Redington said of his tap performance to “Moses Supposes.” “Another fun thing about ‘Collage’ is that a lot of the seniors that were in numbers aren’t here anymore, so a lot of undergrads get to take their place and also get to perform in the numbers.”

For senior Jillian Hanna, performing her fourth and final “Collage” doesn’t seem emotional — until they get to the finale, which is the same number each year. Each class takes their turns singing verses of “I Will Turn to You,” a song written by two Elon alumni. Seniors start the song off, but that isn’t the part that gets her teary.

“There’s this part at the end where the seniors sing to the freshmen, and then the freshmen sing back to the seniors, and it’s this really touching moment,” Hanna said. “That’s always the part that makes me start crying.”

Beyond the sentimental moments, “Collage” is a staple of Elon’s Family Weekend and is usually sold-out shortly after tickets go on sale. What many may not realize, though, is “Collage” is unique to the musical theater program at Elon.

“No other music theater program

does [“Collage”],” Redington said. “It’s very, very Elon. It’s one of the unique things about this program.”

It is not the idea of a revue that makes “Collage” so special, but the fact that students lead the performance each step of the way. When preparing for “A Grand Night for Singing,” music theatre students of all years conceptualize, audition, direct, choreograph and musically arrange their own components of the show and Sabo acts merely as a guiding hand for the event.

“The faculty person in charge of this show is not the director, but acts more like an artistic director, someone who keeps an eye on everyone to maintain quality of production,” she said.

Sabo also works with other faculty members to offer an outside opinion.

“We all take notes and give the performers feedback in the rehearsals during the weeks preceding the performances of ‘Collage,’” she said. “We help clean the vocal and movement work so the performances are well rehearsed and ready for an audience.”

For those not familiar with Broadway tunes, the audiences will also enjoy some popular hits. Redington said there are more popular songs included this year than usual.

“There’s a lot of people in the department this year that are very contemporary singers, so there’s a few pop songs,” he said.

Lusardi is also excited about the moment in this year’s “Collage.”

“This year our department is very strong dance-wise,” Lusardi said. “The classes we have right now are pretty strong movers so I feel like there’s a lot more dancing in this collage than years past that I’ve seen.”



HALI TAUXE | Photo Editor

Musical theater majors will perform ‘Take Off With Us,’ from the musical ‘All That Jazz’ in ‘Collage’ on Sunday.

Runners fly during ‘Great Cape Escape Race’

Lea Silverman
Senior Reporter

Students and community members raced down East Haggard Avenue wearing capes. Children dressed as zombies ran past windows, frightening those inside. They were not filming the newest superhero movie on Elon University’s campus, but rather raising money for those who need medical assistance in Alamance County.

Sept. 20 marked the first annual “Great Cape Escape Race,” a race that benefits the Open Door Clinic of Alamance County. The Open Door Clinic provides free medical assistance to those in Alamance County unable to afford it. Elon’s Physician Assistant (PA) Student Society sponsored the race and looks forward to making it a tradition.

“The first year of Elon PA students decided to make The Open Door Clinic their philanthropy, so [the race] has been three years in the making,” said PA student and race chair Lisa Nichols. “The Open Door Clinic is for our population that can’t afford health care on their own.”

Participants could choose from three levels of running, the 10K, 5K or the Fun Run. The Fun Run was intended for children up to nine years old to dress up as zombies and run the course while being hit with water guns. Every Fun Run participant who crossed the finish line was considered

a superhero and given a medal regardless of the time.

Because this race, which used a USA Track & Field certified course, was meant to benefit others, registration was \$35 for the 5K, \$40 for the 10K and \$20 for the Fun Run. Individuals were also asked to raise money on their own by getting sponsors individually or for their team.

Prizes were given out to the men and women who came in first, second and third in both the 5K and 10K. About 250 people came out to run the course around Elon and support the cause. To keep with the theme, prizes were given out to the people who raised the most money as a team or had the best superhero costumes.

Check-in began at 10:30 a.m. and the races started in the heat of the afternoon at 1 p.m. The “Great Cape Escape Race” route went around all of Elon’s campus, starting at the Gerald Francis Center at 762 E. Haggard Ave., and took racers through Danieley Neighborhood and around the rest of campus. Racers went past Elon Elementary school, the Oaks Neighborhood, Lake Mary Nell and behind Global Neighborhood.

“It was a very hard course,” said Jessica Whitmore, who ran the 5K race in under 21 minutes. “[It was] very hilly. It is a very pretty course, but do some hill training and you’ll be fine.”

But Whitmore believed the challenge was worth it because it benefits a good cause.

The race continued beyond the awards ceremony. There was an after-party for runners, friends and supporters with T-shirts and running accessories for sale that also benefited the clinic. Runners were invited to relax with a post-race yoga session and free massages and live music by the Lone Gunmen, a local alternative band, filled the air during the run and after-party.

For those interested in helping the Open Door Clinic, additional ways to donate are on the race’s website, www.runtheGCE.com.

Donations will go into the clinic’s general fund, which provides money to purchase equipment, medical supplies, medications and more to benefit the community of Alamance County.

Nichols said they are always looking for volunteers for next year’s race to help with setting it up or cheering on the runners, but she recommends the more active alternative to help the Open Door Clinic — sign up for the race next year and create a fundraising team.



BETSY SIOUSSAT | Stix Pix Photography

Many racers dressed in superhero costumes for the 5K/10K ‘Great Cape Escape Race.’

Using a campus to their advantage

'Dancing in the Landscape' to be performed outside

Ally Feinsot
Senior Reporter

Dancers will glide off the stage and onto the grass for the Department of Performing Arts' annual performance of "Dancing in the Landscape" at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 27.

Four pieces will be performed outside in various locations, allowing the audience to travel with the dancers and experience the beauty of Elon University's campus, which is officially registered as a botanical garden.

The concert will feature contemporary pieces choreographed by faculty members and artistic directors Renay Aumiller, assistant professor of dance, and Sara Tourek, assistant professor of dance, as well as student directors junior Hallee Bernstein and senior Fiona Koch.

Moving through campus

"Dancing in the Landscape" is usually performed outside during Family Weekend in one location — but this year, it will be a traveling, site-specific show. The performance will begin at Love Terrace outside the Center for the Arts, then travel to the pavilion outside Lakeside Dining Hall, the Koury Fitness Center and end at Belk Library.

Aumiller has worked on site-specific performances internationally and decided with Tourek to include this element.

"The audience is going to take a little journey with our dancers as they perform," Aumiller said. "We built in a walk into the transitions of each piece, with each dance beginning and ending with clues for the audience to travel along with them."

Each of the pieces incorporate parts of the sites where they are performed, such as dancers bouncing off arches outside the Koury Center. Since each piece is so specific to the site where it is performed, the choreography is greatly influenced by factors like the structure and architecture of the dancers' surroundings.

"Dancing in the Landscape" is typically a freshmen showcase, known as the "initiation" into Elon's dance program. But with two student directors this year, the performance will also feature a piece with junior and senior dancers.

Aumiller taught both Bernstein and Koch last year and thought they would be perfect student choreographers because of their talent and creativity. In addition, Aumiller said since they participated in the Elon in LA program, they both had experience with performing site-specific work.

Bernstein was asked last year to be an assistant director for "Dancing in the Landscape." She chose members of her junior dance major class to perform her piece because she wanted the opportunity to work closely with her peers.

Before rehearsals, Bernstein was hesitant about establishing her role as a chore-

ographer. But that quickly changed.

"Because we are all a close-knit group and really good friends, I have found that gaining their respect has been really easy," Bernstein said. "We have such a short rehearsal time period that they know we need to get things done."

Junior McKenna May is performing in Bernstein's piece and said rehearsals for "Dancing in the Landscape" have been less stressful because of the comfort level of working with her peers.

"It's a lot more comforting working with student directors because we all move similarly," May said. "Our teachers will challenge us to move outside our comfort zones, which can sometimes be intimidating."

Dancing through the silence

May added that "Dancing in the Landscape" is a lot more challenging than other pieces performed throughout the year. To fully integrate the dances with outdoor elements, there is no music that accompanies the pieces.

"There are several unison parts in the dances, so we have to eyeball one another since there is no beat to listen for," May said.

To counter this, a dancer will use their breath, such as a loud exhale, to cue the next move and keep everyone moving in unison.

Since "Dancing in the Landscape" s re-

hearsals are all outside, the weather results in challenges dancers would not normally account for when performing in a studio. On the first day of rehearsals, it poured rain. Another issue with rehearsing outside is the heat, which Aumiller said means taking repeated breaks so the dancers stay hydrated and don't overexert themselves.

Bernstein said her biggest challenge has been living up to expectations of the other pieces, especially those choreographed by faculty members.

"I have only choreographed once in my life and I want to make sure it is up to par, especially since my piece closes the concert," Bernstein said.

The dancers had limited rehearsals before the performance. As the first major concert of the year, dancers only have three weeks to prepare for the performance, which can be especially difficult for freshman dancers who are acclimating to Elon.

While rehearsing in a short period of time can be daunting, Aumiller said the freshmen have all had a positive and unique experience preparing for their Elon dance debut.

"It is awesome to see the first-years, who are brand new to campus and just getting to know each other, having fun and playing with the different outdoor locations," Aumiller said. "Besides the pouring rain on the first rehearsal and the itchy grass, it gives them great experience and a taste of what's to come in the next four years."



Blue-collar professor's tribal teaching

Economics expert Shawn Humphreys to speak on microfinance

Courtney Campbell
Style Editor

Shawn Humphrey, associate professor of economics at the University of Maryland, is a man of hard work, mobilizing grassroots movements on a budget and “do-gooding” in business.

Thursday, Sept. 24, he will share his personal pedagogy of “Tribal Teaching” — an entrepreneurial approach involving student autonomy, authority and responsibility — “Do-Goodernomics” and microfinance, or the financial services to low-income individuals, with Elon University students.

Humphrey has worked with Elon students in the past. In 2012, he met with students at the “Poverty Action Conference,” a conference where students present their projects to eradicate global poverty.

Elon students also participated in his “Two Dollar Challenge,” for which they attempt to live on \$2 a day for a week to simulate what a life in poverty is like. The challenge pushes for an alternative way to fill the gap between the rich and poor.

“I’ve had a crush on Elon for a while,” Humphrey said. “If there was ever a place I could work at, it would be here. Both the professors and students are wonderful.”

A “Game of Loans”

Humphrey will be giving a talk while at Elon. Before that, he will lead an experiential learning simulation in the seminar for the Winter Term course “Business and Culture in Latin America” with Mark Kurt, associate professor of economics, as part of his “Tribal Teaching” pedagogy.

Kurt was approached by Kevin O’Mara, professor of management, who asked him if he had any interesting classes for Humphrey to assist. Since the Winter Term course has a focus on microfinance in Cuba, Kurt thought he would be the perfect guest.

“I’ve seen him speak before,” Kurt said. “[Humphrey] does a good job at deconstructing microfinance or anything else he’s talking about. I think [the talk is] going to be interactive, I think it’s going to be fun, and I think students are going to have a greater appreciation of why we do good.”

The simulation, called “Microfinances: Game of Loans,” involves assigning each student to a household with two low incomes — one that’s more steady and one that’s erratic. Each household must use its income to pay for necessities and education.

Then each household experiences a shock, such as a fire or a medical issue, and they must deal with the burden.

“It gives students insights into the economic complexities of the poor,” Humphrey said. “How [those with low-incomes] manage day-to-day. It’s an intense, engaged and active tool.”

Humphrey is also giving a talk to students at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 24 at the Innovation House, located on the corner of South Holt Avenue and West Trollinger Avenue, called “Do-Goodernomics: A Merciless Market Analysis of Our Motivation to Do-Good.”

The talk is part of a series that he has given at various universities and conferences and focuses on the motives behind “doing good” in economics. In the talk, Humphrey discusses why or why not wealthy individuals help those in poverty and which models work to better assist and incorporate those



Shawn Humphrey will give a talk to students Thursday, Sept. 24 on “Do-Goodernomics.” PHOTO COURTESY OF SHAWN HUMPHREY

with lower incomes into the economy.

According to Humphrey, companies like Toms Shoes, which gives away a free pair of shoes to those in need for every pair purchased, are actually undermining local shops in the area where shoes are being donated and helps to continue the poverty cycle.

“It’s an uncomfortable talk,” Humphrey said. “We kind of signal that we have too much goodness and that sometimes has unintended consequences. [My team and I are] trying to change the way [students] do good.”

Tribal teaching “do-gooders”

Humphrey’s passion stems from his belief that everyone has a role to play in ending the poverty cycle.

His program, “Tribal Teaching,” can be found on his website, tribalteaching.org, and lays out how students need to reactivate the

creativity and fearlessness they had as children, going beyond the system of expectations they have as entrepreneurs.

It is structured around creating a world-changing project and learning from it.

“People will learn with experiential learning,” Humphrey said. “It’s an alternative narrative to how we’ve been brainwashed in poverty. We think that we are the heroes, but we’re actually the sidekicks. How do we know we can instruct others when we’ve had different experiences.”

According to Humphrey, the cycle of poverty has been the same year after year, but microfinance has the power to change the cycle.

“We need to rethink ways we can resolve our problems with poverty,” he said. “It’s going to be us on the sidelines, not leading this progress. I need to get this message out. I believe it’s a better alternative.”

Students search for a semester abroad

Caroline Perry
Senior Reporter

Vibrant and colorful flags hung from more than 20 tables in upstairs Lakeside Sept. 17, each one representing the different countries that Elon University students have been to and the places Elon students will continue to study abroad.

The Global Engagement Semester Showcase was held by the Elon Global Engagement Center for students to learn more about available Study Abroad and Study USA programs.

Many places, such as Spain, listed multiple programs for a single destination depending on the prospective student’s interest.

Energetic global ambassador students sat at each of the tables, waiting to tell prospective travelers about the programs they went on.

“As a global ambassador, we are a group of students that are passionate in encouraging students to go abroad because we all had experiences that touched our lives in indescribable ways,” said senior Elizabeth Fraser.

A full immersion

All the global ambassadors wanted to share their stories and convince prospective travelers to go somewhere that might be outside their comfort zone.

“I went to Brazil for a semester

without knowing anyone or having any knowledge of Portuguese,” Fraser said. “Although this was scary, I returned with lifelong friendships, memories, perspectives and an academic understanding that would have been hard to get at Elon.”

Fraser went on the trip to Salvador, Brazil, called, “Public Health, Race and Human Rights.”

Some students raised concerns about feeling truly immersed in the country they intended on visiting. While some programs typically draw a large Elon crowd, others are less popular.

“Even though I went to Spain, I didn’t have to hang out with Elon people or see them if I didn’t want

to,” said senior global ambassador Alexandra Cantone. “There were four or five of us in each program in Spain, so it was nice because we had that option to meet up if we wanted to. But the city was so big, I really didn’t run into them.”

Though many students have been to the same places, each student’s experience was unique. Students lived in a home-stay for the duration of their semester abroad, which means they lived with a native family in the country.

“I think that’s so awesome,” said sophomore Ashleigh Straub. “It would be so cool to have a second family somewhere so far from home.”

Others stayed in dorms for an experience more similar to Elon’s campus. On Elon’s study abroad website, each program lists the living situation, along with other information to make the choice easier.

Semester on deck

Students are not limited to one country a semester. For those who want the ability to travel to many countries in just a few months, Semester at Sea is an option without creating a plan to travel to a different country.

“I really want to study abroad but it was so hard deciding on one place to go,” Straub said. “When I heard about Semester at Sea, I knew I had to do it.”

The Semester at Sea program

travels to a myriad of different countries in its four-month journey. The itinerary depends on the season the student is traveling and the current. Students arrive at one location, travel and study on land a few days, and then return to the ship to continue their journey.

“I just thought to myself, ‘When am I going to get another opportunity like this in my life to go to this many places ever again?’” Straub said.

Straub is also interested in completing her lab science requirement abroad, which Semester at Sea offers. Global ambassadors encourage students to save some of their general education requirements in case the course equivalents don’t align with their majors.

Throughout the event, students consistently trickled into the fair, discovering new possible destinations and exploring old places of interest.

“The purpose of the semester fair was to give students the opportunity to talk to alums of former abroad programs in order to gain a better understanding of where they might like to go, but also introduce some programs that Elon offers that may not be as well known,” Fraser said.

At the end of the fair, a GoPro was raffled off to one student. The hope was that the student will take the GoPro to their semester away and documents some of the wonderful experiences he or she will have abroad.



RACHEL INGERSOLL | Staff Photographer

Senior Ashley Hunt greeted students who were interested in learning about studying abroad in Australia.

Phoenix prepares for second season of CAA play

Elon starts season with program-record seven consecutive wins

Jordan Spritzer
Assistant Sports Editor



The Elon University men's soccer team started Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) play Sept. 18 with a 3-1 victory over Drexel University. While Drexel is not expected to contend for a conference title, the Phoenix will have plenty of competition in winning the conference championship and earning an automatic bid into the NCAA tournament.

Last season, CAA teams earned two spots in the NCAA tournament, with the University of North Carolina at Wilmington advancing to the second round, where the Seahawks lost to eventual national champions University of Virginia.

Despite the hot start, head coach Chris Little isn't getting ahead of himself.

"The CAA is so tough and so competitive, you just concentrate on the next game," he said. "In our league, if you look past any games you're in trouble."



Drexel University (1-6-0, 0-1-0 CAA)

The Phoenix opened up CAA play against the Dragons Sept. 18., who do not have a single player named in the preseason all-conference team. Drexel struggled in the CAA last year, winning just one of its nine matches. Only one of Drexel's three highest goal scorers return, junior defender Jameson Detweiler, who had two goals last season. Junior goalkeeper Tyler Afflerbach has been a mainstay in net for the Dragons, starting every match but two in his career so far.



University of Delaware (3-3-1)

Led by preseason CAA Player of the Year junior forward Guillermo Delgado, Delaware was named preseason favorites to take home the conference title, receiving five of the nine first-place votes. The Blue Hens had two players on the Preseason All-CAA Team — Delgado, who led Delaware with 12 goals last year, and senior midfielder Joe Dipre. Elon's loss to the Blue Hens in the regular season finale last year gave Delaware home-field advantage in the conference championship, only to fall to James Madison in the final.



College of William & Mary (2-2-2)

The Tribe was picked to finish tied for seventh in the preseason poll in large part because of their struggles at home last season, where they won just one conference match. Two players received honorable mentions on the preseason all-conference team: brothers Jackson and William Eskay. Jackson, a senior midfielder, appeared in all 18 matches scoring a goal and adding two assists, while sophomore midfielder William scored four goals, finishing second on the team in points.



Northeastern University (0-3-2)

Sophomore forward Frantzdy Pierrot returns as the co-leading scorer last season with five goals. The Haitian native will have to carry more of the offense burden, as fellow co-leading scorer from last season Brad Fountain '15 graduated. Though, the Huskies have struggled to find the back of the net this season scoring only two goals and having been shut out in three matches.



University of North Carolina at Wilmington (5-1-1, 0-1-0 CAA)

Elon's in-state rival has had an equally hot start to the season, before losing its first conference match 2-1 to Hofstra Sept. 19. CAA All-Rookie defender Brayden Smith returned to the team that advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament. Junior goalkeeper Sean Melvin also returned and has kept two clean sheets in his last three matches in victories over Duke University and the University of South Carolina. The Seahawks were picked to finish second in the CAA preseason poll, receiving two first place votes.



James Madison University (0-5-1)

Reigning CAA champion James Madison is predicted to drop off this season. The Dukes were voted fourth in the preseason CAA rankings despite receiving two first-place votes. The team is led by first-year head coach Tom Foley, who is very familiar with the Dukes program after spending 13 seasons as an assistant for long-time head coach Tom Martin. Junior midfielder Connor Coward returns as the team's leading goal scorer with five goals and four assists last season. Junior goalkeeper Kyle Morton also returns after recording nine clean sheets last season.



Hofstra University (6-1-0, 1-0-0 CAA)

Hofstra was one of three teams tied for first place in the CAA standings last season. They have two Englishmen in the Preseason All-CAA team: junior defender Harri Hawkins and junior midfielder Joseph Holland. The Pride were picked to finish third in the preseason, despite being the only team in the top four to not receive a single first-place vote. Hofstra will have a major hole to fill in its forward line, as their leading goal scorer from last season — Maid Memic, who scored 10 of the team's 24 goals — graduated. The Pride have done a good job so far, as they have 11 goals in seven games so far this season — including two goals in each victory over ranked opponents (2-1 over #15 Syracuse University, 2-0 over #24 UNCW).



College of Charleston (3-3-1)

Winless in their last nine conference matches, the Cougars finished at the bottom of the CAA last season and are predicted to finish last again this season by the preseason rankings. College of Charleston's two draws in conference play came against Delaware Oct. 25 and Drexel Oct. 11 — both 2-2 draws. Junior forward Nico Rittmeyer returns as the leading goal scorer from last season. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill transfer scored five goals for a Cougars team that scored only 15 goals in 16 matches. The Cougars struggled last weekend, losing 3-1 to University of California, Santa Barbara and 2-1 to California Polytechnical State University, San Luis Obispo.



Senior defender Sam McBride (6, top) and his Elon men's soccer teammates have won seven straight matches to start the season.

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Women's soccer ready to top CAA standings

Nathan Smith
Senior Reporter

Going into the 2015 season, the Elon University women's soccer team had plenty of reasons to feel optimistic. Although the Phoenix had a poor 2014 campaign, there were plenty of signs pointing to resurgence.

Through nine games, it's difficult to argue those signs were wrong. The Phoenix is 7-1-1 after its latest win, a 4-2 home victory over the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

While the Phoenix has one nonconference match remaining (an October contest against Francis Marion University), it's done with the bulk of its nonconference play and can now turn its attention to Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) play.

Conference play wasn't kind to Elon in 2014. The Phoenix finished last in the league with a 1-8 mark, its only conference victory a 2-0 win over the University of Delaware on Elon's Senior Day. Elon was only one of three schools to not reach double digits in goals scored in conference play and had the largest goal differential (-20) of any CAA team.

A big difference between this season and last is the team's success in nonconference play. The Phoenix went 4-4 in noncon-

ference play last year, though it did ride a three-game winning streak into conference play. Its losses stung quite a bit, including a 5-0 loss against Clemson University and a 3-0 defeat to High Point University. The Phoenix was outscored by five goals in nonconference play last season, giving up 14 goals in eight nonconference matches.

The 2015 nonconference campaign has been much different for the Phoenix, as it rides a seven-match unbeaten streak into its first conference match, at home against Northeastern University Sept. 25. The team has scored 17 goals in nine nonconference matches, allowing only six goals in that span, including four shutouts.

The Phoenix has played teams from several different levels of competition, taking on opponents from the Atlantic Coast Conference, the Atlantic 10 Conference and Conference USA, among others. The current goal differential of +11 is 16 goals better than its nonconference output last season, an encouraging sign for head coach Chris Neal.

"We played some good games, and we've played some really good teams, and we've won, so we're confident," he said. "We've had good competition, so I think it was an excellent experience. I like where we're at right now."



Grace Bennett (17) prepares to cross the ball in a match against University of North Florida. ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer



College of William & Mary (6-2-1)

To close out a three-game CAA home stand, the Phoenix welcomes the College of William & Mary, ranked No. 23 in the country before a 2-1 overtime loss against Princeton Sept. 20. The Tribe is 6-2-1 on the season and has fared better against ranked opponents, going 1-1 against those in the top 25. The Phoenix also has a common opponent, as it has faced off against North Carolina State University (the Tribe defeated N.C. State 3-0 while Elon lost 2-0). Elon's game against William & Mary last year was a 3-1 loss even after Elon scored the first goal. This match will be on Oct. 2.



Towson University (6-2-2)

Elon concludes its regular season slate against Towson University Oct. 25, the last of four road matches to end the year for Elon. Towson finished last season tied for sixth in the CAA with a 3-4-2 record. This season, the Tigers are 6-2-2 going into their first conference game against James Madison University. They started off the year losing their first two games, and have since reeled off an eight-match unbeaten streak. Last season, Towson defeated Elon 2-0 off goals in the 21st minute and the 42nd minute.



Northeastern University (7-3-0)

The Huskies are the first conference matchup for the Phoenix and could be one of its more difficult games. Northeastern finished 7-1-1 in CAA play last season, winning the CAA and advancing to the second round of the NCAA Tournament. The Huskies are 7-3 so far this season and coming off a 1-0 overtime victory over the University of New Hampshire going into their match against the Phoenix. One player to watch out for is sophomore forward Kayla Cappuzzo, who has five goals so far this season. The Huskies defeated the Phoenix 4-0 last season at Rudd Field and will be hoping for a better performance against one of the CAA favorites this season.



University of North Carolina at Wilmington (7-3-0)

After a nonconference matchup against Francis Marion, the Phoenix gets back into CAA play Oct. 5, traveling to Wilmington, for a matchup against UNCW. Much like Elon's previous CAA opponents, this will be a matchup against a winning club that has done very well this season. Last year, the Seahawks went 2-6-1 in conference play, but this season they have gotten off to a 7-3 start, defeating East Carolina University and Wake Forest University in nonconference play. The Phoenix lost 2-0 to UNCW last season after giving up two second-half goals despite outshooting the Seahawks on goal 7-4. This will be the first CAA road match of the season for the Phoenix.



College of Charleston (6-3-0)

Much like the Phoenix, College of Charleston has experienced success in its nonconference portion of the schedule after a rough season in CAA play last year. The Cougars have started off the year 6-3, including a 2-1 victory over South Carolina State University, the only nonconference opponent they have in common with the Phoenix (Elon defeated South Carolina State University 5-0 Sept. 6). College of Charleston goal differential has been +9 through its nonconference games, most recently a 5-0 drubbing of The Citadel. Elon lost to the Cougars 3-1 last season in its first CAA road matchup, but this year's match will be Senior Day for Elon, which last season led to its only CAA victory over the University of Delaware.



Hofstra University (6-3-0)

The Phoenix will continue its string of home matches against Hofstra University Sept. 27. Last season, the team lost to Hofstra 4-1 in its CAA debut, allowing four goals after going up 1-0 in the first 10 minutes of the match. Hofstra is 6-3 so far this season, with two of its three losses coming against ranked opponents (No. 6 Penn State University and No. 24 Rutgers University). The Pride has also been scoring goals regularly — it has only been shutout in one match and scored at least three goals in four of its nine matches.



Drexel University (6-3-0)

The Phoenix continues its road stretch with a matchup Oct. 18 against Drexel University, who finished fifth in the CAA last season with a 4-3-2 record. The Dragons are 6-3 so far this season, but their goal differential is a mere +1, a reflection of the close contests the team has had through nine games. There has not been a game that Drexel has been involved in this season where one side or the other scored more than three goals — a trend that continues from last year, as Drexel never allowed more than three goals in a match in all of 2014. Drexel defeated Elon 1-0 last season, outshooting the Phoenix 9-1 and scoring the deciding goal in the 68th minute.



James Madison University (6-4-0)

In the penultimate game of the regular season, the Phoenix travels to Harrisonburg, Virginia, to face off against James Madison. The Dukes were among the CAA's best last season, going 7-2 in conference play and advancing to the conference semifinals. The Dukes, like several other CAA teams, have a winning record through nonconference play, sitting at 6-4 on the season, which includes victories over the University of Maryland, Seton Hall University and Virginia Commonwealth University. The team has played two ranked opponents thus far, losing to both No. 25 Georgetown University and No. 9 Virginia Tech. The Dukes defeated Elon 1-0 in overtime off a penalty kick, a season-ending loss that is sure to be in the player's minds when they meet again.



University of Delaware (5-4-0)

In the only matchup against a CAA opponent it defeated last season, the Phoenix plays its first of four road matches to end the season at Delaware. Delaware has had an uneven start to their season, going 5-4 heading into its CAA opener at College of Charleston. Last season the Blue Hens were a middle-of-the-pack CAA team, finishing tied for sixth with a 3-4-2 record. One player to look out for is junior forward Natalie Zelenky, who led the Blue Hens in points last season and has scored seven of Delaware's 15 goals so far this season.

Volleyball looks to improve on rocky first CAA season

Phoenix uses full week off to rest, recuperate ahead of tough conference schedule

Kyle Lubinsky
Senior Reporter

As the Elon University volleyball team gets set to start play in the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA), both coaches and players have bought in on a common theme. The Phoenix, which finished 1-15 in conference play last season, has confidence as it prepares.

"We know what we're getting into," said head coach Mary Tendler. "We know the players better, and we're starting to develop some rivalries."

The Phoenix has a few surprises for its CAA opponents with new additions who have made an immediate impact on the court. Freshman defensive specialist Maddie Jaudon leads the team in digs (191) and service aces (8) and is third in assists (19). Michigan State University transfer junior outside hitter Ebony Scott is fourth on the team in kills (55), while freshman outside hitter Kam Terry is tied for fifth (45).

"In a sense, it makes the other teams aware of what's going on," said junior outside hitter Kayla Agae. "It's not the people they knew were going to be on the court. We still have a lot more talent, a deeper bench."

Many of the team's leaders from last season will undoubtedly make their presence known during conference play. Senior outside hitter Megan Gravley has tallied 113 kills and eight service aces through 13 games, while sophomore outside hitter Sydney Busa has racked up 101 kills and six service aces. Sophomore hitter Sydel Curry continues to be an big asset for the Phoenix, with 329 of the team's 466 assists.

"We want to be better, but we're not looking at last year," said Agae. "We have to keep moving forward, because we can't change the past. It's a clean slate with everyone."

Elon's lone win in conference play last season was an Oct. 31 five-set thriller hosting the College of William & Mary. In many other matches against CAA opponents, though, Elon struggled to generate offense. In its 15 losses, the Phoenix won multiple sets only twice – once on the road against Northeastern University and once

at home against James Madison University. Elon was swept in half the CAA contests it played in, including three of the team's last four matches of the season.

Elon has a full week of time off between its last preseason game against the University of North Carolina at Greensboro Sept. 16 and its first conference game against North-

eastern University Sept. 25. Tendler believes the break will give the team a much-needed breather.

"It's exciting to move forward with this team going into the CAA," she said. "We have a lot of time between [matches] to get healthy and prepare for Northeastern and Hofstra."



Megan Gravley (3) attempts a kill as her teammates watch. The Phoenix beat North Carolina Central earlier this season.

ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer



Towson University (13-1):

After starting the season with a loss to the University of Tennessee, Towson has won 13 consecutive matches. The Tigers lead the conference in a staggering number of categories, including hitting percentage, assists, kills and service aces. Redshirt junior middle blocker Candace Steadman leads the CAA in hitting percentage (.451) as the Tigers look to improve on last year's 13-3 conference showing.



James Madison University (10-3):

The Dukes will ride a three-game winning streak into conference play. A consistent team, James Madison doesn't rank lower than fourth in all major statistical categories thus far. Freshman outside hitter Bryn Recker leads the conference in service aces (19) and junior outside hitter Janey Goodman tops the conference in points (156). The Dukes capped off the preseason with non-conference victories, including a 3-1 over Georgetown University.



University of North Carolina at Wilmington (9-3):

After winning its last three matches, the Seahawks are one of many CAA teams entering conference play on a winning streak. UNCW leads the CAA in digs and blocks, with freshman middle blocker Anna Moss tallying a CAA-leading 45 blocks. The Seahawks beat two big nonconference opponents this preseason — Clemson University (3-0) and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (3-2) — but suffered losses to California State University, Sacramento (1-3) and Coastal Carolina University (1-3).



Hofstra University (9-6):

The reigning conference champions had a tough nonconference schedule, losing to the University of Maryland, the University of Notre Dame and Wake Forest University. The Pride's big win of the non-conference season came in a sweep against the University of Georgia. Hofstra is second in the conference in kills, led by junior outside hitter Veronika Kostova, who leads the CAA (187). The Pride has struggled to dig effectively, ranking eighth in the conference.



College of Charleston (8-6):

The Cougars, who finished last year with the best record in CAA play (14-2), had a modest nonconference slate. College of Charleston is a young team, with just four returning upperclassmen and six freshmen, and comes into CAA play with some big wins against nonconference teams, including a 3-2 victory against the University of Alabama Sept. 5. The Cougars have played well at home this season (6-1) but struggled in neutral (2-3) and away (1-1) contests.



University of Delaware (8-5):

The Blue Hens finished the nonconference portion of their season with a four-game winning streak. Senior defensive specialist Ariel Shonk leads the CAA in digs (212) and senior outside hitter Katie Hillman is fourth in the conference in service aces (15). Despite Shonk's performance, the Blue Hens struggle in digs, ranking seventh in the conference. Delaware has also had trouble blocking effectively, with numbers near the bottom of the conference. The team looks to improve on last year's 8-8 finish in the CAA.



College of William & Mary (6-7):

The Tribe is one of three CAA teams to enter conference play with a winning percentage under .500. William & Mary hopes to recover from a 3-13 finish in CAA play last year. The team has had a tough out-of-conference schedule, losing to the University of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University and East Carolina University. The Tribe lead the CAA in opponent hitting percentage, holding opposing teams to hitting just .132 of shots this preseason.



Northeastern University (3-12):

The Huskies continue to suffer after a 2-14 season in CAA play last season. Northeastern is at the bottom of the conference rankings in most statistical categories, including assists, blocks and digs. The Huskies are led by sophomore outside hitter Brigitte Burcescu, who is sixth in the CAA in points (185.5), and junior setter Jamie Bredahl, who is ninth in assists (241). Northeastern has played particularly poorly on the road during nonconference play, with a 0-5 record outside of Boston.

C(alling) A(ny) A(ction): Defense reigns in CAA

Young, blundering offense faces brutal slate in second year

Alex Simon
Sports Editor

The Elon University football team stumbled on offense throughout its nonconference slate this season.

And with Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) play kicking off this Saturday against Towson University, the games are only going to get harder.

The CAA is home to six of the top 50 defenses in the Football Championship Subdivision

(FCS) — including top-ranked Stony Brook University — and five of those six schools are on Elon's schedule this season.

"There's definitely good defense being played [in the CAA]," said head coach Rich Skrosky. "I think a lot of [the good defense comes from] the structure of the conference, and especially the coaching in the conference. I think the defensive coaches do an outstanding job of preparing for so many different styles of offense."

In the three games against

Wake Forest University, Gardner-Webb University and North Carolina A&T State University, Elon's offense mustered 31 points total, with only 17 of those points scored in regulation time.

All three opponents are ranked as some of the best defenses in the country — Wake Forest is ranked ninth in total defense in the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS), and Gardner-Webb is ranked 18th and N.C. A&T sixth in the FCS.

Both Gardner-Webb and N.C. A&T's schedules included a game

against a Division II team, which no other Elon opponent has on its schedule this season.

But the quality of the opponent doesn't tell the whole story. Statistically, Elon's offense is one of the worst offenses in all of FCS through the first three weeks of the season.

Out of the 123 teams in the FCS, Elon ranks 113th in scoring offense, averaging 10.33 points per game. The Phoenix is also 115th in third-down conversion, going 10-of-49 in three games.

The yardage numbers are not much better — the team is 109th in passing offense, with 119.67 yards per game, and 112th in rushing offense at 77.3 yards per game. Combine the two, and the 197 yards of total offense per game ranks 118th in the country.

There are only five FCS teams in the country who have performed worse than Elon on offense so far.

After a rough run in nonconference action, it could get even uglier for Elon in the CAA.



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

The Elon football team takes the field ahead of its home opener against North Carolina A&T State University last weekend. The Phoenix lost 14-7.



University of Delaware (1-2, 0-1 CAA)

The Blue Hens' season started poorly, with a loss to non-scholarship Jacksonville University at home on the opening weekend. But Delaware recovered with a strong showing against Villanova, even in a 28-21 loss. They play their lone FBS opponent this week — the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill — but have a relatively easy schedule the rest of the way. Home games against both New Hampshire and James Madison will give the Blue Hens and their 25th-ranked defense a chance for a big upset.



James Madison University (3-0, 1-0 CAA)

If you like offense, then don't miss a single James Madison game this season. The top offense in the FCS is averaging 51 points per game and an impressive 652 yards per game. The Dukes are led by fifth-year senior quarterback Vad Lee in the air and running backs redshirt sophomore Cardon Johnson and junior Khalid Abdullah on the ground. They've only played FCS teams so far, but this week's game against FBS Southern Methodist University — which also sports a high-octane offense — should be considered must-see.



Villanova University (2-1, 1-0 CAA)

The CAA's preseason favorites to win the conference have had a challenging start to the season, with a five-point loss to University of Connecticut and seven-point wins over Fordham University and Delaware. The Wildcats are not on Elon's schedule this season, but fans can see them on any of the five nationally televised conference games. Villanova avoids New Hampshire and Stony Brook on its schedule, but with All-American senior quarterback John Robertson hurt in last week's game against Delaware, Villanova might not be able to run the CAA table.



Towson University (2-1, 0-0 CAA)

As the first opponent on Elon's CAA schedule, the Tigers will give the Phoenix a physical challenge. After hanging tough but ultimately losing to FBS East Carolina University, Towson won two hard-fought games at home. Head coach Rob Ambrose has a balanced team so far — 37th in total offense, 38th in total defense — but the Tigers only went 2-6 in CAA play last year.



College of William & Mary (1-1, 0-0 CAA)

William & Mary caused a major stir in its state this past weekend when it nearly defeated the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. But a fumble pushed the Tribe back to a fourth-and-long situation, and the Cavaliers stopped the team to win 35-29. The loss stings, but it should be a sign of the good things to come for legendary head coach Jimmie Laycock's team this season. William & Mary will face the toughest schedule of any CAA team, though, as it misses Rhode Island, UAlbany and Maine.



University of New Hampshire (1-2, 0-1 CAA)

It's been a rough start to the 2015 season for the Wildcats, who were the top-ranked team in the FCS after the 2014 regular season. They were blown out by FBS San Jose State University, and Stony Brook dominated them last weekend. But if any team is capable of recovering, it's New Hampshire, who should still be considered contenders for an FCS playoff berth. After two consecutive semifinal appearances, though, 17-year head coach Sean McDonnell is in trouble this season.



Stony Brook University (2-0, 1-0 CAA)

The Seawolves have played well during their first three games of the season, even in unusual circumstances — the season opener against the University of Toledo was canceled at halftime. Head coach Chuck Priore has made Stony Brook into a defensive force, with the most points allowed last season coming in a 28-20 defeat at New Hampshire. The Seawolves got their revenge last week, with a 31-6 upset of the Wildcats, and the hot start may cause analysts to reconsider their expectations for the Seawolves this season.



State University of New York at Albany (1-2, 1-1 CAA)

Albany went undefeated in nonconference play last season, receiving votes in the polls for the major of the year. As the only team with two conference games already this year, the Great Danes are looking to add a few more wins in nonconference play. Second-year head coach Greg Gattuso has two CAA Freshman Players of the Week already in running backs Elijah Ibitokun-Hanks and Elliot Croskey. They will be players to watch as the season goes on for Albany.



University of Richmond (2-1, 0-0 CAA)

The Spiders finally put together a solid season under head coach Danny Rocco last year, getting back to the postseason for the first time in five years. Now, the fourth year coach has big expectations for his team, but they've struggled so far. A blowout to University of Maryland and a comeback three-point victory at Hampton University were both games that Richmond expected to do better in. But the Spiders have a bye week to get ready for conference play, which starts with hosting Maine and Elon.



University of Maine (0-2, 0-0 CAA)

Maine is the only CAA school to face two FBS teams this year, receiving a combined \$725,000 to play (and ultimately lose to) Boston College and Tulane University. But despite the lopsided scores, the Black Bears are a threat to contend this season. They have a tough schedule this season even with avoiding James Madison, William & Mary and Delaware, as they travel to both Villanova and New Hampshire. Elon will travel up to Orono, Maine come Nov. 14 — brrrrrrr.



University of Rhode Island (0-3, 0-1 CAA)

Rams head coach Jim Fleming is one of four coaches around the CAA in their second season at the helm, and the struggles in Kingston, Rhode Island are similar to Elon's. After a 1-11 season last year, Fleming is hoping junior quarterback Paul Mroz can continue to improve as the season goes on. The Rams' best chance for a win comes against in-state rival Brown University Oct. 3.

Fun in finality: Sullivan enjoying last ride



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer

Senior defensive lineman Rob Sullivan (93) lines up before a play against North Carolina A&T State University Sept. 19. Sullivan is leading the team with four sacks this season.

Alex Simon
Sports Editor

For senior defensive lineman Rob Sullivan, there's no question as to what he will do once the Elon University football team's season ends.

"As far as football, after this, it's over," Sullivan said. "I'm ready to just let my body heal. I don't know if my body can take any more."

So far this season, his body is holding up, and his play is reaching a peak.

Sullivan is tied for second in the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) with four sacks. The two sacks in each of Elon's first two games — against Wake Forest University and Gardner-Webb University — are more than double his previous career total of three.

With two surgeries since stepping onto campus back in 2011, one on each labrum in his shoulders, Sullivan has no intention to play football beyond his senior year.

Sleeping is hard enough as it is.

"You can ask any guy that's had a shoulder injury, it's not something that heals overnight

or goes away," he said. "You're laying down in bed, you can't lay on one side for too long."

Sullivan said he's been certain that this was his last year for a while now.

That's taken some pressure off, and it's showing on the field.

"This is the most fun I've ever had playing football," Sullivan said. "People say it's in high school, and high school is great, but playing in front of a ton of people, playing well, and playing with a group of guys I've been with for so long — it's great."

Passing around the credit

Sullivan won't take any of the credit, though — to him, the sacks are the result of a strong defensive effort.

"When you get pressure from different sides, sacks are just going to happen," Sullivan said. "I've been fortunate to be on the receiving end on the stat line. But a lot of credit goes to the rest of the defensive line and linebackers, because they're definitely getting back there and helping me out as well."

His strong performance and veteran leadership doesn't go unnoticed on the coaching staff.

"Rob has a great maturity about him," said head coach Rich Skrosky. "I've noticed that since the day I've gotten hired. He has no pretense about him, and he's not an entitled kid in any way, and he's really been productive."

For defensive line coach Patrick Madden, Sullivan's improvement goes just beyond his strong performances.

"It's more than just the games — it's day in and day out," Madden said. "We see what he is doing to get better and get the guys around him better."

"Every week, I think he picks something he tries to work on, something he may have done badly in the game [before]. He's a very conscious player, and he knows what teams will try to do to beat him."

Long travels, here and there

Sullivan comes to Elon from Scottsdale, Arizona, making him one of the few Elon athletes coming from the West Coast. The distance has made it hard for family and friends to watch him play, as flights across the country now cost more than \$400 per ticket round-trip.

When they did come, Sullivan noticed.

"When I was younger, I felt a lot of pressure," he said. "I say pressure because I wanted to do well in front of my family, because I wasn't playing as much. I felt every rep mattered more because they were only coming to one game a season."

In this last season, though, Sullivan says there's been a noticeable change.

"Now, it's my senior year, and they're making the commitment to come to as many as they can," he said. "So not so much now, but when I was younger, and they came the one time, I was like, 'All right, I gotta try and do something cool.' Now, not so much."

While his family is trying to make it to as many home games as possible, there is one game that they will not attend: the Nov. 14 game at the University of Maine.

When asked about the game, Sullivan recalled last year's game against Maine, which was a frigid 44-degree home game for Elon.

"It was one of the last home games of the year, and it was freezing. We were practicing out here — and I was never a guy with the leggings or the long sleeves, because I never did that — but it hit me that day," Sullivan said. "I went out to Dick's the day before the game. I bought leggings, I bought long sleeves. So I think I'm set."

Has he put any consideration into having an instant hand warmer or two?

"I might, honestly," he said. "I was not made for [cold weather], I was not built for that. So I'm not looking forward to that. It'll be interesting — I had never played in weather that was colder than 60 degrees [before Elon]."

The end of the road

The fifth-year senior said he has already embraced the mentality of his final season.

"It definitely hit me after last season, when we came back in the spring," Sullivan said. "You develop relationships, and the best relationships are with the guys that are in your year, because they've been with you the longest."

"And when you see a lot of those guys are gone — it's just me, [senior defensive back] Miles [Williams] and [senior linebacker] Alex Dawson right now — that's when it hit me that this is a different team."

The team is younger, and Skrosky has put an emphasis on the underclassmen getting playing time so far. It's a stark contrast to what Sullivan experienced.

"My freshman year, there weren't any freshmen playing," he said. "We had a strong group of upperclassmen, but we didn't have such an influx of talent. Now the younger guys are here, we just got to make sure they're on their stuff, because they are going to be playing significant snaps."

But, as he reminisces on his time at Elon, Sullivan seems content for this to be the end of his football career.

"I never really thought I was going to be going to the NFL," he said. "I came in as a walk-on, so my goal was just to earn a scholarship and get some playing time. I did that, and I'm happy I did that — probably one of the biggest accomplishments of my life so far."

"I'm happy with just that."



Game Day

Date/Time: Sept. 26 | 3 p.m.

Location: Elon

Stadium: Rhodes Stadium

Series History: Towson leads, 4-0

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Top Photos



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Musical theater majors practice the number "Take Off With Us" for "Collage" Sept. 21.



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer
Senior midfielder Miguel Salazar (8) wins a header against Drexel University Sept. 18.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JACK HARTMANN
Seniors Hayley Owen and Morgan Goldstein celebrate an Elon touchdown at the first home football game of the season Sept. 19 vs. North Carolina A&T State University.



HALI TAUXE | Photo Editor
Freshman Tom Pfaff enjoys the 350-foot Slip 'N Slide at ElonTHON's event Sept. 18.



ASHLEY KING | Staff Photographer
The Elon University football team's had five sacks in a loss to N.C. A&T on Sept. 19.

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