

THE COST OF KNOWLEDGE

Not all students sold on textbook prices at campus bookstore.

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PUTTING TALENT TO THE TEST

Campus Outreach event showcases student skills.

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THE PENDULUM

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MADISON MARGESON | Design Editor

While Elon University aims to create an atmosphere conducive to diversity, acts of discrimination continue to occur on campus. Campus-wide forums create an environment to discuss both issues.

Despite multi-faith initiatives, not all students perceive campus as diverse

Grace Elkus
News Editor

The Interfaith Youth Core, a non-profit organization that promotes interfaith conversation, held a campus-wide meeting concerning

66 percent reported feeling campus was at least moderately divided with regard to religious and spiritual difference

78 percent reported moderate amounts of challenging, stimulating interactions

29 percent reported low levels of meaningful cross-worldview interaction

30 percent reported hearing insensitive remarks concerning a particular religious group

Information courtesy of IFYC

Elon, provided context for the IFYC before turning the podium over to Megan Hughes-Johnson, director of campus engagements for IFYC.

IFYC looks for two sets of outcomes when building a culture of interfaith cooperation on a college campus, according to Hughes-Johnson. The first is student outcomes, which involves how students know something about another person's

tradition and the nature of the interfaith interaction that takes place between them. The second is campus outcomes, which look at whether the campus culture is a place that encourages this type of learning and interaction.

"If you were to drop down into the middle of Elon's campus, had you never been here before, how would you know that Elon is a place that is thinking about these issues and engaging these issues?" she said.

There are three initiatives at Elon that directly relate to the issue of multi-faith cooperation, according to Smith. Better Together, a student organization on campus, was created by students who trained with IFYC. The organization inspired a multi-faith learning community, which is made up of 11 students representing six different religions. And the Multi-faith Center will serve as a central place where anyone can come and learn about the religious differences that exist on campus, Smith said.

Survey results

In the fall of 2011, IFYC sent out an online survey to Elon students that measured student attitudes, behaviors and knowledge regarding religious identity, diversity and interfaith cooperation on campus. Questionnaires were also sent out to student leaders, staff and faculty, and individual interviews and focus groups were held.

"Our job this year is really to hold

DIVERSITY | PAGE 3

Council proposes policy to address bias, discrimination on campus

Melissa Kansky
News Editor

The Elon University Staff Advisory Council and Academic Council devised a new bias and discrimination policy inclusive of all types of harassment and discrimination, offering clarification for the process of reporting an incident of harassment. The Academic Council proposed the policy to faculty and staff and will vote on the policy Feb. 17.

The policy shows the victim that there are procedures in place to provide support, said Ann Cahill, philosophy professor and chair of Sexual Assault and Gender Issues Council.

"It's a much more holistic approach and much more comprehensive," she said.

While the previous policy only discussed sexual harassment, the revisions incorporate bias of any categories that exist in the faculty and staff handbook. The proposed bias and discrimination policy also details degrees of confidentiality for all parties involved during the process.

Cahill and SAGIC began revising the policy in 2010, but a 2011 "dear colleague" letter from the Office of Civil Rights detailing standards for addressing acts of sexual harassment, coupled with the racial slur incidents in the fall galvanized the university to address instances of bias more readily, she said.

"(The fall incidents) concerned a lot of people," said Cassie Kircher, associate professor of English and chair of Academic Council. "We have to do this better."

Changes reflect requirements according to Title IX legislation, which describes necessary procedures for sexual harassment incidents, but Elon's policy applies such laws to all forms of discrimination and bias.

"It's not my goal in working hard

Proposed changes and revisions to bias and discrimination policy:

- Inclusion of more detail
- Addition of new Human Resource position dedicated to investigating instances of harassment and discrimination on campus
- Broaden types of harassment recognized in the bias and discrimination policy
- Option of formal and informal process
- Clarify degrees of confidentiality available to plaintiff and accused
- Creation of Education and Response Team

on these policies and procedures to necessarily change behavior," Cahill said. "I don't think behavior is changed necessarily by policies and procedures."

Instead, the proposed revisions communicate that the university will not tolerate any acts of discrimination

POLICY | PAGE 8

Ongoing response to discrimination at Elon

- Sept. 7, 2011
Junior Brenna Humphries reports moving out of the way of an advancing car and being subjected to a racial slur.
- Sept. 10, 2011
A second student reports subjection to a racial slur while walking on campus.
- Sept. 13, 2011
President Leo Lambert gives a speech on diversity at College Coffee, met with a public response from the Now What movement.
- Sept. 15, 2011
Lambert announces the creation of an incident team to respond to instances of harassment.
- Sept. 30, 2011
Not on our Campus hosts a walk against bias and discrimination.
- Feb. 1, 2012
A student reports being subjected to a homophobic slur while walking on campus.
- Feb. 13/14, 2012
A new bias and discrimination policy presented to faculty and staff.
- Feb. 17, 2012
Academic Council will vote on the proposed policy.

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Professor brings love for aikido to Elon

Hannah DelaCourt
Senior Reporter

David Neville took up a new hobby seven years ago when things in life were not going his way and he needed to try something new. Neville said he was unemployed, angry and depressed, but the minute he first walked onto the mat and learned aikido, he forgot about all of it.

Neville, assistant professor of German and director of language learning technologies at Elon, is in the process of bringing a new club to campus called the aikido club.

Aikido is a Japanese martial art, and the club is designed for students who have an interest in becoming more physically fit, learning defense skills and are interested in Japanese culture.

The club is open to anyone, Neville said.

"Anyone can do (aikido)," he said. "I've worked with women in their mid-60s. It's not a question of strength, it's really technique and physics and movement."

Although there is sometimes a perception that women cannot do martial arts, they bring skills to aikido that men often have to learn, according to Neville.

Twenty-eight students have already signed up for the club. Once the club formulates bylaws, compiles the list of interested students and submits both documents to Janis Baughman, director of student activities, the club will obtain official university recognition.

Kristen Unger, a doctoral student in physical therapy, is a first-degree black belt in aikido and will help teach the aikido club. She has been doing the martial art for 10 years.

Unger said she likes aikido because she can apply the main concepts of non-resistance, flow and relaxation to everyday life.

"The art improves your physical coordination, balance and ability to defuse and deal with confrontational



David Neville, assistant professor of German, founded the new aikido club, a form of Japanese martial art, as a way of allowing students to learn self-defense and meditate. Here he practices aikido with student John Bastian in a Rec Center studio until the club expands enough to meet on a regular basis. GLORIA SO | Staff Photographer

situations effectively both on and off the mat," Unger said.

Neville said he thinks practicing aikido really helped his mental health. That is something Neville hopes aikido can bring to people at Elon.

"For students here at Elon, they have their different stresses, be it relationships, homework, whatever," Neville said. "I hope that they will be able to manage (those stresses), flow with them and deal with them."

Unger agrees that aikido can help manage stress. She said it helps students learn to relax, which she thinks improves grades, focus and concentration.

In the area are two places to practice aikido. One location is in Greensboro and another in Durham.

Neville continues to gauge interested students and faculty. He said it is a great hobby and is something students can continue doing anywhere they land after graduation.

MORE ONLINE

Get on the mats with video of the aikido club in action.

<http://bit.ly/EPaikido>

GLORIA SO
Staff Photographer

the Swing

Watch The Swing at
ElonPendulum.com/TheSwing

Head online to check out The Swing, a new way to experience The Pendulum.

This Thursday on The Swing...

SGA Voting

Sam Warren, executive president of SGA, and Grant De Roo, elections chair, discuss the SGA elections process in light of the upcoming race.

#Trending

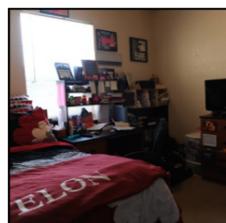
Julia Boyd gets your opinion on the popular Elon Memes Facebook page, anonymous Elon Twitter handles and Elon underground newspapers.

Athletes off the court

Hear from musical basketball players, including Jack Isenbarger, sophomore guard and pianist.

The 90-Second Newsdesk

Don't have time to read the whole paper? Swing producer Kassondra Cloos runs through this week's paper in 90 seconds or less.



More Apartment Spaces for Sophomores



Online Housing Selection 2012



With the recent expansion of upperclassmen housing, more sophomores will be able to live in The Oaks, The Crest, and Danieley O&P than ever before! Apartments offer full kitchens, lower meal plan requirements, and a chance to live with a few close friends. Apartments are available on campus with single rooms, double rooms, private baths, shared baths, and at a variety of prices so there are multiple different options.

Running and writing for rights

Event planned to spread knowledge about N.C. marriage amendment

Caitlin O'Donnell
Editor-in-Chief

For these runners, the purpose of the race runs much deeper than victory – it's about sharing information along the way.

This month, Elon University will welcome Race to the Ballot, a team led by Jen Jones, communications director for Protect NC Families, currently running 322 miles across the state from Asheville to Wilmington to raise awareness about what they believe are the detriments of Amendment One. Docketed for the May 8 ballot by the state legislature, the amendment would more strictly define marriage in North Carolina by prohibiting civil unions and rights for domestic partnerships and voiding the benefits domestic partners currently receive.

The Feb. 15 Race to the Ballot at Elon is jointly sponsored by a total of nine campus organizations at a time when knowledge about the issues is equally as important as registration, planners of the event at Elon said. The university is just one of many stops along the journey as the team aims to initiate "1 million conversations" about the impacts of the amendment.

"A lot of the reason there is so much confusion is people just don't understand it," said junior Laura Sturm, vice president of SPECTRUM, Elon's queer-straight alliance. "By educating them on the truth behind it, people may not be more accepting, but at least be more tolerant and really understand what the legislation is and why it's affecting everyone, not just the LGBTQ community."

With gay marriage already illegal in

the state, Sturm said the key factor to remember is that, should Amendment One be voted down, no laws in the state will change.

Elon's version of Race to the Ballot will kick off at College Coffee Feb. 14, where representatives from Elon and the movement will be on hand to register voters and distribute pledge cards promising opposition to Amendment One. Beginning at 7 p.m. the next night in McKinnon, a free event will intertwine education about the amendment with entertainment, including performances by all four of Elon's a cappella groups.

But it's not enough for just the LGBTQ community to come out against the amendment, said senior Jess McDonald, outgoing president of SPECTRUM.

"(Straight allies) hugely outnumber the LGBTQ community and this issue highlights that because it's all about the numbers," she said.

McDonald said she plans to host more voter registration drives throughout the semester, particularly in response to the increased voting regulations in the state, including photo ID laws and a proposal to shorten the early voting period.

"These bizarre laws are clearly trying to lessen the voter pool," she said. "While we still can, we need to be registering everyone we can to vote."

While marriage lies at the heart of the debate, sophomore Kevin Moore, president of SPECTRUM, said he views it as an issue of morality.

"Even if you speak about religion, religion says you're supposed to get married," he said. "The sanctity of marriage should allow everyone to get married. The amendment is a big deal because it goes against what everyone in this day and age should stand for."

Coordinator of QueErLON blog aims to counteract labels of LGBTQ community

Caitlin O'Donnell
Editor-in-Chief

Ross Wade went for more than a decade living a lie in front of his family.

Now, coordinating content for the QueErLON blog, which falls under the umbrella of Elon's new LGBTQ office led by Kirstin Ringelberg, Wade is encouraging others to share their personal experiences as a member of the LGBTQ community or its allies.



ROSS WADE

In his inaugural post, published in October, Wade outlined his personal experience growing up in a conservative, religious family and pretending to be straight for years before eventually coming out to his mother while in college.

"The thing about being gay and keeping secrets from your family is that you deny them the chance of loving you for who you are and being your ally," he wrote in the post. "For years, I distanced myself from family, because I didn't want to get close and then have them abandon me. What I didn't realize is that they felt abandoned. They wondered why I didn't love them. I did love them, I was just too scared to let them really see me."

Last week, the blog officially launched when a link was sent to students, faculty and staff – within two days, it had 800 hits. Posts range from the experiences of Michelle Jones, assistant director of career services for arts and sciences, as an ally of the LGBTQ community to video blogs from junior Lauren Clapp and senior Jess McDonald, who recently attended the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

It was the first time Wade told his story through such a large and open

medium, which he said didn't quite hit him until he began receiving feedback from faculty and staff.

"I realized 'wow, a lot of people read this' and it started to occur to me," he said. "It's worth it. Someone had to post first and I felt since I was asking people to do it, then it should be me."

But not all have found it so easy to post their experiences and thoughts on the blog, Wade said.

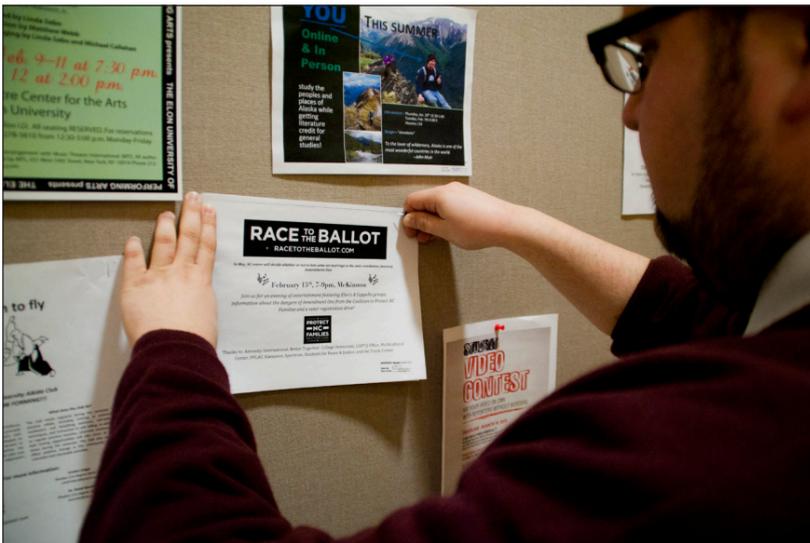
"I think they thought it would be easy, but they're processing it, thinking 'why am I an ally?' 'what does that mean to me?' or 'what is the story that I want to share about being queer at Elon?' or 'how do I think Elon can be better?'" Wade said. "It was really difficult for them, not in an 'I don't want to do this' way but more in the way of 'this is a complex, multi-layered question and so how am I going to address it?'"

Wade is hoping for not only personal posts, but presentation of research and other recommendations for improving inclusion of the LGBTQ community.

"It's hard to understand a cause without understanding the people and their stories," Wade said. "Once you can see past the label or stereotype or cause and see the person, then it's meaningful to you."

This personal principal has manifested in Wade's life in ways he did not expect. His conservative Christian upbringing often led him to assume that all Christians are automatically against rights for LGBTQ individuals.

"Based on some of the feedback I've gotten from faculty, students and staff – they're Christians but they're also pro-equality and I'm just like 'I'm a hater myself and I need to stop that,'" Wade said, referring to his own tendency to stereotype. "You have all of those experiences, whether real or not, and they become a part of how you think. And it's been a great learning opportunity for me to get myself straight about how I need to be more inclusive myself when it comes to religion."



Ross Wade, coordinator of the QueErLON blog, has assisted in advertising for the Feb. 15 Race to the Ballot event, intended to educate voters about the detriments of Amendment One.

The State of Inclusivity at Elon University

Last fall, Elon established a LGBTQ office under the direction of Kirstin Ringelberg, associate professor of art history. Without a physical space on campus, Wade said he hopes to see continued increase in the amount of support and resources for the community.

Sophomore Kevin Moore, president of SPECTRUM, said he hopes his organization becomes a safe haven for all students, even those still coming to terms with their identity.

"It's not an organization you have to be 'out' in," he said. "Just because it's a gay-straight alliance doesn't mean you can't be in it because you don't know exactly what you are yet."

Results from student survey regarding religious diversity released at campus conversation

DIVERSITY from PAGE 1

up a mirror to campus and to help you all, students, staff, faculty, administration, take a look at and think about what are the ways currently that students from different backgrounds are interacting with one another," Hughes-Johnson said. "How can we strengthen the great programs that have already started, as well as think about ways that we can enhance and perhaps start new programs based on the data we have covered."

Two-hundred sixty-one students took the survey, which was divided into three categories based on how students identified. Students that identified as Protestant, Orthodox Christian or Roman Catholic made up the "majority" category, students that identified as Buddhist, Daoist, Hindu, Jewish, Mormon, Muslim, Spiritual, Unitarian Universalist, or students who wrote in "other," were placed in the "minority" category, and students who identified as agnostic, Atheist, non-religious, "none," or secular humanist

were grouped into the "non-religious" category.

There were 23 scales, or specific focuses, of the survey. One of the questions under the "campus climate" scale asked how students perceived diversity. The results indicated that Christian students, who were placed in the majority category, perceive the campus to be more diverse than students in the minority or non-religious groups. It was also found that students who identified as non-religious were significantly less likely to perceive their own group as being accepted on campus.

The results from the "support on campus" scale showed that Christian students are more likely to feel there are safe places on campus, not only for their own expression but for all expressions of religious identity, than those who identified in the religious minority or non-religious groups. The survey also indicated that non-religious students are more likely to feel coerced than students who identified with a religion. And close to 30 percent of

students who took the survey reported hearing insensitive remarks concerning a particular religious group.

Hughes-Johnson also shared the results from the faculty questionnaires and responses from leaders of student groups. Towards the end of the presentation, she outlined five areas of exploration that IFYC will continue to look into, including the implications of the reported divide between Christian students and students of non-religious worldview, trainings that exist that build student and staff capacity to engage religious diversity on campus, and the impact that the new Multi-faith Center might have on campus culture.

Hughes-Johnson and other IFYC campus associates work with universities across the country to offer resources and ideas and stimulate conversation concerning the topic of religious diversity. Within her presentation, she explained the significance of President Barack Obama's inaugural address, in which he recognized the diverse religious make-up of America and referred to

America's "patchwork heritage" as a strength, not a weakness.

"We find it pretty compelling that President Obama, the first African-American president of our country, chose to identify religious and non-religious identities as what gives our country strength," Hughes-Johnson said. "And chose to point out that these are identities that are important to people, and there are identities that should be engaged."

More recently, religious identity has been present in politics because of the upcoming presidential election. Hughes-Johnson used this example to explain there are positive ways to engage religious identity, but there are also ways that promote stereotypes and divisions.

"At IFYC, what we ask is what makes the difference," Hughes-Johnson said. "How do we go from recognizing that diversity on its own is just a neutral fact? It just exists. People come from different backgrounds. And that can either go towards conflict or cooperation."

Bike theft recurring on campus, campus police indicate solutions

Natalie Allison
Managing Editor

Rachel Wilson's bike has been stolen three times since she arrived on campus almost four years ago. Though Wilson, a senior, said she typically used a coil bike lock to secure her bike to racks, she found the problem of people snatching bicycles that aren't theirs to be a recurring issue for her and other students with bikes.

"I plan my days with the expectation that I'll have my bike to get me around campus, and if it's not there, I'll be late for class or meetings," Wilson said.

According to Vickie Moehlman, a captain at Campus Safety and Police, 30 bike larcenies were reported on campus in 2010. That number went up in 2011, and 43 bikes were reported missing to campus security, although she speculates more are stolen than are reported.

Though campus police were able to recover five of the 43 stolen bikes last year, Moehlman, who promotes crime prevention on campus, said there are several ways for students to ensure the safety of their bikes.

The first: using a U-lock, not a coil lock.

"The bike security industry makes a killing off the (coil) bike chains," Moehlman said. "They look secure but they're not. If you cut the plastic tube open, you'll see that the wire on the inside is just about the size of a clothes hanger wire. We've seen students come into our office with a chain lock in their hands that has been cut."

Registering bikes with campus safety and police, Moehlman said, is another way to prevent theft. Students are encouraged to bring their bikes into the campus security office, where they will receive a registration sticker that can be placed in a conspicuous spot on a bike.

"Most of the time, a sticker that says 'Elon Police Department' on it and



JULIA SAVERS | Staff Photographer
Last year, 43 students reported bike theft on campus. The office of Campus Safety and Police encourage the use of metal U-locks and registration of bicycles to avoid theft.

indicates that the bike is registered is a deterrent for people who are just stealing it to go from point A to point B," Moehlman said.

Dan Ingle, campus police officer and investigator, said besides taking other people's bikes for their own transportation, some thieves steal bikes to be re-sold at pawnshops and other locations.

"There are some folks that do that for a living," Ingle said. "They go from campus to campus taking things, and for some of them, bicycles especially."

When bicycles are reported missing, Ingle said campus police check local pawnshops to see if any were brought there to be sold.

Wilson said she noticed that a common trend for bicycle thieves is to operate on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights — usually when people have been drinking.

Wilson's bike was stolen for the first time her freshman year from a bike

rack outside Virginia. She found her bike several hours later beside Sloan, though her basket had been torn off and left at the Virginia rack.

Last year, Wilson's bike was stolen from outside Colonnades B and she found it the next morning by Colonnades dining hall without a basket.

The final instance occurred a few weeks later, and when she discovered her bike was stolen from outside Colonnades, Wilson saw the bike racks had been moved and most of the bikes overturned. Wilson said she reported the incident to Campus Safety and Police and drove around campus until she found her bike outside Danieleley B.

Since her bike was last stolen, Wilson said she started using a new lock and hasn't had any more problems.

"I've used a metal U-lock since it happened the last time," Wilson said. "(Since then), I haven't had any trouble — thank goodness."

Students gain insight into politics during seminar program

Katherine Blunt
Senior Reporter

Thirty-four Elon students recently attended a dual seminar program, Inside Washington, held at the Washington Center in D.C. Both the freshman International Fellows and the junior Teaching Fellows took part in the program.

The seminars discussed a broad range of subjects, including the fairly recent establishment of Super PACs, past presidents and political comedians.

"More than anything, the seminars helped me to understand that more of the American public needs to become involved and educated on current issues."

-Ethan Luke
JUNIOR TEACHING FELLOW

"With my lack of political knowledge prior to attending these seminars, I learned a great deal," said junior teaching fellow Ethan Luke. "More than anything, the seminars helped me to understand that more of the American public needs to become involved and educated on current issues. As future educators, it is imperative for us to be knowledgeable about politics not only concerning education, but any policies that could affect our students."

Speakers from both sides of the political spectrum offered insight into the culture of politics and the complexities of the current campaign.

"I was exposed to a myriad of people with different views, which made reviewing and modifying my own beliefs and ideals a much healthier process than if I had only had access to one side of the issues," Luke said.

Inside Washington is part of the Washington Center's larger Campaign 2012 program, which includes seminars scheduled for later this year focused on the Republican and Democratic National Conventions as well as the Presidential Inauguration.

The two seminars attended by Elon students were held during the first two weeks of January, and each convened for one week. The first, In Pursuit of the Presidency, focused mainly on the presidential campaign process while the second, Politics and Media, concentrated on the role of mass media in determining the future president.

"Students who attended these seminars gained a better understanding of the nomination process, the intricacies of the electoral process and what it takes to run in a national campaign," said Maha Neouchy, public relations coordinator at the Washington Center. "In addition, students learned about the issues and challenges that face the United States."

Mike Harney, legislative director for North Carolina Sen. Kay Hagan, took questions from students following a seminar.

"I particularly enjoyed talking to (him) about how the state of North Carolina benefits from current educational policies, specifically No Child Left Behind," said junior teaching fellow Whitley Dozier.

More than 15 individuals spoke at the seminars, including several prominent political and news correspondents such as Brian Lamb, C-SPAN president and CEO and Mike McCurry, former White House press secretary.

"The seminars provided a chance for students to learn about the city of D.C. and to hear about the workings of government from people that are practitioners in the field," said Adam Short, political science lecturer and faculty adviser of the course.

Luke particularly enjoyed a speech by Ann Compton, White House Correspondent for ABC News Radio.

"Her remark about how President Obama has chosen to remain in Washington and focus on doing his job, rather than to run a campaign was insightful," he said.

Students turn to campus bookstore for convenience, Web for low prices

Katherine Segura
Reporter

Although Elon University's campus bookstore works with Barnes & Noble to provide students with textbooks, some students have noticed that prices at the bookstore are significantly higher than those at Barnes & Noble.

The solidarity between Barnes & Noble and the bookstore seems to be contested.

"I've honestly never considered buying books at the campus store because I know I'll get ripped off," said sophomore Allison Shamon.

At the beginning of each semester, students can log onto their OnTrack account and get directed to the bookstore's website to find a customized list displaying the required textbooks for their courses. They have the option of purchasing new or used textbooks, and sometimes have the option of renting.

Students must then decide whether the convenience of purchasing textbooks through the campus bookstore or exploring increased economical options is the better route to take.

Just like any other business, profitability is key to staying open, said Kathy Scarborough, campus shop manager. Each book has a standard price plus a 25 percent margin price, she said. It is the necessary price to provide students with their required books while attaining a profit.

Ten percent of the margin accounts for rent, 8 percent for the salary of campus store staff and students, 3 percent for transporting textbooks, 2 percent for stickers and other supplies and 2 percent is pure profit.

Despite the price variance, some students view the practicality of

ordering through the campus bookstore enticing.

"I'll pay for the convenience," sophomore Charlotte Suozzi said. "There are cheaper options such as Amazon, but it takes so long."

While some students continue paying for the efficiency associated with the bookstore, others are moving towards more tech savvy approaches.

"I buy them online because it is easier to find them this way than searching the bookstore," said sophomore Kara Kreutzberg. "Plus, you can get them cheaper on Amazon and Half.com."

Every textbook has an ISBN (International Standard Book Number) code. By entering this number into sites such as Amazon or Chegg, a list of available purchases show up. The prices on these sites tend to be lower.

"They garage sale price it," Scarborough said. "There is no way for us to compete."

One potential downside of ordering through these bargain price websites is the arrival process of each textbook. Since every item is shipped individually, they arrive at different times, forcing students to check their mailboxes daily.

Whether students choose economical over convenience methods or vice versa, a common frustration shared is with sellback prices. Purchasing a \$300 biology textbook and receiving \$49.75 when the semester ends is an irritation many students share.

As technology advances, students note the growing availability of eTextbooks, which are physical versions of textbooks downloaded onto a computer.

In the meantime, Scarborough said she understands students' frustration with high prices.

"I went to school too," she said. "I get



CLAIRE ESPARROS | Photo Editor
Books that line the shelves of the campus bookstore tend to be a more expensive option.

it. I have been on both sides and all I can say is textbooks are not profitable."

"Management" by John Schermerhorn is a required textbook for an advanced level management course. It is listed for \$232.35 at the bookstore and \$216.75 on the Barnes & Noble website. It can be rented for \$75.83 from Barnes & Noble, in comparison to the bookstore's price of \$111.05.

Local author celebrates love through books, website

Grace Elkus
News Editor

Valentine's Day is the one day a year that gives many people an excuse to tell someone, "I love you." But Jen Busfield, local author of "Love Letters, Volume 1: Moving On, Growing Up" and "Love Letters, Volume 2: Being Adult," thinks expressing love should occur any time of day, any day of the week and any week of the year.

"We shouldn't have to use Valentine's Day as the excuse to say, 'I love you, here are some roses,'" Busfield said. "We should tell each other any time. There

shouldn't have to be a good reason."

This isn't to say she isn't a fan of Valentine's Day. In fact, the holiday has always held a special significance for Busfield, who was born on Feb. 11, but brought home from the hospital on Feb. 14. This year, she used the holiday to help promote her books, which she recently self-published.

"Valentine's Day falls right into my market," she said. "My first-ever book signing event (was) Saturday in Alamance County. Best birthday present ever. Life goal, check."

Publicizing her books is one of Busfield's primary goals, and the Elon microfinance initiative, a student group on Elon's campus that works as a liaison for small businesses, is helping her achieve it.

The microfinance initiative is a new club on campus, and their work with Busfield is one of their first local projects. They have plans to hand out bookmarks around campus with a quote from Busfield's first book on them, and are hoping to have her do a book signing at the

campus book store.

Busfield said she is thankful for her relationship with the club, and the members of the initiative said they feel rewarded as well.

"I think she knew that if we work together, it would increase her publicity and it would essentially help both of us," said Erin McGuiggan, a member of the microfinance initiative.

Being a published author has always been one of Busfield's personal goals, but it wasn't until the summer of 2011 that she started researching what it would take to self-publish her work. The idea of publishing a compilation of love letters came naturally to Busfield, who had already started a blog where she posted love letters written for significant people in her life.

"Part of my platform is that love letters aren't just 'oh, I love you' to a partner or to a husband or to a boyfriend," she said. "It's moments of love and appreciation and value for somebody who has made a really positive impact in my life."

Busfield's first book was published in November 2011. It is a collection of 50 love letters, and although all of the letters were written for specific people in Busfield's life, she chose to not include their names in the book.

"Each letter I could talk about who it is in reference to," she said. "I leave that out in the books because I want people to be able to insert one of their own experiences."

The book, at 92 pages, is short, sweet and to the point, Busfield said.

"I didn't take a lot of time explaining things," she said. "I was kind of getting used to the idea of bearing my soul on paper."

At 136 pages, Volume 2 is a little longer and a bit more personal, she said. She takes more time to develop the story behind why she's saying "I love you," and talks about her marriage, her divorce and growing up.

"I've had help editing content, and I've had a couple of (the editors) in tears in the content that's available in the second book," she said.

Busfield's works are best known locally, although Busfield herself hasn't always been a resident of North Carolina. She was born in New York and moved to North Carolina when she was eight years old. She graduated from Graham High School, went to college at UNC Chapel Hill and recently moved to Mebane, where she lives with her six-year-old son.

Since graduating from college, Busfield has held a number of jobs, but it was her experience doing operations at a web development company that inspired her to create a website that corresponds with the theme of her books.

In November 2011, Busfield launched jabsloveletters.com (JAB are her initials), where she publishes submitted love letters in the form of text, photos and videos.

"My passion has always been to be a published author, but because of the way information is shared these days, almost everything is online," she said. "In the books, I talk about the



At her book signing, Jen Busfield displayed a box for readers to submit love letters of their own.

projects and invite readers to be a part of the website, and now that they've read my letters, they can see that it doesn't have to be super eloquent or super flowery, it just has to be a few thoughts down on paper."

Every Thursday, Busfield publishes new letters and photos that have been submitted to the site. She said she only gets about a handful of submissions a week, but finds she gets more attention on her JAB Love Letters social media sites, including Tumblr, Facebook and Twitter.

As the word spreads about her website and published works, Busfield said she is constantly brainstorming new projects and is in the process of writing another book. And whether she's posting to one of her six blogs, updating the website or writing a love letter, Busfield's outlook on love is ever-present.

"We all talk about missing that awesome moment when you should have told someone you love them," Busfield said. "So stop wishing you should have told people and just tell them. It's really easy to tear somebody down. It should be just as easy to tell someone, 'you know what, you're freaking awesome.'"



Jen Busfield signs a copy of her second novel for a friend.

Local food movement puts spotlight on area farmers

Lauren Ramsdell
Senior Reporter

On a mild February afternoon, there wasn't a cloud in the sky, and next to the Truitt Center for Religious Life, the scent of freshly turned earth permeated the air. A handful of students in a variety of environmental studies classes were out in the Elon Community Garden preparing plots for late winter planting.

"Typically Alamance County is a little bit behind some of the more urban counties around, but that's changing right now."

- Michael Strickland
ENGLISH LECTURER

Many of these students are taking Garden Studio with Michael Strickland, English lecturer. The class is a combination of practical work and classroom-based knowledge of soil systems and planting. With skills they learn, the students can start a backyard garden themselves. People who do, and make other changes in their diets, are often called locavores.

"A locavore is somebody who chooses to eat only what is grown within a specific geographic region," said Michelle Ferrier, Elon professor and publisher of LocallyGrownNews.com, a website that provides information about farming and local products. "Some people might say a 100-mile radius, some people might narrow that in terms of a 60-mile radius. It's choosing, in some cases, not to eat bananas because bananas are not grown in North Carolina."

The Garden Studio students are, as a whole, not locavores in the strictest sense of the word. But they do eat many of the fresh vegetables produced under their pitchforks, something many Elon students don't have the opportunity to do.

Senior environmental studies major Graham Gilley said he grew up helping his mother with her backyard garden, so when he found out about the community garden, it was a natural transition.

"A lot of people don't (eat local) because it is a little more expensive sometimes, but I mean, if you really take a step back and consider the health benefits, the emotional benefits, it's worth the price," he said. "So when I can, I try to eat local."

Gilley said he lives off-campus, which makes choosing local foods easier than when he was on the meal plan. But ARAMARK does provide options for students with a meal plan to choose local in dining halls.

"Elon Dining is a proud partner of the North Carolina Ten Percent campaign, (which) asks all of its members to commit to purchasing a minimum of 10 percent of all food locally," said Kate Nelson, marketing manager for Elon Dining Services.

Locally-sourced items are denoted with a green leaf logo that says "local." These are visible in Acorn Coffee Shop, where all of the pastries and muffins have been made in the nearby area.

"There's a tremendous interest in (the local food movement) in the area," Strickland said. "Farmer's markets are springing up everywhere. Typically Alamance County is a little bit behind some of the more urban counties around us, but that's changing right now."

The Elon Community Church's weekly farmer's market, which starts in the warmer months and runs until late fall, offers fresh, local food. The Company Shops Co-op in downtown Burlington offers seasonal produce from North Carolina, and Lowes' Foods, which is based in North Carolina, offers a reasonable selection of area produce.

"Whenever you can buy local, you're supporting the local economy," said environmental studies adjunct instructor Jerry Dorsett. "And you're creating jobs, creating more amenities in the area."

Ruth Messinger selected as Baccalaureate speaker

Melissa Kansky
News Editor

This year's selection of baccalaureate speaker demonstrates the university's values of diversity and social action, according to Jan Fuller, university chaplain.

Elon University invited Ruth Messinger, president of American Jewish World Service, to speak at the 2012 baccalaureate ceremony. American Jewish World Service is an international organization that supports human rights for marginalized people through education of global citizenship and social justice through activism.

While Fuller said she views the selection of Messinger as a signal the university embraces multiple world views, Nancy Luberoff, the Hillel campus director of the Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, focused on the message associated with the speaker's organization.

"Having her come demonstrates a strong commitment to social justice," Luberoff said. "For me, in some ways, more important than the Jewish part is the social justice part."

Messinger worked on President Barack Obama's administration's Task Force on Global Poverty and Development and currently serves on the State Department's Religion and Foreign Policy Working Group. She has advised the president on issues regarding the genocide in Sudan and developing a sustainable way to achieve peace in Sudan.

Messinger represents the commitment Elon University hopes to instill in its students, Fuller said.

"I think she fits wonderfully within the Elon community because we are a community of service and thoughtful action in the world," she said. "That is the community we aspire to be as well."

When choosing a baccalaureate speaker, the university looks for someone who can provide inspiration to graduates and their families, but also challenges the

class to use their education to improve the world, according to Fuller.

"She's hard on us and our obligation to respond to not just crisis, but issues of social justice in the world, and I would expect that she would call on the graduates to do the same, to look at their lives and call on them to give back," Luberoff said.

Messinger's address will celebrate the graduates' achievements and encourage the students to actively pursue their own ideals, Fuller said. Nevertheless, the invitation to Messinger also signifies a continued relationship between the university and American Jewish World Service. Elon University Hillel partnered with American Jewish World Service to work with Servicios Medicos Comunes, a nongovernmental organization in Nicaragua for alternative spring break.

There is not a religious component to the service the organization provides, according to Luberoff.

Past Baccalaureate speakers at Elon

2011 - The Rev. Andrew O'Connor

2010 - The Rev. Dr. Sam Wells

2009 - The Rev. Janet M. Cooper Nelson

2008 - The Rev. Michael Bruce Curry

2007 - Dr. Sayyid M. Syeed

2006 - Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor

2005 - Rabbi David Saperstein

2004 - The Rev. Thomas Gumbleton

Elon forest provides engaged learning opportunity

Mary Kate Brogan
Senior Reporter

Since its opening in October 2010, the 56 acres of land north of University Drive on Power Line Drive, officially preserved by the Board of Trustees as the Elon University Forest, has gradually become a place where classes can go to experience the outdoors. Although classes in a variety of departments have gone to the forest for research, the total number of classes that have been able to use the forest has been limited. There is a distinct reason for this limitation, according to Jeffrey Coker, chair of the Elon University Forest Advisory Committee and director of general studies.

"You've got this great resource and it's tempting to just say, 'Okay!' and open the floodgate and have everybody rush out there and do things," Coker said. "Because of what (Elon Forest) is supposed to be, we want Elon students 100 years from now, 200 years from now to have access to natural ecosystems to be able to study and reflect and for that to be part of campus, and so we don't want to mess it up."

This past semester, President

Leo Lambert appointed the Elon University Forest Advisory Committee to come up with a plan for managing the forest as a resource for students. Coker said the committee hopes to have a management plan in place by the end of the year so the committee can begin advertising the forest. The plan will make the forest rules clearer to students and faculty and let people know how and when they can go to the forest.

"It's a really interesting and unique challenge for Elon, because what Elon is really good at is changing and getting better all the time," Coker said. "Well, this is kind of the opposite challenge. We kind of want this to stay the same — we don't want to overrun it. The whole point is that it be an example of a sustainable ecosystem in an otherwise suburban area, so it's a different type of management style."

Antonio Izzo, assistant professor of biology, visited the forest last week.

"There are so many benefits in general of having forest conserved," Izzo said. "But specifically in regards to research, having a site that you



A student visits the Elon Forest as a part of Antonio Izzo's biology class. Some students are afforded the opportunity to study in the university's private forest.



Antonio Izzo, assistant professor of biology, shows senior Alex Pedicone where to collect soil samples in Elon Forest for independent research projects his students are conducting

know will not be disturbed, will not disappear suddenly to developing is really important. What's really neat about having this plot of land out there is that it gives us something that we can build on for the long-term."

Gerald Whittington, senior vice president for Business, Finance and Technology, said the forest has not cost the university a great sum of money because of its purpose as a preserve. For this reason, Tom Flood, director of landscaping and grounds and a member of the Elon University Forest Advisory Committee, said

physical plant has not had to do much to maintain the land because they do not want to disturb the natural wildlife.

Coker said he sees the possibility for expanding the forest in the future.

"In the longer term, I think a lot of people hope that this could expand, that Elon University Forest could be bigger," Coker said. "Not only is (having the forest as a resource) worth it, but it would be to the university's advantage and would have huge educational benefits to even go in further."

Voters reflect on political process in digital age

Stephanie Petrich
Senior Reporter

In today's digital era, almost everyone is a part of social media. Sites such as Facebook and Twitter have become a necessary component of any campaign.

A majority of students at Elon University use some form of social media on a daily basis and the creation of a social media campaign is rapidly becoming inevitable if candidates want to reach voters on college campuses.

Presidential hopefuls are recognizing the effectiveness of social media campaigns. In the upcoming presidential election, candidates have started to use Twitter to reach voters.

But Elon students have mixed feelings about candidates' use of Twitter. According to some, Twitter should only be used for personal use.

Others enjoy candidates' use of Twitter because they can connect with candidates on a more personal level.

"Twitter should be used for personal use only," said senior

Erin Mellett. "There is already enough political campaigning on other social media sites and the television. When I go on Twitter I don't want to see any political campaigning."

To Mellett, campaigning on Facebook is more tolerable.

"Even though Twitter is more personal, I don't want to see political candidates using it to campaign," she said.

But other students are excited about candidates using Twitter.

"I enjoy seeing politicians using Twitter because I feel like I am connecting with them on a personal level," said junior Tina Lanciotti.

She said she feels Twitter users are getting a glimpse into a candidate's personal life outside of politics.

Voters are not the only ones paying attention to Twitter. A Globalpoint Research sentiment analysis of Twitter accurately predicted the Iowa caucus results. The analysis tracked hashtags and tweets mentioning each candidate.

"It doesn't matter whether it is Twitter or debating in public,"

said Sharon Spray, chair of the political science department. "Any way candidates can reach voters is good and will have an impact."

In today's digital era, it is impossible to avoid using social media for political campaigns. Increasingly, voters are using social media, and the candidates need to use them, too. If candidates want to reach voters, they need to use platforms voters frequently.

"Social media is changing the face of politics, but it might be making it less inviting," Spray said.

If voters are continually plagued by political campaigns, they might be more likely to tune out the candidates by election time.

The effectiveness of Twitter needs to be analyzed further to determine if Globalpoint Research's political predictions are accurate. Spray said there are flaws

to using Twitter as a prediction of election results

"Technology is expanding faster than we can analyze it," she said.

There is also a lack of

research of the demographics of the people tweeting about campaigns. If intense politicians are the ones tweeting, the reliability of Twitter predictions is skewed.

LEAH CHANNAS | Graphics Editor

Burlington police, university collaborate for satisfaction survey

Mary Kate Brogan
Senior Reporter

Elon University and the City of Burlington Police Department are teaming up for a triennial citizen satisfaction survey. Elon students in a public administration seminar partnered with the police department for the 2009 survey, but this year, Adam Short, public administration and political science lecturer, will be analyzing the data with his policy analysis and program evaluation class. The survey ends Feb. 29, and from there, the data will be collected and organized. The

survey results will most likely be released in June, according to Short.

"We're helping with (the survey) for a couple of reasons," Short said. "One is that it's a good way to help the community to bring some of the university resources to bear on that. Another thing is that it gives our students a hands-on way to learn about how we do citizen surveys, and we analyze the results from it, so that it's kind of a real practical application, something that our public administration majors or political science majors may end up doing when they get into their respective careers."

Kim Biebel, accreditation manager in the professional standards division of the Burlington Police Department, said she hopes this year's survey will have more respondents than the 2009 survey, which gathered 350 responses. Only about half of these respondents have had recent contact with the police department.

The Burlington Police Department is an accredited agency with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies and is required to do a citizen satisfaction survey every three years, according to Biebel. But

meeting standards isn't the only purpose the survey serves.

"We need to know what the citizens think so we can bring (their concerns) back to the table," Biebel said. "We'll use that information to set a foundation for any organizational change or ongoing successes because it will help us improve our overall performance."

Chris Verdeck, assistant chief of police for the Burlington Police Department, said several changes have been made to the organization as a result of community suggestions, including increasing the number of victims assistance

positions in the police department, initiating three individual community policing neighborhood teams, selecting eight officers for enhanced training in crime scene processing and providing some officers with additional training on dealing with the public.

"(The survey) helps the community (and) it helps us," Verdeck said. "It shows us some areas we may be deficient in; it shows us those that we're doing well in. Anything that we can do to improve the way we deliver service to our community will only help the community."

Q&A: Brad Moore comments on promotion, responsibilities

Brad Moore, former associate director of planning, design and construction management, was named director of the department after Neil Bromilow retired earlier this year. Moore discusses his new position and job responsibilities, role in recent campus construction and the reason he has chosen to stay at Elon since being hired as assistant director of construction management in 2005.

Q: What are your new responsibilities as director of planning, design and construction management?

A: I take a project, whether it's new construction or a major renovation, from programming to design to construction to occupancy. I work with a designer or contractor to make sure the campus gets the building that it needs on schedule at a quality standard, and by keeping the project in budget through its design and construction.

Q: What is the difference in your former job as associate director and your current position?

A: Not a whole lot. Neil (Bromilow) dealt directly with some of the campus community. I had a little more responsibility as he prepared for his retirement. I was taking on a lot of the projects and already working on the Station (at Mill Point), Global Dining, the Global Neighborhood, residence projects and Numen Lumen — any projects going to extend beyond his retirement.

Q: What does a day in the life of the director of planning, design and construction management look like?

A: It's different from day-to-day. At any given point in time I'm working

directly with the design team on new projects. I put on boots and walk out to a construction site and look at the construction to see how it's coming along. I answer questions from the contractor and work with people on campus — students, faculty and staff. I review plans for our projects and troubleshoot for construction that's complete. No day is ever boring or the same.

Q: What role did you have in the planning of the current construction?

A: I worked directly with the senior staff and the rest of the campus community on the design of the Station at Mill Point, Global Neighborhood and Numen Lumen Center. On all these projects, I worked to select the outside appearance with a design team. I hired the outside general contractors and now continue to follow those projects through construction.



Brad Moore, recently named director of planning, design and construction management, has been active in the development of current construction and renovation projects on campus. Moore has been on staff at Elon since 2005.

BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer

have points on all of those qualities.

Q: What has been your favorite part about working at Elon?

A: Elon has a great campus community and is fun to work with and help them achieve their dreams on a project and make their dreams become a reality. The amount of work that we have going on keeps us extremely busy, keeps the job interesting and keeps us pretty motivated and going. It keeps us sharp and creative.

Q: How do LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) qualifications fit in to your work at Elon?

A: The university has a goal that every new construction project or major renovation design need to meet at least LEED silver certification requirements. (My LEED knowledge) is beneficial to that process to know about the LEED process and really look at the major categories of sites, water, energy, material and indoor overall quality to make sure we

Campus reacts to ruling of graphic cigarette labels unconstitutional

Michael Papich
Reporter

A U.S. district judge ruled this month that a law that would put new graphic warning labels on cigarette packs by September 2012 was unconstitutional. The decision sparked discussion on Elon's campus concerning the effects the proposed graphics would have had and whether the ruling was justified.

The nine new warning labels, first unveiled by the Food and Drug Administration in June 2011, were part of the 2009 Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act. The new labels would take up 50 percent of cigarette packs and include detailed examples of the effects of smoking, along with messages such as "Warning: Cigarettes cause fatal lung disease."

On Elon's campus, smokers and non-smokers have varying thoughts about the effects these graphic labels would have if they did end up on American packs.

"I feel like if people are going to buy a box of cigarettes with this picture on them, they know what they're getting into," said freshman Emily Haring, a non-smoker.

Those who do smoke said they doubt the effectiveness of the proposed labels. Yoram Lubling, professor of philosophy and a smoker, said he feels the labels represent unequal attention given to preventing smoking in society.

"I think that if those that are so concerned about others, (they) should be consistent about it," Lubling said. "There should also be the same pictures on hamburgers to show you people with diabetes or overweight (people). The preoccupation with smoking is simply a fashion that fits into all sorts of paternalistic practices when people don't have better things to do."

But sophomore Dave Stone, who is not a smoker, thinks the labels could have real value.

"I think at a young

age, people don't realize the long-term effects of smoking," Stone said. "If you can throw it on the packet, then every time they go in for a drag, they can see what they could be getting themselves into."

Other countries have cigarette warning labels larger than those in the United States, and some also have graphical depictions.

"They've done that in Canada for a while — for about 15 years — really graphic warnings really similar to these," said junior David Carol.

In the recent court decision, Judge Richard Leon said the new labels did not meet the legal precedent of being factual and uncontroversial, and that Congress gave no thought to the First Amendment implications associated with the mandated labels.

Lubling agrees with the message of Leon's ruling.

"I'm not a lawyer, but it sounds right to me," Lubling said. "People who sell products have the right to sell the products the way they perceive. I'm not suggesting that we're ignorant about the consequences of smoking, but imagine that the government would force automakers to have posters in car dealerships of the worst accidents associated with a particular car."

Even those who believe the labels could do good, such as Stone, agreed with Leon's ruling on the constitutionality of the new packaging.

"I don't think the government has the right to just throw whatever they want onto a packet and bash this industry," Stone said.



Graphic labels on cigarette cartons, common in other countries, were ruled unconstitutional in the United States.

GRAPHIC BY LEAH CHANNAS

Human oversights cause errors in university electronic communication

Erin Valentine
Reporter

Accidental acceptance notifications and updates regarding false emergencies have recently plagued colleges with slip-ups in email systems. Faculty oversight has caused errors in electronic communication, and although Elon University has procedures in place to prevent mistakes, the university is no stranger to such errors.

In a past incident, a group of prospective Elon students received an invitation to an on campus event intended for accepted students, according to Melinda Wood, assistant dean of admissions and director of applications.

"Instead of retracting the invitation, we modified the event schedule to ensure programming for all students," she said.

Recently, the attention has been on Vassar College for these email hiccups. According to The New York Times, the university intended to accept 46 students to the incoming class, but more than 100 students were welcomed electronically into the Class of 2016. Vassar apologized, and said they had sent out a "test letter," not the actual admissions decision, according to an article published by CNN.

These instances are incredibly crushing for students, especially if the college was a top choice, Elon freshman Emma Kwiatkowski said.

"My friend's top school sent out rejection letters to everyone who applied," Kwiatkowski said. "They later sent out an apology letter saying it was a mistake. A few days later, my friend received a letter saying she was put on the waitlist for that school. It is awful enough that someone has to go through one rejection, but she got her hopes up only to be rejected again."

At Elon, emails are regularly circulated concerning events on campus. This Week @Elon can be expected every week, and emails from Smith Jackson, vice president and dean of student life, are an Elon tradition. Elon University has certain procedures to prevent such incidents, according to Chris Fulkerson, assistant vice president for technology and CIO.

"These are human errors," he said. "Every article I've read about these situations is because someone made a mistake in querying a database or sent an e-mail before everything was finalized

and checked."

The admissions office uses a matrix communications series, a process used to ensure multiple people have viewed the email before it is distributed, to send students the information that accurately pertains to them.

"Several staff members review outgoing communication, especially on admissions notification days to ensure accuracy of admission decisions," Wood said.

Even with the procedures in place, Jackson sent out an email last May warning of a snow delay, even though the weather was 70 degrees and sunny.

"I'm not sure how the email I sent in January of last year during a snow storm got hung up and was released in the late spring," Jackson said. "As soon as this was brought to my attention, within seconds, I checked with Information Technology to see if my account was hacked. It was not, and I immediately followed up with students by notifying them that the email was incorrect."

Wood acknowledged that human oversights are at the root of the electronic miscommunication.

"No office is immune to error," Wood said.

Past e-mail mishaps:

Vassar University: Due to a "test letter," 122 of the 254 applicants for early decision thought they received admission, but only 46 were actually accepted.

Penn State: Because of a computer error, Penn State notified more than 700 prospective students they were accepted.

University of Missouri: A computer glitch matched several hundred employee participants in the university's Choice Health Care Program with the wrong address. As a result, health care communication was sent to incorrect addresses.

University of Delaware: Sixty-one applicants received an acceptance letter in error.

Elon alumnus nominated to head U.S. Fleet Force Command

Melissa Kansky
News Editor

President Barack Obama recently nominated Vice Adm. Bill Gortney, Class of 1977, to head the United States Fleet Force Command, which organizes, mans, trains, maintains and equips Navy forces and develops and submits budgets.

Gortney graduated from Elon University with a Bachelors of Arts in history and political science.

Although Gortney initially intended to pursue a career in law upon graduation, he has served the nation since first entering the Navy in 1977. His father's experience as a Navy officer and Naval aviator motivated Gortney to enter the service, he said.

"I had no intention of making it a career," he said. "It was just something I wanted to do until I figured out what I wanted to do with my life. I'm still determining that."

Currently, Gortney is waiting for the Senate to confirm the president's nomination.

The Senate Armed Service Committee reviews the package and nomination. Sometimes, applicants have to testify to the committee. Once the Senate Armed Service Committee approves the nomination, the vote goes to the Senate floor.

According to Gortney, there is no definite timeline and the approval process can take anywhere from three days to three to four months.

"If the Senate confirms me, I will be lucky enough to serve in uniform for a few more years," Gortney said.

The position of U.S. Fleet Force

Command commander would require Gortney to prepare the naval forces that deploy and help execute the nation's mission.

Gortney said his previous experience working overseas in the joint world prepares him for the challenges associated with the anticipated position.

"If the Senate confirms me, I will be lucky enough to serve in uniform for a few more years."

- Vice Admiral Bill Gortney
DIRECTOR OF JOINT STAFF

Nevertheless, he said he predicts the current defense budget will pose a challenge leading U.S. Fleet Force Command.

"There is a huge reduction in the Department of Defense budget, so it will be a challenge to make sure that we send our sailors on ship and on the missions that the Navy does overseas, and that I will be able to man, train and equip them to the highest standards and do it within budget," Gortney said. "That will be the challenge."

Despite the expected obstacle, he cannot prepare to address the obstacles until the Senate confirms the nomination.

"We can never presuppose confirmation of the Senate," he said. "I hope to go down there and take command, but nothing is certain

until the Senate confirms this and then I have a change command and assume command."

The U.S. Fleet Force Command supports both the Chief of Naval Operations and Combatant Commanders.

Gortney currently serves as director of joint staff and has a long history with the Navy.

"Chief of Naval Operations think I have what it takes to do the job," he said. "The secretary of defense and the president agree, so let's hope the Senate will as well. Let's hope my past performance gives them the confidence that I will do a good job."

He has received numerous medals, including the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, the Bronze Star and three Meritorious Service medals, among other awards.

Gortney delivered the 121st commencement address to the Elon graduating Class of 2011.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Alumnus Bill Gortney was nominated to head the U.S. Fleet Force Command.

MORE ONLINE

Q&A with Bill Gortney.

<http://bit.ly/Gortney>

MELISSA KANSKY | News Editor

Policy comes in response to recent incidents of harassment

POLICY from PAGE 1

and harassment, she said.

"This is more about our institutional responsibility to ensure we have a safe learning environment to all of our students and that anyone that has experienced anything that disadvantages them or limits access to opportunities here will know where to go and will know what to expect," Cahill said.

Instances of harassment among faculty and staff are reported infrequently, according to Brooke Barnett, assistant to the president, but it is unknown how many times such incidents occur and go unreported.

"The focus is making sure we have processes in place that will address these issues," said Ron Klepcyk, director of human resources.

Cahill said she feared that difficulty

reporting a concern and lack of clarity about the procedure deterred instances from being reported, she said.

"The policies were very hard to find and understand," she said. "I like to think that I am not too intimidated with legal language and I had a hard time making heads and tails for it. In making them accessible and easy to understand as we can is really important."

The university's hope is that the revision of the policy makes it more accessible, Barnett said. A higher number of reports would not translate to a higher number of instances, but instead indicate that procedures are more available.

"This is a tricky area, legally, because the university has a legal authority to respond to charges of harassment and ensure a hostile environment is not being created," Cahill said. "What we've done is we very clearly stated in the policy is that the university will respect the

confidentiality of all parties involved until other legal obligations kick-in."

The proposed policy names individuals with high degrees of confidentiality and offices so people can go to make a formal report of harassment. Elizabeth Nelson, associate director for health promotions and coordinator for inter-personal relations and community wellbeing, coordinated a bias and discrimination team consisting of both an education and response team trained to respond to instances in the community, according to Barnett.

"It's really expanded the level of response and support in addition to proactive educational programs for the campus," said Smith Jackson, vice president and dean of student life.

Elon University faculty members proposed the revised bias and discrimination policy to staff members Monday Feb. 13 and to faculty members

Tuesday Feb. 14. Academic Council alone, a body composed of 16 individuals, can pass non-bylaw changes, but faculty and Academic Council vote on bylaw changes.

"It's a much more healthy response to say we are a community made up of many, many individuals, so these problems will arise and given that they will arise we need to think proactively instead of saying, 'we are a community welcoming of diversity (discrimination) won't happen,'" Cahill said. "It will happen."

MORE ONLINE

Ann Cahill explains the change in policy.

<http://bit.ly/biaspolicy>

MELISSA KANSKY | News Editor

Sophomore leads registration for National Marrow Donor Program

Katherine Blunt
Senior Reporter

Sophomore Miles Grunvald recently led an effort to register Elon University students with the National Marrow Donor



MILES GRUNVALD

Program (NMDP), a national registry of potential donors of both peripheral blood stem cells (PBSC) and bone marrow last week. Established 25 years ago, the NMDP is a nonprofit organization with the sole aim of finding stem cell and marrow matches between donors and critically ill patients across the nation.

"The NMDP is the largest, most diverse registry of potential stem cell and marrow donors in the world," said Betsie Letterle, account executive for the program. "To date, we have facilitated over 50 thousand transplants."

The entertainment industry often portrays bone marrow transplant procedures as highly painful and dramatic. Fictional TV dramas like "Grey's Anatomy" and "House" show patients wincing and writhing as doctors drive lengthy silver syringes into targeted bones. Scenes like these are largely inaccurate and often foster misconceptions regarding bone marrow transplants.

"One of the biggest challenges that the NMDP faces is the perception that marrow donation is this terribly awful and painful thing, when in reality it is a life-saving treatment that does not do much harm to the donor at all," Grunvald said.

Bone marrow transplant is a surgical procedure, during which the donor is put under general anesthesia. The doctor then inserts a syringe into the outermost part of the patient's hipbone and withdraws a small amount of marrow. The body replaces the marrow naturally, usually within four to six weeks following the procedure.

"(The surgery) is minimally invasive — (the doctor) doesn't open you up or anything like that. You don't feel a thing while you're there," Grunvald said.

Grunvald first heard of the NMDP on the radio three years ago as he was driving to work.

"It was so moving to hear people talk about the program," he said. "As soon as I got out of work, I went on the site and I was on the registry within two weeks."

Although Grunvald continually advocates registration, this was his first time doing a formal drive. On Feb. 8-9, he manned a table in Moseley Center set with registration information and material.

Passing students eyed Grunvald's table warily and hesitated to register upon hearing the words "marrow transplant." But he patiently dissolved their reservations and persuaded more than 80 students to sign up.

After registering, students underwent

the initial phase of tissue testing on Feb. 14-15, which involved the completion of health forms and oral tissue swabbing.

Because bone marrow and PBSC matches are exceedingly rare, registering with the NMDP does not guarantee a potential donor will be matched with a patient. Only approximately one in 40 registered members will be called for

additional testing to narrow the list of potential donors, and only about one in 540 members will eventually donate marrow or PBSC.

"There is a huge need for marrow and one marrow donation is going to directly impact the life of someone who is critically ill," Grunvald said. "I feel that the process went very well."

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Belk library offers opportunities, comfort for community guests

Residents seek services, environment unavailable at home

Grace Elkus
News Editor

Belk Library offers a variety of resources, including books, newspapers, movies, Internet access and printers. While students typically view the library as an academic space, other users come in to check their e-mail, look at pictures of their grandchildren or play a few rounds of solitaire; the "regulars" are often doing more significant things, said Kate Hickey, dean and university librarian.

Members of the Elon community enjoy the amenities Belk Library provides.

To one woman from Gibsonville who wishes to remain anonymous, Belk is more than just a room with computers. It's also a place of comfort, a place of escape.

"I love this library," she said. "It's a place of solace for me. It's a heated, nice place to be. When I get home, I have to heat by wood stove. I don't want to leave at closing sometimes. I try to keep a low profile anyway, my sense of being right now."

Community members visit the library multiple days a week for an assortment of different reasons, according to Hickey.

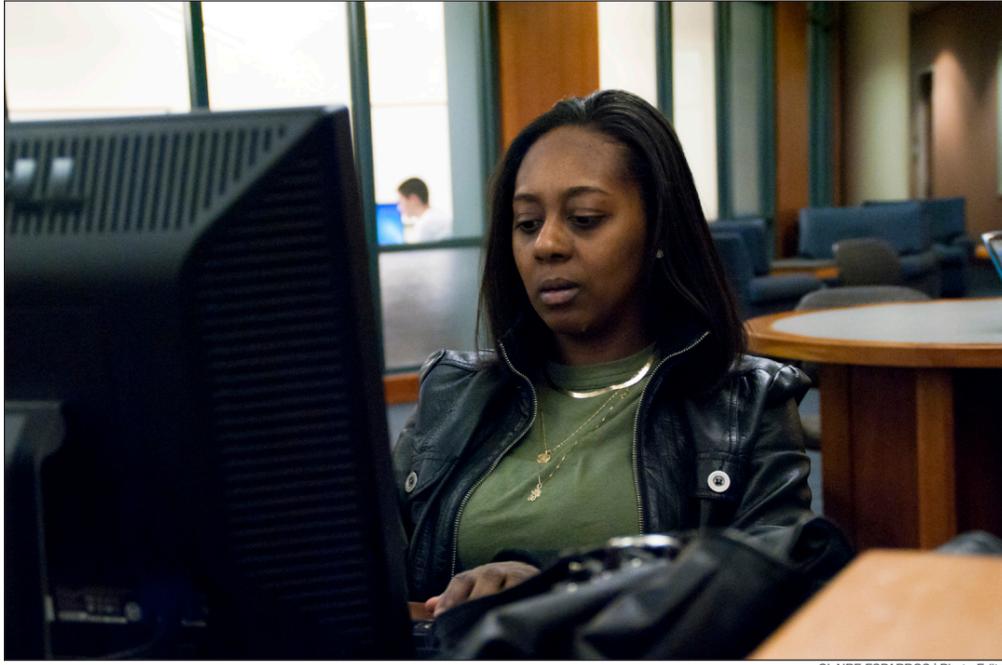
"Some of them are writing books, some of them are taking online computer maintenance courses and a lot of people come in to apply for jobs, because many places nowadays only accept online applications," Hickey said.

While some use the computers because they simply don't want to deal with the hassle of maintaining their own, many of the area residents and visitors who use the computers and Internet would not otherwise have access to these resources.

"I think we provide a really important service in providing computers to people who could not afford them in their homes," Hickey said. "If you just try to imagine living in today's world and either not having the money or not having the expertise to maintain a computer, it's a real handicap in today's society. So we are happy to provide that service."

And many are happy to accept it. The woman from Gibsonville comes to the library three or four times a week. For this individual, Belk provides her with her only access to a computer and Internet.

"I don't have computer access at my



Jessica Glover, who takes classes online at Walding University, uses the computers at Belk library to do her schoolwork.

home," she said. "(The library) is my connection. I don't have a television, so I catch up on my news and e-mail and all that stuff here. And I'm addicted to a game I play while I listen to music."

She doesn't mind coming onto a college campus to have access to a library. In fact, she said she prefers it.

"I kind of like being part of the campus," she said. "I'm kind of a student at heart anyways, so I always liked that academic environment. It's nice to connect with the younger generation every once in a while. We all like to think of ourselves as perpetual students, I guess."

But many members of the community come to Elon not for the campus atmosphere, but for lack of a public library in western Alamance County. The county had approved a new library to be built in Elon, but because of the economic recession, the project has not moved forward, according to Hickey.

"The county government and the Alamance County regional library system recognizes that we desperately need a public library on this side, which is the fastest growing part of Alamance County," Hickey said. "But it hasn't happened."

Charrity Petty and Jessica Glover, friends from high school that currently attend college online, come to Belk to do work for their college classes, said they sometimes feel guilty using the university computers, and often wish there was a convenient public library they could do work in instead.

"I feel like especially when it's exam time, I don't want to be taking up a computer if someone else needs it," Petty said. "I just need to type up a paper, and other people need to study."

Despite this, both find the process of gaining access to the library simple and enjoy the convenience of being

able to print documents. Coming to the library also helps motivate them to complete their work.

"When you do work side by side, it helps," Petty said.

Like Petty and Glover, most community members are sensitive to the fact that they are guests on Elon's campus and understand that during exam times the library often closes to visitors earlier in the day.

"If you just try to imagine living in today's world and either not having the money or not having the expertise to maintain a computer, it's a real handicap in today's society. So we are happy to provide that service."

- Katie Hickey
DEAN AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

"We've had virtually no pushback from the community about having to leave at five on Fridays or 'oh my gosh, it's midterms again,'" Hickey said. "They've been really understanding that using the library is a privilege. We don't have to do this by law."

Maintaining this balance between serving Elon students and serving the community members is one of the library's primary goals, Hickey said.

"We hope we've balanced being a good citizen of the county with recognizing that we are a private institution and that our students and faculty have first dibs on things," she said. "It doesn't always work perfectly, but Elon has an important role to serve in its community. It feels like it serves a good purpose."

NEWS BRIEFS

Elon University School of Law hosts conference about international law

Elon University School of Law will host a conference on international law Feb. 25. Rafael Marques de Morias, an Angolan human rights activist, will deliver a keynote address, Diamond Extraction and Crimes Against Humanity in Northeast Angola. Elon graduates will also present papers at the conference.

The conference will also include four panels that discuss human rights and asylum in today's world, human rights, corruption and poverty, war and the question of command responsibility; and the global dimensions of war crimes and genocide.

Various departments at Elon University are sponsoring the event.

All members of the Elon community are welcome to attend. The international law conference beings at 8 a.m. Feb. 25 at Elon University School of Law, located at 201 N. Greene St., Greensboro, N.C.

Guest speaker explains cultural leadership values to students

Marcus Dickson, an industrial psychology professor at Wayne State University, discussed his research findings on global leadership, a concept that explores various cultures' view of leadership Jan. 9 in a speech at Elon University.

Dickson works with the GLOBE Research Project, which examines the effects on societal culture on organizational culture and leadership. It is the largest study of leadership ever conducted, spanning more than 62 nations and thousands of managers, according to Dickson.

During the presentation, Dickson defined the GLOBE's interpretation of leadership, which is the ability of an individual to influence, motivate and enable others. Creating the definition itself became a part of the study, because every nation had its own thoughts on the word, he said.

Dickson has been working on the GLOBE Research Project for the past 11 years.

Elon students volunteer in Vietnam

A winter term course titled "Business and Culture in Vietnam" incorporated a community service element. Students on the study abroad trip volunteered at Trung Tam Xa Hoi Quang, a home for the elderly in Hoi An, Vietnam.

The University sponsored a lunch, which consisted of hot soup and French baguettes, for the residents of the elderly home. Student participants also sang songs and passed time with those in the community.

Career Services recognized for resources offered to LGBTQ students

The Elon University Student Professional Development Center-Office of Career Services received a "gold ranking" in OUT, the first program to examine the quality, quantity and accessibility of career resource materials for LGBTQ students.

Ross Wade, assistant director of Career Services for the School Communications, and Rene Jackson, career adviser for graduate school programs, are Safe Zone trained to assist LGBTQ students at the university.

International organization supports Imagining the Internet Center

The Internet Society, an international, nonprofit organization donated \$28,000 to the Imagining the Internet Center at Elon University. Imagining the Internet Center works to explain people's vision for the future of communications with respect to the Internet. The center originated in 2000 with the help of Lee Rainie, director of the Pew Internet & American Life Project.

Feb. 15 - Feb. 21

Feb. 15

- Professional Discovery Week: Tips for Getting the Job You Want: 5:30 p.m., Koury Business Center 101
- The Tournees Festival: New French Films on Campus: 6:30 p.m., McEwen 011

Feb. 16

- Embrace the Beauty in You: speech by Sandra Dubose-Gibson
- One Act Plays Festival: 7:30 p.m., Black Box Theatre

Feb. 17

- Art History @ Elon: A Symposium: 4 p.m., LaRose Digital Theatre
- One Act Plays Festival: 7:30 p.m., Black Box Theatre

Feb. 18

- Jazz Festival Concert: 7:30 p.m., McCrary Theatre
- One Act Plays Festival: 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Black Box Theatre

Feb. 19

- Get on the Black Church Bus: 9:30 a.m., Boney Fountain.

Feb. 20

- Robert Bracey Vocal Recital: 7:30 p.m., Whitley Auditorium

Feb. 21

- Ceremonial Origins of Salsa: 7:30 p.m., Whitley Auditorium
- El Carnaval: 5 p.m., El Centro, Carlton 114

Feb. 22

- Marine biologist to speak on sustainability: 7 p.m., LaRose Digital Theatre
- The Tournees Festival: New French Films on Campus: 6:30 p.m., McEwen 011

Editorial

Student election rules unclear to SGA officials

With Student Government Association elections less than a week away, Elon University students are being encouraged to support their classmates running for executive positions by exercising one of their basic rights: the right to vote. The online voting process is open to all Elon students, an opportunity SGA hopes many students will take advantage of as part of their renewed goal to increase student participation in campus events and issues.

But during recent interviews with The Pendulum, several executive members of SGA offered contrasting views as to students' eligibility to vote. If SGA, an organization whose self-reported goal of becoming more "transparent" and accessible to students, wants to bring out more voters, it is imperative that all leaders are on the same page.

If SGA wants to increase student involvement in their organization in the future, they must first make sure that miscommunication between its members is not a factor.

In a recent interview with The Pendulum, Rachel Long, executive vice president, explained that the prerequisites for students running for office differ significantly from those that determine voter eligibility.

"The way I understand it is that you can run based on

your class only, but you vote based on your credit hours," she said.

Sam Warren, the current SGA executive president, also agreed with Long's version of the election policy.

So, according to this system, Elon students are eligible to represent only one class, but depending on their credit hours earned, they are technically allowed to vote for a student in an entirely different class year. This system seems backward, as students who have the desire to actively participate in student elections won't be interested in voting if their only options involve choosing a candidate who is running for a position representing a different class.

Long said her experience with the election system was substantial, thus ensuring no major discrepancies.

"I feel like I've always been running or on elections committee so I'm pretty familiar with the process," she said. Long went on to explain that the software used by SGA to facilitate the voting process is designed to only accommodate the system she described.

"Dean (Patterson) has mentioned that however the software works out, it has to be purely the year you entered Elon or your credit hours — you can't figure it



SGA faculty adviser Janna Lynn Patterson and executive council members Sam Warren and Rachel Long discuss upcoming SGA events during a weekly meeting. FILE PHOTO BY BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer

out both ways," she said.

Patterson, assistant vice president for Student Life, also offered The Pendulum insight into students' voting eligibility. According to Patterson, students vote and run based solely on the term in which they matriculate. That is to say, students vote and run for office depending on when they first arrived at Elon. Rising seniors would include any student who entered Elon from summer 2009 through spring 2010. Rising juniors would include those who entered Elon during summer 2010 through spring 2011, and so on.

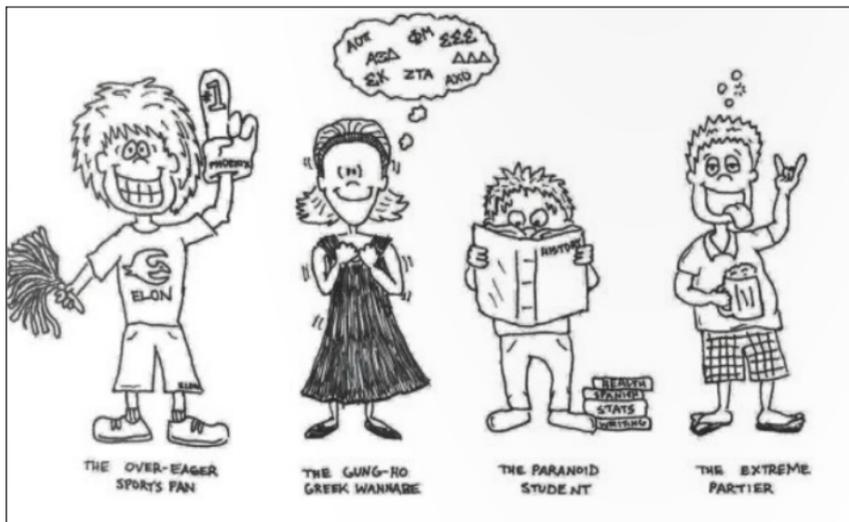
Grant De Roo, co-chair of the SGA elections committee, confirmed that students vote according to the provisions that Patterson outlined.

That's quite a departure from the executive council's version. To the average person, it would seem appropriate to think that

Patterson's account is the factual one, given her role as dean and SGA faculty adviser. But if this is the case, why wasn't this information passed on to our SGA student officials? Even if it is just a simple case of miscommunication, isn't it fair to expect our elected student officials to be familiar with the policies that they were chosen to uphold?

It seems that SGA doesn't currently have the required understanding of the democratic process it is supposed to be upholding. Students should exercise their right to vote based on their understanding of the available information, not misinformation. If SGA wants to increase student involvement in their organization in the future, they must first make sure that miscommunication between its members is not a factor.

Pendulum comic blast from the past



COMIC BY LARS BRENALD

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to draw?

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EPsga](http://bit.ly/EPsga)

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We appreciate original responses to Pendulum articles. Feedback of 250 words or less can be sent in several ways.

Letters to the editor can be emailed to pendulum@elon.edu or sent to 7012 Campus Box, Elon, N.C. 27244

Content will be edited for clarity, length and accuracy. All submissions must include a name and phone number.

A message board also accompanies each article online at www.elonpendulum.com where commentary can be quickly posted.

THE PENDULUM

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The Pendulum is published each Wednesday of the academic year. Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome 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 or columns may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned.

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Opinions

Women remain unappreciated in political system

There are few stereotypes in society today that lend themselves to comic impression better than the female politician.



Rachel Southmayd
Columnist

Tina Fey and Amy Poehler proved this time and time again as Sarah Palin and Hillary Clinton during the 2008 election cycle.

Back in 2011, Kristen Wiig picked up the torch with an outstanding rendition of Rep. Michele Bachmann.

We love to laugh at these women, whose features we can so grossly over-exaggerate, criticize and mock.

But is it just that they are amusing characters, or is it latent sexism, carried over after so many decades of Title X, Gloria Steinem and Susan B. Anthony?

Perhaps it is a mix of both. But as a woman, I think it is shameful that the world may view American politicians of the female persuasion as caricatures.

The truth is, there are women serving in government at every level, continuing to break barriers and project a positive image of the American woman.

Take, for instance, Susana Martinez, governor of New Mexico. Not only is Martinez the first female governor of her state, but she's also the first Hispanic female governor in the entire country. A woman, like a man, represents more than just her gender.

So let us not judge a woman on the qualities so often associated with being female, or on her personal life or family because we have no right.

Sarah Palin was an excellent example of this. She was sharply criticized for accepting Sen. John McCain's offer for the vice presidential candidacy because of her teenage daughter's pregnancy



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS
The mainstream media satirizes Sen. Elizabeth Dole in a political cartoon.

and her son who has Down syndrome.

But has anyone raised a question about Rick Santorum's candidacy, a man whose daughter possesses a potentially fatal genetic condition? No. Because even in today's age, she isn't considered his chief responsibility.

But never mind the national stage for a moment. Ignore the cameras and unflattering photos on the covers of magazines. What about the countless women who hold seats on school boards, city councils, in-state houses and more?

Often it is these women who have the most direct impact on the lives of their constituents. And at this level, they're hardly held under a tougher microscope than their male counterparts.

At these levels, people are just people, and the job is the job, gender be damned. If Washington, D.C. and the national stage could only catch up, perhaps we could all get on to the business of fixing our country.

You can't just take any woman with a pretty face, stick her in a pantsuit and put her on a stage with some talking points and hope it goes well.

She has to be committed, determined, intelligent and commanding. The world has to give her a chance, and above all else, stop talking about how she's a woman.

In much the same way President Barack Obama wasn't elected for his race alone, a woman won't gain a high office simply because she possesses a pair of ovaries. It takes more. But I'm confident she's out there, just waiting for the rest of us to wise up.

Students' personal lives, mistakes not responsibility of universities

This is an age of convenience. A culture of drive-thru establishments and vending machines has enabled us to get what we want when we want it, without having to plan ahead.



Natalie Allison
Columnist

Drink machines have been a common convenience for Americans for years, selling bottled water and canned Coke right down the hall from workspaces, classrooms and meeting areas.

Go to the right restroom and you can find aspirin and ibuprofen machines — even condom dispensers — for people who need to purchase personal items without dealing with a clerk.

But what about birth control pills? What about emergency contraceptives? Where do we draw the line about how readily available we need to make these substances?

Last week, Shippensburg University in Pennsylvania captured the media's attention—the public university came under scrutiny for its sale of the morning-after pill, Plan B One-Step, for \$25 by means of a vending machine.

Students can access the machine, which also dispenses other over-the-counter medication, cough drops, pregnancy tests and personal health items, in the university's health center.

The university put the vending machine behind closed doors, which only students, faculty and staff can access. And though the university has confirmed that all students on the campus are over the age of 17, the minimum age someone must be to legally purchase the drug, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is investigating Shippensburg's procedure for selling Plan B One-Step.

But should universities be in the business of selling emergency contraceptives? Is it a college's responsibility to step into the sexual affairs

of students and provide this service for them? The answer is no.

Besides the fact that purchasing such a drug from a vending machine eliminates all forms of accountability for a college-aged consumer, who for safety reasons should consume the drug no more than once or twice, Shippensburg or any other university should not be providers of the morning-after pill. A student's sexual decisions are not the responsibility or business of his or her university, including Elon, which does sell the morning-after pill to students for lower-than-shelf price.

By providing Plan B One-Step on campus to students, the university is enabling students' irresponsibility. The health center already has an annual budget for condoms. They're free for students.

Be prepared if you're going to have sex. Use a condom. Or better yet, don't get drunk to the point of not being able to make wise decisions and exert self-control.

Last week, an Associated

Press article cited that one of the reasons Shippensburg University dispensed the morning after pill in a vending machine behind closed doors was for privacy. But in the real world, there is no hidden vending machine that offers a morning after pill. There is no student health center that will offer you the pill at a discounted rate. If you don't take your birth control or don't use a condom, you will have to drive to the drug store and ask a pharmacist for the drug.

For many, college is a time of experimenting with ideas, religion, activities and even circles of friends. But college should never be a time of experimenting with preparedness and making irresponsible sexual decisions with the promise of a backup pill the next day. Except for in the case of rape and violence, it is actually possible to simply not have unprotected sex if you aren't ready for the consequences. And a university shouldn't condone and rescue students from irresponsible behavior.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS
Some public universities are under scrutiny for providing Plan B to students.

Embrace both books, e-textbooks, but don't let one ruin other for you

It's pouring outside and it's a cozy, cuddle-up-in-bed, ignore-the-world-and-just-read kind of day.



Kassondra Cloos
Columnist

You're so engrossed in what you're reading, you don't even hear the thunder that rattles the panes of your bedroom window.

You finish page after page, faster and faster, gobbling up each sentence more greedily than the last, not even stopping to think. But are you holding a book, or a

Kindle?

For those who have fully accepted the technological revolution that gave you a choice between reading this column on newsprint or your computer screen, the answer to this question is irrelevant. Words are words: It doesn't matter which way you choose to read them.

But to others, such as stalwart authors whose inspiration stems from scribbling on scraps of paper, not typing letters on a keyboard, digitizing the written word is a crime. Intrepid readers often find something magical in the way a book looks, smells and feels.

One of my professors from the creative writing department all but forbade my class from using e-versions of our books.

Our technology must be checked at the door.

I, too, have fought in that uphill battle. But in the past year, as I have experimented with an iPad and (gasp) even bought an e-textbook or two for class, it has become obvious that this revolution is to be embraced, not shunned. Apps for the iPad and other tablets offer almost endless possibilities. You just need to get past the initial fear of reading a textbook made of pixels instead of paper.

Buying an e-textbook from Barnes & Noble or the Kindle store won't always save you a whole lot of money, but there are other options that are cheaper and offer even more amenities. At Kno.com, many e-textbooks are even less expensive than

used copies from Amazon. Stored online, you only need a computer or your iPad to carry all your books with you at once. No more getting to the library and realizing you've forgotten one at home.

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If you're taking a class that requires reading a lot of classic

literature, download the Kindle or Nook app for your laptop. Most of those titles are no longer copyrighted, and you can download as many as you want for free.

It's unnerving to think of a world without bookstores to browse, where paperbacks and newspapers are kept in museums. I know I'll never recycle my dog-eared copies of "Ella Enchanted," "The Catcher in the Rye" and my signed copy of "A Thousand Splendid Suns." But why take up valuable real estate on your bookshelf with textbooks that just gather dust after the end of the semester? Even if you couldn't be caught dead with a Kindle, embrace e-technology for what it does for you as a student: It will make your life a whole lot easier.

International

INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

United States decreases number of American diplomats in Iraq

The Department of State and the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad are considering ways to decrease the number of American diplomats and contractors in Iraq.

After the U.S. troops left in December, transportation of food to the embassy became restricted, and the Iraqi government began to interfere in the diplomats' lives. There are currently about 2,000 diplomats and approximately 16,000 staff members, most of whom are contractors. Over the next year, the State Department plans to halve that number and decrease the influence and activity of Embassy officials.

Chinese workers in Sudan released

More than two dozen Chinese construction workers were abducted by Sudanese rebels last month, but Red Cross officials in Sudan recently announced that they have been freed.

Chinese state news media reported the workers were trying to build roads to connect remote areas when they were abducted. One of the missing workers was found dead after an attempt to escape confinement.

Russians reach ancient lake

After a decade of drilling, Russian scientists have reached Lake Vostok, an ancient Antarctic body of water two miles below solid ice. It is the first of 280 lakes covered by layers of ice to have contact with light and air for 15 to 34 million years. There are discussions that traces of life may still exist within the waters and researchers will go back next year to take water samples. Until then, the hole has been plugged to keep out contamination.

Libya, Niger in disagreement regarding Qaddafi son

Colonel Muammar el-Qaddafi's son, Saadi, warned Libya on Feb. 10 of a threat of a "coming uprising." In response to this threat, Libya has asked Niger to extradite Saadi, who fled there in September 2011.

In order to remain in Niger, Saadi had to obey the demands to not engage in disruption or disturbances with the Libyan officials. Despite the fact that he did not obey the demands, Niger still refuses to give Saadi to a country where he could face execution.

Avalanche in Kosovo kills 9

A 5-year-old girl was rescued from the ruins of a collapsed house devastated by an avalanche in Restelica, Kosovo.

She was buried under 33 feet of snow when her voice and cell phone were heard by rescuers above. Her parents and other relatives were killed by the avalanche. Nine have been discovered dead, and one person is still missing.

Leader of guerrilla group captured

A guerrilla leader of major cocaine supplier Shining Path was captured in Peru Feb. 12.

President Ollanta Humala announced that Florindo Eleuterio Flores Hala was discovered in hiding in the rainforest of northern Peru. He was captured without resistance and was taken to a hospital in Lima for surgery on Sunday night.



Senegalese youth sit in front of campaign advertisements for Abdoulaye Wade, the current president of Senegal. The election is on Feb. 23. KATHERINE WISE | International Reporter

Upcoming elections in Senegal met with opposition

Katherine Wise
International Reporter

DAKAR, SENEGAL — Despite demonstrations from the opposition group, current president, Abdoulaye Wade, continues with his campaign for the 2012 Senegalese Feb. 23 presidential elections.

Wade is running for a third term. Opposition groups say this violates the Constitution, which only allows a president to have two terms.

Groups including Mouvement Vingt Trois, or M-23, participated in multiple demonstrations to show their disapproval of Wade after the Constitutional Congress released the official list of the 14 candidates Jan. 17.

"The opposition is discontent with his social, health and education strategies," said Billy Alfonso, the assistant regional security officer of the U.S. Embassy.

Alfonso said the demonstrations typically consist of rock-throwing, tire-burning and tear gas. But four deaths were attributed to the demonstrations that occurred in the past three weeks.

Sergine Ndiaye, director of the Senegalese CIEE study abroad program, said Wade referred to the opposition demonstrations as a "breeze that will pass."

"To refer to the loss of not only one life, but four, is heartless," Ndiaye said.

The M-23 is a coalition of opposition groups and includes many musicians, rappers and a youth movement known as the Y en a Marre.

"I share their philosophy, the Y en a

Marre spirit," Ndiaye said.

He said the group is not associated with any particular political party and has not endorsed a candidate in the 2012 election.

"The group's saying is basically 'enough is enough,' or 'we are fed up.' Their purpose is to help create a new type of Senegalese citizen, a person who accepts responsibility and demands their rights," Ndiaye said.

Ndiaye said he hopes the political atmosphere will show American students "new horizons." Mamadou Mbengue, a supporter of Wade, disagrees with the large opposition party.

"It's a political opinion only," he said.

Mbengue, who works for Wade's campaign, said the four deaths were not Wade's responsibility.

"It's regrettable, but the responsibility comes (primarily) from the opposition and after (from) the policeman," he said.

Mbengue said Wade did not count his first term as president because of a law that Wade passed while he was in office.

Oumar Sow is a young voter also in support of Wade, despite a large youth population in the Y en a Marre.

"It's not nice to demonstrate (against), burn tires and destroy the things of Senegalese people," Sow said. "If they disagree, burning things will not be useful to convince Wade not to run. You should show your opposition with your vote."

Sow, a 20-year-old university student at Cheikh Anta Diop, said Wade has the best intentions for Senegal.

"Around Senegal, you see good

infrastructure projects built by President Wade," Sow said. "He created a lot of factories in order to help the jobless. Since Abdoulaye Wade took the poll, Senegal is like Paris."

Sow has plans to help in the campaign. "We are ready to bring back Wade, Inchalla! (God-willing)," he said.

But, Ndiaye said the majority of the Senegalese people disagree.

"Wade is a big manipulator. The events of June 23 showed Wade's will to do everything possible to change the name of the game."

In June 2011, Wade tried to pass controversial laws, including one that would allow a presidential candidate to be elected with 25 percent of the vote. Groups in opposition to Wade's decision occupied the National Assembly in Dakar.

Since then, the M-23 has promoted the message: "Touchez pas ma constitution" or "don't touch my constitution."

The campaign season for the presidential elections in the United States started more than a year before the election date. In Senegal, the campaign officially started Feb. 5.

"They have three weeks before the elections in which the candidates have, in theory, equal access to the media," he said. "One candidate will need to have the absolute majority, or over 50 percent."

If no candidate gets the absolute majority, there will have to be a second round. Ndiaye said he is still deciding between two or three candidates.

"I don't know who I'm going to vote for," he said. "But I do know who I'm not voting for."

Correspondents' Corner

Madelyn Smith
International Reporter

MONTPELLIER, FRANCE — It's been a little more than a month and I'm finally getting used to speaking



French all the time, walking and taking the tram everywhere and life with my host family—who are actually excellent cooks! But the best thing has been exploring the "must-sees" of Montpellier. There is an aqueduct that I pass on my way to school, as well as other Roman ruins all around the city. The beaches are a bike ride away, and Montpellier is home to France's largest botanical garden, Le Jardin des Plantes.

Leigh Iler
International Reporter

LONDON — People have mixed feelings when it comes to public transportation—some love it, while others despise it.



Having lived in suburbia my entire life, I have had little exposure to public transit. But in London, public transportation is commonplace. People frequently take advantage of the Tube, London's metro system, double-decker buses and even boats. Navigating to one's destination can appear daunting at first, and although I have struggled with directions my entire life, I am pleased to say that I am surviving! This way of life appears much more sustainable, and I think that it should be implemented in more cities and towns.

Heather Cassano
International Reporter

COPENHAGEN, DENMARK — Americans have a lot of misconceptions about the Danes. Before I came here, I was told that they eat a lot of fish, don't talk to



foreigners and that everyone is blond. I've seen many brunettes, but surprisingly no redheads. The Danes are very attractive, but I don't think it's because of their physical features. It's the way they dress. The young women here are wearing things I could never pull off in America. I never thought that skintight jeans, baggy sweaters and boots could be so fashionable. Somehow, these women are wearing 20 layers of clothing to combat the freezing temperatures, and they still look amazing.

Elon's Got TALENT

Students impress peers with hidden abilities in event sponsored by Campus Outreach

Stephanie Butzer
Senior Reporter

Elon students filled McKinnon Hall Feb. 9 in anticipation of a showcase of unique talents by their peers.

Campus Outreach, a collegiate Christian organization, hosted the first-ever Elon's Got Talent competition. Members of Campus Outreach wanted to connect with different majors, sports teams, Greek organizations and others and decided the best way would be to host a talent show.

"The purpose of the event is to serve Elon's campus by putting on a fun event, getting to know students that we might not usually connect with and starting to build more relationships with different people across campus," said senior Katy Gale, who helped with the advertising and promotion of the show. "We hadn't done a 'big crowd' type of event in a while, and with all the talent Elon students have to offer, this event was born."

Auditions for Elon's Got Talent were held prior to the event and open to everybody. Approximately 25 students signed up for auditions and 10 individuals or groups were accepted to perform.

President Leo Lambert, President Emeritus Earl Danieley and Michael Williams, director of Campus Center operations and conferences, were present at the event to offer their opinions on each performer.

"Much like in 'America's Got Talent,' the judges will function as celebrity commentators, simply offering their assessment of each performance as prompted by questions from our hosts," said Artie Van Sciver, adviser to Campus Outreach, prior to the show. "We're hoping to see some of the judges' personalities on display."

Junior Gavin Billings and sophomore Jimmy Stevenson hosted the show and introduced each new talent.

"While all of the talent can be categorized either as a musical performance or dance performance, there is a wide variety within each of those subsets," Van Sciver said.

The performers ranged from freshmen to seniors, with talents stretching from Irish step dance to singing. There were several group performances, such as the Christian hip-hop dance group Urgent Message, in addition to many solo acts.

In order to select a winner, the audience voted via text message. Each performance had a specific number and the audience could text for their favorite. After voting, the winner was announced.

Freshman singer Mackenzie Roberts swept the competition with 47 percent of the vote. Her jazz performance produced outbreaks of applause mid-song. But like many others, the nerves hit Roberts before her performance.

"When I was waiting for the curtains to open, you could hear my heart beating so loud and I hoped the mic wasn't picking it up," she said.

Freshman Liz Bargamian was one of many students who came out to support peers in the show.

"It was great to see people do things that you know they loved and had a great time with," she said.

Freshman Corinne Haywood, a friend of Roberts', agreed it was a pleasant surprise to see the performances.

"I personally had a lot of friends that were in it and I thought that everybody had amazing talent," Haywood said. "I didn't even know they could do that."



MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

ABOVE: Freshman Sam Nungesser shows off his dance moves to a Michael Jackson song. He finished in second place after the audience vote.
BELOW: Freshman Mackenzie Roberts belts out a jazz number during Elon's Got Talent. Roberts walked away the winner of the competition, which was sponsored by Campus Outreach.



MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

ABOVE: Sophomore Ethan Smith plays guitar while sophomore Elliot Dodd sings the chorus to "Little Lion Man" by Mumford & Sons. The duo performs at a number of open mic nights and talent shows held by Elon University throughout the school year, including the Elon's Got Talent competition in McKinnon Hall Feb. 9.





PHOTO SUBMITTED BY RYAN WITT

Senior Maggie Cissel films a meeting on a student trip to India during Winter Term. Throughout the time abroad, Ryan Witt and Cissel captured video and photographs for the university's study abroad office.

Documenting adventure of a lifetime

Senior builds career goals while filming abroad for Elon

Katy Steele
Senior Reporter

It was just another day when Maggie Cissel walked to class one November morning. An email came through her phone. She almost deleted it, but chose to read it instead. Little did Cissel know that decision would change her life.

The email from the School of Communications described an opportunity for a student to apply to travel to India during Winter Term as the documentary production assistant for the

Isabella Cannon International Centre.

"When I read it, I said 'this is exactly what I want to do,'" Cissel said. "My entire fall was jam-packed, but everything was put on hold when I read that email."

About a month later, Cissel was in India working alongside Ryan Witt, a video producer for Teaching and Learning Technologies. The duo worked to capture footage as they followed Elon study abroad trips, including groups studying business and culture in Delhi, another studying education and development in Cochin and a human services and public health group

who studied at the Comprehensive Rural Health Project with a Periclean scholars group.

Traveling with Cissel and Witt were President Leo Lambert and his wife, Laurie.

"We were like a little family," Cissel said. "I would wonder what people thought when they saw us traveling in the airport together."

The experience abroad

From the moment she heard about it, Cissel knew she wanted the job. But the interim between reading the email and actually making the trip happen was a roller coaster, Cissel said.

She applied, interviewed and found out she had been selected just before Thanksgiving — but that was only the start.

"Deep down, I knew that getting accepted was the first step in a long range of things before I could actually go," she said.

Among the things standing in her way was the price tag. With nearly \$5,000 in trip expenses to cover on her own, Cissel, adamant about not taking out a loan, had a lot of funds to raise.

"There were probably three days where I just gave up," she said. "The pressure to come up with the funds finally got to me and actually getting to India seemed impossible."

I don't know what the turning point was — it was sort of just like something clicked and I wasn't going to take no for an answer."

Reaching out to groups on campus, including the Phi Mu national chapter and the Student Government Association, Cissel was able to raise \$3,500 in scholarships and support.

Once in India, Cissel's main task was to help Witt collect footage for a promotional video for the Cannon Centre. Without much prior experience making documentaries, Cissel had to take every opportunity to learn as she went.

"I would give her little mini lessons," Witt said. "Over time, she started learning it really well. It wasn't just turning the camera on and hitting the button."

According to Cissel, the learning was incomparable to anything that could have been done inside the classroom.

"Hands-on experience doesn't even

begin to describe it," she said. "It's do or die. You either get the shot or you don't."

Cissel was also able to get some footage of her own. She will spend some semester compiling footage from the trip and producing and editing her own documentary to obtain credit for an independent study course.

Reflecting on an adventure

Recalling scenes of streets filled with sewage, masses of orphans and "people-jams" clogging the roads like traffic, Cissel said it's shocking to look back on the footage because it's a stark contrast to the United States, according to Cissel. Images like these raised questions in her mind about what it really means to be a global citizen.

It's this type of reflection she hopes to convey in her documentary.

"I hope people can question why it is they go abroad, what and where they even want to go," she said.

Cissel is hoping to have the finished product shown at SURF, the Student Undergraduate Research Forum, on April 24. Witt is currently working on the post-production phase of the Cannon Centre promotional video, which will also be finished before the end of the year.

"Promotional pieces like this show, in very tangible ways, what students are

learning and how they can apply it to the future," said Bill Burriss, international program adviser.

Lambert said he has similar hopes for the video.

"I hope they will use the final product to promote Winter Term study abroad in general and India in specific," Lambert said. "I am confident Maggie and Ryan are going to be able to share some important stories with a wider audience because of their good work."

Overall, the experience helped Cissel hone in on her

love for documentaries, setting her on a new path for life after graduation.

"I've never been more passionate about something in my entire life," she said. "If I had any apprehension prior to this that I couldn't or didn't want to go into documentary filmmaking — this took that away."

Cissel encourages other students to fight for their dreams and not let anything stand in their way.

"You are your only roadblock," she said. "If you really believe in something don't let anybody steer you away from it."

Seniors

February info sessions
20th Moseley 165 @ 5PM
23rd KOBC 200 @ 4:15 PM



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MAGGIE CISSSEL
A fisherman raises nets on the Chochin coast of India.

Sophomore develops application, sense of self

Elon student builds own dream job working as real estate agent, mobile application creator

Audrey Horwitz
Senior Reporter

Jeremiah Brown may seem like a typical Elon University student, but what sets him apart from the rest is that he has been selling real estate in New York City since he was 18 years old and created an iPhone application that had more than 1,000 downloads the week it was released.

Brown was driving down 34th Street in Manhattan when he saw a sign outside Rapid Realty that said it was hiring. He walked in, asked what the qualifications were and decided to apply. He began taking classes and took a state test for realty that was "a little more difficult than the SAT," he said. He passed the test and landed the job.

"I didn't have experience, but I had an interest," Brown said.

For Brown, that was all it took. He was eager to learn the profession and that's exactly what he did.

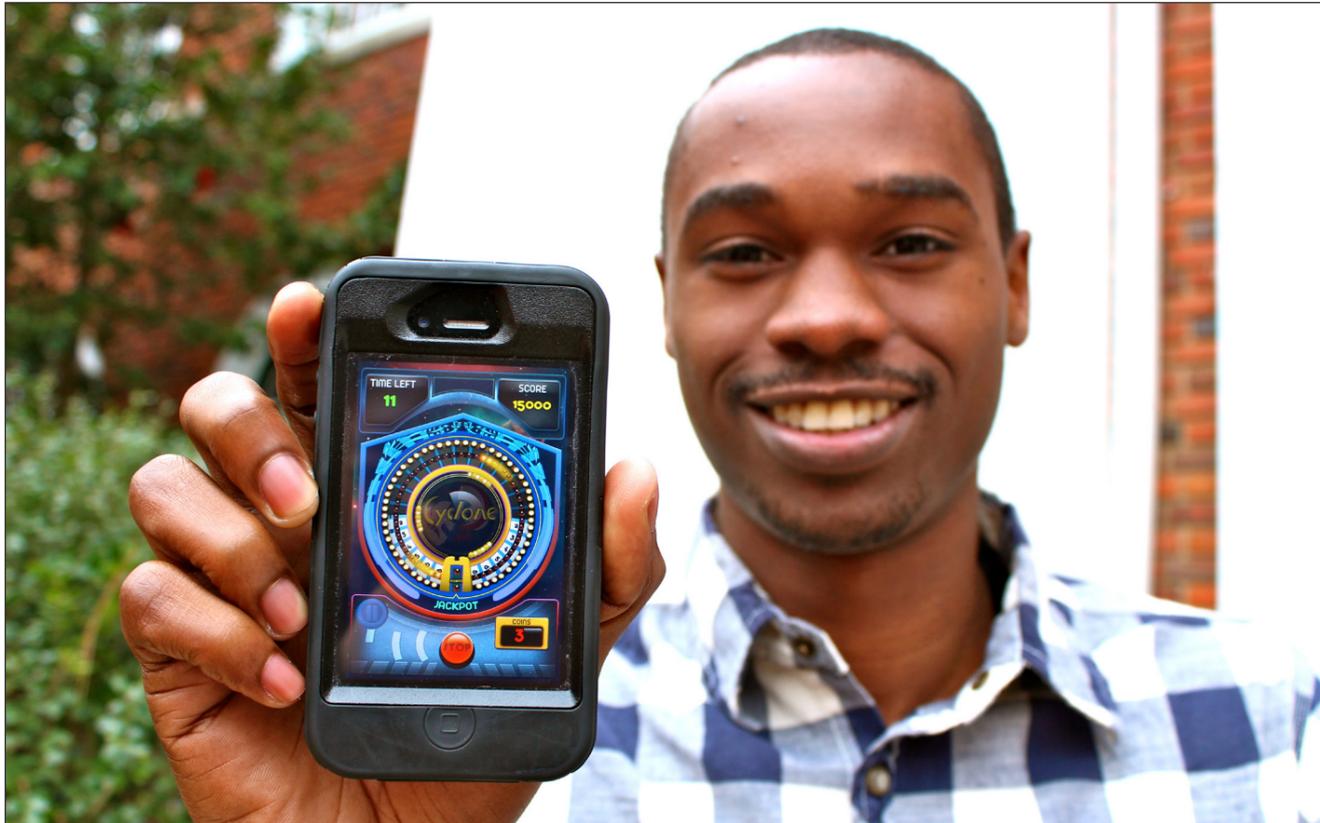
Despite his enthusiasm, Brown has faced his share of adversity. Some clients are hesitant to trust him because of his age.

"I've definitely faced discrimination," Brown said. "It's a cutthroat business. The hardest part is getting older clients to buy into what you're trying to tell them."

Despite the challenges, he doesn't let it faze him. Instead, he focuses on what he can gain from each experience.

"The best part about real estate is closing the deal," Brown said. "Beyond the money, it's more of a personal accomplishment. It shows that I have stuck to it and made someone comfortable enough to sign a contract."

Brown's patience has paid off. Before coming to Elon, his manager asked him to help



Sophomore Jeremiah Brown developed the iPhone application Cyclone, based on the arcade game. He also continues to promote his real estate employer.

film director Spike Lee find an apartment.

Since attending Elon, Brown has stopped selling real estate but continued to promote the company.

If a career in real estate that includes selling property to a well-known director isn't impressive enough, he has also made his mark on the technology world.

Brown created an iPhone application called Cyclone HD. The application is modeled after a popular arcade game in which the player tries to catch a rotating light when it lands on the jackpot.

"I was surprised no one had thought of it before," Brown said.

Brown learned the coding that went into the creation of the application at Long Island University, where he studied information technology before coming to Elon. Although he is knowledgeable about the technology that is required to develop an application, he is more interested in the creative side of it.

"I'm like Steve Jobs," Brown said. "I like the innovation."

It is no coincidence that Brown has found success at such a young age. As a college sophomore, he has already

established himself as a capable entrepreneur.

According to Brown, his motivation comes from past experiences.

"I learned a lot from my past," Brown said. "In high school I played sports, but had an injury that didn't allow me to advance further. I didn't get the scholarship I had always dreamed of."

Brown wasn't able to fulfill his dream of becoming a college athlete, but found another dream to chase. He takes his aspirations seriously and commits himself to reaching his goals.

"Every project I consume

myself with, I want to excel at it," Brown said.

With all his success, one might wonder where he finds time to savor the typical college experience.

"It's very hard to find balance," Brown said. "I barely go to parties, but I'm not stressed out that I'm missing out on the college experience. I'm more focused on where I need to be in the future."

Brown may not be leading the typical college student's life, but he said he believes he has found his own version of success through hard work and innovation.

'Crash the Super Bowl' takes alumnus to the end zone

Kyra Gemberling
Design Editor

The rules were simple: Make a 30-second video featuring Doritos, including both the company's logo and the actual chips. Five finalists were chosen, and the winning commercial debuted during this year's Super Bowl XLVI.

Elon University alumnus Jason Walston was able to experience Doritos' annual Crash the Super Bowl video contest by acting in one of the commercials picked for finals.

"We were selected to be one of five finalists out of around 6,100 entries," Walston said. "It was pretty surreal."

Walston, who graduated in 2007 as a music major, said his role in the commercial was actually the first role he ever auditioned for. His agent helped him snag the part in director Brad Scott's commercial "Hot Wild Girls," a comedy about two friends using technology to get the things they want for the Super Bowl, including a sombrero, attractive women and of course, more Doritos.

"(Filming the commercial) was very fun," Walston said. "It

was just one day, but it was a long one. I just showed up and put on a couple of different wardrobe pieces, and there was a make up artist. A lot of it was just waiting."

But Walston isn't the only person with an Elon connection involved with Crash the Super Bowl. Several students produced videos and entered them in the contest, including senior Jay Light.

"The commercial I made was actually a group assignment for class," Light said. "But I'd heard about the contest before I entered because I knew that other students had entered it before. I'd also seen the commercials."

Light's video "The Elevator" features a businessman eating Doritos in an elevator. A woman walks into the elevator and sees a man eating the chips before the doors close. When the doors reopen, the man is naked and covered in Doritos crumbs, and the woman pulls a chip out of her shirt, eats it and walks off the elevator.

"When we created the story, I was thinking of what would be quick and easy to execute, but still funny," Light said. "That's ultimately the kind of commercial you want to see at the Super Bowl."

In regards to Walston's commercial, Light said he thinks it was well-shot and punchy and he's glad it was picked as a finalist. And though his own video didn't make it to the finals, Light is ready to make improvements and enter the contest again next year.

"It was the coolest thing just to have a video in the contest," he said. "It's a really great platform for people

who want to show their creativity in a less professional-type setting."

Walston said the contest is a great opportunity for students. Giving students an outlet for expressing film creativity is exactly the function of the contest.

"It's for people who don't have an established base yet in the industry, so the contest is great for aspiring professionals," Walston said. "And even if they don't win, they have a stellar commercial to show people."

As for his own commercial, Walston said he finds news outlets talking about it every day, and he's

continuously surprised at the video's popularity.

"It has been an overwhelming and awesome experience," he said. "I'm pretty excited about the future."

MORE ONLINE

Watch the commercial that made it to the finals.

<http://bit.ly/EPdoritos>



JASON WALSTON

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I do: Senior finalist in honeymoon contest

Edith Veremu
Senior Reporter

When senior Spanish education major Phyllis Jarrell got engaged last November, she and her fiancé didn't anticipate being one of three finalists in an all-expense paid honeymoon to Fiji.

Jarrell and fiancé Tyler Claytor, a senior math education major at Wake Forest University, entered the contest on a whim after she saw an advertisement in BRIDES Magazine.

Claytor proposed to Jarrell near a Japanese garden and waterfall in Maymont Park in Richmond, Va. by presenting to her several boxes containing different movie ticket stubs, poems, letters and other things he had kept during each year they were together. One box was specific to Spain since the pair studied abroad there at the same time. In the last box was the engagement ring. Unbeknownst to the couple at the time, there had been an amateur photographer at the park and he snapped several photos of them while Claytor proposed.

"He came up to us after and said 'You guys had the perfect look going on, and I couldn't resist myself,'" Jarrell said. "We gave him our email address and he sent us the photos. That's where the photo on the (contest) website came from."

"He became a really good support system in my life. It got to the point where he got to be my best friend. So, why wouldn't I want to spend the rest of my life with my best friend?"

-Phyllis Jarrell
SENIOR

The couple used the unique proposal for more than fond memories.

"We wrote up the story and



Wake Forest senior Tyler Claytor and fiancé Elon senior Phyllis Jarrell have been together more six years, and are excited to tie the knot in July.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY TION-JUAN PRI

posted it," Jarrell said. "When we started out, (Claytor) didn't think we were going to make the finals."

By telling friends, family members and schoolmates about their story, the couple was able to beat out other contestants, such as a couple who got engaged at the Grand Ole Opry on "The Biggest Loser." Jarrell and Claytor both wrote to their university's presidents, who spread word about the couple's efforts. The grand prize honeymoon package includes a six-day, five-night stay at a beach resort in Fiji, according to the contest's website. Other prizes include an engagement party from BRIDES, a cookware set and a set of champagne and toasting flutes.

The couple entered the contest because they wouldn't be able to afford a dream honeymoon otherwise, Jarrell said. But their friends and family members have offered to pay for their hotel

accommodations wherever they go, bringing the couple one step closer to having some sort of relaxation time, something they hadn't planned on before the contest, Jarrell said. She said they will go to Los Angeles if they don't win the contest.

Jarrell and Claytor met their freshman year of high school and, although Jarrell was dating someone at the time, she and Claytor became friends and started dating soon after her relationship ended.

"When we broke up, Tyler picked up the pieces and it was a blessing in disguise because we got to be really good friends," Jarrell said. "He became a really good support system in my life. It got to the point where he got to be my best friend. So, why wouldn't I want to spend the rest of my life with my best friend?"

According to Claytor, Jarrell seemed like a sweet person when they met at their

high school homecoming football game Nov. 5, 2004. The more the pair saw of each other, the more he felt he was making the right decision. The couple has been together for six years, and that's enough time to see their love is real, Claytor said.

"We see each other a lot and we've been with each other for six years," he said. "We're already a part of each other's families and it's been that way for a long time. It's hard to put your finger on it. It's just time to (get married)."

The wedding will be very do-it-yourself and hands-on. The color scheme is pastel blue and green with pink accents and the reception will be in a large field behind Jarrell's house, where they are expecting at least 250 people, she said. Claytor and Jarrell's wedding favors will be jam made from scratch, of which they've already made 232 jars. They picked out the fruits themselves and will prepare

the food using family recipes instead of having it catered.

"We wanted to make sure people know it's really from us and we're showing our appreciation to everyone that's helped us along the way," Claytor said.

Jarrell's brother, who is studying to be an Anglican priest, will officiate his first ceremony as a priest at the July 7 wedding.

The couple hopes to move back to Richmond, their hometown, and spend some part of the summer in Honduras, where Jarrell has studied abroad and worked with an organization that houses homeless children.

To vote for Claytor and Jarrell, visit the contest website at www.brides.com/ProposalAwards, click "View the Finalists," and "Vote" for them under the "Romantic" category.

Community member explores the Alaskan wild

Joe Jacobs helps Elon students find sense of self by exploring new terrain

Rebecca Smith
Senior Reporter

At first, Joe Jacobs was studying pre-dentistry. But after taking a class in marine biology, he realized that he could not imagine spending his life looking into people's mouths, so he changed his degree to marine biology.

By finding his own calling, Jacobs is able to help Elon University students do the same.

With so many students studying abroad each year, many different cultures are bound to be experienced. Jacobs, a visiting professor, is helping show the community that you do not have to travel to a different continent to embrace a different culture.

"Elon students need to go to Alaska to get a sense of reality," Jacobs said. "We humans are totally out of touch with the natural environment. I am going to guess that most of Elon students' parents were probably born around the time Alaska became a state. Alaska is still evolving — a moving history."

The ideal student for the trip to Alaska is one who seeks understanding that cannot be found in books, loves the outdoors and is interested in other cultures, Jacobs said.

"The indigenous people lived without electronics for 8,000 years," Jacobs said. "I like to help people realize that they don't have to go to Africa or India to immerse themselves in other cultures."

The course is an online class during Summer Session I, except for the 10 days spent in Alaska. A professor serves as the course leader and assigns the work and grades, but Jacobs serves as the leader and guide during the time in Alaska.

"Joe's passion for Alaskan culture and wilderness is infectious," said Barbara Gordon, course instructor for the class and an associate professor of English. "He generally takes time from his work to share Alaska with Elon students because he wants to introduce young people to the state. Joe's affiliation with this program makes it a special and unique opportunity for Elon students."

There are many opportunities for the students who go to Alaska, and many have fallen in love with the wilderness just like Jacobs did. Jacobs employed one of the students who took the Alaska class the very first year.

In 2004, Jacobs spoke to a professor at Elon about teaching canoeing and kayaking and has been teaching it ever since.

His training in the field of science and his interest in nature led to him becoming the director of science for the North East region of the nature conservancy. When they opened an office in Alaska, they asked him to go. He has gone back to Alaska every year since.

"I was at LSU for nine years as a college student," Jacobs said. "College friends were almost as much my identity as I was. Until I went on my own quest, I didn't know who I was."

When Jacobs was working on his doctorate, he went alone to an island off the gulf coast of Mississippi. For two weeks he didn't see another person or hear any of the noises that he describes as part of the daily grind.

Each summer, Jacobs finds this silence when he goes to Alaska from June to August, and sometimes in January. In Alaska, he has a canoeing and kayaking company, and he owns what he describes as a piece of paradise on a cliff.

Jacobs is not the only person who has found himself in the Alaska program. Gordon is drawn to Alaska because she said she believes what is wild and uncivilized can be a means for experiencing her truest self.

"I started following my passions, which don't involve the pressures of research," Jacobs said. "I am more of a naturalist."

He cut back on some of his other trips, including an annual one in November, in order to teach classes each semester.

"I just love being at a university," Jacobs said. "When someone tells me they are graduating, I give them my condolences. A teacher I knew got together a group of students and had me teach them how to roll a kayak. I realized that I wish I had gone to a school the size of Elon and decided to teach."

As much as Jacobs has come to love Elon, he also describes it as a setting that can be so loud that you can't hear yourself. But he said he always finds himself again in Alaska, Jacobs said.

"The first time I went home, when I felt the plane take off, I knew that I had to go back," Jacobs said. "It was like leaving a girlfriend. I felt heart pangs. I go back to screw my head on right. It's where I come closest to God."

ALASKA BY THE NUMBERS

264K Barrels of oil produced per day in Alaska's north slope

29 Volcanoes across the state

2 Cents per acre charged to Russia when purchased in 1867

72 Inches between the average male moose antlers

Few reservations about McCrary seating policy

Kassondra Cloos
Producer of The Swing

When iMedia student Stephanie Olsen was an undergraduate in the dance program at Elon University, she would get tickets for plays weeks in advance and show up for performances nearly an hour early. The line to get into McCrary Theatre often extended down the hallway and wrapped around the corner, past the box office in the Center for the Arts.

Getting a good seat for a sold-out show meant a great deal of dedication.

"We're really trying to model the professional world for our students in training them. This is one of the important things, that we have professional front-of-house policies."

-Fred Rubeck
CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS

It's largely for this reason that the Department of Performing Arts has recently started employing a reserved seating system much like those used on Broadway and in other professional theaters. Instead of general admission, each ticket holder may choose his or her seat from available spaces on a seating chart.

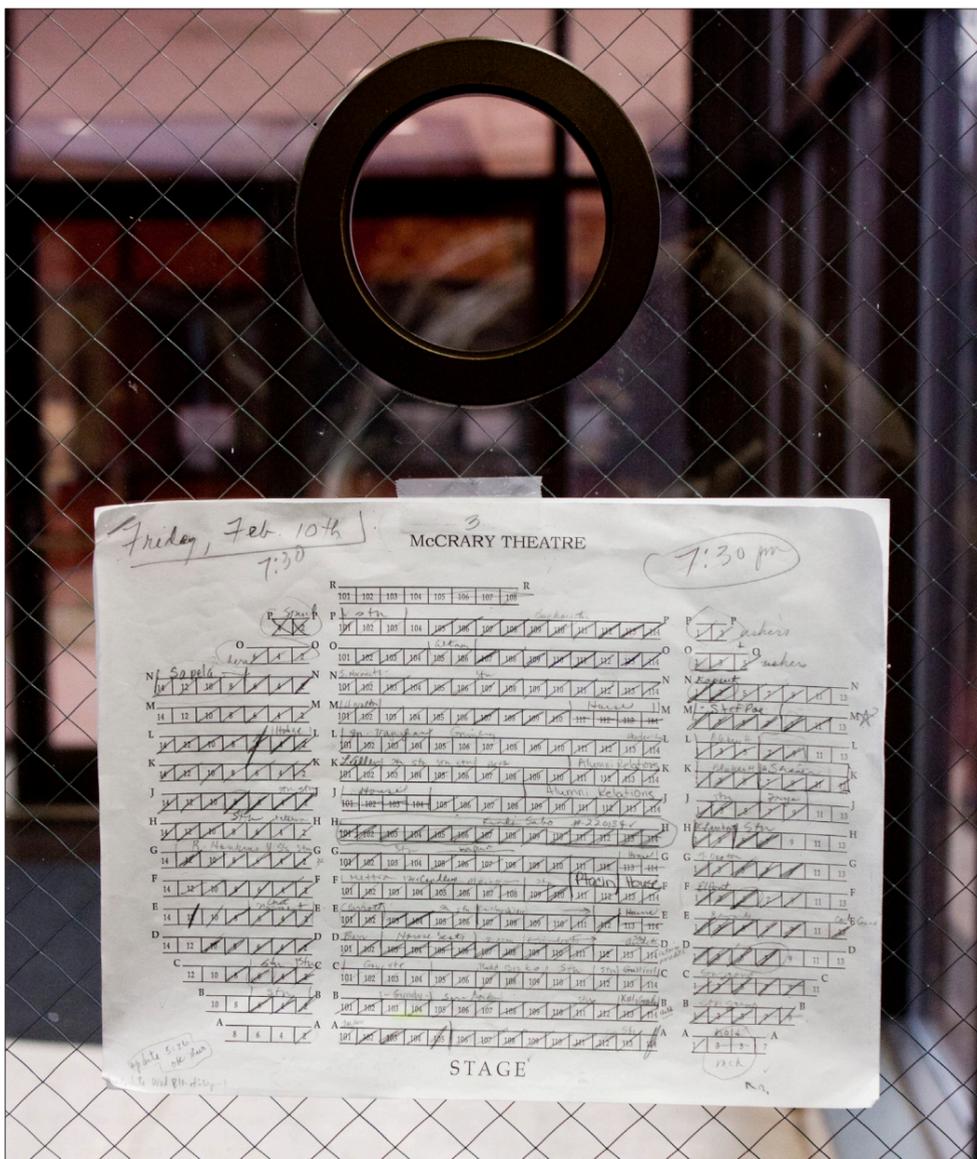
"I like it better because then you don't have to come here 45 minutes ahead of time," Olsen said. "You can just come and you know you have a seat."

Fred Rubeck, chair of the Department of Performing Arts, said he has heard only positive feedback about the move to reserved seating.

"It's especially more humane for the people who come from out of town, like parents," Rubeck said. "We've heard feedback from people who appreciate the fact that they don't have to wait around in the lobby for hours just to get a good seat."

Part of the Department of Performing Arts' goal is to give its students the most realistic experience possible, and reserved seating works to increase the professionalism of student performances, Rubeck said.

"We're really trying to model the professional world for our students in training them," he said. "This is one of the important things, that we have professional front-of-



Seating charts like those used for "She Loves Me" (pictured above) are provided for performances in McCrary Theatre.

house policies."

While many people have expressed approval of the new system, senior Brent Rose said it is more challenging for students to sit with friends to see a show. Instead of acquiring tickets separately and meeting up shortly before the curtain goes up, students now need to take a trip to the box office together to sit as a group. Conflicting schedules can often make this a challenge, he said.

"I can see the benefits of it and that sort of thing, but it's nice when, if I had gotten my ticket (the day of the show), I still would have been able to sit with people who got their ticket three or four days ago," Rose said. "Especially by (that day), they only had two or maybe three spots open together."

Junior Nonye Obichere, a music theater major who served as an usher for "She Loves Me," said she appreciates

the organization reserved seating brings to a production. Obichere shared Rose's concerns about students getting to sit with their friends, but in the end, she said it makes McCrary just like any other theater.

"As someone who comes to see the shows when I'm not in them, I like how organized it is," Obichere said. "But if you don't buy your ticket at the same time as people who you want to sit with do, you can't sit together. If you buy them too late, you end up in the

balcony. That's really the only drawback, but that's how it is with any other ticketed event with any other theater you would go to."

The solution for students who can't get to the box office at the same time is to keep track of where they're sitting and get tickets as far in advance as possible, according to Rubeck.

"It rewards people who get their tickets early so they have a good seat or the seat of their choice rather than it being up for grabs for whoever gets to the door first," he said.

Upcoming Performing Arts Events

Senior Dance Major Thesis Production
Black Box Theatre, Feb. 23-26

DanceWorks Student-Choreographed Work
Black Box Theatre, March 10-11

Grand Night
Yeager Recital Hall, March 30-31

Pride and Prejudice
McCrary Theatre, April 19-22

Alpha Psi Omega Student-Directed Full Length Play
Black Box Theatre, April 25-28

Fused Moves Dance Concert
McCrary Theatre, May 3-5

French film festival brings discussion of religion, diversity to campus

Brittany Lloyd-Jones
Reporter

The Tournees Festival, showcasing French films connected by a different common theme each year, is back at Elon University for the third year in a row.

This year's films, which will screen from Feb. 8 through March 14, revolve around religiosity.

"I thought it was a perfect way to marry the university's mission of promoting interfaith understanding and diversity with French culture," said Sarah Glasco, assistant professor of French studies and organizer of the festival.

Glasco must apply for a grant for the copyrights to play these films publicly,

but she said she hopes to eventually establish a self-sustaining program.

"Of Gods and Men," which is based on the true story of nine French monks, was the first film shown. It is set in Algeria, a former French colony. Because of the revolution and threats from Muslim terrorists, the monks must decide whether to stay where they are, risking great danger and potential death or abandon their monastery.

All films in the festival will contain religious themes, but their focus may range from misunderstandings and conflicts involving anti-Semitism to all types of religious slanders expressed around the world.

In addition to the screening, a different Elon

faculty member will lead a discussion after each film.

"Films communicate at an entirely different emotional and intellectual level. You leave with a lot to think about," said L.D. Russell, a lecturer of religious studies and leader of the first discussion. These films will hopefully serve as "a conversation starter so that Elon students can become global citizens informed of global issues," Russell said.

Russell said he thinks "Of Gods and Men" is an appropriate start to the festival.

"(It is) a story about politics and faith, which is very relevant because of all the revolutions going on in Arab countries today," he said.

Glasco said she also

believes the festival is relevant this year, given Elon's diversity forums and the "Not on our Campus" movement.

"(We hope) to promote tolerance, broaden students' horizons in terms of what France and other cultures are all about and encourage the faculty to get involved in floor discussions," Glasco said.

Remaining screenings in the Tournees Festival

-Feb. 15: "Hadewijch,"
-Feb. 22: "Lourdes"
-Feb. 29: "A Prophet"
-March 7: "It's Hard Being Loved by Jerks" -
-March 14: "The Girl on the Train"

All begin at 6:30 p.m. in McEwen 011.

Do you speak fashion?

Do you have trouble defining your sense of fashion? You may be a fan



Kanree Wright
Guest Columnist

You may be a fan of one of the many reality TV shows that provide more fashion advice than we can handle.

You may have watched a few episodes of "America's Next Top Model" or "Project Runway," and found yourself completely unfamiliar with the terms the experts use. What exactly do they mean when they say something is avant garde, chic or vintage? Well, struggle no more. This is the ultimate guide for you if you are looking for insight into the language of fashion.

The first on the list is avant garde, which is one of the most difficult to define in the fashion industry. Avant garde items are very fashion-forward and innovative. These items may not be your everyday outfits, but the style is definitely for any fashionista who enjoys going above and beyond in his or her style. These looks are very bold with sharp angles and abstract shapes. Avant garde is something often seen on the runway, especially during iconic events like Fashion Week in New York City.

Chic is commonly used as a romantic way of saying "stylish" or "fashionable." Chic clothes are not necessarily the latest fashion trends and may be conservative, but still have a hint of sexiness.

Someone who is chic wears what works for his or her body type and comfort level, which makes the person look and feel as good as possible. For women aiming to look chic, pearls and lipstick work wonders to provide a timeless, classy and feminine look.

Vintage fashion is also having a significant comeback in apparel stores seen in malls and shopping centers. This style pays homage to all of the fabulous fashions from decades past. Many ladies can add a vintage feel to their outfits by wearing leggings, clip-on earrings, blazers or sequins. Combining all things new and old, this look can be found in parents' and grandparents' closets, in addition to thrift stores and consignment shops.

The world of fashion is constantly changing, so don't get left behind. Follow its twists and turns, and most importantly, get hip to the lingo. Do you speak fashion?

Curated African art exhibit honors Black History Month

Claire Esparros
Photo Editor

Freshman art history students Bethany Hill and Elizabeth Chang voluntarily took on the roles of Exhibition Designers in a project to curate African art in honor of Black History Month.

The pieces used in the Arts West exhibit "Obscurity in Plain Sight," which opened Feb. 8, came from Elon's African Art Collection, which was donated to the university.

Hill and Chang spent two months going through more than 100 pieces to make careful selections for their Fred Wilson-inspired exhibition, which features masks, jewelry, photographs and other art pieces symbolizing the importance of diversity of geographic and ideological influences on campus.



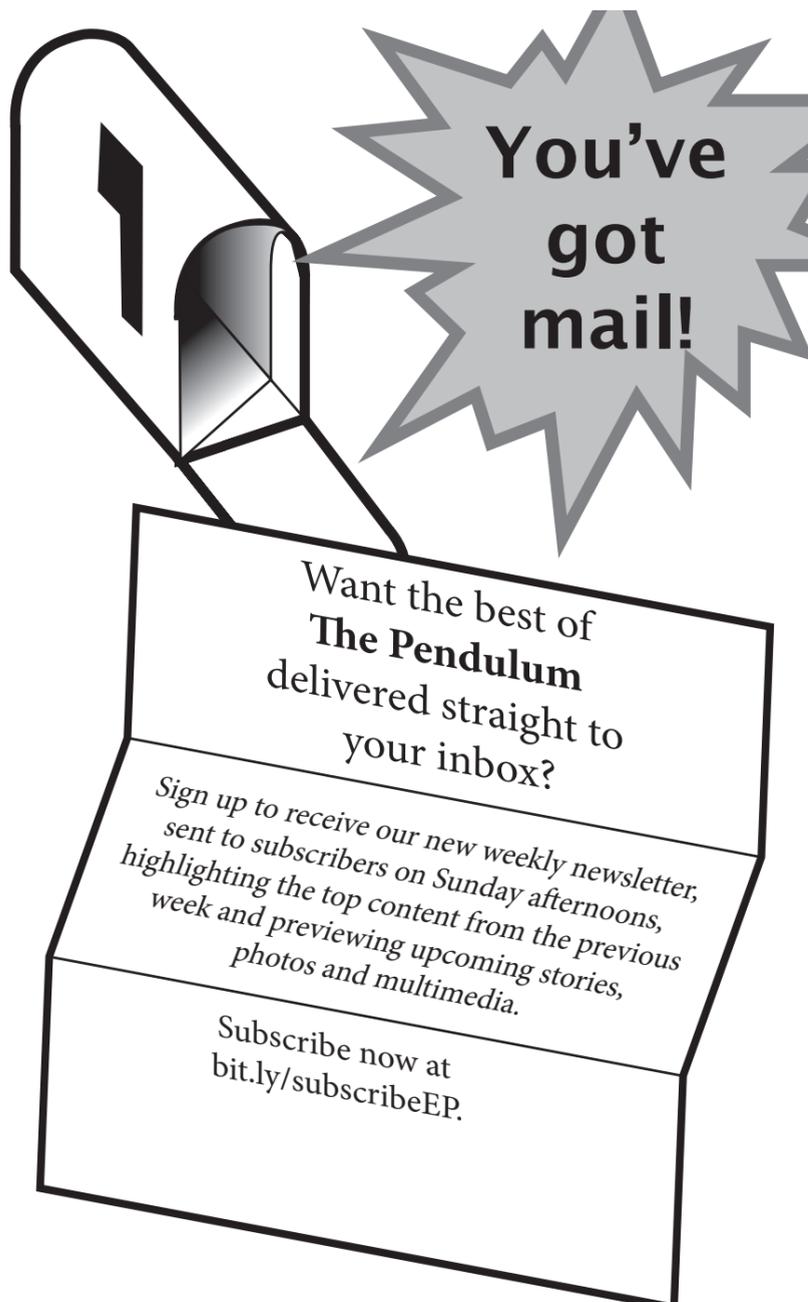
Freshman art history students Bethany Hill (left) and Elizabeth Chang exchange congratulations on a successful gallery opening Wednesday. The pair spent two months curating African art pieces for their exhibit "Obscurity in Plain Sight: More Than Meets the Eye."

Blues musician reflects on career through song



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer

Blues and ragtime guitarist Roy Book Binder performed in Whitley Auditorium Friday night in a performance sponsored by the Alamance County Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts' American Masterpieces program. Binder infused his songs with humor and personal stories from a long career in blues music, which began in the mid-1960s. Binder is currently in the middle of a tour that will reach as far as the United Kingdom and will extend through November.



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'She Loves Me' sets high bar for new semester

Spring musical takes Department of Performing Arts back to basics

Rebecca Iannucci
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Setting foot in McCrary Theatre for a new production by the Department of Performing Arts is nothing if not intriguing.

Throughout the last calendar year, the stage has been home to a number of characters — struggling bohemian artists in New York's Lower East Side, a tribe of politically active hippies and in this semester's "She Loves Me," a group of employees at a parfumerie in 1930s Hungary.

It's a far cry from "Rent" and "Hair," two high-energy rock musicals that have recently graced the McCrary stage. But "She Loves Me," this year's spring musical, which ran from Feb. 9-12, compensated with a cast that breathed new life into its characters.

The musical follows the blossoming love between Georg Nowack (senior Adam Kaplan) and Amalia Balash (senior Emilie Renier), two seemingly incompatible employees who do not realize they have been one another's pen pal for quite some time. Recent adaptations of the musical include the 1998 film "You've Got Mail," starring Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan.

Though the themes included in "She Loves Me" are relatable and timeless, the show has admittedly never attained the pop culture status of other musicals. In an initial stint on Broadway, "She Loves Me" ran for 302 performances.

But Elon's interpretation of the musical had a synergy that made one wonder why the musical is not still running on Broadway today. The plot is simple, but it is quite clear that "She Loves Me" contained



Seniors Adam Kaplan (left) and Jeffrey Todd Parrott sing "Perspective," one of 17 musical numbers showcased in Act One of "She Loves Me." BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer

a number of moving parts that must work in perfect tandem in order to be successful.

To overlook the pitch-perfect casting of "She Loves Me" would be doing the production an enormous disservice. Kaplan and Renier led a cast of characters that were as quirky as they were engaging, right down to junior Anthony Bruno's turn as a demanding waiter at the Cafe Imperiale. It was a production that

relied heavily on comedic timing and physical humor, neither of which were absent for too long in any given scene.

The show was not infallible, of course. Muffled microphones and unpredictable scenery mishaps fell on a list of items that momentarily forced the audience out of the story and back into the knowledge that this was simply a production by college students.

But by the time intermission approached, it was hard to remind oneself this story was fiction. The ensemble provided viewers with such wonderfully colorful characters whose personal lives quickly became an emotional investment.

"She Loves Me" was nothing short of irresistible, and it was largely due to the charming men and women on stage who welcomed audience members as if they were old friends.

Trash quickly becoming university's treasure

Elon kicks off RecycleMania

Ally Losa
Senior Reporter

Many students are not aware that there are more than 200 locations to recycle on campus. Starting this month, they will.

In 2006, Elon began participating in RecycleMania, a friendly competition among college and university recycling programs in the United States that provides the campus community with a fun, proactive way to encourage waste reduction.

The competition runs from February to March, and campuses across the country compete to see which campus can accumulate the "largest amount of recyclables per capita, the largest amount of total recyclables, the least amount of trash per capita, or have the highest recycling rate," according to the contest website.

"The movement on campus was to improve the existing recycling program, so the thought of getting involved with RecycleMania would, at the very least, raise awareness of our push to bolster the program," said David Worden, Elon's director of environmental services.

The university's main goal of participating in this program is to increase student awareness of recycling initiatives already present on campus and to minimize waste in general.

"Once Elon became involved with RecycleMania, our documented recycling weights dramatically improved," he said. "It was feared once the campaign ended, so would end the improved weights. But that's not the case."

According to the official RecycleMania website, 630 colleges and universities participated in the contest in 2011, which involved 7.5 million students and staff. A total of 91 million pounds were recovered in

2011.

For maximized participation, Elon developed a program with prizes and recognition. Students in the most successful halls are entered into a raffle drawing, which serves as incentive.

"Here at Elon, we also participate in an internal contest between residence areas — North Area, East Area, West Area, Oaks, Danieley Center, Colonnades and the Greek Courts," said sophomore Meghan Brindley, a student intern for Worden.

Elon has been doing many things to promote the success of RecycleMania and to get the campus to win. According to Brindley, the event must be well-publicized in order to be effective on campus.

"I am working hard to promote RecycleMania this year with flyers around campus, digital posters, social media and other marketing strategies," Brindley said.

There are many different organizations that sponsor this 10-week program, including Alcoa, Waste Management, Coca-Cola Recycling, Keep America Beautiful, American Forest and Paper Association and Hewlett-Packard.

The university is also using other initiatives to promote recycling.

"Elon is also holding an art contest with Phoenix Cash prizes where any student can submit a piece of artwork that relates in some way to recycling," Brindley said.

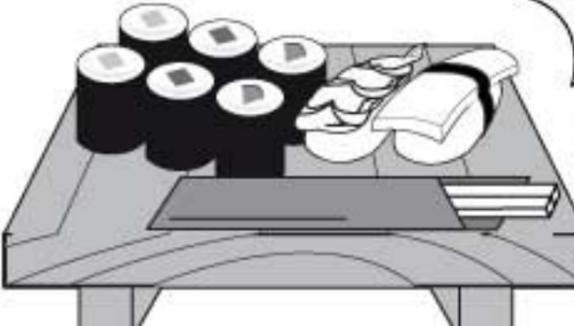
Elon will continue to try to improve its recycled material weights, as it has done throughout the past five years.



Sophomores Jimmy Stevenson and Emily Fo serve as RecycleManiacs during College Coffee Feb. 8. PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MEGHAN BRINDLEY

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Softball's Hill named SoCon Player of the Week

Elon softball's Camille Hill was honored by the Southern Conference as the player of the week for all games Feb. 10-12.

The junior catcher from Marietta, Ga., had seven hits in ten at-bats in Elon's four games over the weekend as the Phoenix swept all four of their matchups in the Elon Invitational. She added nine runs and four RBI.

This is the first time in her career Hill has received this accolade.

Oram sets school record at meet

Sophomore Allyson Oram set a school record in the 5,000-meter run Feb. 11, completing the track and field event in 17:40.32.

The record, which Oram broke by almost three seconds, had stood for two years. She finished first in the event at the JDL Fast Track Invitational in Winston-Salem.

Elon junior Morgan Denecke and freshman Haylee Dawe took third and fourth in the event, respectively.

Women's soccer to play five spring matches to prep for next season

Elon head women's soccer coach Chris Neal announced five spring matches for the Phoenix.

"I am excited about our spring season for many reasons," Neal said. "We have more flexibility with our team tactics and more freedom to experiment in all areas than we traditionally have during the fall."

The Phoenix will begin the spring season playing two games in Greensboro against UNC-Greensboro and Duke University Feb. 29. Their first home match is March 31 against Columbus State University, Wingate University and Campbell University.

Salek sets record at Liberty Quad track and field meet for Phoenix

Elon senior Amy Salek took first in the 400-meter dash at the Liberty Quad in Lynchburg, Va., Feb. 10. Her time of 56.12 set the track record for the Tolsma Indoor Track.

Salek also anchored the first-place 4x400-meter relay team to a time of 3:55.85 with sophomore Bria Bell, sophomore Veronia Luedke and freshman Abigail Steinseik.

Women's tennis defeats Gardner-Webb University at home Saturday

The Phoenix improved to 3-2 on the season Feb. 11 with a 5-2 victory over Gardner-Webb University.

The doubles team of sophomores Jordan Johnston and Frida Jansaker won their match to improve to 5-0 on the season for Elon, who is 3-2 this season. Sophomore Bryn Khoury recorded her fourth straight win of the season in comeback fashion over GWU freshman Alice Hopkins.

The Phoenix takes on East Carolina University in Greenville today.

Elon softball off to hot start

Phoenix sweeps weekend tournament

Adam Lawson
Assistant Sports Editor

Everything the Elon University softball coaching staff wanted from its offense this season can be summed up in one indelible acronym. "We call them S.W.A.G. cuts," freshman second baseman Cyra Cottrell said. "Swing with a goal. You pick something that you need to work on personally for the week, and you attack it."

The Phoenix attacked opposing pitching staffs all weekend long, scoring 35 runs over four games in its sweep of the Elon Invitational Feb. 10-12.

Elon opened the season with a come-from-behind 4-1 victory over Liberty University. The Flames, an NCAA Tournament participant in 2011, had a one-run lead entering the fifth inning. But a four-run frame highlighted by a pair of two-RBI hits from sophomore center fielder Carleigh Nester and junior left fielder Tomeka Watson propelled the Phoenix

in front for good.

There would be no more close games over the weekend. Elon outscored its opponents 31-6 over the next three games and trailed for just one inning over that span.

"Our offense just really stepped it up in clutch situations," senior pitcher Erin O'Shea said. "We got runners on base and moved them in scoring positions and moved them across the plate."

The Phoenix didn't only rely on station-to-station baseball to score this weekend. Senior shortstop Danielle Lafferty's three-run homer in the first inning of Saturday's game against North Carolina Central gave Elon a 5-3 lead. On Sunday against the same North Carolina Central team, Cottrell hit a pair of changeups out of the park on back-to-back at-bats for her first two home runs of her college career.

"I have a lot expected of me," Cottrell said. "But any time you can go up there and just have fun and just swing hard at the ball and it goes

out, that's a plus."

After dropping a weight on her foot shortly after New Year's Day, Nester feared she would have to miss part of the season recuperating. But after recording team highs with eight hits and eight RBIs this weekend, Nester said she's fully healthy and ready to conquer the rest of the schedule.

Elon hosts the Phoenix Softball Clash Feb. 17-19, playing five games during the three-day tournament against Presbyterian College, James Madison University and Bucknell University. The early season matchups against teams unfamiliar to the Phoenix present a challenging task for interim head coach Kathy Bocock.

"We go and call the teams that played (our opponents) at the end of last year and we get scouts on them," Bocock said. "But now, their new freshmen we can't pick up."

For now, non-conference opponents may present the Phoenix with a sense of unfamiliarity. But if Elon is able to swing with a high enough goal, maybe it won't matter.



Freshman infielder Sarah Little batted .333 with two hits in the Elon Invitational this past weekend.



Elon senior catcher Kaitlyn Piazzolla started her final season by helping the Phoenix to a 4-0 start.

Men's tennis opens season with losses

Rebecca Wickel
Features Editor

The men's tennis team is fighting the odds with a squad of five freshmen, two sophomores, one junior and one senior. But the youth of the players is not keeping the Phoenix from aiming high.

"The bad news is we don't know what's going to happen," said head coach Michael Leonard. "But the good news is these are some really great guys who have seen a good amount of improvement. I do think we have a lot of potential."

Senior Eric Turner said noticed this potential as well.

"We're already playing well now and getting better every day," he said. "I think we're going to have a good team. We have a young team but we're getting better with every match."

Despite this faith in new players, the Phoenix fell 6-1 to Wake Forest on Saturday. Turner, who said earlier he was going into the match with confidence, was forced to retire during his second set due to injury, while sophomore Cameron Silverman earned Elon's solitary point in the top singles match.

This loss to Wake Forest was not all bad, according to Leonard.

"They'll tell us a lot about our team, whether we win or lose," Leonard said. "We want to learn about our team by playing other good teams."

The lessons continued in another defeat, this time at the hands of No. 70 Princeton University Feb. 12. The Phoenix lost 5-1, the lone point coming from freshman Stefan Fortmann's three-set victory over sophomore Augie Bloom.

Understanding the varying strengths and weaknesses of such a young team is

a priority for the Phoenix.

"Some have seen big improvement, in that sense it's really exciting to see where we'll go," Leonard said. "I think if some of our guys down low step up, we can really compete."

They will have the chance soon enough. The Phoenix take on Gardner-Webb at home on Saturday, followed by three more matches before beginning Southern Conference play March 3.

"We have a tough non-conference lineup, but it's getting us ready," Turner said. "We definitely think we can win another conference championship."

With conference play in the near future, the team is looking to keep a level head.

"We don't know if a team is good based on their rankings," Turner said. "We sometimes try and look to scouts, but we don't spend a lot of time looking at wins and losses."

According to Turner, focusing on the success of the competition does not truly help the team prepare for upcoming matches.

However they do it, the players are gearing up for upcoming matches. Win or lose, competing against successful schools challenges the team to determine its potential.

"If we're competing with those teams, we're really three-quarters of a measuring stick of knowing where we are, where we stand," Leonard said.

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President, Better Together: An Interfaith Movement



PEOPLE WHO HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR LIVES AND IN THE WORLD

Women's basketball fighting for tournament position

Adam Lawson
Assistant Sports Editor

After a brutal week on the hardwood, the Elon Phoenix must win on the road this week in order to gain ground in the Southern Conference standings.

Elon plays Georgia Southern Feb. 18 and the College of Charleston Feb. 20., in rematches of Phoenix wins earlier this year. But the team is trying to find confidence after two tough defeats to Davidson College and Appalachian State University.

The two losses concluded series sweeps of the Phoenix (12-13, 8-8 Southern Conference). First, sloppy passes led to 21 Elon turnovers in a 78-51 thumping against Davidson.

Elon held January's SoCon Player of the Month Sophia Aleksandravicius scoreless in the first half, but the 6-foot-4 forward exploded for 13 points in the second half, keying a 21-0 Wildcats run that put the game away.

"Games like this happen every now and then," head coach Charlotte Smith said. "We'll just learn from it and move on."

The Davidson loss left junior Kelsey Evans frustrated, unsure of how it all transpired.

"They were hitting shots," Evans said. "We weren't defending. We weren't rebounding. The whole game we were kind of flat."

The script remained quite the same two nights later against the Mountaineers. Appalachian State beat Elon 84-68 as the Phoenix allowed the Mountaineers to shoot 50 percent from the field, shooting just 40.6 percent themselves.

The Phoenix sits tied in fifth place in the conference with Furman University. While Elon maintains a comfortable three-and-a-half game lead over seventh place Western Carolina, the Phoenix can still realistically climb into fourth with good results over the final four regular season games.

"We have a lot of work to do before we go to Asheville (for the Southern



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO

Sophomore guard Kelsey Harris is averaging 6.5 points per game, fourth for the Phoenix. Elon is tied for fifth in the Southern Conference standings.

Conference Tournament)," junior guard Ali Ford said. "I think these last (four) games are really important to get to where we want to be."

The last time Elon played Georgia Southern, a game-winning layup with 3.6 seconds left by senior Aiesha Harper kick-started the Phoenix on a four-game

winning streak. Elon will be looking for a similar result — perhaps minus the dramatics on Saturday in Statesboro, Ga.

Elon used a strong second half to propel itself to victory in its Jan. 15 game against Charleston. The Phoenix trailed by nine points early in the second half but was able to rally and take the lead

in the final minutes thanks to key shots from Ford and freshman Sam Coffey.

Gone is the streak that saw the Phoenix win six games in a period of eight games. Elon is back on its heels, trying to recapture the magic that it found the last time it faced Georgia Southern.

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Baseball Season Preview



AL DRAGO | Staff Photographer

Phoenix junior pitcher Nate Young is in his first season with Elon after transferring from Lincoln Trail College, a junior college in Illinois. Elon's baseball season begins Friday against Akron University.

Transfer looking forward to first season with Elon

Kyle Maher
Senior Reporter

Transferring schools is never an easy decision. Elon junior pitcher Nate Young knows this first-hand.

He started his pitching career at his high school in Kalamazoo, Mich., spent a year at a small junior college in Robinson, Illinois. Now, he is a starting pitcher for a Division I school.

Young started his career at Lincoln Trail College, a school with "about 2,000 kids in the middle of nowhere." After one year at Lincoln Trail, Young received an invitation to visit Elon, an offer that would change his life, he said.

"When I came here for my

visit, I was just captured by the campus — it's just an unbelievable campus," he said. "To be honest with you, I'd never even heard of Elon before."

Elon assistant head coach Greg Starbuck called Young and asked him to give Elon a chance.

"Then I did some research and I saw they were pretty good at baseball, with their ranking and their tournament status," Young said. "That really attracted me as well and Coach Kennedy also with his reputation and with being such a great coach."

Young recognizes how much harder he's had to work as a member of the Elon baseball team, especially in two specific areas.

"Probably the schooling. The schooling is a lot harder and workouts have definitely been a lot harder," he said. "Especially with Coach Mack, he's a great strength and conditioning coach. The workouts have been a lot more intense."

Young credits his successful adjustment to Elon from junior college to a good friend he met the first time he visited the campus.

"It'd probably be Niko Fraser," he said. "I met him on my recruiting visit (and) stayed with him. It'd definitely be him, through him just bringing me in (and) getting me involved in Campus Outreach."

Campus Outreach is a Christian ministry on

campus in which both Fraser and Young are involved.

"When I came here for my visit, I was just captured by the campus — it's just an unbelievable campus. To be honest with you, I'd never even heard of Elon before."

- Nate Young
JUNIOR PITCHER

According to Young, the team members have high expectations for themselves,

which means they have set their season goals high.

Young's goal: "Definitely to win the conference," he said. "I mean, that's got to be everyone's goal on the team, and just to play well. I know we're looking forward to the season, but it'd definitely be to win the SoCon."

Young is looking forward to the beginning of the season, especially Elon's series against the defending national champions and a powerhouse from the Atlantic Coast Conference.

"Definitely South Carolina. South Carolina and Clemson are the two I'm definitely looking forward to," he said.

Certainly teams he would not be playing if he was in Robinson, Ill.

Phoenix looks to last season for 2012 motivation

Andrew Wilson
Reporter

Senior infielder Garrett Koster said his team fell just short of an opportunity to play postseason baseball on a national stage.

"Turns out we were one win away from getting into the tournament," he said. "So one more mid-week win and we were in."

The 2011 version of Elon baseball experienced some of the highest of highs, but not without its lowest of lows. The Phoenix did win its third regular season championship in four years, sending its seniors out with a 14-0 shutout of Furman University in their final game at their home ballpark Latham Field.

But just five days after locking up the regular season title, the Phoenix dropped its opening game of the Southern Conference tournament to Western Carolina in a 20-inning, six-hour and 33-minute heartbreaker, 10-7.

The following day, Elon departed early from the tournament thanks to a 4-3 loss at the hands of College of Charleston.

Though a bid to the NCAA Tournament seemed imminent, it never came. Elon's season was over, missing the tournament for the first time since the 2007 campaign.

"I think it's really disrespectful that we didn't get a bid," junior outfielder Niko Fraser said. "Coming off the

year, I've got a little bit of a chip on my shoulder. It's just a realization of how important every single game is. You can't take games off."

Though the season ended earlier than expected, it was not by any means a lost cause.

After all, the Phoenix did compile an overall record of 36-21. In conference, Elon was even more impressive, posting a 23-7 record, which included season sweeps of in-state rivals Appalachian State, Western Carolina and Davidson.

"Our goals aren't to win the conference tournament, never have been," said Phoenix head coach Mike

"We have a system in place, a belief that hard work and a will to win will get you a long way, and so far, that's been successful for us."

-Mike Kennedy
PHOENIX HEAD COACH

Kennedy. "We want to be the best team in our league throughout the year. Early March through May, we were the best team in our league, and I think our record showed that."

Though the season ended on less than desirable circumstances, losing a game that broke numerous Southern Conference records and missing the NCAA Tournament, the result hasn't

forced the hand of Coach Kennedy to change preparations for the coming season.

"We prepare the same way year in and year out," Kennedy said. "The only thing that causes us to change is our personnel. Never do we try to adjust from just one game or one outing. We have a system in place, a belief that hard work and a will to win will get you a long way, and so far, that's been successful for us."

Physical preparation might not have changed, but the same cannot be said for mental preparation. Especially for the upperclassmen, whose experience is shining through on this predominantly young team.

"Every day, thinking this could be my last day out here and just thinking about how it's all coming to an end, it's very motivating," Koster said.

Fraser agreed and said that his past experiences have influenced his season this year.

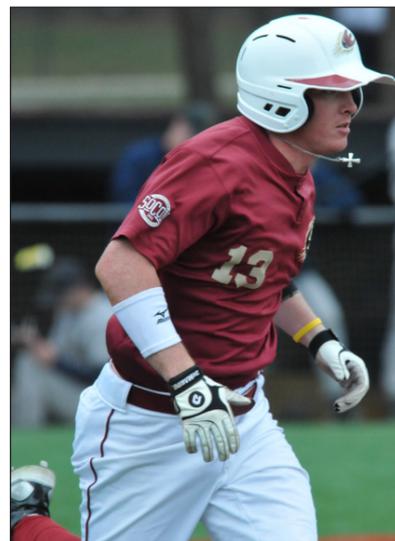
"I'm more relaxed," Fraser said. "I'm a lot more excited. I think the past two years, there's been a self-pressure that I've put on myself to perform, and that's not how you should play baseball."

As one of the team's three co-captains, Fraser takes special care of the freshmen, with whom he shares a simple, special connection — once being in their shoes.

"Seeing a lot of the freshmen doing what I used to do, I try to help them," he said. "They'll be bright-eyed and

bushy-tailed the first day or two, but once they realize they're still throwing around a baseball, still running 90 feet and hitting with a baseball bat, they'll get right back into it."

With hopes of defending their reign over the Southern Conference, Elon baseball looks to improve on last year's end with another conference title and hopefully a deep postseason run in search of a different kind of championship: a national championship.



FILE PHOTO

Senior outfielder Jake Luce hit .277 last year.

Baseball Season Preview

Elon freshmen face stiff transition to college ball

Jordan Scahill
Reporter

Division I baseball means high competition, fast speed and elite talent.

Transitioning from the high school level to Division I standards is an adjustment that all Elon varsity athletes must make in their first year of college.

Thirteen new players will join the Phoenix baseball team this season, filling the shoes of recent graduates.

A combination of work ethic and ability along with experience that will come in the next few months will morph these young players into college athletes.

"They've got to grow up fast," head coach Mike Kennedy said. "They're going to be in for a rude awakening in terms of the energy level that it takes to play at this level."

Energy is only one factor that freshmen players must embrace at the college level. They must also adapt to changes that come with differing practice methods, managing time off of the field and dealing with being a full-time student athlete.

"You can definitely tell there's a transition from the speed of the game from high school to college," said junior outfielder Niko Fraser. "Sometimes it takes a little bit longer to adjust."

Elon has been practicing for weeks in preparation for the upcoming season, working the freshmen onto the field. The new players come from seven different states along the east coast.

Competing for starting positions on the team, the new players have to work hard to make a strong impression early in their college athletic career.

"Quinn Bower and Casey

Jones have really impressed me as far as just being a chameleon to the speed of the game," Fraser said. "It's really good to have them out there, it's always fun to have their energy pushing everyone."

Kennedy depends on the upperclassmen to integrate these new players into the system and teach them what it means to be a Phoenix.

"I know that when I was a freshman, the thing that helped me was having older mentors," Fraser said. "They really do need a guide and, I'm not saying I know all the answers, but I've been here in the system for three years."

There are currently ten juniors, nine sophomores and two seniors on the team.

"In terms of ability, we've got several freshmen who are going to be really good college players, it's just a matter of how fast they grow up," Kennedy said.

The new players will have their first chance to shine this Friday, Feb. 17 at Latham Park against Akron University in the Phoenix's 2012 season opener.

2012 Freshmen

John Antonelli - Pitcher - Fla.
Alec Bankhead - Infielder - N.C.
Blaine Bower - Outfielder - Pa.
Quinn Bower - Outfielder, - Pa.
Nick Bruno - Outfielder - N.J.
Michael Elefnate - Catcher - N.C.
Elliot Fowler - Shortstop - N.C.
Eric Hailer - Third baseman - Mass.
Casey Jones - Infielder - Va.
Darren Lauer - Pitcher - Pa.
Tyler McVicar - Third/first baseman - Mass.
Sam Paone - Outfielder - Fla.
Joey Tomko - Shortstop/ outfielder - Ohio



AL DRAGO | Staff Photographer

Freshman catcher Michael Elefnate is one of thirteen freshmen donning the maroon and gold for the Phoenix in 2012.

Southern Conference lining up to be tough again for defending regular season champion Phoenix

Zachary Horner
Sports Editor

Baseball teams in the Southern Conference are no slouches. So says Elon junior outfielder Niko Fraser.

"We won the conference by one game last year," Fraser said. "Sometimes you walk into a conference game ignorantly thinking that because one team may be seventh or eighth in the conference that week things are going to be easy and they take two out of three from you. There's no weak link, per se."

We spoke to Fraser and Elon baseball head coach Mike Kennedy about their conference opponents this year.

Appalachian State University Mountaineers — 33-27 overall, 15-15 Southern Conference in 2011.

Fraser: "I think that they're a team that is going to put up a fight no matter what, regardless of what they have."

Kennedy: "Probably the best team. Starting pitching should be very good. Up the middle they should be solid."

College of Charleston Cougars — 39-22, 18-12 SoCon.

Fraser: "Bring your offense that weekend. They're a good offensive club. I mean, they have pitchers, but overall, they bring hitters."

Kennedy: "Starting pitching is going to be very good. They have arguably the Player of the Year candidate. (Cougars sophomore outfielder Daniel) Aldrich is probably one of the best hitters in

our league."

The Citadel Bulldogs — 20-36, 8-22 SoCon.

Fraser: "They're going to do the little things right. They're going to kind of chomp on the bit, they're not gonna give away a game carelessly, they're going to keep on playing."

Kennedy: "I think they've got a little bit of a younger club, but they're not going to beat themselves."

Davidson College Wildcats — 18-30, 8-21 SoCon.

Fraser: "They'll sneak up on you and really give you a fight."

Kennedy: "They've got some veteran hitters in their lineup. They've always been ready to play, they'll be offensive. If they can pitch, they'll be a solid club."

Furman University Paladins — 24-33, 13-16 SoCon.

Kennedy: "People always say they're not that talented, but they find a way to win games, especially against us. They're always fired up and ready to play us. I think they'll be like they always are, and give you fits."

Georgia Southern University Eagles — 36-26, 18-12 SoCon.

Fraser: "They're the guys that you can't wait to play because they're so hyped up, their fans are crazy, they travel well. That's just like a big series that you highlight."

University of North Carolina at Greensboro Spartans — 34-20, 22-8 SoCon.

Kennedy: "Last year they came out of nowhere and pushed us right to the wire for the regular season championship. They've got some guys back on that team, they lost an arm or two off that club. It'll be interesting to see how that club pans out."

Samford University Bulldogs — 37-23, 18-12 SoCon.

Fraser: "They're definitely top-tier of the conference."

Kennedy: "Pitching-heavy. Probably overall, when you add starting pitching and the bullpen, probably the best pitching staff in our conference."

Western Carolina University Catamounts — 23-31-1, 12-18 SoCon.

Fraser: "We have a bit of bad blood with Western Carolina. I think there was a bench-clearing argument my freshman year, and there was another one last year, so that's another one that you're really excited to play for. The competitor in you wants to go out and play."

Wofford College Terriers — 22-33, 9-21 SoCon.

Fraser: "They're a team that you may not initially highlight but you would regret if you didn't. You have to show up the same way that you do for all the other weekends."

ELON BASEBALL SPRING SCHEDULE

Feb. 17	Akron
Feb. 18	George Mason, Akron
Feb. 19	George Mason
Feb. 21	North Carolina A&T
Feb. 24, 25, 26	South Carolina
Feb. 29	High Point
March 2, 3, 4	College of Charleston
March 7	North Carolina
March 9, 10, 11	Georgia Southern
March 13	North Carolina State
March 14	North Carolina A&T
March 16, 17, 18	Davidson
March 20	Clemson
March 21	Clemson (Greenville)
March 23, 24, 25	Appalachian State
March 27	UNC Wilmington
March 30, 31, April 1	Samford
April 4	North Carolina
April 6, 7	Furman
April 10	East Carolina
April 11	North Carolina State
April 13, 14, 15	Towson
April 18	High Point
April 20, 21, 22	Wofford
April 25	UNC Wilmington
April 27, 28, 29	UNCG
May 1, 2	Wake Forest
May 5, 6, 7	Western Carolina
May 8	East Carolina
May 16, 17, 18	The Citadel
May 23-27	SoCon Tournament, TBA

Sports

Hitting high notes on and off the court

Rebecca Wickel
Features Editor

On the court, a certain rhythm is responsible for the Elon men's basketball team snagging second place in the Southern Conference's North Division.

But outside the gym, some of the guys still rely on pattern, practice and a different kind of move. Among them are sophomore guard Jack Isenbarger and junior guard Josh Bonney.

"I guess you would call it hip-hop," Bonney said about his music. "I grew up listening to Michael Jackson and The Temptations, so that's really where my musical foundation started, but I've always been heavy into hip-hop, rap and R&B."

In addition to his contributions to the Phoenix, the Houston native has given successful performances

off the court. Last fall, he performed four shows and boasts six gigs that followed last year's season.

"The coaches work with me, and I appreciate that," he said. "Last spring I had to move around a few workouts because I had shows at different campuses, but they support my music just like my teammates."

According to Bonney, he has a great foundation of fans.

"I've had some pretty good shows," Bonney said. "The first one I ever did here at Elon was at Fat Frogg last March. Almost everyone from the team was there — the coaches even came. It was well promoted and it was just a good night."

Among those often in attendance is sophomore guard Jack Isenbarger, who also has an ear for music.

"I don't have a background in music, but I took piano lessons for

about a week when I was younger and then I quit," Isenbarger said.

Isenbarger said he has time during the offseason to play the piano for fun, watching YouTube videos to teach himself.

"I guess I work on it during the summer," he said. "I'm not good enough to get really into it, but it's something to have fun with so I'll probably continue to do it."

His recent accolades on the court, such as being selected as the SoCon Player of the Week for Jan. 31 - Feb. 6, is impressive, but so is his ability to teach himself popular songs, such as Adele's "Someone Like You," by ear.

"If I hear a song, whether it be on the radio or on my iPod, that I like, I go on YouTube and look it up and learn how to play it," he said. "Just picking up songs like that, and listening to good artists is what I like to do."

For Bonney, honing his talent is a more pressing commitment. Along with pursuing a degree in communication science and music technology, he has worked with Limelight Records, a record company run by Elon students, for nearly a year

and released his debut mix-tape "This and That" last spring.

"Whatever you do in your spare time, if there's a TV show that you watch every night, or play video games, I make my music," he said. "I do that as my hobby. I don't watch TV or do other stuff, I substitute that time for Limelight."

Music finds its way into all aspects of Bonney's life, including basketball.

"We're in the locker room a lot, and usually that's our time to share our new music or who's cool," Bonney said. "There's always someone updating their iPod or iPhone, playing some new stuff, so that's the most common way music brings us together."

The connection between basketball, music and determination seems tangible to the duo.

"Having some rhythm and incorporating that into my game is something that translates across both ends of the spectrum," Isenbarger said.

Hip-hop similarly comes onto the court for the rapper.

"Sometimes I literally rap during the games," Bonney said. "I'll be zoned in, I'm fully aware of what's going on on the court, but whatever I was listening to that day, I might be saying it over and over."

Bonney expects to continue working more on making music following the end of the basketball season.

"I'm kind of just working on stuff leisurely now," he said. "But I definitely plan to have some sort of compilation coming out before the end of this year, so you all should look out for that."



FILE PHOTO BY MOLLY CAREY
Junior guard Josh Bonney is one of several artists signed to the student-run Limelight Records.



FILE PHOTO BY MOLLY CAREY
Off the court, Elon sophomore guard Jack Isenbarger is a self-taught pianist.

MORE ONLINE

Listen to Isenbarger play the piano and hear more from the basketball stars

<http://bit.ly/musicball>

JEFF STERN | Online Managing Editor

Two-game losing streak not dimming Matheny's positive outlook

Zachary Horner
Sports Editor

Even though his team has lost two games in a row after an exciting three-game home winning streak, Elon men's basketball head coach Matt Matheny remains upbeat.

"I am encouraged," Matheny said. "We've got a chance to do something special this year because we're starting to play a little better each night and that's what we want to do."

The Phoenix did not play all that terrible in its consecutive losses to the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Feb. 9 and Samford University Feb. 11.

With their first-place standing in the Southern Conference's North Division now lost to UNC Greensboro after the two defeats, the Phoenix will take on Wofford College tonight in Spartanburg and Western Carolina University in Alumni Gym Feb. 18.

In their game against Samford, an 87-78 loss in Birmingham, four Phoenix scored in double-figures, including a career-high 19 points from junior forward Brett Ervin. The team as a whole shot 49.1 percent from the field, including a stifling 17-of-26 in the second half, and 51.9 percent from three-point range.

"Samford played pretty well in the first half, punched us in the face, pummeled us a little bit," Matheny said. "Then, in the second half, we fought and fought and fought, but we dug ourselves a hole."

Against Chattanooga, Elon had five players in double-figure scoring, led by sophomore guard Sebastian Koch's

20 points, in their 83-75 loss. The shooting numbers were significantly less impressive, 43.3 percent from the field and 33.3 percent from behind the three-point arc. The Phoenix led for the majority of the game but was hampered by a six minute stretch in the second half with only one field goal.

"Even though we had leads, we played a team like Chattanooga playing with an edge," Matheny said. "(Chattanooga) won the game. What our players need to understand is that whether you've won a few in a row or lost a few in a row, you always have to play with an edge."

"The only thing we can control is ourselves."

-Matt Matheny
MEN'S BASKETBALL HEAD COACH

This will be the first game this season for the Phoenix against Wofford, who currently sit in third place in the SoCon's South Division, four games behind conference powerhouse Davidson College. The Terriers are the two-time defending Southern Conference champions. And while most of the players on those teams are gone, Wofford will be a tough matchup, Matheny said.

"They've got pieces from those championship teams and they're playing like they're the defending champs," he said. "They're competing for 40 minutes. They have an understanding about playing with an edge. They're tough. So we have to match that."

The Phoenix defeated Western Carolina

71-63 Jan. 26 in Cullowhee, N.C., on the back of 26 points from sophomore guard Jack Isenbarger and 13 points from freshman guard Austin Hamilton.

"It's a great game," Matheny said of the Western Carolina contest. "It's a home game, it's a conference game, it's a division game. It's a team that we were successful against earlier in the year. And we want to play well."

Hamilton, third on the team with 10.8 points per game, remains out with mononucleosis. Matheny said he is improving, but it would be a long shot to see him in the game against Wofford.

After this week, there will be only two games remaining in the schedule before the SoCon Tournament in Asheville March 2-5, tough games against South Division leader Davidson Feb. 23 and division rival UNCG Feb. 25 in a potential North Division championship game.

As has been team policy all season, Matheny refuses to look too far ahead.

"The only thing we can control is ourselves," he said. "We can't control what



FILE PHOTO BY AL DRAGO
Sophomore forward Lucas Troutman and the Phoenix sit second in the Southern Conference's North Division at 8-6 in conference.

other teams do and who they're playing and where they rank. If we win, we have a chance to move up in the standings. If we don't win, it's going to hurt us. And we'd like to control our own destiny."