

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2020
VOLUME 45, EDITION 16
ELON, NORTH CAROLINA

THE PENDULUM

—BEST OF—

2020

★ **ACADEMICS** ★

★ **FOOD & DRINK** ★

★ **CAMPUS** ★

★ **OFF-CAMPUS** ★

★ **RECREATION** ★

★ **STAFF PICKS** ★

THE PENDULUM

A PUBLICATION OF
**ELON NEWS
NETWORK**

Established 1974
Volume 45, Edition 16

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

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EDITORIAL POLICY:

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

CORRECTIONS POLICY:

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

Contact
corrections@elonnewsnetwork.com
to report a correction or a concern.

WHEN WE PUBLISH:

The Pendulum
publishes weekly on Wednesdays
Elon Local News
broadcasts Mondays at 6 p.m.
ELN Morning
broadcasts Thursdays at 10 a.m.
ELN Online Exclusive
broadcasts Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m.
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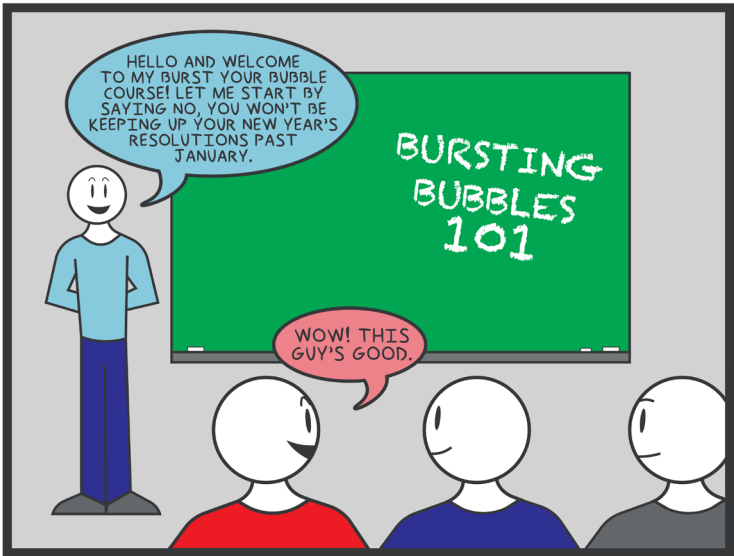
CORRECTIONS

LIFESTYLE

In the article about the show “The Wolves,” it was misidentified as a musical. In the same article, director Kim Shively had her name misspelled. Elon News Network regrets these errors.

COMIC

BUBBLE TROUBLE



COMIC SAMS – SAM POROZOK

DO YOU REMEMBER? — A LOOK BACK AT 2010

GAMES

How to Play: Guess the missing word in the five clues, then find them in the word search below. Words can be found backwards, diagonal, etc.

- _____ was voted as the best minor on campus. *See Page 5 for answer.*
- Having many of the oldest buildings on campus, _____ was voted as best neighborhood. *See Page 7 for answer.*
- Serving pizza, _____ was voted as the best place for a first date in Elon. *See Page 10 for answer.*
- _____ was voted the best bar located near campus. *See Page 13 for answer.*
- The Club _____ team was voted the best club sport on campus. *See Page 19 for answer.*

X M O D J J V B A S E B A L L A E Q T
M P B J K S C F Z U F I E U R L C V N
E A V W I D B K E J Y S I J E Z P R W
S U R Z W A M T H S M Q N D J R Z I S
D L J T A K S J D K H S M M E D V L D
H I P H O T O G R A P H Y V T S W H M
O E W Z V X F S Y N L A Z G J T S D T
Y S I O O B T R E F D W N O S P F Y Y
Y C H I S T O R I C W A C D M Q W X D
V D Z A T H G Q X K N I L L O A H B X
S Y W J M Z O C L M M Y I T F R F V M
U E C R A K Y R I J Z F Q J X Z A K N
O I Q J R X H W W N L U G D I R D S X

Top 10 Billboard Hits

1. TiK ToK- Ke\$ha
2. Need You Now - Lady Antebellum
3. Hey, Soul Sister - Train
4. California Gurls - Katy Perry
5. OMG - Usher
6. Airplanes - B.o.B
7. Love The Way You Lie - Eminem
8. Bad Romance - Lady Gaga
9. Dynamite - Taio Cruz
10. Break Your Heart - Taio Cruz

Movies with the Highest Gross Domestic Box Office

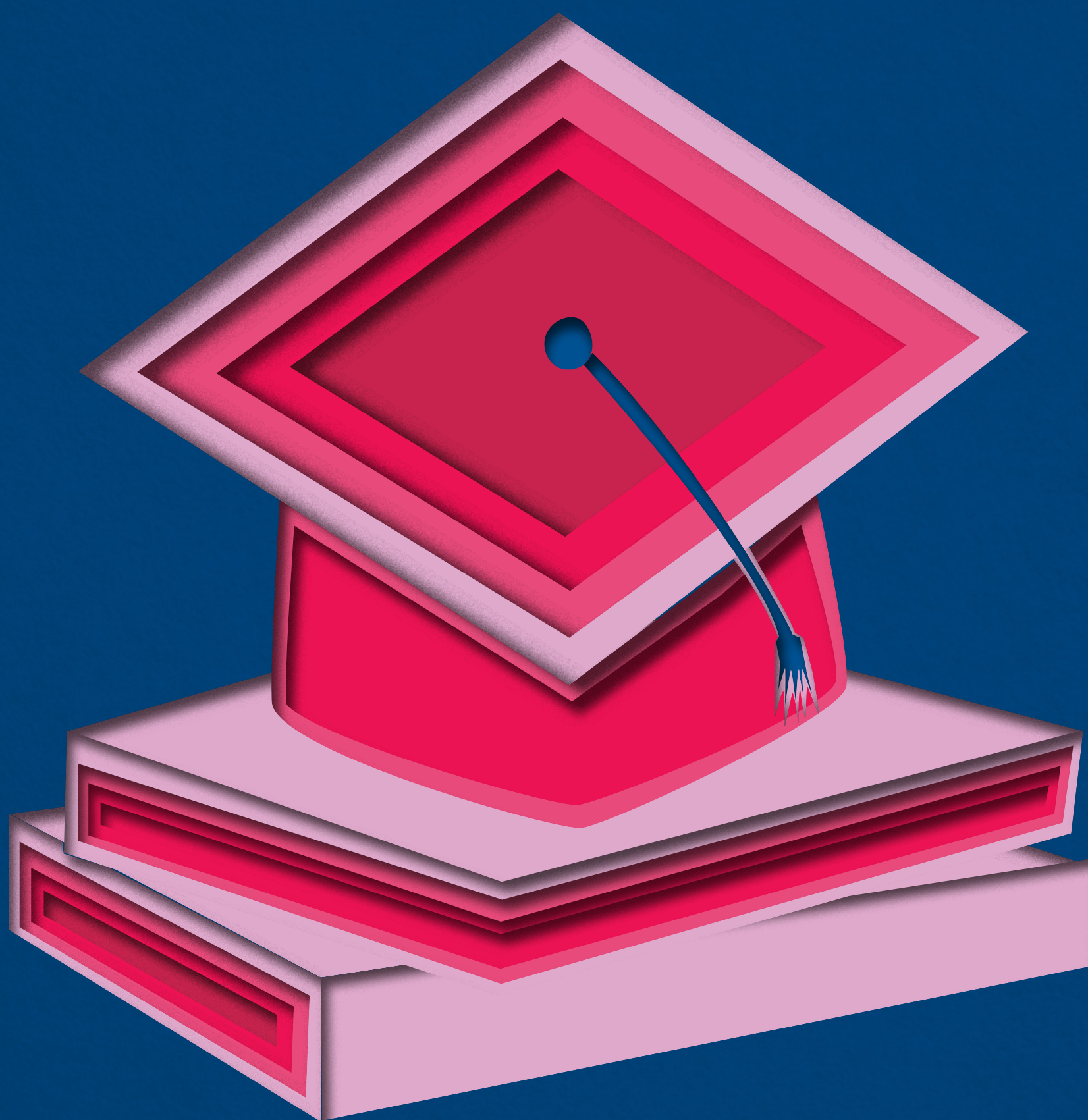
1. Toy Story 3 - \$415M
2. Alice In Wonderland - \$334M
3. Iron Man 2 - \$312M
4. The Twilight Saga: Eclipse - \$300M
5. Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows: Part 1 - \$295M
6. Inception - \$292M
7. Despicable Me - \$251M
8. Shrek Forever After - \$238M
9. How to Train Your Dragon - \$217M
10. Tangled - \$200M

Highest Paid Athletes

1. Tiger Woods - \$105M
2. Floyd Mayweather - \$65M
3. Kobe Bryant - \$48M
4. Phil Mickelson - \$46M
5. David Beckham - \$43.7M
6. Roger Federer - \$43M
7. LeBron James - \$42.8M
8. Manny Pacquiao - \$42M
9. Eli Manning - \$39.9M
10. Terrell Suggs - \$38.3M

Source: Billboard, IMDb and Forbes

—BEST OF—



ACADEMICS



BEST STUDY ABROAD

Quinn Corrigan
Elon News Network | @quinn_corrigan

FOUR MONTHS OF SIESTAS, paella and nightlife are what might come to mind when thinking about a semester abroad in Barcelona.

The Spanish metropolis has a lot to offer for Elon students, from business internships and service to a variety of cultural experiences.

Senior Tessa Gebhardt spent the fall semester of her junior year in Barcelona and said that it is a city like no other.

“It is such a lively city where there is always something going on and something new to experience,” Gebhardt said.

Students studying abroad in Barcelona take most of their classes alongside other American students through the Council on International Educational Exchange. They are also required to take at least one class at either Escola Superior de Comerç Internacional or Universitat de Vic, where they are in the classroom with students from all over the world.

Elon offers four programs in Barcelona: Business and Culture, Business and Economics, Language and Culture and Language and Arts.

Students participating in the Business and Culture or Economics and Culture programs have the opportunity to complete an Elon Learning Requirement through an internship.

Gebhardt participated in the Business and Culture program and was able to secure an internship at the corporate finance company TeamOn.

“It’s so different how they do business there, so that was interesting to be able to get an insight on how business is run there,” Gebhardt said.

The big-city feel is what GEC representative Shanna Van Beek said she believes attracts many Elon students to pick Barcelona for their semester abroad.

“Barcelona is like no city in the United States, so it really allows students to have a completely new experience culturally” Beek said.

BARCELONA, SPAIN



PHOTO COURTESY OF TESSA GEBHARDT

RUNNERS-UP

Second Place: Berlin, Germany

Third Place: Australia

ANOTHER FUN FACT

Applications to study abroad through Elon University in Fall 2020 close at 11:59 p.m. on Feb. 14.

Members of the Barcelona study abroad trip sit atop a perch overlooking Barcelona, Spain.

BEST STUDY USA

Lauren Singles
Elon News Network | @lauren_singles

ELON IN LA, ONE of Elon’s Study USA experiences, allows students to explore the city of Los Angeles while continuing to earn credits for their major. Although the program is currently geared toward communications and performing arts majors, Director of Elon in LA Jason McMerty is looking to expand the program.

“We are working with the dean of Elon College of Arts and Sciences to get some of their programs involved,” McMerty said. “We are also working with the business school to offer some classes and tracks for their programs.”

The LA program, which began in 2008 with 20 students, now has around 75 participants each year. According to McMerty, 50% of students who go through the program start their careers in LA, and 43% of graduates remain in the area after five years.

Elon senior Nicole Romeo went on the trip last spring, where she focused on the entertainment industry while completing a management internship. As a cinema and television arts major, she said she feels as though the LA experience is essential for anyone interested in the industry.

“Pursuing a career in entertainment, there’s a good chance that you might end up in LA, so I thought it would be a good way to test out the waters to see if I ever would wind up moving there,” Romeo said.

The added advantage of having an internship built in also attracted her to the program. Every communications major must complete an internship before graduating, and Romeo found her internship search less stressful because of Elon in LA.

“I think it’s really nice to have your internship built into an academic program,” Romeo said. “Being able to say that you had an internship and you had professional experience in LA was awesome.”

The Elon in LA fall program applications are currently open and will close on March 12.

LOS ANGELES



PHOTO COURTESY OF J. MCMERTY

Members of the Elon in Los Angeles program pose for a photo with a picturesque backdrop in the spring of 2019.

RUNNERS-UP

Second Place: New York

Third Place: Sun Dance Film Festival Program

ANOTHER FUN FACT

Applications for Study USA programs through Elon University in Fall 2020 close at 11:59 p.m. on March 12.

BEST MAJOR

Lauren Singles
Elon News Network | @lauren_singles

POLITICAL SCIENCE FOCUSES ON analyzing and researching politics, with many people focusing on domestic, international or policy affairs. A major that spreads across multiple interests and offers various career fields, political science gives students opportunities in government and politics.

Sophomore Kara Chalifoux said she has stuck with her major after developing an interest in political science while working on a campaign in Virginia in 2016. She said campaign strategy and the ability to work with citizens are two of the things she loves about the field.

“Advocating for constituents is also something I admire because you are entrusted to give a voice to your district and represent their needs on a national stage,” Chalifoux said.

Chalifoux said political science is a major that offers students a lot of diversity. She values the analytical and research skills that build the foundations of the major and finds that it can be applied to everything from legislative work to communications.

“The most traditional application would be to become a political scientist who analyzes trends in the government, voting and even representation,” Chalifoux said.

She said the community of people in the major make it a unique, tight-knit field and that these strong relationships help her and others to build connections and maximize their education.

“We get the opportunity to establish real relationships with everyone, including the professors, and that’s what elevates the program,” Chalifoux said. “The skills we are learning are what help to create public servants and influence policy, which affects everyone.”

Originally intending to be a psychology major, sophomore Callista DeGraw instead chose political science after taking an American government class her freshman year. She said she credits her mom, who ran for office in 2018, for her interest in politics.

DeGraw said she’s attracted to the freedom of Elon’s political science major, something that she feels students in other disciplines may not experience.

“I think this gives students the opportunity to really make the most of their studies,” DeGraw said.

★ ★ ★

POLITICAL SCIENCE



The Ella Darden and Elmon Lee Gray Pavilion houses the Political Science department.

CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNERS-UP

- Second Place: Journalism
- Third Place: English

ANOTHER FUN FACT

According to the 2019-2020 Elon Fact Book, there are currently 247 Political Science majors.

BEST MINOR

Corinne Rose
Elon News Network | @corinnerose0217

ELON STUDENTS HAVE GIVEN the title of Best Minor in the school to photography.

Photography as a minor was created at Elon just three years ago. The program has since seen a 30% increase in student participation every year.

With a balance of courses in both art fundamentals and studio practice, the minor emphasizes hands-on experience and skill craft. Small class sizes and equipped workspaces additionally provide students with an outlet to indulge in their creativity.

“A photography minor student takes a total of five courses, including three photography courses and then two other art classes,” said junior Aleeza Zinn, a photography minor.

Most projects completed by photography minor students are categorized as fine art photography.

“They are more conceptual than just taking a picture. There is a meaning behind the picture, which is one of my favorite parts of the projects,” Zinn said. “You continuously revise your work until you have a solid concept and a way to portray this idea through the camera.”

One of the most appealing features of photography, Zinn said, is working with classmates who each have their own distinct styles.

“In my classes, I have seen extremely talented photographers’ works, and part of what made them so great was their interesting perspectives, compositions and lighting,” Zinn said.

The hope for the photography department in the future is to attract more students to the minor.

“Photography can cross over into so many majors and effectively support careers both in and out of art,” said Michael Fels, Professor of Art and Chair of the Department of Art. “I believe it will only continue to grow.”

PHOTOGRAPHY



The Arts West building houses the photography department.

CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNERS-UP

- Second Place: Political Science
- Third Place: Multimedia Authoring

ANOTHER FUN FACT

Photography is one of 41 areas of study that are offered strictly as minors at Elon University.

-BEST OF-



CAMPUS

BEST NEIGHBORHOOD

Corinne Rose
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

A POLL OF THE ELON community says Historic Neighborhood is the best neighborhood on Elon's campus. Historic beat out Global, Colonnades, Danieleley, East and Oaks neighborhoods for the title.

Historic is comprised of six residential buildings and the most recent addition for students, LaRose Commons, complete with a kitchen and lounge space.

"Historic is the only neighborhood that is comprised of a variety of housing styles, such as community style, suite style and three single-gender halls," said Simone Thompson, Community Director for the Historic Neighborhood. "It makes it very easy to build relationships with members of your residence and neighborhood community."

Many changes have recently occurred in Historic Neighborhood, ranging from updated dining options to renovated dorms.

"When I arrived at Elon in 2017, Historic did not have a student commons, dining hall and only two residence halls out of six that have been renovated," Thompson said. "Within two years, McEwen Dining Hall was renovated and includes residential dining stations on the first floor of McEwen as well as Knead."

As for future renovations, Smith Hall will be renovated this summer, followed by Carolina Hall and Hook, Brannock and Barney halls in 2021 and 2022.

Freshmen often find living in Historic to be an engaging experience with plenty to do outside of class. Freshman Ali Roberts, a resident of Carolina Hall, said she enjoys her experiences with the neighborhood.

"I love living in Historic in the aspect that there is always something going on," Roberts said. "It's always a very homey feeling here, and I never find myself being bored or wondering what to do next."

★ ★ ★

HISTORIC



CLARE GRANT | PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNERS-UP

Second Place: Global
Third Place: Danieleley

ANOTHER FUN FACT

Historic is home to the only three single-sex dorm buildings on campus: Smith Hall, Carolina Hall and West Hall.

A drone shot taken above Historic Neighborhood.

BEST LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITY

Raf Pico
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

THE COMMUNICATIONS LIVING LEARNING Community at Elon University is a place where people interested in the many fields of communications can come together to establish personal and professional relationships with each other.

The community of 23 students actively seeks out roles in various fields of the media communications industry. Residents have obtained positions in media organizations on campus, such as Elon News Network and the yearbook committee, among others.

This LLC, located on the first floor of Historic Neighborhood's Sloan Hall, is open to all undergraduate students, from freshmen to seniors, but is mainly geared toward freshmen with an interest in communications.

Mackenzie Wilkes, reporter and politics director for Elon News Network and resident assistant for the LLC, actively works with community advisors Jessalynn Strauss and Michele Lashley to improve the life of community residents. Some of the activities organized for the LLC include professional events, such as a tour of the Elon News Network newsroom and dinner with Dean of the School of Communications Rochelle Ford, as well as recreational events involving group bonding.

"There is this community of people who have a common interest and are close to each other," Wilkes said. "It's literally about a community and a cohort that lives together. The LLC brings together students who are passionate about communications and have common interests that can work and live well together."

According to current resident Sarah Rusthoven, the Communications LLC is a great opportunity for incoming freshmen because it is "good to be surrounded by people in the same field." Rusthoven said she is glad she joined the LLC, as it assured her that she chose the right major.

COMMUNICATIONS



CLARE GRANT | PHOTOGRAPHER

The entrance and hallway of the Communications Living Learning Community, located on the first floor of Sloan Hall.

RUNNERS-UP

Second Place: International
Third Place: Polyglot

ANOTHER FUN FACT

Sloan Hall was picked to host the Communications LLC because of its proximity to the School of Communications.

BEST STUDY SPOT

Miranda Ferrante
Elon News Network | @ferrantemiranda

GLOBAL COMMONS, LOCATED IN the heart of the Global Neighborhood, was voted “Best Campus Study Space.” The recognition comes with little surprise, with the number of study areas which provide all students with the opportunity to find an enjoyable place to do homework or study.

Commonly referred to as GloCo, students utilize the space to separate themselves from distractions, while having the choice to work alongside background noise or in a completely silent space.

Dr. Jenifer Eidum, the Faculty Director of the Global Neighborhood, described Global Commons as a hub for active learning and a place all students can use. She said the space was “intentionally built for the residential campus idea.”

The first floor is comprised of the Great Hall and the area which surrounds Argo Tea, GloCo’s globally oriented tea shop. Dr. Eidum said, “The Great Hall was envisioned to be an active learning space and has turned into a really quiet study space. Whereas the area around Argo is more of the talking side of the building.”

The Core Curriculum office is housed on the second floor, which establishes connections to the central ideas of the core in addition to general global education.

“Core classes are often taught on the second floor, and when not in session, the classrooms offer spaces for both group work or quiet studying,” said Dr. Eidum.

The third floor houses the Global Education Center. This floor places emphasis on global engagement and “brings in globally oriented students, including those living in the international and world language LLC’s,” Dr. Eidum said.

The structure of Global Commons creates a relaxing vibe, where many students are focused on work and leave feeling productive. This is a regular feeling for freshman Lucy Allen, a resident of the Global Neighborhood.

Allen said Global Commons is undoubtedly a favored spot during the weekdays and even during finals. Allen leans on the centrally located space to accomplish what she needs to at any hour of her busy days.

“The lighting and aesthetic creates a home-like feeling. Global Commons is the perfect place at any time. It is so convenient, and I always feel motivated and focused on my work,” Allen said.

GLOBAL COMMONS



IAN MYERS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNERS-UP

Second Place: Belk Library

Third Place: Lindner Reading Room

ANOTHER FUN FACT

The Great Hall in Global Commons has played host to many speakers, including Chief Operating Officer of Apple Jeff Williams in February 2019.

The outside of Global Commons, voted the best study spot, on Jan. 19.

BEST YOGA SPOT

Sarah Daly
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

NUMEN LUMEN HAS BEEN voted this year’s favorite yoga spot. Located in the Academic Pavilion, Numen Lumen hosts many weekly events for students. It was built in 2013 to offer a new multi-faith center for the community.

All of the event programs are hosted by the Truitt Center group. These events are normally spiritual or religious in nature. The Numen Lumen Pavilion holds the Sacred Space, which is open to all religions.

Every Monday at 7:30 p.m., Yoga Club meets in the Sacred Space with students and instructors. One of those instructors is Maggie Davis, a junior and the president of Yoga Club.

“It’s a really welcoming place. It’s large enough where we have had up to 115 people sometimes for meetings,” Davis said. “It’s calming and beautiful space.”

Yoga Club has been at Elon for the past seven years and has held meetings in Numen Lumen for five years. Before meeting in Numen Lumen, the group gathered in a room in Global. Davis spoke on her favorite moment in Numen Lumen this past semester.

“This semester, we had a guest instructor come to teach,” Davis said. “She taught us a really fun class where we all got into a giant circle. There were 95 of us. We all connected arms and did a tree pose together. It was a really cool moment where strangers were brought together in this room.”

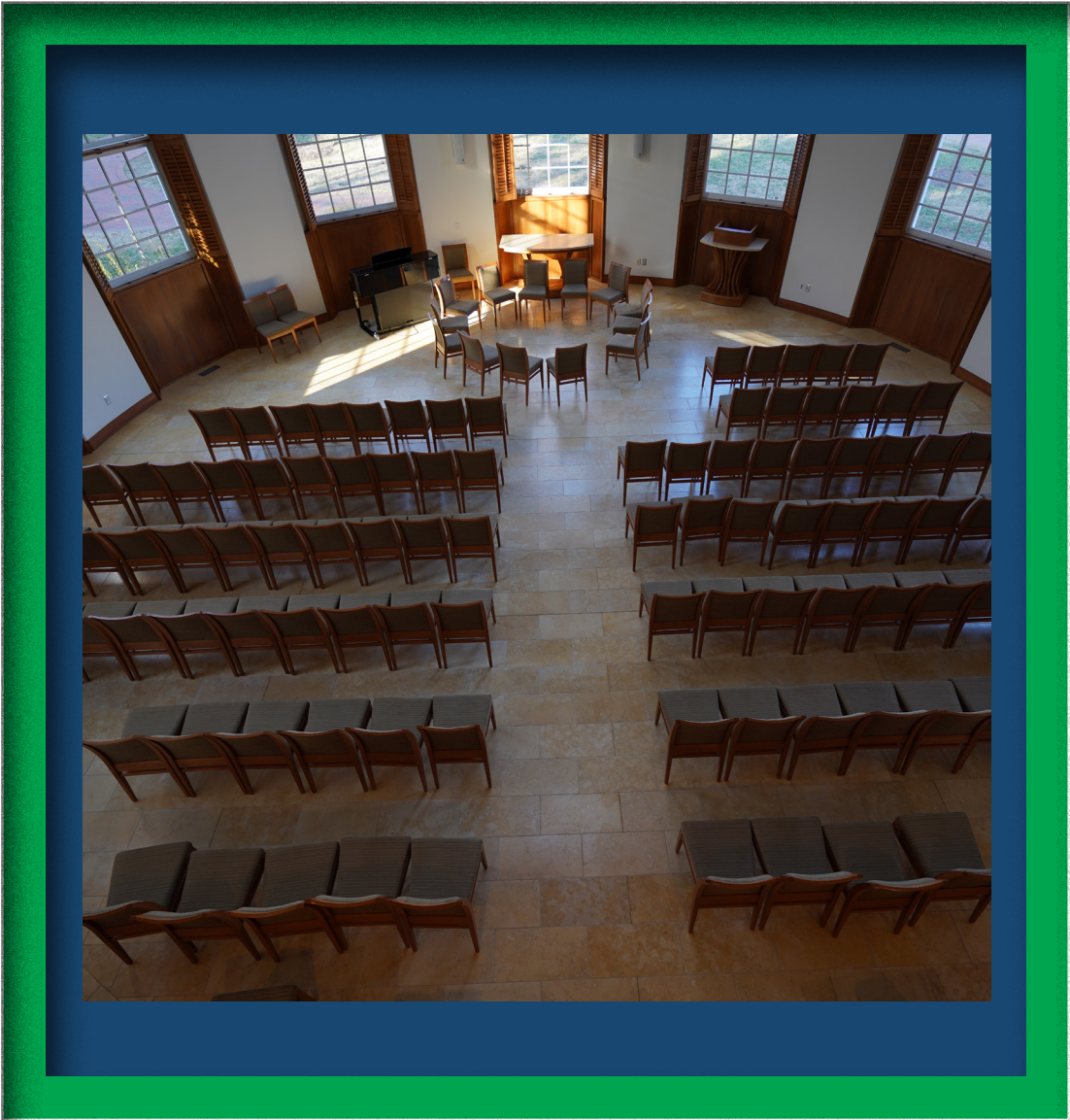
There are no prerequisites required to become a member of Yoga Club. Freshman Sarah Hicks was proficient at yoga before joining the club.

“I really enjoy how they have different instructors each week. It changes things up and gives me a chance to try new things,” Hicks said. “It also helps me start the week off with good intentions.”

Although Hicks was already experienced in yoga before joining the club, all group members welcome new beginners.

“I really like all the student instructors. They are so nice and encouraging,” Hicks said. “They make it a really great environment with no judgment. I also like having the meetings in Numen Lumen because when we do corpse pose and lay down. I get to look at the ceiling which is so pretty.”

NUMEN LUMEN



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Numen Lumen Sacred Space was voted best yoga spot. Elon’s Yoga Club meets every Monday at this location.

RUNNERS-UP

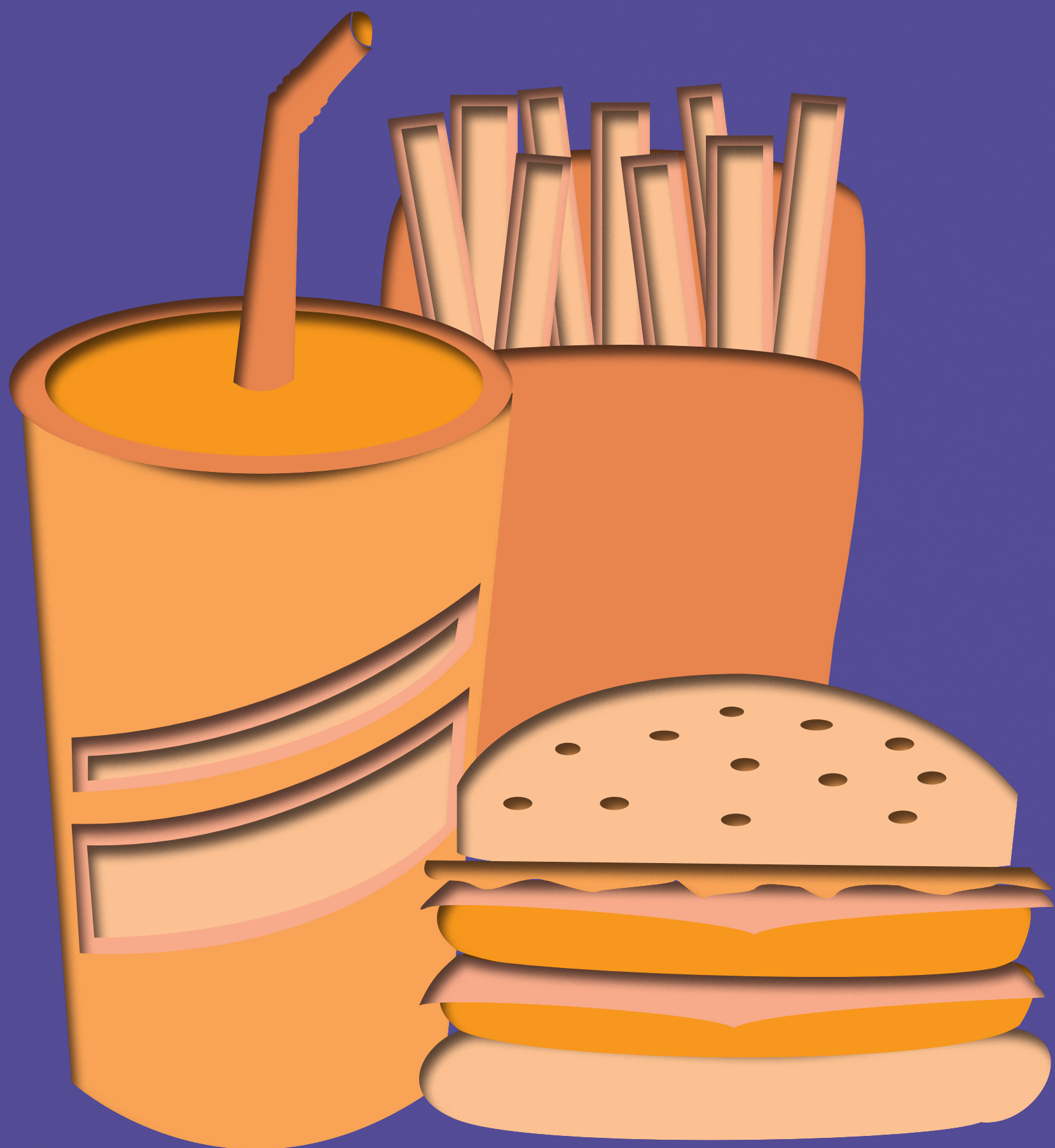
Second Place: Lake Mary Nell

Third Place: Young Commons

ANOTHER FUN FACT

Numen Lumen will be hosting a personal story speaking series throughout the 2019-20 academic year.

—BEST OF—



FOOD & DRINK

BEST FIRST DATE SPOT

Emilia Muniz

Elon News Network | @EmiliaCMuniz

SOPHOMORE HANNAH SIMPSON REMEMBERS the first time she went on a date with her boyfriend at Pandora’s Pies.

“The first time we went to Pandora’s, we were able to sit outside and loved it,” Simpson said. “We would recommend it to other couples because it’s a fun and casual place that won’t break the bank.”

The independently-owned-and-operated restaurant is a staple next to campus. Better known as “Pandora’s” or “Dora’s” by visitors, the restaurant is best known for its casual collegiate atmosphere and affordable menu options. With tables adorned with U.S. maps, built-in stools and the overall modern feel of the store, Pandora’s has proven to be the perfect location for the college date experience.

“Pandora’s is great because they have so many options of pizzas,” Simpson said.

Front of house manager Kimberly Holt agreed.

“There’s a little bit of everything,” Holt said. “There’s stuff you can get cheap ... it’s got a lot of good options.”

Holt has seen couples come in to eat all the time and can always tell when it’s the first date.

“It’s funny when you can tell it’s a first date... it’s cute,” Holt said, “It’s a good spot for that or to come in with a bunch of your friends.”

But perhaps the most favorable aspect of Pandora’s is its proximity to Smitty’s Home-made Ice Cream.

“It’s a great spot for dates because after dinner, you can finish the night off with some Smitty’s Ice Cream,” Simpson said.

Pandora’s celebrates its eight-year anniversary this week.

PANDORA’S PIES



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNERS-UP

Second Place: The Mission

Third Place: Tangent

IF YOU GO

Where:
130 N Williamson Ave
Elon, NC 27244

Hours:
Mon. - Thurs. — 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. — 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Sun. — 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Customers having lunch at Pandora's Pies on Thursday Jan. 16.

BEST FINE DINING

Jack Haley

Executive Director | @jackhaley17

SITTING ON THE CORNER of Huffman Mill Road and South Church Street, diners will find the Italian word for “you are welcome” looming in large red letters. Prego’s has been serving up New York-style Italian food to the area for nearly 15 years now, constantly leaving customers saying “thank you.”

Don’t let the exterior of the restaurant fool you. The building shows remnants of what came before it, with a dilapidated and forgotten drive-thru lane sitting in the back of the parking lot. However, owner Albert Hernandez thinks that shows exactly how special the restaurant is.

“Italian restaurants from here compared to New York are completely different,” Hernandez said. “So that’s what we did. We wanted to bring a fine-dining experience to Burlington with some New York City flavor.”

Past the outside seating of Prego’s sits a well-furnished room decorated with white tablecloths and a bar. The cozy space provides a sense of comfort for many students. With nearly a fifth of Elon hailing from either New Jersey or New York, where Italian food is prevalent, Prego’s offers students a reminder of food from home.

Aside from making sauce to order and giving some Elon students a familiar experience, Hernandez said it’s the family atmosphere that keeps people coming back.

“We come to get to know the community,” Hernandez said. “We treat the customers like family instead of customers, that’s the big thing that sets us apart.”

The Trattoria suffered a loss when Albert’s father, Vincent, died in a car crash in 2019, leaving it up to him to manage the restaurant. Vincent came from New York City after working in several different restaurants in the Big Apple to manage his own place. Albert has done everything from bartending to managing in order to keep his father’s vision alive.

“He worked so hard to make a name for himself and he did,” Albert said of his father. “I want to keep it going for him so he lives on.”

PREGO’S TRATTORIA



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNERS-UP

Second Place: Grill 584

Third Place: The Root

IF YOU GO

Where:
2740 S Church St
Burlington, NC 27244

Dinner Hours:

Mon. - Sat. — 4:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Sun. — Closed

A shot taken from the outside of Prego's Trattoria, showcasing the restaurant's outdoor seating options.

BEST BREAKFAST

Leila Jackson
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

EVEN THOUGH THE RENOVATED McEwen Dining Hall has only been open for about a year, it has quickly become Elon students’ favorite spot for breakfast. Right by Historic Neighborhood and a short walk from Global Neighborhood, McEwen has an assortment of different breakfast options for students.

Sophomore Claire Grider said she comes to McEwen for breakfast because it has the most options and is convenient because it’s close to her classes, located in the School of Communications.

During fall semester, Grider said she sat down between her morning classes to eat at McEwen, but during Winter Term, she headed for the fruit bar with her to-go box.

“The fruit is really nice. That’s mainly what I get, but then also if I have more time, they always have eggs and sausage and bacon, typical breakfast food,” Grider said.

Students can choose to get a lighter breakfast of fruit, yogurt or cereal, or they can pick from the many pastries such as muffins or croissants. The traditional choice of biscuits, bacon and sausage is also offered. Otherwise, students can head to the “made-to-order” station to get an omelet with toppings of their choice.

Grider said she enjoys that McEwen has a continental breakfast after their regular breakfast hours.

“When they had continental time, barely anyone was there, and you could sit there, do homework and snack,” she said.

Even though she lives on the other side of campus in Danieleley Neighborhood, Grider decides to make the trek each morning to McEwen.

“It’s quite a walk, but it’s honestly worth it,” Grider said.

She also appreciates that the food McEwen serves for breakfast and what is listed on the Elon Dining website matches up.

“McEwen’s been typically more dependable with what they’re going to have. If I look at Elon Dining, they’re going to have it for sure,” Grider said.

McEWEN DINING HALL



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNERS-UP

Second Place: Grill Worx

Third Place: Skid’s

ANOTHER FUN FACT

McEwen Dining Hall reopened back up in the fall of 2018 after being closed for renovations for over a year.

Students eating breakfast in McEwen Dining Hall on Jan. 20.

BEST VEGAN

Leila Jackson
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

VILLAGE JUICE CO., LOCATED above McEwen Dining Hall, is Elon’s favorite food option for vegan students or those who want a healthier breakfast or lunch. Students on a Block meal plan can use a swipe at Village Juice. With its wide array of options, they can choose from several smoothies, grain bowls, salads and more.

Sophomore Emily Wilbourne frequently orders from Village Juice since she can use a swipe with her 300-block meal plan. She said she also enjoys that she doesn’t have to buy her own ingredients from the grocery store to make smoothies.

“I don’t have to buy fresh ingredients to make them. I can just go and use a swipe to get a smoothie in the morning,” Wilbourne said.

If she has time to sit down and eat, Wilbourne said her typical order is a smoothie bowl. If she’s on the go, Wilbourne orders the Mocha-Nana smoothie and the Sunset bowl, a smoothie bowl consisting of coconut milk, pineapple, banana, mango, lime, coconut and goji berries.

Wilbourne said she often has a better start to her day when choosing healthy options at Village Juice as opposed to eating fast food, which can make her feel unsatisfied.

“I feel like I’m starting my day healthier by having a smoothie instead, and it keeps me full,” she said.

VILLAGE JUICE CO.



The front counter of Village Juice Co., located upstairs in McEwen Dining Hall.

RUNNERS-UP

Second Place: Mediterranean Deli

Third Place: Freshii

ANOTHER FUN FACT

Village Juice Co. has three other locations in the state — two in Winston-Salem and one in Charlotte.

CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BEST DESSERT

Cate McCahill
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

SMITTY'S ICE CREAM HAS become stiff competition for local dessert shops to beat. The shop's variety of flavors, inexpensive prices and convenient location make Smitty's a popular spot for sweet treats among Elon students right next to campus.

Smitty's has been in downtown Elon since 2012, sharing a storefront with popular pizza parlor Pandora's Pies.

Haley Rupp, Elon junior and assistant manager at Smitty's, has been working at the shop since the spring of 2018. She believes that the shared-shop setup is partially a contributor to Smitty's success with students.

"I think it helps just being in the same location because the natural flow of people eating pizza and then being like, 'Oh, well what about dessert?," Rupp said. "Especially for students, it's just easy to pick up pizza and then get ice cream on the way out."

Smitty's has a set list of regular flavors that are the most popular among customers — Oreo, Chocolate, Cake Batter, Amaretto Cherry Chip and others. There are also seasonal flavors, such as Pumpkin Pie in the fall or Winter Mint during the holidays.

Rupp said the staff at Smitty's tries to excite a variety of taste buds when creating new flavors.

"My boss definitely tries to make flavors that interest everyone," Rupp said. "Chicken and Waffles [ice cream] is weird, but people want to try it."

Smitty's opened its first location in 2002 in downtown Burlington. Today, all of Smitty's flavors are made locally at their creamery in Graham. With three locations — Burlington, Graham and downtown Elon — it has continued to expand throughout Alamance County since its beginnings.

Smitty's also serves much of the local Elon and Burlington community. Rupp said that many locals come and eat on weekends at Pandora's Pies and enjoy Smitty's ice cream after.

"Not only is the ice cream really good and it's homemade, I feel like all the employees just want to serve people," Rupp said. "It's a friendly place. We love the students, and it's just good ice cream."

SMITTY'S ICE CREAM



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNERS-UP

- Second Place:** McEwen Dining Hall
- Third Place:** Lakeside Dining Hall

IF YOU GO

Where: 130 N Williamson Ave, Elon N.C.

Hours: Mon. – Thurs. — 12 p.m. – 10 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. — 12 p.m. – 11 p.m.
Sun. — 12 p.m. – 9 p.m.

The menu board hanging above the counter at Smitty's, which shares a space with Pandora's Pies.

BEST COFFEE

Carrie Underwood
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

NORTH WILLIAMSON AVENUE IS home to many local Elon businesses, including The Oak House. The winner of "Best Coffee" has been a part of Elon's community since Sept. 2014, providing the community with a reliable study space, exquisite coffee and a place to unwind with friends. A coffee shop by day and a bar with live music by night, The Oak House is a special place to many Elon students and community members.

Freshman Sharon Rowland, whose favorite drink is iced black coffee with no cream or sugar, appreciates the coffee for its unique flavor. Rowland said she spends plenty of time at the coffee shop studying and hanging out with friends and faculty.

"I like the atmosphere because it's relaxed, and I get a lot of work done there," Rowland said. "Oak House is one of the best spots on campus to chill."

When owner Phil Smith opened up The Oak House with business partner and alumnus Ryan Vet '13, he said he was excited about the business but anxious at the same time.

"I was confident that it was going to work, and I was very nervous that it might not," Smith said. "I knew the concept, I believed in the concept, but it was not tested here or really not tested much of anywhere."

After their Durham location opened last June, Smith had an incredible interaction with Elon University alumni that excited him.

"The coolest thing, when I was at the Durham spot a couple weeks ago, and I look out the window and there are these two 20-somethings taking pictures of the Oak House sign on the front, and I peek out and they're alums," Smith said. "They had just graduated last year. They were in Durham over the holidays, and it was a big deal to them to come to their place but in a different town."

Smith said he is passionate about making sure his customers have a positive experience during their time in college, and he loves how his brand brings others together.

THE OAK HOUSE



Students studying in The Oak House on Thursday, Jan. 16.

CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNERS-UP

- Second Place:** Irazu
- Third Place:** Salvation Coffee

ANOTHER FUN FACT

The Oak House recently opened a second location in Durham, North Carolina. It is located at 126 W Main St.

BEST LATE-NIGHT FOOD

Sarah Daly
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

OPEN UNTIL 3 A.M. on Friday nights and located on campus, Lakeside Dining Hall provides an easy late-night option for students on a meal plan.

Lakeside is by Global Neighborhood, making it the most accessible dining option for a large chunk of campus. Freshman Cecily Weinstein lives in Global Neighborhood and goes to Lakeside frequently.

“I go because its right next to my dorm. It’s so convenient,” Weinstein said. “My favorite dish they have ever prepared is the flounder. It sounds weird, but I love it.”

Weinstein also goes to Late Night at Lakeside.

“I like how Lakeside stays open later than the rest of the dining halls. It’s a great option for meals late at night, and I don’t have to pay extra,” she said.

Lakeside offers special food events throughout the year. Some this year have included Fall Festival, Halloween Feast, Magical Feast and a chef showcase. These events feature specialty foods made by the Elon Dining chefs. They often have live music and decorations to fit the theme.

Lakeside is also the host of Late Night Elon events that are run by the Student Union Board and Resident Student Association. They are hosted every Thursday, Friday and Saturday night from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. They offer events such as bingo, trivia, karaoke or adventure-based activities.

Freshman Megan Gillogly has been to several of the bingo events hosted by Late Night.

“I like how they are on campus, and they offer fun events on weekends, so I have something to keep my weekends busy,” Gillogly said.

LAKESIDE DINING HALL



IAN MYERS | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNERS-UP

- Second Place: Cook Out
- Third Place: Domino’s

ANOTHER FUN FACT

Lakeside Dining Hall often hosts Late Night at Elon, which includes events such as trivia and karaoke.

The entrance to Lakeside Dining Hall on Jan. 19.

BEST BAR

Hannah Massen
Event Coverage Coordinator | @massenhannah

PAUL JASKULSKI, OWNER OF Paulie’s Pub and Grill, said he opened the bar out of a love for both cooking and college students. This is Paulie’s second consecutive year as the “Best Bar” in Elon.

“Our slogan is ‘The only dive in Elon,’ because everyone else is so fancy,” Jaskulski said. “We’re just who we are.”

According to Jaskulski, students of all ages come to Paulie’s for the friendly service and fresh food. He said the bar has a 100.0 sanitation rating from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services because the staff takes care in everything they do.

“What the students really like is we have a very nice local community that comes in here,” Jaskulski said. “It’s multicultural. The kids love being involved with people who are working, going to school somewhere else, who are here to watch football or here to eat.”

Senior Grace Stewart, a regular at Paulie’s, is a fan of the mozzarella sticks and \$2 LIT (Long Island Iced Tea) Tuesdays.

“I like going to Paulie’s because my friends and I all have very different schedules during the day, and it’s a time when we all can hang out,” Stewart said. “I get to hang out with my close friends as well as get to know other people on campus.”

Jaskulski hopes to maintain Paulie’s reputation as “the hardest working bar in Elon.”

“Paulie’s will keep on doing what it does, and it’s what we do best,” Jaskulski said. “It’s family-oriented and out-to-please. We have a great value and great food for everyone who comes.”

PAULIE’S PUB AND GRILL



LUKE JOHNSON | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

An employee in costume pours a beer for a customer at Paulie’s on Halloween 2019.

RUNNERS-UP

- Second Place: MaGerK’s
- Third Place: The Fat Frogg

ANOTHER FUN FACT

This past Halloween, Paulie’s hosted a wedding reception for its owner Paul Jaskulski and his bride, manager Tammi Perry.

BEST OF



OFF-CAMPUS

BEST HIKING SPOT

Livi Lesch
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

AFTER FINDING BALANCE ON a rock half her size, freshman Camilla Manning exhaled before lunging to the next one. She repeated this movement several times throughout her hike to the peak of Pilot Mountain with her two friends. At the summit, they took in the long stretch of rolling hills and countryside that covers North Carolina.

Pilot Mountain is an hour-long drive from Elon, making it an accessible hiking destination for students. It has different trails available for varying skill levels.

“We went the easier route, but you could do a longer, harder one or an easier, shorter one,” Manning said. “Because of the natural beauty of it, it’s a generally flat area, and then suddenly you have this really tall peak.”

While the hike was breathtaking, Manning said she really enjoyed getting away from the craziness of Elon’s campus.

“Getting the chance to leave campus and go into nature to get away from the hecticness of college life with a couple of my closest friends was the best part about it,” Manning said.

Manning said another positive aspect of the trip was the affordability. The only money she and her friends spent was for lunch and gas.

“It’s in an area that is convenient to many locations. It is really accessible from Elon, also because of how it is a pretty inexpensive area to hike in and the availability to any hikers from any skill level,” Manning said.

Manning said she learned to challenge herself on the hike. Though it felt taxing, she said she now feels ready to tackle harder trails.

“Once a month, I try to do some sort of walking off campus because that definitely helps clear my head because it can be mentally a lot to always be at school,” Manning said.

Though she loves Pilot Mountain, Manning said you can’t go wrong with most hiking destination in North Carolina..

“North Carolina is perfect for any outdoors person, so there’s so many beautiful places that equally qualify,” Manning said.

PILOT MOUNTAIN



BENJAMIN MUSE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNERS-UP

- Second Place: Hanging Rock
- Third Place: Grandfather Mountain

ANOTHER FUN FACT

The summit of Pilot Mountain sits at 2,421 feet. The park offers a dozen different trails for people to explore on foot, horseback and by canoe.

Pilot Mountain has many great hiking trails only about an hour away. Pilot Mountain won “Best Hiking Spot.”

BEST DAY TRIP

Livi Lesch
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

WITH THE SUN SETTING, casting yellow and orange tints across the Appalachian Mountains that protect Asheville, North Carolina, freshman Connor Witsoe stood with his friend at the peak of the Craggy Pinnacle trail, about 20 miles from the city.

“It was amazing. You could see for miles over all the range of mountains that surround Asheville, and then you could see toward Asheville when it starts to flatten out,” Witsoe said.

The two decided to go to Asheville on a whim in late October. The drive is about three hours, making it the perfect day trip. Witsoe described the drive down the mountainous Blue Ridge Parkway as a pleasant and scenic part of the experience.

As a member of Elon Outdoors, Witsoe visited Asheville once before, but after a second trip, he said he better understands the character of the city. Witsoe said Asheville’s down-to-earth temperament makes a day trip much more enjoyable and manageable. He especially enjoyed the local shops.

“For most of the day, we were just walking around, which was really cool because there is just so many different spots in Asheville that you can go to,” Witsoe said. “I can’t think of a time I was actually bored there.”

The only thing that Witsoe said he wished he also did was visit the Biltmore Estate, which is a historic mansion on the outskirts of the city. However, if a tourist wants to learn the area on a surface level, one day is sufficient, Witsoe said.

“I kind of wish we could have stayed a little longer, maybe would have explored the area around Asheville, too,” Witsoe said. “You can spend an entire day in the city. But if you want to explore more around Asheville, which there’s a lot around that area, you would probably want two or three days.”

While he wished he could have spent more time in the mountain city, Witsoe said he knows he will find himself back in Asheville during his time at Elon.

ASHEVILLE



BENJAMIN MUSE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Asheville Art Museum is a great destination in Asheville, which got voted “Best Day Trip” in both 2019 and 2020.

RUNNERS-UP

- Second Place: Wilmington
- Third Place: Raleigh

ANOTHER FUN FACT

Asheville is approximately a three-hour drive from Elon University.

BEST SHOPPING CENTER

Hannah Massen
Event Coverage Coordinator | @massenhannah

LOCATED 25 MINUTES BY car from Elon, the Tanger Outlets in Mebane are a destination for students looking to buy a new outfit or grab a bite to eat.

Now in its 10th year of business, Jeff Johnson, manager of the outlets, said the safe, friendly environment sets it apart from other shopping centers.

“They laugh at me because I say ‘mall’ is a four-letter word, because it has a connotation to it,” Johnson said. “You drop your kids off at the mall and then pick them up later, so it’s more of a hang-out. People who come out here leave with more bags in their hands than the typical shopper that goes to the mall.”

The center features a variety of popular brands, including Tori Burch, Kate Spade and Nike.

Johnson said Vineyard Vines opened in response to the influx of students from the Northeast attending Elon.

“One of the things I made sure of is on our billboards, where we can put about three brands, we always put Vineyard Vines,” Johnson said. “They said that increased their business dramatically.”

Sophomore Kaitlyn Hoffman has been working at Tommy Hilfiger in the Tanger Outlets since last year.

“[Tanger] offers various stores for everyone’s taste, and we offer student discounts for those who go to Elon and other colleges, so it’s a good way to save money,” Hoffman said.

Johnson hopes to continue improving every aspect of the customer experience, online and off. He recommends downloading the Tanger app, and joining the TangerClub to receive \$25 cashback on every birthday.

“To me, it’s about trying to up the experience for every shopper,” Johnson said, “because if we do that, then the rest will take care of itself.”

TANGER OULETS



BENJAMIN MUSE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNERS-UP

- Second Place: The Streets at Southpoint in Durham
- Third Place: Friendly Center in Greensboro

ANOTHER FUN FACT

The Tanger Outlets boasts over 70 different shops and is approximately a 25-minute drive from Elon University’s campus.

Tanger Outlets is a shopping mall in Mebane with year-round deals.

BEST GROCERY STORE

Madalyn Howard
Elon News Network | @madalynhoward_

FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE year, Burlington’s Harris Teeter has earned the title “Best Grocery Store.”

Located just two miles from campus, this Southern chain continues to serve as a one-stop shop for Elon students.

“Elon kids do make up a large percentage of our shoppers,” said a Harris Teeter representative, who, due to company regulations, asked not to be identified. “We see a lot of them, especially now with everyone coming back from break.”

He cited Harris Teeter’s deli, bakery, sushi bar and supply of fresh produce as major draws for students. The store also provides variety beyond that of a typical small grocery store, including an international food section and health-conscious products for organic and gluten-free shoppers.

In addition to food, Harris Teeter hosts a pharmacy, fuel center and home products section. Soon, it may offer even more, as the Church Street location is currently undergoing a renovation to expand into the adjacent storefront.

Although Harris Teeter prices are slightly higher than other stores such as Walmart and Food Lion, it offers special savings through its Very Important Customer incentive. VIC cards are available to all shoppers, and select locations even offer additional discounts for university students. Elon students who register for a VIC card during the school year receive a 5% discount for the rest of the year.

Freshman Ella Williams said she loves Harris Teeter not only for its wide variety of goods but also for the savings. While she said Harris Teeter offers produce and products that are hard to find on Elon’s main campus, she agrees that as a college student, cutting costs is incredibly important.

“I have a VIC card,” she said. “I use it every time I go. It’s great because you get coupons and save money from the discounts.”

HARRIS TEETER



BENJAMIN MUSE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Harris Teeter, a grocery store in Burlington, which won “Best Grocery Store”.

RUNNERS-UP

- Second Place: Walmart
- Third Place: Lowe’s

ANOTHER FUN FACT

The grocery chain is named after its founders, William Thomas Harris and Willis L. Teeter.

BEST OF



RECREATION

BEST WOMEN'S VARSITY

Colby Cook
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

ELON WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TURNED in a monster season. The program continues to improve as the Phoenix look to reign over the Colonial Athletic Association for years to come. The predominantly young team has impactful upperclassmen to set the tone. Senior right side/middle blocker Nori Thomas and senior middle blocker Elizabeth Coil were the fire to the Phoenix program this season under veteran head coach Mary Tendler. Elon made the most of a tough schedule this season, finishing the year with a 14-18 record and clinching the victory in some high-profile games, none bigger than the victory over ACC foe Wake Forest. The Phoenix beat Wake in Schar Center on Sept. 15. Coil said she thought the performance against the Demon Deacons showed how well the team could play. "We went into the game with a winning mentality and saw it through to the end," Coil said. "Winning that match really showed us how much potential we had as a team." The volleyball team completed a 7-9 campaign in the CAA with notable victories against Hofstra and Northeastern in the opening weekend of CAA play. "We beat two teams that we usually struggle against and started off CAA play 2-0," Thomas said. The team's spectacular performance this season can be attributed to an excellent team chemistry. The bond the girls have with each other shows on and off the court. "My teammates have become my family," Coil said. "I grew up with two brothers, and this program has allowed me to have more sisters than I ever thought I needed. I have met some of my closest friends through this program and couldn't be more grateful for their impact on my life." "I just enjoyed watching them compete every single day in practice and against all the teams that we played," Tendler said. After completing a very impressive season, the great culture is evident for Elon both on and off the court. Things are looking up for the Phoenix volleyball program as they approach next season, looking to soar to new heights.

VOLLEYBALL



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SECOND PLACE



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Guard Saadia Munford makes her way down the court.

THIRD PLACE



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Makenzie Depriest-Kessler fakes out a Liberty player.

Outside hitter Kellyn Trowse spikes the ball against opposing team University of North Carolina Wilmington in Schar Center on Friday, Nov. 1, 2019.

BASKETBALL

SOCCER/CROSS COUNTRY

BEST MEN'S VARSITY

Caitlin Rundle
Elon News Network | @caitlinr_21

THE ELON MEN'S BASKETBALL team has had its fair share of ups and downs over the past year, ending last season with an 11-21 record and currently holding a losing record this season. First-year head coach Mike Schrage came in ready to take on the challenges this year poses. Schrage has talked about how he wants to create not just good players but good people. Schrage and the Phoenix have been creating a foundation for a successful program all season. With the majority of the team being underclassmen, Schrage has relied on young players. Freshman guard Hunter McIntosh has stepped up for Elon. Averaging 10 points per game, he's become the second-best shooter on the team. The No. 1 spot is filled by the most experienced player on the team, graduate student guard Marcus Sheffield II. The transfer student from Stanford averages 16 points and five rebounds per game. But the returning players don't go unnoticed either. Junior forward Simon Wright went from not starting last year to regularly starting and averaging seven points a game. Wright has rotated in and out of the center spot during games. In an interview on Nov. 18, Schrage said that he's most focused on building the program with his new staff while also building his standards and family. Even now, that motto is still one he sticks to. He said he is appreciative of the support from the student body because it helps the team come out and perform. "I'm sure the community has gotten to know our student athletes, not just on the court but off the court," Schrage said. "I couldn't be more impressed with them." The team recently got its first CAA win against University of North Carolina Wilmington, a large first step in Schrage's goal of being competitive in the conference. "I knew it was gonna be tough," Schrage said. "But, I'm proud of our guys and proud to fight with them, not just on game days, but every single day being together."

BASKETBALL



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elon University freshman and guard Hunter McIntosh shoots a three-pointer against High Point University during the Phoenix's last game of the semester in Millis Center at High Point on Thursday Dec. 5.

SECOND PLACE



THOMAS DENOME | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elon midfielder Marco Vesterholm contests a loose ball at Rudd Field on Sept. 7.

SOCCER

THIRD PLACE



ZACHARY OHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elon defensive back Tre'von Jones looks toward the sidelines at Rhodes Stadium on Sept. 28.

FOOTBALL/TENNIS

BEST CLUB

BreShawn Holley
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

BEHIND THE FRANCIS CENTER is the meeting spot for one of the most tight-knit organizations at Elon — Club Baseball.

The team plays in the same division as University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina State, East Carolina University, UNC Wilmington and Appalachian State. Club Baseball’s record over the fall semester was 5-1. One of those games was a major victory for the Phoenix, beating the University of North Carolina Greensboro 12-2.

The players on the club baseball team love the competition. Junior Jeremy Kagan, a middle infielder, said going to Boone, North Carolina to play Appalachian State will always be a special memory for him.

“We went to App State last year, and we swept them over the weekend. We won three solid games there,” Kagan said.

The team also actively participates in the community and gives back by helping charitable organizations, such as the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

“We do some great things with our team,” junior catcher Chris Gaeta said. “We set up those camaraderie events and get a big turnout most of the time, and it is always a good scene.”

Club baseball gives students who may not have been recruited to play baseball for college and who still have a love for the game the chance to play at a more competitive level or to have fun and make friends.

“I wasn’t ready to hang up the cleats after high school. But having that social and athletic outlet, we can play baseball and hang out with the guys on the team all the time. It’s the best of both worlds,” Gaeta said.

Club Baseball is all about making friendships on and off the field and helping the community. The team will face the University of Virginia on Feb. 10.

★ ★ ★

BASEBALL



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ELON UNIVERSITY CLUB BASEBALL

RUNNERS-UP

- Second Place: Frisbee
- Third Place: Soccer

ANOTHER FUN FACT

The team has traveled all over the East Coast, recently making a trip to College Park, Maryland to play the University of Maryland.

The club baseball team posing together for a group photo following the Dodge For a Cause charity dodgeball event.

BEST FITNESS CLASS

Zoe Rein
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

CAMPUS RECREATION PROVIDES MANY more opportunities to work out than just frequenting their gym facilities. The group exercise class offerings include a mix of different difficulty level classes such as High Intensity Interval Training, cycling and its most popular class, Zumba.

According to Campus Recreation, Zumba combines international dance and music for a cardio workout where participants rhythmically exercise using fun and manageable routines.

“Students respond so well to this class because it is not like the others, and they’re just encouraged to have fun and do their own thing,” student Zumba instructor Fran Bellizzi said.

Bellizzi started teaching Zumba after participating in the classes herself when she first started college. It helped her create a workout schedule that she enjoyed.

The class is so popular that it usually fills all 25 spots and maintains a waitlist in case someone does not show up.

“It gives students the opportunity to have a fun workout, where they only have to use their body weight,” Bellizzi said. “I mean, who doesn’t love dancing for an hour?”

For her part, Bellizzi shares her knowledge of the dance styles with the students, so they feel prepared for what they are going to do. “I choose to inform my participants on the dances we are doing and how much energy they require,” Bellizzi said.

Additionally, she tries to make the class more interactive by taking an active role. “Dancing with the instructor makes it more enjoyable for the participants, instead of just going through the motions of following the leader,” Bellizzi said. Still, she is not afraid to speak up and she wants to act as a “personal hype-man.”

Bellizzi wants the class to be an opportunity to have fun while working out, so she believes students should not worry about having Zumba experience or coordination.

“Students should know that they do not have to be coordinated or even be a good dancer in order to come to Zumba classes, because it’s all about having fun, getting your heart rate up and breaking a sweat,” Bellizzi said. However, if students still feel apprehensive, she said she wants them to know that she turns off the lights, “so nobody can really see you anyway.”

ZUMBA



A group of Elon students participating in a Zumba class in the Koury Athletic Center.

PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA WILLINGHAM

RUNNERS-UP

Zumba was the only fitness class to receive votes in this category.

ANOTHER FUN FACT

Zumba is a workout combining upbeat music and dancing using only a person’s body weight.

BEST STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Zoe Rein
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

DIRECTOR DOUGLAS HALL TURNED 1950s-based “Damn Yankees” into a story relevant in the modern day for the Elon University drama department’s annual fall musical. Despite the play’s age, Hall said he believes that its story is still worthwhile.

“There’s still a place for [more traditional musicals] if we approach them through a more contemporary lens and ask ourselves why are we telling this story,” Hall said.

Hall wanted to use the show to ask “where ethics and morals land in our decision-making process and how far will you go.” In order to achieve this, Hall re-imagined elements of the play to fit into modern day standards.

He divided the role of Mr. Applegate, who is actually the devil, into a male and female part in order to show how the devil changes appearances in different situations.

Additionally, the opening number “Six Months Out of Every Year” conventionally depicts the wife characters bemoaning the lack of attention from their husbands. Hall explored the gender roles present in the song by flipping the positions of one couple so that the wife ignored the husband in order to try and “ungender” the performance a little.

Music director Valerie Maze considers “Damn Yankees” being different from other shows a selling point for younger generations. “The show is not done all the time, so it was probably something different,” Maze said.

Senior actor Oliver Davids played Joe Boyd, and he observed the challenges of bringing the musical into this century.

“It’s important to not ignore where we’ve come from,” Davids said. According to Davids, the cast questioned some of the elements of the play, but Hall opened the conversation for the cast to discuss these controversial components.

Choreographer Deb Leamy believes that these conversations made the experience very collaborative and positive. “We invited a lot of back and forth and feedback,” she said. “I wanted them to feel like we were creating this together.”

Leamy considers the subject matter of the play alluring to the audience. “It’s joyful and fun. It’s much easier to have success with a subject that’s happy and joyful”.

Maze thinks that maintaining consistency for each performance made the play successful, and she said she feels the cast stepped up for all of their performances. “The more performances we did, the more comfortable they got,” Maze said.

DAMN YANKEES



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RUNNERS-UP

Second Place: Smooth Progressions

Third Place: Once On This Island

ANOTHER FUN FACT

“Damn Yankees” had two successful Broadway runs, opening first in 1955 at the Adelphi Theatre before being revived in 1994 at the Marquis Theatre.

Students of Elon University portray the Washington Senators in the production of “Damn Yankees” on Monday, Oct. 28 in McCrory Theatre.

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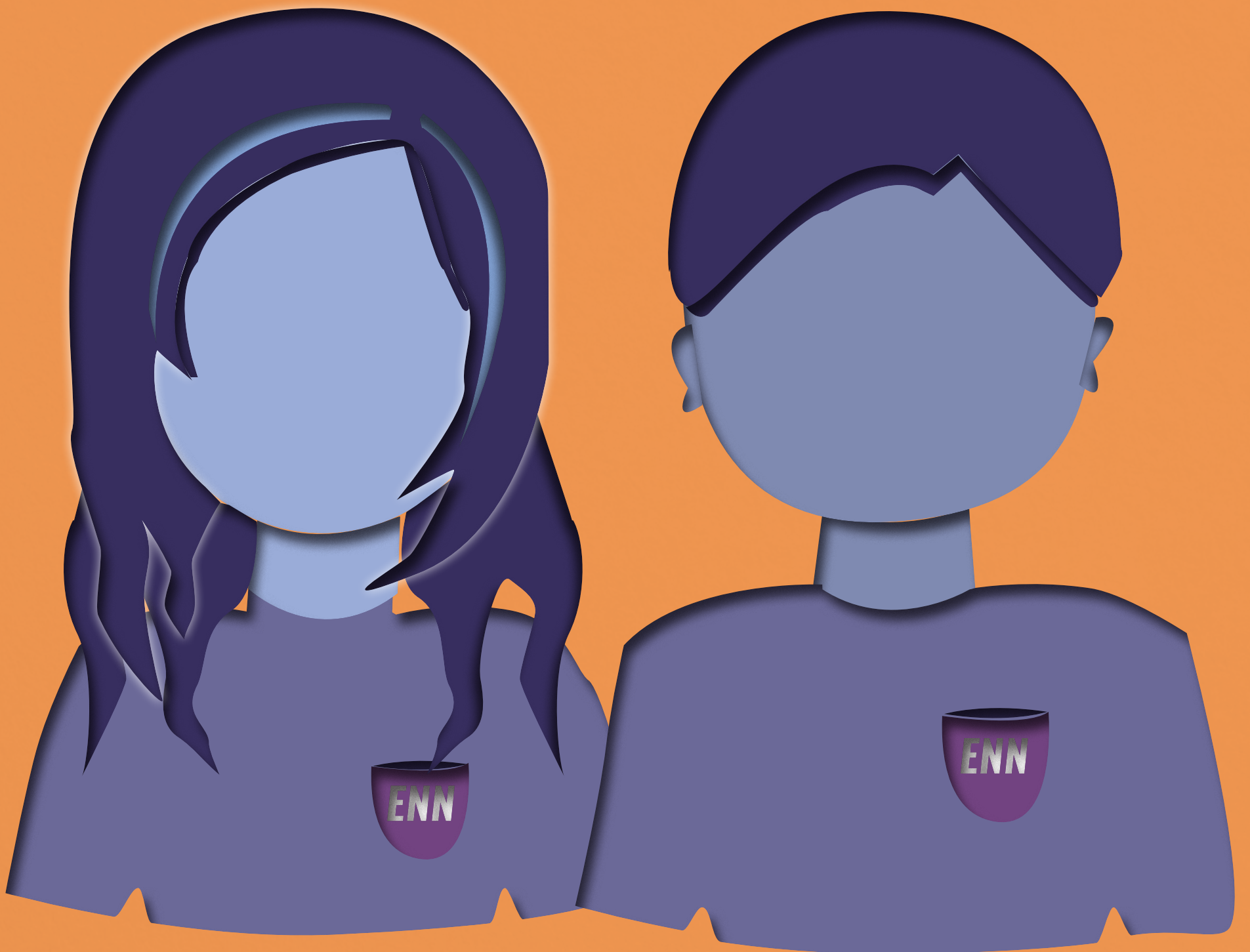
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—BEST OF—



STAFF PICKS

BEST COFFEE AND HOMEWORK SPOT

Leila Wilhelm
Elon News Network | @leilawilhelm

COLLEGE STUDENTS KNOW THE power of caffeine better than anyone. If you're an avid coffee-drinker looking for the best brew on campus, look no further than to The Oak House.

Located on North Williamson Avenue, The Oak House sits at the heart of downtown Elon, making it the perfect spot to stop and relax. Inside, the atmosphere is cozy, complete with well-loved armchairs and sofas that provide ample seating for students looking to meet with professors or socialize with friends.

The coffeehouse retains a vintage vibe with wainscoting running along walls adorned with student artwork and aged-oak tables that live up to the establishment's name. Still, the worn cushions and peeling paint give the spot character that cannot be replicated. At night, students can expect to find a vibrant scene for live music and club-hosted events such as trivia and cabaret nights as The Oak House transitions into a bar.

The coffee menu is similarly classic, offering an array of latte flavorings as well as brewed teas. Non-dairy-drinkers will be pleased to know that The Oak House also offers almond, soy and oat milk.

Students can watch the baristas work their magic while perusing the counter lined with enticing artisan pastries. This offering is an added bonus to the coffeehouse, especially for students hoping to grab a quick breakfast or snack before class.

For those looking for an alternative to the library, The Oak House also serves as a prime study setting. The coffee shop ambiance creates a less-stressful environment that harbors creativity and increases focus. Oak House's mixtape mellow tunes and low chatter curates the ideal environment, far superior to a stuffy, quiet library floor.

The Oak House has represented the Elon community since its opening in 2014. The establishment is committed to serving quality, locally-roasted coffee, craft beer and fine wine in an inviting, laid-back atmosphere.

THE OAK HOUSE



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

IF YOU GO

112 N Williamson Ave, Elon, NC 27244

Hours:
Mon. - Wed. - 7:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Thur. - Fri. - 7:30 a.m. - 12 a.m.
Sat. - 9:30 a.m. - 12 a.m.
Sun. - 9:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.

ANOTHER FUN FACT

The Oak House doubles as a bar at night, offering promotions such as a bath tub of bottled beer at a discount.

Students studying in The Oak House on Thursday Jan. 16.

BEST BASKETBALL COURT

Jack McIntyre
Chief Copy Editor | @elonnewsnetwork

OF TEN OVERLOOKED, OUTDOOR BASKETBALL courts are part of what makes Elon University's campus so unique. I have seen many college campuses in the Northeast that don't have any outdoor courts. I have selected three of my personal favorite courts to play on and one which I believe comes out on top.

Danieley

Pros: The Danieley courts offer a wide-open space for any pickup game and are situated next to two parking lots, which allow students to drive there easily. The courts themselves are concrete, making them easier to dribble and to run on. The Danieley courts are also located right next to Qdoba and Einstein's, giving students the option to grab a drink after playing.

Cons: Danieley is far from most places on campus, which makes it harder to get to. Most of the hoops are double rimmed, and as a result, it is more difficult to make shots.

Global

Pros: The Global courts offer four hoops with even pavement. The courts are big and spacious, allowing players to move around without feeling cramped.

Cons: Global has fewer hoops than Danieley. The courts are right in the middle of campus, so students often walk through them, which can interrupt pickup games.

The Oaks

Pros: The Oaks court is out of the way of students walking through campus, offering a definitive space to play any type of game with limited distractions.

Cons: When it rains, there are often puddles that form due to dips in the pavement, which makes it difficult to use the courts during inclement weather.

Winner

It's clear that the Danieley courts are the best. These courts offer the most hoops, with a variety of different types of rims (double or regular), and have the best pavement for dribbling and running. Despite their less than ideal location, Danieley courts offer a lot of space to play any type of basketball game and to work on your skills.

I've always been a big fan of basketball, and while having the outdoor courts wasn't a factor in my choice to go to Elon, it's certainly a perk I take advantage of every chance I get. Being from New York, I grew up surrounded by pickup basketball, which is part of New York City culture. It's great to see so many people meeting on the courts, enjoying the outdoors and playing the game.

DANIELEY



CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The basketball courts in Danieley Neighborhood.

RUNNERS-UP

Second Place: Global

Third Place: The Oaks

ANOTHER FUN FACT

The Danieley basketball courts are located in one of four campus neighborhoods with an outdoor basketball court. The other three are Historic, Mill Point and Global.

BEST INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY

Emerson Wells
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

AT ELON, SOMETHING IS going on all the time. On top of that, you’re probably tired, have a quiz coming up that you aren’t fully prepared for and have to sit through a lecture in a class you don’t really like. With the busy culture that Elon embodies, taking a moment to relax and be in the moment can be a rare occurrence.

This Winter Term, I had the opportunity to take the class PHL 352: Zen in Practice and Theory. In the class, we discussed the idea of being in the “here and now,” being present in the current world, rather than having our focus tied up in different past and future moments.

The best place to meditate is anywhere quiet and comfortable. I personally find taking advantage of outdoor spaces adds to the serenity of my practice.

Whether you sit in a chair or cross-legged on the floor, make sure your body is balanced and supported. Straighten your neck and spine. Relax your shoulders and any other points of tension in your body. Rest your hands on your knees or place them just below your navel, thumbs touching to form an oval. Close your eyes or hold them half-open, resting on a point on the ground in front of you. Take slow, deep breaths, inhaling to the point of fullness, pausing, then exhaling. Become aware of your bodily sensations and the world around you. What do you experience that you normally would not observe or be aware of?

Meditation is not limited to sitting but can be practiced while standing or walking to classes.

Check out the meditation room on the second floor of Numen Lumen or the Meditation Garden. Iron Tree Blooming, a meditation group based in Renzai Zen philosophy, meets every Thursday at 4:15 p.m. in the McBride Gathering Space. Meetings will resume at the start of the spring semester.

★ ★ ★

MEDITATION



ELON NEWS NETWORK FILE PHOTO

IF YOU GO
Numen Lumen Pavilion
301 E Haggard Ave, Elon, NC 27244

ANOTHER FUN FACT
Lake Mary Nell, pictured above, is home to a host of wildlife. The lake’s most infamous eight-year habi- tant was a swan which died in 2018.

A view of the Global Commons, a part of Global Neighborhood, across Lake Mary Nell during early spring.

BEST BUILDING ON CAMPUS

Jack Haley
Executive Director | @jackhaley17

FIRST IMPRESSION IS ALWAYS important. Elon makes a statement with my personal favorite building on campus. Standing across from Belk Library, hiding Loy Commons from the rest of campus, is the Inman Admissions Building.

The Georgian architecture fits in perfectly with the rest of campus, as it opens its doors to Elon. The vaulted ceilings inside support a chandelier, dangling beautifully yet precariously far above visitors’ heads. The steeple, reaching toward the sky, points to the hopes and dreams of the next wave of students to pass through the building.

When driving down any road, it oftentimes seems to be a brightly colored door that catches our eye — a pop of color in the often mundane sea of white and black doors to draw you into the beauty of that home.

Inman is Elon’s bright red door. The odd thing about Inman is how infrequently it’s used by students once they arrive on campus. In fact, sometimes it seems meaningless and distant. For so many of us now, Inman is little more than a postcard-like landmark we see on our walk to lunch.

However, it’s important to take a moment to recognize what this building means. It was the beginning for us. It was the first place we went when we were juniors and seniors in high school, seemingly a lifetime ago.

The next time you find yourself with a couple minutes to kill before your next class in Sankey Hall, take a second and sit on the porch of Inman. The pearly white Adirondack rocking chairs are a prime location to reflect, whether you are a second semester senior or a homesick freshman.

Sitting in those chairs offers the same view you had when you first set eyes on the lush, green lawns of the school for the first time. Take note of the tour guides as they show off our beautiful campus to groups of bright-eyed high schoolers and their parents. Those students, too, may just be embarking on a journey through the place you have come to call home, a journey facilitated by Elon’s bright red door — the Inman Admissions Building.

INMAN ADMISSIONS



Inman Admissions Welcome Center pictured on a sunny afternoon in Elon.

CLARE GRANT | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

IF YOU GO
100 Campus Drive,
Elon, NC 27244

ANOTHER FUN FACT
Before Inman Admissions was built, Moseley Student Center was home to the Office of Admissions.

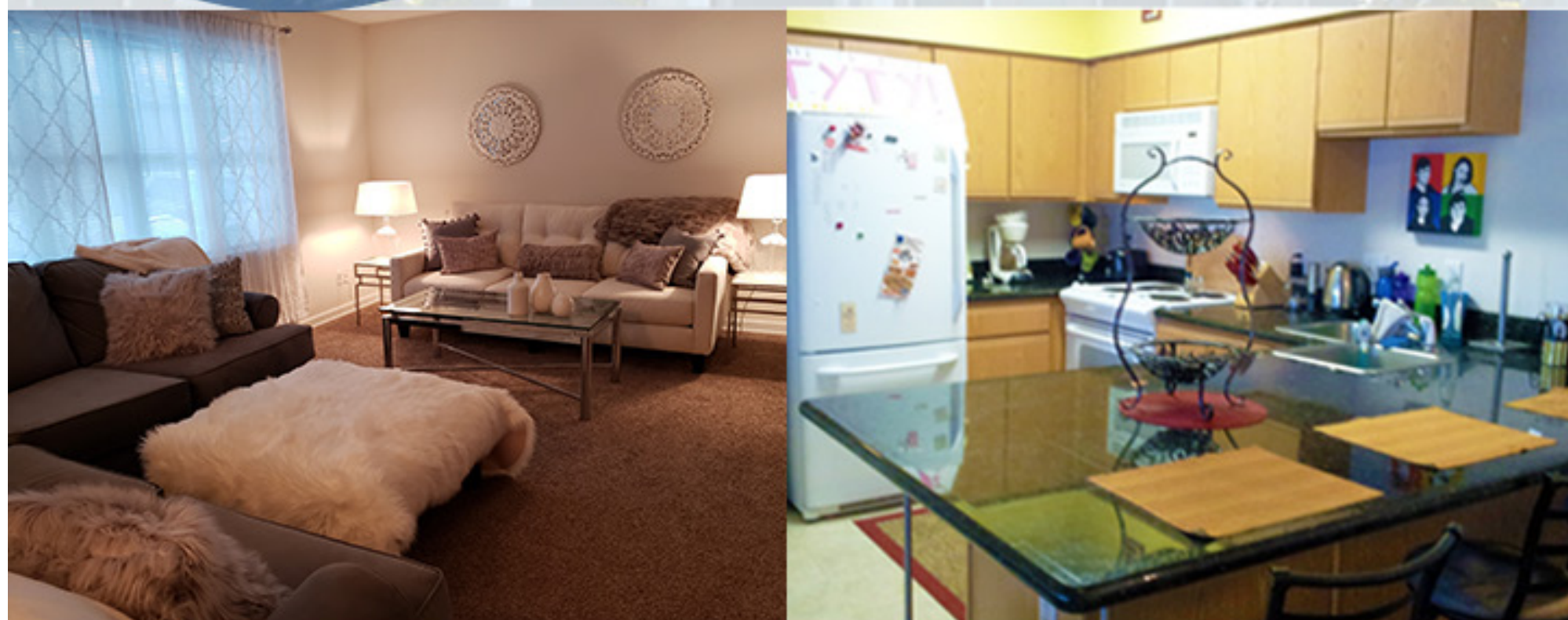


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