



SWEET TREATS AWAIT IN GIBSONVILLE

Craving cupcakes? Check out Main Street Cake Shoppe

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THE PENDULUM IS SWINGING ABROAD THIS SEMESTER

New international section

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THE PENDULUM

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www.elonpendulum.com



TOP: Freshmen Scott Maxham and Jacod Smallwood-Garcia receive their traditional acorns at the end of the New Student Convocation ceremony held Under The Oaks.
BOTTOM LEFT: A new student picks up her name tag at the orientation tent on freshman move-in day. New Student Orientation manned the registration tables.
BOTTOM RIGHT: A new Elon student and her parents unload belongings from the car in the McEwen parking lot on move-in day. This year's freshman class is Elon's largest.

See PAGE 16 for more photos from MOVE-IN WEEKEND

Court papers released in Astley case

Caitlin O'Donnell
News Editor

Chilling details have emerged of the hours leading up to, during and following the alleged murder of Lauren Astley July 3 at the hands of an ex-boyfriend. Astley would have arrived on Elon University's campus last week as a member of the Class of 2015.

In an Aug. 23 statement from the prosecution against defendant Nathaniel Fujita, Astley is characterized as a concerned friend who reached out to Fujita, who had recently become detached from other classmates following the end of their three-year relationship in April.

According to the court document, submitted by Lisa McGovern, assistant district attorney in Astley's hometown of Wayland, Mass., Astley's kindness was reciprocated with murder "after deliberate premeditation, and with extreme atrocity and cruelty."

Blood evidence taken from the defendant's home as well as testimony from family members led to Fujita's indictment for assault and battery, two counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and first-degree murder.

Allegations leveled against classmate

Both Astley and Fujita attended Wayland High School and began dating in the spring of their freshman year. When Astley ended the relationship in April 2011, Fujita repeatedly asked her to continue their relationship, according to the court document, though he claimed to other friends and family that the break-up was mutual.

When Fujita's behavior became distant and his mother expressed

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New LGBTQ office, coordinator set to challenge perceptions

Kassandra Cloos
News Editor

A new LGBTQ office has been established to provide support for and spread awareness about issues pertaining to the lesbian, gay, bi, transsexual, transgender and queer population at Elon University. Kirstin Ringelberg, associate professor of art history, has been appointed as the first coordinator.

"I still don't totally believe it," she said.

Ringelberg, who previously acted as the coordinator for the women and gender studies program, will also be co-adviser of SPECTRUM for the first time this year along with Troy Martin, assistant director of Academic Advising.

The establishment of the new office is in line with the university's commitment to diversity as outlined in the strategic plan. It is also one of many measures currently being taken to improve Elon's atmosphere as perceived by students in the LGBTQ community.

Ringelberg's vision for the office and her respective inaugural position are to create a space where LGBTQ students and straight allies can congregating comfortably as well as seek assistance and resources. As coordinator,

Ringelberg is charged with developing and maintaining a resource library, acting as a resource for faculty and staff members and meeting once per semester with members of the LGBTQ community at Elon to assess needs, among other tasks.

"One thing that I think is really amazing about this opportunity is that we're going to have a physical presence on campus," Ringelberg said. "The lack of visibility on campus is one

"One thing that I think is really amazing about this opportunity is that we're going to have a physical presence on campus."

-KIRSTIN RINGELBERG,
COORDINATOR OF THE LGBTQ
OFFICE

of the things that allows our population to be invisible, and therefore to not be supported in the same way that it would be if it was more visible."

The physical office space has not yet been set up and Ringelberg herself will be

a walking LGBTQ office this semester. The office is expected to move into Powell House in January after the department of physical therapy moves to the Francis Center and several other departments are shuffled across campus, according to Smith Jackson, vice president and dean of Student Life.

Both Jackson and Ringelberg said they have heard nothing but praise on the development of the position, and many faculty and staff members have

already shown interest in working with Ringelberg this semester.

"The day Dr. House announced the appointment, I got a whole day's worth of email from people in every area of campus," Ringelberg said, adding that she is open to suggestions and hopes to receive more.

Mandatory diversity programming that already exists at Elon, particularly during New Student Orientation activities, will likely change in the coming years to include more discussion about LGBTQ issues, according to Ringelberg.

She said she hopes to establish more education on campus about appropriate terminology and all-inclusive language, as well as raising awareness about heteronormativity, which leads to assumptions that being straight is normal and people who are not straight are therefore not normal.

"I don't think there are any professors who are deliberately trying

See LGBTQ | PAGE 4





PHOTO COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM

A man photographs the flooding of the East River in New York City Sunday, Aug. 28 after Hurricane Irene devastated the area. Some areas of New York received up to 13.3 inches, with wind gusts up to 79 mph.

Hurricane Irene inconsistent with predictions

Kassandra Cloos
News Editor

The North Carolina coast experienced Hurricane Irene long before it was downgraded to a tropical storm, but most of the predictions regarding devastation to New York City were not fully realized.

In the days before Hurricane Irene barreled up the East Coast, officials from federal weather organizations like the National Hurricane Center predicted consequences and potential scenarios of epic proportions.

Millions of power outages from North Carolina to New England accompanied downed trees, severe winds, heavy rain and, in Delaware, tornadoes. New Student Convocation at Elon University was held Friday evening rather than Saturday morning to accommodate parents driving

home after move-in day to help keep them safe in the face of an arriving hurricane.

Freshmen Hunter Priebe and Logan Williams, both from New Canaan, Conn., said their families lost power when Irene, then a tropical storm, passed through their area.

Both cable and phone access were lost in some areas as well, Priebe said, but physical damage was limited.

"There was some flooding, but nothing too serious," Priebe said. "There were definitely some good waves."

Williams said he has been receiving automated voice messages from his town and power is not expected to return any time soon.

"They said they want to restore power now," he said. "But there are too many downed wires."

Almost 300,000 National Grid

customers are still out of power in nearby Rhode Island alone, according to the Providence Journal, and repairs may not be finished for a full week.

Freshman Caroline Yaksich, from Maryland, said her family got quite a bit of rain at home and lost electricity temporarily, but many of her friends attending colleges on the coast were evacuated shortly after arriving on campus.

Yaksich has family in the Outer Banks of North Carolina that did not evacuate in preparation for the storm. Their area is accustomed to hurricanes, she said, and they did not lose power. Her sister in New York City did not evacuate either, she said.

"She was in a safe zone," she said. "She said by the time it got up there, it was weak."

TWEETING UP A STORM

@monarchslager

RT @dailyintel: New York is not the center of the universe: Hurricane Irene did serious damage elsewhere nym.ag/nhWikb
29 Aug

@mbkansky

Watching the #irene cleanup. Grateful my town was relatively unaffected. Wishing the best to everyone impacted.
28 Aug

@elonpendulum

#Hurricane #Irene has caused severe damage and millions of power outages. Tweet @elonpendulum with your storm stories and photos. #Staysafe
28 Aug

@JasonMPuckett

Off campus housing at ECU. Wrecked in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene. #Irene @phoenix14news yfrog.com/hsnhidfpj
28 Aug

@nicolemchadwick

@phoenix14news damage from Hurricane Irene at ECUtwitpic.com/6ckkah
28 Aug

@KatiesBliss

It's a beautiful sunny day! Irene sure came quick. It was like it never happened. Hope everyone up north is doing okay!
28 Aug

@RandyGyllenhaal

Let's be clear: new england, and especially #vt, got nailed by flooding from irene. This storm wasn't a dud. #btv #vtirene
28 Aug

@elonalumni

Sending best wishes for a safe couple of days to our thousands of alums in #Irene's path. We love you!
27 Aug

@Hurricane_Irene

Prepare, stock up, and evacuate if you are told to. This is no joke. Have a plan. #Hurricane #Irene
25 Aug

@Hurricane_Irene

No, I did not cause the #earthquake. Glad to get a lot of this attention off my back.
23 Aug



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS.COM

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Neighbors in Brooklyn Heights gather to survey the damage caused by a large tree falling across the street on Sunday, Aug. 28. A homeowner in Milford, Conn., looks out at the water outside his home after Hurricane Irene destroyed the interior of his house Sunday. This Philadelphia neighborhood was not the only neighborhood affected by severe flooding. Some parts of Vermont are seeing some of the worst floods in state history. North Carolina Department of Transportation officials survey the damage to North Carolina 12 on Monday, Aug. 29. Many coastal North Carolina communities were hit hard by the storm surge.

Prosecution builds timeline of crime, details evidence against defendant

ASTLEY from PAGE 1

concern, Astley agreed to set up a time to meet with him, the prosecution alleges. After text message exchanges, dating back to June 27, Astley planned to meet with Fujita July 3 at the conclusion of her shift at Natick Mall, which she mentioned in passing to a coworker.

She arrived at his home at 7:05 p.m., which, the prosecution alleges, was followed by the murder of Astley at the hands of Fujita.

"The defendant then set out to cover up his crimes: to hide and/or get rid of physical evidence, including Lauren herself, and to construct an alibi," the court document reads.

Evidence includes positive blood findings on wet sneakers and clothing hidden in a small crawl space as well as evidence that blood had been wiped from the floor of the kitchen, the kitchen sink and an upstairs bathroom sink. Findings also concluded that Astley's body was placed in the back seat of Fujita's Honda before being dumped in a marsh a little more than five miles from the defendant's house.

Forty minutes after the arrival of Astley at his home, a witness claims to have seen Fujita driving shirtless, with his windows down and blasting loud music.

The Wayland Police Department were notified of Astley's disappearance by 11 p.m. and, upon learning of her former relationship with the defendant, spoke with both Fujita and his mother, who claimed they had been home watching movies that night.

The investigation continued into the night, but it was not until July 4, a little before 8 a.m., that a passing bicyclist noticed a "pinkish white color, in the shape of an upside down 'vee,'" eventually realizing she was looking at a human knee.

It was at this time a search warrant was executed in Fujita's home, leading to the gathering of evidence against him. His arrest was authorized at 1:38 a.m. July 5 by district attorney Gerald Leone at the conclusion of the search.

According to the court document, Henry Nields of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner performed an autopsy concluding that Astley sustained blunt impact injuries to the head and contusions on her arms and legs.

The cause of death was determined to be combination of strangulation by a bungee cord found tangled in Astley's hair and the slashing of her throat, according to the prosecution's statement. Numerous other cuts were found on her face, neck and shoulders.

A cousin of the defendant spoke with him prior to his arrest, questioning him as to his involvement in Astley's murder.

Her inquiries were met with a reply from that defendant that "they're never going to find the weapon there, if that's what you mean," according to the court document.

Asked by his cousin why he wanted the two of them to hang out the night of the murder, the defendant replied, "I needed to hang out with someone; I just wanted to get my mind off of it."

Campus remembrances continue

Freshman Bethany Coats made coral bracelets, in the style of yellow LiveStrong bands, that she is currently selling for \$5 on campus.

All funds from the bracelets, which read "Lauren...you left us breathless" on the front and "In loving memory of L.D.A." on the back, will benefit the Lauren Dunne Astley Memorial Fund, created by her father Malcolm Astley.

In a previous interview, Malcolm Astley said the fund will dedicate energy



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BOSTON HERALD
The case against Lauren Astley's ex-boyfriend Nathaniel Fujita is building. Blood evidence and testimony from Fujita's cousin have been submitted by the prosecution against the defendant.

and resources toward programs that support both Lauren's interests of art and community service, but also educate people about health relationships and self-image.

"Her situation was extreme but not uncommon," he said. "There seems to be so much investment, almost overinvestment, of one's value in a relationship, as if it is the only thing that defines value."

Though Coats did not know Lauren

beforehand, she contacted her mother, Mary Dunne, who helped choose the design.

"Many people at Elon and her hometown wanted to make something in her memory but no one took the initiative," Coats said.

Currently, Coats has a few hundred left for sale.

"More people are buying them everyday," she said. "And it's cool to see how much people care."

With name change, Student Conduct updates alcohol policy

Anna Johnson
Editor-in-Chief

Students receiving their first Elon alcohol violation will no longer wake up the next morning wondering when their parents will be notified.

Serving 10 restitution hours has also been dropped for first time alcohol violators and the fine lessened from \$150 to \$50. These are just some of the changes to the alcohol policy that went into effect when Judicial Affairs became Student Conduct earlier this month.

The policy and name changes do not indicate a new direction for the administrative body but a subtle change that has taken place in the previous years, said Whitney Gregory, director of

Student Conduct.

"We considered the statistics, heard student feedback, held focus groups and the message we want to make sure we are communicating to students is that we are supporting the decision not to drink," Gregory said. "And if the student is choosing to consume alcohol we want to ensure they are doing it in a low-risk, healthy manner."

First time violators will still receive an official reprimand, which will be removed from the records after a student's first academic year, and an alcohol education program or project. Students will have to complete restitution hours and a letter will be sent to parents after a second violation.

A new medical policy has been

created to encourage students to help their peers who are in danger of alcohol poisoning. The Medical Safety Policy states a person taken to the hospital will not be suspended as a result of the alcohol violation but will have to complete a substance abuse assessment and will be placed on preliminary suspension, meaning the loss of leadership positions and the ability to study abroad for a year.

Students, worried their friends would be suspended from Elon, would choose to not take them to the hospital and care for them themselves, Gregory said.

"We received strong feedback from the past few years regarding supporting student safety and health," she said. "If students have concerns about taking

a friend to the hospital because of the consequence of suspension being there we wanted to remove that."

MORE ONLINE

To learn more about the consequences of violating Elon's new alcohol policy on the first through fourth offenses, visit:

<http://bit.ly/EPalcoholpolicy>

ANNA JOHNSON | Editor-in-chief

Two task forces discuss changes for promotion, tenure policies at Elon

Rebecca Smith
Managing Editor

There are currently two task forces to change the policies for the Promotion and Tenure Process. The charges for both task forces were sent before decisions were made regarding professors up for tenure in the spring this past year.

A general charge was sent out in November to create the Task Force on the Promotion and Tenure Process that would examine Elon University's current policies and see if any revisions needed to be made.

The task force, chaired by Tom Green, a professor of psychology, started meeting last fall to clarify the charge and ensured everyone was on the same page. During Winter Term of 2011, Green conducted interviews of current administration and faculty to learn their opinions of the promotion and tenure process.

"I asked for pros and cons of the process from Provost Steve House, President Leo Lambert and all academic deans," Green said. "I didn't just want to focus on the negative, but also what we are doing right. It seems that our focus on the three main elements of teaching and service and scholarship is something people like."

In late January, the task force broke into pairs and called 20 institutions to find current policies on promotion and tenure from other schools.

The information they found was presented in May. They also sent out an online survey about the strengths and weaknesses of the promotion and tenure process for the faculty and staff to respond to.

The survey had a six-point scale ranging from strongly disagree to strongly agree on how clear and understandable the faculty handbook is.

"There were a variety of opinions but most agree somewhat or strongly agree that the handbook is clear and understandable," Green said. "A significant number do not think it is clear. I would love to see one hundred percent would strongly agree."

The survey also asked how satisfied the faculty and staff were with the current policies.

"Once again most said satisfied," Green said. "A significant number said strongly dissatisfied to dissatisfied. We would also like to increase that number."

During January, there were also discussions about the external and internal data and the task force continued

to interview people.

During the summer the task force interviewed Alison Morison-Shetlar, the dean of Elon College, The College of Arts and Sciences, and David Cooper, the dean of The School of Education again. Otherwise, the task force was mainly on hold until the school year started again.

There is currently a second Task Force that is also looking at tenure but is called the Task Force on Service. Service is one of the requirements of tenure and promotion at Elon. The Task Force on Service suggested several faculty handbook changes at the May faculty meeting that required a vote of the faculty to go into force, according to Sharon Spray.

"I opposed the suggested changes because I did not think they clarified enough the role of service in the tenure and promotion process," Spray said.

This fall a general recommendation will be put together with any specific changes or additions, if any, that need to be made to the Academic Council from the Task Force on the Promotion and Tenure Process.

Currently the task force is supposed to have finished their evaluation of the current policies and made suggestions by December.

TASK FORCE ON PROMOTION AND TENURE

FALL 2010:
Charge sent out to create Task Force

JANUARY 2011:
Researched Tenure and Promotion policies at other schools.

MAY 2011:
Presented information and sent online survey to faculty and staff.

SUMMER 2011:
Interviewed the Deans of different schools at Elon.

PROPOSED
DEADLINE:
December 2011

Sexual orientation and identity to be explored

LGBTQ from PAGE 1

to alienate any student," she said. "But if you've never had any exposure to certain kinds of ideas about different sexual and gender identities, you may not realize that when you ask, 'how many of you have a boyfriend?' that that's a personal landmine for people in your classroom."

Along with the new LGBTQ office, other related programs are coming to campus. The Safe Zone program, which will involve faculty and staff specifically trained to assist students with questions or research pertaining to the LGBTQ population, will start next semester under the direction of Leigh-Anne Royster, the director of student development.

The Isabella Cannon International Centre has also begun publishing resources on its website for LGBTQ students planning to study abroad.

This summer, Paul Geis, assistant director of affiliations and exchanges, worked to establish a sexual orientation and identity section on the "Prepare Yourself" page of the Centre's website. The section links to country guides, most of which are still under development, that detail social and cultural norms regarding sexuality and gender abroad.

"In some places it's not as acceptable or safe to be out," Geis said. "There are certainly going to be circumstances where it might be very culturally unacceptable and socially isolating for students to out themselves as LGBTQ.

Sometimes there are safety and legal issues."

Establishing the LGBTQ office is a step in the right direction, according to Jackson.

"Students have a sense of openness to others," he said. "There's a great understanding that many of the problems in the world are being created by a lack of tolerance of differences. What better time than college to learn about this?"

For Ringelberg, the ideal campus climate would be celebratory rather than neutral or accepting.

"There would be rainbow flags on campus flagpoles, not just in the offices and dorm rooms of community members," she said. "No one would automatically assume the sexual and gender identities of the people they meet on



Kirstin Ringelberg hopes to create an environment that celebrates, rather than tolerates, gender and sexual identities as part of her new position as coordinator of the LGBTQ office.

campus or in the classroom, and everyone would recognize that stereotypes about gender and sexual identities can be totally misleading as well as hurtful."

General Studies proposal places emphasis on global citizenship

Caitlin O'Donnell
News Editor

Revision to Elon University's General Studies program could go into effect as early as the fall of 2013, pending a faculty vote planned for Oct. 28. Modifications to the proposal, last released in early May, include changes in name, number of required hours and categorizations in the Studies in the Arts and Sciences.

The revised proposal, which suggests a change in name from General Studies to Elon Core Curriculum, reflects national practices in higher education, without forfeiting the uniqueness of Elon, according to Tom Mould and Rosemary Haskell, General Studies Review committee co-chairs.

"We're trying to tweak it so it fits our school, our faculty and our administration," Mould said.

Part of that involves a focus on the idea of students emerging as global, engaged citizens, which was placed at the center of the revised curriculum.

"When we were

redesigning, we strived to make sure the curriculum would match the ethos that we think brings students here," Mould said. "We don't want to undermine what Elon has done a nice job of doing."

As a result, part of the proposal involves what is called "Advanced Integrative Studies," comparable to the current Advanced Studies program, involving a requirement of 12 credit hours, eight of which must be at the 300-400 level.

Students can meet this requirement through a minor in the arts and sciences, an interdisciplinary minor, a double major (one of which must be in the arts and sciences) or a pathway, a new concept involving four classes from multiple disciplines within and outside the College of Arts and Sciences.

While experiential learning will still be mandated, the number of experiences needed to graduate has increased to two, with emphasis placed on diversity and community engagement. An earlier proposal suggested students



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF TOM MOULD
Goals of a revised General Studies program, in the most recent proposal.

build their own experiences within these two themes, an idea that was later revised.

"Our thought was to infuse these two into experiences and students, just by virtue of participating, will fall into it as opposed to telling students to build it and then not letting them graduate if they don't," Mould said. "It was going to put students in a bind we didn't feel comfortable with."

Considerable changes have also been made to the required studies in the arts and science, including a change in the branches under

this category.

Students will be required to complete four credit hours from each branch of the College of Arts and Sciences, but with an additional four hours in the Mathematical and Natural Sciences for a total of 28 hours, down from the 32 required under the current General Studies guidelines.

The categories of Textual Analysis, Scientific Inquiry; The Natural World; Cultures and Societies; Invention, Creation and Critique; and Global Issues replaced the former groupings of Expression, Civilization, Society and Science.

"These require that each course be offered for approval for inclusion in that category," Haskell said. "Each course focuses on goals and topics and issues related to that category, rather than all courses automatically going into civilization. It's a mixture of disciplines under each of those headings, different than what we had before."

Incoming students will no longer be required to complete first-year core courses, but

rather "Foundational Studies" which include Global Inquiry, Writing and Math. The health course currently required for new students will be available as a four credit hour option for students under the category of Cultures and Societies, under the proposal.

If approved later this semester, Haskell said faculty development, possible hiring and the creation of transition plans will be crucial to the implementation of the new requirements.

Foundational to their revisions was an idea expressed by Janet Warman, former director of General Studies.

"She said, 'in our own classes, we would never be satisfied teaching a class using only research that was 15 years old or older, why would we do that with our General Studies program?'" Mould said. "It's time, we know a lot more now. The environment of the institution and the world students are going to be entering is different, Elon is different and the student body coming in now, versus 1993, is very different."

QEP proposals narrowed to 6, discussions ongoing prior to final selection

Caitlin O'Donnell
News Editor

The contenders for Elon University's Quality Enhancement Plan, an initiative required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools intended to boost learning on campus, have been narrowed to six. Each idea was researched by two faculty members, who then spent the summer crafting 10-page papers explaining the benefits and specifics of each idea.

The proposals currently being considered may end up in an entirely different form by the end of the process, according to Pam Kiser, co-chair of the committee leading the QEP discussion.

Based on ongoing discussions and feedback garnered from emails, comments on the QEP blog and personal conversations, three proposals will be submitted in October for consideration by the senior staff, with an analysis of why they were selected.

"By mid-November, senior staff will make their decision and it could be a hybrid of those ideas or one idea purely,"

Kiser said. "It could morph into something else, but without veering away from the topics."

Once the final focus of the QEP is selected, a new committee of experts will be formed to write the actual QEP plan, to be submitted to the SACS team. In the spring of 2013, the team will arrive on campus to assess the implementation of the QEP, which they will have reviewed on paper in advance.

"By affirming an idea now, we're not offering an exact direction or details," Kiser said. "This is the starting point, more research and detailed work will be needed."

The challenge thus far has been getting the campus community, particularly students, involved in providing the suggestions that will guide the final selection.

"With so much stimulation, how do we get people to respond?" Kiser said. "Students attend to those things first which are imminently important. If they got the message that their classes are changing tomorrow, they would respond. But this is more 'out there', not a direct problem."

At a public meeting Monday

afternoon, faculty members who authored papers gave short presentations detailing their research and proposed plans for the QEP. The six ideas currently being considered include civic engagement, diversity, futures thinking, information literacy, intellectual engagement and the teaching and learning of writing.

No matter the final selection and implementation, the QEP is an initiative the SACS committee expects the campus to spend a considerable amount of money on, according to David Copeland, co-chair of the committee, in a previous interview.

"It assures that your programs are up to certain standards, that all the elements within your school or university meet criteria," he said. "By meeting criteria and SACS standards, it shows the government we meet qualifications and can get student loans and grants."

The main task that remains, Kiser said, is having the campus community weigh in on the ideas.

"All are good ideas," she said. "But which will have the biggest impact?"

Six QEP proposals, as explained by supporting professors

Civic Engagement

"We need to tweak Civic Engagement so we end up not just doing it, but being a civically engaged community."

- Bud Warner, associate professor of human service studies

Diversity

"The idea is to make differences part of an Elon education, part of the fabric and DNA."

- Kenn Gaither, associate professor of communications

Futures Thinking

"Students face a range of challenges and many new ones ... There is a sense we are entering a period of rapid change."

- Anthony Weston, professor of philosophy

Information Literacy

"Our job is not just to create new knowledge, but to shepherd students through the fertile field of knowledge."

- Megan Squire, associate professor of computing sciences

Intellectual Engagement

"We'd like students to leave Elon with a richly connected knowledge based."

- Katie King, associate professor of psychology

Writing

"Everyone has a different definition of what good writing is. We need to demystify it."

- Paula Patch, lecturer in English

Want to know more? Check out elon.edu/QEP to read the full proposals and leave feedback.

ARAMARK changes dining halls to 'all-access'

Kassandra Cloos
News Editor

The meal plan system at Elon University has been restructured beginning this semester and, for the first time, offers students unlimited dining hall entry as the basis for meal packages.

Instead of a finite number of meal swipes becoming available to students on a weekly basis, students will now be able to swipe into the three all-you-can-eat dining halls as frequently as desired for the duration of the academic year.

The most basic plan is comparable to the 10 swipes per week plan previously used as the price point for financial aid packages, said Jeff Gazda, the resident district manager of ARAMARK, but the plan does not allow students to use meal swipes to purchase combination meals commonly found in the take-out facilities on campus.

"What we're trying to do is give you access to the type of foods you want in an all access facility rather than a retail facility," Gazda said.

Students can upgrade to the "All-Access Plus 7" or "All-Access Plus 14" to get meal swipes good for combination meals at on-campus facilities. Juniors and seniors living off-campus and in on-campus apartments have the option to purchase a block meal plan of 200 or 300 meals for the year, which are available immediately with no week-to-week rollover. Varying amounts of meal dollars are still included with every plan, but will no longer be accepted at Town Table.

The price jump between meal plans to add combo swipes caused many students to protest the changes last semester. The old 10 meal per week plan

has been brought back to accommodate returning students, but Gazda said he is surprised students are using it.

"If you do the math on that plan it's not a good value," he said.

Some students are still unhappy with the changes, including sophomore Sarah Beacham, who said she thinks the new plans are more convenient for ARAMARK than for students.

"It would be nicer if we could get combination meals without paying extra," she said.

Beacham is currently signed up for the basic All-Access plan but said she would have signed up for the old 10 meals per week plan if she had known it was available.

Sophomore Jordan West, who is living in the Crest this year, said he signed up for the 300 block plan in order to save money, but he is concerned about needing to budget his usage.

"You can go to all the dining halls as much as you want, but most people won't go for every meal," he said.

West said he did not know anyone who was excited about the new plan, but Gazda said extensive research was conducted in order to best accommodate student feedback and most students are looking forward to the changes.

"We're taking a lot of risks here to make you happier," Gazda said.

One of the major changes to the meal plan system is no longer having the capability to spend unused meals to feed a friend at a dining hall. A limited number of guest swipes comes with each plan, but when they run out, only the holder of the plan is able to swipe into dining halls. The guest swipes are good for both dining halls and combination meals, so students with the basic all access plan could



JULIA MURPHY | Staff Photographer

Colonnades, McEwen and Harden dining halls have extended hours and continuous service starting this semester.

use their guest swipes on themselves to avoid using meal dollars to pay for a sandwich or other combination meal at locations such as Varsity.

Cashiers are being informed of the new plan, and emphasis will be put on checking Phoenix Cards to ensure students' identities.

"If you think about it, those that aren't on meal plans, it's an unlimited amount of swipes so you can grab anyone off the street and bring them in," Gazda said.

Other changes and updates to the dining system that were not put into effect this summer will take place throughout the school year, Gazda said, including the opening of the new

dining hall adjacent to Moseley Center in early 2012.

In addition to extended dining hall hours and McEwen staying open on weekends, students may also soon see electronic kiosks come to downstairs Colonnades for quicker, easier ordering. Online ordering for Varsity is expected to become available over fall break, and the to-go box system that started in McEwen will now be available in Harden and Colonnades as well.

"You have to realize Elon University is moving toward all of the objectives in the Elon Commitment," Gazda said, "Which is pointing in the direction of a more residential campus. We're here to support that mission, too."



CLAIRE ESPARROS | Staff Photographer

The corner space on the first floor of the Elon Town Center will soon house Pandora's Pies.

Elon Town Center to house specialty pizza restaurant

Kassandra Cloos
News Editor

Elon Town Center was completed in early August following months of construction, pedestrian detours and anticipation. Adjacent to Acorn Coffee Shop, the new building currently houses Barnes & Noble at Elon University and the office for The Pendulum.

Elon University is leasing a third space in the building from its owner, John McDonald, which it will then lease to a third party, according to Gerald Whittington, senior vice president of business, finance and technology. Several potential tenants have shown interest, Whittington said, but nothing has been finalized.

Of the two remaining spaces in Elon Town Center, one on the third floor has yet to be leased to tenants and the second, the space on the first floor next to the campus shop, will soon be home to a new specialty pizza restaurant, McDonald said.

The space will soon become Pandora's Pies, an entrepreneurial specialty pizza restaurant and bar that will be opened by the owners of Fat Frogg, Peter Ustach and Jeff MacKenzie.

Pandora's Pies will start to take shape during the first week of September, according to Peter Ustach, co-owner of Fat Frogg, and is scheduled to be open by homecoming.

"It's a simple concept," Ustach said. "It will be a quick, quality place to get a quick slice."

The menu will feature calzones, soups, salads and specialty pizzas and there will be a full-service restaurant in addition to a designated to-go area where customers can walk up and order right away, including by-the-slice pizza.

"Right now the only place you can get

a quick bite to eat under \$8 is Subway," Ustach said. "I just want to be able to offer that."

Pandora's Pies will have a local focus as Ustach said all beer on draft will be from North Carolina and he plans to buy flour from a local mill. The restaurant will also include a kiosk for Smitty's Ice Cream.

The bookstore occupies half of the first floor as well as the entirety of the second floor of the building, connected with the only operating escalator in Alamance County. With more space, the campus shop has been able to expand its merchandise and includes a more comprehensive marketplace than its previous location in Moseley Center, where Career Services will eventually be moved.

The completion of Elon Town Center ties in well with Elon's strategic plan, McDonald said, and it will help make the Town of Elon more attractive to students who want services within walking distance as well as to shoppers from the surrounding area.

"We're real proud of how our design came out," McDonald said. "We wanted it to be different, but not too different from traditional downtown Elon."

McDonald said he hopes students will see Elon Town Center as a place for social gatherings and hanging out.

"On a nice fall day, people will congregate there," he said. "They'll sit on the wall and chat."

Once Elon Town Center's vacancies are filled, McDonald said he does not expect much turn over.

"What's there will stay for a long time," he said. "This is an effort to not only provide good services to faculty, staff and student at Elon but to reach out to the broader community and invite them into downtown Elon."

New ROTC director plans to take cadets to the next level

Anderson looks forward to expanding on predecessor's experience with Elon ROTC

Edith Veremu
Copy Editor

Maj. Andrew Anderson brings something new to the Elon University ROTC program, with more than 10 years of active service experience, an extensive list of decorations and badges and various military schools under his belt.

Anderson is the new military science professor and ROTC director who joined Elon's faculty in June 2011 after the position opened following the end of his predecessor's contract.

Anderson joined the U.S. Army after graduating from high school and was commissioned at Western Baptist College in December 2000.

"I thought that everyone else runs around in the mud and shoots everyone, like in the movies," Anderson said. "I wasn't interested in ROTC or the Army until they said they could pay for my education."

Although he's a professor, Anderson is also a student. After completing more than 10 military courses, Anderson graduated with a degree in Computer Science in 2002 from Western Baptist College and is pursuing a Master's in Informational Technology Management from Webster University in St. Louis.

Anderson also taught military science as a civilian at Wake Forest University before joining Elon University.

"It's great to be at Elon and I'm doing the same thing I did at Wake Forest except that I'll be in uniform at Elon," Anderson said. "I will just have more time to focus on teaching and being a better teacher."

He said he isn't a morning person but has learned to become one because of his profession. Anderson has performed 35 parachute jumps and has national and foreign honors to show for it, including the U.S. Senior Parachutist Badge, the silver German Armed Forces parachutist badge and the Royal Australian Parachutist Badge.

As the new director of the Elon ROTC program, Anderson said he would like to pick up where Maj. Stephen Thompson, his predecessor, left off with the cadets while also adding more.

"Major Thompson did a good job



ANDERSON

and I want to get the cadets ready for their evaluations and help them become better cadets and good leaders," he said. "Between your junior and senior year, you have to go to Fort Lewis for five weeks and your performance

there affects what specialty you go into when you join the Army. I want the cadets to perform well."

Senior Demarco Crum is in his last year of Elon ROTC and plans to join the Army after graduation.

"I joined ROTC because I wanted to carry on the tradition in my family," Crum said. "My father is a sailor and my mother a soldier. My great-grandfather served in World War II and I also wanted to serve my country and give back to an organization and country that's served me well throughout the years."

Crum said he is looking forward to working with Anderson and Thompson spoke highly of him.

"Different people, different leadership," he said. "I'm very excited he's our new commander."

Crum's personal goals in the program this year include getting ready for a career in the military after graduation, and Elon ROTC has prepared him for it.

"I want to be the best officer I can be and serve my country," he said.

Elon is a good fit for ROTC, Anderson said.

"The Elon honor code contains some elements that are also the Army's values: respect and honesty," he said. "The values are mutually supportive."

Anderson said the cadets will compete for the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge this year and preparation is key.

"The cadets go through physical training two, three times a week and they also have to keep their academics good," he said. "The better they do, the better they can get what they want when they want to join the Army."

New ABSS superintendent 'highly values' partnership with larger Elon community

Natalie Allison
Senior Reporter

The Alamance-Burlington School System has selected a new leader to fill the vacant position of superintendent. At age 39, Lillie Cox is the youngest and first female superintendent to be hired since the formation of the ABSS.

Cox, former ABSS assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction from 2006 to 2009, was most recently superintendent of Hickory Public Schools, a school system in the western part of North Carolina.

Cox cites the opening of Hickory Career and Arts Magnet, a school that allows high school juniors and seniors to complete an associate's degree by graduation, as one of her greatest accomplishments.

At the beginning of Cox's time in Hickory, the school system had the highest dropout rate in the state at 8.65 percent. Two years later, the dropout rate had decreased to 5.23 percent, a change that Cox said prompted dropout prevention in grades as early as kindergarten.

Now that she has returned to Alamance-Burlington and taken on the school system's top role, Cox said she wants to continue to instill strong vision and direction in ABSS.

"Our schools are wonderful places

for students, but I want to make them better by working with our board, our community and our school professionals to provide a world class education for the children in this county," she said.

Besides improving reading and mathematics achievement levels, Cox said she wants to see the same quality of teaching and learning across the board, allowing all students in the system to receive an equal education regardless of where they go to school.

David Cooper, dean of the School of Education, said the relationship the university shares with ABSS has not been hindered by a change in leadership.

"Elon has a very strong relationship with the Alamance-Burlington School System that goes back many years, through several superintendents and through at least two School of Education deans," he said. "The change from the previous superintendent to the current has actually resulted in a continuation of that good partnership."

Cooper said that in a recent conversation with Cox, it was clear the new superintendent would "not only continue but highly value" the continuation of the relationship between Elon University and ABSS.

More than 75 percent of teacher candidates in the School of Education

complete their practicum requirements and student teaching in Alamance-Burlington schools, Cooper said. In addition, Elon faculty collaborates with ABSS to provide continuing professional development for licensed teachers already working for the school system. This mutual relationship offers opportunities for enrichment and continued education for ABSS teachers, who in turn will be working with teacher candidates from Elon.

The university's partnership with ABSS extends beyond the School of Education, Cooper said.

"The larger Elon community has dozens and dozens of different kinds of partnerships with the school system," he said. "Students on campus do tutoring, the Kernodle Center is involved with service projects and there are professors in every corner of the campus who provide lectures, workshops and training in public schools on all kinds of subjects. It's a campus-wide partnership."

Cooper said he is looking forward to continuing to work with Cox, both in the context of the School of Education and the university in general. The dean and superintendent plan to meet on a monthly basis to stay caught up on what is current between the two parties.

"This is a period of transition for her and for the system," Cooper said. "But



COX

I don't think we're going to lose any of the momentum that we have during this transition."

Search process begins for new dean of Love School of Business

Grace Elkus
Senior Reporter

The national search for the new dean of the Love School of Business has begun, with Paul Parsons, dean of the School of Communications, and Art Cassill, an accounting professor, serving as co-chairs on the search committee.

Mary Gowan, who served as dean of the Business School since 2007, stepped down last semester. Scott Buechler, management department chair, is currently serving as interim dean.

The position is scheduled to be filled by January 2012, but according to Cassill, the process started in June when the committee received direction from Steven House, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

"There's a whole process associated with doing all different types of searches," Cassill said. "We had a search ad that we had to design and put together and then that ad was placed in various and appropriate outlets for potential candidates."

A leadership profile was also created and was available for candidates to look at a short time later. Although this type of profile has been used in searches in the past, it needed to be updated to have pertinent information about the business school, according to Cassill.

"The ad has certain information about

the university and the school," Cassill said, "but we want to make other information available in one location for potential candidates to go and have a synopsis and an overview with a little more detail of Elon University itself and the Love School of Business within that context."

The ad also lists qualities an ideal candidate should possess, including excellent communication skills, a collaborative leadership style and fundraising capability. According to Cassill, all of these qualities are equally important.

"It would be very difficult to single out one or two because it really is a multidimensional position," he said. "The dean wears many hats and has a variety of responsibilities. There are several dimensions to the position that require different skill sets."

Once candidates began submitting applications, the candidate pool was selected during the summer by Witt/Kieffer, a consulting firm for executive searches.

"Their role is to help guide our committee through this process and at the same time identify potential candidates and applicants for the position for us to consider," Cassill said.

The committee's next meeting will decide whether to allow a few more weeks for applications to come in, Parsons said. If it decides to go forward with the applications they have, the next step will

take place in September.

"The process is that in late September we are to have reviewed the applications and scheduled airport interviews," Parsons said.

In these types of interviews, candidates fly in and talk with the selection committee in either the airport or a hotel conference room.

"We spend an hour and a half with each one of them over a two day period," Parsons said. "This is so the search committee can see eight or 10 individuals and talk to them at length. That is used to select three that we will bring to campus this fall for several days for campus interviews."

The search committee is made up of 10 faculty and staff members and one student, who will be appointed at the next meeting. It is likely the student will come from within the School of Business, according to Parsons.

Six members of the committee are business school faculty and staff members, one is on the business school advisory board, one member works in the development office that works with the business school and two members are from outside the business school.

"We are following a very similar pattern to what has been done in the past," Cassill said. "Any time you recruit, whether for faculty members or a dean's position, there's two sides to that process.

One is that the candidate is looking for a position. But the other is that the institution has a responsibility to try and recruit those faculty."

A candidate needs to understand what Elon is all about and know that they're being offered a great opportunity, according to Cassill.

"We have a really good story to tell, we're in a really good position, and hopefully we'll be able to attract some really good candidates," he said.

Search committee members

- Art Cassill, co-chair
- Paul Parsons, co-chair
- Christy Benson, management
- Tina Das, economics
- Michael Rodriguez, marketing
- Wonhi Synn, finance
- Sara Thomas, school of business
- Glenda Crawford, education
- Lynn Heinrichs, computing sciences
- Brian Baker, university advancement
- Mike Gannaway, advisory board member
- Student, to be determined

Elon redefines international, interdisciplinary studies programs

Grace Elkus
Senior Reporter

A Center for International and Interdisciplinary Studies is in the works at Elon University. It will provide a place for faculty and students to work, learn and interact together, according to Alison Morrison-Shetlar, dean of Elon College, the College of Arts and Sciences.

The center will serve as an outlet for students to learn more about the international and interdisciplinary programs and how these programs can come together, said Nancy Harris, associate dean of Elon College. Currently, no place on Elon's campus serves this purpose.

"This is a grand idea for enhancing the visibility and recognizing the significance of international and interdisciplinary things at Elon, and having a place where some of those elements are pulled together," Harris said.

Morrison-Shetlar is leading the development of the center, which will directly involve the international studies major, the area concentrations in the Center for International Studies and the

interdisciplinary minors within arts and sciences.

"I came to Elon last academic year and met with all the faculty coordinators to start to talk about the development of a center," Morrison-Shetlar said. "In my previous position, I was fortunate enough to support a strong Office of Interdisciplinary Studies, and so the idea was generated from my own experience and from the ideas of the Elon faculty."

The plans are still in the early stages, with unanswered questions about who will be involved and what the programming will entail.

"There is discussion about what groups or programs will be clustered together and how will they interact, and what faculty will be there," Harris said.

The location for the center has also yet

"It will be an innovative place for strong and deep undergraduate education."

-ALISON MORRISON-SHETLAR, DEAN OF ELON COLLEGE, THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

to be decided.

"Even if it's in an existing facility, it could be a while because you'd have to vacate certain departments or groups," Harris said. "It probably will be in its home in a few years."

Although many aspects of the center are still being developed, Morrison-Shetlar's goals and visions are clear.

"It will be an innovative place for strong and deep undergraduate education," she said.

The center also supports the ideas laid out in the Elon Commitment, a proposal made up of various themes centered around global citizenship and student engagement.

"The center will provide opportunities

for being involved in all aspects of the strategic plan, including a strong commitment to diversity and global engagement, supporting world class faculty and attaining high levels of academic achievement," Morrison-Shetlar said.

The goal of the center is similar to that of the new general studies curriculum, which was recently redesigned for the first time since 1994 and now focuses more on interdisciplinary opportunities, Harris said.

"Our new general studies program is likely to be calling for us to make more connections as students take classes, more connections as they study things," she said. "So the concept of making connections is certainly going to be visible."

The center has been named an "academic affairs priority," and more decisions will be made this fall.

"These are very significant movements at Elon, and they deserve to be listed up to a higher level and have a place and have a home," Harris said. "It is a great concept."

Lambert: At Elon's great banquet, don't choose a bologna sandwich

Caitlin O'Donnell
News Editor

More than 1,400 students from 40 states and 32 countries filed Under The Oaks Friday evening, Aug. 26, for New Student Convocation, an annual ceremony welcoming the incoming freshmen and transfer students to the beginning of their years at Elon.

Students and their families were met with words of greeting from Elon University administration including Jan Fuller, Chaplain and director of Religious Life, Sam Warren, executive president of SGA, Smith Jackson, vice president and dean of Student Life and Elon President Leo Lambert.

The ceremony, moved from its original time Saturday morning because of the threat of Hurricane Irene, began with an invocation from Fuller, who drew from the recent East Coast earthquake and hurricane in her address.

"Let all thunder be an expression of your energy and a true reflection of joy," she said. "Let all shakings be the deep power of expanding minds."

In his address, Lambert expressed a sense of connection with the parents of the incoming students.

"Remembrances — big and small — come into sharp focus on a day like this," he said, expressing memories of

reading to children at bedtime, Cheerios ever-present on the kitchen floor and the constant love of a parent.

He went on to encourage students to set aside their anxiousness and fully embrace Elon, which will become an inherent part of their lives.

This year's human bar graph, an annual tradition under the direction of Lambert, stressed the privilege of having access to a four-year degree from a private institution. Using the freshman class as a living example of the world's population, four of the 1,428 students represented citizens of the world with access to such an opportunity.

"By God's grace, your parent's hard work, your hard work, good luck or a combination of these, you are here," he said. "Your presence here today places you among the most gifted people on the planet."

Drawing on advice garnered from alumni from the Class of 2011, he went on to encourage the incoming class to take advantage of all the university has to offer outside of the typical classroom, including study abroad, undergraduate research, internships and service.

"You have arrived at a great banquet, don't make yourself a bologna sandwich," Lambert said, met with loud applause from the parents in attendance.



HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor
Four students remain standing at the conclusion of President Leo Lambert's human bar graph demonstration, emphasizing the privilege of an education at a private institution.

He concluded his address by explaining another Elon tradition — the presentation of an acorn to all members of the incoming class. The acorn will be supplanted with an oak sapling at their commencement in 2015, a time at which Lambert said students will leave Elon with the assurance that their education has prepared them for life's journey.

"This acorn is a symbol of the promise of an Elon education," Lambert said. "You have everything within you to grow and become strong."

Ayesha Delpish, an associate professor of statistics, succeeded Lambert, emphasizing the importance of critical thinking, academic integrity and engaged learning.

"True learning is an active process that requires engagement," she said. "It's not immediate or easy. You and only you are in charge of your learning."

The faculty at Elon, Delpish said, is committed to the success of its students, and should serve as a source of guidance and inspiration.

"Wewillexpectyourbest here, but we will give you everything you need to achieve it," she said.

Coral ribbons were distributed to incoming students and placed on faculty programs in remembrance of Lauren Astley, a member of the Class of 2015 allegedly murdered at the hands of an ex-boyfriend earlier this summer.

Freshmen aiming to continue sense of community

Caitlin O'Donnell
News Editor

CJ Moore and Joe Incorvia want to get the upper hand over tragedy. Following the death of classmate Lauren Astley earlier this summer, allegedly at the hands of an ex-boyfriend, the incoming freshmen became vocal in conversations on social media sites about ways to best keep her memory alive.

The sense of community that followed among the members of Class of 2015 is one they don't want to lose.

"Lauren, even though she is not physically here, brought us so close and I refuse to let that die," Moore said.

The two first connected after Incorvia posted a video on the Facebook page for the class expressing his hopes for the coming year.

"One day I was sitting at home and it just hit me," Incorvia said. "It was so great to see the amount of support for Lauren when, as a class, we had never

met each other. I thought, 'Imagine what we can do when we get together face-to-face?'"

More than 100 students liked the video post, but it was Moore who left a lengthy response and the pair began to brainstorm ideas for the coming year. From there, their goals expanded to include running for a position with SGA.

"In high school, it was all a popularity contest, who throws the wildest parties," Moore said. "I want it to be about what I can do for you, not just give you."

Many of their current ideas revolve around maintaining Astley's presence in their class throughout their four years on campus. Incorvia lost a total of seven classmates during his high school years, experiences that define his reaction to the loss of Astley.

"In the past when I lost a classmate, everyone goes into a period of class bonding but then it goes away," he said. "I want to create some way to

keep that bond going even when we're not connected by a tragedy."

Part of that, Moore said, includes their idea of "coral events," activities on campus that would ideally benefit a scholarship set up in Astley's memory.

"It's really important to make sure we're not just remembering her and being sullen about it," Moore said. "I feel she's still alive. We will remember her because she is the driving force of Class of 2015. This is like my family."

But Incorvia and Moore are not the only incoming students who can get involved in leadership positions on campus.

Elections for positions with SGA will be held Sept. 7 and students still have time to get involved — a petition with 75 signatures is required for the position of senator and 100 needed for class officer.

"It's a great way to meet people by going and getting

petitions signed," said Sam Warren, executive president of SGA. "Go out and get signatures, meet people, knock on doors, say hi to everyone. It's pretty easy but relatively quick to get involved."

Incorvia and Moore have already been doing just that, though their visibility from the class Facebook page has made the task a little simpler.

"Running for a position wasn't the goal when we set out with this," Incorvia said. "It's cool to be recognized, but I didn't expect it."

For students who want to remain involved without running for a position, Warren recommends serving as a student adviser for a faculty committee, attending SGA's weekly meetings or applying for fun funds.

"Come find us if you have any ideas or student issues," Warren said. "Feel free to seek us out and we'll figure out what to do to help you in any way we can."

Calendar: Aug. 31-Sept. 6

Aug. 31

- Campus Rec Job Fair from 4 - 6 p.m. in Koury Commons
- Newman Center Barbecue at 6 p.m. on the front lawn of the Newman Center at Holland House

Sept. 1

- Campus Rec Job Fair from 4 - 6 p.m. in Koury Commons
- Phoenix Piano Trio at 7:30 p.m. in Whitley Auditorium
- Survival Bingo at 10:10 p.m. in McKinnon

Sept. 2

- Comedian Geoff Keith at 8:30 p.m. in Irazu

Sept. 3

- Yard Sale from 9 - 11 a.m. on the corner of Woodale and S. O'Kelly
- Move on the Lawn at 8 p.m. on Young Commons

Sept. 4

- Tim Baker Organ Performance at 3 p.m. in Whitley Auditorium

Sept. 5

- Last day for late registration
- The Plastic Box, opening reception at 5:30 p.m. in the Isabella Cannon Room

Sept. 6

- College Coffee 9:40 - 10:20 a.m. on Phi Beta Kappa Commons
- The Second City improvisation company at 7:30 p.m. in McCrary Theatre

For more dates and information about campus events, visit the calendar on the Elon website.

NEWS BRIEFS

Eating option in Lindner Hall will not come to fruition this upcoming fall semester

Elon University has decided against bringing a dining option to the Academic Village by adding a kiosk in Lindner Hall.

Despite attention from the Student Government Association and students' desire for food closer to East Area and the Academic Village, it was determined during the summer other dining locations are close enough in proximity to the area, rendering another location unnecessary.

"It would not be able to sustain itself," said Jeff Gazda, resident district manager of ARAMARK at Elon.

Flood in Hook temporarily displaces 8 freshmen during official move-in day

Leaks from a water pipe on the third floor of Hook residence hall caused water damage severe enough to keep eight freshmen from moving into their rooms on move in day Friday. Instead, the students were temporarily reassigned to vacant spaces in other residence halls.

Repairs have been made, according to Robert Buchholz, director of Physical Plant, and students are expected to move back into their assigned dorms within the coming week. It has not yet been decided whether moving the students' belongings across campus will be the responsibility of Physical Plant or Residence Life.

Refunds now available through direct deposit

Elon University students will no longer have to jump through hoops to receive excess funds paid to the university.

Instead of having to get a paper check with a refund, students can sign up on OnTrack to have the funds sent directly to their checking or savings accounts.

Elon community donates school supplies to Afghanistan, Alamance County

Elon President Leo Lambert reached out to students, faculty and staff through email and New Student Convocation to bring school supplies for children in Afghanistan and Alamance County. The idea to donate school supplies was spurred by a 2009 alumnus stationed in Afghanistan who contacted Lambert about the lack of school supplies.

Lambert said he was reminded of the homeless children in Alamance County and this would be a way to bridge the gap and help both groups. As of Monday, Aug. 29, the Elon community had collected 25 boxes of supplies to be sent to Afghanistan and 14 boxes sent to local children.

American Red Cross seeks relief for Hurricane Irene

Elon students wishing to assist with Hurricane Irene relief can donate money to the American Red Cross for disbursement. Elon Volunteers! will also be sponsoring a blood drive on campus Oct. 5 and 6.

International

Elon Pendulum Correspondents

This semester, The Pendulum is going overseas to bring you news from around the world. From stories about culture to breaking news, from photo stories to great recipes, we'll only bring you the best. If you're studying abroad this year or know someone who is, contact us at pendulum@elon.edu. Look for stories from our correspondents located in:

- Spain
- Argentina
- Ghana
- Denmark
- Italy
- England
- France
- Ecuador
- Israel
- China
- Semester at Sea



Gap semester program creates new opportunities

Rebecca Smith
Managing Editor

Next fall when most of the Class of 2016 is moving into new dorm rooms, about 15 students will be working on leadership skills in Wyoming, traveling across the country while stopping for service projects and exploring Costa Rica.

Elon University has created a new gap semester program that will start in the fall of 2012 encompassing all of these experiences.

"The gap semester program started because part of the strategic plan is to develop innovative pathways for you to start when you enroll or as you end your time at Elon," said Brian O'Shea, assistant to the vice president for Student Life and dean of students.

The administration looked at many different existing gap semester programs before deciding to create their own.

"We realized that we had a lot of different ideas that were not being implemented in any current program," O'Shea said. "I started looking at a potential budget and schedule for the program. This past year, I spent a lot of time developing the program and chairing a search committee for a

program coordinator."

The participating students will not arrive to Elon's campus for orientation week like the rest of the campus, but will complete most of their orientation in the spring of their senior year of high school, according to Katie Hight, director of new student programs.

"They will all be in the same orientation group in the spring and talk about a lot of the stuff that is discussed

weeks of service. They will start in Wyoming and travel cross-country, ending in North Carolina. There will be four service opportunities, each lasting about a week."

Each week, the students will spend time in a different locale involved in a different service project. The participants will also get to visit tourist attractions and learn about the different locations they are in.

The last leg of the trip is spending six weeks at the Elon Centre in Costa Rica.

"They will be doing a lot of the same things that the students who spend a winter term in Costa Rica do," O'Shea said. "They will have a Spanish class, a cultural class and probably site seeing."

Currently, any students who are entering Elon as part of a Fellows program cannot participate because the Fellows programs are cohort programs that require attendance in the fall.

"We think this program is something that is very innovative," O'Shea said. "We think this program will make students more resilient, more resilient than they would have been if they arrived to campus in August. I like to call it the best of Elon, the three things we do best — study abroad, service work and leadership — combined into one."

STAGES OF ELON'S GAP SEMESTER

Three weeks at National Outdoor Leadership School in Wyoming at the end of August.

Four weeks traveling across the country participating in service projects.

Six weeks at the Elon Centre in Costa Rica taking classes and site-seeing.

during the normal fall orientation," Hight said.

There will also be a brief orientation with staff at the beginning of the gap program.

The first three weeks of the program will be conducted at the National Outdoor Leadership School during the end of August. During this stage, participants will hike, camp and develop leadership skills.

"The next part of the program is completely run through Elon," O'Shea said. "The students will spend four

INTERNATIONAL BRIEFS

Gaddafi's wife, children flee to Algeria

Following increased tension within war-torn Libya and heightened international pressure, Muammar Gaddafi's regime has fallen and the former dictator is in hiding.

Gaddafi's wife and three of his children have fled together to Algeria along with several of his grandchildren, which the Algerian government has confirmed.

Germany shuts down nuclear half of country's nuclear reactors

Nuclear power has long been a major source of energy in Germany, but the country is not exempt from the fears that have arisen since the nuclear meltdowns in Fukushima, Japan.

German parliament recently voted to make temporary nuclear plant closures permanent and is rushing to find a new power source to replace the lost energy. Germany was previously one of Europe's leading energy exporters.

Unmanned cargo craft crashes into International Space Station

After an unmanned cargo craft crashed into the International Space Station Aug. 24, the Russian space agency Roskosmos has delayed its next trip to the ISS. The cargo craft was bringing food and fuel to the ISS and any further delay for the next mission may mean Russia will consider leaving the ISS unmanned for the first time in 10 years.

NASA retired its shuttle program earlier this summer and Russia has been charged with bringing U.S. astronauts to and from the ISS.



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All Access Basic	Unlimited visits to all 3 dining halls 10 free guest meals per year	\$150	\$4,650

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MEAL PLAN	BENEFITS	ANNUAL MEAL DOLLARS	ANNUAL PRICE
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Editorial

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

The end of the world as we know it Or so recent natural phenomena and resulting media coverage would lead us all to believe

The last two weeks have been filled with bizarre events in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions. An earthquake centered in Virginia sent hanging lights swaying and leaves shaking from North Carolina to New York. Then, Hurricane Irene worked its way up the East Coast, causing torrential rain and wind, leaving flooding and power outages across at least 11 states and even taking a few lives. Irene also spawned several tornadoes in locations that rarely, if ever, see that type of weather, like the Outer Banks of North Carolina and coastal Delaware.

While some have treated these occurrences with due seriousness, others have seen an opportunity to have a few laughs, create a funny Facebook status or come up with an excuse not to do something (i.e. "We can't go to the store, it's hurricane-ing!")

But those who had statuses like "Survived the earthquake!" or "Irene's all gone, guess we have class Monday" would do well to remember back to March, when an 8.9-magnitude earthquake and resulting tsunami killed more than 16,000 people in Japan, or back to August 2005, when Hurricane Katrina killed 1,836 people. Both cases caused billions of dollars in damages and inflicted immeasurable amounts of emotional trauma.

Those affected by the recent events here in the United States should count themselves lucky that the U.S.'s recovery from Hurricane Irene will take weeks or months, not years, and that the worst thing to deal with from the earthquake was a group of tourists inconvenienced by the temporary closure of the Washington Monument.

This past weekend, several news networks devoted round-the-clock coverage to nothing but the hurricane, probably much to the annoyance of the rest of the country. They used the words "crisis" and "disaster" to describe the weather. During the earthquake, "panic" and "pandemonium" were common terms used by the news media.

Both of these events beg the question,

when does a situation go from bad or troubling to a crisis or disaster? And when does a surprising event with confused participants and onlookers become panic or pandemonium?

When does the burden of defining an event shift from the participants of an event to the media? Does it ever actually belong to those directly impacted?

By naming an event a "disaster" or a "tragedy," a stigma and a perception is created. It's like telling somebody they are going to get a headache. If the person is told that, he or she is far more likely to feel that headache, even though it may be completely made up.

Is this sensationalizing about ratings,

readership or pandering to an audience that thrives on watching footage or seeing pictures of buildings being washed away or roofs being torn off houses? It is unclear when "just the facts" became "just the facts and whatever title we decide to assign to this event." It is also unclear where the vicious cycle of using disasters as fodder for conversation and late-night television monologues began and if the trend can be stopped.

Hurricanes, earthquakes, tornadoes and other natural disasters aren't material for jokes puns or clever tweets. They're dangerous and can be life-threatening and should be discussed with respect and reverence by all.



RACHEL SOUTHMAYD | Opinions Editor

Become a person, not a grade machine

The first day of classes is often affectionately called "syllabus day." Many times, there's little homework assigned, besides perhaps reading or purchasing a new notebook. Sometimes, class even gets out early. Very rarely is there actually a quiz or other form of assessment beyond, "How do you pronounce that last name?"

And so, the semester begins. It chugs along easily, and students slide back into the rhythm of readings, essays, problem sets, quizzes, projects, exams and whatever else a professor throws their way. But then the weeks wear on and the pace picks up, not just in class, but in life. Fall break approaches and suddenly there's five readings, four papers, three exams, two group projects, one fundraiser for an organization and zero time to breathe, think or remember how to be anything besides a hamster spinning mindlessly on a wheel, just trying to keep pace.

Take heart. This is not a sentiment limited to just one student. Most people probably feel this panic at one time or another. And perhaps those students may find it comforting to remember this:

"No one method of approaching college is the right one, and no two people can ever replicate the same experience."

a college experience is more than just the sum of its parts. It is more than grades and PowerPoint slides and T-shirts from philanthropy events.

A college experience is a wholly organic journey of discovery on many levels, both personal, intellectual, emotional and for some, even spiritual. And this experience is about more than what is put into it. It's about what is taken out of it, interpreted, learned from and then reapplied again.

No one method of approaching college is the right one, and no two people can ever replicate the same experience.

But what might be a comfort to know is that no one, including worrisome parents or strict professors, expects

any one piece of the college puzzle to be the singular defining factor. Classes, residence life, volunteer work, sports, relationships, study abroad experiences, late-night runs to Cookout, SUB Movies on the Lawn, coffee shop guitarists and any other number of things mesh in their own unique way.

And remember this: becoming a good student of the world is equally as important as becoming a good student in any specific classroom. So check out a book, a newspaper, a podcast, an instrument or a tennis racket. Nourish your soul with just as much enthusiasm as you would nourish your brain.

Now, no one is condoning flunking out, or abandoning studies to chase a good time. But there is such a thing as a healthy balance, and learning that now can be a useful tool later in life.

The lesson in all of this is simple: twenty years from now, it won't matter if you got an "A" or a "B+" on that paper on the mating patterns of fruit flies or the textile exports of China. What will matter will be the person you became, both within the boundaries of this institution and outside of them.

THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

The Pendulum is published each Wednesday of the academic year. The advertising and editorial copy deadline is 5 p.m. the Friday before publication. Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be typed and e-mailed with a telephone number for verification. Submissions are accepted 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. You can reach The Pendulum by e-mail at pendulum@elon.edu. If you have questions or concerns about an article, contact a section editor. Please do not respond to reporters directly.

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How do you feel about the festivities following bin Laden's death? What was your most memorable moment of the year? Have an opinions? Look for questions like these and more every week on The Pendulum's Facebook.
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Opinions

In GOP, range of candidates is good news for voters



Ryan Maass
Columnist

President Barack Obama has made more than a few enemies throughout his political career both inside and outside his time spent within the Oval Office.

The sheer size and scope of the Republican field of contenders for 2012 is proof. On top of that, analysts speculate the crowd may still grow, as several GOP superstars including Sarah Palin, Chris

Christie and even freshman senator Marco Rubio have hinted at presidential bids.

Even those who have publicly refused the idea continue to be tossed around in the media, such as congressional conservative Paul Ryan. This long list of choices can only be beneficial for the Republican Party, which is still struggling to redefine itself, and for the country it hopes to rule again.

Ultimately, the crowded field of candidates gives the independent voters—the ultimate target of a hopeful GOP nominee—several ways of looking at the modern Republican Party. There are two basic camps: the establishment and the anti-establishment.

The establishment candidates are running on their records and their wallets. Benefiting them are pure political experience and connections, exemplified by former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, who consistently performs extremely well in debates, and former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney, who, quite frankly, has been in this race since he dropped out of the last one in 2007. These two candidates look, act and sound like presidents, a testament to their time in the public arena.

But they have skeletons in their closet precisely because they have been in the spotlight for so long: Gingrich is working on his third marriage and Romney continues to be hammered by the opposing camp for defending

his not-so-conservative health care position in Massachusetts.

On the other end of the GOP spectrum is the media conglomerate's worst nightmare: the anti-establishment. This field is very diverse and, despite including long-term politicians, agrees that the Washington establishment has grown beyond its means and constitutional limits.

Social crusaders Rick Santorum and Michele Bachmann have revitalized traditional conservatives, owing much of their popularity to Tea Party activism. Ron Paul, the 12-term Texas congressman running on the same libertarian principles as he has in the past, has performed exceptionally well in the polls despite his animosity with the media. CEO Herman Cain has absolutely no political experience at all, and uses this information as a reason why he is a good candidate. And of course, newcomer Rick Perry has liberals in every establishment scared stiff by sporting mannerisms virtually identical to those of former President George W. Bush.

The anti-establishment has several disagreements, but represents the idea that the federal government's growth has hit a brick wall, and checking the power in Washington is vital to sustaining the country's exceptionalism.

The drawbacks to being in this camp? The media hates it. If you believe Sarah Palin was slighted by the media establishment in 2008, you haven't seen anything yet. The difference for 2012 is that anti-establishment champions have a legitimate chance of winning. Rasmussen and other sources rank Ron Paul, once considered a fringe candidate of the right wing, only a few crucial points behind Obama should the election be held today.

It is essential the Republican Party rediscovers itself in the wake of what could be our generation's Carter administration. Discussion among candidates should involve what will energize our depressed economy, rather than what sort of rhetoric will make Obama seem unpatriotic—after all, he's often done that by himself. Overall, the more competitive the GOP primaries are, the better.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS
Texas governor Rick Perry recently announced his campaign. Perry has drawn attention because of his policy and mannerism similarities to President George W. Bush.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS
Minnesota congresswoman Michele Bachmann placed first at the Iowa Straw Poll in Ames in early August. Dubbed "GOP sweetheart," Bachmann is also a member of the Tea Party.

Money, money everywhere but not a cent to spend



Ashley Jobe
Columnist

The economy is shifting. Our country recently avoided the brink of debt destruction with a hard-fought compromise between tax negotiations and the budgets allotted to social services.

The deal has not solved our problems – it has only offered a brief respite from intense public scrutiny. That public issue was just a portion of a greater storm brewing nationwide.

There are men and women with advanced degrees and thousands of dollars to pay in debt because of them, but are overqualified for the job positions available. Hundreds of jobs sit unfilled in cities like Chicago, where duties call for technologically savvy employees. Thousands of Americans live one paycheck away from disaster. Homeowners are trapped beneath upside-down

mortgages, growing health care costs and rising prices for basic necessities.

Where is the money? And once we have it, why isn't it doing as much to assist us in surviving as it once did?

It seems that a desperate fear has taken hold of U.S. citizens. We know that the way to boost our economy is to invest in it, but can we overcome the reflexive grip Americans have taken on their wallets? What we once spent freely to stimulate our commerce, we now put aside, trading paper bills for warm meals in the evenings or precious fuel for our vehicles, instead of investing in our nation's future.

Money has only gained traction in the underlying tones of my family conversations. My parents listen sympathetically to the desires of my heart: my dreams of adventures in Australia, Dallas and Naples, Italy. They softly remind me of what practicality means. They hope my innermost goals will not dissipate completely, and I wish to keep those embers alive as well. But it may not be my choice now.

The stark realities of my financial struggles

may cause my fortress to crumble long before I've finished building it.

As I read the headlines and observe the furrows in my father's brow, I pray for generations to come. What could be possible if the disadvantages of low-income students ceased, allowing them to break free of systematic poverty? What of supporting local produce instead of monopolized fast food chains—in what ways could our improved health pay dividends to us as individuals, and as communities? Question yourselves further: is our current demographic lacking this critical thinking? Doesn't this affect us all?

So where is the money? Well here at Elon, the money is embedded in the very fiber of our academic textbooks, laced within the ink that saturates those pages. The money sits in the rubble stirring up dust in what used to be our residence halls, our recreational fields.

These costly endeavors are investments into a future I hope will be brighter than the one than I see now. Hopefully, the horizon of tomorrow will have a slightly greener hue.

Even upperclassmen can gain from Fall Organization Fair



Brittany Washington
Columnist

We all remember our first Organization Fair: a bunch of tables and signs on Young Commons with a lot of people offering free T-shirts, pens, cups, candy and information. We were excited freshmen, eager to partake in all the fun organizations Elon had to offer. As upperclassmen, we should still be that eager.

Elon has 186 organizations according to the Office of Student Activities. With all these

different organizations, there isn't just something for everyone, there is a lot of something for everyone. During the 2010-2011 school year, 14 new organizations were formed. Upperclassmen are bound to discover an organization they didn't know existed at this year's Fall Org Fair.

For example, take the Campus Kitchen Project at Elon University. According to its website, the program is an emerging leader in community service for students and resourceful anti-hunger programs for communities around the country.

Elon's Campus Kitchen was founded in the spring of 2011. More students might have heard of it after its grand opening in the 1889 restaurant. Elon's Campus Kitchen serves the Burlington community by providing food to Allied Churches, an organization that provides food and shelter to the area's homeless, and to Caring Kitchen, which gives meals to the area's less fortunate population.

Elon's Greek Life is another example. Kappa Delta, a Pan-Hellenic Council organization, was chartered April 3 and Delta Upsilon, an Interfraternity Council organization was colonized March 31, according to the Office of Greek Life. Kappa Delta's website said the sorority is committed to providing opportunities and experiences that inspire women to greatness. Delta Upsilon is committed to building better men for a global society through service, leadership development and lifelong personal growth of their diverse membership.

These are just three organizations that students new and old can learn about from attending this year's Fall Org Fair. Junior Janae Frazier agrees that upperclassmen should get involved with new organizations.

"After a few years in college, I'm sure

upperclassmen have discovered new interests and skills that they never knew about," Frazier said. "They should definitely enhance those skills and learn more about their interests through different organizations on campus that cater to those subjects."

But sophomore Yvette Bean says there's a major advantage to being an older member of an organization: knowledge.

"Upperclassmen should stick with the organizations they are in because they know enough about the organization to take a leadership position," Bean said.

She said these positions can help them make a greater impact within the organization.

And it is true that taking time to get intensely involved in an organization can develop into a meaningful and useful experience. Many officers in organizations have a lot of responsibility and learn new skills.

But there's no harm in taking a look around. With over more than 180 organizations signed up to participate in this year's Fall Org Fair, upperclassmen should go and learn about the new organizations which could present great opportunities for students new and old.

Behind the scenes of professional piano

Professor to perform lengthy, complex piano composition

Stephanie Butzer
Senior Reporter

Knowing how to play an instrument is a gift, but having the talent to play professionally is much more. It's the sum of years of endless practices and rewards. But once the musical concepts are understood, playing for an audience may be the next step.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pa. but raised in Haifa, Israel, Elon professor and professional pianist Omri Shimron has played piano since childhood. He attended a performing arts high school and continued to pursue his masters and doctorate in music after college. He came to Elon in 2008 to teach foundational music classes.

Shimron is currently perfecting a piece to be performed for the community.

Shimron's upcoming piano recital will be his solo recital debut at Elon.

Although he has had a performance almost every fall since he's taught at the school, this upcoming recital will be different. Previously, Shimron played with Elon professors Virginia Novine-Whittaker and Julie Celona Vangorden.

"I am playing just one piece by one composer, and it is obviously a very long piece," Shimron said. "It's a little over an hour in duration, which seems challenging. Not just for me but for the audience. I'm aware of that as I prepare it."

Later in the year, Shimron will visit Duke University, Virginia Tech University and Winthrop University to perform the composition.

The piece, written by American composer Frederic Rzewski in 1975 and titled



SHIMRON

"The People United Will Never Be Defeated!" has a theme centered on a Chilean protest song.

"This composer is very famous for writing music that has a political element to it," Shimron said.

It focuses around political

struggle, and two additional European protest songs are incorporated as the piece progresses.

"The People United Will Never Be Defeated!" has 36 variations of the original Chilean theme.

"It has a really wide range of styles," Shimron said. "Even though it has one composer, he really tried to write many different styles that appeal to many different people."

As important as the classics are, it's also very important to remember modern music, according to Shimron.

"This piece is a really good glimpse of the 21st Century and all the styles it went through in classical music," he said.

When it comes to his performances, Shimron faces the same fears any performer does. While excitement and

Check it Out:

What: Professor Omri Shimron plays "The People United Will Never Be Defeated!" by Frederic Rzewski

When: Thursday, Sept. 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Whitley Auditorium

determination mix with adrenaline, so do nerves.

"It is not everyday life, it's a heightened experience," he said. "There are expectations and all eyes, or ears, are on you. It is part of our training as professionals to not necessarily erase that nervousness but manage it and channel it into a positive performance energy."

Art springs from simple, ubiquitous, inexpensive camera techniques

Julia Murphy
Staff Photographer

What purpose does a toy camera serve in the modern world of memory cards, lenses and camera bodies? To most, it's a thing of the past but to some artists, it's a non-traditional medium in contemporary art.

The Elon art department's first exhibition this fall, "The Plastic Box," is a juried, national collection featuring the growing use of toy cameras, pinhole cameras and other photographic processes in art today

Young Kim, professor of art and art history, worked with associate professor Michael Fels, to jury this project. They called for participation nationwide and received approximately 26 submissions.

"I wanted to approach the medium from a different perspective," Fels said. "This seemed appropriate considering the ubiquitous nature of mid- to low-quality cameras on every electronic device that we own."

Consumers of all ages use these cameras on phones, computers and tablets to

capture moments because of convenience. Pinhole cameras are also simple and low quality, but used today as an alternative medium to paint, pencil or metals. The vast quantity of these materials are allowing artists to use them in a variety of ways.

"The very definitions and parameters of contemporary art are being blurred," Fels said.

He curated an exhibition bringing together other photographic processes and encouraging the public to rediscover what

Check it Out:

What: "The Plastic Box," juried art exhibition curated by professors Young Kim and Michael Fels

When: Opening reception, Monday, Sept. 5 at 5:30 p.m.

Where: Isabella Cannon Room, Center for the Arts

contemporary art is.

"I hope that the exhibition challenges the public's preconceptions of contemporary photography, as well as offers a contemporary and alternative

view of the world," Fels said.

The exhibition goes on display in the Isabella Cannon Room in the Center for the Arts on September 5 and will remain on view until November 16.

THE PENDULUM

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Submit Story Ideas

Contact Editor-in-Chief Anna Johnson about opportunities to get involved (freshmen too).

Attend budget meetings every Wednesday at 7 p.m. in The Pendulum office.

Come into our new office on the third floor of Elon Town Center anytime. We have an open door policy.

Attend our interest meeting at 6 p.m. Sept. 7 in The Pendulum office. There will be pizza and refreshments for everyone.

Visit our table at the Organization Fair Sept. 9.

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Be sure to visit the new Pendulum Office.

Find us by using the side door of the Elon Town Center and coming up to the third floor.

We look forward to seeing you!



Dating platform launches at Elon University

Rebecca Wickel
Design Editor

DateMySchool, an online meeting and dating platform for university students and alumni, launched at Elon on Aug. 17.

The site, founded by Columbia University MBA classmates Balazs Alexa and Jean Meyer, aims to connect academically driven, time-constrained students attending the same school or different schools within the same geographic area.

"Members understand, trust and relate to one another in a way that they cannot on other dating sites that match users based on their zip codes," said Melanie Wallner, director of public relations at DateMySchool.

Unlike Facebook, DateMySchool helps members meet new people offline and maintains exclusivity by requiring active university email accounts.

"I think you can trust someone from DateMySchool as much as you can on Facebook," said sophomore Becki Kennedy.

The site's commitment to safety and privacy are cause for its network

of over 31,000 members.

"DateMySchool has massive adoption at universities such as Harvard, Columbia and 350 others because what we do is the exact opposite of Facebook, LinkedIn or other networks," said co-founder Balazs Alexa. "We show users people they don't know, but can trust."

Alexa and Meyer founded DateMySchool in November 2010 after a friend from the nursing school complained about her program having 90 percent females, while the co-founders were in the business school with 80 percent males.

Within one week of creating the program, 1,300 Columbia students registered.

As a service for young adults, DateMySchool has features designed specifically for college students, including free membership and filtering functions to establish friends, study partners and work contacts in the same region.

"It enables members to control who may view their profiles," Wallner said. "If an Elon student only wanted to connect with Duke students, one click

makes that possible."

Elon alumni and students may choose to be visible to members from seven nearby universities, including Wake Forest, UNC Wilmington and NC State.

"With the ability to filter schools and departments within the same geographic area, we match members who place the same priority on education, extracurricular activities and careers," Wellner said.

Anonymity is another factor that appeals to university students.

"If members don't want to see people they already know, they can limit their profile access so they'll only meet people they don't know," Wellner said. "And because DMS offers various networking abilities, users can be discreet about their reasons for registering."

Despite the platform's advantages, Elon students question its role on campus.

"At a big school it might be more helpful, but I might not use it very much," said sophomore Sarabeth Yglesias.

Elon's small class sizes and campus

life are already conducive to student relationships.

"It's really easy to meet people of the opposite sex and become friends or study buddies or start going out," said sophomore Laura Van Drie.

DateMySchool and other social networking sites could also initiate serious relationships.

"I think it could put a lot of pressure and strain on a relationship," Van Drie said. "I feel like if you start on a dating site like that it would create a weird dynamic. Most people aren't looking for really serious relationships, but if one falls into your lap, it's different."

Despite its potential for creating relationships, DateMySchool insists it is not just for dating, but helps members meet new people.

"One of my friends just got a job through personal contacts of a guy she met on DMS," Wellner said. "Another friend keeps in touch with a DMS date that felt more platonic than romantic."

The success of DateMySchool at Elon remains to be seen, but its possibilities for creating romantic, platonic, academic and professional relationships are only a click away.

Study abroad program adds new destinations around the world

Edith Veremu
Copy Editor

As part of its commitment to training global citizens and encouraging students to experience new cultures, Elon University and the Isabella Cannon International Centre have added five new Winter Term study abroad programs and three semester programs across the world.

The Winter Term destinations are India/Dubai, not to be confused with the existing program in India, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Turkey/Greece and Vietnam, while the semester programs are in China (Shanghai), France (Montpellier) and Turkey.

"We are happy that the programs are in new places," said Woody Pelton, dean of international programs.

For a program to be created, a faculty member who is interested in

leading the course or program must submit a proposal to the Study Abroad Committee, which then determines if the proposal is successful or not, according to Pelton. If the program has been approved, ICIC will then support the program leaders with logistics such as airfare and accommodation, coordinating the events that make up the program and "the movement of the program," Pelton said.

"Each course would have its own objective and one thing the committee looks at is whether the proposal has the fundamental goals of personal growth, academic content and cultural awareness," said Paul Geis, assistant director of affiliations and exchanges.

The Turkey program in Istanbul is an exchange between Elon and Koç University. The program came about after various conversations among ICIC staff members, a board member and

even a Turkish Elon alumna, according to Pelton.

"It was a confluence of many things, mostly from a big hole in our map in that area," he said. "The program was official when President Lambert signed the agreement this summer in Istanbul."

Elon saw Koc as a fit for the program because of its similarities to Elon, according to Geis.

"Koc University came up as one of the best matches to Elon because of its academics, size and the ethos of the institution," he said. "The importance of undergraduate research at Koc is something that helped us decide it was a good fit."

So far, some students both from Elon and Koc have expressed interest in the exchange program, according to Pelton.

"We will begin sending students in the spring semester," he said. "Initial

interest has been from international students, but the program is for a broad range of students."

Overall enrollment for the new programs has been good, according to Geis. He said that the Turkey/Greece program is "just about full" while the Puerto Rico program currently has low enrollment.

"Students have already submitted applications to these new programs as well as the other popular WT programs," Geis said. "Out of 26 programs, about six or seven already have waitlists. South Africa tends to be popular as well as Ghana and Ireland. But the Mexico program has been cancelled this year."

Students can still apply to WT or spring semester programs until Sept. 15, Pelton said.

"We think the Turkey exchange and the other programs are really good fits and we're all excited about it," Geis said.

Alumna explores 'the loop' of deja vu through senior film project

Justine Vadini
Senior Reporter

Kristina Licare, class of 2011, experiences deja vu all the time. But while most people dismiss these moments as surreal, Licare finds truth.

Licare describes her experience as a "belief in the purity of each moment." For her, they are not tricks of the mind, but real and previously lived circumstances that are re-occurring.

Licare's experiences with deja vu led her to question her philosophy on life and, more specifically, time.

"There are moments that everybody has in their life where they look up and say, 'Where am I? Who am I? Why am I here?'" she said.

In her quest to answer these questions, Licare sought to understand a cyclical view of time as opposed to the widely believed linear view of time. The cinema major's passion and curiosity for the topic manifested itself in her senior film project based on a young girl experiencing repetitive deja-vu-like moments. She dubs this realm of cyclical time, as well as her short film "The Loop."

"There's no way that other people can know how other people see the world," Licare said. "That's why there's art."

And that's exactly what this "mystic" did. Her film, "The Loop," is a conceptual piece based around time's cyclical nature and Licare's idea that "life is just a ride." It follows a girl in her day-to-day life as she experiences the eerie familiarity of deja vu. Licare uses layering and other editing affects in order to convey the simultaneous moments of cyclical time.

"Humans always find a way to un-

see everything, especially death," she said.

For Licare, the fact that no one is promised tomorrow actually makes living the life she wants to live that much easier.

"People are so obsessed and afraid of the realities and illusions of life they forget to live," Licare said.

Licare is fighting this fear by pursuing her film career in Los Angeles, and she currently has an internship at Paramount Studios.

"There's really no point in listening to all the negativity of how hard it's going to be," she said. "There is no reason to wake up hesitant about going in for an interview. Now is all there is."

When Licare isn't busy on the Hollywood lot, she spends time working on her latest project, a TV pilot called "Perfectly Natural," about a girl who ventures to Los Angeles to pursue a career in screenwriting. Although some obvious parallels can be drawn between the main character's life and her own, Licare's work is by no means autobiographical.

But the pilot does integrate themes similar to those that inspired Licare's senior film project.

"I'm really trying to give the story an underlying theme revolving around the fact that you are neither your past or your future, you are in this moment, the only moment that truly exists," she said.

This is a principle Licare lives by in her daily life. She's not worried about making it to the top right away.

"The joy is truly in the journey," Licare said. "It isn't about the destination at all. If I haven't lived in between, I've slept through the really important stuff, and clearly, a writer can't do that."

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Alumna gives back to her Sigma Kappa roots

Audrey Horwitz
Reporter

If you take a look around campus, one thing should be clear: Elon University is changing. The view of Colonnades from Danieley is no longer overpowered by mountains of dirt. Five new Greek houses have been built and even West, the oldest building on campus, has had a parlor makeover. But if there's one thing that remains the same, it's the need for alumni involvement.

One alumna, Hilaire Pickett, class of 2008, has recognized this need and identified a way to support her alma mater.

"I may not have thousands of dollars to give, but I was happy to offer my time in a way that impacted Elon and my Sigma Kappa chapter," Pickett said.

Pickett, director of communications at Design Lines Ltd., an interior design company, was approached by the advisers of her sorority, Sigma Kappa. Because Hilaire remained in contact with Elon after graduation, Design Lines became the design firm for Sigma Kappa's new house.

Serving as project manager throughout the process, Pickett worked with Design Lines to present color schemes in early spring and worked on the production from May to August. Using the feedback she received from sorority members and advisers, she helped create what she called a "young and professional look that the Sigma Kappa girls could immediately relate to."

Pickett said although she develops a relationship with each of her clients, this project really hit home.

"This time it was special," Pickett said. When she came back to the house to see the final product, she felt like she was back in college for a day. Although a few years have passed since she graduated, this was her way of using her professional expertise to stay connected to Elon.

The alumni association at Elon is always looking to get graduates involved. There are many ways alumni can give back, whether it's through networking, expertise or offering their time and resources. Pickett called alumni involvement a "never-ending process."

The challenge of alumni giving, according to Pickett, is identifying the specific needs of the university and finding clear avenues to give back.

"Partnerships need to be formed," she said.

Because she was able to recognize a need that was specific to Elon and to Sigma Kappa, her contribution was relevant to her experience as an undergraduate student and to her career.

When first approached to manage the design of Sigma Kappa's new house, Pickett said it was a "no-brainer." Her drive to give back is something she accredits to her parents. They were both involved in their collegiate alma maters and always encouraged her to give back to organizations she was a part of.

Pickett saw the interior design as her opportunity to give back to a school and to an organization that gave her so much. Pickett found the experience to be an overwhelmingly positive one.



PHOTO SUBMITTED
Elon alumna Hilaire Pickett (middle) stands with fellow Sigma Kappa members Amy Simmonds, class of 2013 (left), and Hayley Knicely, class of 2012 (right), in front of the completed Greek house. Pickett's creative contributions to the Sigma Kappa house was her way of giving back to Elon and to her sorority.

"This was a smooth process," she said. "The advisers were accommodating and willing to let us design the space."

The Sigma Kappa members seem equally pleased.

"The house is fabulous," sophomore Sarah Sullivan said. "I feel like I jumped

into an Anthropologie magazine when I'm in it. The way the colors on the walls work with the furniture is so classy and chic."

Not only did the Sigma Kappa Chapter benefit from a new space, they also got the message that alumni involvement is alive and well at Elon.

How-To: Be a successful student and start the year right

Edith Veremu
Copy Editor

A new semester is upon us, and although it still feels like summer with the nice weather and the relaxed atmosphere, it's time to get back into school mode. The beginning of a new semester means assignments, group projects, deadlines and simply getting to class on those days when you just want to sleep in. Here are some ways you can begin the semester on the right track, athletic shoes not required.

Go to class and really pay attention.

While attending class is straightforward and obvious, it has to be mentioned. Attendance is something all Elon courses require and it can count for between 10 and 25 percent of your grade, depending on the course or department. Get your money's worth and go to class. And really pay attention when you're there. There's no need to text your friend when you should be paying attention to the migration patterns of birds or those law terms that'll most likely be on your midterm.

Learn to manage your time effectively and efficiently.

Time management is a skill you've heard about time and time again but it's truly valuable and you aren't born with it—you have to learn it. With only 24 hours in the day, of which about one-third are spent sleeping, there isn't much time left for going to class and keeping up with assignments and extracurricular activities. Effective time management can mean setting up a schedule for every activity you do throughout the day and following it, or knowing how to prioritize your time. Being efficient means using that docked time to accomplish your task. Get a planner to stay organized or keep a time pie chart that shows you where your chunks of time during the day are going.

Ask for help.

It's often said that asking for help when you need it is a sign of maturity. Don't be afraid to approach your professors or classmates when you need help, especially early in the semester. The earlier you tackle the issue, the sooner

it can be solved. Professors have office hours where they will help any student who comes to them asking for help. It's up to you to approach them and it'll help the professor put a face to that name on the roster.

Turn off the computer. Seriously.

It's easy to get distracted online when you're supposed to be taking notes in class or looking up facts for that research project that's due in 12 hours. It's OK to take your laptop to class if your professor allows it, but don't spend the entire class period looking at cats on YouTube or chatting the person sitting three seats away from you on Facebook. Not only is it rude to the professor, but it takes away from your learning. So when you're in class or ready to study, block distracting websites by using browser add-on extensions, like Firefox's BlockSite or LeechBlock or Google Chrome's "Chrome Nanny." Better yet, don't take your computer to class. Go the old-fashioned route and handwrite your notes — your retention of information will increase, according to a January 2011 Daily Mail article.

The falling kittens on YouTube will still be there when you're done studying.

Learn when to say 'no' to leeches.

When it's time to study, there's always something more attractive that pops up, whether it's a trip to the mall with friends or an interest meeting for that organization you heard about a few weeks ago. Everything but coursework sounds fun when you have to study, but you must learn to say no to these activities. By doing so, you realize that you have a goal to accomplish and you'll be able to do more if you have a goal in mind.

Sleep.

Sleep is very important and affects your productivity. Procrastinating until the last minute will get you nowhere, and can make 8 a.m. classes more painful than they already are. Get a good night's rest every night and you'll be mentally and physically ready for the semester. Don't be afraid to sneak in a 20-minute power nap here and there. Just don't nap during class.

Top 6 casual hangouts that save you money in and around Elon

Katy Steele
Copy Editor

1. **YoZone:** A local favorite, this frozen yogurt shop, located in Holly Hill Mall, is similar to Elon's Local Yogurt, but customers get to put on their own toppings. Join YoZone's texting list to get coupons and great deals. Text the word "yozone" to 77948 and start getting deals right away.



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer

2. **Academic Pavilion:** If you're looking to spend time with friends, accomplish some studying and maybe get a tan, head over to the grassy quad in front of Lindner Hall, also known as the Academic Pavilion. You can lie out in the grass, sit in the amphitheatre or lounge at one of the tables or rocking chairs on the patio.



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer

3. **Irazu:** Irazu, a coffee shop on campus, is tucked inside Moseley behind the mail center. You can get pastries and beverages with Phoenix Cash until 8 p.m. Monday-Friday and until 2 p.m. on Saturdays. But even after the coffee bar closes, students can sit in the lounge to hang out or study. You'll find this coffee shop busiest during Midnight Meals, a weekly event with free food and live music every Thursday at 11 p.m.

4. **Late-night dining:** If your cupboards are bare and you get the midnight munchies during the weekend, head over to one of the late-night dining options. Swing by McEwen Dining Hall on Thursday, Friday and Saturday between 11 p.m. and 3 a.m. for everything from hot dogs and burgers to breakfast foods such as chocolate chip pancakes and waffles. Another option is Acorn Coffee Shop, located on Williamson Avenue. Open until 1 a.m. every night, Acorn is known for its sandwiches, pastries, milkshakes, Starbucks beverages and, most notably, giant cookies.



CLAIRE ESPARRROS | Staff Photographer

5. **Graham Soda Shop:** A hidden gem not too far from campus, this 1950s themed diner has a classic American menu of burgers, fries, sandwiches and \$4 milkshakes. With live entertainment Saturdays at 7 p.m., it's definitely worth checking out.

6. **Glencoe:** This old town isn't a daily hangout spot for students, but it's worth exploring at least once during your time at Elon. The historic district, about 20 minutes from campus, was home to a thriving textile mill in the 1800s. The tiny town began to fade away after the mill closed in 1954, but it has improved dramatically since a group called Preservation North Carolina stepped in. The community is located on the Haw River and has a walking path up to the water and picnic tables. Some of the highlights in Glencoe include the Textile Heritage Museum and the restored historical homes.



JULIA MURPHY | Staff Photographer



MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

At Main Street Cake Shoppe in Gibsonville, baker April Murray constructs elaborate and simple sculptures from cake inside the pizza shop her parents opened and that she now owns. The cake recipes have been passed down her family from her great-grandmother and grandmother, just as the pizza shop passed from Murray's parents. Though she failed her high school art class, the cake designs are detailed and intricate with a flair for the dramatic.

sugar & SPICE

at Main Street Cake Shoppe

Merissa Blitz
Staff Photographer

For April Murray, making and decorating elaborate cakes for friends' celebrations was nothing more than a hobby. Then, it developed into a passion — and a career.

Murray is the second-generation owner of Just Pizza and its sister business, Main Street Cake Shoppe, both in Gibsonville.

Murray's parents opened Just Pizza when she was eight years old. Today Murray and her husband, Mark, are the owners of Just Pizza as well as Main Street Cake Shoppe, located inside of the restaurant.

Murray has made and decorated all of the cakes at Main Street Cake Shoppe since the business started three years ago. Her husband comes and gives her a hand when he's off rotation from his full-time job as a Burlington fireman.

"My husband is a great dishwasher," Murray said. "He is very, very supportive in that and he's very good at having a critical eye for things and how they flow. We complement each other."

All of the cakes are made-to-order by appointment and vary in styles from sheet cakes and birthday cakes to wedding cakes and corporate party cakes. From towering, fondant-covered topsy-turvy cakes to delicately frosted buttercream confections, there are as many types of cake as there are pizzas. Murray also makes custom cupcakes and sells cupcakes at Just Pizza Tuesday through Sunday. The cakes and the pizzas are baked using the same oven.

Murray makes all of her cakes from scratch using her grandmother's and great-grandmother's recipes.

"We want everything to taste as good as it looks; that's why we use second and third generation recipes,"

Murray said.

She said she enjoys making "old-school southern" recipes like red velvet cake.

"A lot of people say they wish they could do something," Murray said. "I say, then just do it."

Murray is mostly self-taught in the art of making cakes. She even failed an art class her senior year of high school.

"I can't draw," Murray said. "You tell me to draw somebody's face; I cannot draw your face. But stuff like swirls and cake designs I can do."

She has taken some basic classes at Swank Cake Design in Raleigh and also learned from bakers from Food Network.

"The thing about cake that's cool is that it's constantly evolving," Murray said. "There's always something different coming out like new techniques or new patterns that people are using."

She explained that cake design is really inspired by fashion. Murray loves looking at fabrics and patterns, which influence most of her designs.

Now that the cake shop has been up and running for a few years, Murray has had many orders from people besides her friends.

"We had a guy call from the United Kingdom to deliver a cake to his girlfriend who was a graduate student at Elon for her birthday," Murray said.

The man found Main Street Cake Shoppe on Facebook, was excited that they had more than 1,400 "likes" on their page and decided to call them.

"We actually thought that it was a prank call," Murray said, since the number was blocked and her husband's friends from the fire station like to pull pranks all the time. "He was a very persistent and polite young man. He called back three times."

Murray said that she has gotten



MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

April Murray makes all of the cakes and decorations for Main Street Cake Shoppe herself while also managing a successful pizza business. Her husband, Mark Murray co-owns Just Pizza with her and also works full-time as a Burlington firefighter. When he's not on duty, he can be found helping out around the stores.



MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

Cupcakes are available Tuesday-Saturday at Just Pizza, where Main Street Cake Shoppe is located. The flavors are varied and limited per day and are announced via the cake store's Facebook accounts. Customers who check in via Facebook or Foursquare can buy-one, get-one free cupcakes during their visit.

quite a few orders from people related to Elon including parents sending birthday cakes and Greek organizations.

The customer from the United Kingdom is one of many people who use the Internet to stay up-to-date with the cake shop.

"We do post on Facebook every day the flavors of cupcakes we have," Murray said.

They post discounts on their

Twitter and customers will get a "buy-one, get-one free" cupcake if they check into the shop with Facebook or Foursquare.

Murray said she loves what she does.

"If you don't enjoy it and it's not fun than why do it?" she said.

She also said she is confident in their choice to open the cake shop.

"It was the path that led us to where we were supposed to be."

Style



Freshmen Emily Choinski and Kimberly Achorn eat dinner while listening to the visiting band.

Community on the Commons starts the school year off right

Lauren Ramsdell
Arts and Entertainment Editor

New and returning students alike got their first taste of Elon at the annual Community on the Commons cookout.

Spray paint art, a rock wall, cornhole, volleyball and classic carnival games like Plinko and ring toss kept the crowds entertained through the post-hurricane humidity and heat. Jointly hosted by the Student Union Board and Orientation, the event provided a fun way to get to know the hub of Elon's campus.

Freshman Rachel Hall said she was loving being at Elon, but for the native New Jerseyan, the heat was nearly unbearable. She and friends Eliza

Williams, Haley Vander Linden and Christina Lewis said they were looking forward to karaoke and meeting new people.

Over at the rock wall, freshman linebacker Robert Davis scaled two sides of the multifaceted pillar in a row.

"It was fun," he said, "But by the time I climbed the second one I was tired and my arms gave out."

After an opening act by Rip_Chord, The Lloyd Dobler Effect, a rock band from the Silver Spring, Md. area, took the stage. Playing easygoing songs interspersed with covers and a brief rhythmic rap, they provided excellent background music for students to enjoy on the lawn.



Freshman Amber Schmiesing takes a swing at putt-putt, one of the many carnival-style games.



Freshman Kasey Sullivan and Burlington resident Greg Eissens attempt to scale the rock wall.



The Lloyd Dobler Effect, from Silver Spring, Md. performed original songs and popular covers.



Freshman Lauren Snow takes careful aim of one of her three shots during the bucket toss.



Cornhole, the unofficial Elon sport, drew dozens of impromptu teams that played all evening.



Freshman Bethany Lester shows off her cornhole skills, trying to sink a beanbag.

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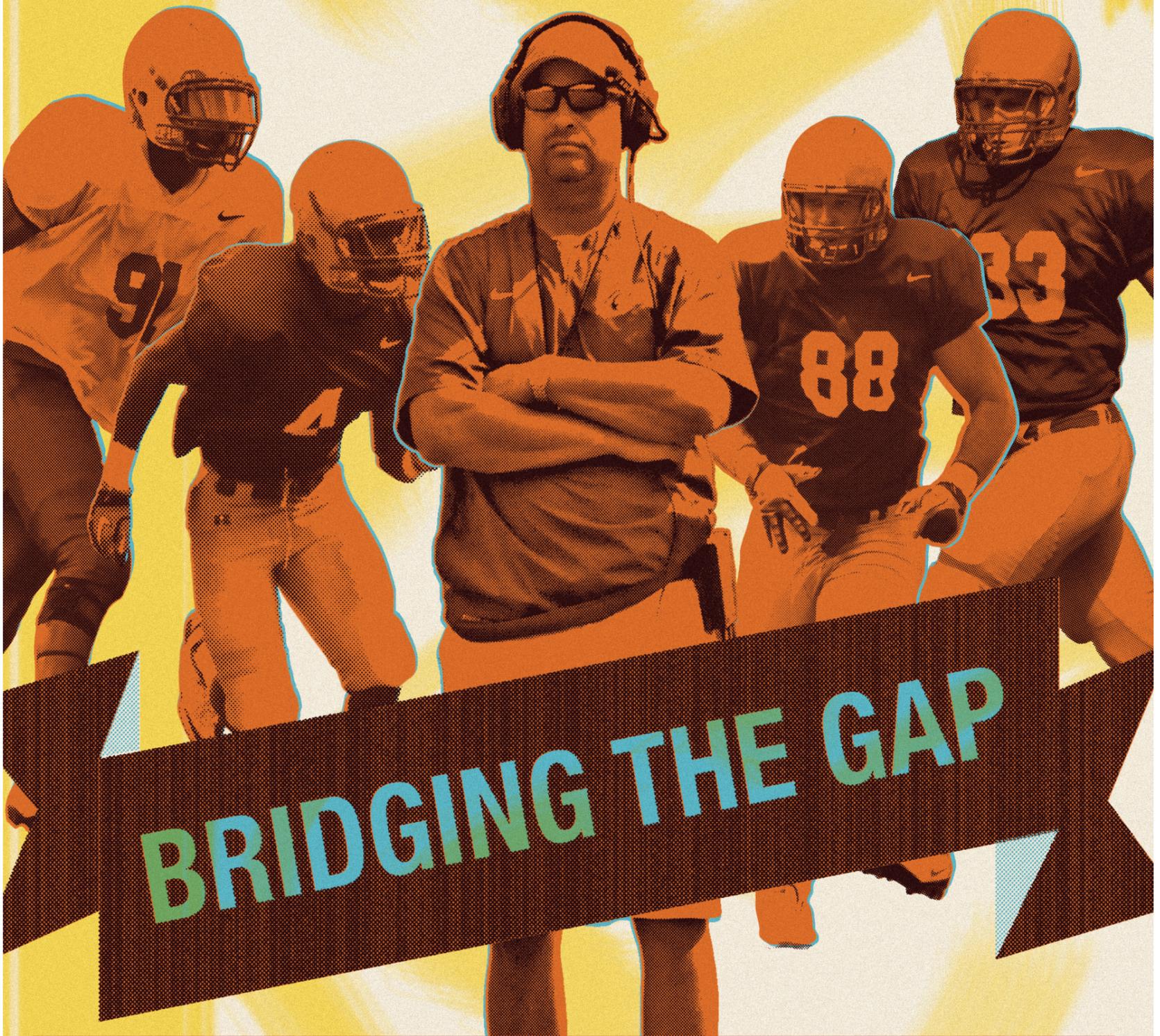
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NEWCOMERS

RETURNERS

ELON UNIVERSITY | ELON, N.C. | WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2011



With both veterans and rookies come the potential for star players — chances for big plays and hard hits. It's up to one man to bring these athletes together: a new head football coach.

FOOTBALL

Mellette's time to shine

WOMEN'S SOCCER

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FOOTBALL



'PHYSICAL, SMART AND FAST'

How the Elon football program changed not only coaches, but systems too

Sam Calvert
Online Managing Editor

With a new coaching staff and a brand new system, the only recognizable part of the 2011 Elon University football program is its players.

Head coach Jason Swepson joined the Elon Athletics staff in January and has added to his coaching staff to form the leadership on the football field.

"Everyone's kind of starting over," junior quarterback Thomas Wilson said. "We've got to get to know the playbook, get to know the coaches. It's been challenging for all of us."

While the team had to relearn the system, many of the players maintained that it wasn't difficult, just different.

"Spring was kind of like pulling teeth," senior linebacker Joshua Jones said, "but now that we've gotten further into it, everybody's gotten to know each other, and we've all bonded a lot more. Now we're on the path to success."

The new playbook meant a new offense, one that Wilson had to learn.

"We have an up-tempo, fast-break offense," Wilson said. "It's a no-huddle type of offense and we are looking forward to it. We have the playmakers to score a lot of points."

One set of playmakers is at the running back position; a trio of seniors: A.J. Harris, Jamal Shuman and Dontay Taylor.

All three have struggled with injuries in the past, but if they can stay healthy, they can make a difference on the field, Swepson said.

"They complement each other," Wilson said. "They can all do different things and they all bring different things to our offense."

This running game is coupled with receivers to attack both on the ground and through the air.

Junior wide receiver Aaron Mellette had 86 catches last season, while senior tight end Andre Labinowicz, junior wide receiver Jeremy Peterson and



HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor

sophomore wide receiver Kierre Brown each recorded double-digit receptions.

"Our biggest strength will probably be in our passing game," senior offensive lineman Rodney Austin said. "We have a lot of dynamic receivers and we have a really good quarterback that can distribute the ball."

Last season, the offense averaged 435 yards per game, ranking No. 1 in both total offense and passing offense in the Southern Conference. Seven of the starters from that season are returning.

But a team doesn't end with the offense.

"A good offense wins games, but a good defense wins championships," Mellette said. "As much as people look at the offense to win games, it's going to come down to the defense to make plays."

While Elon had a top-ranked offense last season, it had the No. 8 defense in the SoCon. But the team won't be running that style of defense anymore.

"If we play the defense Coach Pinkham and the rest of the defensive staff is teaching us, then it's foolproof," junior defensive back Blake Thompson

said. "There are no flaws to our defense if we do what we're supposed to do with each check and each adjustment."

One of the focuses of that new defensive system is rush defense — something the team ranked No. 7 in the SoCon last year.

"If we can stop the run, not just contain the run but actually stop it and keep other teams in their tracks, we'll have a great chance to be successful this year," Jones said.

While five starters from last season have graduated, five others were freshmen or sophomores.

"We've got a lot of guys, a lot of places on our defense that haven't had too many snaps on this level yet," Jones said. "We're going to be counting on those guys to make a lot of plays this year."

Part of making plays, Jones said, means rushing toward the ball on every play. If everyone is moving toward the ball quickly, players can back each other up on missed tackles.

"One thing we really harp on, really focus on, is relentless pursuit, regardless of the situation," Jones said. "No matter what, everyone running to

the football, regardless of where you are on the football field."

This new system has pervaded spring and summer practices, as well as preseason camp, and the results will be seen at the first game of the season, which takes place 7:30 p.m. Sept. 3 at Vanderbilt University.

This is the fourth Football Bowl Subdivision team Elon has played, the third in a row. Because of this, Swepson said the team is prepared to play on the big stage.

In addition, all of the coaches have either played or coached on the FBS level.

"We're not going to be wowed," Swepson said. "I think they're approaching the game like any other game. It's not the Super Bowl for us. It's just Game 1."

And while winning is important, Swepson said he is most concerned with how his team plays the game.

"When it's all said and done," Swepson said, "I just hope the opposing team, when they shake our hands, they say, 'They played the game the way it should be,' which is tough and physical, smart and fast."

Bit of routine, respect bring fun to football

Sam Calvert
Online Managing Editor

Every Monday looks the same for head coach Jason Swepson. As does every Tuesday, Wednesday and so on.

"I could pull out my 1999 daily calendar and follow it today," he said.

Swepson is a man of routine. And it's that routine he's going to bring to the Elon University football program.

"I tell people a lot that I can't wait until Jan. 9 because that means I've been here one year and the whole program is on a calendar, so I have a reference to go to," he said. "I'm just anxious to get the whole program on the calendar."

Swepson came to Elon in January after serving as running backs coach at North Carolina State University for four years.

He played collegiate football at Boston College, then played in the NFL for the Philadelphia Eagles as a running back and wide receiver before starting his coaching career.

"He understands what it's like to play Division I football, to be out there on the front lines all the time," senior offensive lineman Rodney Austin said.

This is just one of the reasons he's earned the tag "players' coach."

"Every thought I have is through the eyes of the student athlete, not as an administrator or coach or anything," Swepson said.

The title of "players' coach" also comes from what Swepson brings to the players.

"He brings new life to the team," junior wide receiver Aaron Mellette said. "It's new energy. We're excited to play and practices are fun."

That atmosphere is really important, junior defensive back Blake Thompson said, especially for a team that has forgotten what that feels like.

"Coach Swepson brought the fun back to the game for us," Thompson said. "We're going hard every single play, not only for Coach Swepson, but for what he's brought to us and changing our mindsets about the game of football in college, that it's not 100 percent business, but we can also have fun."

Swepson has also found a way to earn the team's respect, mostly by giving it, sophomore defensive lineman Jordan Jones said.

When Swepson felt like the seniors had worked hard and earned it, he gave them a morning practice off, Jordan Jones said.

He doesn't look down on his players, either, but instead gives them

responsibility, Thompson said.

"He treats us like men, so what else can we do other than act like men?" he said.

And [Swepson is] also willing to get his hands dirty, senior linebacker Jordan Jones said.

"He's not going to be somebody to sit behind the desk and tell you to do something," Joshua Jones said. "He'll go out and do it with you."

A lot of Swepson's coaching style is influenced by Tom O'Brien, whom he coached under at Boston College and North Carolina State, as well as Tom Coughlin, his coach at Boston College.

Swepson said he was most influenced after reading a book by former Indianapolis Colts coach Tony Dungy. As a coach, it was Dungy with whom he most identified and from there he added in bits of O'Brien and Coughlin.

"This is who I am," Swepson said. "I can just kind of mix it all together and see if it comes together, see if it works."

And what comes together from that is a team that not only respects Swepson but also enjoys playing for him, his athletes said.

"The guys on the team, we all love him," Joshua Jones said. "We'll go to war for him and with him. And we know he'd go to war with us."



HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor



FOOTBALL



ANOTHER YEAR BRINGS ANOTHER QUARTERBACK

Sam Calvert
Online Manage Editor

At the end of the 2011 season, the Elon University football team had a question mark in place of a quarterback on the depth chart. Four-year starter Scott Riddle graduated, and the question of who was going to take his place remained.

"It's just the way things go," senior offensive lineman Rodney Austin said. "There's always going to be a group of seniors leaving. We were always ready for that."

There were two candidates for the job: then-sophomore Thomas Wilson and then-freshman Mike Quinn. The two then began competing for the starting position.

"It was intense," junior Wilson said. "It started in the spring."

Then redshirt freshman Tyler Smith, a transfer from the University of Maryland, came onto the scene, and the competition opened up among three players.

But Smith had more than just an offensive system to learn.

"Tyler is just coming on campus," head coach Jason Swepson said. "He's only been on campus three months, so he's still learning the area, not just learning the playbook."

As time went on, the competition shifted its focus primarily to Smith and Wilson, with Quinn coming in as the third-string quarterback.

But Swepson said he admired Quinn for his determination and drive.

"He came in fighting for a starting position," Swepson said. "He wasn't looking for a No. 2 spot. He wanted to be the guy."

Toward the end, Wilson began to separate himself from the other two, and by the last day of preseason camp, Swepson said he would have to play very poorly and Smith really well for Wilson to lose the starting role.

"(Wilson) knows the playbook inside and out," Swepson said. "With this offense, there's a lot of moving parts. Tyler was struggling a little bit with all the motions and shifts and things like that. It came easy to Thomas."

Wilson has had the offensive playbook since offensive coordinator Chris Pincince came on staff in January, an opportunity Swepson said Wilson took advantage of.

"I'm really looking forward to going out there and kind of proving myself and showing that I can do what it takes to be a quarterback," Wilson said. "My job is just to get the ball into our playmakers' hands and letting them make plays."

Wilson will be proving himself against the shadow of his predecessor, Riddle, who finished his Elon career with 41 Elon, Southern Conference or NCAA records.

Wilson watched on as the backup quarterback for three of Riddle's seasons.

"I don't want to sit here and try and

compare myself to Scott or anyone else in the past, or anyone here in the present," Wilson said. "I'm just trying to get in there and manage the game and do what a quarterback has to do to win football games."

Last season, he made appearances in four games, one of which was as the starting quarterback against The Citadel. In that win, he threw for 145 yards and rushed for 13, with two touchdown passes.

But securing the starting job is just the beginning for Wilson.

"He'll win it for one game, but he's always got to compete each week," Swepson said.

Regardless of the starting quarterback, Swepson said Smith will not just sit on the sidelines.

"You don't want your second-string quarterback not having any reps and then, in Game 6, call on him and he's rusty and hasn't played in the game," Swepson said. "We've got to find a way to get him some snaps."

Swepson even said there was a possibility for a rotation, like they've done in the past at Boston College, his alma mater. But those details still have to be discussed by the coaching staff.

Either way, when the Phoenix takes the field this season, there will be a new face there under center.

"We know what it's like to run an offense underneath Scott Riddle," Austin said. "But now we have to learn how to run an offense under Thomas Wilson."



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY AMANDA BENDER

Mellette looks to relish in enhanced role

Jack Rodenfels
Sports Editor

After snaring only eight balls for 117 yards his freshman season, it was hard to imagine junior wide receiver Aaron Mellette would be very productive the following year.

But in 2010, Mellette had a quick start to his sophomore campaign, and it carried him throughout the season. In the third game, he recorded an Elon-record 18 receptions for 195 yards and two touchdowns at then-No. 9 Richmond.

Additionally, Mellette recorded five other games with more than 100 yards receiving and five games with at least two receiving touchdowns.

For the 2010 season, he caught 86 balls for 1,100 yards and 12 touchdowns. His play on the field earned him a first-team All-Southern Conference selection and second-team All-America honors from the Associated Press.

Now as a junior, Mellette's role has transformed in the Phoenix offense, as he becomes the primary target for first-year starting quarterback, junior Thomas Wilson.

In 2010, he paired up with senior Sean Jeffcoat, who caught 72 balls for more than 1,000 yards. The two accounted for nearly 60 percent of Elon's passing yards, and almost 70 percent of the team's touchdown passes.

With the graduation of Jeffcoat, Mellette said he looks forward to the next crop of receivers who will contribute to the Elon offense.

The Phoenix brings in six newcomers to the receiving core for the 2011 season — Andre Davis, Ricky Brown, Kyle Huff, Ivan Ledesma, Danny Sellers and Tario Hunter.

Of the newcomers to the offense, Davis earned All-State accolades, while Brown, Huff, Ledesma and Sellers earned All-Conference honors.

"(We're) finding the next playmaker," Mellette said. "It's important to find another receiver to step in and take some of the pressure off."

Mellette's 6-foot-4-inch, 212-pound frame is difficult for opposing defenses to match up against, and size is what the coaching staff looks to take advantage of this year, offensive coordinator Chris Pincince said.

"He gives us a threat and can go the distance every time," Pincince said. "Because of his size and his physical stature, we can throw the ball up to him and he'll make a play."

The coaching staff also knows that Mellette will see increased defensive coverage with his expanded role in the offense throughout the year, Pincince said.

"If a defense leaves him one-on-one, I feel pretty good," Pincince said. "But defenses aren't dumb. They're going to put a couple of people on him, and that will open things up for other people. He creates mismatches."

Coming into the 2011 season,

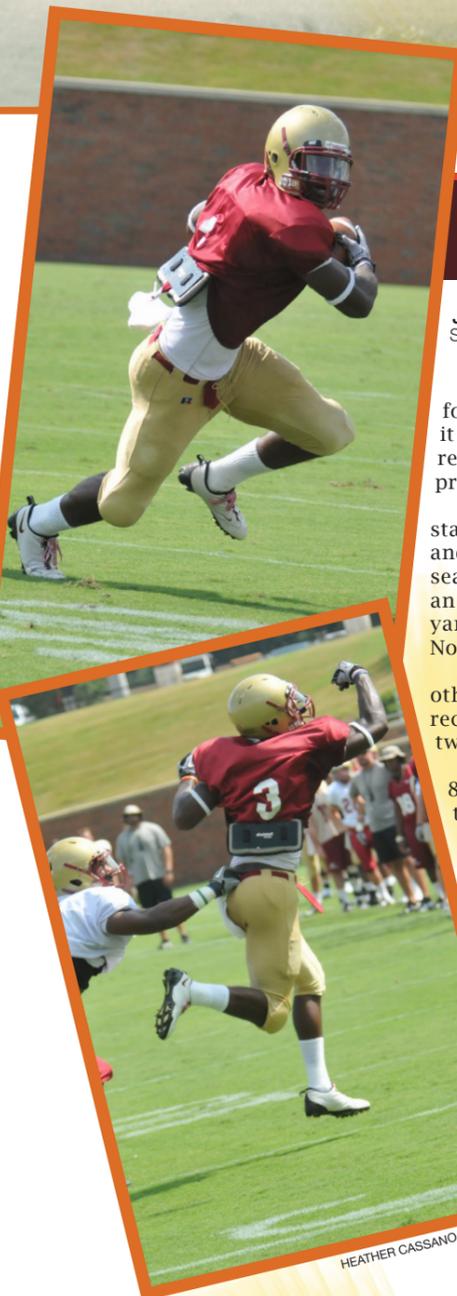
more than just opposing defenses are taking notice of Mellette. He has been named to the second-team preseason All-America team, is on the watch list for the top wide receiver in the nation, given by the College Football Performance Awards, and is named a second team All-American by the College Sporting News.

To take the pressure off of Mellette and Wilson, Elon will look to a group of senior running backs — A.J. Harris, Jamal Shuman and Dontay Taylor. They will provide balance for the Phoenix offense this year and to break down opposing defenses, allowing Wilson to connect with Mellette for another successful season.

MORE ONLINE

Find all the content from this insert, along with multimedia including:

- Best of 2010 fall sports photo slideshow
bit.ly/EP2010fallsports
- 2010 football highlight reel
bit.ly/EP2010football
- Women's soccer interactive graphic
bit.ly/EPwsoccerfreshmen
at bit.ly/EP2011fallsports.



HEATHER CASSANO | Photo Editor

FOOTBALL

2011 SCHEDULE

Compiled by Sam Calvert
Online Managing Editor

HOME: ● AWAY: ●

VANDERBILT



SEPT. 3
7:30 P.M.
ALL-TIME RECORD VS. VANDERBILT
The two teams have never previously met.
RECORD LAST SEASON
2-10 overall, 1-7 in SEC
FAST FACT
The Vanderbilt stadium is over twice the size of any other venue in which the Phoenix will play this season.

CONCORD



SEPT. 10
7 P.M.
ALL-TIME RECORD VS. CONCORD
Elon leads 7-1-0
RECORD LAST SEASON
8-3 overall, 5-3 in WVIAC
FAST FACT
Because of a last-minute cancellation, Concord only has 10 games on the schedule instead of a standard 11, with only five home games instead of six.

NC CENTRAL



SEPT. 17
6 P.M.
ALL-TIME RECORD VS. NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL
Elon leads 7-3-0
RECORD LAST SEASON
3-8 overall, with no conference play
FAST FACT
North Carolina Central has been readmitted into the Mid-Eastern Atlantic conference after not competing in it for 31 years.

THE CITADEL



SEPT. 24
1:30 P.M.
ALL-TIME RECORD VS. THE CITADEL
The Citadel leads 6-4
RECORD LAST SEASON
3-8 overall, 1-7 in the conference
FAST FACT
The Bulldogs haven't had a winning season since 2007.

GEORGIA SOUTHERN



OCT. 1
1:30 P.M.
ALL-TIME RECORD VS. GEORGIA SOUTHERN
Georgia Southern leads 8-3
RECORD LAST SEASON
10-5 overall, 5-3 in the SoCon
FAST FACT
The Eagles made it to the semifinals of the NCAA FCS playoffs, defeating SoCon rival Wofford in the quarterfinals.

WESTERN CAROLINA



OCT. 8
3 P.M.
ALL-TIME RECORD VS. WESTERN CAROLINA
Elon leads 22-16-2
RECORD LAST SEASON
2-9 overall, 1-7 in the SoCon
FAST FACT
Western Carolina did not win a single game at home last season, going 0-5.

SAMFORD



OCT. 15
3 P.M.
ALL-TIME RECORD VS. SAMFORD
Elon leads 6-2
RECORD LAST SEASON
4-7 overall, 6-2 in the SoCon
FAST FACT
Samford's offense will have a new look this season with the hiring of Rhett Lashlee as offensive coordinator, bringing with him the Auburn offensive system.

UT CHATTANOOGA



OCT. 22
3 P.M.
ALL-TIME RECORD VS. CHATTANOOGA
Elon leads 6-2
RECORD LAST SEASON
6-5 overall, 5-3 in the SoCon
FAST FACT
UT Chattanooga lost seven of its 11 offensive starters from the 2010 season.

WOFFORD



OCT. 29
1:30 P.M.
ALL-TIME RECORD VS. WOFFORD
Wofford leads 23-11
RECORD LAST SEASON
10-3 overall, 7-1 in the SoCon
FAST FACT
Wofford switched to the triple-option offense last season and improved its record from 3-8 in 2009 to 10-3 in 2010.

FURMAN



NOV. 12
1:30 P.M.
ALL-TIME RECORD VS. FURMAN
Furman leads 10-4
RECORD LAST SEASON
6-5 overall, 5-3 in the SoCon
FAST FACT
The Paladins have lost the last three games to Elon.

APPALACHIAN STATE



NOV. 19
3 P.M.
ALL-TIME RECORD VS. APPALACHIAN STATE
Appalachian State leads 29-9-1
RECORD LAST SEASON
10-3 overall, 7-1 in the SoCon
FAST FACT
Appalachian State senior quarterback DeAndre Presley is on the 2011 Walter Payton watch list, after being named a finalist last season.

GET MORE ONLINE

HALFTIME AND POST-GAME STORIES:
<http://www.elonpendulum.com>

LIVE BLOGGING AND ANALYSIS:
<http://pendulumfootball.wordpress.com>

LIVE TWEETING:
<http://www.twitter.com/pendulumsports>

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<http://www.pendulumsports.wordpress.com>

CROSS COUNTRY



LEADERSHIP FROM YOUTH BRINGS CONFIDENCE TO WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Rebecca Smith
Managing Editor

Every team looks to a leader for direction and motivation, and usually this can be found in the oldest students on the team. But Elon University's women cross country team has only two returning seniors: Allyson Costa and Katelyn O'Dunne.

With a majority of the athletes sophomores or freshmen, the team has to look to the younger players for direction.

"I think it helps our team a lot because so much of our team is young we are able to help each other and we are all the same age," sophomore Allyson Oram said. "We came on together and we learned everything together. We are all on the same page."

Oram is one of seven sophomore runners who are returning to the team. The team also added five freshman runners.

A few young players stepped up to lead the team last year, and this will happen again this season, Oram said.

"We know that we are young and we need to work hard for the older kids that have put in so much hard work before," she said. "We are in this position to develop leadership and create a strong team while we are younger and hopefully that will lead to a successful season and successful seasons in the future."

Last year the women finished the Southern Conference championship fifth with 135 points and finished 27th with 736 points at the NCAA Regional Meet.

"Our main goal is to win our conference meet," Oram said. "Two years ago, we were close. Last year we weren't where we wanted to be. We are trying to aim for that top goal. We also want to win our invitational as well because we have the meet at our school and want to represent Elon well."

The team works well together, and this strength is what will lead the team to victory, Oram said.

"The depth of the team will be our strength," head coach Christine Engel said. "We have a lot of people who can be in the top-5 spots. Having so many talented players will help the team find leadership and hopefully do even better than last year."

The team started training for the season in June by following guidelines

2011 SCHEDULE

SEPT. 10

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON INVITATIONAL
CHARLESTON, S.C.

SEPT. 17

ELON INVITATIONAL
ELON

SEPT. 30

CHARLOTTE XC INVITATIONAL
CHARLOTTE

OCT. 14

ROYAL CROSS COUNTRY CHALLENGE
CHARLOTTE

OCT. 29

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS
CHARLESTON, S.C.

NOV. 6

NORTH CAROLINA STATE
CARY

NOV. 12

NCAA REGIONALS
LOUISVILLE, KY.

NOV. 21

NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS
TERRA HAUTE, IND.

set by Engel and arrived on campus Aug. 18 and Aug. 19 to continue training at Elon.

The Elon women's program was selected to finish fourth with 93 points in this year's SoCon championship in the 2011 Cross Country Preseason Polls released August 24.

"We have to work on our confidence and our toughness just because we all know we can do it, but when it comes to races sometimes our confidence is not there and that is why we fall through," Oram said. "We just need to remember that we are actually a good team."

The Phoenix opens its season Sept. 10, at the College of Charleston Invitational in Charleston, S.C. The 2011 SoCon championship will then be held in Charleston, S.C. Oct. 29.

After extra offseason practice, new records, men's cross country looks to promising 2011 season

Rebecca Smith
Managing Editor

The training for college athletes never ends, and the men's cross country team is no exception. The team practiced in a new way this past season by running collectively in the men's track and field events.

The team competed in three meets in the offseason.

"Running as a team in the track and field events will help us," sophomore Nick Schneider said. "We broke, I think, two or three records on the track and field side for the men this year."

These records came from the past, when Elon had a men's track and field team.

Senior Conor O'Brien posted the top Elon time in the 1,500-meter with a 4:05.33. This time is an Elon-best in men's history. Junior Lucas Walters posted a time to Elon's all-time performance list in the 3,000-meter steeplechase. He earned fourth place

in the meet with a time of 10:02.91.

In the 5,000-meter sophomore Ben Perron became eighth all-time in Elon history with a time of 15:25.12. Schneider became the ninth all-time with a 15:28.52.

Sophomore James Stevenson had the second-best time of the meet in the 10,000-meter with a 32:39.96.

"All of the achievements we made during track and field will help give us more confidence and speed this season," Schneider said.

Last season, the men's team finished sixth with 153 points at the Southern Conference championship. At the NCAA regional meet, the men's team came in 24th with 633 points. The team had five runners in the top-50.

"We are all hoping to place higher in our conference this year, if not win it," Schneider said. "We are a really big contender. We have a great freshman recruiting class coming in and also to finish higher up on the regional ranking and be ranked in the top 16

for the first time in school history."

These expectations come even after the team lost Justin Gianni and Matt Richardson, who graduated, in the offseason.

This was no small loss, with Richardson and Gianni finishing second and third for Elon, respectively, for Elon in the SoCon championships. Their times of 25:52.57 and 25:59.75 were good enough for 24th and 27th place in the conference meet, respectively.

But even with the loss of those seniors, Schneider still points at the newest players as the key to a successful season.

"Our strength is a great recruiting class and we are a really young team but we are still really strong," Schneider said. "We lost (two) seniors but we brought in three freshmen that are really good, and we also have more than half of our returning varsity starters."

In order to improve on the previous season, head coach Christine Engel

said the key is to close the gap between the number one and number five runners.

"The biggest thing that the team needs to work on is having more people out front," Engel said. "We need to have more people take leadership and set a standard for the rest of the team."

The team needs to improve on finishing through the season and not falling off toward the end, Schneider said. He cited a need to stick through the meet as a team and show more leadership as two ways for the team to keep their speed, confidence and success throughout the whole season.

Last season's best finish was at the Elon Invitational Sept. 18, when both the men's and women's team came in second. This season's Elon Invitational will occur Sept. 17.

The Elon men's program was selected to finish sixth with 56 points in this year's SoCon championship in the 2011 Cross Country Preseason Polls released Aug. 24.



MEN'S SOCCER



2011 SCHEDULE

SEPT. 2
@ COASTAL CAROLINA
5 P.M.

SEPT. 4
@ VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH
2:30 P.M.

SEPT. 9
VS. UNC CHARLOTTE
7:30 P.M.

SEPT. 11
VS. NORTH FLORIDA
2 P.M.

SEPT. 14
@ CAMPBELL
7 P.M.

SEPT. 17
VS. OLD DOMINION
7 P.M.

SEPT. 24
@ RADFORD
7 P.M.

OCT. 1
VS. APPALACHIAN STATE
7 P.M.

OCT. 4
@ WOFFORD
7 P.M.

OCT. 8
VS. DAVIDSON
7 P.M.

OCT. 11
VS. CLEMSON
7 P.M.

OCT. 15
@ FURMAN
7 P.M.

OCT. 18
@ WAKE FOREST
7 P.M.

OCT. 21
VS. GEORGIA SOUTHERN
7 P.M.

OCT. 25
@ COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON
6 P.M.

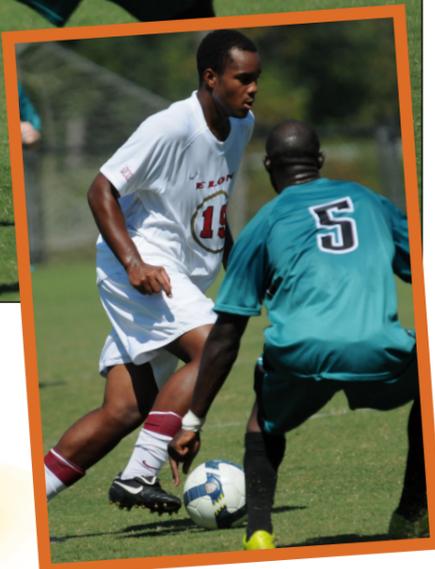
OCT. 29
VS. UNC GREENSBORO
7 P.M.

NOV. 1
@ WOFFORD
7 P.M.

NOV. 5, 12, 14
SOCON TOURNAMENT
TBA
BOONE



FAMILIAR FACES YIELD EXPERIENCE IN NEW SEASON



Justin Veldhuis
Reporter

Fans should have no trouble recognizing most players on the Elon men's soccer team this season.

The Phoenix returns nine of its 11 starters from last fall, along with a number of other players who saw significant playing time. That consistency will serve the team well, as players already know what to anticipate from teammates, senior defender Austen King said.

Bringing back so many players with game experience "allows the team to hit the ground running," he said, instead of spending the first few games adjusting to position changes that some teams go through.

"Anytime you get an experienced group of players, they are more familiar with the system and with one another," head coach Darren Powell said. "It makes preparation and the spring season very valuable."

It also means players know what to expect from competition, such as the speed of the game and the quality of the

players, senior midfielder James Carroll said.

"Practice is one thing. Games are different," Carroll said. "That experience in games is really going to help."

The team's chemistry should also benefit from the players having a better understanding of their teammates, something that comes from hours of time spent playing together in practices and game, he said.

"Knowing how each other plays is very important," Carroll said. "The more you know about the person, their tendencies, the little things, the easier it is to play with them."

Carroll has started in 57 games throughout his Elon career, including every game in the past two seasons and 18 as a freshman in 2008. He will also serve as a team captain for the second-straight year, along with senior midfielders Nick Millington and Drew Gardner and junior defender Jahan Threaths.

Carroll said he plans to draw from that experience as he and the other captains take on leadership roles for the team this season.

"I think all of us are great leaders," he said. "I will lead by example, try to lend my experiences to help others in tough situations."

The team returns its top-two goal scorers from last season in junior forward and 2010 Southern Conference Player of the Year Chris Thomas and junior midfielder Gabe Latigue. Thomas scored 10 goals, which ranked him second in the SoCon, and Latigue added six.

But the Phoenix will have to replace two key players who have graduated: midfielder Brad Franks and goalkeeper Clint Irwin, who is now playing professionally for a club in Canada.

There are talented players on the roster looking to fill those spots, and no one is underestimating the impact that this year's five incoming freshmen could have on the team, Powell said. He said he expects the newcomers to come right in and compete for playing time.

"All the freshmen will have a chance to contribute from Day 1 and mix with an experienced group," Powell said. "It depends on how quickly they adapt to the college game."

Men's soccer aims for Elon history: SoCon title, NCAA bid

Justin Veldhuis
Reporter

The Elon University men's soccer team hopes to achieve something this season that has never been done in program history, senior defender Austen King said.

The goal: to win the Southern Conference tournament and earn a berth into the NCAA tournament.

Elon was the regular season champion in 2008, when this year's seniors were just freshmen, yet the tournament title has eluded the Phoenix over the years.

But the expectation this year is to win both and gain an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament, King said.

"Realistically, we have a team that can do that, judging from how guys are playing this summer and the guys

we have coming back," he said.

The Phoenix returns nine of 11 starters, including 2010 SoCon Player of the Year junior forward Chris Thomas. The players are looking to improve from last year's campaign. The team finished with an 8-6-5 record and saw its season end with a loss to Appalachian State University in the first round of the SoCon tournament.

Elon will face another challenging schedule in 2011, playing five matches against opponents who reached the 2010 NCAA tournament.

"The schedule will be extremely tough," head coach Darren Powell said. "We play some of the top teams in the country, and all the conference games have a little extra edge."

Some non-conference games include playing Old Dominion University, which made the 2010

NCAA tournament, at home Sept. 17, as well as three matchups against ACC teams. The Phoenix will host Clemson University Oct. 11 and travel to Wake Forest University and Duke University Oct. 18 and Nov. 1, respectively.

The team begins its seven-game SoCon schedule Oct. 1, hosting Appalachian State. Elon will also play defending SoCon tournament champion UNC Greensboro at home Oct. 29.

The players are looking forward to the ACC games and a grudge match with Appalachian State, but that does not take away from the importance of each and every game, King said.

"The reality of the matter is all these teams are good and you can't take days off or you'll get beat," he said.

Before official practice began in

mid-August, the majority of the players showed up for captains' practices on campus that were organized and led by the players. The practices gave the team a chance to train together after a summer of individual workouts and allowed players to get an early start working on a few things to carry into the season.

"Our fitness is something we'll concentrate on and to make sure everyone is healthy and having a good relationship on the field and off the field," junior midfielder Gabe Latigue said.

And if everything goes according to plan, the team will be holding a tournament trophy in November.

"If we get our chemistry down and everyone is working hard, then we have great potential," Latigue said. "We can come out on top."



WOMEN'S SOCCER



Jordan Scahill
Reporter

As the Elon women's soccer team begins its 2011 season, it will take the field with six freshmen integrated into the mix.

All six players are all-conference and all-league picks, carefully chosen by head coach Chris Neal and assistant coach Stuart Horne for athletic skill, personality and character, Neal said.

The new Phoenix players include midfielders Krista Hagler and Marissa Russo, defender/midfielders Kimberly Gardner and Bethany Houpt, midfielder/forward Raychel Diver and goalkeeper Kate Murphy.

Neal began recruiting these players

for about two years before their arrival at Elon. He said he looks for specific qualities while scouting potential players before choosing women to wear a Phoenix jersey.

"We look at coachability, basically how well they are going to absorb information and get better," he said. "This is a four-year relationship, and we want players who we will enjoy being around."

To get an indicator of character, Neal said he tries to get as close as possible to the high school team's bench while recruiting to see players' interaction with their coach and team.

It is not all about skill, although the recruits come to Elon with their fair share of honors.

The six players earned a combined three all-state selections, eight all-league selections, four all-region selections and at least 12 letters. Kim Gardner also won a Wendy's High School Heisman Award.

Neal said he believes these freshmen will provide speed, balance and athleticism all over the field. He said that although they are freshmen, they carry themselves maturely and will be assets to the team from a chemistry and personality standpoint.

"With these new players, we will be quick on every position on the field," junior goalkeeper Shannon Cosgrove said. "We will be able to do some real damage from the back line to midfield to the front line."

RECRUITS EXPECTED TO MAKE SWEEPING IMPACT ON PITCH

2011 SCHEDULE

SEPT. 2
@ UMASS
4 P.M.

SEPT. 4
@ HARVARD
NOON

SEPT. 9
VS. NORTH FLORIDA
5 P.M.

SEPT. 16
VS. HIGH POINT
7 P.M.

SEPT. 18
@ LIBERTY
7 P.M.

SEPT. 23
VS. SAMFORD
7 P.M.

SEPT. 25
VS. CHATTANOOGA
2 P.M.

SEPT. 30
@ DAVIDSON
7 P.M.

OCT. 2
@ GEORGIA SOUTHERN
2 P.M.

OCT. 7
@ COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON
7 P.M.

OCT. 9
@ THE CITADEL
2 P.M.

OCT. 14
VS. FURMAN
7 P.M.

OCT. 16
VS. WOFFORD
2 P.M.

OCT. 20
@ APPALACHIAN STATE
7 P.M.

OCT. 23
VS. WESTERN CAROLINA
2 P.M.

OCT. 26
UNC GREENSBORO
7 P.M.

OCT. 30, NOV. 4, NOV. 6
SOCON TOURNAMENT
TBA
GREENSBORO

Less is more: Smaller team won't slow players down

Jordan Scahill
Reporter

There are less players on the Elon University women's soccer team this season.

The 2011 Phoenix roster will be made up of just 22 women in 2011, compared to larger numbers in previous years.

"We usually hold teams in the high 20s to 30s," head coach Chris Neal said. "But these low numbers will benefit our team chemistry."

Six new freshmen will wear Elon jerseys this season, after graduating eight players from 2010. Two seniors, Andrea Keller on defense and Noell McCain at midfield, will lead the team along with five juniors and nine sophomores.

At its first summer soccer camp, last year's team members met and played

with the incoming freshmen for the first time.

"The returning players are extremely excited for this season," junior goalkeeper Shannon Cosgrove said. "The new freshmen bring a sense of speed that we have not seen in a while."

The team's goal is finishing first in regular season play and advancing to the Southern Conference tournament, Neal said. A tournament win would result in an automatic NCAA bid.

"We need to put ourselves in a position to be in the top two seeds going into the SoCon tournament," Neal said. "Our goal is to simply win the next game and go from there."

Last year, the team closed the season with a 6-5 record in the SoCon and a 12-8-1 overall record. This was the first time the team has finished with a winning record in league play and won

12 games in a season since becoming an NCAA Division I team.

To continue this success, Neal said he hopes this year's team will keep their focus and remain strong throughout weekend play.

Last season, the team went five-straight Sundays without a win, with a 3-4-1 record on Sundays.

"We need to stay consistent this year from Friday to Sunday and continue to grow as a team," Cosgrove said. "We have to work together to pick up where we left off."

The team left off with its first-ever win in the first round of the SoCon tournament. Neal said the team hopes to build off that this coming season.

The Phoenix will host its season opener Aug. 21 at Rudd Field against Virginia Commonwealth University, followed by eight more home games

this fall.

Over Labor Day weekend, the Phoenix will travel north to Cambridge, Mass., for two non-conference matches against University of Massachusetts and Harvard University.

"We recruit heavily from the Northeast, and these games will provide a great chance for families to come see us play and showcase our talents," Neal said.

SoCon play will begin Sept. 23 against Samford University, and will end Oct. 26 against the defending SoCon champions UNCG.

Four days later, on Oct. 30, the first round of the SoCon Tournament will begin.

"This team is the most skilled, athletic and fastest group of girls that have ever worn an Elon jersey," Neal said. "I think this is going to be a big year."

VOLLEYBALL



NEW FACES, NEW PLACES FOR 2011 VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Edith Veremu
Copy Editor

With a Southern Conference Northern Division title under its belt and a ring on each player's finger, the Phoenix volleyball team is ready for another season.

But it's not just the new year that makes this season different.

A new season also means change. The team graduated three seniors and their presence will be tough to replace, but won't be an obstacle for the team this season, head coach Mary Tendler said.

"It's an exciting time for us," Tendler said. "We're excited for the new look, excited for freshmen coming in. Returners will take on bigger roles, and there'll be a lot of competition for positions."

With competition comes more preparation.

Junior libero Ali Deatsch said she has been in the training room during the summer, working with head strength and conditioning coach

Aaron Walker on her agility and how she can further improve her game.

"We are also mentally preparing by talking to each other about how excited we are for the season," Deatsch said. "We have a lot of talents, and I think we're ready for the season."

Another change for the team is the addition of Kilee Goetz as assistant coach. Goetz's experience at Samford University in the same position gave her the skills and attitude the Phoenix needs, Tendler said.

"Kilee is just what we're looking for in that position," Tendler said.

Goetz said she's looking forward to working with the athletes as opposed to watching them on the opposite side of the net. Her only previous exposure to the Phoenix was watching them play in the North Division.

"I'm just extremely excited to be here and for the kids to know me and vice versa," Goetz said. "I feel like I've been here for a while, and I haven't."

The team will also move practices and games to Alumni Gym. Last season, because of construction at

Alumni Gym, the team practiced and played in Jordan Gym until the end of October.

"It'll be nice to start out the season in Alumni, an all-season thing," Tendler said. "We didn't play a whole lot in Alumni last year so getting a whole preseason and season in there will help us tremendously."

A key match played in Alumni Gym was the team's championship match against Appalachian State University. Attendance was larger than usual, and the atmosphere was favorable to the team, Tendler said.

"When we beat App, everyone went crazy," Stewart said. "Everyone was really into the game. Last season, we had a lot of success, and more people started coming out to our games."

As the players continue to train even harder this season, the team dynamic grows as well, Tendler said.

"[I want them] to compete hard every time they step on the court, whether it's in practice or in matches," she said. "If they put everything on the court, good things happen."

Past success rallies team toward SoCon title

Edith Veremu
Copy Editor

Net set up in the gym? Check. Uniforms ironed and ready? Check. Fierce game face? Check.

Fresh off its first Southern Conference North Division title last season, the women's volleyball team is back and ready to dominate, senior co-captain right side hitter Traci Stewart said.

With 12 returning players and three freshmen in this season's lineup, the team is determined to win the SoCon tournament and receive an NCAA bid, head coach Mary Tendler said.

"Our ultimate goal as a team is to win our division, but most importantly, we want to win the SoCon," Stewart said. "If you win the SoCon, you get an NCAA bid."

Although some of the players who helped lead the team to its historic title have graduated, Tendler said she is confident this season the team will

achieve the same greatness as last year.

"They've been working really hard in conditioning and strengthening," Tendler said. "Head strength and conditioning coach Aaron Walker has given the players great training."

The team added another coach to this season's lineup. Former Samford assistant coach Kilee Goetz will join the Phoenix.

"I'm looking forward to getting in the gym with the team and seeing how the players work," Goetz said.

Goetz will help coach the setters of the team and other areas the team can strengthen. She said she would like to see the team win the Northern Division again this season, but winning is not the only thing on her mind.

"The North Division would be the first goal," Goetz said. "Preseason will be a short term goal of getting better every day, being conscious of the individual goal."

This season, the team will make the transition from practicing and playing

in Jordan Gym for most matches to opening and completing the season with practices and games in Alumni Gym. This change of location will create a home advantage for the team, Tendler said.

"The home championship game against Appalachian was a huge match, and we had about 800 people in Alumni," Tendler said. "I hope those same people enjoyed watching us play. Once you watch us play, you definitely want to see more games."

Tendler isn't the only one who said she is excited about playing in Alumni for the season. Junior libero Ali Deatsch said she looks forward to the team "having a real home."

The same determination and hard work that led the Phoenix to a division title last season is back and ready to manifest itself, Stewart said.

"We will compete hard and be consistent through the season and take the next step: the NCAA bid," Tendler said.

2011 SCHEDULE

SEPT. 2

UNC ASHEVILLE
GAMECOCK INVITATIONAL
9:30 A.M.

GARDNER-WEBB
GAMECOCK INVITATIONAL
5 P.M.

SEPT. 3

SOUTH CAROLINA
GAMECOCK INVITATIONAL
NOON

SEPT. 9

BUTLER
BUTLER TOURNAMENT
11 A.M.

SEPT. 10

CENTRAL MICHIGAN
BUTLER TOURNAMENT
11 A.M.

AUSTIN PEAY
BUTLER TOURNAMENT
2:30 P.M.

SEPT. 13

@HIGH POINT
7 P.M.

SEPT. 16

CAMPBELL
ELON PHOENIX CLASSIC
7 P.M.

SEPT. 17

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL
ELON PHOENIX CLASSIC
12:30 P.M.

WINTHROP
ELON PHOENIX CLASSIC
7 P.M.

SEPT. 23

@ UNC GREENSBORO
7 P.M.

SEPT. 25

@ COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON
2 P.M.

SEPT. 30

VS. WESTERN CAROLINA
7 P.M.

OCT. 1

VS. APPALACHIAN STATE
7 P.M.

OCT. 8

@ SAMFORD
3 P.M.

OCT. 9

@ CHATTANOOGA
2 P.M.

OCT. 18

@ NORTH CAROLINA A&T
6 P.M.

OCT. 15

VS. DAVIDSON
2 P.M.

OCT. 16

VS. GEORGIA SOUTHERN
2 P.M.

OCT. 21

@ WOFFORD
7 P.M.

OCT. 22

@ FURMAN
6 P.M.

OCT. 29

@ WESTERN CAROLINA
3 P.M.

OCT. 30

@ APPALACHIAN STATE
2 P.M.

NOV. 4

VS. SAMFORD
7 P.M.

NOV. 5

VS. CHATTANOOGA
5 P.M.

NOV. 11

VS. UNC GREENSBORO
7 P.M.

NOV. 13

VS. THE CITADEL
7 P.M.

NOV. 18, 20

SOCON TOURNAMENT
TBA
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.