



SUMMER COURSE BRINGS STUDENTS INTO ALASKA'S WILD

Class explores cultural differences between urban and native populations.

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ALUMNA MAKES A VAUDEVILLE COMEBACK

Elon graduate forms new burlesque troupe.

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THE PENDULUM

ELON, NORTH CAROLINA | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2012 | VOLUME 38, EDITION 1

www.elonpendulum.com

Celebrating his legacy

Elon University organizations collaborate to honor the memory of MLK



AL DRAGO | Staff Photographer

Students gathered to light candles in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. and celebrate diversity during the 2012 Beloved Community Peace Journey and Candlelight Vigil Sunday. The Peace Journey began at Boney Fountain and continued through Elon University's campus, concluding at the Academic Village Plaza, where students shared their thoughts on diversity. "You don't live to be something," said freshman John Anderson.

"You live to be someone." Throughout the walk, students shared quotes from inspirational diversity leaders and sang songs reflective of the Civil Rights Movement. Elon University's Truitt Center for Religious and Spiritual Life, LGBTQ Office, Women's and Gender Studies and the Multicultural Center hosted the event.

See page 5 for full coverage of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day activities

Career services changes name, functionality

Emily Hines
Assistant News Editor

The Student Professional Development Center, formerly known as Career Services, is now located in Moseley Center and incorporates new services reflective of student's post-graduation plans. The Center is now open for students.

"This change is based upon a lot of work deciding where we want our students to position themselves and where we want to position them to be during their time here," said Tom Vecchione, executive director of Career Services.

The change in the name of the center signifies its function and purpose for students, he said.

The word "development" signifies the preparation process opposed to a "come-in-and-look-at-my-resume" mentality, Vecchione said.

The name change also reveals alternative routes some students are taking instead of entering the work force immediately after graduation. Many students are thinking of going to graduate school or entering the Peace Corps, Vecchione said.

"Ideally, what we would like to think is that everybody leaves here with a plan of some kind, whether they have a job or are traveling," said Tom Brinkley, executive director of corporate and employer relations. "Not everybody is going to go work on June 1 and be happy for the rest of their life. If they have a plan of what they want to do, we can discuss that and prepare them for that."

Brinkley's job is housed in the Office of Corporate Employer

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Residence Life changes upperclassmen housing policy

Melissa Kansky
News Editor

Elon University's Residence Life is developing a new housing policy for juniors and seniors in an effort to fill spaces in The Station at Mill Point, according to Elaine Turner, director of Residence Life. To encourage juniors and seniors to move to the new complex, current residents in the Crest and Oaks will not have the option to stay in their current housing assignments.

"We want to make sure that all spaces are filled, especially in The Station," Turner said.

As of now, the policy and housing selection timeline have not been finalized. The revised housing process will mirror the timelines associated with off-campus apartment complexes, according to Turner.

"We don't want the apartments to have an advantage over us," she said. "We're trying to mirror the timeline that is out there in the apartment communities, so we can fill the beds, in a nutshell."

Current residents in the Oaks and the Crest received an email from

Residence Life informing them they cannot participate in phase one of the housing selection process in order to accommodate freshmen and sophomore students that must comply with the university's two-year residency requirement. Phase one of the housing selection process provides students with the option to stay in their current housing assignment, thus students will not be able to squat and live in their same room next year.

Currently, eligibility for living in the Oaks and the Crest for the 2012-2013 academic school year has not been determined. Turner said that no building will be completely off limits to a classification of students, but students received information contrary to Turner's statement. According to Chris Jamison, Residence Life director for expanded housing, Crest housing will be restricted to sophomores while juniors and seniors can live in the Oaks and The Station at Mill Point.

"The biggest thing I got word of is that Crest will no longer have seniors, and that is the biggest shocker to me because they are trying to push juniors and seniors off to live in The Station,"

said junior Hannah Cohan, a current resident at the Crest.

Cohan attended an information session conducted by Jamison, regarding housing options. While Cohan said she is interested in living at The Station at Mill Point, she was still surprised that Residence Life limited options for senior housing.

Residence Life has organized information sessions and received feedback from focus group attendees. While Turner said students expressed excitement about The

Station at Mill Point, the price has not yet been revealed, which may impact housing decisions.

"What is the price?" Cohan said. "That is what we all wanted to know."

The projected price is similar to that of the Oaks, which costs \$7,320 total for fall, winter and spring housing, according to Turner. She encourages students to be patient until the housing process is complete.

"People seem to be talking about a,b,c and until we come up with a process that can be x,y,z, people are just speculating," Turner said.

In the coming weeks, students will receive emails with links about the housing process and publications and brochures in their campus boxes. Information sessions will be available to students so they can better understand the revised housing process.

Changes in Housing for 2012

- Harper Center will no longer be available after demolition
- Rising juniors and seniors may not return to their current housing location
- The Station at Mill Point will be available for juniors and seniors
- Danieleley A-F will house first-year students
- The Crest will be offered as expanded housing during phase two

CATE LESOURD | Graphics Editor

FOR THE LATEST COVERAGE AND EXCLUSIVE WEB CONTENT, VISIT ELONPENDULUM.COM





MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer
The Student Professional Development Center is now open in Moseley Center.

New home for Career Services

SPDC from PAGE 1

Relations, the new branch of the Student Professional Development Center. He is the newest staff member to the center.

This branch of the center may play a significant role in students' search for jobs under the current economic situation, bringing in more employers and opportunities for internships and full-time positions, he said.

"Even though our internship ratio is pretty high here, we would like to see it even higher, and we would like to increase the quality of those internships so that (students) are better matched up with something (they) have a vocational interest in," Brinkley said. "We want it to be a meaningful internship."



Ashley Pinney, career counseling fellow, works in her office in the Student Professional Development Center for the first time Friday.

MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

Not only will there be a focus on more employment opportunities for students, but also on developing the skills that students will need to thrive in these jobs.

"It's not just about the first job, but about life skills — people will change careers, but what we can do here is help them to develop their own repertoire of skills," he said.

The Revson Family Gift, a \$100,000 gift, is being used toward transitional courses designed to build financial

literacy and understanding in students.

"This will help bring in speakers who can target and address some of the practical concerns that many students leave here without having addressed," Vecchione said.

Several courses will be available throughout the academic year and focus on a series of topics: law, insurance, personal finance, investments, civics and politics, real estate, health and medicine and negotiations. Courses target

students in particular majors, according to Rhonda Kosusko associate director of the Student Professional Development Center.

"We plan to continue to expand this aspect of the program," she said.

The transitions strategy ran a single course in 2008, and has now expanded to 30 courses a year, Vecchione said.

Other changes within the center include development of new positions such as Arli Eicher, recruiting

event Coordinator and Kim Giles, resources and communications specialist.

MORE ONLINE

Information on Revson Family gift:

<http://bit.ly/RevsonFamilyGift>

Join The Pendulum's

Post Secret

Design your own secret on an index card (4" x 6")

- Put in an envelope and mail your anonymous submission to The Pendulum's campus box 7012
- A handful will be published in the Feb. 8 edition and the rest will be put online
- Deadline for submission is Jan. 31
- Please be respectful in your secrets and try to abstain from obscenities

the Swing

Watch last semester's episodes of The Swing at <http://youtube.com/TheSwingElon>

The Pendulum's weekly video web show will be returning for a second season in the spring semester starting Feb. 8.

Upcoming Interest Meeting

Do you want to get involved with an innovative, non-traditional news show that reaches a wide audience?

Please come learn about the on- and off-screen positions available. Join us if you have an interest in asking questions and sharing stories or filling a technical role.

We welcome all years, experience levels and majors.

SAVE THE DATE:
7 p.m., Thurs., Feb. 2
Third floor of the Elon Town Center

Contact Kassondra Cloos at kcloos@elon.edu for more information.

School of Health Sciences moves into new home

Emily Hines
Assistant News Editor

The Gerald L. Francis Center, home of the School of Health Sciences located on Haggard Avenue, opened this month.

The department of physician assistant studies moved into the building Jan. 3, and the program will begin in January 2013. The doctor of physical therapy program transferred from McMichael Science Building to the Francis Center as well.

Until the physician assistant program begins, the building will be used for open houses, student visits and admissions interviews, in addition to physical therapy classes. Candidates for Elon's doctor of

physical therapy program, many of which will make up the largest class to go through the program, toured the new building Jan. 9.

Many of the faculty members have offices in the building, and meetings will be held there in preparation for the accreditation process of the site.

Prior to construction, the building held Smithfield administrative offices and served as a warehouse. Contractors, designers and the Elon support staff have organized bi-weekly meetings since May 2011 regarding the new facility, said Neil Bromilow, director of Planning, Design and Construction Management at Elon.

"We converted a dark and industrial warehouse into a warm and welcoming academic space," he said.

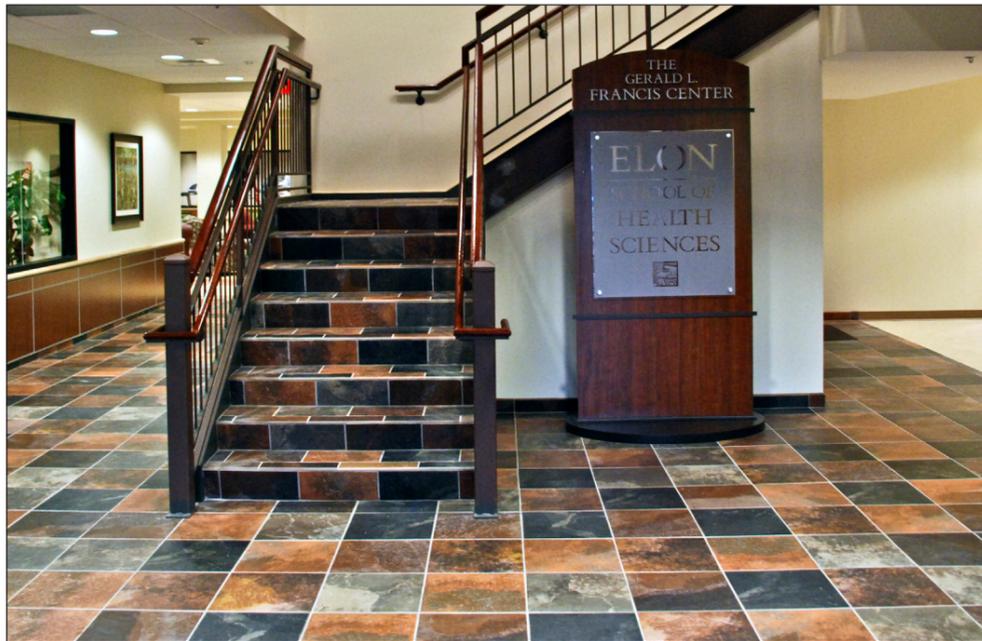
There are five exam rooms, an ultrasound, neuroscience and osteology lab, a Qualisys gait analysis and rehabilitation system and a 16-channel wireless EMG system, among several other classrooms and new equipment.

"The classrooms are adaptable to many different layouts," said Mark Archambault, department chair and program director for the physician assistant studies.

The Francis Center offers small group study spaces, clinical skills laboratory space and simulation lab experiences.

The adaptability of the classrooms will prepare students for future clinical experiences and increase their confidence in their skills, Archambault said.

"We know that the facilities are among the best in the nation,



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer

The Francis Center, home to the physician assistant program and the physical therapy department, is now open.

if not the best," Archambault said. "We hope that the facilities create a habitat for promoting active learning and sharing of knowledge, skills and experience among peers."

The Francis Center not only provides space for these two departments, but the transfer of the physical therapy program provides an additional 17,000 square feet for undergraduate research in the McMichael Science Center.

"The relocation of the DPT program to the Francis Center frees up space in McMichael Science Center for expanded undergraduate science programs," said Dan Anderson, vice president of university communications.

In addition to the move, hiring contributes to the development of the School of Health Sciences.

Faculty members that have already been chosen for the physician assistant studies program are Mark Archambault, department chair, program director and associate professor of physician assistant studies; Patti Ragan, associate professor; Brenda Quincy, academic coordinator and associate professor; and Diane Duffy, director of clinical education and assistant professor.

"The four faculty on the website (including myself, but not including the medical directors) were hired from March through September of

2011," Archambault said. "We have identified four additional faculty members to join us September 2012."

MORE ONLINE

For more information on the Gerald L. Francis Center:

<http://bit.ly/NewFrancisCenter>

<http://bit.ly/CenterNearCompletion>

BY THE NUMBERS

38 students enrolled in physician assistant program in Jan 2013

100+ applications submitted

40 "highly-qualified candidates" scheduled for interviews this month

8 high-quality staff being recruited for the department

4 staff chosen for the department

40+ years of clinical experience of chosen staff

30+ years of PA education experience

BREAKING DOWN THE PA PROGRAM

Elon Alumni host first National Networking Day

Anna Johnson
Interim Business Manager

For Elon University graduates, now is the time to update resumes and get new business cards. The Elon Alumni Association's regional chapters and clubs are gearing up for their first National Networking Day, scheduled for Jan. 25.

"The event really utilizes the network of alumni that we have and really gets them to interact with one another and use each other as a resource for their career and professional growth," said Jamie Grauel, coordinator of regional alumni engagement.

There are 17 regional chapters and clubs under the Alumni Associations participating in the event, Grauel said, and a variety of activity.

"Some of them are more formal programs where the alums in attendance will be learning secrets to success or how to work a room networking, how to develop your social media brand and how-to things they can use in their own careers," she said. "And not everyone is having a speaker, so it's more of a meet-and-greet and connect with alums in their area event."

Chapters and clubs from Houston to Philadelphia to Seattle and to the Piedmont Triad will meet up for the event.

"I am hoping the event will cause an increased sense of camaraderie and will encourage more people to attend Philadelphia chapter events," said Christine Winans, president of the Philadelphia chapter. "It's a really great way to increase your business network."

The event is not just for graduates looking for a job, but also for alumni to increase their personal network.

"We are not just trying to just focus on those alums that are looking for new opportunities," Grauel said. "We are also trying to focus on those alumni who are trying to enhance their current

Looking for a National Networking Day event? The following clubs and chapters are participating:

Atlanta
Baltimore
Boston
Charleston
Charlotte
Columbus
Houston
Nashville
New York City
Philadelphia
Piedmont Triad
Pittsburgh
Richmond
Seattle
South Florida
Triangle
Washington, D.C.

business."

The decision to host the event in the beginning of the year was part of the Alumni Association's push for alumni to make it a resolution to get connected with other Elon alumni.

The National Networking Day falls during Elon's Fake Break, and both Grauel and Winans encourage students traveling home to stop by their nearby event.

There are a lot of opportunities for seniors about to graduate who can meet employers at events like this, Winans said.

Representatives of the Elon Alumni Association expect anywhere between 400 to 500 people to attend the event nationwide.

New assistant vice president gets acquainted with Elon

Katy Steele
Reporter

Elon University named Susan Kirkland the new assistant vice president after Ken Mullen vacated the position last year. Kirkland assumed responsibilities Dec. 1 and has since familiarized herself with life at Elon.



SUSAN KIRKLAND

A certified public accountant with a B.S. in Business Administration and an accounting concentration from the University of North Carolina, Kirkland received her MBA from Barry University in Miami, where she spent 10 years in several roles including associate vice president for finance, a position that Kirkland said helped prepare her for her current role at Elon.

"At Barry, I had responsibility for several areas that are either identical or similar to the areas that I have responsibility for now," she said. "It's more of learning the process here and how things are accomplished at Elon."

Kirkland's position includes serving as the assistant chief financial officer and overseeing a range of financial, business and support operations, including responsibility for payroll and Phoenix Card services.

Gerald Whittington, senior vice president for business, finance and technology, characterized the switch from Mullen to Kirkland as a "smooth transition."

"Ms. Kirkland is a seasoned veteran and her ability to pick up our operations and tempo has been impressive," he said.

In the interim after Mullen's departure, the main challenge was keeping operations such as the audit process and the opening of school financial operations moving along, but the staff were helpful in easing the transition, according to Whittington.

"The staff in each of the areas reporting to Ms. Kirkland were very helpful in stepping up and providing extra efforts to accomplish all of what needed to be done," he said.

Since returning from the holiday break, Kirkland has spent time meeting with important leaders on campus and getting to know key constituents of the university, according to Whittington.

Kirkland described her first impressions of Elon positively.

"It's been wonderful," she said. "Everyone — the faculty, the staff, the students I've met — everyone has just been very welcoming, very genuine people."

Kirkland's transition isn't likely to usher in any new changes, according to both Kirkland and Mullen.

"We have excellent staff and very strong policies," Kirkland said. "I really don't see any changes in the future. My expectation is to continue the excellence of the university."

"We have excellent staff and very strong policies. I really don't see any changes in the future. My expectation is to continue the excellence of the university."

- Susan Kirkland
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT

Constructing a legacy: Bromilow reflects on 2 decades at Elon before retirement

Caitlin O'Donnell
Editor-in-Chief

Take a quick stroll around the campus of Elon University and much of what you see can be traced back to the leadership of one man. After 17 years and countless projects, Neil Bromilow, director of Planning, Design and Construction Management, is retiring.

His tenure included more than 50 projects ranging from behind-the-scenes renovations of the boiler system to the more visible construction of Belk Library. Bromilow was directly responsible for more than doubling the size of Elon's campus from 900,000 to 2.1 million square feet.

Arriving in 1995 as a contractor hired through ARAMARK, Bromilow became a one-man construction team in 1998 at the start of what he called a "construction boom." Since then, the office has expanded to include an assistant director, project manager and interior designer.

But that doesn't mean the projects have gotten less complex. On the contrary, said Bromilow, the process has become tougher.

"When I got here in 1995, it was 'Here is a project, let's go get it, it's done,' and the only thing we had to worry about was finding a contractor and getting the job built," he said. "Now, there are layers of bureaucracy, not from us, but from others."

Bromilow's process of starting work on a new project has remained constant but has been affected by questions not always relating directly back to construction. That problematic, external red tape includes everything from getting approval from the town, new environmental requirements from Elon for buildings and local laws dictating everything from storm water run-off to parking lots.

"You start off with a basic pile of questions, that would be 'How big is the building? How big are the walls?'" he said. "Now you add on top of that, 'Where does this sign go in the parking lot? Do you have a smoking policy? Can you prove you used local bricks?'"

Just one thing equals more reviews and becomes a string of more things to do."

The process has not always gone off without a hitch. A delay in the delivery of windows for the new Belk Library not only postponed the opening of the new building, but also delayed the renovation of the current McEwen School of Communications, which formerly housed the library.

"You're the captain of the Titanic, the first iceberg has already hit you and you're sitting there and here comes the second iceberg," Bromilow said.

A team worked 10 hours a day, seven days a week, eventually completing the building right before the arrival of students for the first day of school.

In many ways, Bromilow's legacy has been a physical one, defined by the brick and mortar he had a direct role in laying. But more than that, he said he

hopes he is remembered for ensuring the work kept going, even when problems arose.

"For anybody — contractors, architects, technical folks — whatever the problem was, there would be an answer quickly and it would be resolved. That's the legacy of me," Bromilow said. "We've had problems and they got fixed quickly and we kept moving."

After 20 years of traveling with the Navy, including a stint in Vietnam building apartments, and Ireland, where he met his wife on a blind date, Bromilow said he plans to take a sabbatical before he determines his actual retirement path.

"It's been like riding down the freeway at high speed in the back of a pickup truck with lots of bugs hitting you in the face," he said. "Things are going by as a blur, but at the end you end up in Myrtle Beach. It's just a journey getting there."



PHOTO SUBMITTED
Bromilow oversaw the transportation of Holland House in the summer of 2009.



MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer
After 17 years and involvement in countless projects, Neil Bromilow spends his last few days before retirement finalizing the development of The Station at Mill Point.

Honorary alumnus, Dell Services president to deliver commencement address *Schuckenbrock recognizes connection between Class of 2012, Internet-age*

Melissa Kansky
News Editor

As Schuckenbrock bids them good luck, he knows they are the game-changers.



STEVE SCHUCKENBROCK

that edge."

Steve Schuckenbrock, Class of 1982, graduated Elon University with a bachelor's degree in business administration and has since risen to president of Dell Services, but Schuckenbrock's principle values apply to even those foreign to the business

and technology world.

"Find what you love," he said. "Be determined. Be passionate about achieving results in that field, whatever the field may be. Don't be afraid to reinvent what things get done."

Schuckenbrock, who lives in Texas with his wife, Becky, and their five children, will return to Elon in May to deliver the 122nd commencement address. The 2012 commencement speaker identifies a connection between his field and the graduating class. This is the first graduating class to have used the Internet their entire lives, he said.

Employers attribute a certain attitude and skill sets to today's graduates that provide them with unique opportunities to contribute to society and the global economy, Schuckenbrock said.

"I think that makes him relate even more to this class because he is at the forefront of one of the companies that is making the Internet what it

is and giving people access to the Internet," said Jeff Clark, executive director of cultural and special programs at Elon.

Clark works with the provost to generate a list of distinguished alumni and individuals affiliated with the university, which is then given to the senior class officers, who select their commencement speaker.

"We're looking for people who are affiliated with Elon and who have been successful in their life after Elon," Clark said.

Academically driven, Schuckenbrock completed college in two and a half years. The alumnus currently runs a global business of 43,000 employees, or team members, that conducts business in every corner of the globe. Before working at Dell, Schuckenbrock served as executive vice president of global sales and client services for EDS, COO of the Feld Group, global CIO of PepsiCo, global CIO of Frito-

Lay and also worked at IBM. He is a member of President Leo Lambert's advisory council and received the 2010 Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Award.

While he said he valued his Elon education and relationship with professors, he attributes his success to lessons learned early in life.

"In a lot of ways, I think the values and the principles that you learn early in life, and that I certainly had a chance to continue at Elon, have served me exceptionally well, so fundamentally I have stayed true to those values," Schuckenbrock said.

Intellectual curiosity and a desire to learn guided him throughout his college and professional careers, he said.

"I have always sought the opportunity to learn as much as I possibly can and gain appreciation of work and values of the company, and it's a sort of continuous intellectual curiosity and desire to learn

that has helped me the most," Schuckenbrock said.

Pursuit of knowledge translates to listening and respecting others, which ultimately creates a successful community of shared ideas, he said.

"No matter what your job is, where you're from, what your interests are, you deserve respect, and I think it is an easy thing to say, but it's an easy thing to shortcut as careers develop," Schuckenbrock said.

As graduates prepare for careers, he said he acknowledges the eagerness to find a paying job, but wants to encourage graduates to maintain perspective on what they truly love to do.

"I luckily found out if you don't like what you do there's not enough money in the world to make it satisfying," he said. "And you don't find that out right after college, you find that out when you get some experience under your belt."

Remembering MLK

Students, faculty package books in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.

Mary Kate Brogan
Senior Reporter

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, classes were not in session, but for Elon University volunteers it was “a day on, not a day off,” according to Leon Williams, director of the Multicultural Center and head of the Martin Luther King Jr. Planning Committee.

“It’s all about service,” Williams said. “This is our MLK Day of Service to reflect on King’s mission and vision that this would become a day of service to the world.”

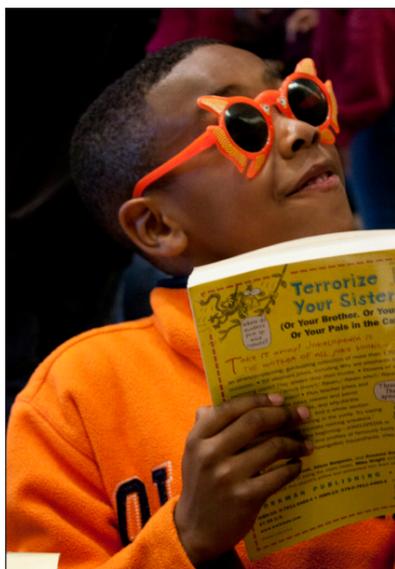
The Martin Luther King Jr. Planning Committee organized a book drive that benefits Kids Read, an organization established in 2007 by Elon University junior Brenna Humphries.

Students and faculty gathered in McKinnon Hall to prepare books for shipping to libraries, hospitals and orphanages located in Georgia, North Carolina, Massachusetts and Washington, D.C.

“While I was (visiting an inner city children’s hospital with my church youth group), I realized that the sickly children in the hospital spent countless hours playing video games and watching television — not doing anything constructive,” Humphries said. “I thought it would be good to give these children books and workbooks so that their time could be spent doing something educational.”

Williams said he was excited to work with Humphries’ organization, and said it is special to be working with an organization created by an Elon student. The feeling was mutual.

“I am elated to work with the MLK Committee,” Humphries said. “I think that Martin Luther King Jr. Day couldn’t be a



SARA HUDAK | Staff Photographer
Students and faculty packaged 1,052 books to be donated to Kids Read Monday morning.

better day to give back to the community and promote literacy.”

Members of the committee aimed to collect 500 books to ship to hospitals and libraries associated with Kids Read, but exceed the goal and donated 1,052 books, according to Williams. Letters from Elon University students and faculty about “why I like to read” will accompany the donated books.

“Our goal is to provide a breadth and depth of knowledge and opportunities for students, faculty, staff and administrators to participate in a program,” Williams said. “We try to provide many opportunities that will reach across different audiences so everyone can have a participating role.”

Committee rethinks Black History month celebrations

Edith Veremu
Reporter

Elon University will celebrate the contributions of black people throughout history during Black History Month differently this February. The Black History Month steering committee selected this year’s theme, “Black History Is Everyone’s History.” Students, faculty and staff members from different departments and organization on campus comprise the steering committee. Senior Keyona Osborne, committee co-founder, created the committee after realizing the university hadn’t promoted the celebration in the past years, she said.

“I worked with Dr. (Leo) Lambert, deans of different schools and Dr. Prudence Layne to establish the committee and figure out what we want Black History Month to look like,” Osborne said.

The goal of the month-long celebration is to recognize the different contributions of black people and how they’ve influenced American culture, according to Kimberly Edwards, sophomore and Black History Month student coordinator. She said this year’s theme focuses on the work of blacks throughout history and American culture.

“We want to do things that will be welcoming to all races,” Osborne said. “We just don’t want it to be just black events. We want to start off the first Black History Month with a bang, making sure people realize that blacks helped build this country.”

The School of Communications, Greek Life, Athletics, Religious Life and the Multicultural Center are some of the departments or branches represented in the steering committee. This variation will ensure the committee reaches out

Black History month events:

10:30 a.m., Feb. 5: Get on the Black Church Bus

Feb. 5-12: Library Display

9:40 a.m., Feb. 16: Dr. Thomas Campabella at College Chapel

7 p.m., Feb. 23: W.E.B. DuBois Day

to more than just one type of person or group of people, Osborne said.

“Black History Month steering committee is using the theme in order to increase awareness that the presence of African-Americans, Africans and people of African descent, including those in the African diaspora, have greatly influenced the development of the United States,” Edwards said. “I believe that in order to tactfully face adversity, one must know his or her history and how it affects the present.”

The committee is the first step in creating a permanent and tangible movement to ensure the university celebrates Black History Month and doesn’t stray away from the true value of the celebration, according to Osborne.

“We’ve created a budget for this to happen every year and there should never be a reason for Black History Month not to be celebrated on campus,” she said. “And even if Dr. Layne leaves, there’s always a committee.”

The steering committee hopes to engage people of diverse backgrounds and educate people on the importance of the celebration, Osborne said.

Special MLK College Coffee gives past fight current significance

Melissa Kansky
News Editor

The Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial stands opposite the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C. To Smith Jackson, vice president and dean of Student Life, it is a reminder of the need for equal rights advocacy long after the establishment of the Bill of Rights, he said. Elon University’s Martin Luther King Jr. commemorative activities remind the student body these founding principles have not reached fruition.

In honor of the civil rights activist, the Martin Luther King Jr. Planning Committee, comprised of representatives from various university organizations, organized an art showcase at College Coffee Jan. 10 to communicate the value of each individual, said Leon Williams, director of the Multicultural Center.

“It kind of personalizes it,” Jackson said. “We have a national holiday, but it’s about what we as a community do to reinforce thinking about the concepts and what this person did in his life.”

The art showcase provides students with a view of history through the eyes of an artist, said junior Trishelle Byrd.

The art displayed contained expressions of freedom and liberation inspired by the Civil Rights Movement. The showcase enables artists to speak through their canvas, Williams said. Local galleries, North Carolina A&T and local artists contributed to the art showcase.

“In an effort to build on an existing and successful tradition on our campus, we see College Coffee as an opportunity for fellowship of the community with a common theme, and that (theme) is civil rights,” Williams said.

Considering the history of North Carolina and Elon University, Byrd believes it is vital for Elon students to understand King’s fight for justice, she said.

“It’s very important that we embrace MLK week and make sure that his efforts are not just dismissed or put on the back burner, that there be some light shed on these events and to know that they are very important for everyone to take part in,” Byrd said.

Broadening the message

Although the Civil Rights Movement of the ‘40s, ‘50s and ‘60s represents inequalities in race and ethnicity, the university’s honorary program signifies a collaboration of diversity initiatives on campus. The Martin Luther King Jr. Planning Committee consists of representatives from the Multicultural Center, Office of Student Activities, University Advancement, North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program and Greek Life.

“Martin Luther King represented America, and so this shouldn’t be the sole act of the Multicultural Center,” Williams said. “It should be a shared responsibility of our institution.”

The cooperation of various organizations acknowledges that civil rights movements continue to take place for other marginalized groups.

“I hope that students recognize that Martin Luther King was not only concerned about prejudice and acts of hate due to race, but that he was concerned with any form of discrimination,” Jackson said. “That’s what college is about: trying to understand the past and apply it to the present.”

Localizing his fight

The Martin Luther King College Coffee reflects the community’s commitment to diversity, as represented by the Not on our Campus movement, according to Brooke Barnett, faculty administrative fellow for diversity and global engagement. The Not on our Campus campaign began in the fall after two separate instances in which a student was subjected to a racial slur



GLORIA SO | Staff Photographer
Janelle Rouse (left), director of education outreach, and Angela Owusu-Ansah, associate dean of the School of Education, attended a special College Coffee Tuesday morning commemorating MLK.

from a passenger in a passing car.

“Remembering Martin Luther King serves in the same spirit of a community that welcomes all,” she said. “What he is doing is standing for oppressed people and the Not on our Campus campaign is about how we won’t tolerate intolerance on Elon’s campus.”

The Jan. 10 College Coffee demonstrates an environment supportive of community and education, according to Barnett. Nevertheless, Williams views the commemoration of King and the university campaign as more of a contradiction, he said.

“I think it’s a parallel between suffering and oppression and what continues to happen today,” Williams said.

Although the Not on our Campus campaign symbolizes intolerance of oppression, the fight against injustice is not synonymous with the fight toward justice, he said.

Action without a motivator is more congruent with the message of King, Williams said. Jackson hopes the memory of King, will inspire the Elon community to promote a campus welcoming of differences.

“One of the strongest messages of our institution right now is that we

hope people will not be bystanders,” he said. “That they will be willing to say something, that they will be willing to promote in respectful ways, like King did, to make this a community where everyone is valued. I think it goes hand in glove with Not on our Campus.”

While Jackson acknowledges that reacting to a problem does not always affect change, honoring King contributes to the dialogue between students and administration concerning diversity.

Sophomore Megan Guido agrees. Celebrating King makes students more conscious of prejudice on campus, even when discrimination may be unintentional, she said.

MORE ONLINE

Delta Upsilon fraternity hosts a cookout for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

<http://bit.ly/EPmlkcookout>

SHERYL DAVIS
Multimedia Editor

Q&A with Elon alumna dealing with student loans

Caitlin O'Donnell
Editor-in-Chief

Five months ago, Elon alumna Jaclyn Cabral was \$90,000 in debt with student loans and not sure what her future held. After graduating in May 2011, Cabral expected to enter the job market immediately, but instead she became one of the numerous students struggling under the weight of her loans.

"You can't get a good job without an education but you can't get an education without being in debt," she said in a previous interview. "It's a vicious cycle."

Today, two-thirds of college students rely on loans to finance their education, up a third from 10 years ago, averaging \$24,000 based on graduates from the Class of 2009.

President Barack Obama recently introduced a Pay As You Earn repayment plan, allowing those with student loans to reduce their monthly payments to 10 percent of their income and forgive all debts after 20 years. But many have resorted to defaulting on their payments, which then hurts their credit score.

Cabral originally claimed forbearance on her loans, indicating to her lender she was experiencing a financial hardship and was unable to pay. Though Cabral recently secured a job, her debt continues to influence her opportunities and future.

Q: Last time we spoke, you said you were hoping to find a job by January. How has that turned out?

A: I got an internship in October at Communispace, a company working in market research, and interned for three months and started a full job there the first week of January. I studied strategic communications, so it's definitely in my major and not boring.

Q: What was the job search like for you?

A: I literally started stalking alumni. There

was one I knew who moved to Boston, and I just kept checking her Facebook and Twitter. I started emailing her, asking for tips for the job search. At the same time, I was in communication with Ross Wade, (assistant director of career services for the School of Communications). When positions opened up at her company, the alumna said I'd like it here and advised me to check it out. Ross then emailed me and told me about the open positions. I got two emails in the same day about the same position. I applied and two days later I had a phone interview. I was brought in Monday, offered the job on Tuesday, accepted on Wednesday and started the following Monday.

Q: What is the current state of your loans?

A: Some are still being deferred (a postponing of payment) until February. One stopped being deferred so I had to start paying on that. It's not hard to defer knowing that I have a full-time job, even



Alumna Jaclyn Cabral was featured in a recent series by the Huffington Post about student loans.

though they're still ridiculous. I saved money this summer and it helped having an internship. I'm still making payments and I've talked to people telling me I need to look into consolidating my private loans so, instead of having three to four payments, only paying one.

Q: How have your student loan payments influenced your personal finances?

A: I have a real-person job so things seem to be looking up, but how the hell am I ever going to move out of my parents' house? People do it so I know it's possible. I have to figure out how much I'm making. I still have to budget out chunks and start saving for my own place. My ideal is moving out of my house - that's my goal but I don't know how long it's going to take. I want to pay off a few things before I move out, which is on hold. I don't have my own car and I'm not hoping to buy one.

Q: Do you regret taking out student loans to pay for your education?

A: Elon was a phenomenal experience. When I started the job, they look through where your skills are so you can get accounts. I could say I've used video editing and design work, and my creativity from Elon transfers over. It's really nice. I'm one of the few people who can do this, and I have a leg up for certain projects.

Q: Last time we spoke, you said your sister was taking a year off due to your family's financial situation. How is she doing now?

A: She did take a year off and is currently a pairing in Munich, Germany. She's living out there through July. Now that she's gotten away from home, she re-applied to four in-state schools. She realized she doesn't need to go that far away. She also doesn't want to have to deal with what I have, and she wanted in-state tuition.



Kristin Marsh, bartender at The Fat Frogg, prepares an alcoholic drink for a student.

Elon reacts to new liquor law

Melissa Kansky
News Editor

Allowance of liquor by the drink increases diversity in bars and restaurants in the Town of Elon, according to Jeff MacKenzie, co-owner of The Fat Frogg. Constituents voted to pass a Nov. 8 referendum permitting sale of liquor by the drink in the Town of Elon beginning Jan. 1.

MacKenzie and co-owner Peter Ustach approached the Elon Board of Alderman regarding the sale of liquor by the drink in the town in hopes of attracting more people and matching competition, Ustach said. "The expectation happened,"

MacKenzie said. "We intended to operate business with liquor by the drink to accommodate a wider range of people, and it did exactly what we thought it would."

Since Jan. 1, a larger number of young adults have frequented The Fat Frogg, MacKenzie said. Although more professionals have taken advantage of the sale of liquor in the establishment, Elon University students have still responded positively, according to MacKenzie.

"I absolutely think students will take advantage of it," said senior Tayler Mettra. "I think a lot of students who come of age while in college, when they can buy drinks at a bar, want to buy drinks other than beer because that may be what they are drinking at home."

Freshman Matthew Mintzer shares Mettra's opinion. He said he believes the sale of liquor will change the atmosphere in the restaurant and entice more people to attend.

"I think liquor by the drink just simply made the restaurant a whole package, and I think it is evident in the diversity of the clientele that we have," MacKenzie said.

While the diverse clientele supports The Fat Frogg co-owners' initiative, Chuck Gantos, director of Campus Safety and Police, said the new crowd, as MacKenzie described, concerns him.

"My biggest concern is young ladies that will consume liquor as opposed to beer or wine," he said. "Young ladies will less likely drink six beers because of the weight, but they would have six Jell-O shots in 30 minutes, so I'm afraid we're going to have more alcohol poisonings as a result."

To reduce risk, Elon University staff members of the student development department will develop educational programs for freshmen with an emphasis on liquor consumption, according to Gantos.

"Students just need to understand that the percentage of alcohol is substantially greater than that in beer or wine and the amount they consume has to be reduced," Gantos said.

While the sale of liquor worries Gantos, business owners believe it enables employees to better monitor customers, reducing risk to clients.

"Now we can monitor a customer's behavior based on how much we know he's had, when before you had to monitor his behavior not knowing what he might have consumed outside of the restaurant," MacKenzie said.

Since the sale of liquor by the drink, MacKenzie said he noted fewer liquor bottles in the Fat Frogg parking lot, which suggests the majority of alcohol clients drink is consumed within the establishment.

"If it's not available and that's what they want, they're going to get it anyway," he said. "That was one of our main concerns and what we wanted to accomplish."

Strong use of Career Services not a substitute for students' work

Mary Kate Brogan
Senior Reporter

Career Services released the results of its three-month-out survey of the Class of 2011, which details the class' post-graduate activities. Of the 88 percent of graduates who responded, 992 of the 1127 class members, 95 percent, reported using Career Services.

The percent of Elon students using Career Services is reportedly higher than the national average of 73 percent utilization, according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). While students use services such as appointments, career and graduate school fairs and workshops, faculty and graduates acknowledge student efforts still necessary to achieve success.

"We're seeing more top name employers hiring better students," said Arli Eicher, recruiting and event coordinator for the employer relations team. "This reflects the high caliber of students because of their high rate of employment with good employers. Companies are impressed. Some companies have told us, 'These are our best new hires.'"

Although a larger percentage of Elon students reported using Career Services, graduates do not attribute their success to the university department.

Career Services is meant to complement

students, said Josh Norris, Class of 2011 graduate who works for Rogoworld.com and is covering two college football all-star games for the website this month.

"Career Services is not going to find you a job or an internship," Norris said. "You have to put in more work than them. Elon students are self-motivated. They have to be to get internships and jobs. Career Services points them in the right direction."

Norris said he developed a close relationship with Ross Wade, assistant director of career services for Elon's School of Communications, which helped him "get away from being just a cover letter."

Steve Ferguson, another recent grad, said he has kept in close contact with Rene Jackson, Career Services' career adviser for graduate school programs since graduating in May. Ferguson is currently a student in the University of Notre Dame's Alliance of Catholic Educators master's program.





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Elon welcomes South Korean visitors

Caitlin O'Donnell
Editor-in-Chief

The first thing they noticed was the friendliness.

Stepping off a plane from Gwacheon, South Korea, the welcome the 16 students received from Americans stood out when they first arrived in the United States.

The students are participating in a two and a half week visit through the Burlington-Alamance Sister Cities Program. The students are currently in second grade, the equivalent to 11th grade in the United States. While in the states, the 12 girls and four boys are living in pairs with host families and taking classes at Burlington Christian Academy. Their visit also includes trips to Washington, D.C. and New York City.

Dianne Ford, coordinator of serials and government documents at Elon University's library, helped coordinate the students' trip to Elon, which included lunch on campus and tours of the library, Kernodle Center and Schools of Business and Communication.

Sauyon Park said she gained her spot on the trip by completing tests involving reading, speaking and listening to English. All South Korean students are encouraged to learn English, many starting at a young age. An ESL teacher from Alamance Community College is currently leading the students in English classes during their time at the academy.

"It's really important to be good at English in Korea, so exposure to the culture is the best way to learn the language," she said.

Ford is no stranger to picking up a second language. After arriving at Elon 10 years ago, she starting learning Spanish at El Centro and looked for ways to put it into practice, leading



(Left to right) YeonJung Park, Saeyon Park, Junghyun Kim, Nayoon Kim and Jungbin Park were part of a group of 16 students from Gwacheon, South Korea who visited Elon University Thursday through the Burlington-Alamance Sister Cities Program. Their visit also includes trips to Washington, D.C. and New York.

to involvement tutoring at local elementary schools and eventually the Sister Cities Program. At the first meeting she attended, she was invited on a trip to Soledad, Mexico, the program's first Sister City.

"We tutor English while we're there with students who are studying (it), but have never spoken it with a native speaker so they are intimidated by the idea," Ford said. "We've all been learning Spanish but haven't had the chance to practice. We all kind of jump in there and start speaking each other's language."

To assist with the students arriving from South Korea, Ford enlisted the help of Byung Lee, associate professor

of communication, and freshman Jin Bo Choi, both from South Korea.

"We're trying to provide international opportunities for people on our campus and trying to show us off a bit too," Ford said. "Because we're recruiting international students here, we have a lot of different people talking to them."

The students said they are interested in attending American college but know it is very expensive.

Now a little more than a week into their stay, the students have already picked up on the subtle differences in American culture.

The customary bow when greeting a peer is now replaced with handshakes and hugs where appropriate. They have

also noticed the American tendency to wear shoes in the home, a habit absent from Korean society.

But there are also welcome similarities, such as American television shows including "Gossip Girl," "How I Met Your Mother" and "The Simpsons."

Between the purchase of peanut butter as a souvenir and trips to Walmart for the first time, the students said the friendliness they experienced on their first day has not subsided.

"People are really friendly here," Nayoon Kim said. "You say hello to us, even though we don't know each other. (In Korea, if you don't know who they are, you don't say anything."

New tobacco policy faces non-compliance

Emily Hines
Assistant News Editor

A change in Elon University's tobacco policy prohibits smoking within 30 feet of the perimeter of any building since fall. The change has not been accompanied by accommodations for smokers, a possible factor of the ineffectiveness of the policy, according to Jordan Perry, coordinator for student development on substance education.

"Part of the problem is that receptacles can be difficult to find, and to my knowledge, no shelter is available for smoking away from campus buildings in the event of inclement weather," said L.D. Russell, a smoker and lecturer in religious studies.

This may be one reason that there is not more compliance with the policy, Perry said.

"I have noticed more students, faculty and staff who don't abide by the policy," she said. "But is it because they don't know about the policy, don't have alternative receptacles or designated areas, or are willfully disregarding the policy? I just don't know."

High cost contributes to the lack of receptacles, according to Perry.

"If we are still trying to pass a smoke-free or tobacco-free policy, the expensive endeavor would not be worth it," said senior Kelly Little, SPARKS team leader.

There has been no indication from administrators that Elon is moving to a smoke-free campus, Perry said. But 49 percent of students, faculty and staff support a smoking ban, according to a survey given on campus in 2010.

"I would like a smoke-free campus, but I can definitely understand the opposing view," said freshman Chelsea McQueen.

"You should be able to smoke in the general area that you live in, at least."

While there is a population in support of a smoke-free campus, others said they believe the current policy is fair to both sides.

"I would not expect the entire campus to be smoke-free because it is a personal decision," said freshman Rachel Lewis. "However, it is something that affects people other than the smoker, which is why I do agree with the (current) policy."

-L.D. Russell
LECTURER IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

the main motivations behind the policy. Secondhand smoke causes cancer, heart disease and other negative health effects, she said.

"As one who cares about being a conscientious smoker, I appreciate the fact that the university has decided to allow smoking on campus," Russell said. "I also appreciate the restrictions designed to prevent offense to those for whom exposure to secondhand smoke is especially dangerous."

It is unknown whether the policy has affected the number of students that smoke. The 2011 annual Core Alcohol and Drug Survey indicated 13 percent of students on campus smoke three times a week or more. The survey will be given again in the spring.

Studies in other North Carolina universities show that cigarette litter can be an indication of the number of smokers on campus.

A national survey found that about 32 percent of all litter in the U.S. comes from tobacco products. Tom Flood, director of landscaping and grounds, said statistics represent litter in Elon as well, according to Perry.

Online summer course partners academics, Alaskan exploration

Chris Powers
Reporter

Summer gets cooler, literally.

Two Elon faculty members devised an online course that includes a 10-day exploration of Alaska's Kenai Peninsula this summer. The course, "The Call of the Wild: Alaska, Nature and Imagination," examines the difference between urbanized and native culture.

The course satisfies the literature, expression or society requirement.

Joe Jacob, adjunct faculty member, will lead the course. Jacob, who is familiar with the territory, said he has high hopes for students enrolled in the class.

"I hope we attract students who like challenges," Jacob said. "We want a combination of people who enjoy the outdoors and desire to experience something new."

The trip's itinerary allots time for exploring the Kenai Peninsula's vast landscape and beautiful scenery. Twenty students enrolled in the class will complete the academic portion of the class online during the summer. The course includes 12 days of online assignments before embarking on a 10-day tour of the Peninsula. Upon their return from Alaska, the students will complete another eight days of online work.

The combination of academic work and firsthand experience will be beneficial to students, said Barbara

Gordon, associate professor of English and one of the faculty members conducting the course.

"We will be touching on both the intellectual and experiential through readings and encounters," she said.

Jacob said he ultimately hopes that after the trip, students will share his passion for Alaska.

"Alaska is my addiction," Jacob said. "And there are definitely worse things to be addicted to."

Jacob's participation in the course is extremely valuable, according to Gordon.

"He has so many connections and can really introduce the students to Alaska," she said.

Jacob said he is excited to lead students through territory that may be unfamiliar to them.

The course contributes the university's efforts to offer more domestic study away programs in addition to the more conventional study abroad opportunities available to students.

"Elon wants to make it clear that you don't have to travel abroad to understand other cultures," Gordon said.

Brooke Barnett, assistant to the president, said she recognizes the importance of domestic study away programs as well as study abroad programs.

"We hope domestic study will not supplant or replace, but rather complement our study abroad efforts," Barnett said.



PHOTO SUBMITTED
Two Elon University professors introduce students to Alaskan culture in the course "The Call of the Wild: Alaska, Nature and Imagination."

Course information sessions will be held Jan. 19 at 12:30 p.m. and Feb. 7 at 4:30 p.m. in Moseley 216. Admission is rolling. Students interested in the course can apply on Elon University's study abroad website:

<http://bit.ly/AlaskaElon>

Even after Iraq, military does not rest

Hannah DelaCourt
Senior Reporter

The Iraq War officially concluded with a ceremonial flag lowering in Baghdad on Thursday, Dec. 15, but Elon University students recognize that, for those in the military, the job is never done.

"With every war it has to start and it has to end," said senior Candice Blacknall. "I think it's wise to remember that the end of the war is not the end of the military's importance. Our mission never ends."

Blacknall enlisted as an Army reservist in 2007 and was deployed to Iraq in 2009 for a 15-month service. As an active reservist, she understands that the end of the war does not mean the military has less to do now.

The military, regardless of being at war, still has an active military stateside, she said. The soldiers' homecoming enables those in the military to take care of their families and take care of things in the nation.

Blacknall said she believes that is one aspect of the military's responsibilities that people sometimes forget.

"I think a lot of times, people don't realize it's not all the troops that go overseas, so you get troops that go over for two or three deployments," she said. "From a families' perspective, (the end of the war) will allow them to reunite with their family and catch up on things that they might have been missing."

Although the Iraq War has ended, sophomore Mary Savarese, member of a military family, knows the military's job is not done. Troops are still being sent to Afghanistan. She said from now on, there will be consistent training and deployments. Soldiers will still go on multiple tours, and they could each last more than a year.

Savarese's father is a Marine Corps colonel and her two brothers are both in the Marine Corps.

"The Iraq War affected my family with many deployments," she said. "My dad was deployed (to Afghanistan) immediately in 2001."

Her oldest brother served in 2006 for nine months. But she said the deployment's effect on her family was not terrible.

"We are very faith-oriented and would pray for them constantly," Savarese



PHOTO SUBMITTED
Candice Blacknall was deployed to Iraq in 2009 and was stationed there for more than a year.

said. "We also wrote letters, sent care packages and I even did a service project for my brother's ship. Of course, saying goodbye is the hardest part but saying hello is filled with tears and smiles."

Still, Savarese is thankful that part of the war is over.

"It is always wonderful to see the men and women serving our country come home," she said.

Klopman retires as vice president of admissions; Zaiser will succeed her

Kassandra Cloos
Producer of The Swing

As Susan Klopman prepares for retirement and reflects on a 27-year career at Elon University, it's clear she has seen and spearheaded



SUSAN KLOPMAN

extensive changes at the institution. When she started working in the Department of Publications and Public Relations in 1985, Elon was hardly the household name it has recently striven to become.

Class sizes were much smaller, the Elon Commitment and Strategic Plan had not yet been developed, even local North Carolina newspapers seldom felt the need to report on happenings at the university. But last week, just a few months from her retirement in June, Klopman, vice president of admissions and financial planning, submitted Elon's enrollment data to the New York Times upon the publication's request.

"I remember when we could not even get the Greensboro News and Record to include Elon or what was going on at Elon," she said. "(The New York Times) calls us regularly now for our enrollment data."

Klopman has worked a number of positions during her time at Elon, including the completion of research that led to the discovery of a time capsule in the cornerstone of the Alamance building during the university's centennial celebration in 1989.

More recently, she helped to create the Elon Commitment and the institution's Strategic Plan and has continued to watch each year's freshman class become increasingly selective. Undergraduate admissions reached an all-time high Jan. 12, when applications reached more than

10,000.

Klopman will be succeeded by Greg Zaiser, dean of admissions, and said she is confident in his ability to step up to the challenge.



GREG ZAISER

"To have such an extraordinary new vice president to be able to step up to the plate gives me enormous comfort and excitement," she said.

Zaiser, Class of 1990, was hired by Elon shortly after graduating from the university, and he said he has received tremendous support from the campus community regarding his promotion. His new position will begin June 1, and he said he is looking forward to what will be a challenging yet rewarding experience.

"I love Elon for so many reasons," Zaiser said. "The fact that I get to hopefully do for Elon what Elon's done for me, and do for other people what Elon's done for me, is the best."

Although Zaiser's new position will involve less day-to-day interaction with students than his current position, he said he is excited to become a member of the university's senior staff and to continue to watch Elon grow.

"This place is not successful because of the admissions office," he said. "This place is successful because of what it is. If we all keep working as hard as we are, things will continue to go as well as they have been going. I truly believe that. We get people here, but when you came to check out Elon, you were impressed by the place and the programs and the people."

Although Klopman will formally retire on June 1, she said she will never leave the Elon family. She and her husband will continue to live in the area, where they will remain involved and supportive of

the university by attending the various cultural and sporting events.

Despite the sadness of ending such an influential chapter of her life, Klopman said she is looking forward to the blank days in her calendar, which she hopes to fill with cooking classes — including a few in Tuscany, Italy — visiting her children and grandchildren in New York and Denver and becoming certified as a master gardener.

"My life's project has been Elon and nothing, nothing except my family, could be more rewarding," she said. "So I consider it a major gift to have worked here and shared in this remarkable place. Saying goodbye to it is certainly going to be one of the hardest things I have ever done."

MORE ONLINE

- Elon broke its own record again, hitting more than 10,000 applications Jan.12

- Klopman started in 1985 and will complete her 27th year at Elon this spring.

- Zaiser graduated in 1990. This year marks his 21st year at Elon

More dates and details:

<http://bit.ly/KlopmanRetires>

KASSANDRA CLOOS
Producer of The Swing

NEWS BRIEFS

New Business German program

The Martha Spencer Love School of Business and the Department of Foreign Languages have created a new program designed to prepare students for a German work environment. The Business German program is directed by David Neville, assistant professor of German and Scott Windham, chair of the foreign languages department.

The program is open to all majors, and the assignments are based on scenarios that the students may come across working in Germany.

SGA February Elections

General Elections for the Student Government Association will be held Feb. 21 and 22. The voting will be held for the Executive Council, the Academic Council and the At-Large Council, which is comprised of class officers and senators. The Executive Council includes the executive president, vice president, treasurer and secretary.

Candidates for SGA elections must be full time students, with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above and on good judicial standing with the university with no current disciplinary probation. The executive president and vice-president must be at least rising juniors.

Elon Law professor explores controversial legislation

Elon Law professor David Levine published an article in the Stanford Law Review Online last month. The article explores the consequences of two pending pieces of federal legislation in Congress that concern the Internet and intellectual property laws.

The article was coauthored with Mark Lemley, professor at Stanford Law School, and David Post, professor at Beasley School of Law at Temple University. It was featured on several online news outlets including Forbes, Slashdot and Boing Boing, among others.

Blake Russell marathon trial

Elon alumna Blake Russell competed in the Olympic marathon trials Jan 16. She attempted to qualify for her second consecutive appearance in the Summer Olympic Games.

Blake "had fallen to 15th at the 10-mile mark and was in 17th when she dropped out," reported The Monterey County Herald.

In the 2008 Summer Olympics, Blake was the only American woman to compete in the marathon. She finished 27th. After the 2008 games, she took time off training, and had a son, Quin, in April 2009.

Russell graduated from Elon's master of physical therapy program in 2001.

Elon students, welcome to...

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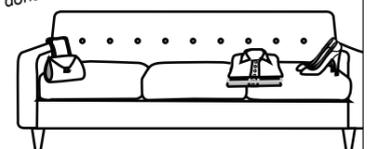
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Jan. 18 - Jan. 25

Jan. 18

- Mini Golf: 7-9 p.m., Harden Clubhouse

Jan. 19

- Macbeth: 7:30 p.m., Blackbox McCrary Theatre
- Midnight Meals - Alisha Varcoe: 11 p.m., Irazu Coffee Shop

Jan. 20

- Tapped Out!: 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m., McKinnon Hall
- Macbeth: 7:30 p.m., Blackbox McCrary Theatre
- SUBLive - Jen Kwok: 8 p.m., Irazu Coffee Shop

Jan. 21

- Tapped Out!: 2 p.m. & 3:30 p.m., McKinnon Hall
- Macbeth: 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m., Blackbox McCrary Theatre

Jan. 22

- Macbeth: 2 p.m., Blackbox McCrary Theatre
- Mini Golf: 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., Harden Clubhouse

Jan. 23

- Winter Term classes end
- Mini Golf: 7-9 p.m., Harden Clubhouse
- Macbeth: 7:30 p.m., Blackbox McCrary Theatre

Jan. 24

- Final exams

Jan. 25

- Elon Alumni Association National Networking Day

Editorial

To move or not to move? That is the question...

Elon students weigh the benefits of on- vs. off-campus housing

For Elon University students, this time of year marks a period when everyone has the same thought on their minds: Where am I going to live next year? For some, Elon's two-year on-campus housing requirement makes the decision boil down to GPA and semesters spent on campus. For others, such as Elon's rising juniors and seniors, the choice to remain on campus can become much more complicated, as the large assortment of cheaper, off-campus housing options can be hard to ignore.

But with such extravagant new on-campus housing options springing up, such as the new junior/senior complex, The Station at Mill Point, the university apparently has a clear goal in mind. It seems that keeping Elon's upperclassmen currently living on campus from leaving for those cheaper off-campus apartment complexes has become a new priority for Residence Life. But will this year's new housing policies bring about the desired effect?

In a recent email from Residence Life, students were informed that all rising juniors and seniors will not be given the option of returning to their current housing assignment next year. This new policy effectively limits upperclassmen students' on-campus options to the space available in the Oaks, Colonnades or the Station at Mill Point. But at this point in the year, when students usually have already committed to living arrangements for the future, the likelihood that the affected students will choose to remain on campus with this new housing policy is low. And with on-campus registration a

little more than a month away, the lack of available information concerning who is eligible to live where on campus, and the updated costs, will certainly not help attract undecided students.

Don't get us wrong: we think Elon's desire to foster an added sense of community by providing additional housing for upperclassmen is admirable. Studies have shown that students who live on campus are statistically more likely to achieve better grades, participate in extracurriculars and be more informed about campus events. But one can't help but notice the issues that need to be addressed promptly, if Elon wants the students to continue supporting its expansion.

Residence Life has yet to release the details of when the Station will be completed or the projected costs for each student, effectively delaying the decision process for Elon students interested in living on campus next year. They have also remained mum as to which apartments will be available to students based on their class standing. When contacted by The Pendulum, some Residence Life directors seemed misinformed regarding upper versus lowerclassmen eligibility to live in certain on-campus housing developments. Miscommunication among those who are responsible for the housing selection process to run smoothly is bad for

business. And with the clock ticking away, students cannot afford to wait much longer on Residence Life to finalize the process. Students will need time to make an informed decision on where to live based on availability and cost.

Money talks, and with the price of a college education rising every year, its voice only gets louder. Every year, students have less money to budget toward living accommodations. And while on-campus housing provides all utilities to its tenants, the cost of living in the unit itself sometimes exceeds the cost of living in an off-campus apartment and paying for utilities.

It seems the projected cost of the limited housing available to upperclassmen may also be problematic this year. Currently, the Oaks complex is one of the most expensive on-campus housing options utilized by juniors and seniors. Students have been told that the new Station at Mill Point is projected to be in the same price range as the Oaks, but that remains unconfirmed. Students who already spend thousands on tuition and books every semester will need to work out with Mom and Dad if they can even afford to live on campus next year.

Residence Life staff stated during an interview that their main priority is to fill beds in the new Station by shepherding upperclassmen toward it, to compete with the popular off-campus developments. But if

they are trying to push students toward a development that isn't confirmed to be completed and has no set price, how many students do they expect will be willing to wait for these details to become available?

In addition to retaining current upperclassmen in on-campus housing, Elon is making the effort to reach out to its students currently living off campus to consider applying for the new junior/senior complex. But it seems unlikely that students who have lived off campus for more than a year will be interested in on-campus apartments. Students who decide to live off campus typically do so for both financial and social reasons. They are willing to invest a substantial amount of money and energy into decorating and furnishing their apartments because they know they won't have to go through the process again next year. They enjoy the privacy that comes with living off campus, and are free to conduct themselves in a much less regulated environment. It seems unlikely that these students will be willing to trade away all these benefits to apply for a development that doesn't provide the freedoms of off-campus housing.

The decision on whether to live on or off campus is one that Elon students struggle with every year. Some are determined by money, while some are determined by social life. Some come down to a matter of availability. If Elon wants to have its upperclassmen remain on campus in years to come, they will need to make sure they are providing the necessary information for students to make the best decision possible.

With the clock ticking away, students cannot afford to wait much longer on Residence Life to finalize the process. Students will need time to make an informed decision on where to live based on availability and cost.

Letter from the Editor

If the first few weeks of 2012 are any indication, it's going to be a crazy year. Just fewer than 150 Elon University



Caitlin O'Donnell
Editor-in-Chief

students dove into Lake Mary Nell in 30-degree weather in what is predicted to be the final Polar Bear Plunge. The Burlington community has grappled with the loss of two young men killed after being struck by a train on South Glen Raven Road.

Downtown Elon has welcomed a new business with the long-awaited opening of Pandora's Pies, a pizza shop boasting both locally grown ingredients and building materials. The university's network experienced an attack that left much of campus without Internet last Wednesday, Jan. 11.

So far, it's been a year of exciting traditions coupled with devastating loss, new beginnings and unforeseen threats.

And The Pendulum has been there to cover it all.

The Pendulum staff may have changed hands at the start of the year, but what has not changed is our commitment to providing the Elon campus and community with the most accurate, up-to-date and informative content.

The community of students, faculty and staff at Elon University should expect and demand from The Pendulum information that is truthfully, professionally and accurately reported. Even when it may be uncomfortable to read, that includes scrutiny of the actions of the administration and others in power when warranted.

We are journalists, but we are humans first and that means we are not free from mistakes. We rely on our audience to hold us accountable and deliver the information that matters to you in both a respectful and impartial way. We want your critiques, suggestions and compliments as we work to constantly improve our methods and reporting.

As the new year begins, our staff is already thinking ahead and implementing ideas that will make our product even stronger.

As we move in line with the entire media industry, we will introduce a redesigned website at the start of February. Our print edition will continue to be published every Wednesday, but expect a reinvigorated emphasis on up-to-the-minute coverage online.

The Swing, our new weekly web show introduced last semester, will begin again next month with supplemental material to what we publish in print and a look behind the scenes at some of the most significant issues affecting you.

All in all, The Pendulum is no longer just a student newspaper. It is rapidly becoming a well-rounded news organization and the key source at Elon University for not only a weekly print version, but also supplementary videos, photos, graphics and social media content.

But all the hard work and late nights are meaningless without you, our community, who rely on our content to remain informed, make decisions and learn more about the area you call home.

On behalf of the entire Pendulum staff, thank you for your ongoing support and readership and be prepared for an exciting, challenging and rewarding year.

THE PENDULUM

Established 1974

The Pendulum is published each Wednesday of the academic year. Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be typed, signed and emailed to pendulum@elon.edu as Word documents. The Pendulum reserves the right to edit obscene and potentially libelous material. Lengthy letters or columns may be trimmed to fit. All submissions become the property of The Pendulum and will not be returned.

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

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

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

Opinions

Higher education should be affordable for all students

The days are gone when people get what they deserve. Money has become such a



Ben Sever
Columnist

deciding factor in every aspect of life that it is almost the sole purpose of our existence. Education should be infinitely accessible because knowledge is the

key to

improving the world.

The cost of higher education is not only causing financial problems for students, but it is making students shy away from their desired college of choice.

It is a depressing thought that a number of kids in modern society work hard in high school, stress out while applying to tough colleges, feel the enjoyment of receiving acceptance letters, but have to settle for going to their in-state school because it is the cheapest option.

To be fair, the saying "college is what you make of it" is partially true, but it is not fair to rob hard workers of their desired college because of financial limitations.

College is generally a turning point in young adults' careers when they want to branch out and become more independent. Being limited to colleges near their homes can hinder the maturation process.

State funding to public colleges needs to increase to fix a whirlwind of financial problems, among other issues.

The majority of college-bound students opt toward going to public schools because they are cheaper than private schools. But public schools are now getting to be just as expensive.

The lack of funding is causing students to be in serious debt to loan agencies. This is because colleges have no choice but to raise tuition to compensate for the lack of funding.

The cost of college tuition in the U.S. has become a major roadblock in students' pursuit of a higher education.

It is no secret that elite college education is very expensive and favors the wealthy while exerting subpar attempts to help the less fortunate with financial aid.

One would think that government funding would at least proportionally stay on track with the increasing amount of enrolled students. State funding has actually decreased, causing tuition inflation.

Funding has decreased annually in public schools, which is forcing tuition to skyrocket. In the past year, tuition in public universities has increased by 8.3 percent.

Eighty percent of students that seek a higher education attend public colleges, and are thus impacted by this tuition rise.

Addressing the cost of

private schools is an even bigger task to tackle. They are not funded by the state and have a lot more freedom, ultimately making it harder to find a solution to the problem.

A quick solution would be for the government to pass a law stating that if a school wants to be private, it has to increase its number of scholarships to a certain margin while maintaining its current tuition costs.

Private schools tend to spend an unnecessary amount of money on making their campuses more aesthetically pleasing, when that money could be used for financial aid.

For example, Elon University's campus is a certified botanical garden, and a large amount of money and manpower goes into keeping the campus looking pristine.

Instead of buying and frequently replacing plants, that money could be spent aiding financially struggling students.

This is just one example of reallocating funds to improve students' situations who have the drive to gain a higher education.

There are many perspectives one can take to make college more affordable.

President Barack Obama's administration has instituted the "Pay as you Earn" plan, which will allow about 1.6 million students the ability to cap their loan payments at 10 percent of their discretionary income starting next year.

Also, the plan will forgive the balance of their debt after 20 years of payments.

Starting this January, an estimated six million students and recent college graduates will be able to consolidate their loans and reduce their interest rates. Leaders such as Obama are the start of the solution.

His influence will hopefully spark leadership in others and promote campaigns to help this cause.

His determination is very inspiring to the American people and is evident in his recently released statement:

"In a global economy, putting a college education within reach for every American has never been more important, but it's also never been more expensive.

"That's why today we're taking steps to help nearly 1.6 million Americans lower their monthly student loan payments.

"Steps like these won't take the place of the bold action we need from Congress to boost our economy and create jobs, but they will make a difference. And until Congress does act, I will continue to do everything in my power to act on behalf of the American people."

In the current tough economic state the U.S. is facing, the goal of making education cheaper is an idealistic and a gradual process.

But, with the support of influential figures, states and the general public, affordable education has the potential to become a reality.



Occupy protestors take to camping in the streets outside Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

Occupy movements are not protesting for same reasons

Everything started out simply — protest the wealthiest 1 percent in America at a location where some of the wealthiest people in the world work, New York City, particularly, Wall Street.



Jonathan Black
Columnist

On Sept. 17, Occupy Wall Street began as a movement to bring awareness to the growing wealth of the richest in the U.S. while homelessness and poverty are still major problems for millions. The protestors have clearly achieved this goal as Occupy movements spread across the globe in more than 1,500

cities ranging from London, Nairobi, Kenya and even local movements in Winston-Salem and Greensboro.

While the range of Occupy movements shows the connectedness of the world through social media, one of the biggest problems with the Occupy movement is the diversity of governments and programs the different movements are protesting. This turns out to be a confusing mess with a thousand groups protesting under one umbrella name.

The media certainly is not helping the protest either. Even though the daily coverage of Occupy seems to be dwindling, the excess of stories

about it never seem to be backing the protestee's plight. A wide range of television shows, newspapers and news stations are not supporting the movement because of disparity and lack of unification within the movement. Perhaps most notably, The Daily Show and The Colbert Report have both satirized Occupy Wall Street, both influential to college students.

While many celebrities and organizations live by the philosophy that all press is good press, they could not be further from the Occupy movement's case. When the press reports on them, it's not to tell the public what the campaign is protesting as much as it is to reveal the problems it's facing and the controversy that surrounds it.

The biggest problem the movement faces is that they are simply protesting the wrong target. Occupy Wall Street needs to become Occupy Capitol Hill. The super rich individuals of the country are a result of the political system and taxation, something that is decided in Washington, D.C., not Wall Street.

Secondly, the movement cannot simply blame the government and hope something gets changed. Occupy would do well to endorse a few candidates that back their goals and get them elected into the House or Senate.

The Occupy Movement needs to quickly revamp its goals and belief system in order to survive, or the progress they made initially will be lost. At this point, Occupy Wall Street has turned into a pop culture movement more than a political protest.

Pointed Twitter comments welcomed on Elon's campus

#Elonproblems: A phrase that every student is fast becoming familiar with.

If you're an Elon student on Twitter, you may have noticed a recent increase in parody accounts focusing on #elonproblems.



Anna Johnson
Columnist

Spurring from the popular first world problems meme (and its many, many variations), Elon now has its very own Twitter accounts focusing on the problems on campus. You have @ElonGirlProblem, @ElonGuyProblem and @ElonGDIPblems. With students tweeting on everything from Taco Salad Friday to keg parties, squirrel sightings to Festivus, Elon's Twitter feeds have

become a melting pot for both the motivating and the mundane. Even campus buildings such as Koury Business Center and the McMichael Science Building have their own Twitter handles, focused on the particular problems one would encounter from spending time there.

Some cater to the uniqueness of Elon with @OnlyAtElon and @xoGossipSquirrel, whose tweets capture the funny moments that come with daily events and locations, such as Winter Term classes, Haggard Avenue traffic or Colonnades' brunch.

While some students may find these

Twitter accounts excessive or silly in nature, these Twitter handles are excellent examples of how technology can bring niche groups focusing on a particular idea or, in this case a location, together.

Well-written satire and witty commentary will always be appreciated, regardless of the medium that carries it. It seems these handles are focused on entertaining while taking delight in some slight jabbing at Elon students.

And as long as these users focus on commentary and entertainment, where the satirical isn't mistaken for spiteful, they will continue their rise in popularity.

Twitter is a popular outlet for parody and pop culture. Fan and commentary accounts have risen on both sides of the spectrum and Twitter has had to spell out the rules and guidelines for these accounts. When these rules are not followed, they can result in termination of the account and confusion.

Media mogul Rupert Murdoch joined Twitter early this month and so did his wife, or at least according to Twitter. The Twitter handle @Wendi_Murdoch was given the verified blue circle without being contacted. Later, it was determined the account was, in fact, a parody.

Elon's campus is always going to need students who choose to playfully mock their fellow students, university and even themselves. As long as the focus is commentary and satire instead of bullying, these Twitter handles should continue to post their snarky comments. And if you're not a fan, simply unfollow.

International

Denmark's citizens report less burden with extensive systems of health care, education

Peter Gallagher
International Reporter

COPENHAGEN, DENMARK — Although both economically successful and culturally unique, the United States and Denmark could not be more different when it comes to the social issues of education and health care. Both also rank differently in terms of overall “happiness.” Each country’s different approach to these social issues may have an effect on the happiness of its citizens.

Health care has been at the forefront of debate in the United States during the past two years since President Barack Obama passed a universal healthcare bill in March 2010. This bill has been accompanied by criticism and cries that the U.S. government has overstepped its power by mandating universal healthcare. But in Denmark, healthcare is provided by regional governments and paid for by taxpayers.

There are more doctors in Denmark per capita than the United States, and this makes visiting a doctor easier and more convenient for

patients. American student Dillon Wilson, who is a junior at Denison University in Ohio and currently studying in Copenhagen, Denmark, recently visited a Danish doctor during a case of pneumonia.

“It was encouraging to experience universal healthcare while in Denmark, and it shows that implementing reliable, convenient and virtually cost-free medical care is possible at a national level,” he said.

Though the system in place in Denmark seems ideal, Wilson pointed out that attempting to implement a similar system in the U.S. would demand many changes to the current medical system in place, “as well as Americans’ willingness to accept the role

of government involvement.” Torben Jorgensen, a history professor at the Danish Institute for Study Abroad, has been receiving medical treatment for mouth cancer for the past six months and would have very large medical bills if not for Denmark’s health care system.

“Danes accept paying high taxes in exchange for universal care because we’re all in it together,” he said. “It’s necessary to both educate and take care of the entire population because our population is so small. The success and health of the individual is necessary for the success and progress of Danish society as a whole.”

“As I’ve experienced, higher taxes and universal social services benefits the society as a whole, which may very well lead to greater happiness.”

— Torben Jorgensen
HISTORY PROFESSOR AT THE DANISH INSTITUTE FOR STUDY ABROAD

an education for their children. Jorgensen feels “not having to worry about these things can certainly impact the happiness of one’s life. As I’ve experienced, higher taxes and universal social services benefit the society as a whole, which may very well lead to greater happiness.”

Rising college costs are especially a large issue in the U.S., with the average four-year private institute often costing upwards of \$140,000. But unlike the U.S., all students in Denmark have the ability to go to school for free. Not only is no tuition charged to the students, but all Danish citizens are offered monthly financial aid as well.

Johannes Birkbak, a first-year medical student at Copenhagen University, receives a monthly stipend to help supplement his living costs in the city while he attends school. Denmark’s high taxes allow the Danish Education Support Agency to supply students with a variety of grants depending on their age and specific courses and studies.

“I’ve been able to focus on my academics while a

student, and not be burdened by having to figure out how to pay for my education,” Birkbak said. “When I graduate, the government will have paid for all my schooling, and I will be in a competitive job market.”

Jacob Buksti, a political science professor and former member of Danish Parliament and Party Spokesman on Taxes and Fiscal Affairs, said the Danish government’s social services are important to its citizens.

“These services must live up to extremely high standards because of the high amount of taxes Danish citizens pay,” he said. “If the quality decreases, Danes won’t feel the government is spending their money properly. (Having a welfare state) creates a large sense of community between Danes, making the feeling of inclusion very important to one’s happiness.”

With the combination of a tight-knit Danish community, and government-implemented social services, Danes’ health care and education are taken care of, leaving them with less to worry about than citizens in most other countries.

Feelings vary among students back from abroad

Chelsea Vollrath
International Editor

After studying for up to four months at universities all around the world, students who were abroad for the fall semester have returned to Elon, and feelings about being back vary.

Kenton Porter couldn’t be happier to be back. Porter, a senior who studied abroad in Beijing this fall, had mixed feelings about his overall experience. He felt he learned more about Chinese culture and Chinese people and doesn’t regret studying in the country, but by the end of the semester, he was more than ready to go home.

Coping with the immense cultural differences and the stresses of living in a city as big as Beijing became frustrating and made Porter miss his life back in America. Since being back, he’s enjoyed spending time with his friends and plans on soaking up every moment he has left on this campus until he graduates this May.

While Porter said he wants to use the knowledge he

gained while abroad to pursue government jobs involving the Chinese, he said business trips would be the only reason he’d ever return to China.

Readjusting to life in the States wasn’t nearly as difficult as trying to adjust to life in Beijing.

“The only difficult part was jet-lag, which I feel that I still am trying to get over,” he said.

Junior Allison Schmidt feels differently. Schmidt, an international student who is a resident of Switzerland, has had a particularly difficult time adjusting to life back at Elon after spending last semester in Barcelona, Spain.

While some students struggle with homesickness while abroad, studying in Barcelona brought Schmidt closer to her family and gave her the option of going home for the weekend: a luxury that she has never experienced. As a result, returning to Elon has made her more homesick than ever, but after being back for a few weeks, she’s beginning to readjust. Though she admits she misses Barcelona every day, Schmidt said as an international student, she’s

used to frequently moving and feels that it helps her adapt and cope with change better than most.

Starting a routine and getting involved with on-campus activities again made it easier to reintegrate into the Elon community. As a member of the women’s club rugby team, reuniting with her teammates helped her “get back into the Elon spirit.” She also feels that being welcomed back by the friends she’s made at Elon during the years made all the difference and “really made Elon feel like home again,” she said.

Schmidt is finding ways to enjoy life back at Elon, but her experiences in Barcelona have shaped her plans for the future. While she said she doesn’t regret coming to the U.S. since she’d never lived here and knew she “always wanted to experience a true American college,” the positive experience she had in Spain solidified her decision to return to Europe after graduation. She’s considering going back to Barcelona specifically to complete a master’s program.

Six dead, 16 still missing after Italian luxury liner capsized



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCTCAMPUS

As of Monday, six of the more than 4,000 passengers aboard the Costa Concordia have been found dead after the luxury Italian liner ran aground into Italy’s coast on Friday night. Another 16 remain unaccounted for.

The ship’s captain, Francesco Schettino, was detained Saturday and is being investigated for manslaughter after causing the shipwreck in Giglio, the island on the western coast of Italy, and abandoning ship while passengers were still on board.

The cause of the crash is still unknown, though preliminary indications are that there may have been “significant human error” on Schettino’s part.

MORE ONLINE

Attending international graduate school is one of the many future abroad opportunities suggested by Elon’s Isabella Cannon International Centre for returning students to expand on their abroad experiences. Some other suggestions to ease through the re-entry process are:

- Getting engaged in international activities at Elon
- Finding ways to integrate experiences in a future career
- Connecting with Elon alumni abroad

To find more resources to help readjust to home, check out:

<http://bit.ly/ReadjustEP>

CHELSEA VOLLRATH
International Editor



AL DRAGO | Staff Photographer

Students jump into Lake Mary Nell during the Polar Bear Plunge Jan. 13, chasing after a ball thrown into the water. The first student to retrieve the ball won a \$5 gift card to a local restaurant or store.

TAKING THE PLUNGE

Annual campus tradition comes to potential close

Ashley Watkins
Reporter

For the ninth time, Elon students had the opportunity to take part in what has annually been called the Polar Bear Plunge. Sponsored by North Area Council and the Resident Student Association, this event allows students to take a jump into the freezing waters of Lake Mary Nell to win prizes and receive free long-sleeve shirts.

But 2012 may be the last year this Elon tradition takes place.

The North Area Council has sponsored this event since its inception, but with the rest of the existing dorms in North Area scheduled for demolition this summer and the construction of a new Global Neighborhood underway, it may be at least two years until a program like the

Polar Bear Plunge takes place again.

Students involved with planning the Plunge said they hope it can be reestablished on campus in the near future.

"We are sad it won't be around," said junior Sarah Hoopes, the Resident Area Coordinator of North Area. "People from other areas other than North came to this event. It really brought everyone together. Hopefully, the new North Area will bring it back, but the tough part about that will be most of the students who will be on council then won't have ever seen the Plunge."

The Polar Bear Plunge is free to students and it is the only time in the year when students are allowed to enter the waters of Lake Mary Nell. According to Hoopes, about 150 students were estimated to have participated in this year's Plunge.



AL DRAGO | Staff Photographer

A participant in what could be the final Polar Bear Plunge emerges from the water.

Many groups of friends decided to take the Plunge together. One of these groups included junior Rachel Arnesen and her rugby teammates.

"I decided to do it because this was the last year for it," Arnesen said. "It's been on my Elon bucket list. Also, it's just something crazy to do."

Freshman Courtney Stover came with her upperclassman teammates to the event.

"My first reaction when I jumped in was, 'Wow, this water's cold,'" Stover said. "It's definitely fun to participate with a group."

There are many preparations the Area Council must make before holding the event. They must design shirts, rent tables and music and, most importantly, contact Physical Plant to ensure the water is safe to enter. Precautions are taken to secure safety of the participants by hiring a lifeguard from Campus Rec to be on duty and by sending any injured or possibly injured students to the R.N. Ellington Health and Counseling Center.

This year, free hot chocolate was served as well as cookies and snacks. Prizes included \$5 gift cards to Local Yogurt, Target and Buffalo Wild Wings, among others.

Students jumped into the water in groups of 10 after a ball was thrown in. The person who retrieved the ball was awarded the gift card upon their successful return to shore.

Some students who previously participated in the Plunge developed strategies for winning.

"I like to assess my competition early," said junior Alain Monyette, a participant in the Plunge for all of his three years at Elon. "I eliminate the most dangerous contestants, like the long-limbed ones. Dunking usually works for that."

Monyette said he personally felt the Plunge was ending in a good place for him.

"I am a three-time gift card winner, and as a three-time champ, I'm glad to be going out on top," he said.

Other students, such as freshman Charlie Tangires, had different reasons for participating.

"My friend convinced me to do it, and I thought it sounded awesome," Tangires said. "I think I was the last one in and the first one to come out, but it was a fun experience and I got video of me doing it to put on YouTube like I wanted."

NEED REPAIR?



FIXit
www.elon.edu/fixit

EMERGENCY?

8 A.M. - 5 P.M. Ext. 5500

5 P.M. - 8 A.M. Ext. 5555

The Physical Plant has recently rolled out the **FIXit 24/7 online work request site for campus. ANYONE with an Elon University email and password has the benefit of its use. Check the status of the repair online anytime and receive an email when the repair is made. Visit site, any questions? Call x5500**

MORE ONLINE

Go behind the scenes at this year's Polar Bear Plunge.

<http://bit.ly/EPplunge>

MORGAN MAYER
Multimedia Reporter

COME ONE, COME ALL

Bonnie Stanley Photography
The Intimate Lens



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Elon alumna Amanda Hulon-Coyle, known as the performer Virginia Scare, performs with The VaudeVillian Revue in a show that is an homage to vaudeville and burlesque shows.

Elon alumna leads local neo-vaudeville movement

David Turkel
Reporter

A Elon alumna is at the forefront of the vaudeville movement, which is making a comeback from its glory days of the last century.

Amanda Hulon-Coyle, under the stage name Virginia Scare, is the founder of The VaudeVillian Revue, a neo-vaudeville and burlesque troupe that played its first show in Raleigh in November 2011.

"The VaudeVillian Revue pays homage to the history of vaudeville stylistically, and by occasionally reprising classic acts," she said. "Classic vaudeville shows were a true variety of unrelated acts, including magicians, sideshow-type acts, dancers, musicians and burlesque."

In addition to the classics, the troupe's show contains many new modern elements. Hulon-Coyle said the acts in her show connect to create an overall narrative, include dark cabaret elements and take advantage of technological advances like the ability to manipulate stage lighting.

While vaudeville is certainly experiencing resurgence in its popularity, forming a troupe is still a challenging endeavor to pursue.

Among her duties were auditioning performers, serving as creative director, developing themes for shows, graphic design work, public relations work, crafting costume pieces and choreographing group dance numbers. Additionally, she takes care of her two young children.

Forming The VaudeVillian Revue was a labor of love for Hulon-Coyle.

"I suppose one might say it is difficult, but unnoticeably so for me since I love it so much," she said.

Hulon-Coyle found some inspiration to found The VaudeVillian Revue while attending Elon, where she graduated in 2004 with a degree

in fine arts.

"The encouragement from several inspirational instructors, LM Wood, David Schaeffer and Kirstin Ringelberg made me feel that anything I dreamed was possible, no matter how unorthodox," she said.

Kirstin Ringelberg, a professor of art history, was not surprised by Hulon-Coyle's success.

"Amanda was the kind of student I particularly enjoy teaching because she was so self-motivated to learn new things and challenge herself," she said. "I'm not surprised she's doing such exciting, unconventional and ambitious things."

Despite this ambition while at Elon, Hulon-Coyle found a lot of her inspiration to form The VaudeVillian Revue outside of college.

In 2009, she started a branch of Dr. Sketchy's Anti-Art School, a burlesque life-drawing group in Raleigh. Through Dr. Sketchy's founder Molly Crabapple, Hulon-Coyle discovered burlesque, which helped inspire her to form her own troupe.

"I had always loved the spirit of that bygone era and started

toying with the idea of making that happen here," Hulon-Coyle said.

The VaudeVillian Revue currently runs a new show every 45-60 days, but Hulon-Coyle hopes to expand.

According to her, the troupe may start running shows on consecutive nights, and may begin making appearances at out-of-state shows in the near future.

Even while trying to expand the show, Hulon-Coyle feels good about The VaudeVillian Revue thus far.

"In terms of it being creatively satisfying, I would say we are a roaring success," she said.

As for the presence of neo-vaudeville and burlesque in current pop culture, Hulon-Coyle feels its influence is

growing, but that its depiction in the media is woefully inaccurate and

watered down for the audience into a more palatable form.

But as seen through the success of troupes like her own, there are people who want to experience neo-vaudeville and burlesque troupes in their authentic form. And if they continue to succeed, vaudeville-type shows may even end up achieving the same popularity that their forerunners did.



BELOW: Performer Sara Phoenix and circus arts performer Liz Bliss perform a number on the lyra. LEFT: Circus arts performer Liz Bliss displays her aerial skills using ribbons.



Bonnie Stanley Photography
The Intimate Lens

Squirrels and sorority girls: anonymous Twitter accounts parody campus culture

Kyra Gemberling
Design Editor

For Twitter users at Elon, popular tweets involve making fun of students wearing stylish rain boots as status symbols, the health center's wait time and Elon residents letting their dogs swim in the campus fountains.

But what may appear to be nonsense has actually become quite a hit. The tweets are the result of the rise of anonymous parody Twitter accounts, from @OnlyAtElon to @xoGossipSquirrel to @elongrproblem, that poke fun at elements of Elon's campus culture.

Though the tweets' satirical nature have led to a large following, some are wondering if these accounts represent the campus positively.

"Technology is a medium and will be used by a variety of people for their own interests," said Michelle Ferrier, associate professor of communications. "The technology is neutral, the people themselves show their biases and opinions in all

kinds of flavors."

The opinions of each account generally have the same purpose: to make Twitter users laugh by making fun of the problems or quirks one often experiences as a student or faculty member at Elon. An example includes a tweet from @elongrproblem on Nov. 15: "Harry Potter, formal pictures, Pinterest. Productivity at an all-time low. #elongrproblem."

Janna Anderson, director of Imagining the Internet and an associate professor of communications, said people generally appreciate cleverness expressed in witty observations or well-written satire.

"Anonymous commentary offered up in a positive spirit meant to inform, enlighten and entertain is vital to a free society," Anderson said. "Mean-spirited people with negative agendas can use the same avenue for communication."

And entertainment rather than degradation does seem to be the main goal of the Twitter accounts. The creator of @OnlyAtElon, who wished to be unnamed to preserve

the anonymity of the account, said the jokes aren't to be taken seriously or offensively.

"The tweets are just to get a good laugh and brighten someone's day," the source said. "Also, a lot of my tweets are making fun of myself, such as the tweet making fun of people wearing Polar Bear Plunge T-shirts because I was wearing one that day."

In regards to the anonymous nature of each of the accounts, Ferrier said she finds it somewhat troubling.

"You would like to think that people would be responsible for what they say," she said. "And the anonymous nature might invite others to be anonymous, thus creating a haven for illicit-type activity."

But the creator of @OnlyAtElon thinks tweeting without revealing oneself is fine as long as the tweets don't bully, harass or put others in a false light.

"If they're just making fun of stuff and it's not too serious, I don't see a problem with it," the source said. "I think there's a line, and you have to be careful not to cross it."

#ElonProblems

@OnlyAtElon: "Hey girls it hasn't rained since like 12:30 it's ok to take off the rain boots now #OnlyAtElon."

@McEwen problems: "I justify my excessive television watching by saying it's relevant to my major."

@elonguyproblem: "You see ice sculpture, I see potential ice luge #happyholidays #elonguyproblem."

@xoGossipSquirrel: "Spotted: 10 people in a white van. Oh I forgot, we live at clown car university. XOXO, Gossip Squirrel."

@McMichaelProbs: "I don't have a beer belly, I've got a quad venti americano belly. Thanks science major! #mcmichaelproblems."

@elongrproblem: "Just lying in bed, thinking about carnival cookies. #elongrproblem."

@xoGossipSquirrel: "Spotted: Sunglasses indoors. Not okay. (My apologies to anyone

whose excuse is that they're blind or in the Matrix) XOXO, Gossip Squirrel."

@KOBcproblems: "Sitting at the same 2nd floor atrium table so frequently that people move when they see you coming #KOBcproblems."

@elonguyproblem: "Trying to understand girl's infatuation with red bowl. Thoughts @elongrproblem?? #elonguyproblem."

@ElonGDIPblems: "I don't wear a polo on the chance I would get called a frat bro."

@McMichaelProbs: "I'm not a doctor yet, stop asking me to diagnose/treat you. #mcmichaelproblems."

@elongrproblem: "5000 undergrads, 10 Twitter accounts devoted to our problems #OnlyAtElon #elongrproblem."



Burst the Bubble transforms the classroom

Brittany Washington
Reporter

Whether it's learning about the true definition of money or paso basico, steps from the Argentinian style of tango, Burst the Bubble classes provide extra fun and educational opportunities during Winter Term. This year, there are 10 classes on topics such as government, dance, language, geek, dork and nerd culture and knitting.

"I got the email about Burst the Bubble and looked at the list of courses people did last year," sophomore Ryan Griggs said. "There was a lot of dance and music stuff, but not a lot of intellectually-challenging courses."

Griggs' class, "Anarchists, Libertarians and the Austrian School: Why the Government is the Problem," looks at the opposite of Keynesian economics, Austrian economics, using commentary, research and video. The true definition of money was the topic of one class discussion and after viewing a YouTube video titled "Gold remains the ideal form of money," the class learned the U.S. dollar doesn't fit all five of Aristotle's characteristics of good money: durable, divisible, valuable, consistent and convenient.

The hardwood floor in Campus Recreation Studio 5 is graced with fancy footwork Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30 p.m. where junior Tara Corbett and senior Patrick Ma teach Argentine tango.

"I studied abroad in Argentina in the fall and fell in love with the tango," Corbett said. "I was determined to learn it. For about three of my five months there I was taking four classes a week. I was obsessed. I wanted to continue with it here at Elon so when I got the email about the Burst the Bubble classes, I thought it would be perfect. I had a feeling a lot of students would be interested."

Corbett teamed up with Ma, a member of Elon's ballroom dance club. In a class of about 25, the two reviewed the paso basico, a basic tango step, and ochos, figure eights that can be danced forwards or backwards. Corbett and Ma went on to teach three different salidas, ways to get into a step. A lot of laughing and smiling went on as people partnered up and practiced. Some wore heels and ballroom dance shoes, but many just slid their socked-feet into the steps.

"I love the class," sophomore Kyla Sokoll-Ward said. "The instructors are helpful and there are beginners like me

and ballroom dancers. It's a good mix of people."

For the other dance class offered, students can jump from Argentina to Ireland. First-year students Kerry Kurkjian and Catherine Falvey have been competitive Irish dancers for 11 and 12 years, respectively.

"We both have competed in solo competitions and team competitions regionally, nationally and internationally," Kurkjian said. "Competitive Irish dance takes a lot of dedication and commitment, but it's so much fun. We miss dancing everyday like we used to back at our own studios, so we decided to teach this Irish dance basics class here at Elon to keep us dancing."

Kurkjian and Falvey have received positive feedback from students enthusiastic about learning Irish dance, who are considering taking Irish dance beyond their Burst the Bubble class.

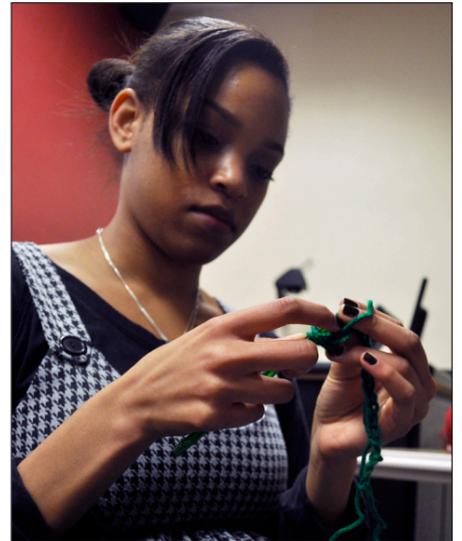
For the language lovers, the Arabic Language Organization teaches Middle

Eastern culture and Arabic, while first-year student Kathryn Schefer teaches what can be learned about grammar on the Internet in her class, "Trolling is an Art."

Another organization that is having a Burst the Bubble class is SPARKS.

"SPARKS decided to participate this year because we are stronger as a group than we ever have been and we are trying to revamp our image and show Elon students that we are a positive, important group on campus," said SPARKS president, senior Kelly Little. SPARKS discusses different leadership styles and workshops on self-care in the class, "We Want You to Be a Peer Educator."

"Because so many of us are leaders, we have a tendency to over-commit and stress ourselves," Little said. "SPARKS believes that it is important to talk about and implement strategies that can help reduce stress and improve quality of life."



MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer
Freshman Autumn Spriggs crochets a green scarf as part of a Burst the Bubble course.



MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer
Sophomore Michelle Warshany works on adding a second color to the scarf she is learning to make in her Burst the Bubble class.

When the weather is gray, you can still be green

One of my favorite scenes from "A Christmas Story" is when Ralphie's younger brother is wearing too many clothes and whines that he can't put his arms down. This is basically my life starting in November because, despite being from the North, the cold is not my thing.



Sarah Carideo
Columnist

Many people become less diligent with their eco-friendly habits during the extreme weather months. We crank up the air conditioning in July and turn our homes into saunas during the winter. On average, homeowners pay 20 percent more to heat their homes in winter, according to the Energy Information Administration.

But there are ways to stay warm this winter that don't involve zombie-arm inducing outerwear and overheating your home.

First, you need to winterize your home. Make sure the weather stripping around doors and windows is adequate because this can let cold air in and warm air escape. The U.S. Department of Energy estimates about 80 million American homes are inadequately insulated, but proper insulation can save up to 20 percent on energy bills. Another way to help insulate the heat in your home is to close your curtains or blinds at night, according to PledgingforChange.com. During the day, you can let the warmth from the sun in through the windows.

This next tip won't keep you warm, but it will still help you save energy during the winter months. The fewer hours of sunlight and more time spent indoors during the winter means more energy is being used. So, replace your old bulbs with fluorescent ones. They will last longer and are more energy efficient.

While the sun can be helpful, the heater is still needed sometimes. You can have your thermostat up to 68 degrees while you're home, but turn it down to 60 at night or when you're out. PledgingforChange.com also says that by simply turning your thermostat down by one degree, that you can save 6 percent on your heating bill.

Close off the rooms used the least to contain your heat to the rooms that need it the most.

Lastly, TheOrganicBlonde.com suggests installing ceiling fans. This may seem strange, but ceiling fans help to circulate the warm air trapped near the ceiling. In the winter, your fan should turn in a clockwise motion, which will push the air up and pull the warmth down.

These tips combined with some cozy winter clothes are the perfect way to stay warm and eco-friendly this winter.

Mightier than the sword: Greensboro paper attacks social issues with ink

Caitlin O'Donnell
Editor-in-Chief

The words came from a place of profound understanding, spoken with a quiet assuredness.

"It's about empowering, about giving back what we've lost," she said. "It doesn't matter how low we've gone, we have to get back at a point where we can breathe. I don't know where it starts, I just know it's needed."

Sandra Luckey's words may have been referring to her idea for a hotel for the homeless, but they ring true for the purpose of The Greensboro Voice, a street newspaper co-founded by Elon University senior Mary Yost. Luckey was just one of seven attendees at a recent meeting of the publication at the Interactive Resource Center, a day center for the homeless, in Greensboro.

The staff of The Greensboro Voice is a diverse team of varying ages, interests and lifestyles.

There's Bob Norfleet, a former banker who now helps manage finances for the paper. There's Elizabeth Chiseri-Strater, an English professor at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, who assists in editing submissions. There are retirees and the former homeless.

What completes this complex family portrait is the rotating staff of current homeless individuals who provide the content — from hand-drawn images of spiders to reflective accounts of experiences with domestic violence to news stories about local amenities for the homeless.

"We've created an odd family, but we're still a family," Yost said. "When we meet every Friday, you would think we wouldn't have seen each other for a year."

Beginning in September of last year, Yost and a small group of volunteers began preparing for the first edition, eventually published Oct. 29. Their writers were gathered from individuals staying in the day center, open daily from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. And while a handful of that original group has stuck around, Yost said the constantly changing staff is indicative of the nature of homelessness.

"People come and go, it's reflective of not being able to find services," Yost said. "If writers come, it's usually for about two or three editions."

A year later, The Greensboro Voice still solicits writers and story ideas from those seeking temporary shelter at the Resource Center. More than just a paper, Yost said the monthly publication validates the talents of those who are often brushed aside.

"You take for granted that you have the opportunity to get published all the time," said Yost, a journalism major herself. "But if you're not in a college setting or at an internship, it means so much more when



Magik Pennix (right) and Elizabeth Chiseri-Strater are instrumental in the publication of the paper.

you get your name attached to something. You're proud to hand that out to the community."

The ability to empathize with those currently battling homelessness is easier than Yost imagined, having never experienced it herself. The Washington, D.C. native said it was the biggest social issue of her childhood that "hit her in the face every day." And though she views the problem as a fixable one, she realizes it can only be solved with the ongoing collaboration of many agencies over a long period of time.

"Even if I can do nothing but sit and listen, that's all they want sometimes," she said. "It's easier to just relate to people by going in and knowing I'm not there to solve their problems. They want human connections and relationships."

But Yost's approach to homelessness isn't always echoed by her peers, or mainstream society in general. With the motto "printing news that doesn't fit," The Greensboro Voice seeks to fill the void left by the media, which grapples with coverage of the topic.

"The only face you might see is a male in his 30s or 40s sleeping outside or standing on the corner and you think the topic is already covered," Yost said. "It's a solvable problem but one that is hard to digest. It could happen to anyone, especially now. But you don't want to think your neighbor is now out of housing and trying to get back on their feet. It's hard to think about."

But it's a topic the staff thinks the community needs to contemplate. They are looking to drum up more exposure for the paper, which is currently distributed at various locations around the community. Discussions are underway about

encouraging local businesses to purchase subscriptions and even allowing homeless individuals to sell it on the streets as a form of self-employment.

"If you're not in a college setting or an internship, it means so much more when you get your name attached to something. You're proud to hand that out to the community."

- Mary Yost

Co-founder of the Greensboro Voice

Tony Hodges, a single dad for 14 years, has held a steady job for seven years and is pursuing a degree, despite his criminal extensive record. He's hoping his story, planned for an upcoming edition, echoes with others in similar situations, who might feel getting their life on track is a lost cause.

"It's easy when you change yourself," Hodges said at the staff meeting. "People see it. People see the change."

It's stories like Hodges' that are changing the lives of both the writer and the audience, neither of whom might have recognized the skill lying underneath a misunderstood exterior.

"It's a powerful way for people to express themselves when it's otherwise harder to verbalize," Yost said. "It's nice to know your talents are validated, because their talents so often are not when you don't have a home."

Students remix music, create mashups in class

Edith Veremu
Reporter

It seems as if every song now has two or three remixes or has been mashed up with a different song with similar harmonies or lyrics to create an original beat and piece. From Girl Talk to DJ Earworm's catchy mashups of the year's pop songs, mashups have been popular in the past decade. Students enrolled in the Winter Term course "Mashups: Hip Hop and Electronic Dance Music" are learning how to create mashups of their own while also studying the process behind this art.

This course is the first of its kind at Elon University, and Clay Stevenson, lecturer of music, said the class was popular even before Winter Term began.

"When it popped up, I got a bunch of emails about it," he said. "Seniors got priority and I'm sure some freshmen weren't too happy about it. Ideally, what students do is create their own mashup,

which is to use preexisting material to make something original using composition as your instrument and other people's music as your notes."

Although there is an assigned textbook for the course, students are taught harmony, melody and music composition by listening to different genres of music and use Pro Tools, a digital music software Stevenson said is the standard recording tool used by mashup artists. Even though some students, such as senior music technology major Jared Gilbert, have experience with the software, Stevenson's teaching doesn't ostracize students without experience.

"It's really organized and he's pretty much a new teacher but is very well-prepared," Gilbert said. "He teaches in a way that's not abstract and teaches to everyone's level. No one's ever distracted in class, and you get to learn a lot."

Bobby Watts, a senior music technology major, said he's interested in mashups and

the process behind creating them. He said the availability of Pro Tools on campus is advantageous to students like him, and he'd like to continue using the software after this class.

"I've always wanted to learn how to do a mashup because it's fun and it's obvious it's popular," Watts said. "Pro Tools is the tool in the industry I'm going into and it's really cool that Elon has it."

Even though the focus of the course is creating mashups, students also learn about the legal aspect of using another composer's work, Stevenson said.

"People have been borrowing music for as long as we've had music," he said. "Since it's such a cutting edge concept, we talk about melody, tempo, which are very important to create a mashup but we also talk about the legal part of it."

Students have already created several mashups throughout the course. Most

have been tutorials, but the class did create a mashup of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s speech using instrumentals, according to Keyona Osborne, a senior statistics major. Projects like this are fun to make and can be used in students' portfolios, Gilbert said.

"You can practice this art form and make it relevant to what's going on today," he said.

MORE ONLINE

Listen to the MLK mash-up sophomores Spencer Harrison and Michael Garberich made.

<http://bit.ly/EPmashup>

EDITH VEREMU
Reporter

Fibers weave together stories, creativity at exhibition

Ashley Fahey
Copy Chief

Fibers have woven their threads through history to become more than just clothes worn on a person's body. They unite people and give artists a unique creative outlet, as shown at Elon University's Fabulous Fibers exhibit Jan. 9 in Arts West Gallery.

"Fiber is so intrinsic in our comfort level and it's something we're all familiar with," said LM Wood, curator of the exhibit and associate professor of art. "It is an attraction like no other."

"Attraction" is a word the 28 artists represented in the exhibit might use to describe their relationship to fiber work. Many of the pieces represented took up to 50 hours to complete, according to Wood.

The ways to make fiber art are wide-ranging and frequently transcend traditional thread and yarn. The displays at the exhibit utilized materials ranging from inkjet printing to wool to rug and plastic bags, such as artist Miyuki Sakai's "Plastic Series 2: Field."

"A lot of the pieces are generated from very personal stories," Wood said. "My experience is that you develop a body of work and see where it leads you. These folks are the masters of fiber-based work."

All of the artists in the exhibit were from North Carolina, many of whom had been represented at previous fiber exhibits at Elon. This year's display marked the fourth time Elon has hosted a fiber art exhibit, the first one being in 2001, Wood said.

The artists all had different perspectives and ideas about how to construct art and meaning through thread.

"When they were building railroads at the turn of the century in Canada, they had also been building vistas," said Nancy Pickens, an artist whose work was exhibited. "They had these really vibrant landscapes."

Pickens' experience with the colorful Canadian views inspired her to create a wool-based piece entitled "Landscape," which depicted a forest scene with splashes of color blended throughout.

Pickens has had no previous experience in the arts.

"I was a crocheter, knitter, costume designer," she said. "I was the crafty person."

Many of the artists come from diverse backgrounds and used different elements of their personal lives and experiences to create a work of art.

"My piece is all hand-stitched with layers of hand-dyed silk and organza beads," said Peg Gignoux, who created an exhibited piece called "POPPIES." "My inspiration comes from my walks in France. I brought the day and night together and was inspired by Renoir's red poppies."

Some artists focused more on one medium while other artists explored blending together many different types of media, all to produce greatly varied results.

"Some explore, others are experts in one medium," Wood said. "Many of the artists are teachers and many are savvy with multiple media."

One artist, David Schaeffer, simply attached one red string



Artist Peg Gignoux explains the vision behind her piece "POPPIES" Jan. 9 in Arts West Gallery.

GLORIA SO | Staff Photographer

from a point on the wall to the floor, calling the piece "Activated Space MMXII."

"Think about one tiny string cultivating an entire space," Wood said.

Some of the pieces were radical whereas others were more traditional woven tapestries.

"Students get to see a wide variety and a range of process, execution and maturity," Wood said. "You're not going to see a lot of repetition."

Gignoux said region plays a large part in the fiber art community.

"In the South, from my experience, the arts are open and it's an easy place to dye and rinse cloths outside," she said.

"It's easier to be an artist down South. Technology has made artists into fiber artists. The time that we live in is exciting for textiles."

A large part of Wood's artistic interest involves how the digital world can interact with the art world.

"The very first computer was an old loom that used punch cards," she said. "A lot of artists use this concept in digital weaving. There are fiber artists looking at LED. Artists are thinking about natural fibers, natural ways of making colors."

No matter the technique or background of each artist represented in the exhibit, there was an abundance of

unique perspectives on what art is and how fiber art can illustrate concepts and stories.

"Communities are built around making fibers," Wood said. "These people are very much in the process of making things, the tangible experience."

MORE ONLINE

See more photos of the art exhibition.

<http://bit.ly/EPfibers>

GLORIA SO
Staff Photographer

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DanceWorks holds auditions, unites students of all majors

Katie Moran
Reporter

Twenty-one hopefuls waited outside the dance studios in the Center for the Arts Jan. 8 to audition for a spot in DanceWorks, a student-run dance organization on Elon's campus open to all majors and anyone with a passion for dance.

DanceWorks puts on a concert each year and holds master classes, which are either student-run or taught by professionals.

"We're not a group of only dance majors, so we really want to encourage everyone to get involved," said junior

Katie Yahner, a dance major. "We encourage majors and non-majors to not only audition but to choreograph. DanceWorks is a crowd-pleaser for people that aren't in the performing arts department, so it brings in another audience that doesn't normally see our shows."

In an age when many schools are losing funding for arts programs, DanceWorks hopes to shed new light on the meaning of dance as an art form. In order to do this, the organization invites anyone and everyone to try a master class or audition for the show.

"It's not just the dance majors that can do things, but rather it's everyone that has been working at it and can have an outlet of showing that," said sophomore Claire Mauro, an international studies and strategic communications double major.

DanceWorks encourages students from all areas of the university to use dance as a form of communication and an expression of their passions.

"Because Elon is such an eclectic community and everyone has something different to offer, a lot of times the part of the student body that isn't in the dance major doesn't get a chance to perform," said junior Kristen Sandler, vice president of DanceWorks. "At DanceWorks we like to show off everyone and all of their skills to promote the love of dance for everyone."

For many of the auditioning dancers and DanceWorks members, dance is more than a club or a class or a pastime.

"(Dance is) emotional and

everything. It's my physical outlet," said freshman Kaitlenn Brewer. "I've been dancing all my life, so it's a part of me."

Mauro agreed dance is a positive form of expression.

"I think it's a great way of combining all the arts, and you put your whole heart and soul into it," Mauro said.

DanceWorks wants the Elon community to see more than a collection of pieces during their performance in March. They want the community to see the expression and interpretation of dance and music.

"We want them to enjoy the talents of their fellow classmates and be able to come together in celebration of these talents," Sandler said.

Brewer said every student deserves to have his or her talents shared with the public.

"I think that when talents are repressed, the world loses so much, which is obvious when you look at anything on the stage," she said. "Getting as many people involved in the arts is the best thing you can possibly do for anybody."

"Getting as many people involved in the arts is the best thing you can possibly do for anybody."

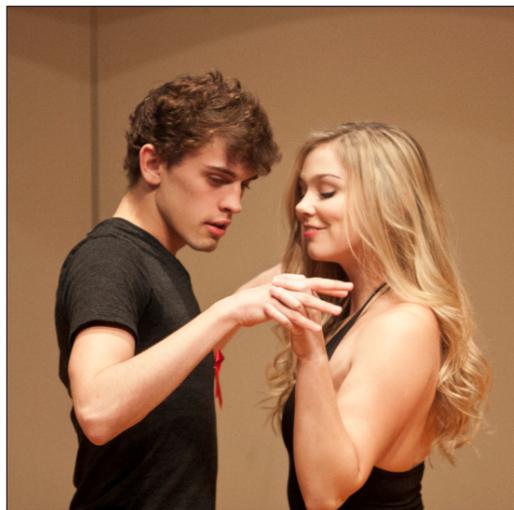
- Kaitlenn Brewer
CLASS OF 2015

Elon Cares

Performing arts students raise voices, money for charity



ALL PHOTOS BY SARA HUDAK | Staff Photographer

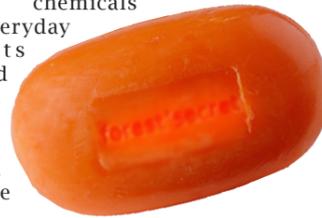


Students in the Department of Performing Arts took the stage Jan. 14 in Yeager Recital Hall for Elon Cares, an annual benefit concert supporting Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS. The nonprofit organization raises money to provide service and care for people with AIDS. A silent auction and raffle were held at the event, featuring gift cards to local businesses and Elon apparel, among other items.

Elon lecturer's wife puts modern spin on unique hobby

Stephanie Butzer
Senior Reporter

Jennifer Hlavaty became interested in soap making when her son was born. She studied the harmful chemicals in everyday products and decided she wanted them out of the house.



In order to eliminate most of them from the household, she started making her own preservative-free products.

Though soap making may seem like an old-fashioned pastime, Hlavaty took a modern-day interest in the hobby. She learned the proper techniques through trial and error.

"I taught myself to make soap, balms, salves and other natural products through a few good books, Internet tutorials and lots of practice," Hlavaty said.

The fragrances Hlavaty uses for soap, lip balm and body butter derive from essential oils. Some of these fragrances include rosemary mint, lavender, spicy blend, orange tea tree and cedar blend.

Hlavaty's husband, Elon lecturer of English George Hlavaty, said he supports her as she tries different mixtures.

"I really enjoy these products, especially the lotions and lip balms," he said. "The balms work better than any store-bought product I have ever tried."

Hlavaty uses many natural ingredients for lip balm and body butter. Her favorite ingredients include olive oil, cocoa butter, coffee butter, essential oils, beeswax, sweet almond oil, jojoba oil and vitamins.

"I aim for edible oils on the lips and am working toward the same for body butters being that they're absorbed through our largest organ — our skin," Hlavaty said. "Sadly, no matter how delicious it smells, soap just does not taste good."

Hlavaty uses a cold process method to make soap. She heats the oil for the least amount of time required to melt solids. After the oil is melted at a lukewarm temperature, a sodium hydroxide solution is mixed with the oil, which then turns into a creamy state.

Any essential oils, botanicals or spices are added to the mixture and the soap is put into molds. The soap sits for at least eight weeks until it becomes mild.

"But I have the pleasure of smelling it throughout the house as soon as it hits the molds," Jennifer Hlavaty said.

Hlavaty said she has begun to discover what works and what doesn't work for certain products. She once found that if she made a lye solution for milk soap, and didn't use it immediately, they would become "lye-sicles."

Hlavaty said most people would not guess that soap making is an addictive hobby.

"You start with making soap, then you make lip balm, body balm, medicinal salves — and growing your own plants to make these — whipped butters, deodorant, perfume oil and laundry detergent. Everything. And there's no looking back," Hlavaty said.

Hlavaty is currently selling her products to Elon students via E-Net. She said she has found it satisfying to sell to the local community.

"Meeting with people gives them a chance to see, smell and feel a product before they decide to buy and I enjoy seeing people respond to my products," Hlavaty said. "It's also better for the environment, of course."

Hlavaty's products range from \$5 to \$10.

Guys take to the mats for 'Broga' classes

Audrey Horwitz
Senior Reporter

Let's face it: there are not many spots on Elon's campus where you will find a room full of guys. But, if you head to Studio 5 in the gym, you will find just that.

Senior Erik Higbee teaches a group exercise class called Broga, which is pretty much what it sounds like: yoga for guys.

Higbee teaches three other yoga classes, but felt there was a need for an all-male class at Elon.

"A lot of guys think yoga is girly," Higbee said. "They just focus on weights. But focusing on a few muscles is how you get hurt. Yoga is a full body workout."

Higbee has a point. The first floor of the gym, utilized primarily by guys, contains almost exclusively weight equipment. Most guys who hit the gym are not headed to a group exercise class, let alone a yoga class. But perhaps they shouldn't be so quick to dismiss exercise that is primarily known for its female participants.

It's not uncommon for professional male athletes to do ballet and yoga as part of their practice routines. In 2005, the cover story of Sports Illustrated revealed the radical training methods of NFL players: among them were ballet, yoga and Pilates. Coaches of professional male sports teams often encourage their players to participate in these exercises because they increase flexibility, agility and strength.

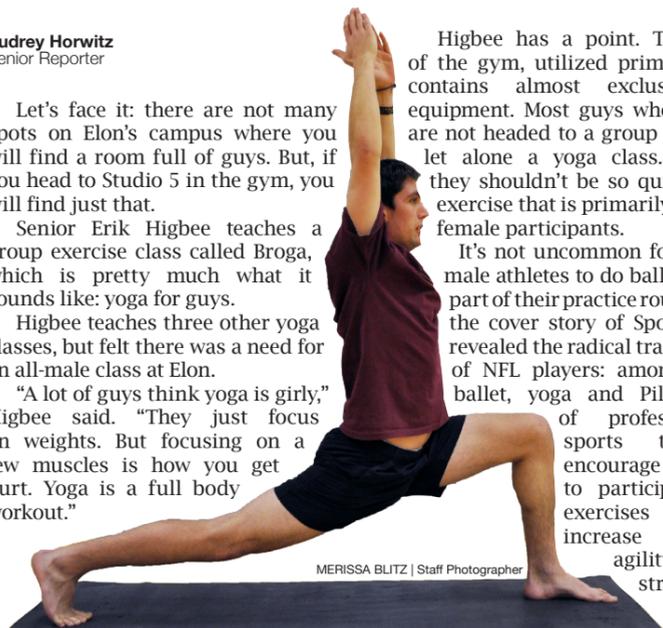
It seems Elon coaches have followed suit. According to Higbee, athletes are many of his returning students.

"Athletes know that in order to continuously play their best, they can't afford to get hurt," Higbee said. "If they're limber, they're less likely to get hurt."

Elon athletes are not the only guys coming out to Broga. Senior Eric Menchaca usually goes to the gym and plays on intramural teams, but as a friend of Higbee's, he decided to give Broga a shot.

"Before this year I was never really into yoga or any sort of activity like it," Menchaca said. "But after having gone to a number of classes, I've definitely developed an appreciation for it. My favorite thing about the class is how it's more of an unconventional workout."

Broga may be unconventional for the typical male Elon student, but that shouldn't deter him. After all, if you come out for Broga, you'll be practicing like the pros.



MERISSA BLITZ | Staff Photographer

Rehearsals for 'Macbeth' bring intimacy, intensity to Black Box

Kit Arbuckle
Reporter

With opening night swiftly approaching, the cast of "Macbeth" is hard at work perfecting its interpretation of one of Shakespeare's most famous tragedies.

"At this moment, we are halfway through our process," said Kirby Wahl, director of "Macbeth" and associate professor of performing arts.

Wahl said he thinks it is important for Elon students to perform Shakespeare.

"Those of us who direct and teach within the BFA Acting program have a list of genres and styles that we want each of our students exposed to during their time at Elon," Wahl said. "Shakespeare is the only playwright who is himself a specific item in this list of important material that we think our students should perform, work on in some other capacity or simply witness onstage."

The Department of Performing Arts performs a Shakespeare work every other year, while the other items on the list come up on a four-year cycle.

The play follows Macbeth, a Scottish lord with a fierce ambition to become king, and the terrible lengths he goes to in order to achieve that goal.

Wahl said his interpretation of "Macbeth" will look nothing like the Scotland that Shakespeare knew.

"What the team of faculty designers and I focused on in the play was the phantasmagoric or surreal elements in the story," he said. "The world of the play is bloody and dangerous, and sometimes fantastical."

To show this, scenic designer Natalie Hart uses minimal scenery — much like the open arena staging Shakespeare would have used — and the characters wield weapons made from animal bones and kilts made of leather.

Senior Kat Nardizzi, who plays Macbeth's wife, Lady Macbeth, said Elon's interpretation is still true to Shakespeare.

"(The play) does a good job supporting the somewhat twisted, sexual and primal nature of the play," Nardizzi said.

Two years ago, the Performing Arts Department used McCrary Theatre for their production of Shakespeare's "Love's Labour's Lost." This year, "Macbeth" will take place in the smaller Black Box Theatre. The Performing Arts faculty determined

"Pride and Prejudice," opening in the spring semester, was more appropriate for McCrary, according to Wahl.

"I am happy to have this production go up in the Black Box because that theater offers a tremendous intimacy," Wahl said. "The experience of the play — from the power of the language, to the presentation of the spell-casting and the fighting — will be immediate and physically engaging."

Cast members agreed the location of the play will provide a compelling environment.

"Everything is going to happen right in their faces: fights, screams, murders, as well as a little bit of comedic relief and some tragic moments as well," said senior Ben Morris, who plays the Scottish lord Macduff.

Shakespeare's plays have a reputation for being difficult to understand, but

"Everything is going to happen right in their faces: fights, screams, murders, as well as a little bit of comedic relief and some tragic moments as well."

- Ben Morris
Actor in "Macbeth"

neither Wahl, Nardizzi or Morris are worried the audience will have trouble following the language.

As long as the cast knows what they're saying and can convey the big emotions behind the words, the audience "will still get the drift of a line, even when they don't recognize a word here or there," Wahl said.

Morris said the clarity of the language has been an important factor in rehearsals.

"We've been working very hard on, first of all, making sure we understand what we're saying, and second, on finding out the best way to make it clear to the audience," Morris said.

Wahl, Nardizzi and Morris are confident the audience members will find something to relate to in the characters and the story. Morris said it is Macduff's passion and the wide range of emotions he experiences. Nardizzi said it is Lady Macbeth's strong sense of guilt after she does terrible things her husband hesitated to do.

"The play is a study of one man's ambition," Wahl said. "I think the play still poses some interesting, and perhaps uncomfortable, questions about the limits we do and don't place upon ourselves as we exercise the power that each one of us possesses in this world."

"Macbeth" opens Thursday, Jan. 19 in the Black Box Theatre.



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer
Senior acting major Ben Morris (right) and junior music theatre major Michael Moore rehearse the roles of Macduff and Malcolm, respectively, for the department's production of "Macbeth."



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer
Junior music theatre major Chris Kalfas rehearses for his role as Macbeth in the Department of Performing Arts' upcoming production of the Shakespearean play.



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer
Kirby Wahl, associate professor of performing arts, directs students during a recent rehearsal.

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UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA WILMINGTON

Student athletes put faith on display through Campus Outreach involvement

Rebecca Wickel
Features Editor

Tim Tebow's famous prayer pose has brought God into sports conversations across the United States, and Elon University is no exception.

Several Phoenix athletes are members of Campus Outreach, a national collegiate ministry that serves university communities. According to baseball player junior Niko Fraser, the group brings the meaning of Christianity to campus.

"I think all the athletes that are involved in Campus Outreach are there because athletes are attracted to each other, but I think it's the messages taught there that draw these types of people together," Fraser said.

Fraser serves as a Campus Outreach student leader, leading a Bible study and weekly youth group. Through his service, he brought members of the baseball team to the organization, and built relationships with other teams and students.

Junior offensive lineman Gavin Billings said he came to Christ during New Year's of 2010, along with Fraser and other Phoenix athletes. According to Artie Van Sciver, campus director for Campus Outreach, this sort of bond is not uncommon.

"The initial entryway is through these relationships.

I can definitely say that about the athletes that are involved now," Van Sciver said. "They got connected through people on their teams, or from another student on campus, and they share that with the people they know."

These relationships often bridge other universities and athletic teams. Tim Garber, a junior and former cross country runner, found the group through his sister, a runner at UNC Greensboro.

"At Summer Beach Project, a Campus Outreach training program, she had met a couple of the Elon guys," Garber said. "When my sister introduced me to the Campus Outreach guys at a football game I was tied in immediately."

To the members of Campus Outreach, the immediate connection between athletes and Christians just makes sense.

"Athletes are programmed to work hard and oftentimes, Christ seems like something to live up to," Billings said. "Campus Outreach allows athletes to experience that."

Phoenix players who found Christ through Campus Outreach said they transfer their beliefs to the team.

"I learned a lot of humbling truths as I grew closer to my teammates and coach," Garber said. "It allowed me to grow close

relationships with my friends on the team and to learn how to incorporate the Gospel into every aspect of my life, whether it be running, hanging out with the team or even relating to somebody's problems."

This ability to live in Christ is what Van Sciver believes to be the greatest gift. In his position at Elon, he watches students learn what it means to be faithful.

"We were created to glorify God," he said. "As we do what we're created to do, we experience life to the fullest. So really, the reward for me is getting to see that convergence take place."

Van Sciver encourages members of Campus Outreach to ask what they can do to make God look good. For athletes, this becomes an integral part of their sport.

"I saw my time as an athlete at Elon in a completely different light," Garber said. "No longer was I running for my glory or to see my name up in lights, but I wanted to use my ability to glorify Him most and spread the Gospel to my fellow teammates who did not know Him yet."

According to Fraser, interacting with teammates in this way has fostered valuable relationships.

"It's great that it's another venue for a group of friends," he said. "It's really cool to have my baseball friends and Campus



BRIAN ALLENBY | Staff Photographer
Junior Niko Fraser balances baseball with his activity in Campus Outreach.

Outreach friends. I'm living with guys from Campus Outreach near guys from the baseball team. It's a good balance."

With this balance, the national conversation about God in sports comes back to Elon.

"I think about Tim Tebow,

does it affect his performance on the field?" Van Sciver said. "I don't know, but I think it definitely affects how he plays football, and how he sees football, how he prepares and what he says when he's interviewed. It's part of everything he does."

A few bold predictions

So Phoenix athletes had some big events in 2011.



Zachary Horner
Columnist

The men's basketball team won a huge game against Southeastern Conference foe University of South Carolina Nov. 15, making the top-10 on SportsCenter the following day. Men's soccer won the Southern Conference tournament

championship and advanced to the NCAA tournament.

With a number of big events happening in Elon athletics in 2011, what big things could happen in 2012? Let's take a look at four of my predictions for this year:

Elon football will play the University of North Carolina closely, but will likely fall:

Head coach Jason Swepson's squad looked sharp for the most part in the last two games of the 2011 season against Furman University and Appalachian State University, respectively.

Junior quarterback Thomas Wilson played solidly in both games, and Mellette stepped up, especially against Appalachian State. Now that both will be seniors with a full year together, dangerous things could happen. Elon plays UNC in the first week of the 2012 season in Chapel Hill Sept. 1. I would go so far as to say Elon could take a lead into the third quarter, but will not come away with the win.

Baseball will make the NCAA tournament:

Head coach Mike Kennedy's squad made the NCAA regionals in 2010, and won the SoCon regular season crown in 2011. Two losses to lower seeds in the tournament knocked the Phoenix out of the competition. With most of the starters returning with a year of experience under their belts, one may see the Phoenix contend not only for a SoCon regular season crown, but a tournament championship and maybe even a coveted trip to Omaha for the College World Series.

Men's basketball pulls off a North Division title:

I don't see Elon making the NCAA tournament. There are too many holes in head coach Matt Matheny's squad for a SoCon championship team. But a North Division title and a top seed going into the tournament are certainly within grasp. But when the 2012-13 season starts, I suspect that such a young squad, with just one senior (guard Drew Spradlin) gone from the roster, will blossom into a real contender. Current juniors Brett Ervin and Egeosa Edomwonyi, sophomores Sebastian Koch, Lucas Troutman, Ryley Beaumont and Jack Isenbarger and

freshmen Austin Hamilton and Kevin Blake will create a solid, experienced core for Matheny, and this season's early success (in a few areas) show that great things can happen with this group.

The sports desk at The Pendulum will continue to find hard-hitting stories to keep you entertained, informed and excited:

We here at The Pendulum had a lot of big stories in this past year. Swepson was hired as the head coach of the football team, former quarterback Scott Riddle was arrested and running back Jamal Shuman was suspended for the last two games of his senior season for saying some not-so-nice things on Twitter. Through in-depth reporting, top-notch writing and a passion unmatched by any student newspaper sports section you'll find, The Pendulum sports desk will work to bring you the best, unbiased coverage of Elon sports from anywhere. Follow us on Twitter at @pendulumsports, myself at @zacharyhorner and assistant sports editor @AdamLawsonEU for news and analysis.

ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

JAN. 18 - JAN. 23

Wednesday, Jan. 18

•Women's basketball at Western Carolina
noon
•Women's tennis at UNC
2 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 19

•Men's basketball vs. Samford
7 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 20

•Women's tennis at

North Carolina A&T
2:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 21

•Men's basketball vs. Chattanooga
7 p.m.
•Women's track at State Farm Games
All day

Monday, Jan. 23

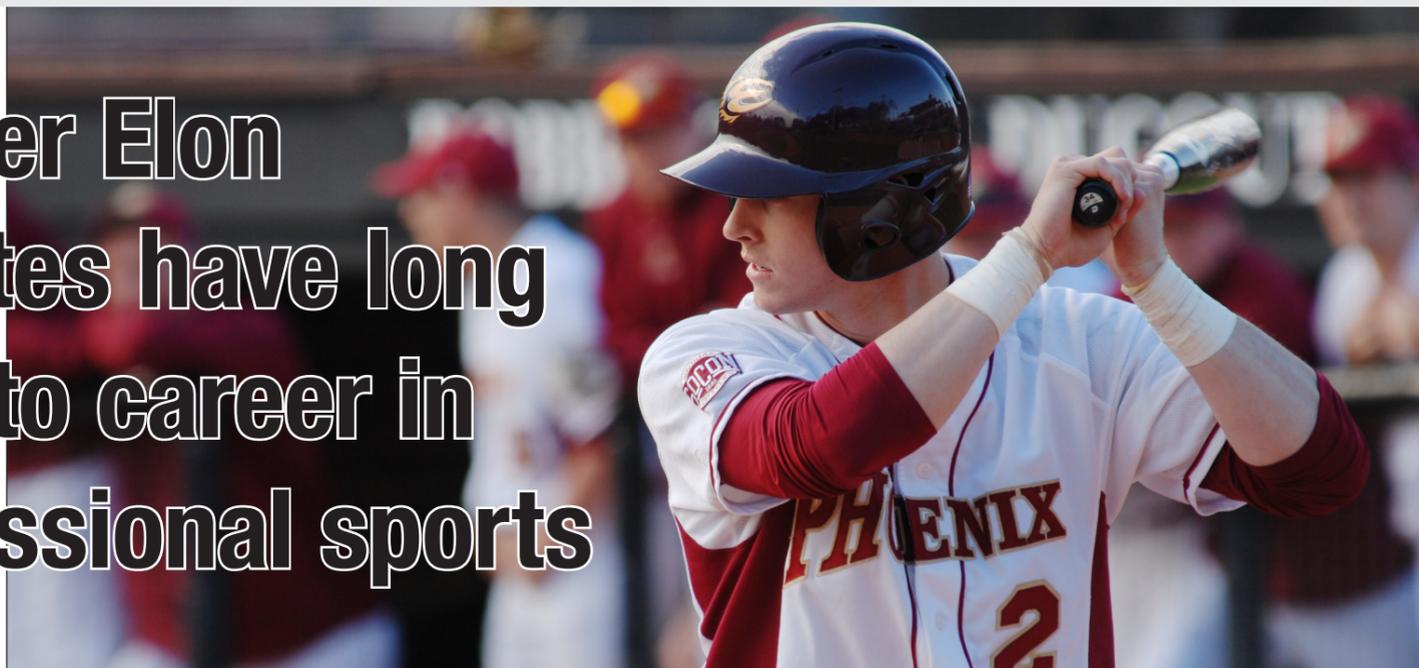
•Women's basketball vs. UNCG
7 p.m.

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Former Elon athletes have long path to career in professional sports



Former Elon University outfielder Cory Harrilchak is currently in the Atlanta Braves farm system and hopes to be called up to the Triple-A Gwinnett Braves this season. FILE PHOTO

Adam Lawson
Assistant Sports Editor

In a recreation league basketball game somewhere in North Miami, Fla., 18 years ago, a young Adam Constantine formed his first memory of the game he loves.

As a loose ball made its way into the vicinity of the 5-year-old Constantine, he used his instincts to make sure the opponent closest to him couldn't get his hands on the rock.

"He was going to get it," Constantine said. "So I kicked it. Then the coach blew the whistle and said I couldn't do that. So I cried and sat on the bench."

Now more well-versed in the rules of basketball, Constantine is being paid to play the game he started to love back in the early 1990s as one of many former Elon University athletes playing sports professionally.

Finding Elon

Like Constantine, Jimmy Reyes also hails from Miami. With Reyes' family lineage in baseball, it appeared to be a sure thing that the 5-foot-10 left-hander would stay close to home to do his college pitching — both his father and grandfather attended the University of Miami. But after visiting Elon on a recruiting trip, Reyes decided he wouldn't spend his college years in Coral Gables.

"As soon as I came up to Elon, I cancelled the rest of my visits and I said, 'This is where I want to go. There's no question,'" Reyes said.

Steven Kinney went mostly unnoticed

out of high school despite playing for a top-ranked regional champion club soccer team in Norcross, Ga. Elon and Wofford College were the only two Division I schools to offer him a scholarship. But a connection to Elon brought Kinney to the Phoenix and head coach Darren Powell.

"My club coach knew Darren well, so he hooked me up with him," Kinney said. "He said he knew his stuff and he sure did."

Cory Harrilchak's Elon journey was anything but linear. Rather than attending a Division I baseball program straight out of high school, the undersized outfielder instead went to two-year Surry Community College in Dobson so he could bulk up and get playing time he wouldn't see elsewhere.

After spending two years at Surry, Harrilchak committed to Elon and immediately noticed differences in both his coaches and his surroundings.

"The coaching staff at Elon really helped me get a lot better a lot quicker," Harrilchak said. "They worked with me a whole lot more. They had bigger facilities to help me improve my game in areas that needed to be improved."

Going pro and dealing with agents

Constantine's college career came to an end after Elon lost to Western Carolina March 6, 2010, in the Southern Conference Tournament. Days after a disappointing conclusion to a record-breaking career in which he set the Elon mark for field-goal percentage at 60 percent, Constantine found happiness with agent Jamie Knox.

Knox assured the 6-foot-9 big man he would find him a deal with a professional team. Sure enough, he got Constantine his first professional contract with Rilski Sport Samokov in Bulgaria. The two remain business partners to this day.

The same can't be said about Harrilchak. After his college playing days were over, Harrilchak, whose .464 career on-base percentage is second best in school history, signed with agent Brian McCafferty after the 2009 Major League Baseball draft. McCafferty was there when the Atlanta Braves made the 5-foot-10 outfielder their 14th round pick. But in June 2010, the prospect decided agent Damon Lapa was a better fit for him and switched agencies.

"It was an interesting

experience parting ways with (McCafferty) because I had to fire him," Harrilchak said. "I'd never fired anybody in my life."

Kinney remembers exactly where he was on Jan. 14, 2010. The Elon defender celebrated in his apartment with family and friends as Major League Soccer's Chicago Fire made Kinney the 45th pick of the 2010 MLS draft.

"We watched the draft on a live feed," Kinney said. "When my name came up, it was one of the best days of my life."

After completing his junior season, Reyes knew he'd have a decision to make. Realizing he would be drafted early, he had to pick between returning to school and finishing his degree or pursuing his dream and going ahead with his professional career. When decision time came, the Texas Rangers chose Reyes in the seventh round of the 2010 MLB draft and the southpaw decided to forgo his senior season and become a professional.

"(Elon head coach Mike Kennedy) knew my best opportunity for playing was going to be to move on now," Reyes said. "The money available after your senior year is not as much. He kind of knew that it'd be better for me. I really appreciated that."

Reyes continues to take classes in the fall semester and Winter Term in pursuit of a degree in exercise science.

Ups and downs of the professional life

Most minor league baseball players aren't able to have the lavish lifestyles the superstars in the majors enjoy. Harrilchak knows this all too well. Coming out of college as a senior, he didn't have as much leverage as a junior or a high schooler would because teams knew he had to sign if they picked him — in the process driving down his signing bonus. Sure enough, immediately after being placed on the rookie-league Danville Braves, he realized the difficulties associated with the minor league lifestyle.

"It's extremely hard," Harrilchak said. "I've been living with a host family just because the minor league salary doesn't allow you to have money for rent. ... You're not making enough money for how much you're spending and just trying to live. It's the motivation to get higher up and get to the big leagues."

Harrilchak spent the 2011 season with Double-A Mississippi. While there, he saw somebody's dreams come true right before his eyes. He was in the room when Antoan Richardson — like Harrilchak a speedy outfielder — got promoted to Atlanta as a September call-up.

"It was very surreal," Harrilchak said. "Every player has thought about getting that phone call. I would be lying if I said I hadn't thought about it. I would like to make it a reality."

After struggling at the beginning of the season, Harrilchak hit .330 in August and September for Mississippi. He hopes to break spring training with Triple-A Gwinnett next season and has set September as his target date for making the major league roster.

Kinney has the distinction of being the first player in Elon history to play in the MLS. Not only that, Kinney was so good for the Phoenix that he started every

contest in his college career except for one. Unfortunately, the one match he missed was his last one, when a severely sprained ankle kept him out of the 2009 Southern Conference Tournament championship.

"That was heartbreaking," Kinney said.

Kinney played in 13 games for the Fire in 2010, starting the final 10 contests. But the injury bug bit him again as a torn Achilles tendon followed by a sports hernia kept Kinney out of action for the entire year in 2011. He's still recovering from the hernia and hopes to get on the field sometime in 2012.

Reyes has had to make some adjustments in minor league baseball. After starting for the Phoenix for most of his three years with the program, Reyes has made 51 professional appearances, every one of them out of the bullpen.

But this tidbit of information doesn't seem to faze him.

"I just want to pitch," Reyes said. "You can start me, relieve me. It doesn't matter. As long as I'm getting my opportunities, I'm fine."

Reyes ended the 2011 season with Class-A Myrtle Beach and would like to break camp in 2012 with Double-A Frisco. Regardless of where he starts next season, Reyes knows his goal is not yet complete.

"You have to keep pushing yourself and keep moving forward," Reyes said. "Until you get to the major leagues and become a staple there, you're not done."

It's safe to say Constantine has been through the ringer. He says his career thus far has been "adventurous." That may be putting things lightly. Despite playing professional basketball for less than two years, Constantine has already been on five pro teams in five different countries.

Bulgaria wasn't the experience Constantine imagined it could be — the forward was cut during the preseason. Even worse, he left the country with a leg injury he got from rigorous training mandatory to the team. Part of that strenuous activity included running up a mountain, an exercise unlike anything Constantine had experienced before.

"Maybe if I was going into the military, but not basketball," Constantine said.

After playing a season in Sweden, Constantine went to Turkey where things turned south again.

"Long story short, there was a money problem and they could no longer keep my contract, so we decided it was time to part ways," he said.

Constantine moved on to Cyprus, where he played just three games before his team failed to uphold his contract again. The separation allowed him to move on to Germany, where Constantine signed on as an injury replacement. He has since earned a starting job for Phoenix Hagen, a team in Beko Basketball Bundesliga, Germany's top professional basketball league.

Constantine doesn't know how long he'll play, but he wants everyone to know the 5-year-old kid who chased loose balls with reckless abandon still exists inside of him.

"The day that I play without emotion, that'll be the day I retire," Constantine said. "That's just how I play."



Adam Constantine has played in five countries during the past two years. FILE PHOTO

NCAA Tournament snub motivates Phoenix baseball

Adam Lawson
Assistant Sports Editor

Nearly eight months have passed since the Elon University baseball team was left out of the NCAA Tournament field. Time hasn't healed that wound.

"[The NCAA] didn't show any respect for the Southern Conference," junior outfielder Niko Fraser said.

The selection committee was not impressed with the Phoenix's 23-7 mark against SoCon teams in 2011. Despite winning the regular season championship, Elon lost both of their games in the conference tournament. This led to the NCAA's decision that the Phoenix season would not continue.

"We needed one win and we would have been in," Fraser said. "I don't think three days should dictate four months' worth of play."

With just over a month until the start of the season, the Phoenix hasn't forgotten that memory. It drives the players as they prepare for another season at Latham Park.

"We want to have a better showing than we did last year," sophomore second baseman Sebastian Gomez said.

The Phoenix spent a lot of time on the field in the fall facing live pitching and preparing for game action. Now they have adapted to spending more time in the weight room, trying to gain weight and get stronger.

In coherence with NCAA rules, Elon is not allowed to have full-team practices until Jan. 27. In the meantime, the team will work out in the weight room and in small groups on the field.

Once they regroup, there are questions that will need to be answered. They will need to decide how they will replace graduated starting shortstop Neal Pritchard and everyday center fielder Harry Austin. While these positions will obviously have to be filled, head coach Mike Kennedy said all spots on the diamond are open for competition.

"There's a battle for every position," Kennedy said. "I really believe that."

The Phoenix roster features 10 true freshmen making their debuts with the program in 2012. Joey Tomko, an Ohio native, will compete for the starting shortstop job. Corner infielder Tyler McVicar and infielder Casey Jones have also impressed Kennedy with their offensive prowess during fall practice.

"The whole class has been pretty good, to be honest with you," Kennedy said. "Now, they're freshmen. So, how will they respond when you go up



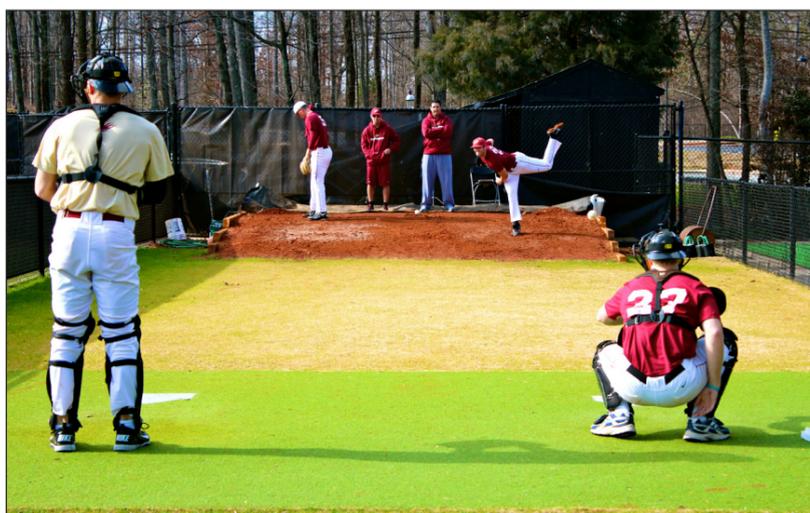
Dylan Clark and the Phoenix baseball team use Winter Term for workouts, but because of NCAA rules, team practices can't resume until Jan. 27.

against South Carolina and Georgia Southern and College of Charleston? That will be the question."

Also joining the program are four transfer students, including left-handed Spencer Medick. Medick — a transfer student from Virginia — posted a 3.21 ERA while walking only 27 batters in more than 81 innings at Polk State College in Florida a year ago. Kennedy refers to him as a "strike-throwing machine on the mound" who "will help us right away" and compete for a starting job.

As the season nears, expectation grows. Despite their absence from the NCAA Tournament field a year ago, the Phoenix has gone to a regional four out of the last six seasons. Fraser, who was on the 2010 squad that made an NCAA regional, wants to do more than just be present for the dance.

"I don't like that goal because I've been there before," Fraser said. "I want to win. I'm hesitant in even saying I want to go to a super regional. I want to go to Omaha (for the College



Elon University opens its season Feb. 17 at home against the University of Akron.

World Series). Any college baseball player would. That might be bold saying it from an Elon standpoint, but those are my intentions. Those are my goals and I think they're tangible."

Late game heroics from women's hoops fuel streak

Adam Lawson
Assistant Sports Editor

The Elon University women's basketball team was in a jovial mood following their win against the College of Charleston Jan. 15.

During the postgame press conference, head coach Charlotte Smith was asked how her team was able to win despite several shots missing their mark. Smith, beaming, said she was excited to think about what would happen if "Kelsey Evans' shots had fallen, Ali (Ford)'s shots had fallen, Sam (Coffer)'s shots had fallen, Eesh (Aiesha Harper) is driving in there and Baby's driving in there." When asked who "Baby" was, the whole table (Evans, Ford and Smith) erupted in laughter, before explaining that that was the nickname for sophomore guard Kelsey Harris.

It's laughter like this that has found its way into the program for a team that has discovered new life after dropping several early season contests.

The Phoenix sits at 8-9 overall, 4-4 in Southern Conference play after a couple of dramatic home victories the weekend of Jan. 13-15.

"We're beginning to gel a lot more offensively," Smith said. "This stretch ahead for us, only good things can happen for us."

The Phoenix travels to Cullowhee to face Western Carolina University

Jan. 18 before returning to Alumni Gym for a match against the UNC Greensboro Spartans Jan. 23. Both opponents are near the bottom of the SoCon standings.

"We're going to have to win the games towards the bottom of the conference," Evans said. "Then we need to make some upsets to the people ranked higher in the conference."

The Phoenix relied on two come-from-behind wins to lift them up in the standings and towards the middle of the pack.

After blowing a 10-point lead against Georgia Southern University Jan. 13, Elon had the ball down a point with 10 seconds left. Harper threw the ball in bounds, got it back in the backcourt and proceeded to make her way down the court. Nobody got in front of the senior point guard, who laid the ball in with 3.6 seconds left to win the game for the Phoenix.

Elon once again found themselves in trouble against Charleston two days later. After falling behind by nine in the second half, the Phoenix stormed back. Later in the half, they went on an 11-0 run, highlighted by a Ford three-pointer that gave them their first lead since the score was 15-14 midway through the first half. As she made her way back on defense after the basket, Ford let out a scream — the emotion clearly visible.

"I think it's just an indirect yell," she said. "Something loud."



Freshman forward Sam Coffer is averaging 6.5 points per game in 20.7 minutes for the Phoenix.

The Phoenix held on for a 51-46 victory, achieving back-to-back conference wins for the first time this season.

It's a smooth step in a positive direction for a team that started the season with such bumpiness. The Phoenix was 2-5 on Dec. 3 and had yet to beat a Division I team. Later that

month, Elon went on the road and lost by 48 to West Virginia University. Smith hopes those moments are in the past but cautions that the team has yet to reach its peak.

"We're not there yet," Smith said. "I think that's the exciting part about it. We still have a couple of levels that we can go to become a better team."

Former Elon assistant takes over as UNCG men's basketball interim head coach

Zachary Horner
Sports Editor

At 28 years old, Wes Miller is the youngest current head coach in Division I men's basketball.

On Dec. 14, 2011, the former Elon University assistant men's basketball coach was named the interim men's basketball head coach at UNC Greensboro, the same day former head coach Mike Dement resigned.

"It's something that you're not able to prepare for," Miller said. "The first order of business and the thing we tried to concentrate on most was the current players, that they're okay and that they're dealing with the situation the right way and that they can move forward and possibly have success this year. Not a whole lot of time to think but time to act and do what's best for our players."

It is a mindset Miller gained by being a player. He played high school basketball at the New Hampton School in New Hampton, N.H. well enough to earn a scholarship to James Madison University. Miller played one year for the Dukes before transferring to the University of North Carolina.

As a walk-on, he won a NCAA national championship with the Tar Heels Hall of Fame coach Roy Williams and future NBA players such as Raymond Felton and Marvin Williams.

"I don't think I have words to describe how good an experience it was to play at Carolina," Miller said. "I just had an all-around great basketball experience playing there. The things that I learned from coach Williams and that staff will always stick with me no matter where this game takes me or life takes me and the experiences were invaluable."

After graduation in 2007, Miller took his talents to the British Basketball League, where he played one season of professional basketball for the London Capitals, for whom he scored 19.6 points per game.

"I would use professional basketball loosely," he said. "I wanted to keep

playing after I finished in college. I was fortunate."

But Miller did not find much satisfaction in playing as he expected.

"The experience overseas was so different," he said. "At that point people are playing for checks. It's a different lifestyle. As far as it was a great experience, I realized almost as quickly that I wanted to get back in college basketball and into coaching."

He jumped right back in as assistant coach for the Phoenix for the 2008-09 season under Ernie Nestor. The team finished the season with an 11-20 record, and Nestor was let go. In April 2009, fellow Tar Heel alumnus Scott Cherry hired Miller as an assistant for High Point University's men's basketball team. Following the 2009-10 season, he took the same position at UNCG for Dement.

Miller took a lot from the assistant coaching experiences.

"You learn a lot as a player, but there's so many things that happen behind the scenes," Miller said. "It's such a different role to coach then to play. It helped me move from more of a player's mentality to coaching mentality, they're two different things."

Miller now holds the reigns of a 4-14



North Carolina-Greensboro head coach Wes Miller yells at his team as they fall behind Duke University in the second half of play at Cameron Indoor Stadium in Durham, Monday, Dec. 19, 2011. Duke defeated UNC Greensboro 90-63. PHOTO COURTESY OF MCT CAMPUS

team as the interim head coach. He said that his biggest challenge has been holding the team together in the midst of such a rough year, "trying to bring a program together and a team together that's been through a lot of adversity, and really find a way to come together even more as a group regardless of what's happened in the past."

Miller said he has spoken to Williams, who is leading a highly successful, nationally-ranked Tar Heels team this season, and considers his old coach his mentor.

"The most valuable thing throughout this process is that he's a calm voice of reason throughout this process," he said. "He helps me see the bigger picture

and see what's important to your team."

Assisting Miller through this transition is his wife Ashley, whom he married in August 2011. He cites her as being one his biggest supporters throughout the entire process.

"It's made this transition a hell of a lot easier," Miller said. She knew what she was getting into when she married a basketball coach. If anything, she's been such a rock to lean on and she's been supportive. It's nice to come home late at night and have someone to support you.

"Right now it's an interim head coaching position. If we focus on that, taking care of [the players], we'll be able to look back when the season is over and see if we've done a good job."

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Sports



Despite leading 34-28 at halftime, sophomore guard Sebastian Koch and the Phoenix fell to Columbia University 60-65 Jan. 8.



Freshman guard Austin Hamilton scored a team-high 15 points in Elon University's loss to Columbia University Jan. 8.



The Phoenix is 8-8 overall and 3-2 in the Southern Conference.

Men's hoops returns to Alumni aiming to end shooting slump

Justin Veldhuis
Senior Reporter

Losing to No. 8 University of North Carolina in the Dean Dome is understandable. So is losing on the road to No. 16 San Diego State University.

It's the losses on the road to Dartmouth College and at home against Georgia Southern University and Columbia University that sting, the last of which completed a five-game losing streak for the Elon University men's basketball team. After a win against The Citadel Jan. 12 and a loss to the College of Charleston Jan. 14, Elon University now has an 8-8 record (3-2 in the Southern Conference), a far cry from the 7-2 record they held after a dominating 109-67 victory against Lynchburg College Dec. 11.

After that win, head coach Matt Matheny said, "Our guys are very excited about the way we've been able to start, not only with the record but with some of the victories we've had. Our road stretch here is going to be difficult, but I think we're ready to face the challenge. Each game presents different adversities."

Each game did present different adversities, but there were similar outcomes and similar problems. In each game, the Phoenix went on dry runs where the team struggled to hit shots.

The trend continued against Georgia Southern and in a 63-44 loss at Charleston, a game in which the Phoenix scored a season-low 44 points and shot a season-low 23.9 percent (16-67) from the field.

"Obviously, we shot very poorly," Matheny said. "Right now, I'm not sure about our mental toughness. We have to be able to be mentally tough defensively to get stops when we are struggling offensively."

The Phoenix also shot just 13.6 percent (3-22) from three-point range and didn't have a single player score in double figures. Sophomore forward Lucas Troutman led the team in scoring with nine points.

Matheny's squad is also having trouble closing out games, going into halftime with leads against Dartmouth, Georgia Southern and Columbia but losing each game.

"I think it's inexperience," Matheny said. "We're inexperienced. We're playing with young guys."



The Elon University men's basketball team returns to Alumni Gym Thursday, where it is 5-2 this season.

College basketball is a tough, grueling 40-minute game. We need to understand that and get better at playing for 40 minutes."

With the team's nonconference schedule in the books, the Phoenix can now focus its full attention on the remaining SoCon schedule. The team's conference record will be important later in the season as it determines the seeding of the SoCon Tournament. A higher seed means a supposedly easier path to the final

game, with the winner getting the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Elon will return to action for two home games this week starting at 7 p.m. Thursday when it hosts Samford University, and again at 7 p.m. Saturday against the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Additional reporting by Zachary Horner.