

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2019  
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ELON, NORTH CAROLINA

# THE PENDULUM

## VYING FOR YOUR VOTE

Two Elon juniors highlight their philosophies and platforms as the race begins for SGA's next Executive President

PRIMARIES FOR THE 2020 national election don't start for a few months, but Elon University is already in the voting season.

From March 13-14, voting opens for new student leadership in SGA, most notably for SGA Executive President. Last year, Kenneth Brown Jr. ran unopposed for the position, but that's not the case this year. Two candidates, juniors Jack Johnson and Nate Jones, are campaigning to become president. Both have differing focal points for why they're running, and their journeys to reach this point contrast each other too.

But both men agree on one thing — that they believe they are the best person to lead the student body as the university undergoes a period of change.

See **SGA** | pg. 4

PHOTOS BY LIAM O'CONNOR | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MEGHAN KIMBERLING | DESIGN CHIEF

Juniors Jack Johnson (left) and Nate Jones (right) are in the running to be SGA Executive President for the upcoming school year.



### NEWS • PAGE 6

Elon looks at options for changing the Phoenix Card to abide by voter ID laws



### LIFESTYLE • PAGE 10

New brew-pub co-op set to open in downtown Burlington



### SPORTS • PAGE 12

Local high school coach joins the Elon Football staff



# THE PENDULUM

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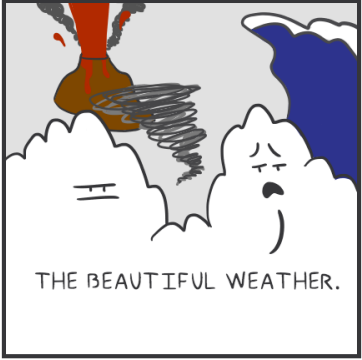
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### WEATHER, MAN



SAM POROZOK

## CORRECTIONS

#### NEWS

No corrections were issued to Elon News Network for this section.

#### LIFESTYLE

No corrections were issued to Elon News Network for this section.

#### SPORTS

No corrections were issued to Elon News Network for this section.

#### OPINIONS

No corrections were issued to Elon News Network for this section.

## GAMES

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

- More than 200 students are expected to be interviewed for a spot in the 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ Fellows cohort. [See Page 7 for answer.](#)
- On Feb. 28 — for the first time in five years — the \_\_\_\_\_ Brothers announced a reunion. [See Page 8 for answer.](#)
- \_\_\_\_\_ is hosting “a week of sextracurriculars” that are occurring through the first week of March. [See Page 10 for answer.](#)
- Dr. Milk is a new, locally-owned bubble tea, rolled-up \_\_\_\_\_ and frozen yogurt store in Burlington. [See Page 11 for answer.](#)
- Hal \_\_\_\_\_ is the new director of high school relations for Elon University football. [See Page 12 for answer.](#)

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

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY – RALPH NADER RETURNS TO CAMPUS

**MARCH 4, 2001.** Ralph Nader, a former member of Congress and public activist, visited campus to talk with more than a thousand members of the Elon College community. Inside a packed McCrary Theatre, the Green Party presidential candidate preached to the newest members of

the “real world” about similar topics he covered when he first visited the campus in 1971.

Nader also made it a point to be critical of the campaigning tactics of both the Democratic and Republican parties. “They are remote from their historical roots,” Nader said. “They obvious-

ly believe they don’t have to earn votes like everybody else. They’re distracted with this frenzy search for money.” Nader also pushed for a student organization called Campus Green to join campuses nationwide — including Elon — to support thinking outside the conventional two-party format.

## CALENDAR: MARCH 6 – MARCH 12

**ARE YOU SMARTER  
THAN A SEXPERT? |  
7 P.M.**  
McKinnon Hall

6

**JOHN DOUGLAS,  
“MINDHUNTER”  
| 7:30 P.M.**  
McCrary Theatre  
Tickets at Center for  
the Arts Box Office

6

**ELON BRAINCARE  
SYMPOSIUM  
| 12:30 P.M.**  
McKinnon Hall

7

**ACTIVE CITIZEN  
SERIES: WOMEN IN  
POLITICS | 4:15 P.M.**  
Moseley First Floor

7

**WOMEN’S  
BASKETBALL VS.  
HOFSTRA | 7 P.M.**  
Schar Center

7

**MEN’S TENNIS VS.  
JAMES MADISON |  
2 P.M.**  
Jimmy Powell Tennis  
Center

8

**SUNSHINE DAY |  
EVENTS ALL DAY**  
Turner Theatre & Snow  
Atrium — See more at  
[bit.ly/2TDgsKF](http://bit.ly/2TDgsKF)

11

**WILL TAYLOR  
GALLERY OPENING |  
5:30 P.M.**  
Gallery 406 at Arts West

11

**HENRY PONTELL ON  
CORPORATE CRIME  
AND CORRUPTION |  
7 P.M.**  
Yeager Recital  
Hall

11

**AUSTIN CHANNING  
BROWN AUTHOR  
PRESENTATION |  
6 P.M.**  
McBride  
Gathering Space

12





CORY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Emily Golden, co-chair of the senior class giving committee, raises her glass in a toast to the senior class closing up Elon Day in upstairs Lakeside on Tuesday, March 5.



CORY WELLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fireworks pop over the Global Neighborhood just before students celebrate Elon Day and Mardi Gras at the Mardi Party in the Moseley Student Center on Tuesday, March 5.

On Elon Day on Tuesday, March 5, junior Michael Reed-Price prepares the taco he won for answering a question correctly about alumni involvement.



LIAM O'CONNOR | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



ZACHARY OHMANN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

President Connie Book speaks to students, faculty and alumni about giving on Elon Day during College Coffee on Tuesday, March 5, in Alumni Gym.



Senior Mary Kennedy talks to a student after driving the Elon Day Prize Cab across campus on Tuesday, March 5.

LIAM O'CONNOR | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



# JACK JOHNSON

SGA executive secretary steps up to run for student body president

Maggie Brown & Hannah Nelson  
@elonnewsnetwork

JACK JOHNSON CAME TO Elon University from across the country in Manhattan Beach, California, to visit a friend. He toured the campus on a sunny day in his final years of high school. After one tour, he was sold on the school.

Now, as a junior leading his own admissions tours, he sees Elon wasn't as perfect as he once thought it was. Today, he sees a clear difference between what has been advertised and what is reality.

He said his campaign platform, "Real Elon," hopes to show what Elon is "stripped down from all the glitz and the glam."

As a tour guide, he has a behind-the-scenes view into what makes Elon and believes the campus has room for improvement.

In high school, Johnson took easily to student council in high school, which prepared him to run for student government at Elon. In his second year of college, he ran for a seat on the executive council as SGA Executive Secretary and won.

Rodney Parks, university registrar, taught Johnson in his Elon 101 class. From his freshman year, Parks saw Johnson as "destined to do great things at Elon."

"He was one of those students with natural leadership abilities and always looks for ways to make things better at both an individual level and as a campus leader," Parks said in an email.

Johnson is a brother of the Elon chapter of Beta Theta Pi fraternity. When Johnson ran for executive secretary his sophomore year, former president of Beta Theta Pi Matthew Stranzl said

his brothers were engaged with his campaign and volunteered to help him.

"Everyone genuinely gets excited for him," Stranzl said.

Since being on SGA's executive board, Johnson has been passionate about increasing school spirit and accomplished many of his goals. By heading the One Phoenix Committee, the student government's event planning committee, Johnson led the programming behind the Elon Ball and Homecoming week.

"It's a monumental effort, but



IT'S ABOUT JUST SEEING THE WORLD THROUGH OTHER'S EYES AND THAT LEVEL OF EMPATHY. WE'LL MAKE OUR CAMPUS BETTER.

JACK JOHNSON  
SGA EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT  
CANDIDATE

seeing all the students come together for such a phenomenal event, it's a blast," Johnson said.

Julia Field, junior class senator, worked closely with him on the One Phoenix programming committee. She said right after Homecoming week, Johnson wrote thank you notes to each of the committee members for their work.

His work on the One Phoenix Committee took up much of his

time last semester, according to his friends and colleagues in student government. But Johnson's girlfriend and Class of 2019 Secretary Elyse Cowles understands his drive and passion. She said he is the most motivated person she knows.

"Sometimes, I have to encourage him to take a step back and take some personal time," Cowles said.

In the fall with Johnson seated on the executive board, student government reformed their budget system. Rather than student organizations proposing a yearly budget, they would request funds for each event.

Johnson said he wants SGA to be "the student body's toolbox." He believes SGA's new reformed budget system will allow students to gain more access to funds.

Johnson hopes to use senators and finances in SGA to improve bias reporting at the university. Elon defines a bias incident to be "conduct, speech or expression motivated, in whole or in part, by bias or prejudice." Recently, students have critiqued the way bias is reported at a recent rally on Martin Luther King Jr. Day called the "Privilege Protest."

"I'm going to work hard to make sure the student voices stay infused in decisions around policies like that," Johnson said about the bias reporting system.

The previous administration under senior and current Executive President Kenneth Brown Jr. was focused heavily on engaging Elon in conversations about diversity and inclusion. Brown was a keynote speaker at the protest, calling attention to white privilege on campus.

"Hearing him speak at the privilege check and reading his message was really powerful to

## SGA ELECTIONS

me, and it really made me ponder what it means to be president," Johnson said. "I want to take a lot of those messages and take kind of a preemptive strike against that level of intolerance."

As president, Johnson hopes to collaborate more by promoting events within the Gender and LGBTQIA Center and The Center for Race, Ethnicity and Diversity Education.

"We have a divided student body," Johnson said. "We have pushes toward inclusivity that fall on deaf ears."

Johnson believes the Elon community fails to connect with the surrounding town and county. As

president, Johnson hopes to build stronger bonds with the local Elon community. He said attending town hall meetings regularly will help build connections that currently don't exist. Johnson desires to "create a dialogue" between student organizations and the town.

"I hope to bring in the less involved students on campus to this discourse while also allowing others to see what that side of campus sees on a day to day basis," Johnson said. "It's about just seeing the world through other's eyes and that level of empathy. We'll make our campus better."

Mackenzie Wilkes contributed to this reporting.



Junior Jack Johnson, current executive secretary, is running for executive president for the 2019-2020 academic year.

## AT A GLANCE

- AGE: 20
- HOMETOWN: MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA
- INTERESTS: VOLLEYBALL, PICK-UP BASKETBALL, SANDCASTLE MAKING
- ACORN OR BOARS HEAD? ACORN
- FAVORITE ELON MOMENT: PAINTING UP FOR CLOSE FOOTBALL GAMES THIS FALL
- DREAM JOB: HEAD OF THE WORLD BANK



Junior Jack Johnson supports men's basketball as they open Schar Center against the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on Nov. 9.



SGA ELECTIONS

NATE JONES

Philosophy major and leadership fellow takes the stage in the SGA presidential race

Kieran Ungemach &  
Jack Chambers  
@elonnewsnetwork

JUNIOR NATE JONES HAS a tattoo on his left wrist in Arabic that translates to “to become” in English. The tattoo reminds him that people are each on “their own pilgrimage,” constantly growing and finding new parts of themselves. Jones has been “becoming” since he arrived at Elon University.

He is envisioning a campaign based on inclusivity and hearing the voices of everyone on campus, based on his experience abroad and at Elon.

Though he lives in Lenexa, Kansas, he calls many places home — including Elon. Jones said he grew up living a “nomadic” lifestyle, moving across the United

States — from Ohio to Florida to Missouri.

He started his Elon experience with the GAP Semester program where he traveled around the country doing service and living in the woods during his first semester at Elon.

Jones met Rodney Parks, university registrar and the GAP advisor for his program, at a coffee shop in Lander, Wyoming, where the program began. Parks showed up nearly 30 minutes late because he was getting a notebook for Jones to take with him and use to reflect during his travels. This moment stuck with Jones.

Since that day, Jones and Parks formed a relationship.

“Nate is one of those people that will do anything to help a person in need,” Parks said. “He is thoughtful, energetic and has a broader vision of the world where

people recognize and appreciate each other for our differences.”

When outlining the groundwork for a Jones administration, his basic philosophy is to “figure out what we’re talking about” on campus. Words such as “inclusion” and “diversity” need clearer definitions at Elon, according to Jones. As a self-described idealist, Jones believes the university likes to discuss its strengths but struggles with being transparent.

“We want to figure out what we’re talking about,” Jones said about the university’s mission.

Jones hopes to review and possibly rewrite the SGA Constitution. When revising the constitution, Jones doesn’t think students have their voices heard. His goal is to partner with the policy studies department to take a second look at the process of writing and revising the constitution.



Junior Nate Jones enjoys his time as he studies abroad in Jordan, which he says was one of his favorite Elon experiences.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NATE JONES

AT A GLANCE

- AGE: 20
- HOMETOWN: LENEXA, KANSAS
- INTERESTS: READING AND WRITING
- ACORN OR BOARS HEAD? BOARS HEAD
- FAVORITE ELON MOMENT: STUDY ABROAD, SEEING FRIENDS GRADUATE
- DREAM JOB: COLLEGE PROFESSOR

Becky Olive-Taylor, director of academic advising and assistant professor of English, is a mentor and friend to Jones. Being an advisor and mentor of him since his freshman year, she said she knows how passionate he is about social issues.

“He values authenticity in his own actions and the actions of others,” Olive-Taylor said. “Nate is a consensus builder, but he also does not shy away from conflict when he believes social justice issues are at stake.”

Jones hopes to review the recent changes in the SGA budget if he becomes president. He has serious concerns about its effectiveness in providing adequate funding for student organizations across campus. According to Jones, the process was opaque and lacked student input.

“It centralized [power] a little more because then you continuously have to come through SGA,” Jones said about the new budget model.

Jones launched a campaign page on Facebook titled “Your Voice. Your Choice.” as a tool for students to emphasize their views on campus-wide issues. Students have posted comments about lack of accessibility and representation for handicap students on campus and in dorm buildings and an absence of transparency on SGA bills.

Students expressed concerns for not being able to provide input to SGA representatives on the

issues at the university. Opening up more discussion is something Jones hopes to prioritize in his campaign.

“The table was not built for everybody,” Jones said, addressing the current SGA of not opening up conversation enough between groups. Jones hopes he can “build a new table” that everyone is invited to join and discuss the issues they have with the university.

Senior Ryan Wells, a friend of Jones who is aiding him in the campaign, has been working with him since the inception and said Jones’ idealism motivates him to constantly improve what he sees.

“He always holds a critical eye on the university, focusing on how we can create positive change that includes voices that have never been included at the table,” Wells said.

But his campaign is not focused on who he is. Instead, it is centered on meeting the needs of the student body.

Jones’ most critical worry about his campaign is his idealism as he wants to encompass more student concerns if elected.

“I don’t like things being about me, which is why this campaign feels very weird to me — and a little inauthentic,” Jones said. “I want it to be about everybody else.”

Maggie Brown contributed to this reporting.

“

NATE IS A CONSENSUS BUILDER, BUT HE ALSO DOES NOT SHY AWAY FROM CONFLICT WHEN HE BELIEVES SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES ARE AT STAKE.

BECKY OLIVE-TAYLOR  
MENTOR, DIRECTOR OF  
ACADEMIC ADVISING



ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

Junior Nate Jones, a leadership fellow and philosophy major, is running for executive president for the 2019-2020 academece year.



# School to decide on providing students with voter ID

The proposed changes could cost the university thousands of dollars

**Mackenzie Wilkes**  
Elon News Network | @macwilkes

North Carolinians voted this past November on a constitutional amendment that would require voters to show an identification card at the polls.

**SENATE BILL 824**  
The bill says student IDs could be accepted as a form of identification when voting. The state's new requirements. Currently, the Phoenix Card does not meet these requirements set by the State Board of Elections.

The university would either have to update the Phoenix Card so it meets the standards set by the state or would have to provide a whole new ID. This card would have to have an updated photograph taken by the university, and will need to include an expiration date.

To make sure an Elon ID card can be used to vote, the university would need to confirm the identity of students applying for new IDs.

By March 15, President Connie Book will have to submit "a signed letter to the Executive Director of the State Board under penalty of perjury" that confirms the university has an ID card that meets the requirements, according to the ratified North Carolina Senate Bill 824.

But all of these requirements come with a cost. According to Chris Fulkerson, assistant vice president for administrative services, it would cost the university more than \$40,000 to re-card all students, not including the \$57,000 cost for new equipment to make these cards if Elon chose to update and redistribute the Phoenix Card.

With these costs in mind, the university administration is weighing their options, according to Bob Shea, associate vice president for business, finance and technology.

Fulkerson has requested the State Board of Elections allow the university to have two IDs, one of which can be used to vote. At the direction of President Book, university officials are coming up with an alternate card to the Phoenix Card.

Shea said the university is considering offering the card only to students who request it. Shea said the administration does not expect that every student would need an ID from the university to vote.

“WE SHOULD ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO VOTE, AND WE SHOULD REMOVE WHATEVER OBSTACLES THERE ARE TO THAT.”

**BOB SHEA**  
ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR BUSINESS, FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY

"20 percent of our students already come from North Carolina, and then many students that come from different states vote in their home state," Shea said. "So, we would anticipate that, you know, not all 7,000 students would need this."

While providing students with an ID that is compliant with the voter ID law is one option, the university may decide against it.

"The university has no obligation to provide it because we're not a government agency," said Jason Husser, director of Elon Poll and political science professor who specializes in North Carolina politics.



**THE PHOENIX CARD**

**The Phoenix**

**Undergraduate**

**Exp: 02/43**

**7374627347283478263**

LEAH DAY | DESIGNER

should remove whatever obstacles there are to that," Shea said.

The thought behind presenting an ID to vote is that it combats voter fraud, though voter fraud is a rare occurrence.

"As far as we know by every measure possible, it seems to be something that almost never happens. And so in that sense, voter ID is not necessarily stopping much fraud," Husser said.

Research by the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank, found only six cases of voter fraud in North Carolina since the 2016 elections.

The voter ID law was vetoed by Gov. Roy Cooper, but this was overturned

by the General Assembly. On Feb. 22, a Wake County judge voided the voter ID amendment, saying the amendment had been illegally established because a federal court had ruled that North Carolina's districts were gerrymandered and must be redrawn. Legislators have filed a notice with the Court of Appeals that is in process.

While the amendment is in flux, the Elon administration is still working on a solution to provide students with an ID.

Fulkerson said that "the legal process will extend the current timeline," but the university has to make a decision by March 15.

# The CREDE celebrates Multiracial Awareness Week

This week recognizes and celebrates the identities of multiracial students

**Leila Jackson**  
Elon News Network | @leilaajackson

For the first time at Elon University, the Center for Race, Ethnicity and Diversity Education will be presenting Multiracial Awareness Week, providing several events to recognize students who identify as mixed race. Kiah Glenn, assistant director of the CREDE, organized the week, which began March 4 and will end March 8.

"We're trying to do a multifaceted approach where we're having different types of events that may cater to different types of interests and different types of understanding of multiracial experiences," Glenn said.

Glenn, who identifies as multiethnic, struggled to find which community she fit into while growing up.

"I didn't get to have friend groups because my identity didn't fit ... so [in Latinx spaces] they were like, 'Well, you're black, you need to be over there with the black people,' and then in black spaces, if we weren't in a space that held [a] diaspora, then it was, 'Oh, you're Latina,'" Glenn said.

Traditionally, in the United States, people are assigned one racial category, whether it's on official forms or in social settings, but this causes problems for people of more



ABBY GIBBS | PHOTO EDITOR

Sarah Gaither, the keynote speaker for Multiracial Awareness Week, speaks to students on Monday, March 4.

than one racial background. This week seeks to bring visibility to those who do not fit squarely into one box.

"A lot of the things we hear for multiracial students echo similar lines," Glenn said. "I was told I am not black enough for black spaces, or I'm not white enough for white spaces or I am not Asian enough to be in this space ... so it is difficult when you are told that you are not enough of something or that you

don't belong in this space. And so then where do you belong?"

Ozelle Bower, a senior who identifies as German, Fijian and Japanese, will be taking part in Multiracial Awareness Week. Bower is excited to take part in this week to open up discussions about what it means to be multiracial.

"I'm just really happy that this week is happening so that ... I can really share my identities and then other mixed students can come out

and really just join the conversation," Bower said.

Glenn encourages everyone to come out to the events, even those who do not identify as mixed race.

"I hope that with this week, people who maybe never used the CREDE before and never have come to an event or never even thought to start thinking about their identity as it relates to being multiracial will be encouraged to come," Glenn said.

“IT IS DIFFICULT WHEN YOU ARE TOLD ... THAT YOU DON'T BELONG IN THIS SPACE. AND SO THEN WHERE DO YOU BELONG?”

**KIAH GLENN**  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE CREDE

## MULTIRACIAL AWARENESS EVENTS

**March 6, 5:30 - 7 p.m.:** "Check All That Apply," the monthly town hall for multiracial and third culture students in the CREDE.

**March 7, 5:30 - 7 p.m.:** "Mixed Match," a documentary that follows multiracial blood cancer patients and their struggles to find bone marrow donors because of their genetics, will be screened in Moseley 217.

**March 8, 6 - 8 p.m.:** "Open Mic Competition" in Irazu



# University gears up to welcome Fellows candidates

Elon University expects over 200 perspective students this weekend

Kaitlin MacIntyre  
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

Elon University is known for offering a number of unique programs and events to both current and prospective students. This coming weekend in March is no exception, hosting one of Elon's most extensive programs.

March 8 and 9 will mark this year's Fellows Weekend — an all-hands-on-deck event for both faculty and students.



**Lynn Huber** is the second half of their application. The final application steps include an interview, different open houses and other specialized events.

Lynn Huber, director of the Honors program, said they're expecting more than 200 students to be interviewed for a spot in the 2023 Honors Fellows cohort.

To be invited to Fellows Weekend, students must first be accepted to Elon and then have their application reviewed by the Fellows program they applied for. If they pass both of these steps, they are sent an invitation to the weekend along with their acceptance letter.

Students are evaluated by faculty and current Fellows to see which individuals will be the best fit for their competitive programs. Those who become Fellows are held to high academic and characteristic expectations while gaining unique opportunities and connections with their



Freshmen Rob Meehan and Samantha Herbert, both members of the 2022 Business Fellows cohort, explore a device merging banking and virtual reality during their recent 'Dubai Future Foundations' program over Winter Term.

cohorts.

Huber described traits that the Honors program looks for in prospective students.

"So, a couple of the things that we're looking for is intellectual curiosity, so someone who'll just ask questions, even if it's a topic or something that maybe is outside of their sort of strength," Huber said. "We really want students who are well-rounded and who are willing to go beyond their comfort zone intellectually."

Fellows Weekend is put together collaboratively by faculty and current Fellows students. Special events vary from each program, with Honors Fellows holding a panel to discuss their research and Leadership Fellows holding a survival activity to test group collaboration.

Interviews are held one-on-one for students from their respective

“

FELLOWS IS ... MY ABSOLUTE FAMILY HERE AT ELON. SO, SOCIALLY THEY'RE MY FRIENDS, THEY'RE MY ROOMMATES. SO THAT'S BEEN A HUGE PART OF THE PROGRAM FOR ME.

EMILY GOLDEN  
SENIOR LEADERSHIP FELLOW

Fellows interests, as well as a socialization time for the possible Fellows to not only meet each other, but to meet the current members behind the program.

From these events, students' personalities are brought into full effect, allowing facilitators and observers to pick out those who will bring the most to the cohort and to Elon.

Senior Emily Golden, a Leadership Fellow, shared what made the program a fitting experience for herself. Golden was the previous academic years' Leadership Fellows Student Director.

"Fellows is ... my absolute family here at Elon. So, socially they're my friends, they're my roommates. So that's been a huge part of the program for me," Golden said. "It was such a blessing to come into Elon having that cohort of friends immediately, who were there to not only

- FELLOWS PROGRAMS**
1. Teaching Fellows
  2. College Fellows
  3. Business Fellows
  4. Communications Fellows
  5. Honors Fellows
  6. Isabella Cannon Leadership Fellows

help me grow personally ... but also push me professionally to continue to develop in my leadership, to learn more about myself as a professional and as a student."

The Fellows programs have a common academic thread, as well as a common social thread. The programs boast of a cohort family within, granting students a group of like-minded individuals to connect with from day one at Elon.

"Fellows Weekend is about opportunity, both for the Fellows and for Elon," Huber said. "It's an opportunity for students to become part of communities that are going to be integral to their time at the university, but it's also an opportunity for us [Elon] to think about who we want to be and who we want to welcome into our community."

Every cohort has been known to be special unto itself. Golden, as a senior, has attended three Fellows Weekends at Elon.

"Every cohort brings a new perspective and a new identity to the program, and it's been absolutely phenomenal, especially as the student director, to get to work with each cohort and sort of see their identity and see what they're passionate about and see what motivates them and what they care about," Golden said.

As with each new class of students, the Fellows hold hope for the new cohorts. Golden shared her own hopes for the future cohort of 2023.

"I hope that they obviously grab the program by the horns," Golden said. "And do everything they can to make their experiences as great as it can be."

## Elon Poll finds election fraud seen as 'major problem'

The poll surveys North Carolina voters on various issues each year

Maggie Brown  
Politics Editor | @maggieabrown\_

A recent Elon University survey found that one in five people registered to vote in North Carolina think election fraud is a "major problem" across the state.

The poll was conducted during the ongoing election fraud case in North Carolina's 9th congressional district. The North Carolina State Board of Elections refused to recognize Republican incumbent Mark Harris as the winner of the house seat because of suspicions raised regarding the abuse of absentee ballots.

### ELECTION FRAUD

Republican incumbent Mark Harris stepped down after suspicions of absentee ballot abuse.

The state called for a re-election, which Harris announced on Feb. 26 he would not be running in. The day before Harris stepped down, Elon University Poll found a majority of registered voters in North Carolina wanted Harris to "stay out" of the election.

Elon polled registered voters in North Carolina across all parties and found that registered Democrats in the state said they followed the race more closely than registered Republicans. Republicans stand divided on the issue, according to Elon. A total of 44 percent said the election fraud was a "major problem" while another 44 percent of Republicans said it was a "minor problem."

The university's poll comes at a time when North Carolina elections have made their way into the national conversation. Responders who said they followed the news more closely expressed they were more concerned with election fraud in the state, according to Elon Poll's find-

ings.

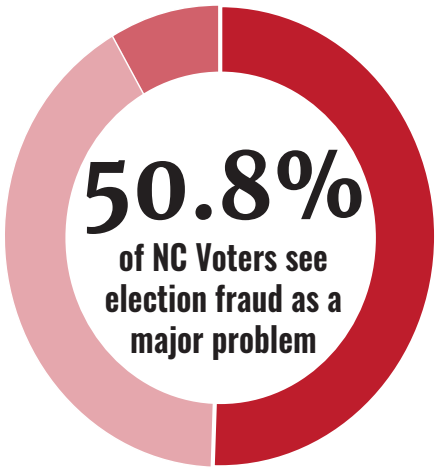
Voter fraud has been widely discussed in the North Carolina State legislature. For the midterm election, voters approved a voter I.D. amendment requiring voters to present a form of identification at polling stations. But after much debate, it was struck down on Feb. 22 by Wake County Superior Court Judge G. Bryan Collins.

"Visible integrity in the upcoming election cycle will be essential for voter confidence in the democratic process," said Jason Husser, director of the Elon Poll, in a press release.

But despite the controversy, 60 percent of registered voters report that they are "somewhat confident" in the future.

The poll surveyed 943 voters: 35 percent were Democratic, 30 percent were Republican and 31 percent were independent. While many polls are a random phone survey, Elon offered compensation to those who responded to this survey.

## ELON POLL ELECTION FRAUD



- Major Problem
- Minor Problem
- Not much of a problem at all

SOURCE: Elon University Poll  
Maggie Brown | Politics Editor

### DEMOCRATIC VOTERS

35%

Of the 943 voters who participated in the survey, 35 percent were registered Democrats.

### REPUBLICAN VOTERS

30%

Of the 943 voters who participated in the survey, 30 percent were registered Republicans.

### INDEPENDENT VOTERS

31%

Of the 943 voters who participated in the survey, 35 percent were registered as independent.



## CAMPUS VOICES

## Support a pet-friendly campus



**Sydney Schapel**  
Columnist

If you're lucky enough to see a dog on campus, chances are it's surrounded by people petting it. Many people I've talked to have said they'll go completely out of their way to pet a dog because they miss their own so much. Some have even risked fines or getting kicked out of their dorms to smuggle an animal on campus. There's no doubt Elon University has a vast population of animal lovers, which begs the question — should Elon allow pets on campus?

Those with a disability can apply for an emotional support animal (ESA). But not everyone qualifies, and there's no guarantee that they'll be approved. Elon's dorms also aren't animal-friendly, so even if a person is allowed to have an ESA, people in their dorm might be allergic. This leaves them with two options: move out or give up the animal.

Elon students could benefit greatly from being allowed to bring animals to campus. There's no doubt that college is a huge change, and for some people, it's the first time they've been away from home. The ability to bring their pets with them could help ease the transition as they'd have a part of home with them.

Pets are also a lot of work, and people would have to learn to balance that new responsibility with their social and academic life. It might keep them from staying out quite as late and would give them something to be responsible for. Instead of being able to fall back on their parents to take care of a pet, this would be the first time that the

responsibility is solely on their shoulders. This could prove to be an excellent way for people to get used to their new independence and obligations.

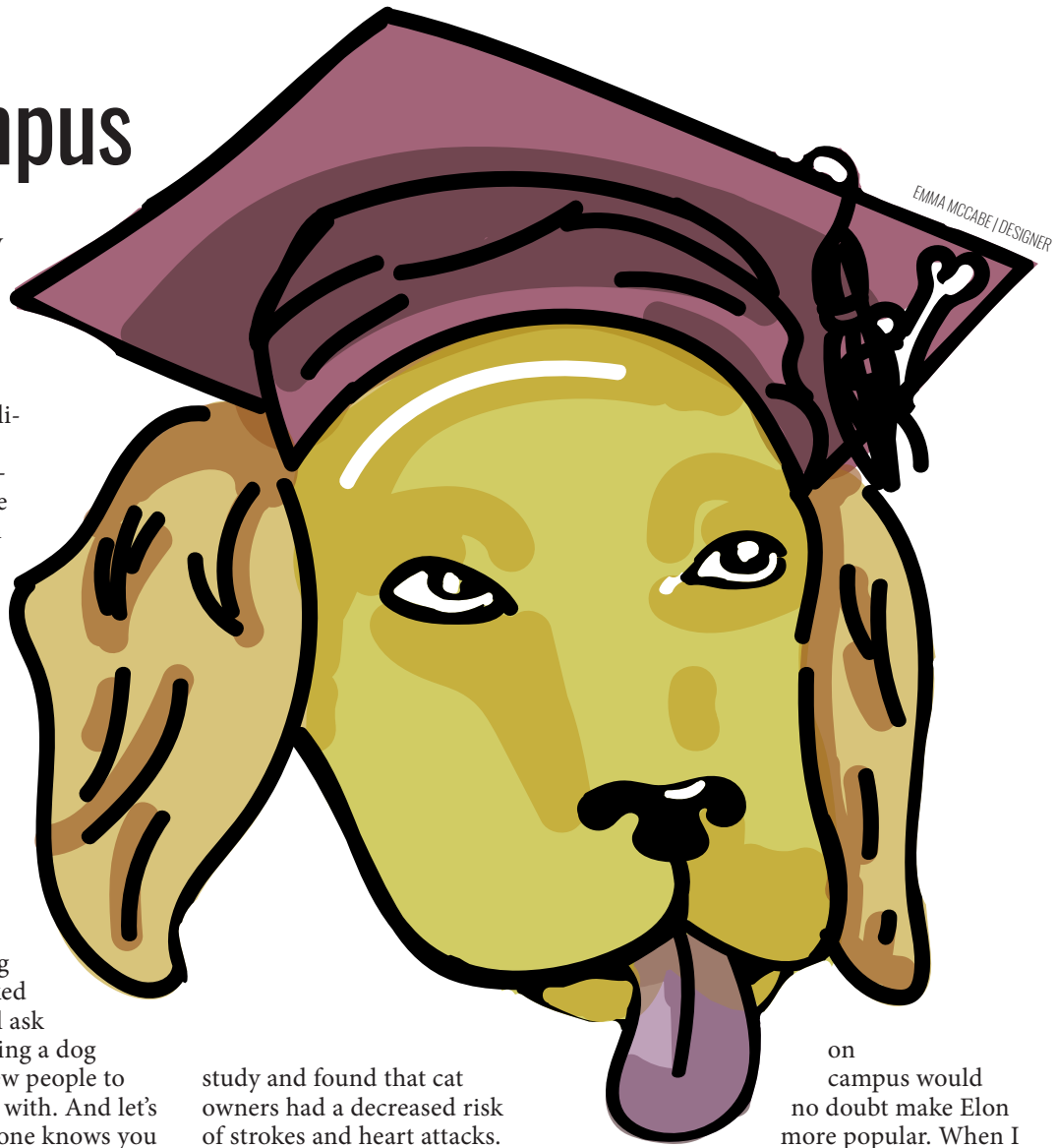
By bringing an animal to campus, people would be able to form new relationships they otherwise wouldn't. As I said, people are drawn to animals. My family replaced me with two puppies the week after I left for Elon, and my mom brought them down to see me shortly after. I immediately became the most popular person in my dorm. I started talking to people I hadn't talked to yet, and people still ask me about them. Walking a dog on campus attracts new people to form new friendships with. And let's be honest, once someone knows you have a dog, they're going to want to see you again. I'm a really shy person, but I'll go out of my way to talk to people who have a dog on campus. Something about animals brings out the best in us.

It's not just dogs who offer benefits to their owners — cats are great pets, too. A professor at Minnesota University, Adnan Qureshi, conducted a

study and found that cat owners had a decreased risk of strokes and heart attacks. Petting a cat and listening purring can also reduce anxiety, which is something many college students experience daily.

Hopefully, it wouldn't be too difficult for Elon to allow animals on campus. Some of the dorms could be made animal-friendly, ensuring that people with allergies couldn't live in them. Allowing students to keep pets

on campus would no doubt make Elon more popular. When I was choosing a college, it was between Elon and Stetson. Stetson wasn't the best fit for me, but they were an animal-friendly college, which was a huge plus. In the end, I picked the college that made the most sense for me, but I sometimes still regret passing up the opportunity to have one of my dogs with me.



## The Jonas Brothers are 'burnin' up' again



**Liam O'Connor**  
Columnist

"S.O.S.," "Lovebug," "Year 3000," "Play My Music" and "Burnin' Up" — the Jonas Brothers were a part of our childhood. For years, they graced their beautiful music in our souls only to break up too early and disappear.

Until we saw a glimpse of light clad in prints, psychedelics and pastels. On Feb. 28 — for the first time in five years — the Jonas Brothers announced a reunion.

Everyone in my personal network was immediately notified: my Alpha Kappa Psi pledge class, my economics class — even my grandmother received a text notification. The entirety of my Thursday was spent in excruciating anticipation as I counted down the seconds until midnight. Staring at the Instagram post that alerted the world, many quandaries floated in and out of my mind: what took them so long? Will it have a Nick sensual-falsetto vibe? A Joe DNCE touch? Has Kevin been hiding something in his back pocket that we have yet to taste? There are so many possibilities — we are living in the rebirth of the Jonas Brothers. If you're playing "Thotiana" before "Burnin'



The Jonas Brothers pose before performing at New Year's Rockin' Eve 2009 in New York City.

Up," you know you're doing something wrong. Joe, Nick and Kevin, it has been nearly 11 years since I watched the premiere of one of the best golden-age Disney Channel Original Movies, and I am still playing your music.

It's midnight, and my

ears are hungry for the waves of talent about to flow into them. Automatically, I hear Nick come in with his sensual falsetto, which then converges into the stripped-down funk beat, building this musically intriguing intro. The song stays in this

"vibey" mood throughout the piece bar, the minuscule tone shift between the bridge and chorus. Before I knew it, the song was over, and my questions were answered: yes the falsetto was there, DNCE brought the funk back, and I guess Kevin got to whistle.

But honestly, I was disappointed.

Where was the moment that got everyone hyped up? Nick, where was that unnecessary energy when you screamed "RED DRESS?" If this song were to come on the radio, I would sing along — not because I'm in love, but because it's catchy.

Just before I lost all faith in my childhood, not only did the music video drop, but Monday night, the Jonas Brothers dropped a director's cut. That video brought the energy the song itself lacked. Statements were made. Set on a gargantuan manor, the brothers and their iconic girls portrayed an aristocratic family that gave me strong Queen of Hearts vibes. Just the dynamic alone between Sophie, Priyanka, Danielle and the boys was enough to garner "Sucker" relevance in my memory.

Don't get me wrong — the song itself is good, and I already have it memorized. The more I listen, the more I like it. Is the song what I wanted? No. Is the song what I needed? Ask me in a week. Just prepare yourself for the dozens songs they have recorded.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE



# GOOD TIMES ON TAP

Burlington Beer Works plans to serve up some homemade hops upon grand opening

Victoria Traxler  
Elon News Network | @victoriatrax

DOWNTOWN BURLINGTON BUSINESS OWNERS are hoping for a movement of revitalization with the upcoming opening of the Burlington Beer Works brew-pub cooperative. The restaurant is set to open in late March or early April 2019.

There are least 10 other brewery cooperatives in the nation and about four brew-pubs, according to a report by the U.S. Federation of Worker Cooperatives. But there are no brew-pub cooperatives in North Carolina.

A cooperative is a business owned and governed by its members and by the people who use it rather than by stockholders, according to the National Cooperative Business Association. Burlington Beer Works currently has more than 2,000 community owners, according to its website.

Hal Vincent, a member of the restaurant's Board of Directors and lecturer in communications at Elon University, said cooperatives offer a unifying voice for a community-based ownership.

"A co-op model is essentially a one-share, one-owner, one-voice model," Vincent said. "The members are really the owners, and everyone has a voice and an equal voice in the present and future of their business."

Vincent hopes the restaurant will have a positive impact in the Elon-Burlington area.

"The purpose is to really help revitalize downtown Burlington and provide a space that can not only enhance really the entire communi-

ty, but can also help lift up all of the businesses and cultural amenities of downtown Burlington to make it once again a vibrant place," Vincent said.

Tracy Schmidt, general manager and director of operations for the restaurant, left her previous job to be a part of the Burlington Beer Works co-op team. She said her trust in the Board of Directors and belief in the potential impact of the restaurant encouraged her to be a part of it.

"This is my hometown. I used to come down here as a child," Schmidt said. "I've seen a lot of the changes that it's gone through, and there's just so much potential down here, and so to be a part of it and to be active and to actually be able to have an impact — that's what drives my passion."

The restaurant will have three levels including a rooftop seating area, three bars and a community space available for meetings. Schmidt said they are already booking graduation dinners and wedding events through October.

Schmidt said the menu will feature modern pub food, sandwiches and a traditional menu. There will be vegetarian and gluten-free options, vegan options upon request



VICTORIA TRAXLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Workers at Burlington Beer Works prepare their next batch of beer in their on-site brewery.

and more for those with dietary restrictions. She hopes to source all ingredients as locally as possible.

"Everybody asks, 'What does 'local' mean?'" Schmidt said. "Is 'local' East Coast? Is 'local' a tri-state region? Is 'local' within your own state or a 30-mile radius?" I'm hoping to go local as to Alamance County."

Schmidt also plans to keep the brew-pub active throughout the week. Events will include trivia or game nights, flight nights, live music or brunch on weekends with \$4 mimosas.

The project idea started about seven years ago, according to Schmidt. Funding for the restaurant began five years ago, and Schmidt joined the project last September.

“

WE REALLY BELIEVED IN DOING ANYTHING THAT WE CAN TO HAVE A SUSTAINABLE, INCLUSIVE, VIABLE AND, QUITE FRANKLY, FUN AND REWARDING PLACE TO LIVE.

HAL VINCENT  
BURLINGTON BEER WORKS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, LECTURER IN COMMUNICATIONS

of how to cooperatively improve, then I just can't help but think that not only Burlington, Alamance County or Elon would be a better place, but the entire world," Vincent said.

## IF YOU GO...

**Opening:** Late March or early April 2019  
**Address:** 103 E. Front St., Burlington, NC 27215  
**Website:** burlingtonbeerworks.coop

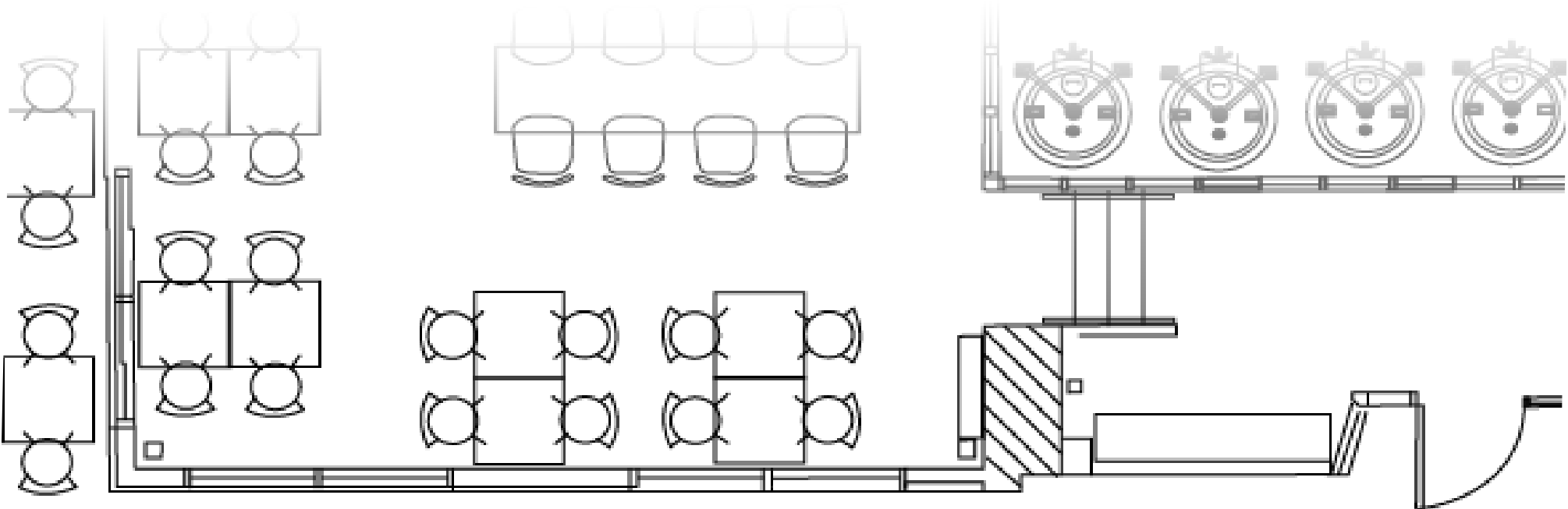
## COMMUNITY TIES

2,093

As of March 5, 2019, Burlington Beer Works has 2,093 community owners.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BURLINGTON BEER WORKS

**Below: A partial floor plan for Burlington Beer Works, which is slated to open in late March or early April 2019.**





# SPARKS PROMOTES WEEK OF ‘SEXTRACURRICULARS’

Events throughout the week offer students sex education and wellness checks

**Emery Eisner**  
Elon News Network | @eisneremery

Elon University’s Students Promoting Awareness, Responsibility, Knowledge and Success is hosting a series of events called “a week of sextracurriculars” that are occurring through the first week of March.

**LET’S TALK ABOUT SEX**  
SPARKS’ week of events will include intersectional sex education available for students.

Beginning on Tuesday, March 5, with “Let’s (Actually) Talk about Sex,” a seminar led by senior Ryan Wells, the week of events will raise awareness for sexual health and get students comfortable enough to open a dialogue about topics not typically discussed.

Wells’ seminar was “an LGBTQ-inclusive sexual education program” in which he talked about topics usually not addressed in public school sex education, Wells explained. The topics discussed included gender identity, sexual orientation, and intercourse between same-sex couples — topics which Wells says are essential to queer students.

As a gay student, Wells says he didn’t have access to sexual education that applied to him. “Queer people don’t learn how to have sex other than through porn and on-line ... We have no idea what we’re doing,” Wells said.

In this way, queer sexual education is a way to “stop the stigma not only surrounding LGBTQ sex but just talking about sex in general,” Wells said. “So many people are participating in it, and if we talk about it, it can not only be safer, but it can also be better sex,



Senior Ryan Wells (with junior Madi Forti) led a seminar titled “Let’s (Actually) Talk about Sex” on Tuesday, March 5, in Oaks 212.

which should also be the goal.”

While Wells created the seminar last year, he hopes to improve it in the upcoming “sextracurriculars” week by opening the floor to the audience and having people share about “what they’re into, what they’re not into, funny experiences that they’ve had or really any experience that they’ve had in a sexual situation that they’re willing to talk about.” He also hopes to expand the emphasis on sex positivity.

SPARKS peer educators like Wells and freshman Joycelyn Bentley are hired as “authentic and accepting” mentors that facilitate “a nonjudgmental space to engage in supportive, open-minded conversations,” according to Campus Recreation and Wellness.

“We focus holistically on

“

SO MANY PEOPLE ARE PARTICIPATING IN IT, AND IF WE TALK ABOUT IT, IT CAN NOT ONLY BE SAFER, BUT IT CAN ALSO BE BETTER SEX, WHICH SHOULD ALSO BE THE GOAL.

**RYAN WELLS**  
SENIOR

health,” Bentley said. “You can come to us and ask us any question, and we can either help you answer that question or lead you to a resource that will help you find the answer.”

Other events during the week include weekly wellness tabling, free testing for sexually-transmitted infections and a trivia night called “Are You Smarter than a Sexpert?” These events, Bentley hopes, will bolster the organization’s popularity and help Elon students become more comfortable talking about their sexual health.

The trivia night will be especially instrumental in raising awareness of sexual health, Bentley said. The event will include questions that “aren’t just fun and aren’t just educational, they in-

tersect somewhere in between,” with categories ranging from “pleasure” to “kinks and fetishes,” which Bentley says will make it “fun but informative at the same time.”

While the trivia questions give Bentley high hopes for educating students, she said the prizes are what have driven more than 30 teams of people to sign up for the event.

The prizes will include “an assortment” of sex toys ranging in value from \$70 to \$119, as well as stickers, lubricant and contraception.

“It really enforces sex positivity. ... Nobody wants to talk about their sex toys,” Bentley said.

While students might find it an uncomfortable topic, Bentley said being open is important. “We need them to talk about it because it’s a natural part of life,” she said.

SPARKS’ “sextracurriculars” week will include free STI testing for HIV, Syphilis and Hepatitis C. Getting regularly tested, Wells said, is just as important — if not more important — than getting a checkup at the physician’s office.

“I love STI testing. I think people should get it done all the time. I think there’s so much stigma surrounding it,” Wells said. “STIs can be scary, but they’re usually not. Most of them are completely curable, and all of them are at least treatable in some sense, so it’s a very normal thing to get.”

Acknowledging the normality of STIs can help individuals to move on and live healthier lives, Bentley agrees. “Just because someone’s had an STI in the past doesn’t mean it’s not treatable or curable,” she says.

STI testing will conclude the week’s activities in McKinnon Hall in Moseley from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The service is also provided on the first Thursday of every month. For more information, visit the SPARKS office in Moseley 105G, or visit their webpage or PhoenixConnect.

## SEXTRACURRICULARS WEEK EVENTS

MARCH  
6

**ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A SEXPERT?**

MCKINNON HALL | 7 P.M.

MARCH  
6

**WEEKLY WELLNESS TABLING**

OAKS 212 | 7:30 P.M.

MARCH  
7

**FREE STI TESTING**

MCKINNON HALL | 7 P.M.



Senior Ryan Wells works on his laptop in the SPARKS office.

EMERY EISNER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



ELON EATS

Burlington brings new assortment of sweets to town

The local shop hopes to attract more Elon students

Katie Cabral  
Elon News Network | @elonnewsnetwork

Dr. Milk is a new, locally-owned bubble tea, rolled ice cream and frozen yogurt store in Burlington. The store opened last month and is located on South Church Street. The atmosphere is open and fresh and has a friendly vibe that allows customers to be creative. One of Dr. Milk's managers, Hui Chen, says she takes requests for her bubble tea, and there are unlimited toppings for the rolled ice cream. "We knew a lot of stores sell bubble tea. But we are different because they use powder and we do not, but we exchange it every four to six hours," Chen said. While Dr. Milk is not the only bubble tea company in Burlington, they know how to widen their market and keep all their products

fresh. And they decided to sell rolled ice cream to diversify themselves. "We serve rolled ice cream, not traditional American ice cream. We roll the ice cream on the plate, and we chop fresh cookies or something into the ice cream. It is hard work," Chen said. The ice cream is beautiful, and the work that goes into it is clear. The Reese's Dream is a popular flavor. "Oh that's so good. Wait that's really good. It's so creamy. You can get unlimited toppings, and you get pocky sticks," said customer Ali Ryan. Ryan's reaction to her first taste of the rolled ice cream speaks to the craftsmanship of the delicious dessert. But customers still don't forget about the

**IF YOU GO...**

**Location:** 3254 S. Church St. Burlington, NC 27215  
**Hours:** Monday–Thursday: 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday–Saturday: 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday: Noon to 9:00 p.m.

bubble tea. "I recommend a customer get the Fresh Strawberry Milk Tea," Chen said. The Fresh Strawberry Milk Tea comes with heart and star-shaped tapioca in it and many different colorful layers of tea and milk. The tea was as beautiful as the rolled ice cream. Ryan followed Chen's recommendation and reacted enthusiastically to the suggestion. "That's so cute. I love the

stars and hearts. I am a big fan. It's actually really good. But if you are not a fan of texture, this is not your drink. But the flavor of the tea is really tasty. It's not too sweet," Ryan said. The nearly four-week-old store has been very popular, especially for families. Dr. Milk is busy after school, according to Chen, but she wishes there were more Elon students. There is also a sign in Dr. Milk's window for wanted employees.



PHOTOS BY KATIE CABRAL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Above: The Fresh Strawberry Milk Tea is a favorite on the menu at Dr. Milk in Burlington.  
Left: The Reese's Dream is a treat of hand-rolled ice cream and an assortment of other toppings available at Dr. Milk.

ELON WATCHES

Turner Theatre fills weekend slate with mediocre films

"Vice," "Mary Poppins Returns" and "Green Book" headline the weekend

Maria Barreto  
Elon News Network | @maria\_abarreto

"Green Book"

When it comes to films that are considered "Oscar bait," or films seemingly tailor-made to satisfy the Academy and bring home awards, few movies fit that description as well as Peter Farrelly's "Green Book." In the film, Don Shirley (Mahershala Ali) is an African-American pianist who hires Tony "Lip" Vallelonga (Viggo Mortensen) to double as a chauffeur and bodyguard while Shirley is on a concert tour in the deep South. Essentially a buddy drama, Mortensen and Ali really sold their building relationship throughout the film, as Shirley slowly made Vallelonga reevaluate his prejudices. The chemistry between the two was easily the most enjoyable part about the film, and it came as no surprise when Ali took home the Academy Award for best actor in a supporting role. But that's about the most dynamic aspect of the film. The filmmakers stuck to a formula that works and one that they knew would win favor within the award circuit. It's a period piece buddy film blend of comedy and drama with strong actors to sell the performances and a central message about overcoming prejudices. The film isn't necessarily groundbreaking in that it's a storyline seen countless times before. There's nothing bold about the



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNAPURNA PICTURES, LLC

film as it doesn't really take risks. In the way of cinema, "Green Book" is the definition of playing it safe. At the end of the day, "Green Book" is a feel-good film that ignores all the serious implications of the actual Green Book and civil rights politics of the time in favor of a well-acted, heartwarming tale that wouldn't make too many waves. "Vice" Christian Bale is one of those actors that can seamlessly slip into any role — be it the mysterious and broody Dark Knight, the sophisticated and composed but secretly unhinged American Psycho or the mild-mannered and strikingly unlikely protagonist that is former right-wing Vice President Dick Cheney. But the most — and maybe only — jarring aspect of this movie is how talented the makeup team was that turned Bale into Cheney. "Vice," directed and written by Adam McKay, is the kind of movie where a whole lot happens, but at the end of the film, the audience

is left feeling like, "So what?" In an age where people are more in tune with the political landscape than ever, "Vice" doesn't necessarily bring anything new to the table. The most engaging aspect of the film was Bale's performance as a power-hungry politician devoted to his fiercely supportive wife, played by Amy Adams. The film stars other actors, such as Sam Rockwell, Steve Carell, Tyler Perry and Eddie Marsan, but they all seem to get lost in the film's lack of central theme or message. Audiences end up walking away with more questions than answers as there's no deeper understanding of the former vice president's motivation or character. After a two-hour long journey, "Vice" feels more McKay wanted to poke fun at Cheney and the Bush administration under the guise of taking a cinematic look at American politics, without having anything interesting to say about it. "Mary Poppins Returns" Mary Poppins is the latest in Disney's vault of classics to be resurrected and turned into a sequel



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAY MAIDMENT OF DISNEY ENTERPRISES



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATTI PERRET OF UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

no one really wanted or asked for — but we got it and it was rather enjoyable to watch. Having to follow in the footsteps of someone as endearing as Julie Andrews is difficult, but no one could have done a better job than Emily Blunt. Blunt was perfectly charismatic and caring but strict and made the character entirely her own. Directed by Rob Marshall, "Mary Poppins Returns" carries with it a lot of love for the original, trying so very hard to embody the same catchy atmosphere as its pre-

decessor but only just missing the mark. There are some incredibly fun dance sequences spearheaded by both Blunt and her co-star Lin-Manuel Miranda, who is there for reasons that have yet to be explained, but truth be told, none are entirely memorable. The film is a fun song-and-dance homage to the original, filled with some creative animation and intriguing scenes, but it mostly just embodies Disney's spirit of reviving old stories and playing to the same crowd instead of trying new things.



# SPORTS

## RETURNING HOME



Hal Capps, Elon University's new director of high school relations, works on his computer in his new office on Feb. 27, 2019.

ADDISON FRENCH | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The former coach will be the new director of high school relations

**Jon Sarver Jr.**  
Elon News Network | @sarver\_jon

**H**AL CAPPS HAS BEEN coaching high school football in the Carolinas for over 30 years and is now making the leap to the college level. Capps is the new director of high school relations for Elon University football and is responsible for recruiting future Elon football players. Capps has a message for the students he will be recruiting to Elon.

"I want to let them know that Elon is available for the student-athletes that have great academics, that are Division I players, that they think of Elon first when they talk with that young man about his choices of colleges," Capps said.

Capps has had success in his high school coaching career, with over 200 career victories. The bulk of his success came as the head coach of Western Alamance High School in Elon, where he coached from 1992 to 2010 and won a state championship with them in 2007. Capps says it "feels awesome" to be back in the town of Elon.

"My wife's family still lives here. My sister lives in Greensboro. With us being so far away, we never got to spend much time with them, except during the holidays," Capps said. "So now it is going to be a lot different. Reunite with some of those friendships."

As part of Capps' new job, he will work with many high school coaches in the area, which Capps said will be one of his strengths.

"When you are in North Carolina for 32 years as a football coach, you build a lot of relationships with high school coaches,

assistant coaches who are now head coaches. So I think that is one thing that I'm really going to bring to table for Elon University," Capps said.

Capps' relationships with high school coaches is not the only trait he brings to Elon. His ability to mentor players will be a key addition to the coaching staff as well. In a press release announcing Capps' hiring, head coach Tony Trisciani talked about Capps' coaching career and his future at Elon.

"Coach Capps has been a highly successful football coach as well as an impactful mentor

of his athletes, and that includes schoolwork as well.

"I'm a firm believer that you can be good or great at everything. You just have to set your goals, and set your dreams, and work towards them each and every day," Capps said.

The character of potential recruits is also important to Capps.

"How many times was he in ISS? How many times was he late to class? That's a character issue, to me. And so I got to character next," Capps said. "What is this young man really about? What's he really like? What does his heart say about him?"

“

I'M A FIRM BELIEVER THAT YOU CAN BE GOOD OR GREAT AT EVERYTHING. YOU JUST HAVE TO SET YOUR GOALS, AND SET YOUR DREAMS, AND WORK TOWARDS THEM EACH AND EVERY DAY.

**HAL CAPPS**  
DIRECTOR OF HIGH SCHOOL RELATIONS

for young men, and I am confident he can help us win football games," Trisciani said.

Capps also elaborated on what he will be looking for in an Elon athlete. Not only will he look for gifted athletes, but good students as well.

"We have got to look at the student. Is he going to be able to stay in school? Does he have the work ethic? Does he have the study habits? Are we really going to have to stay on him all the time? Is he mature for his age?" Capps said. "There is no need to bring in a superstar when he's only going to be here one semester or two semesters. That doesn't help our program, and that is not what Elon is about."

Capps also stresses the importance of trying to get the best out

Capps says the transition from high school to college has been "exciting" and that his responsibilities as the director of high school relations will be different than his responsibilities as a high school football coach.

"I was fortunate enough to be the head coach at the Shrine Bowl, North Carolina Shrine Bowl in 2014. It gave me a glimpse of what recruiting was," Capps said. "We handpicked players. You can't do that in a regular high school setting."

According to Capps, not only will his responsibilities change with his new job, but his workplace attire will be different as well.

"It's unique for me because with 35 years in high school, I came to school every day in pair

of shorts or sweatpants and tennis shoes," Capps said. "You don't do that anymore. So, for me to get dressed up, it sort of starts my day a little different and makes it more exciting."

Director of high school relations is not the only role that Capps will be taking on with the football team. He will also work with the special teams unit. He said that he is still narrowing down his specific role, but he believes most of his work will be with the kickers, punters and snappers.

Capps said one of his main jobs will be to mentor players that other coaches may not have time to pay full attention to. Capps wants to make sure he doesn't let those players slip between the cracks.

"Sometimes, kickers and punters have a tendency to wander off during practice," Capps said. "They're not going to wander off when I am with them."

## 235

Hal Capps won 235 games as a head coach at three different high schools. He also guided Western Alamance High School to a state championship win in 2007.

## 32

Hal Capps has been coaching in the Carolinas for 32 years, all while coaching high school.

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