



Younger players carry their weight on tennis team
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Dining hall workers provide friendly atmosphere for students across campus
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Moldy discovery in Loy Center

Mold spores outdoors may be the cause, says university

Michael Bodley
News Editor

It's been a moldy start to the school year for Elon University.

One house in the Loy Center has been recently evacuated, and another has been given the option because of poor air quality stemming from a mold buildup inside the Delta Delta Delta house at Loy Center R and the Sigma Phi Epsilon house at Loy Center N.

The new mold woes have arrived on the heels of similar documented incidents in the Daniele Apartments earlier this month, with some blamed on a backlog in Physical Plant work requests.

As of publication, no one cause has been determined, according to Eric Townsend, director of the Elon University News Bureau, but the environment is a suspected culprit, with spores in the air outside thought to exceed safe levels. Large HVAC filters pull in air from outside into the houses, which can suck in mold spores floating in the breeze.

Residents in Loy N and R have complained of coughs and cold-like symptoms that may be rooted in the steady, cloying humidity in air thick with the smell of mildew.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), living in close proximity to mold has been linked to symptoms of congestion, as well as eye and skin irritation.

Townsend said Health Services has seen a single-digit uptick in students treated for potentially mold-related respiratory issues.

But for those who are allergic to mold, a type of fungi, reactions can be more severe. Sophomore Katie Quick, who lives in Loy R, the Delta Delta Delta house, is allergic to mold. From the beginning

of the school year, she noticed her room upstairs remained constantly damp and humid — a recipe that spelled disaster for her immune system.

Calling her symptoms “allergies that turned into a nasty cold that never went away,” Quick said she and the other girls learned to live with the unpleasant conditions.

Between two and three weeks ago, the sophomore and her roommate, who is also allergic, found a white mold covering boots and sandals.

But it wasn't until the end of last week that the house's captain — similar to RAs elsewhere on campus — did something about it. Despite consistent coughing and congestion paired with a sense of lightheadedness, Quick said she and the others had been too busy to dwell on the problem.

Once reported, Quick had no qualms with Physical Plant's response. An independent contractor was brought to campus by Physical Plant the same day to perform air quality tests.

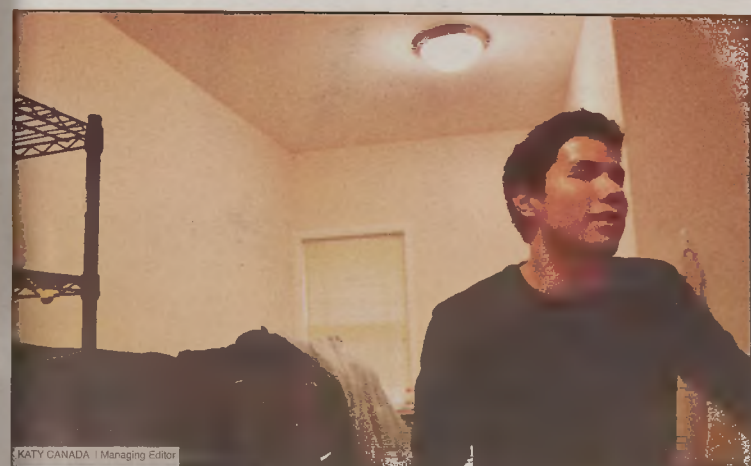
“There were really quick, and they were really accommodating,” she said.

An Elon-specific minimum benchmark for air safety indoors, 50 percent of outdoor spore levels, was exceeded inside Loy R when test results came back Sunday. The same day, the university evacuated residents, and booked rooms in a hotel for those didn't stay with friends.

Built within the last five years, the remaining new residences — N, O, P, Q and S — were tested Monday, with results due back Tuesday evening.

Though the next steps for the university were to be determined by the test results, conditions inside Loy N, the Sigma Phi Epsilon house, were similar enough

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PHOTO SUBMITTED BY MARY KATE DONAHUE



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY GRACE JOHNSON

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Top to bottom: Sophomore Andrew Sommers, who lives in the Sigma Phi Epsilon house at Loy Center N, has lived in mildewed conditions since his August move-in. Sandals and boots sport a moldy coating inside the Delta Delta Delta House at Loy Center R. A stain crawls across a bathroom door inside Loy Center N.

Oak House settles in after first month

Morgan Abate
Senior Reporter

Phil Smith and the staff of The Oak House have started to settle into their routine as the bar and coffee lounge's opening month on campus draws to a close.

The month has gone better than Smith expected, despite some of the challenges that come with running a business.

“We're still learning what works and what doesn't work,” he said. “Every single day I learn something new.”

Opening hours have already shifted from 7 to 7:30 a.m. during the week. After the first week, there were only a few people coming in between 7 and

7:30, so management made the change. The half-hour change saves The Oak House money and allows student baristas an extra 30 minutes of sleep.

Technological issues with the router and point-of-sale system prompted Smith to invest in Square, an iPad, iPhone and laptop service that makes buying and selling faster and more efficient.

The POS system has shut down multiple times, preventing customers from paying with credit cards. Paying with Phoenix Cash has not been an issue because it runs on a different system. Although it takes several minutes to fix the system, a backup option keeps the line of customers moving.

Even with the setbacks, technology will serve as an important communication tool when student staff members are only working two or three hours a day.

“There's not a lot of consistency with people coming and going a lot,” Smith said. “We don't really have shifts.”

Smith said he wants to use the Notes app on the iPads in The Oak House more effectively, which will allow the constantly rotating staff to stay updated throughout the day.

As the bar and lounge continues to “put out the fires,” business continues to grow.

Customers have started to request items like breakfasts

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Uber arrives at Elon to target college consumers

Michael Bodley
News Editor

Uber has arrived at Elon University.

The nationally known ride-sharing service based in San Francisco recently expanded to 25 colleges and universities across the country, recognizing the untapped potential of college students who have places to go but no transportation of their own to make it happen.

Operated through a free mobile phone application available on both iPhone and Android operating systems, Uber uses GPS technology to pinpoint the locations of drivers and their pas-

sengers. Once a ride is requested through the app, an unoccupied driver picks up the passenger. The driver's progress can be traced in real time, through a tiny car icon that meanders through streets enroute to pickup.

The latest section of the Piedmont Triangle to experience

Uber, the university and the surrounding area, could use more in the way of reliable, affordable transportation, according to Uber spokesperson Taylor Bennett. The affordability comes into play on cross-campus hops. An Uber fare from Daniele Center to West End Terrace falls between \$5 and \$7, even less when split between

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