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THE PENDULUM

SEE THE LEO LAMBERT
SPECIAL SECTION
SECTION B

LAMBERT TO STEP DOWN

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It all came down to timing for Elon University President Lambert. Elon is completing the final aspects of the Elon Commitment strategic plan and is in the leadership phase of the Elon Leads fundraising campaign.

So it only made sense to Lambert that the next president be in place for the implementation of the new strategic plan and the public launch of Elon Leads.

"It seemed to me to be the best thing for the university to have the person who was in charge of the leading that planning, leading that visioning be here to see that plan through," Lambert said. "It would not be appropriate for me to chart a course for the university to 2030, then depart my post."

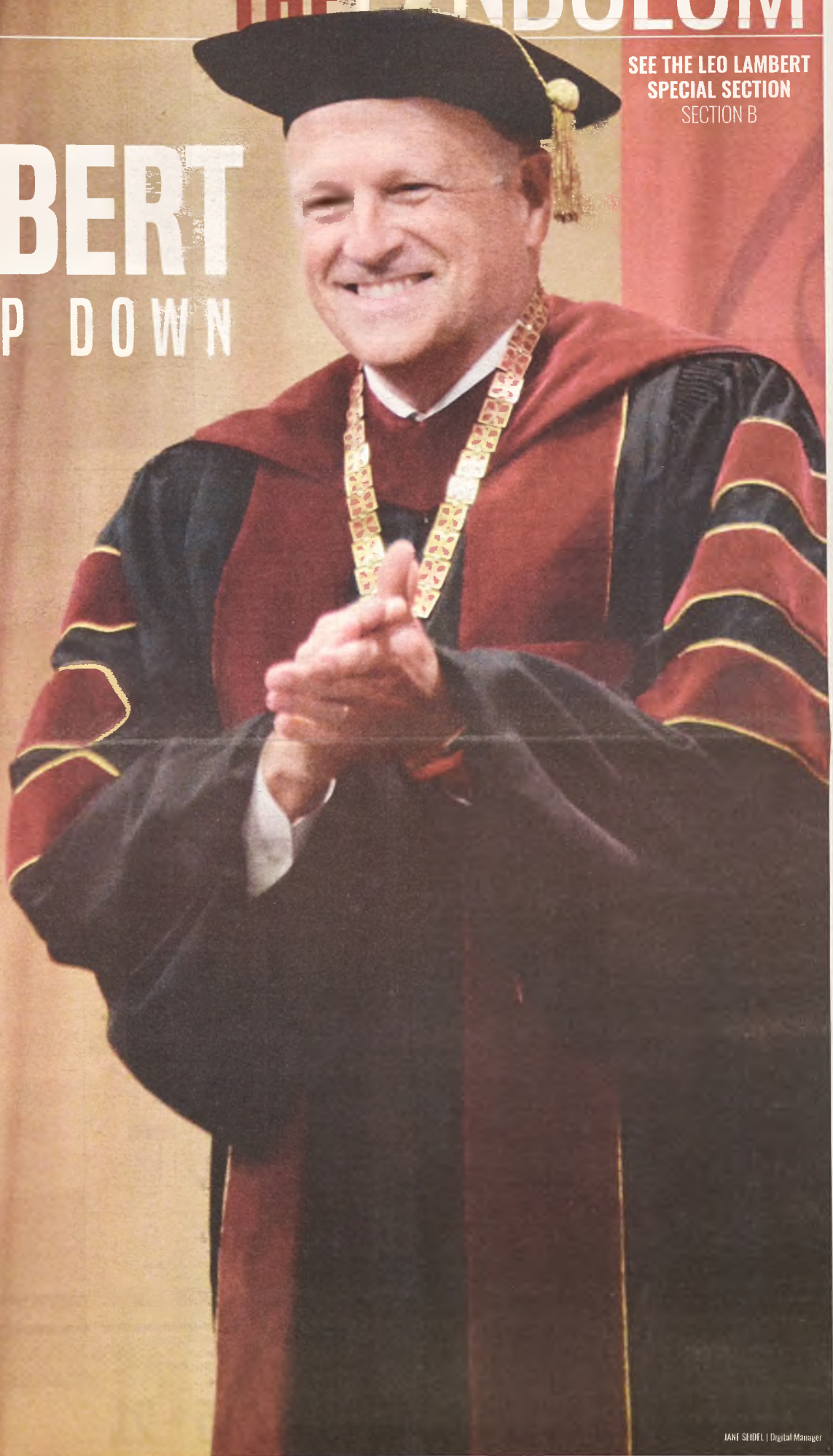
"It's better for the new president to have that responsibility of being one of the principle architects of the next strategic plan for the university."

Lambert, 61, announced Monday he's stepping down as president after 18 years. He signed a five-year contract with the Board of Trustees in 2012, and will extend it a little longer to be on board through the hiring process for his successor.

Lambert, the influential figure who guided Elon from college to university, from Fightin' Christians to Phoenix, from small regional school to mid-size national school, will take a yearlong sabbatical before returning in a president emeritus role.

The Board of Trustees will begin a national search for his

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