

# SPORTS

The Elon women's cross country team lines up next to the University of Delaware team at the starting line of the Colonial Athletic Association championship race on Oct. 28.



ERIK WEBB | SPORTS DIRECTOR

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Football wins seventh-straight game

Behind the arm of freshman quarterback Davis Cheek, the No. 10 ranked Elon University football team defeated No. 13 Villanova University 19-14 on Saturday Oct. 28.

The win was Elon's seventh in a row, and fourth against a ranked opponent this year. Cheek completed 20 of his 34 pass attempts, throwing for 357 yards and two touchdowns. After being named the co-Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) Football Rookie of the Week last week, Cheek followed up this week with a CAA Football Offensive Player of the Week title.

Cheek was joined in recognition by fellow freshman Korte Weeks. The wide receiver became just the third player in Elon football history to have 200 receiving yards in a game, earning him a CAA Rookie of the Week distinction.

Following the win, Elon is 7-1 and now ranked No. 7 in the STATS FCS poll heading into Homecoming Weekend. The Phoenix will host 3-5 Towson University at 2 p.m. on Saturday at Rhodes Stadium.



Elon junior Nick Ciolkowski stands as the sole Elon runner to place in the men's conference championship race. The two-time reigning individual champion placed fourth for the Phoenix this year.

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# Elon hosts CAA XC Championships

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It was a beautiful morning on South Campus Saturday, Oct. 28 as the Elon University cross country program hosted the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) men's and women's cross country championships.

Both the men's and women's team faced rival CAA conference teams en route to a third place finish in both the women's 6K race, and the men's 8K race.

Coach Kevin Jermyn was pleased with the overall performance on the home course.

"This is the best we've raced all season," Jermyn said. "It was a fun day. It was great to be able to host this meet on a home course. I thought the teams ran really, really tough, so overall it was one of our best races of the season. I think hosting definitely paid off and we're excited for

how the team did."

For the Phoenix, the top finisher on the women's team was senior Brigid Brennan, who finished eighth with a time of 21:44.68. The team finished with 80 points, just seven points behind runner-up College of William & Mary. James Madison University was able to capture the women's title after placing 47 points higher than the Tribe.

On the men's side, all eyes were on Elon junior Nick Ciolkowski, who was trying to win his third CAA individual title in as many tries. Ciolkowski placed fourth in the race, but was still happy with the result after recovering from a recent injury. Jermyn believes Ciolkowski's speedy recovery from his tendinitis was a pleasant surprise for the team.

"I know he ran his tail off," Jermyn said. "It was a boost for the team that Nick was going to

run and lead them up front."

"You can't win them all," Ciolkowski said. "I'm pretty humbled because I was hoping for a win at home three times in a row; but, you know, at the same time I'm also pretty happy with it because I just came off an injury pretty recently. It's only been in the last two weeks where I've been getting over that. I felt like I pushed hard and went to my limits and that's all you can really ask for in a race."

William & Mary's men's team captured its 15th consecutive title Saturday morning, beating Northeastern University by a margin of 36 points. Elon finished a distant third, scoring 93 points with Ciolkowski being Elon's top finisher.

"They had some added pressure and expectations on themselves so I didn't know which way it would go coming into the weekend," Jermyn said. "We ended up doing our best racing

today - more training to keep it going for the next two weeks. This isn't the end, but it was definitely a major step in the direction of where we want to go."

Looking ahead, the cross country teams are looking to continue their season strong with the upcoming regional championship Nov. 10 in Charlottesville, Virginia.

"We want to go out there and have some kids go after all region honors," Jermyn said. "[Ciolkowski] hasn't done that yet, so if he can go after all-region, that will be fantastic."

"That race is a 10K and the longer the race, the better I tend to do," Ciolkowski said. "I'm excited for that one. Just shoot for national qualifying ... still haven't given up on that goal. Sometimes you have ups and sometimes you have downs. Even though this is a little bit of a dip, I'm still pretty happy with how it went."

### Men's soccer captures playoff berth

After winning its final Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) game on Saturday, the Elon University men's soccer team qualified for the CAA playoffs.

The Phoenix defeated Delaware University 1-0 to capture the final spot in the playoffs. The clean slate was Matthew Jegier's 26th of his career, setting a new Elon record. For the regular season, the Phoenix finishes with a 7-4-6 record, 3-2-3 in league play.

Elon will play as the No. 6 seed in the tournament. The first game of the playoffs for the Phoenix will be on Nov. 4 against the No. 3 College of Charleston Cougars. The game will be played in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina at 2 p.m.

### Volleyball finishes four-game road trip

The Elon University volleyball team finished off a four-game road trip this weekend with a couple of games in Virginia. The Phoenix lost to both the College of William & Mary (2-3) and James Madison University (1-3), moving Elon's record to 14-13.

Following the road trip, the Phoenix still sits in the sixth and final spot in the CAA tournament. Elon will play at home in Alumni Gym this weekend when it welcomes Hofstra University on Friday, and Northeastern University on Sunday.

### Basketball teams prepares for season

Both the Elon University men's and women's basketball teams will begin their preseasons this week.

The men's team will face off against Randolph College in an exhibition game at 7 p.m. tonight in Alumni Gym. The women's team will start its season with an exhibition against Anderson University on Sunday at 5:30 p.m.

To learn more about the Phoenix's season and read about player and coach's expectations, turn to the basketball insert on pages 1-4B.

## THE PHOENIX FOCUS

## FOOTBALL

RESULTS		7-1
OCT. 28	VILLANOVA/VILLANOVA, PA	19-14
SCHEDULE		
NOV. 4	TOWSON/ELON	2 P.M.

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

SCHEDULE		
NOV. 1	RANDOLPH COLLEGE/ELON	7 P.M.

## VOLLEYBALL

RESULTS		14-13
OCT. 25	WILLIAM & MARY/ WILLIAMSBURG, VA	2-3
OCT. 29	JAMES MADISON/ HARRISONBURG, VA	1-3

SCHEDULE		
NOV. 3	HOFSTRA/ELON	7:30 P.M.
NOV. 5	NORTHEASTERN/ELON	2 P.M.

## MEN'S SOCCER

RESULTS		7-4-6
OCT. 24	DAVIDSON/DAVIDSON	2-1
OCT. 28	DELAWARE/NEWARK DE	1-0

SCHEDULE		
NOV. 4	#3 COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON/ MT. PLEASANT, SC	7 P.M.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

SCHEDULE		
NOV. 5	ANDERSON UNIVERSITY/ ELON	5:30 P.M.