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See I.C.E. | pg. 4

Relay for Life rings in \$75K for cancer research

Elon's fifth annual Relay for Life brings students together and raises \$75,000 for the American Cancer Society

Nina Fleck

Elon University's fifth annual Relay for Life fundraiser raised roughly \$75,000 for American Cancer Society (ACS), according to Marisa Palumbo, the ACS community development manager for the Southeast region.

Survivors, fighters, caregivers and those who have lost their lives to cancer were honored for 12 hours straight on Friday, April 20.

"Cancer patients don't stop because they're tired, and for one night, neither do we," Relay for Life's website reads.

Forty teams of Elon organizations, including Colleges Against Cancer (CAC), sororities, fraternities, club sports, the admissions office, Inter-Residence Council, Campus Recreation and other clubs participated in the event.

"My favorite thing was probably the amount of support from other organizations," said freshman Johanna Giordano, who lost her mother to ovarian cancer seven years ago. "I love how involved they were and I loved how each organization had a table for fundraising."

Aside from fundraising before and during the event, the organizations participated by circling the Phoenix Activities and Recreation Center's (PARC) interior hundreds of times, listening to attendees' stories and cracking glow sticks in honor of those affected by cancer.

Dr. Michele Parker, who specializes in family medicine, is the mother of sophomore Mikaela Mutchler and spoke to the crowd about her experience fighting



Relay for Life attendants decorated lumineers with names of survivors, fighters, caregivers and those who have lost their lives to cancer, which lined the track during the event April 20.

See RELAY | pg. 6



NEWS • PAGE 7

Rochelle Ford visits campus as incoming dean for first time



LIFESTYLE • PAGE 10

New trail to open 10 minutes from Elon's campus



SPORTS • PAGE 14

Jimmy Powell Tennis Center hosts CAA Championships