

# Maroon And Gold

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 1955

### THEY STAY AWAY

"They stay away by the hundreds." The above quotation is an apt description of the Elon College students on the occasion of almost any and all campus entertainment events, including athletics, dramatics, music and lectures, and it is a sad commentary upon the attitude of present-day college students here at Elon and elsewhere.

It is a sad commentary, whether the condition stems from lack of interest or lack of time. If it is lack of interest, then it is even more sad than if due to lack of time, for it would indicate that present-day college youth has grown too worldly-wise to appreciate such wholesome things as sports, plays, music and lectures. Recent research in the history of a number of Elon student activities reveals that there was a time on the Elon campus when the Elon student body gave wholehearted support to the extra-curricular programs. There was even enthusiasm for the competition involved in an inter-society debate, but those days seem to have gone with the wind.

One has only to go out to the Elon ball park on any given day when the Fighting Christians are playing a game to realize the sad state to which the Elon spirit has fallen. With the finest college baseball team in North Carolina wearing the Maroon and Gold colors this year, there is only a handful of students who will take the short walk out to the park.

The same thing may be said of the very excellent stage plays presented by the Elon Players, for the student actors quite often spend weeks in practice and then have to play to a practically empty auditorium, a fact which exists in spite of the fact that there is no cost attached to student admission. Student activity tickets are good for both the dramatic and athletic events.

The forthcoming series of student music recitals, which will climax a full year of work for many music students, will be attended largely by relatives and friends of the young musicians and by music majors who are required by departmental orders to be present, and not even departmental orders could get most of the students out to hear a lecture or a debate. In fact, one hears that the last time Elon participated in an intercollegiate debate, it was almost impossible to get enough persons to attend to serve as judges.

Of course, many students will argue that they lack the time to attend such student activities as have been listed above, and many day-students will argue that they have no way of transportation to attend such extra-curricular events in the afternoon and evening. The fact remains, however, that those same students always find the time and transportation to attend shows, auto races and other events that have far less cultural and aesthetic value.

Now, one hears some of those students say, "But I like those things." That's exactly the point. It is a sad commentary upon Elon students and present-day college education that there is no more taste for the more worthwhile things of life.

—CONTRIBUTED



## jottings from here and there

By JAMES WAGGONER

### HOW TO WRITE MORE EFFECTIVELY

Most articles written on topics pertinent to our title tend to be pretty dull and unimaginative. However, in one of our four-year colleges an informal meeting in one of the Effective Writing Classes was held to benefit those interested in improving their hand at writing.

The class was fortunate in having two speakers as its guests. The first speaker, who is an outstanding writer of sermons and an author of several books, suggested some very interesting rules. In outline form are some of the suggestions given by the first speaker.

I. Suggestions regarding writing or speaking.

- A. Use little words.
- B. Use short paragraphs.
- C. Use a simple arrangement of words.

### II. Essentials for effective writing.

- A. Develop and use the imagination.
  - 1. Children and great speakers have imagination.
  - 2. Thinking enables you to apply it.
- B. Live.
  - 1. Have experiences.
  - 2. Listen.
  - 3. Know people.
  - 4. Love people.
  - 5. "Have a heart."
- C. Know the rules.
  - 1. Grammar.
  - 2. Composition technique.
- D. Read much.
  - 1. Do not day-dream while reading.
  - 2. Read many books and magazines.
  - 3. Underscore.
  - 4. Summarize.

The next speaker, a southern representative of the New York Times, spoke mainly on the writing of newspaper articles. Having been a newspaper correspondent for more than twenty years, the speaker gave excellent information on how to be accurate and more effective in newspaper writing, and he stressed five important factors.

- 1. Read newspapers—study their style and approach.
- 2. Read a good text. He suggested "Headlines and Deadlines" by Garst and Burnstein.
- 3. Read everything to find the styles, fads, and fashions of the day.
- 4. Search for words.
- 5. Look for a "cute" or unusual angle.

(Not night and day, but twilight.)

Each speaker urged observation, wide reading, and the use of simple, exact words. As to the essentials, there are those who observe and those who don't. This need for good observation is further emphasized by the very fact that the best of men of the centuries have held concern for it.

And now we are brought on to our second essential—that of wide reading. It was Goethe who said: "Never let a day pass without looking at some perfect art, hearing some great piece of music and READING, in part, some great book." Even Emerson exclaimed, "Give me a book, good health and a day in June and I will make the pomp of kings absurd and ridiculous."

And pursuing the subject the use of simple, exact words, which can be a help to all who attempt to write is the final essential magnified in our column today. Prof. J. C. Colley calls the over-use of words—Verbalism. This can be applied to both the speaking and writing. An acquaintance with a book called Roget's Thesaurus will help you to express yourself, yet we do not mean discredit the study for a good vocabulary.

The final matter as to more effective writing is that of tying the three essentials together. A good observer, a wide reader, and a user of simple, exact words are three definite essentials for every good writer, and this will make writing readable.

So may we all, in the measure open to us, attempt to be effective in our writings.

## CHRISTIAN BASEBALLERS OF 1910 VINTAGE



Pictured from a by-gone era is the Elon College baseball team of 1910, whose coach and star player was Bunn Hearn, later a fine professional performer and in recent years the head baseball coach of the University of North Carolina. The manager, pictured at the left, was C. C. Fonville, later a Burlington business leader. The players, left to right, as best present Elon residents could identify them, were George Garrison, Bunn Hearn, Joe Fogleman, Joe Farmer, Tate Hill, Joe Pointer, June Kernodle, Titus Rand, W. W. "Buddy" Elder and Ross Walker. The youthful bat boy was Clarence Spoon, who later became a doctor in Burlington. Fonville, Spoon and Rand (and perhaps others) are now deceased.

### On The Diamond Since 1900 . . .

## Elon Has Been Real Baseball Power

By JAMES WAGGONER

Baseball, which has long been tagged "The Great American Game," is the oldest of the varsity sports at Elon College, for Elon students have been throwing the horseshoe sphere and wielding the willow wands since the birth of the college itself.

In the earliest years of the college, the games seem to have been more or less a student pastime, perhaps of the "choose-up" variety, but Elon has been playing baseball on a varsity basis for more than half a century.

From the earliest records here, from the records of other schools and from the memories of long-time Elon fans it appears that Elon played her first intercollegiate baseball in 1900, meeting such teams as Bingham Military Academy, Guilford, Catawba and Davidson.

W. E. Lowe, retired railroad man, who has long followed the fortunes of Elon teams in baseball and all sports, was greatly interested in the introduction of baseball as an Elon sport, and he recalls that he umpired the first game of intercollegiate baseball in Elon history.

### Bingham First Opponent

He recalls too that the first game was with Bingham and was played on a hastily constructed



slight improvement over last year's orators . . . a beaucoup of forget-me-nots to the "boys of pigskin" for presenting President L. . . Smith the football used in last year's contest of Davidson. . . This writer deems it very apropos . . . Warm weather is now snuggled around us . . . That means the beaches will soon be in full swing. Have you gotten your water wings? . . . Dr. W. W. Sloan has sold his epic, God Marches On to the MacMillan Publishing Company . . . Spring football started last week. Many highschoolers and ex-G.I.'s reported seeking a place on the squad. According to hear-say the team is working on precision drills for the fall opener against Mississippi Southern . . . If one is poor at spelling it helps a lot if your handwriting is terrible too . . . Elon's racketeers off to a slow start in their tennis campaign. At present Richard Cooke is leading the Christian court men . . . Here's hoping the May Day festivities will come to a successful conclusion by a well attended dance. I might add that tables for the event should be a pre-requisite . . . From the recent cinemas in Burlington, it would pay Hollywood to quit shooting so many flicks and seek more actors . . .

Chapel speakers this year are a

### FIRST CHAPTER

This is the first chapter of the Elon baseball story, one of a series of research articles that tells of Fighting Christian diamond fortunes during more than half a century. The story reaches back to the opening of the century and records many highlights of Elon play in the years that are gone, bringing back memories of stars who set the Maroon and Gold on a high pinnacle in the great spring sport.

diamond in a cornfield, which was near the western edge of the campus. The opposition seems to have been too experienced for Elon that first season, and one wag is said to have remarked, "We have met the enemy, and we are their'n."

Dr. L. E. Smith, who was a student here from 1906 until 1910 remembered Elon playing in front of West Dorm for home games, and that the Easter Monday classics with Oak Ridge were the outstanding games each year. The Easter Monday games were played at the old Harden Park in East Burlington. He also recalls that Louis Hobbs, who had already gained fame playing for Guilford, was "imported" to play for Elon in

some games during the later years of this period.

Members of the 1910 team were Bunn Hearn, later a major league star and in recent years the head coach at the University of North Carolina; W. W. Elder, now a retired navy officer and chaplain, who is remembered from his college days as "Buddy" Elder; Joe Farmer, Joe Pointer, June Kernodle, Joe Fogleman, Sam Foushee, Tate Hill, Ross Walker, and George Garrison.

### Hearn Was Colorful

Bunn Hearn, who is known throughout the Southeast as one of the most colorful figures and best story-tellers in the realm of sports, went on from the Elon campus to play on far-flung fields all over the world. It was at the height of Hearn's playing career that he was on a barn-storming tour of England with a group of pro stars.

It is told that the King of England came out to one game, and the royal presence attracted a huge crowd. Hearn, ready to take the mound for the game, is said to have looked up at the crowd and remarked in his slow southern drawl, "Jus' look! There's forty thousand people come out to see the king, and the king come out to see ol' Bunny."

(Continued on Page Four)

## The Quidnunc

By GARY THOMPSON

Seniors should note: A file on fellowships and scholarships is available in the dean's office . . . Bad news for music lovers—the nickel juke box will be a thing of the past January 1st. All new jukeboxes demand a dime . . . In the 1944 Elon Colonnades you can read these words:

### Afterthoughts

You reached  
From where we sat  
And pulled a vine  
That clung tightly  
To a moss-green rock  
Stripping it to the roots  
I cried,  
Cried with pain  
Unbearable,  
The grim words of me,  
Who is misunderstood,  
While you wrapped the vine  
Idly around your arm.

### THE LAST HOUR

—Bill Meacham

Ladson Cabbage is rather liked these days. It seems that some unknown person has been raiding his room. Could it be the Phantom has struck again? . . . Lefty Taylor, Elon chunking star a few years ago, has recently signed a baseball contract with the Pirates. He stands a good chance of being assigned to Bur-Gra. . . Weidesehen!

## curley's campus chatter

By CHARLIE OATES



### HOMeward BOUND

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The evening train rolls slowly out of the nation's capital, and you can hide your excitement no better than any other college student could on leaving Washington and homeward bound. As the train speeds southward, you try to free yourself of the lonely feeling you have and find a comfortable position. It seems that you are completely alone, now that the crowd you spent the weekend with is no longer around.

You have been gone only a few days, but it seems as though it would take weeks to squeeze in all the events that occurred during your visit. Things really happen in the city by the Potomac.

Now that you are out of the city, you sit back and watch the big trees flick by, the green hillsides of northern Virginia sprawled out on either side of you and the smokey blue mountains in the distance. This scenic beauty helps you to relax and to feel at ease. You keep thinking that this is the first time in three days that you have been alone to relax for any length of time, and it really feels wonderful in spite of the fact that you will be going back to classes the next morning.

You picture in your mind the many places you visited while in Washington. The places you went and the sights you saw and the sounds you heard all merge to form one huge picture in your imagination. You recapture the sight of the capitol dome, the Washington monument, the museum, the zoo, Glen Echo Park, the Potomac River, and the masses of people hurrying to and from the railroad station. You think of sleeping, but you find it difficult to do.

After the conductor takes your ticket, and your ears to the occasional chatter of and your eyes to the occasional chatter of other college students who are also aboard the southbound train, and somehow your thoughts wander back to the Elon campus, pushing out, to some extent, the events you were part of while in Washington.

You begin figuring on the outcome of the elections that have been held on the campus and think of the great amount of work that you will have to do back at school, for this is the week of mid-quarter exams. Noting that the spring term is half gone, you wonder if you will have time to finish all the work that lies ahead of you. You also weigh along with these tasks the amount of social activities that will distract the student mind during the remaining part of the quarter.

You keep telling yourself that you will be glad to get back into the swing of college life, even though it will be a distinct contrast from the weekend behind you. Suddenly you realize that it will be enjoyable to hit the campus again and to see the familiar faces about you.

Again you think how much fun you have had and then consign the trip to the past, at the same time looking at your watch and calculating just when you will reach the familiar destination at home.

Glancing up and down the schedule, which you extract from your pocket, you figure how long it has taken to cover the first part of the journey. Familiar names are flashing by as you pass through the cities nearer home.

Finally, the train flashes over the Dan River and through Danville, and you think it's not much further. There'll be Reidsville and then Greensboro, and by this time you have figured out that you should roll into the familiar Gate City station at least five minutes ahead of schedule. The conductor verifies your figures as he passes through the car, and then you figure it's scarcely half an hour longer until the familiar scenes of Elon will be seen.

You are almost tempted to try riding the train on to Elon, but a quick glance at your schedule discloses that there would quite a wait, and a second thought convinces you that 'twould be far quicker and more convenient to ride the bus.

And so by Trailways you wind up the final stage of the homeward journey. You glance out from the front window of the bus and see the aviation blinkers on the WBBB radio tower, which blink downward almost over the Elon campus. At last you see the college wall and know that behind it are all the familiar things that have become a part of you.

Then you look up into the night sky and you see the lighted cupola that looms out of the darkness over Alamance Hall, and somehow it looks just as good to you as had the bright dome of the capitol or the towering shaft of the Washington monument. That 8 o'clock class may not be so pleasant in the morning, but it's really nice to be back.