

# Maroon And Gold

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 1953

### JUST TWENTY WORDS

If you were suddenly told that your vocabulary was to be slashed and limited to twenty words, just what words would you choose to keep for your daily usage?

Such was the question asked during a recent experiment conducted through the general psychology lab at Winthrop College, the women's college of the state of South Carolina, and reports are that the experiment created much interest.

We are not suggesting that such an experiment be conducted here, but it is quite worthwhile and interesting food for individual thought. Those conducting the experiment at Winthrop are said to have found the results quite varied and interesting.

A large group of people representing a cross-section of population, was asked to submit the twenty words they would keep in their speaking and recognition vocabulary, remembering that they would supposedly be unable to speak, read or understand any word beyond the twenty they chose.

Naturally, no two lists submitted coincided exactly, and you might guess for a long time before arriving at the word which was found most frequently on the lists. The Number One word was "danger," a commentary perhaps upon the real or imagined perils of modern existence in this day of speedy travel and atomic warfare.

Then followed the person's own name who submitted the list. Other words in order of frequency were poison, men or women (depending upon the sex of the person who listed the words), name of home towns, inflammable, off, on, hot, exit, fire, slow, caution, employer's name, cafe, police and warning.

Again it is interesting to note how many of these words bear connection with the word "danger," and one must conclude that the present personal and international tensions have indeed made an impression on the American people.

For men who drive cars, however, the word "stop" was listed most frequently, and other words substituted quite often in the master list were "caution, speed limit, detour and one-way." This list can readily be associated with fear or danger.

It quite inconceivable that the list of most frequently listed words does not include the word "food" nor any related words, and it seems quite unbelievable that the word "love" has no place on the master list. However, a brief recheck shows that there are no words included that express the finer emotions or ideals, nor is there any word relating to religion, and worship.

Perhaps we are living in a more desperate age than we think, and possibilities of annihilation may be making a greater impression than we had thought upon the minds of people, for self-preservation appears to be the prime consideration of most of the people submitting lists.

Granting that the supposition that our vocabularies could be thus cut is impossible, it might be worthwhile to make out a list of your own when you have time to sit down and really think the matter over.



## jottings from here and there

By JAMES WAGGONER

Each year at this time a booklet is published by the Travelers Insurance Companies of Hartford, Connecticut in the interest of street and highway safety, including facts, figures and illustrations. This year the booklet is called "Misguided Missiles," and some of its contents, although not very pleasant reading, needs to be brought before our minds.

Several weeks ago we devoted this column to accidents in general, having no specific phase such as our topic today. It is our hope that this information will present to you the true picture of misguided missiles on the highways and that each lesson will be meaningful to all.

A moderate decrease was seen in the nation's automobile accident toll in 1954, when traffic deaths totaled 35,500 compared with 38,500 in 1953. It was the first year since 1949 to see a decrease in the death toll.

### Speed Worst Mistake

Excessive speed was the most dangerous driving mistake again in 1954, killing 12,380 persons. The 1953 total was 13,870. The injury total resulting from excessive speed remained about the same as the preceding year—659,000.

Drivers under 25 years of age were involved in more than 24 per cent of 1954's fatal accidents although they constituted only about 14 per cent of the total of all drivers.

The pedestrian record reflected improvement for the fourth consecutive year. Pedestrian deaths were reduced to 7,700 in 1954 compared with 8,600 in 1953. Crossing between intersections, "jay walking," remains the chief cause of pedestrian deaths and injuries.

Seventy-eight per cent of the vehicles involved in fatal accidents were traveling straight ahead, and the booklet reveals that three out of four auto accidents happened to passenger cars in clear weather on dry roads.

### Weekend Problem

Practically all of us look forward to Friday because to most of us it means that another weekend has arrived. The weekend is a time for pleasure and relaxation. There that tennis game we had planned, a picnic with the family, and perhaps a golf game with our next door neighbor. It's the time for going to church, fixing things around the house, cleaning out the attic, and watching television.

The weekends are all of those things—except on the highways. In 1954, 13,980 persons were killed and 678,000 were injured in weekend accidents, according to figures compiled and released by The Travelers Insurance Companies. Thirty-nine per cent of the deaths and 35 per cent of the injuries were recorded on Saturdays and Sundays in 1954.

No one knows how many traffic accidents are caused by drinking drivers, but everyone knows it is a major problem. For example, walk in to your traffic courts any day and you will find them crowded with persons who were involved in serious accidents as a result of drinking. Everyone needs to know that even one drink before driving is too many. We saw an advertisement the other day which said: "If You Drive — Don't Drink — If You Drink — Don't Drive." This sounds like very simple advice, but it makes a great deal of sense.

### It's A Grim Picture

All these are grim statistics. The above figures point out that accidents are heavy, even though state and community authorities have spent millions of dollars in an effort to provide safer and better roads and saner driving.

Insurance companies and other private firms are spending millions for safety education. State, county, local and parkway police are constantly patrolling streets and highway. More and better engineered thruways are coming off the drawing boards. It appears to us that almost everyone is concerned with this needless slaughter and its accompanying waste of human and property values.

Almost everyone, that is, but the drivers. Traffic regulations were set up as a proper guide for the handling of traffic, and need the cooperation of all drivers. The problem starts and could ideally end with the drivers. Who are the drivers?

Each one of us knows the answer to that question. It is sincerely hoped that by continually reminding drivers of safe driving through newspaper messages, television, radio and literature that traffic accidents will be reduced in the coming years. It can be done. We are the drivers, and it is up to us to see that it will be done!

## CHRISTIAN BASEBALL SQUAD OF 1919



One of the Elon baseball teams of the era just after World War I is pictured above, the combination of 1919, which was coached by the late C. C. "Jack" Johnson, husband of Mrs. Oma U. Johnson, the present Elon librarian. Those shown in the picture, left to right by rows, are as follows: FRONT ROW — Lonnie Sides, W. C. King and J. L. Martin. SECOND ROW — Lane Atkinson, T. F. Murphy, Johnny Johnson and Wade Marlette. BACK ROW — Coach C. C. Johnson, L. E. Allen, Jimmy Simpson, Alf Brown and Hort Doughton.

## Under Walker And Hendrickson . . .

# Elon Added To Her Baseball Glories

By JAMES WAGGONER

The coming of Coach Douglas C. "Peahead" Walker to Elon in the fall of 1927 signalized the beginning of a golden era in Elon College baseball history, for the inimitable "Peahead" in nine seasons up to 1936 chalked 106 wins against 45 losses and won six successive titles in the "Little Six" and North State Conference races.

The Elon team which had won 14 and lost 4 in 1927 gained even more steam in its first full season under Coach Walker in 1928, when the Christians compiled a record of 17 wins and one loss. Three big hitters and two ace pitchers from the 1927 team formed a nucleus for Walker's great '28 combination. Earl Sims, H. Chritchfield and Paul Braxton were the big hitters and Arthur Fowler and Vernon "Lefty" Briggs were the pitching stars back from the '27 squad.

Elon wound up the 1928 baseball year with the best record in her history up to that time, losing only one game of 18 played, the lone defeat being a 1-0 setback at the hands of the Deacons of Wake Forest. Not only was this the best record made by an Elon athletic team to date, it was

### SECOND CHAPTER

This is the second chapter of the Elon baseball story, one which tells of the honors gained by the Fighting Christians during the halcyon years before World War II, a period that saw the Maroon and Gold colors wave high in all major sports for many years. Included is the account of Elon's greatest single-season record of 20 wins and 1 defeat in 1941.

also a record that Coach Walker could be proud of for his first year as coach of the team. "Red" Smith led the team in hitting with a brilliant .441 batting average, while Earl Sims and Howard Briggs tied for second place as they banged the horsehide at a .397 clip. It is interesting to note that in only one game did Elon make less than six scores, and one game against Winston-Salem saw Elon men cross the plate twenty-six times. The Fighting Christians averaged 11 runs per game, while holding their opponents to three per game. Captain Arthur Fowler pitched his best game against Erskine, with a brilliant one-hitter. Victories over Penn State, the

University of Richmond, V.M.I., and Davidson highlighted the year for the Maroon and Gold squad.

### Champions In 1930

The seasons of 1929 and 1930 brought to the Elon campus identical records of 10 wins and 7 losses for the two-year period. "Lefty" Briggs captained the squad of '29, which saw Elon defeating Wake Forest 13 to 5, while the Christians split with Wake Forest the following year. The 1930 season also saw Elon bring home the conference title in "Little Six" competition, the first of six straight crowns.

The 1931 baseball season was also a very successful one for the Elon nine. The team, handicapped at first by lack of experienced pitchers, settled down to finish the season with a record of eight wins and five losses. Norman Waters bore the heaviest part of the mound duty, pitching seven of the thirteen scheduled games. Of these he won six and lost only one. Other winning pitchers were Latham and Mann. Zeb Harrington who captained the 1931 "Little Six" conference winners played with the St. Louis Cardinals after leaving Elon.

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## The Quidnunc

By GARY THOMPSON

be published on second rate type keep his name out of print. Jerry and paper. This is not as surprising as it seems. . . Much has been written about this before but I will add my two cents. Why is it one stays on campus week ends? That is a very easy question to answer. There is nothing of interest going on to keep a student here. Oh well, it stands to reason the school saves money when the dorm people do not eat or sleep on campus during the week ends. . . Whit Bradham and Square Edmonds are washing cars these days. If your vehicle needs a soap job see those two young gentlemen. Their fee is 75c per auto. . . A salute to the new-moon. However, he needs top-flight competition to push him on the oval. . . Richard "Satch" Jones, Jane Everette, Bess Carson and Dot Keck. Am glad to see that we have some masculinity among the yellers. . .

Scribbings  
Grad Bill Blackstone's wife, nee Jean Tew, is now touring Korea as an entertainer for our armed forces stationed there. . . Bob Phelps to enroll in the Chicago Theological Seminary at the finale of this quarter. . . At last reports, the Phantom has disappeared. . . Don't miss the pix, "Blackboard Jungle", if you want to see two full hours of entertainment. I might add that it will be especially interesting for all you teachers-to-be. . . It seems that this year's edition will

From the Texas Ranger: "Going with girls keeps you young."  
"How's that?"  
"I started going with them when I was a freshman, and I'm still a freshman."  
From the Yale Record: "If all the students who sleep in class were placed end to end they would be much more comfortable."  
The particular training, which always leads you to hate what you ought to hate and to love what you ought to love, in my view, will rightly be called education. Plato.

## curley's campus chatter

By CHARLIE OATES



Here's a salute to all of Elon's military-minded students, past and present, for we have some of both varieties, some who already have the military service behind them and some who are just now getting their service off through reserve and national guard units.

One hears inquiries from students of larger colleges sometimes whether Elon has an ROTC program, and one sees a frown from them sometimes when they are told that we do not have such a program, but we believe that there is as much military spirit of loyalty among Elon students as will be found in any similar group today.

However, being reminded of such inquiries, this commentator decided to do a bit of checking on the real status of national loyalty and military connections among the boys on the Elon campus, and it ignites a feeling of pride when one learns how many of the boys have already done their stint with Uncle Sam or are now doing their bit through one organization or another.

Let's just take a look at the present situation. Investigation reveals that there are now enrolled at Elon more than 250 veterans of the Korean conflict and that there are still 20 or more students enrolled who served their country in World War II.

This total is not nearly so high as the peak GI enrollment that was reached here at Elon in the two or three years immediately after World War II came to a close, although we are informed that the total enrollment of all students this year is the largest in the history of the college.

We are told that in the peak GI years of the late 1940's Elon suffered from overcrowded classrooms, but that was in the days before the evening classes relieved to a certain extent the crowded day-time classes. Many of our present veteran students are attending the evening classes.

A check on figures for recent years discloses that there were 199 GI students on campus in 1951, 138 veterans in 1952, 143 GI's in 1954 and almost 300 of the former servicemen this year.

There were quite a few former Elon students who returned to the campus for this Spring Quarter after having interrupted their college careers for a tour of duty with the various armed services. Without attempting to list all such returnees, we might mention Tim Holt, Charlie Cassell, Don Graf and Elbert Peters. There are others, but they are some whose names come to mind because of their participation in students activities such as sports.

Many of our recent graduates reported to Uncle Sam immediately after they received diplomas and degrees and are now doing their stint with "red-blooded" American loyalty. More than a few of the 1955 graduates will also answer the call during the coming months, for the spirit of national service is an ingrained characteristic of our American youth. It has been present since early days, and it's here to stay.

We know, too, that many Elon students who have dropped out at the close of any certain Quarter within recent years have gone into service. Particularly is this true of the many who fail to return for the Fall Quarter each year. When one is missed at the opening of school, one quite frequently finds that he has either volunteered or received a draft call during the summer months.

There were a number, in particular, who dropped out and enlisted just prior to the deadline that was announced for termination of GI benefits. They were the ones who enlisted in time to profit by educational help at the conclusion of their service.

Quite a few of the present students are already listed in either the reserve or National Guard status. Among those who are currently in the reserve of one branch or the other of armed service are Furman Moseley, new student body president, Jerry Creech, Joe Morris, Bobby Robertson, Bob Blanchard, Chris Peterson, Johnny Dyer Jerry Shropshire and others.

A goodly number of students are members of the National Guard and were called upon to participate in the recent nationwide National Guard alert test, during which they were called to the armory under the plan used to determine how quickly and efficiently the Guard could be mobilized. Officials termed the test a complete success.

Some of the Elon students who are in National Guard units are Grover Bittle, Leslie Johnson, Lawrence Lane, Eugene Harrell, Whitney Bradham, Richard Bradham, Vincent Mariani, Alex Winston, Tyler Hight, Dickie Routh, Thomas Woodward, Jimmy Kincaid and Gerald Sherrill. There are probably others.