

Maroon And Gold

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1956

ASPECTS OF A SMALL COLLEGE

The small college for the last ten years, instead of dying as predicted by many, has undergone a remarkable renaissance. A decade ago it was surmised that the modesty of the small college, far from implying mediocrity, more often represents a pattern of life which produces a high order of excellence. Today this assumption is fact. The Reader's Digest published an interesting article on the small colleges in a recent issue. It is quoted freely below.

A careful research project conducted by Professors Robert H. Knapp and H. B. Goodrich of Wesleyan University shows, for instance that "small liberal-arts colleges are far and away the most productive sources of future scientists. Of the first 50 institutions in America, judged by the scientific eminence of their graduates, 39 are small privately supported colleges".

There is like evidence that the small independent college—out of all proportion to the number of its students or its material resources—produces eminence in the economic life of our nation. A recent study of 33,500 business executives shows that 88 percent are college graduates, and of that number 71 percent come from generally small liberal-arts schools.

Lynn White Jr., president of Mills College has said "there is every reason to believe small colleges give intellectual birth to at least as high a proportion of them as natural scientists." Adequate foundation for this is found in a survey made by the editor of "Who's Who in America," which showed that "small schools, in relation to their enrollment, contributed the highest percentage of those who merit rating in that catalogue of distinction."

Just what is in the scheme of small-college life that produces such results and holds such promise for our future?

First, in the small college a person is a name, and not just a number. It is the rare student who is not soon on terms of friendship with at least one professor. Elon is a good example of this. Here a professor doesn't just appear before his class—perhaps a class so large he is forced to speak into a microphone—unroll his lecture, deliver it, roll it up again and disappear into the academic unknown. A professor at a small school does more than offer brief, routine help on the selection of courses at the beginning of a term. He becomes, on a year long basis, the student's guide and counselor on many matters. One professor has said, "Our aim is to make the difference between the hand-tooled and the machine-made product."

Second, the promise to the pattern of small-college life and to the great advantage of the student is this—Every student has the opportunity to find and engage in those activities which will develop his maximum capacities.

"In a student body of many thousands an individual is often lost in the anonymous mass. His role in the university's extracurricular activities is not that of participant but of spectator. In the small college, on the other hand almost every student is a participant in one activity or another. Here, as one student said, everybody has a chance to be somebody."

The third and most important advantage of the small school is its concern, deeply invested in religion, for character development. It is quite true that in many large universities there are strong religious courses, active religious programs, and beautiful places of worship. But in these institutions the vast majority are reached only occasionally by these influences. In a small college this character-developing influence is pervasive, where it is shared by all the students and promoted not only by professors of Bible and religion but quite as much by men in chemistry, biology and psychology.

Our small colleges are still far from out of the woods financially. Many of them



Sounding Off

By LARRY BARNES

The leaves are rapidly transforming to their annual autumnal hues. Football is in the air. Classes have begun with the usual moaning and groaning. The new creatures known as freshmen are slowly integrating themselves into the student body. Music again fills the summer-empty confines of the Student Union with the weird strains of "Hound Dog" and "Honkey Tonk." The new dorms are jammed with eager, smiling faces (many new, some old), and sounds of laughter ring in the halls. "Chief" is as stern and aloof in the McEwen Dining Hall as he was in the old eatery. Here, once again, the Maroon and Gold office has been swept clear of dust and everything is in order, so here goes...

WITH THE GRADS OF YESTERYEAR

ITK's Jim Calhoun is teaching school at Great Bridge, Va., and assisting the coaching department. Jim was wed mid-summer... Peggy and Chuck Michaux were down last weekend to greet the pigskinners on their return from down Alabama way. They now reside in Altavista, Va., where Chuck is employed by Bur-Mills... Margaret Johnston spent the summer months in New Jersey. She is planning to work at a church in Connecticut this winter... '54 grads Joe and Louise Parker had a recent addition to the family last month... Clyde Boswell married the former Betty Sue Ditty last Sunday... Jerry and Nannette Smyre now attending Columbia University School of Music in New York. They visited Elon's sod last week... Furman Mosley reported to be in Uncle Sam's Marine Corps. Ditto: Bob Robertson... Wonder what that fabulous Greek, Nick Theos, is doing these days... Probably sashaying around as usual.

CHIT-CHAT

That human proboscis Bucky Fleming had his big day the first part of last week. It seems that he was in command of freshman initiation. Understand he had so much fun that he is going to flunk his courses so he can return next year as a soph and initiate some more... 'Thar she blows! I'll bet Wayne Taylor carried a lily sun for his performance in John Huston's sea spectacular "Moby Dick"... Yes everything is back to normal as Square Edmonds if puffing his usual brand of weeds. OP's... Last year's Maroon and Gold editor-in-chief Gary "Boom Boom" Thompson and Peggy Harrison were married during the summer... The Student Christian Association's prexiette, Sylvia Smith, toured Europe during her vacation... Professor West of Elon faculty attended UNC on a scholarship for summer session... Japan's gift to Elon femininity, Joe Morita, working at the library in Burlington... The band now practicing in the old dining hall... At the present time school spirit appears to be running high. Some of the upper classmen could stand a few lessons from the frosh... The Christians entertain the bluebirds from East Carolina as next home foe on the gridiron. Let's break out the old blunderbuss and show them that it is not antique... The Maroon and Gold will move into last year's gourmet station soon... Another note of normalcy on Elon's campus. P. D. Watts is back until the end of the quarter. He graduates in November... Dance chairmen Janet Crabtree and Bobby Orr already formulating plans for Homecoming... Ashburn Kirby is picking up laundry on campus. He'll pick up Mondays and Fridays. You don't have to go to him—he will come to you.

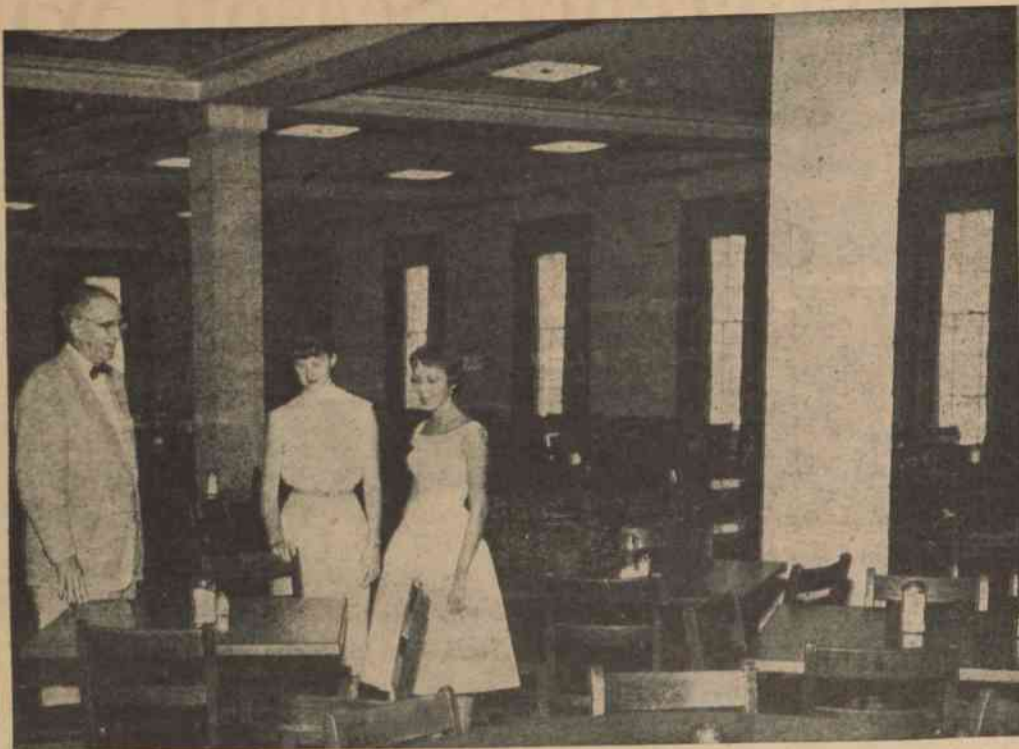
ON THE SERIOUS SIDE

The staff of the Maroon and Gold would like to welcome aboard two brand spanking new scribes. They are Chuck Oakley and Walt "Square" Edmonds. Chuck will handle his "Under the Oaks" on page 2 while the talented cube-headed one will report to you of doings in the sports whirl. We feel sure that you students will enjoy their laborings in the realm of journalism.

That about covers the available space for now in this column for the initial issue. We'll be writing at you again in about two weeks.

operated last year in the red. Many must have additional grounds, buildings and facilities. The prospects are vastly improved as more and more Americans recognize what the small colleges contribute, and how essential it is the strength of America. The small college, with its concern not only for scholars of excellence but for persons of excellence is one of this country's best hopes. —LEB.

INTERIOR VIEW OF NEW McEWEN DINING HALL



Dr. Edna E. Smith, Elon College president, is pictured above with Frances Knight, center, of Salem, and Nancy Anne Perry, of Siler City, as they join in an inspection of the spacious McEwen Memorial Dining Hall, which was placed into full use on the Elon College campus this fall. The structure, standing near the west gate to the college campus, is a memorial honoring the late James H. McEwen, for many years an industrial and civic leader in the Burlington area.

Elon Students Occupy New Buildings

Marking completion of the greatest forward step for Elon College in nearly three decades, the Elon students and faculty moved this year into three beautiful new buildings which were completed last spring and furnished and made ready for occupancy during the past summer.

The new buildings, which went into full use as the college began its sixty-seventh annual session, include the stately McEwen Memorial Dining Hall, which also includes facilities for campus social events; Virginia Hall, new dormitory for girls; and Carolina Hall, new dormitory for boys.

These three buildings had been in the planning stage for several years, and formal ground-breaking ceremonies for them were a feature of Elon's annual commencement program in 1955. They were built last year, with the new dining hall and the girls' dormitory put into partial use at the 1956 commencement in May. The boys' dormitory was completed in June.

Traditional Style

Built and furnished at a cost of well over three-quarters of a million dollars, the three Elon buildings were constructed by the King-Hunter Construction Company. All are in a traditional architectural style, designed to fit well with the American colonial style which characterizes Elon's other campus buildings.

The McEwen Memorial Dining Hall, which was built and dedicated as a tribute to the late James H. McEwen, long-time industrial and civic leader in Burlington

stands near the western entrance to the Elon campus. Its main entrance, which fronts toward the center of the campus, is adorned by a colonnaded porch and gallery.

The first floor of the dining hall accommodates as many as 500 students at a time and also includes a smaller dining room for faculty and visitors. It also embraces a completely modern kitchen and serving quarters. On the second floor of the structure is a huge banquet room and social hall, also large enough to accommodate 500 persons at a time. This hall may be utilized later for additional student dining space if expansion of the college enrollment should create such a need.

New Girls Dorm

The Virginia Hall, which furnishes housing accommodations for 30 girls, is a three-story structure. Completely fire-proof in every detail, its interior is decorated in restful pastel colors, as many as two pastel shades in each room. The first floor includes a suite for either the dean of girls or a house mother, and on the second floor is a large parlor and lounge for use of the girls. There is a semi-private bath for each two-room suite, and both the second and third floors have additional community baths. A complete laundry for use of the girls is located on the first floor, equipped with two washers and dryers.

The new girls' dormitory is connected by corridors with West Dormitory, largest of the older dorms on the campus. West Dormitory

is now being completely renovated with new floor plans, and new plumbing and heating facilities and will coincide in many details with the newer Virginia Hall. Social and reception rooms for the use of the girls and their friends will be located on the first floor of West Dormitory. The renovation work is to be completed later this fall.

New Boys Dorm

The Carolina Hall, new residence house for boys, is the largest on the campus, furnishing accommodations for 126 boys and a dormitory faculty counsellor. Like the girls' dormitory, Carolina Hall is decorated throughout in pastel colors. The boys bath facilities are found in group baths on each floor. There are also laundry facilities on each floor for use of the boys, and there is a lounge or reception room at the northern entrance on the first floor.

Each room in both girls' and boys' dormitories includes a large double closet, equipped with sliding doors, and each room has been furnished with the modern dormitory furniture. The tops of all desks and tables is finished with formica or similar material. Upholstery of the furniture in the lounges is of the latest style plastic in appropriate colors.

Already plans are underway for attractive landscaping about each of the new buildings, designed to make the Elon campus into one of the most modern and attractive to be found in the state and section.

INSIDE ONE OF ROOMS IN NEW GIRLS' DORMITORY



An interior view of one of the rooms in Virginia Hall, Elon's new girls' dormitory, is pictured above. Shown is June Driver, Elon sophomore from Durham, as she views the interior of her room with its completely modern furnishing. Each room in the dormitory has a semi-private bath and roomy double closet with sliding doors. The rooms are finished in two-tone pastel shades.

under the oaks

With CHUCK OAKLEY



Hi Everyone! There are many new things at Elon this year—new faces, new buildings, and "UNDER THE OAKS" with Oakley. Since many of you are new, and I'm new at this, here is a chance for us to get acquainted with the "New Look" at Elon.

With the creation of this "New Look," we settle ourselves in a new atmosphere—one that offers us more modern conveniences of campus life.

In welcoming all of the new students, I'd like to say what a swell group of newcomers we have! Your friendliness and courtesy have already become a part of the Elon tradition. This columnist wishes you the best in everything that college life has to offer during your stay at Elon.

Several committees have got underway to help make this year highly successful.

A special effort is being made by the Dance Committee to get a name band here. With your support, we can do it. If Eastern Carolina can do it, why can't we? What do you think? The Committee is headed by Janet Crabtree. I'm sure she will welcome any suggestions that you may have.

A Veterans' Club is in the process of being organized. A committee has been appointed to draw up a Constitution. This will be an organization for the benefit of all veterans. Watch for the date of the next meeting. With your co-operation, this can be one of the largest organizations on campus.

Look out, North State Conference! The FIGHTING CHRISTIANS of Elon are victory-hungry as they start the season with a big bang! It looks as if Sid Varney, who piloted the Christian squad to runner-up honors in the North State Conference during the 1954 season, has himself a winner for 1956.

Let's all turn out for the games and give our wholehearted support.

So far the school spirit has increased tremendously over last year. Let's keep it up.

The cheerleaders deserve a great deal of praise for the fine job they're doing.

Congratulations to Prof. Stowers for the great work in building a new band! It sounds terrific and is indeed something we will be proud to show off this year at the football games. A wise selection was made by June Driver in selecting the majorettes, although they may detract much attention from the band!

The Elon Players started the season with the Pulitzer Prize winner, "Harvey." If last year is any indication of what they will offer this year, we can look forward to a successful year of plays. "The Rainmaker" started its rehearsal Monday, and will be followed by "All My Sons." All students are cordially invited to try out for all plays.

The Student Christian Association is having good participation this year. It is an organization open for everyone interested in Christian leadership. They meet in the Parish House each Sunday evening at 7 p. m. for fun, entertainment, and worship.

The Language Departments have a valuable laboratory room on the second floor of Alamance—open from 1:30 to 4:30 p. m. every day. This is to enable the students to hear and speak more the foreign language than is possible in the regular classes.

Stumped for the cause of a blaze they put out in a tree, Bloomington, Illinois firemen finally listed in their log, "Squirrel smoking in bed."

Visitors to the New Mexico fair at Albuquerque were handed postcards asking for improvement suggestions. One suggestion received was, "Put diapers on the pigeons."

The old grad showed up on the campus on Homecoming Day. "Dean," he said grandly, "I'm a millionaire now and want to do something fine for the dear old college. I'd like to make a gift that would sort of mirror my college career. Tell me, Dean, what subjects did I excel in?"

"Well, frankly, Elmo," the Dean said softly, "You used to sleep through all my classes."

"That's it!" cried Elmo. "Splendid! I'll build a dormitory."

If you're a wise guy full of jokes. Laugh, but share them UNDER THE OAKS.