

Maroon And Gold

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1964

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

It is barely one week until most of us will be getting away from the oak-shaded campus and things academic to spend the Christmas holidays in our respective homes, and already there is that suppressed feeling of excitement that goes with the Yuletide season.

For most of us, there seems every indication that this Christmas of 1964 can be the finest and merriest one ever, but it is always well to stop and think for a moment just what Christmas is and whether it is being celebrated in proper style.

What is the true meaning of Christmas? 'Tis a question that seems well worth while in this day and time when the whole Christmas season and its holy significance has been clouded and obscured by a spirit of sordid and greedy commercialism.

All too often in recent years it seems that merchants and business men in general have thrust the idea of the birth of Jesus Christ into the background and have devoted all their attention at Christmas to the making of every extra dollar possible.

As a matter of fact, this spirit of commercialism has extended so far in advance of Christmas that it has also clouded another sacred holiday observance at Thanksgiving, for most of America's towns and cities begin decorating their streets and stores before the Thanksgiving turkey has been digested. In fact, they begin before the old gobbler gets the axe and starts on his way to the dinner table.

In the majority of the towns and cities, the Thanksgiving Day, or at least the Thanksgiving weekend is highlighted by a huge parade, which heralds the coming of old Santa Claus to the shopping centers and department stores; and, of course, these gigantic and spectacular parades are staged with one and only one purpose, that of enticing the people into the shopping districts in the hope that they will begin their Christmas buying a bit earlier.

There are many thinking Americans who believe that it is high time that the people of this great nation were coming to their senses and devote greater attention to the original and true meaning of the Christmas season. Truly, it is a period for making merry and enjoying festive days, but it is also a period when everyone should think back to the gift of the Christ Child to the world and observe the season with a proper spirit of reverence and meditation.

HAIL TO THE CHAMPS!

It is fitting and proper that a word of congratulation be given to the members of the Elon College football coaching staff and to members of the Fighting Christian grid squad for a job well done during the season just ended.

The magnitude of their job in winning the Carolinas Conference championship becomes clearer when one realizes that twenty-three long years had passed since last an Elon football team won an undisputed Conference title.

So, here's a big hand to those Fighting Christians of 1964, and may the Maroon and Gold gridders of next year and future years follow the example set this fall.

Final Straw

The clerk was handed a pay envelope which, through error, contained a blank check.

The astonished clerk looked at it and moaned: "I knew it would happen eventually! My deductions have at last caught up with my salary."



a view from the oak

By MELVIN SHREVES

CONGRATULATIONS, TEAM

This year's football team and all those who helped the team members to clinch the Carolinas Conference Championship deserve much credit and their due of congratulations for the fine season. The 8-1-1 record placed Elon as one of the top teams in the entire state.

Credit should also go to the students and cheerleaders who followed the team faithfully to all of the away games from the first one in Bristol to the last one in Portsmouth. After we had beaten Appalachian at Boone earlier in the season, one of the players, who was surrounded by students who had taken the bus or driven to the game, was heard to have said, "You keep following us, and we'll keep winnin' for you."

Well, the students and cheerleaders did follow the team, and the team did some "winnin'". Ironically enough, the one game that was lost (Western Carolina) was the one where we had the least students at the game. If I'm not mistaken, there were only about twenty-two students there plus the cheerleaders, band, and a handful of faculty and staff members.

Apparently our opponents are impressed by the numbers of followers that the Fighting Christians have had since the free bus program was started three years ago by former SGA President Jim Buie. I remember that we had quite a crowd at Lenoir Rhyne last year, and when they came up here this year, the Bears had quite a few rooters on their side of the field, too.

The best crowd, however, for an away game showed up in Portsmouth for our last game of the season against the Frederick Lions. There were two busloads of students, the band, the cheerleaders, and multitudes of students from the Tidewater area who drove to the game to make a week-end of it. There was also a goodly number of Elon alumni (mostly from the Tidewater area) present for the slaughter. They looked as though they were pleased with the results of the game, and if they were as pleased as I think they were, the Alumni Association will be receiving more and bigger contributions from sports-minded alumni in that area.

New Season, New Sport

With the cold weather coming later than usual this year, it hit us just about the time that basketball season opened at Elon. Moses Crutchfield, sports columnist for the Greensboro Daily News and an Elon alumnus, has picked Elon to finish number three in regular season Carolinas Conference play behind High Point and Lenoir Rhyne, but we at Elon know better.

But if the team is to finish on top, the students must follow the team just as was done during the football season. SGA won't be sending buses to all of the away games (many fall in the middle of the week), but the cheerleaders will be at all — and I do mean all — of the regularly scheduled away games, and these girls will welcome students who wish to drive to the games to support the team. With the type of school spirit that exists on campus now, there shouldn't be any trouble getting lots of students to the away games.

The newly paved parking lot beside the gym and the campaign being staged to sell season tickets to the home games should be a big asset as far as getting record crowds in the gym for home games this year.

The paving of the parking lot came as quite a surprise to many people, but when they finished the job by marking off parking spaces, that really put the icing on the cake. With fewer traffic jams after the ball games, what in the world is Henry going to do on those cold winter nights?

Campus Crier

The first issue of this year's Campus Crier finally got out early last month; now we must wait to see if it is going to do anything or just fold up due to lack of interest — lack of interest on the mimeographed pages themselves, and in the student body.

This first issue was met with mixed emotions. The new format looked nice, but the vigor just wasn't there. And the padding was quite noticeable and, I'm sure, quite expensive — nine pages on nine pieces of paper. During the past two years, nine pieces of paper would have contained eighteen pages of copy.

The feature editor, a veteran writer for the Crier, continued her column, but I don't really think that she is getting that mellow. Could there be some other reason for her not "charging the dragon" in the first issue after two months of classes?

The "Broadside" column brought to light some opinions on how the bookstore is being run and the prices that are being charged. It is hoped that the bookstore personnel took notice of these comments and didn't

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One Of Two Dutch Students . . .

Dinke Hietbrink Is Elon Freshman

By PAUL ROBINSON

She doesn't wear wooden shoes, and her father doesn't own a wind mill, but she is Dutch. Yes, Elon is privileged to have in its campus community a girl from Holland, or more correctly the Netherlands. Through the Rotary Exchange Student and Elon scholarship programs young Dineke Hietbrink (Dean-ika Heat-Brink) has been made a member of the Freshman Class and will be in the United States for one academic year.

She has listed her major as biology because she plans to enter some phase of either bio-chemistry or perhaps medicine. The Dutch Youth Association for Nature Studies is an organization in the Netherlands which has played an important role in developing her love for the natural sciences. It has been the most dominant influence on her life.

In addition to her great love for field botany, Dineke finds great enjoyment in classical music. Since coming to America, however, she has learned to like our version of football and the American tastes in clothes. She has been greatly appreciative of the immense amount of southern hospitality she has been shown.

Despite the fact that she will have to start all over again as a freshman when she returns to the Netherlands, Dineke does not regard this year as a loss. This semester she is taking Chemistry, Genetics, American History, and a course in the Development of the American Novel. The Dutch Universities require all of their freshmen to take the same schedule, and, since her courses here are not the same as those there, she will not be able to transfer them.

Despite the fact that her nationality is not American, Dineke feels a particularly close attraction to America. She had just returned to her home in Groningen, which is located in the northern part of Holland when she heard that President Kennedy had been shot. She had America very much on her mind at the time, for she had been in Amsterdam for a series of interviews for her trip to America. As a result she experienced a special loss over his death. She says that despite her grief it was no deeper than that felt by most of her fellow countrymen. The Dutch had a very sincere respect for the late President.

One of the most interesting elements of a conversation with a person from another country is the fact that they notice certain aspects of American life that we are apt to take for granted.



DINEKE HIETBRINK, NATIVE OF HOLLAND

pects of American life that we are apt to take for granted.

One of the first things that Dineke noticed when she arrived in New York was how big everything was. Many Americans are equally amazed with the Empire City, but New Yorkers don't think anything about it. On her way to Elon she was amazed by how large our cars were, and when she arrived on campus she was equally amazed at how many students had cars. A student-owned car is a rarity in Holland.

In connection with transportation, Dineke has noted that very few people walk any distance, either for pleasure or for going someplace in particular. She also noticed the almost total absence of bicycles, except among the grammar school children. It is a common practice for the people of the Netherlands to walk and ride bikes as the basic means of transportation. In many areas there are special lanes set aside for the bicycle riders.

In telling about her own country, Dineke says that many people still wear wooden shoes, but most of these people are farmers who are in the fields a lot of the time. The present dampness ruins the leather, so wool is used as a more economical substitute. Dineke admits that they are quite comfortable, and she enjoys wearing them as slippers.

So many people associate Holland with wind mills that Dineke has to explain that the wind mills are still quite prevalent in many areas, but that few of them are still in use today. Most of them have been replaced by gasoline water pumps.

The language problem has not caused Dineke too many problems as yet, because, as she herself notes, the Dutch are accustomed to having to know several languages. Germany and France are so close that it is necessary to have at least a working knowledge of those two languages. Many of the

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over the bar

By PAUL ROBINSON



There are problems in every phase of life. Some of these problems may go unanswered for years, but eventually a decision must be made. In some cases the answer can have a tremendous impact on the lives of many people, and often whole nations are involved. It is therefore mandatory for the "right" answer to be made. Regardless of the importance of the question, however, some standard should be determined to evaluate all problems whenever they arise.

This column has been devoted to a study of the Elon College Honor System. Our system is far from being perfect in that there are many problems accompanying its present operation. I have attempted to break some of these more fundamental problems down into isolated areas for study, thus a clearer focus might emerge. From this view, it is hoped that we may be able to see certain changes that may be necessary in order for the system to work smoother in the future.

My approach has been the philosophical examination. This is where each factor associated, whatsoever, with the problem at hand is examined closely and placed in its proper perspective with regards to the whole problem. Some people may be inclined to say that it is not necessary to say so much about so little, but one of these infinite details may very well develop into the cornerstone of the entire problem, once a clearer understanding of the issues is finally revealed. So it is that this column has attempted to take little problems and examine them entirely in an effort to place them in their proper perspective.

The philosophical approach is nothing new. Everyone does it everyday, often without thinking. We wear a coat on a cold day because, everything considered, it is the most practical solution to keeping warm when walking outside. We are all here as students, because it is the most practical way to achieve high goals in life. Perhaps there are some girls here because it is the best of all places to get a good husband. In a sense these are examples of philosophical reasoning.

In a more sophisticated vein there are many areas of the intellectual world that utilize the philosophical type of reasoning. Historians and scientists philosophize constantly in their effort to find the secrets of the world. The historians search for the answers of society, while the scientists search for the answers of the natural world. Space does not allow a complete examination of our honor system, but perhaps there are certain factors that can be listed that might be pondered and placed in their proper perspective at some latter time.

One of the factors that will have to be considered is whether or not there is a place for honor within our religion, be it Christianity or Judaism. How does personal honor relate to our concept of God, and is it a sin if a person does not have honor, or violates a code in the society in which he lives?

Is there an element of apathy on the campus? This factor should be considered within the context of the whole student body as well as the faculty. The question that should be asked is whether or not this problem exists on the Elon campus, and if it does to what degree does it apply to the state of our honor system?

How does the campus environment affect the honor system? Does the fact that there is so much academic competition cause people to intentionally violate the honor code or is there poor respect for the honor code due to the fact that so many students don't care enough about their grades to cause them to have little concern for the amount of knowledge they receive from a course. Perhaps the campus environment is affected by the food. Everyone is in good spirits all of the time because they are so well nourished.

What is the general background of the students? Were we all equally prepared for college by an intensive high school program, which instilled on all of us a deep respect for knowledge? Did we all learn to study with an intense span of concentration that is required of college students? If not, what was the extent of preparation we received while in high school, and what affect does this have on the honor system?

Look at yourself and your classmates. Are we all mature, responsible students? Do we have the integrity to overcome temptation and to discipline our lives within the restrictions of the honor system? Can we see that the ideal of honor must be first and foremost in our minds, regardless of the temptations? Is the honor system going to make better citizens of us if we abide by it? Will we be any worse off for not maintaining the standards incorporated into the system? Ask yourself these questions.

JUDICIAL OBSERVER

"Why The Emphasis On Honor?"

Why the emphasis on honor?

In these past columns, we have briefly delved into what an honor system imposes upon the individual. We have an honor system, and though it is not perfect, it does exist. This is why we have put the emphasis upon "honor" and less upon the "system". Of chief importance is the fact that individuals have violated an area in which they were placed upon their honor.

The main goal of the honor system is the individual betterment of the student. It takes maturity, intelligence and guts to live effectively under an honor system. Our honor system on this campus is openly flaunted and ignored by some students and perhaps neglected by some faculty. Freshmen entering these hallowed halls usually reflect the attitude they find under the oaks. This cynical attitude towards honor by the individual student can lead to a belligerent attitude and behavior towards the honor system.

Most students think that they are squealing on their buddies when they report them for some offense against the honor system. For a student to exist within the student body, a certain amount of harmony is necessary between him and the student body. But it is necessary that every member of the campus group have respect for the principles and rules of the student body as a whole and perform part of his duty and obligation by maintaining

that respect when one of these principles has been violated.

It is the duty of the individual when such an instance occurs, to set things right. If this is not done, the harmony of the group is weakened and eventually destroyed. Perhaps it is far-fetched when "X" spots his buddy "Z" carving up the furniture in the Student Union, but let's carry it to a conclusion.

By failing to turn in "Z" for the action, "X" is trespassing upon an area of his honor which he agreed to uphold. "X's" action is detrimental to the group, because it is the compliance of the group that makes the honor system. Maturity is required, for when "X" sees "Z" abusing the system, he sees his friend. In such a case, "X" has to put aside this relationship as friend and think of the relationship between "X" and the group.

So, it's a petty offense. It is even smaller for "Z" to infringe upon the honor system than it is for "X" to report him. In all such cases, there must be respect for rules and honor if there is to be a system.

In this column, we have been trying to challenge every student and faculty member to help himself, each other and the Elon community as a whole by making a concerted effort to uphold that which we feel is a sacred duty.

History tells us that the cause of many a social crisis has been due, in part at least, to a loss of personal honor. This is evidence to

that the value of honor is great and that it can cause whole nations to collapse.

As college students, most of us had rather mature and, maybe, discover things of our own accord. This is good, but part of growing up is to recognize when someone else is right and that the way we have been doing is wrong.

Such an attitude of accepting criticism is equally important in deciding what standards we have. Most of us ought to change in some ways, because we will become stronger men and women only by doing so. This column is trying to convince these people that their value of personal honor is important enough to cause us to change the way we think it out.

In some cases, this change is a drastic one. If some people here were to be honorable, they would lose their present friends. The social consequences of social ostracism is the reason why many people accept mediocrity; but think for a minute. The average person will never excel in anything. As long as we by-pass challenges just to be acceptable to an average society, life will not offer us any rewards.

Are we not fools to allow a group of people, most of whom we will never see after graduation to prevent us from doing what we know should be done? Why not prove that we are men who are able to control our own destinies?