

# Maroon And Gold

Dedicated to the best interest of Elon College and its students and faculty, the Maroon and Gold is published semi-monthly during the college year at Elon College, N.C. (Zip Code 27244), publication being in cooperation with the journalism department.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1966

### PUPPETS OF CLIMATE

ways been the subject of discussion and interest, and one of the nationally outstanding columnists recently did an interesting and very readable article on the question which asked, "Are we puppets of climate?" His discussion follows:

One important field of research that is still comparatively neglected by the medical and scientific disciplines is the effect of weather upon human behavior. I have believed — and written — for a long time that its influence is far greater than we imagine.

One hopeful sign of the rising interest in this fascinating subject was given at Geneva, Switzerland, early last summer, when 18 experts from 10 nations submitted a report to the conference of the World Meteorological Organization.

The report said, among other things, that figures based on one million individual statistics showed significant changes in human conduct and health during periods of atmospheric change. During thunderstorms, for example, traffic accidents rise by 70 per cent, births rise by 11 per cent, deaths by 20 per cent, work accidents by 20 per cent, and pains in chronic patients by a full 100 per cent.

In the section on the effects of weather on illness, the report showed that many diseases and symptoms are aggravated by sudden weather changes. Increases in tuberculosis were noted in clinics "after oppressive warm weather before thunderstorms, during humid, cold foggy weather, or sudden heat waves."

Other diseases notably aggravated by sudden weather changes are heart ailments, asthma, hay fever, bronchitis, skin cancer, influenza, infantile paralysis, ulcers, and the common cold.

What the meteorologists call "biologically unfavorable weather" has long been known to social researchers, although they have no name for it. City police departments are aware that hot and humid nights with much static electricity in the air, will heavily increase "family trouble" calls, as well as crime and violence generally.

In Nigeria, the hot and humid period before the rains is called "the murder time," when the homicide rate doubles. The natives, who are closer to the phenomena of nature than we, may have a sharper smell than the scientists for the atmospheric changes that propel our minds, bodies and feelings into perilous states.

### ONLY THE SMALL

It's the little things that count. A simple plug drops out, and huge multi-million dollar rocket refuses to ignite. A further check shows that had the rocket been launched a two-cent plastic cover might have doomed it to destruction.

"Little things." It's been true all through history. Napoleon lost the battle of Waterloo, some contend, because he was in torture from a chronic ailment that would be cured in 10 days by modern medicine. Other battles have been lost because a supply clerk's error sent summer uniforms to winter troops.

George Washington — the story goes — would never have won his battle with the Hessians if the German mercenaries had all been teetotalers.

But you don't have to seek out wars and battles to see that the little things



## glorious feast

By RICHARD HUTCHENS

### THE NECESSITY OF BLINDNESS

Not long ago, the editor had the genuine privilege to see the movie, "A Patch of Blue." Though it had a minimal number of artistic flaws, the production was one of the most poignant and moving stories ever brought to the screen, in this column's opinion. Let it suffice to say that it is a "must" movie for all who enjoy a brief interlude amidst all the "spectaculars" or the "Bonds".

The movie is about a blind girl who is utterly trapped by her environment and is seemingly doomed to a life of ignorance of all the experiences she could have regardless of her condition. She is saved, however, by a young man, a Negro. Seeing her in the park one day he stopped to help her remove a caterpillar from her collar and was overwhelmed with pity for her. He wasn't sorry for her blindness but rather for her total lack of understanding of the ways and means that she could enter society and live a full and meaningful life.

Interestingly enough, the girl doesn't know that he is a Negro and eventually falls in love with him. This fact is contrary to her home environment, as it is extremely biased against the race as a whole. The girl finds out that her first love is a Negro but it doesn't make any difference. Without telling the reader the ending this is the basic plot of the movie. It is necessary to state that the ending is negative, however, in order to establish the premise of this editorial.

The question is — must one be blind to be rid of his prejudice. Perhaps we should all have our eyes put out in order to overcome this sickness that has been a cause of regression throughout history. But wait, before you steal your friend's broach, let us examine the problem a bit further (for even your editor will admit that this is a bit unrealistic as a panacea).

You will note above that the ending of the movie was negative. This is tragic in that even though the girl's blindness protected her from herself, it could not and did not protect her from the circumstances surrounding her and her loved one. In short, harsh reality separated the two.

Now we are confronted with a more philosophical question: Must the reality of today be the reality of tomorrow? And another such question: Was the reality of today seen in years past? To simplify, is the problem of racial prejudice an insolvable one and destined to confound the enlightened efforts of this and future generations? No! It is not! Achievements have been made in the past, and they have been continued to the present in ever increasing numbers.

Jesus made significant strides in this direction with his dealings with the Samaritans, a despised "race" of people to say the least. Even though there is still a vestige of religious prejudice among the Catholics and the Protestants of the world, they at least allow each other to vote and have even fought side by side in a common effort as has been seen in the last two world wars. Catholics no longer blame the Jewish people living today for the crucifixion of Christ, and the government of the United States revoked the Alien and Sedition Laws a long time ago.

With such eventually unbiased society in which a person is only classified as to sex and that for the sake of convenience. To accomplish this end, we must still have the courageous leadership that has been so effective in the past, and those of us who aren't such leaders can at least be intelligent and conscientious followers.

In closing, the reader will notice that mention of "enlightened" efforts was made above. Such efforts are being made by enlightened men in progressive communities today. It is a fact that these efforts need supplementing and active support. Is Elon College doing its part?

### Pointed Phrases

Rock and Roll Music: Earitation.

Middle age is when a man must keep as fit as a fiddle, or look like a bass viol.

Worry is the interest paid on trouble long before the principal becomes due.

## STUDENTS HAD INTERESTS IN ANTIQUES FAIR



Elon College students had a special interest in the annual antique fair which attracted thousands of people for three days last week. For many of the college students worked as helpers in setting up but the two pictures above and below show at least in the annual showing of antiques. One of them was in the picture with Mrs. A. D. Tate, also of Graham, Herbert is attending Elon this year as a junior pre-given by the Alamance-Caswell Medical Auxiliary, from the event to finance the scholarship to Elon, a group of other institutions. Mrs. Tate, shown left above, is president of the Medical Auxiliary group. Wayne Smith, of Burlington, second from left in the picture below, also an Elon College student, was in charge of the historic display of antique articles from the John Allen House in southern Alamance County, which is soon to be moved from the site where it has stood for two centuries and to be rebuilt on the famed Alamance Battleground. Wayne Smith is the director of the Alamance Battleground Historic Site, which is operated by the state. He attends Elon while still carrying out his duties there. Shown with Smith in the picture below is Mrs. Walker Blair, one of the Medical Auxiliary members, at the left and Frank Walsh, of Raleigh, who is an exhibit designer for the various North Carolina historical sites.



## A Sleeveless Errand

By WILLIAM BRADHAM

good solid craft, they have little to worry about. However, if they've picked a rotting ship or one in which there are certain defects of structure, these little critters, in their scurrying about, are certain to see the situation. However, if the problems are not advanced, they hang around and hope the situation will be cured. But if it isn't, then they soon head for new and greener pastures.

These tiny creatures would have little to worry about if the ship's captain took pains to check the little weaknesses in his craft, or at least delegate powers to those under him in order to keep the ship safe. Usually, this is the case, but, in some instances the captain fails to see his responsibility and thus will lose his ship.

It's a pity the tiny occupants who know the problem cannot talk so they could go up to the wise old captain and say, "Listen, cap'n, you got yourself a problem in the structure of your craft. Better fix it, or you are gonna lose it."

Even if this were the case, I doubt if the captain would pay much attention. After all, he's the captain! But what is he captain of? A floating grave! All will eventually sink into the "deep blue." The captain and his crew may be saved, but they will be the laughing stock of the shipping trade. Other captains may snicker and say, "What kind of ship was he running?" It also makes it hard for the faultless sailors unfortun-

ate enough to be on the stricken craft. You know, as long as I'm already in the realm of fantasy, people too, are like that. Society and the state can find themselves in the same boat, no pun intended. Revolutions may often occur as a result and weaknesses within the state may lead to eventual collapse.

As with the rats, there are those people, Mr. Wyingarden calls them the "intellectuals" within the group, who have the "goods." They see the defects. However, as with the rats they can do little, due to the fact that they are often too few in number. Yet on the other hand, due to the respect they hold, they may speak out to the masses and heads of state and save the Ship of State.

However, if they go unheard, they must leave in order to survive. Unlike the rotting ship on the blue, the ship in society may be saved if organized actions take place. The defects must be pointed out to the captains of state as to the owners of the ships. Maybe the captains of state will see the error of their ways.

However, I've rambled enough. Who cares about rats and sinking ships? You should, though, because the rats have the goods. Indeed they do! We might learn a lesson from rats. — Oh, well, faithless reader, let me worry about the rats. Your time is too valuable!

## a few blasts and bravos

By MIKE WYNGARDEN



### REACTION AND RATIONALISM

Reaction — it is in fact a good indication of a bruised soul. It is also the apple of life. Through out a hook and see what it bites; through out a question and what it answers. Throw out a question and received ideas, and perhaps these ideas will be proven ill-conceived, if the reaction indicates that you have some hole in the nail on the head. But there is only one trouble with reaction. Many times the reaction comes back in the form of second-hand rationalism.

In the last issue there appeared a reaction to my column in the preceding issue entitled "On Athletics." The reaction was half-way decent, but the only question was that it did not answer the question I raised. Therefore, I will question a few statements in the "reactionary column."

The author of this column states that "if we had 40 football scholarships, 15 basketball scholarships and 15 scholarships for spring sports, then we would see our Elon program improve immensely. This is true, sports fans. And, if everyone had a million dollars, they could all buy a Cadillac. But Elon does not have a million dollars to hand out in scholarships; it does not even have enough to pay our faculty what it should be getting, although I assume that some of the money now being raised will go into raising faculty salaries."

It does not take a Phi Beta Kappa, even a six-year Elonite, to see that the Science Building needs forty new rooms much worse than the football team needs forty scholarships. Besides that, since I have been at Elon, the footballers have compounded a record of 23-16-1, with one Conference Championship and a co-championship to its credit. I do not think that it had forty scholarships.

Next, there was the statements that many athletes have won academic honors at Elon. That is great. And you can search my columns in vain to find any time when I called an athlete stupid, incompetent or not deserving of being at Elon for his academics. And the funniest thing that right next to this "reactionary column" was a small entry entitled "Athletes Make Honor Averages," in which it was stated that five winners of the block "E" were on the Dean's List. Those five are to be congratulated for the honor they obtained, as it is no easy one to obtain, and I know personally many other athletes who could with ease make that list.

Next comes an obvious pun at me, but this is fine. The "reactionary column" stated, in talking about coach control and professors handing out grades to athletes, that "I have seen students follow certain professors around and imitating their actions trying to give a pseudo-sophisticated appearance to their fellow students, but of course such control by professors is not frowned upon, because it is intellectual control." I say to this merely, "Would you rather be a Socrates for a second or an amoeba for an hour?"

Next in this "reactionary column" came rationalistic comments about Whizzer White and the ex-Elon stars who have attained now ever higher positions. This is true, indeed, but what has this to do with athletic situations mentioned in my column? What does this have to do with coach control? What does this have to do with an athlete coming to a school with the promise of his coach that he will be given a scholarship, but he never actually signs one. But what about the very thesis of this column? A professionalization of collegiate athletics.

But then there was the real gem, quote: "Many people fail to realize that a good athlete usually makes a good man." Because of hanging pants I will not comment on that.

Nevertheless, we will give our friend "the reactionary," something else to chew on. What about the policy which states that the recruiting coach has supreme control over the athlete he has recruited? Is this professionalizing athletics? If not, why not; if so, why so? Do you recommend that a coach at any school say "all I want my players to do is to make D's, and the rest of the time is mine? Is this academic freedom?"

What about people who place winning games above winning grades? I doubt sincerely that you rationalize away those questions. And just for kicks, Bill Bradley went to Princeton on an academic scholarship, left on a bigger one and never did have an athletic scholarship. Did sports make the man, or did the man make the sports? Obviously Bradley made both.

Taxpayer: A person who doesn't have to pass a merit exam to work for the government.

SUMMER: The time of year when the highway authorities close the regular roads and open up the detours.