

The Price of Christmas

By Doug Wilkerson

Did you miss Halloween and Thanksgiving this year? It's understandable how one could. Christmas decorations were gleaming in store fronts and windows and were hanging from light posts in parking lots and along the streets before October had ended. We found ourselves ignoring the ornaments, thinking Christmas was too far off. Now that Christmas is drawing near, many of us are swept up in a mad rush. We have too many things to cram into our schedules.

Once exams are over and everyone is at home, we become involved in the annual frenzy of buying presents. Stores and shopping centers alike are a mass of blinking lights. Advertisements, all claiming the perfect gift, long lines, the ringing of cash register bells, shouldering through the aisles, parking lots with no empty spaces—all are a part of the Christmas rush. We're soon dizzy. We so often place monetary values on gifts that we forget the actual purpose itself. The concepts of Christmas cheer and the spirit of the Yuletide season have become blurred by the demands of our social status.

We could theorize about our current economic problems and predict that this year will be different. But this year will be no different from the past unless we ourselves make the change. Each individual will be responsible for either supporting and continuing the commercialism which mars this holy season or helping bring about change. This year try making some of your gifts or give a gift of yourself. As we approach Christmas, think about the first Christmas and the first Christmas gift. Get yourself in touch with the real meaning of Christmas. Remember that in giving, time and self are priceless. The Yule season should be one of Christian love and happiness. This year, make the meaning sincere.

The Price of Freedom

Now that women at Elon are gaining equality of opportunity with men, they are also, because of their new freedom, more subject than ever to assault, robbery, and even rape. Never was common sense and good judgment more needed. Self-protection must be learned now, if not already mastered. Freedom carries with it an awful responsibility and Elon women must show that the burden is not too great.

A few rules for women, always followed, might eliminate much of the possible trouble. First, never walk the streets or roads alone at night. Muggers or rapists will seldom attack two or three women, or a woman with a man. Never stop to give a stranger directions, nor stop to ask the way unless there are several people around.

If you drive a car, remember to lock it every time you leave it. Some criminals hide behind the front seat or in the rear of station wagons until the driver gets into the car. Of course, never pick up a hitchhiker, and never hitchhike yourself. Don't be so naive as to assume that, because a man goes to college or a university, he must be a nice guy.

One of the first signs that a young person is unsophisticated of acting stupidly is that he imbibes too much at parties. A college person ought to wish to stay in control of his senses, and everyone has a point of saturation with alcohol. It is often very quick and too painless. Nothing is more degrading than a drunk man, unless it is a drunk woman. In this condition, he or she may no longer have control over events in which they are involved. The best policy is moderation in all things.

What should a woman do if she is attacked while walking? First, don't panic. If you freeze in panic, you play right into the hands of the thief or rapist. If the attacker is unarmed, run, if possible, but don't run into a corner. Or throw something at him to distract him while shouting and calling attention to your situation. There are certain items on the market that may help a woman protect herself if she must return to her residence late or alone. A police whistle, a mace, or a horn can frighten a would-be attacker and gain time for the victim to get away.

Rape is the most frequently committed violent crime in the U.S. The number of reported cases is only the tip of the iceberg, for most women do not report this crime against them. The history of rape trials has been one of degradation for women, no matter what the outcome. So they hesitate to report the crime. But this is changing as women demand that the myth be destroyed that a woman cannot be raped if she doesn't want to be raped.

Males who have read this far may have to change their ideas on rape. The poor guy is not always enticed and seduced. If you think you are, shout and run.

—The Pendulum Staff



It's our latest attempt to de-commercialize Christmas...a \$12.95 Jesus Christ doll.

Gifts Vital To Elon Life

By Ray Mason

The fall issue of the *Magazine of Elon* has listed gifts the college has received during the 1973-74 fiscal year. These gifts are significant in the development of new scholarships and programs offered by the college.

The magazine announced that with enrollment of Elon at an all-time high of 2000 students it is encouraging that the college increased the number of scholarships for academically talented students to 27. Help in gifts came from the Burlington Industries Foundation, the relatives of Vitus Reid Holt, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph F. Kirkpatrick, Jr., Max Ward, Col. Henry White, the Business and Professional Women's Club of Gibsonville, and the Gibsonville Rotary Club.

"Since students pay only about 80 percent of their educational costs, the remainder must come from contributions," the magazine stated. With the help of the annual fund, Elon has not had a deficit for about 30 years.

Elon received \$245,730 from alumni and friends last year. It is expected that this amount will surpass \$300,000 this year. With the aid of the gifts, the college may enrich the student life on campus, strengthen the academic life, attract more academically talented students, develop new and improved programs, increase the number of applications for admission, and attract and retain competent non-academic personnel.

Faculty and staff of Elon College were responsible for close to \$9000 in gifts, and students gave more than \$800. Many of the faculty and staff are listed in the Giving Clubs. The President's Club is made up of donors who contribute \$1000 or more during the year. The S.G.A. is listed in the Oak Club, comprised of donors of at least \$500 during the year.

Total expenses for the college for the 1973-74 fiscal year were \$4,386,923. The approximately 20 percent gift and grant income the college receives is vital to the operation of the institution.

Coach Wilson Answers Questions on Football

In newspaper and TV interviews during the last year, Coach "Red" Wilson has made some critical remarks about the kind of support he thinks the Elon football team gets as well as some pointed comments on football. Because his comments have upset some students, faculty, and others, two reporters from the *Pendulum* interviewed Coach Wilson on some of these points.

Q.: Coach, what is the purpose of college football?

A.: The purpose of football is to get alumni involved and give everyone something to rally behind. I would say that about 80% of Elon's news media concerns sports. And sports is a focal point for letting the public know that the college exists.

Q.: Is there any difference between small college football and the football played in the larger colleges?

A.: We don't have plush surroundings like the big colleges, but we do have a closer relationship with the team. I know them by name the first day they walk through the door, so I can then introduce them by name. Larger colleges have more scholarships. At Elon there is a total of 26 scholarships for the entire squad.

Q.: Is college football a monster at some colleges?

A.: Yes, possibly because of the alumni. Often, alumni are more powerful than the president. College presidents are afraid to curtail the football image because of the financial situation. People don't understand that football does pay its way in dollars and cents. And you can fill in with P.E. majors with regard to practical experience and such.

Q.: What about Title IX and

sports?

A.: I'm all for the girls. Adjustments will be made, and I think that they should. No, I don't feel that it will in any way hurt the football team. Women alumni can help with women's sports. You can't throw a lot of money into women's sports though until they have been built up.

Q.: Do you speak off-the-cuff too often when talking with the press?

A.: In regard to the Lenoir Rhyne game, I said this in disappointment that I shared with my players. I looked at the opponent's side and saw a full crowd, whereas there were many bare rows on our side. In today's affluent society, everyone goes for bigness. People should give Elon more consideration though. They satisfy the wants of the community, and the townspeople should show their appreciation because Elon does have a great team.

Q.: Do you think the actions of certain football players have affected the support of people in the area?

A.: No, it has in many ways strengthened the team. You can't look at a whole group and down it because of the actions of a few.

The Pendulum

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Yearbook Needs Art and Photos

The staff of the Elon College yearbook, *Phi Psi Cli*, needs creative writing, art work and photography from the students as soon as possible for the 1974-75 edition. Turn work in to the *Pendulum* office room 205 Student Center.

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