New Black Cultural Society Celebrates Black History Week

By Diane Costa

A newly established social and service organization, the Black Cultural Society of Elon College, under the advisement of Prof. Steve Caddell, has been authorized as a college organization and is seeking acceptance by the S.G.A.

The purpose of the society is to promote understanding and a sense of unity among Black students, encourage Elon College to achieve a greater awareness and appreciation of the culture and achievements of Black people; attack with vigor all injustices and inequalities that exist; and provide a creative outlet for Elon College with respect to Black people; and support and assist in any way possible the communities immediately surrounding Elon College as stated in the BCS by-laws.

Membership is open to all regularly enrolled full or part-time students at Elon College. A new member must "state his reason for seeking membership; state what he expects to contribute as a member of the society with regard to the organization's purpose; actively attend meetings and participate in at least one project or serve on at least one committee of the society; and secure the affirmative vote of a majority of the society members participating in a meeting at which he is proposed for membership.

Last week the Elon College Black Cultural Society participated in National Black Heritage Week. On Tuesday morning in conjunction with College Programs, a program of English faculty was presented. Wednesday evening the BCS members was presented. Wednesday evening the BCS met in the auditorium under the advisement of Prof. Jimmy McLaughlin, professor of history of Elon College on "What it means to be Black in the Twentieth Century."

The Rev. Marvin Morgan, a Birmingham minister and John Harkins also served as advisor on "The Standpoint of Theology in the Black Society" on Thursday evening.

The BCS is chaired by Rodney Evans and co-chair by Don McLaughlin. It was created by Elon's Black students to provide a social atmosphere for the growing Black population at Elon.

According to Chairman Evans.

Luther Byrd, 26 Years at Elon,

By Roy Avery

After 26 years of teaching on the Elon College campus, Prof. Byrd plans to retire after the 1974-1975 academic year.

Professor Byrd is a native of North Carolina, having grown up in Mount Airy, he entered UNC in 1948 and after three years transferred to Elon College and upon receiving his degree in 1951, he worked his way through UNC serving as director of intramural sports, a director of sports publicity, handling the press program for the opening of the new stadium, and part of the Elon Memorial Stadium, home of the Carolina football teams.

Leaving UNC in 1952, Byrd joined the faculty of Westfield High School where he taught history and math. He coached all sports for both boys' and girls' athletics. His track team won 15 county championships in 1948 and following the loss of a dual meet. They won 14 conference championships. As it was necessary to work a second job to make a living while teaching, Byrd served as editor of a weekly newspaper in Mount Airy and also wrote articles for the Greensboro Daily News and also wrote articles for the Winston-Salem Journal.

Byrd suspended his teaching and coaching in 1948 and returned to UNC-CH to enter graduate school. He earned a master's degree in history and in 1949 he joined the Elon College faculty to teach journalism and to begin his role as department chairman. In 1954, there were only about 500 students in daytime classes and about 700 in night classes in the early 1950s. While holding this job, he managed the publicity for eight dormitory and five dining halls, a new student center, a new library and a gym. Professor Byrd said "It was good for me to be surrounded by all of the students and the waiting students who worked with the paper. Many are working in the field of journalism today."

Since 1953 Professor Byrd has been teaching in night school, and for the last six years has been teaching history in both day and night classes. Since 1954 he has taught more than 45% of the students from every graduation class. He has also taught 25 members of the present faculty and administrative staff.

He has been asked to provide time, and the cover story of the college's history, his favorite pastimes.

English Scholar to be Honored on Awards Day

A new award will be added to the honors list for Awards Day this spring. An English Scholar Award has been approved by the English faculty to be given to the English major who is a rising senior and who, by a vote of the members of the department, is to be honored because of superior academic achievement and outstanding character. The title of English Scholar of the Year will be retained if the recipient's senior year.

The award will carry a stipend which will be applied to the borrower's tuition expenses at Elon College during his or her senior year. The award is not renewable. The stipend will be contributed by members of the English faculty to the college, earmarked for this award of excellence.

Nominees for the English scholar award must have attended Elon College for four semesters prior to the semester in which the award is given. A rising senior English major may be named by any member of the English faculty in conjunction with endorsement of two additional members. The winner is determined by a majority vote of the full English faculty. The award can be withheld in any year in which the department decides that there is no deserving recipient. Two awards may be made the next year if two persons are considered deserving of this recognition.

Deadline for Colonnades

Poems, short stories and all other works of fiction and art should be submitted to Colonnades by March 20.

By Leslie Carter

By Diane Costa

On February 14 and 15 the Elon College Music Department presented two operas, "Sunday Excursion," by Alec Wilder and "The Night Bell" by Donizetti. The performances were directed by Prof. Terrell Cofield of Elon's music faculty and accompanied by the Elon College Community Orchestra under the baton of Dr. Malvin Arley.

"Sunday Excursion," a curtain raiser, is a simple, nostalgic story. Two boys and two girls are returning from an excursion to New York City. They are strangers at first, but become friends before the curtain falls. The performance informs the public that the train has reached its destination. Principal roles in "Sunday Excursion" were sung by Mike Gilliam, Bill Grabsch, Suzanne Prystup, Sharon Stephens, and Tad Troutman. "The Night Bell," the second opera each evening, was set in a suburb of Naples and was centered with Don Annibale as a young apothecary, who married young love, planned his revenge. Two times, as the old man was ready for bed, Enrico posed the bell that an apothecary could not ignore. Enrico posed him first as a Frenchman in need of wine and then as a singer who needs l'essence because he has lost his voice. After all of this, the English Major's To Meet Wednesday

Students majoring in English and those who wish to know more about this major are invited by the English faculty to a reception and meeting at 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 19 in the large lounge, 2nd floor, Student Center.

The Modern Language Association pamphlet on English a vs. preprofessional major will be available to those wishing copies. The discussion will be informal and will cover topics of interest to majors and would-be-majors.

Col. William B. Neal will be on campus March 8th. Col. Neal is the visiting instructor for the Army ROTC program which will be offered at Elon College through fall of 1975. Elon will be the eighth college in North Carolina to offer such a program.

The newly created Department of Military Science will offer two- and four-year programs for both male and female students. Upon graduation,students will receive commissions as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army. March 8 is the deadline for enrollment in the program to attend the training camp this summer in Fort Knox, Ky., Rooms, board, uniforms, and travel will be furnished. Students will also receive one-half the salary of the second lieutenant during the summer training session.

Col. Neal, director of the program, is chairman of the Department of Military Science at A & T University, Greensboro. His staff consists of four officers and four enlisted men. He commands a corps of 123 men and 17 women.

Veterans may qualify for advance placement in the program.

Other North Carolina colleges offering ROTC programs are: Appalachian State University, Campbell College, Davidson College, North Carolina A & T State University, St. Augustine College, and Wake Forest University.

Singers and Orchestra

Present Two Light Operas

Vol ume 1. Number 5

Elon College, North Carolina

February 18, 1975

By Diane Costa

(Left to right) Students Bill Grabsch, Mike Gilliam, Sharon Stephens, and Suzanne Prystup caught the rehearsal for opera "Sunday Excursion." (Photo by Ken Toda)