

# New Courses Extend Winter Term Travels

Travel Seminar to Promised Land

The religion department will be sponsoring two new travel seminars during winter term 1976. Dr. Chris White will lead an 11-day tour group to Egypt, Jordan and Israel. Two Mars Hill professors will lead a student contingent for a 10-day tour of Israel.

Dr. White's group will leave New York's JFK airport January 5 for Cairo. In Egypt they will ride some camels, visit the sphinx, and pyramids while residing in a hotel adjacent to the Nile River. Then they fly to Amman, Jordan for a brief, yet essential, lay over. There are no commercial flights from Egypt to Israel. "Such diplomacy will be left to the Kissingers," says Dr. White.

Next, Jerusalem followed by Bethlehem, Tiberie, Masada, Qumran, Jericho and numerous other historical and unique sights will be taken in. A 50-square mile area of Israel facilitates thoroughly adventuring it without spending an excess

amount of time in transport.

The total cost for plane fare, meals and hotel accommodations for the 11-day tour is \$939; substantially less than this type tour would have cost 10 or so years ago.

The 10-day Israeli tour, originating at JFK, will concentrate and expand on points of interest the 11-day group will see. Also the students will have more free time to spend exploring the new nation of oldest times. This tour, all inclusive, will cost \$869 dollars.

Both tours carry three hours college credit and are available to students, faculty, community and friends of the college. Dr. White urges all interested students to stop by his office on third floor Mooney to discuss travel specifics especially financial assistance.

There is no minimum needed for the tour group. So, if seeing "Where did Jesus lie?" has been your life's dream it can feasibly become reality.

## Englishman Leads Social Science Group in British Studies

For the eighth consecutive year the Social Science Department will offer a program of study-travel and cultural enrichment in Britain during the winter term 1976.

The program will be directed by Dr. S. E. Gerard Priestley and Dr. Frederic T. Watts. Dr. Priestley is W. A. Harper Professor of History and Political Science. He was born in Royal Windsor and has a home in Sussex. Dr. Watts is assistant professor of political science.

This study-tour will cover a four-week period and will offer three hours credit in either history, political science, or social science. The program will be tailored to meet the special interests of history majors, political scientists, pre-law students, prospective teachers, and those interested in the social and health services. Britain, as

well as the United States, will be observing the Bicentennial of the Declaration of Independence of the American colonies.

Full details of estimated costs, flight arrangements, hotels, tours, theatre tickets, and such will be published in the next *Pendulum*. Meantime, interested students should speak with Dr. Priestley or Dr. Watts.

## Music and English, Too

The Music and the English departments also will offer study tours in Britain for the winter term 1976. Dr. Robert Blake plans to lead the English group, and Prof. Fletcher Moore will again direct the music and fine arts section abroad. Dr. Blake is chairman of the English Department, and Prof. Moore is chairman of the Music Department. More details will be available at a later date.

## Spring has . . . SPRUNG

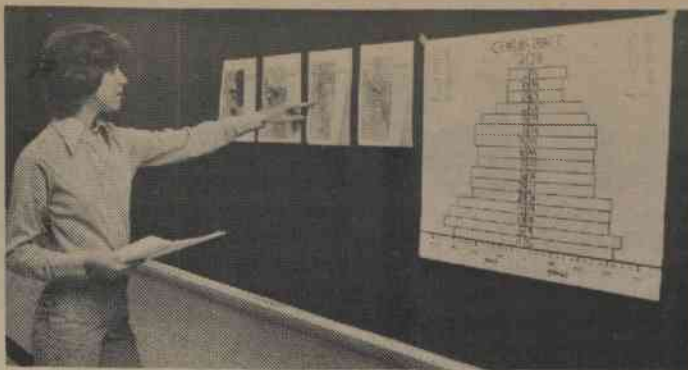
By Robin King

May 2, 3 and 4 are the dates for this year's Spring Weekend.

The weekend begins with a concert at 8:00 p.m. on Friday evening featuring Ozark Mountain Dare Devils and Elvin Bishop in the Alumni Gym. The cost for this concert will be: Elon students, \$2.00 and general

public: \$4.00 advance and \$5.00 at the door.

Then on Saturday, there will be a film festival at Harper Center. Also at Harper Center, on Sunday, the ARA will hold a picnic lunch followed by an Emanons concert around the lake. Both affairs are free with an Elon student I.D.



Susan Dodson, Elon College student from Burlington, compares the pattern on the maps with the population pyramid. She was a member of the class which prepared the maps.

## Geographers Research Alamance Co. Problems

By David Newton

If a college is going to do something, it might as well do it right. That's what ran through Elon College geography professor Sam Griffin's head last fall when talk began about the college hosting a conference on rural-urban problems in Alamance County.

More than 400 Alamance County planners, elected officials, and leaders would be on campus brainstorming over solutions to local problems. Well, figured Sam Griffin. Elon has a whole Department of Social Sciences devoted to those types of problems, and it is fully equipped with eager students.

Why couldn't the students take a look at some of these problems and try to make some statistical sense out of them, asked the UNC graduate in his office stacked with charts, maps, statistical print-outs and even an electric, plug-in world globe. It would be an excellent opportunity for students to be involved in the actual work of a social scientist.

So during the four-week winter term, Griffin and a class of 18 sat down to map and record a few things about Alamance County.

The result was a stack of paper about a foot high; increased student awareness of how a community does or does not operate; and the possibility of the students' work being used in compiling a county atlas the Alamance County Chamber of Commerce is considering.

A few eye openers emerged for Alamance County leaders to ogle as they gathered on campus for the series of lectures and workshops held in late January and early February.

"A lot of things emerged when we saw those problems in graphic

form," said Mrs. Marjorie Long, a member of Elon's English faculty who served as project director for the Conference on Rural-Urban Alamance: Transitions in Town and Country. "Of course, as a teacher, I was pleased that the students were able to apply their classroom experience to the world outside. Their efforts were a contribution to the success of the conference."

Working from unpublished 1970 census data and material provided by the Alamance County Planning Department and the Institute for Research in the Social Sciences in Chapel Hill, the students mapped some 60 to 70 social and economic characteristics about the 96,362 people spread over Alamance's 434 square miles.

The maps point up that the highest incidence of the county's divorce, abuse and child neglect, and suicide are concentrated in a population belt running east of Graham along U.S. 70 to the Orange County line. The students also noticed how the county's two hospitals are located in the city's two highest population areas. Those are just several of the facts the students transferred to the brightly colored maps.

The students also drew up population pyramids for each census tract in the county. A population pyramid diagrams the relation of age and sex groups.

"I believe the students' social awareness improved in general," said Griffin. "They are more aware of the real world and some of the inequities that exist. Along with that, I tried to give them some reasons for why the inequities exist in a system which I consider about as perfect as you

## About Town Elon Is Alive and Well

By Lance Latane

So, it's spring here at Dodge City and what better way to observe and celebrate it than to take a ride in the country.

Naturally a ride in the country means hauling the cooler out to the car and stopping at The Pantry to fill it up. By the time you've made it out to one of the many back roads around town suitable for beer drinking and partying—such as Elon Road—everything is looking green and good. More important, you have escaped Elon and there's a cold one in your hand—Elon is never so upsetting this way.

After a few more, someone remembers that there's a baseball game back at school. "Oh, Elon and somebody," he says.

By the next beer you find yourself sitting on top of the car next to the cooler just in time to see the pitcher wind up, eye the batter and then the bat-girl. Humm, babe! Humm, babe! It's spring.

## Bank of NC

Life has been reported in Elon College when school was closed.

The Bank of North Carolina, across the street from the library, together with the 5 other Bank of North Carolina branches in Alamance County held Open House from April 1 through April 4.

Sandy Wallace, manager of the Elon College branch, regretted that circumstances forced the banks to have Open House during spring break. Because of this, she said Elon students missed an opportunity to find what services the bank offers.

Vacationing students also missed a chance to register for 14 prizes, one of them a 10-speed bike, which were given away during the Open House. Area winners were: Wes Johnson of Rt. 8 Burlington, Mrs. M. P. Hudson from Marks Church Road, Carl Ireland and The Rev. Thomas Hamilton, both of Elon College.

can get."

Perfect system or not, the students' work must have been pretty solid. Executive vice-president of the Alamance County Chamber of Commerce Clem Mosley was impressed enough with the student's work to suggest its use in a county atlas.

## Class Cuts Have Remained Constant

By Mildred B. Lynch

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of articles on absenteeism at college.

"Hard Times Make Workers Tow the Line" was the headline on a Greensboro Daily News article recently. The article stated that "as the economy slows and unemployment rises, people who have jobs seem to appreciate them more."

More workers are getting to work on time, there is less turnover than a year ago, and absenteeism is lower than normal. Jimmy Williams of Blue Bell, Inc., says that when people are absent from work, it is because they really are ill or have some unavoidable emergencies. Officials at Cone Mills and Burlington Industries, Inc., cite the same trend in employee

behavior over the last six months.

The larger number of empty seats in classrooms at Elon raises the question of whether or not we are ready to meet this competition in the business world upon graduation.

Louis Wilkins in the counseling office says that the following reasons are most frequently given by students for excessive absences from class. They are listed in order: 1. "Can't get up in time to get to class" (usually 8 a.m.). 2. Medical reasons (usually minor, such as cold, sore throat, "don't feel good"). 3. "Class isn't interesting."

Wilkins further revealed that there is seldom an absentee program among A and B students or students over 25 years of age.

These students, generally, are seriously concerned about becoming educated and about gaining as much as possible for their investment.

"A part of education must be self-discipline," he stated. This means getting up and attending class on those mornings when you stayed out too late instead of doing the assignment.

If it is going to be necessary for us to work for a living after graduation, now would seem a good time to stop searching for excuses not to attend class or complete assignments and begin to plan ways to rape the college of all the knowledge and experience we can before graduation.

Coming: *Class Isn't Interesting* (What can we as students do about it?)

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