

Spring connotations

The word spring has many connotations. Spring is a time or season of growth and development. It means also the act or instant of leaping up or forward. This word is most appropriate for Elon as it describes all phases of campus life at present.

Spring, as a season, means spring break. It means the sun, the beach, the mountains, and, most of all, a break from classes. It also means an increase in demand for sun tan oil and lotion. Spring is a time for young love to develop and the old to redevelop. It's a time for new wardrobes and a change from the cold frowns of winter to the warm smiles of spring.

In the sense of leaping forward, spring means a moving on to bigger and better things. The changing of positions, the formulation of new ideas and just the sight of fresh new faces trigger this leap forward.

Spring brings in a new group of leaders. This has become an Elon tradition: new campus editors, new SGA leaders, new Greek organization officers, and others.

The *Pendulum*, completing its fifth year of publication and its second as a weekly, will share in these changes. The new editors, of top journalistic quality, will keep the tradition of the past editors and of the times by leaping forward to better things. One goal should be to keep the college community abreast of current events on campus, even better than have the editors of the past, and to strive for the best in all phases of newspapering.

Spring represents a rejuvenating tradition here at Elon. The *Pendulum* staff wishes all new leaders luck and a great year ahead.

It ain't worth, it honey

In reading the report of changes in faculty and staff positions for 1979-80, we were struck by the "old boy" atmosphere of the all-male list. Not a woman was promoted, given tenure, or either retained as a department chairperson or appointed to a chairmanship.

With about one-half of the students at Elon College women, the administration is apparently saying, "Girls, we are not providing a role model for you because we don't want women in decision-making positions."

So, we can only say to you women undergrads, don't get any ideas that you can hold management positions, head committees, departments, sections, or organizations unless they have to do with feminine matters such as . . . well, you know what women can do. Leave the real decisions to the men, honey. Just get out yo' spike heels, Scarlet, and let's go disco dancin'. Don't worry yo' empty little head none. It ain't worth it.

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The editors welcome letters, but can publish only those whose name and address are given. We reserve the right to edit for length and to avoid libel.

Letters to the Editor

"Somebody got shafted" ..BCS ?

Dear Editor,

Recently, the Black Cultural Society was awarded appropriate funds by the Student Government Association to sponsor events during Black History Month. This decision was later "presidentially" vetoed.

The Black Cultural Society, still believing funds were allocated to them, worked hard to plan a Black History Month that would initiate an interest for every member of our college family. The SGA watched us plan, prepare, organize, and sponsor a multitude of events during the month of February and remained silent.

A letter dated March 14, was finally forwarded to the dean of student affairs pertaining to the veto action. Until that date, BCS had not been officially notified of the veto action.

Black students at Elon pay over \$9,000 in student activity fees. BCS members hold key

leadership positions on campus and BCS members have won various athletic awards for the school. The Gospel Choir, representing the spiritual values of Elon College, is performing in various events.

I do not record these accomplishments to vent anger or resentment, I write to say it's ironic BCS members can carry their weight supporting and representing Elon but cannot receive student activity funds.

The SGA must be commended for its leadership position. However, the SGA's over-expenditure of funds in some areas such as the Hall and Oates concert and the lack of organization of funds in other areas indicate it may be wise to consider an adviser who will officially preside over expenditures.

With less than two months left in the school year, BCS must pay for one-half the cost of Black Cultural Month, a debt that is unfair to all Black

students.

There is an old Black saying, "Somebody got shafted" and at Elon College, guess who it was, again.

Vivian Miller
President, BCS

Procedure

Dear Editor,

This letter's intent is to inform the student body of the correct procedure in reporting a maintenance problem. If your room or dorm needs to be repaired you should contact your R.C. or Area Coordinator. They will contact the proper department which will quickly correct the problem.

If everyone at Elon would use this system it would result in better living conditions for all. More information can be found in the Student Handbook on page 53.

Kevin Robinson

Foreign language a great asset

Dear Editor,

After reading the letter to the *Pendulum* by Prof. Betty Gerow, and your editorial on the article by Sylvia Porter concerning the place of foreign language in the world today, I felt inspired to add a few comments of my own.

It is extremely unfortunate that many (indeed most) Americans are under the illusion that learning a foreign language is unnecessary and unimportant. "After all, everyone speaks English" is the rationalization most commonly given. We are both kidding ourselves and missing out by maintaining this attitude.

First of all, we are missing out on the real thrill of communicating with a foreigner in his own language. One cannot

really know a person unless he can hear (and understand) that person express himself in his native language. And we are missing out in politics and business as well.

What German (or any foreign) businessman is going to do business with an English-speaking American, if he can find a German-speaking American with a similar product?

Big Business, Little Language

I likewise find the "I just can't learn a foreign language" excuse most unconvincing. Here we are in a position of world leadership, making all kinds of advances in science and technology and then we can't seem to get beyond the "Como esta usted?" stage in language. There's an obvious contradiction here. Surely the real

problem is not that we can't learn, but that we won't take the time or trouble to do it. Indeed, I have heard many Elon students, typical Americans, explain away their poor performance or lack of interest in foreign language, using the old stand-by, "I have this or that important course to study for and just don't have time." (Some even stoop to mentioning an important fraternity or sorority function that cannot be missed).

We are definitely kidding ourselves in assuming that foreign language is unimportant. With our world becoming increasingly international, I am firmly convinced that today it is considerably more important than many of those

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