

# Opinion

We are developing page 3 for opinions of our readers — thoughtful articles in any field of interest to the college community. We invite your contributions. The Editors.

## Judging our peers

Last year, 55 students were disciplined by the college for rule infractions as varied as dorm visitation violations to illegal drug use.

The bulk of these cases was handled either by student or administration judicial systems.

The student judicial system, a branch of the S.G.A., is staffed by students, and though its actions require final approval by the Dean of Student Affairs, it is basically autonomous from the college administration. This places an extremely important but tricky job in students' hands.

Serious cooperation and knowledge on the part of all students and administration are required for the judicial system to reach its goal; the constructive, creative, and fair disciplining of students who find themselves in trouble.

The philosophy of the system is to first decide the facts of a case impartially. Then, if discipline is required, to look deeply into each individual's situation and attempt to help him.

The individual in trouble is paramount, but the council must also consider all the needs of the college community. This philosophy is highly idealistic and not easily obtained, and before it can get off the ground, students who find themselves in trouble in any capacity in the system must be willing to cooperate.

Student trust is the key to meaningful success. Students distrust the system in one of two ways; either they feel there is nothing which can be done about the trouble makers, or they fear if they

## Letter

To the faculty and students of Elon College:

I would like to take this time to thank each of you for your many prayers and gifts of love during this summer. Your kindness is greatly appreciated and I will never forget the warm and lovely people at Elon.

Marcha C. Hughes

subject themselves to the system they will be crucified. These fears are understandable but unwarranted. The students and administrators in the judicial system are very experienced both in their jobs and with college life; they understand their positions and are dedicated to them. The students of the system itself also make the doubts of students unwarranted.

Students should be aware that they have a fair judicial system at Elon. But, the system must have the full cooperation of all involved in a disciplinary problem for it to work to its potential. Students who feel they should report an infraction should contact Dean Joyce or Dennis Bailey in 203 Long Student Center. Students who find themselves in trouble should contact Mark Hayes, also in Long Student center room 203.

Mark Hayes

## Student praises new Grammar 250 course

by Robin Adams

The addition of Grammar 250 to the Elon College curriculum was a plus for the students. Making grammar a requirement for several majors including English-Journalism, education and several others was another step forward. But if Grammar 250 were a requirement for every student, then that would be a giant step for students and faculty.

As a member of the *Pendulum* staff and an assistant in the Public Information office where the *Communicator* is prepared, I often read articles or notices that students bring in. Some are quite well and others are beyond repair.

If this is a mirror of the type of work our students are capable of doing, then we really need help.

Not only are other students making grammatical mistakes that a seventh grader would avoid, I also make these mistakes.

A lot of my problems

## A look at registration

By Bonnie Barnes

I arrived early at Alumni Memorial Gymnasium to find myself only halfway down the hall when the doors finally opened. I was pleased to see that Elon's approach to registration is more civilized than Mizzou's (my alma mater in the early 60s).

Then, every man (sorry, "person") was out for himself. No pre-scheduling. First come, got it. There seemed to be longer lines, then, and the counselors at Mizzou were undefined, at least to me. I dared not question those bastions of intelligence even though I knew my father would never understand why I had suddenly switched from a poli-sci major to elementary recreation!

But somehow the whole process came to an end. The final check was written, both times, with clammy palsied hands.

Then, I knew that I had my dad to pay if I didn't do well in my studies. Now, I pay.

Then, I bought every "new" book that was required. Now, only the "used" books on which I'm

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stem from the fact that I was never taught the simple rules of grammar. But instead of complaining, I'm taking Grammar 250 and trying to correct some of my errors. I don't expect to make an "A" in the class but I do expect to learn how to improve my written English.

Elon College should make it mandatory that all students take grammar or pass a test on standard written English. This test should be given to all students at the end of the sophomore year.

It's too late to complain about what was lacking in our public school educations. Now it's time to do something about these mistakes and send better qualified graduates out into the job market and life.

The argument "I'm not an English major, so therefore I don't need to take grammar" is very weak. Grammar 250 can offer as much knowledge to a business or biology major as it could to an English major.

## Health hints

# On keeping well

By Mildred B. Lynch

Today we rely on drugs to pep up, to relax, to sleep, to wake up, to lose weight, to gain weight, to prevent illness and to cure illness. Without caffeine, alcohol, cigarettes (tobacco and others) and prescription and/or non-prescription medicines, many could not make it through the 24-hour cycle.

Drugs should be used with caution. Eli Lilly and Company's Aug. 1980 "Health Highlights" suggests that we:

- Anticipate possible drug problems. Ask yourself, "Am I taking more than one prescription drug?" "Am I taking an over-the-counter drug remedy at the same time I am taking a prescription drug?" "Do I know if alcohol affects the drugs that I am taking?"

- Don't worry about "offending your doctor by telling him that you are receiving prescriptions from other physicians. In this age of specialization, it is common for a person to have more than one physician.

- Don't be afraid to ask your physician about the appropriateness of a drug therapy or the danger of any felt side effects.

- Be aware of the need to take all of a prescription, even if you feel better earlier than you expected or if at the start the drug doesn't seem to be having any effect at all, unless you are otherwise directed by your physician.

### Keep a List

- Do keep a list of medicines that you are taking. Take the list with you when you see your physician, or pharmacist and show it to him.

- Ask your physician about any potential interaction of your drugs with alcohol or psychoactive agents (e.g., sleeping pills or tranquilizers whenever you switch to a new medicine.

Additional tips not included in the Lilly Highlights are:

### Don't share with friends

- Never take medications that have been prescribed for your roommate or others. Dosages are calculated by the physician on the basis of the patient's body weight, build and metabolism and on present and past medical history. You and your roommate are different, and drug response and reaction may be different.

- Take medications only as prescribed. Do not skip a dose or take more than

directed. If you miss a dose you cannot make up for it by doubling up on the next dose.

### Know when to take medicine

- Some drugs should be taken before eating, some after eating and some an hour or more after. Timing affects the rate and degree of absorption of the drug by the body systems. If the physician does not tell you when to take your medications, ask.

- If you notice any unusual effects after taking a medication, call the physician who prescribed the drug. It could mean a normal side effect. It could also mean that this drug is not the best one for you or that the dosage needs to be changed.

Your doctor's consultation is confidential. Tell him everything about your drinking, eating and drug-taking habits. It will aid him in prescribing better and more comfortable treatment for you and it could save your life.

Remember— Information, Education, Moderation. Inform the physician so that he can educate you. And use moderation in drinking, eating and taking drugs.

## 1980 council year to open

The Town-College Advisory Council, organized in 1978 to help improve relations and communications between town and gown, is preparing for the 1980-81 academic year with their first meeting Tuesday evening, Sept. 23.

John Sadler fills the slot for Student Government Association president on the council.

Inter-fraternity Council president Steve Holbrook is another new member.

Don Witt, citizen of Elon College, will replace Tom Hubbard whose term expired. Mr. Witt, Mary Shaw Cunningham, and Ken Harper are appointed by the Town Board, each for a three-year term. Marvin Grant, a member of the town board, will represent the town government, replacing Nell Snyder who served during 1979-80. William Long, dean of student affairs, and Ralph D. Seagroves, chief of Public Safety, also are on the council.

Council by-laws require members to meet four times each school year. Meetings are set for the third Tuesday in September, November, January and March.