

Bells are helpful to students

By Teri Miller

As the sound of bells echoes from the tower of Alamance building, students and citizens of Elon College are reminded of the hour of the day.

People in the community have found different ways to take advantage of the bells. Sophomore Kathy Spelman says, "The bells serve as an alarm clock to me. They let me know not only what hour it is, but also remind me of where I should be, and what I should be doing."

Many students make use of the bells in the same way. Junior John Pittman says, "If class starts at two o'clock, and I hear those bells go off as I am standing in the Student Center, I know I am going to be late."

Residents of Elon College, within about a one-mile radius, also use the bells. Jim Haynes, furniture dealer, says, "I listen for them all the time. I enjoy them tremendously, and best of all, they keep my watch

set." The general consensus among the citizens is that the bells give Elon College a collegiate atmosphere.

Serving various purposes, the bells, in reality, are tapes. The idea was originated by William G. Long, dean of student affairs. Purchased in the fall of 1977, the bells were a gift from the graduating class of 1953.

Four speakers, connected to the tape control in the switchboard room on the first floor of Alamance, project the sound of the bells at full volume.

The control consists of two separate inserts for the tapes. The hourly tape is locked into control and connected to a set clock. The remaining tape insert is used for the tape decks playing tunes. The system is set to play the number of tolls according to the hour. They are set to ring every hour between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. At 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. the control allows a melody of bells, a hymn or song, to be played as well.

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charges being dropped for violations off campus, he said, "The college has never asked for charges to be dropped. If charges are dropped they are dropped by the complainant or person pressing charges." Long also said that Elon and the town public safety department have a good working relationship.

zation and their dates can attend.

In regard to fraternities and sororities, many people feel that it is unfair that those who live in houses don't have resident counselors. Dean Long says the basic reason is that organized groups have people such as officers who can be held personally responsible for wrong doing. He also added that "the college has never hired anyone to live in." It would be difficult, said Long, because you can't assign someone to live in the houses and you can't have a member counselor because of the close unity within sororities and fraternities.

Also he feels that the college can deal with organized groups. If necessary, a group charter can be taken from them. He said, "They have mental support in taking care of one another," adding that they are "much more nearly communities that care for each other and there is a whole different setting in a dorm."

Are there plans for programs to help instruct students about vandalism and alcohol? The dean says that the Interfraternal Council is encouraged to have drivers to and from their beer blasts and they did provide vans for students. Also mentioned was a new program called "Alcohol Awareness" to be started next year. This will concentrate on helping people become intelligent drinkers or non-drinkers, says Long.

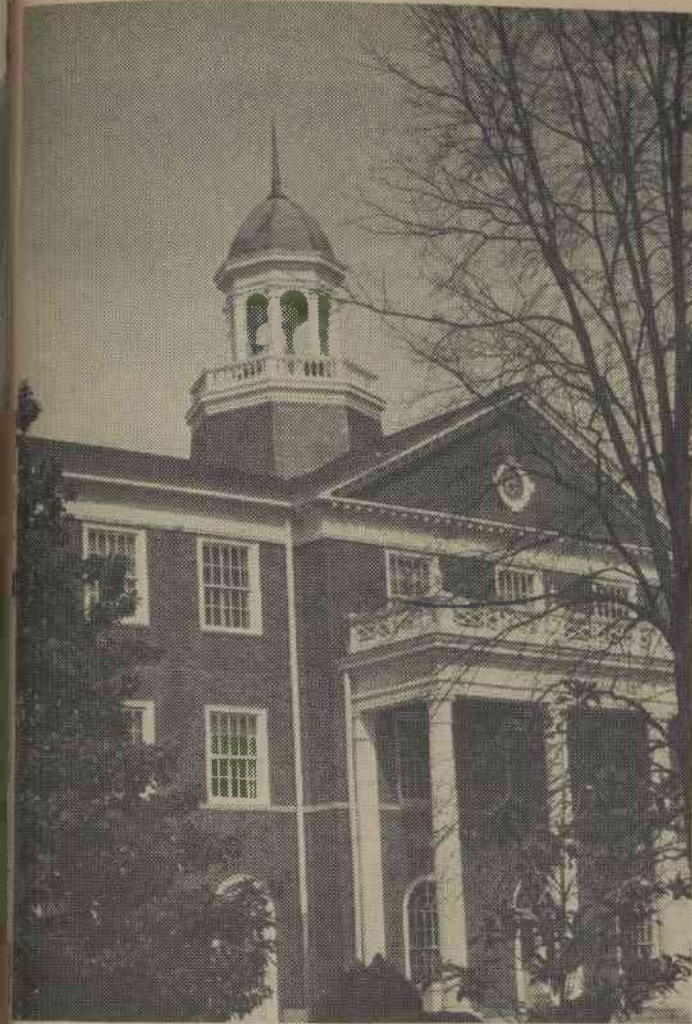
Dean Long had several tips for students to think about in relation to vandalism. First, "each student should put it in his or her mind the reality that if they destroy something, their friends will have to pay for it. Secondly, people should turn in those who vandalize because if people can't get away with vandalizing, then it won't continue."

When the word "vandalism" is spoken on this campus one question always comes in. Where were the security men when the destruction was being done? Security does its best to prevent vandalism on campus, but that is a tough job. "You'd have to post a guard on four sides of all buildings on campus to catch all the people," said Long.

"You can't provide constant security guards because the cost is too great," says Long. The dean, however, feels supportive of the security guards, "given the limitations we have." As for improving the security system, he said, "I would like to have more money to hire more security people."

When the question of alcohol was raised, Dean Long said he finds a close association between being inebriated and causing trouble. Students wouldn't do such things if they were not drinking. He then stated that "blind, stupid drinking affects us."

Many students say there is a close association between drinking and being a member of a fraternity or sorority. About this, the dean said that "it is unfair to imply that fraternities and sororities are the only ones drinking and who have parties." He added that they do tend to get into trouble when they have open parties. They are at present trying to have the Greek system enact a closed party policy where only members of the organi-



The bells in Alamance serve as an alarm clock to students and local people. Photo by Priestley.

Is there a future in teaching?

By Taz Fields

During the last decade the teaching field has been overcrowded. This oversupply, however, is expected to come to an end. The Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) has released a report saying that by the mid-eighties the surplus of new teachers may drop to 16 percent, a drastic change when compared with a 1978 report by the SREB showing a 50 percent surplus of new teachers in the United States.

Estimates beyond the mid-eighties are less certain. The SREB report shows that this current trend of oversupply may even reverse and the nation may suffer a teacher shortage.

Reasons for this reversal may be attributed to several factors. Among these factors is a growing concern with the quality of future teachers, resulting in tighter selection standards. Second, an expected increase in elementary school-age children in the South will cause the demand for new teachers to

rise. Third, if the present trend continues, fewer college students will choose education as their major.

Finally, considered the largest component of teacher demand will be the speculated high turnover rate which will increase replacement openings.

Five Southern states—North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi—have already adopted steps to tighten selection standards. To insure the high quality of teachers, exams are being given to prospective teachers. Florida and Arkansas are reported to begin such measures during the first part of this decade. Other states throughout the U.S.A. are expected to follow the lead of these Southern states.

The results of these measures are expected to vary. In some states the number of prospective teachers who have failed to meet the new standards is remarkably high. In 1976 in one such

state, 56 percent failed to pass the screening exam.

This concern with teacher quality also affects teachers now in the profession. For years it has been the norm to gain recertification or promotion by receiving credits and degrees in advanced teacher education programs. As a result, from 1972 to 1977, degrees in education at the master's level rose more than 17,000 annually. Now, however, emphasis is placed on demonstrated competency through tests and other "screens", rather than the amount of advanced formal education received.

By 1985, in the South, between 51,000 and 54,000 teacher education graduates are expected to be competing in the job market. However, only 30,000 to 42,000 actual job openings will be available for beginning teachers, leaving a surplus of approximately 12,000 teachers.

After 1985, by all appearances, supply and demand will level off. That may not be the case, however, according to the SREB report. Several uncertainties must be considered which may affect the job market for teachers. Among these are the number of teaching positions left by teachers who leave the profession, the "popularity" of a career in education as opposed to other higher paying careers, and the

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for society and intellectual stimulation, says Professor Gayle Scott, coordinator. "This will be the charter meeting and only those attending will be members and eligible for their names on the plaque," says Professor Scott. Officers for the society will be elected by its charter members.

Religious coffee

Prospective religion majors as well as current majors are invited to a special Spring Coffee on Tuesday morning, March 17, 9:20-10:10 in 317 Mooney.