

EDGE program's college co-eds will graduate on March 21

by Kate Jewett

It's Saturday. Time for all elementary and secondary school students to take a break— sleep late, watch cartoons, hang around with their buddies, right? Right for most students but wrong for those who have the "edge" in talent. They get to go to college on Saturdays.

New in Continuing Education is Elon's Developmental Gifted Education Program, more commonly known as EDGE. Directed by George Lentz, EDGE was born in November 1979. Dr. Paul Williams, Dr. Jo Williams, Dr. Anne Ponder, Lentz, and the principal of Alexander Wilson School did some brainstorming in several meetings and came up with the program. "We wanted to do something for the gifted and talented students without duplicating what other schools do," says Lentz.

EDGE is geared to a younger age group (five to 13-year-olds) than most schools for talented students. It is also the first program of its type for this age range to be held during the school year.

In order to be accepted into the EDGE program, students must fulfill certain criteria. The brochure says that beside having an IQ of 120, "recommendations from school personnel are very important, with specific reference to the demonstrated or potential ability or interest in the content area of the program(s) for which the student is making application."

So far EDGE has attracted about 110 children having these credentials. The fall program went well and spring semester seems to be just as successful. Looking

in on any of the classes held in Alamance Building, an observer is sure to notice lots of activity and enthusiasm.

Jane Wellford's Creative Movement class was the most physically active. Constantly in motion, the kids played games involving all types of movement— Simon Says, Moon Walk, and Jack and the Candlestick were just a few.

Across the hall, the scene was a little more sedate as members of Clifford Foster's Intermediate Chess class concentrated on their next move.

In Creative Short Story the kids were sitting patiently in their desks, feet barely touching the floor, listening intently to Dr. Eleanor Moffit. Then one or two of them shared the stories they had written.

Students can choose up to three classes for the 9 to 12 time period. Just what kind of courses do these youngsters select from? This spring, astronomy, chess, French, Art History Appreciation, Creative Movement, law, Theories of Football and Basketball, Creative Short Story, and an in-classroom tour of Russia are being taught.

Proposed classes for next year include sculpture, real estate basics, film watching for fun, typing and history of aviation. Out of the fall and spring semesters, computers has been the most popular class, followed by astronomy, archaeology and foreign language.

An EDGE program is also planned for summer. It will follow about the same guidelines as the fall and spring sessions except the students will be older (grades 5 to 10) and live on campus for a



George Lentz talks with a young student and his parents.

week. The mornings will be devoted to one major area of study and afternoons will be spent in fine arts and physical education. Evening activities round out a full day.

Are the professors enjoying teaching younger students? According to Lentz,

yes. "The kids are enthusiastic, curious, bright. What more could they ask for?" Both professors and parents have been super supportive. The parents are especially encouraging with their "keep up the good work" attitude.

It is the kids who really

make the program, though. And on March 21, the spring semester students will graduate. Besides being a big occasion for them, it will signify a successful first year for the whole EDGE Program, for a new form of education— fun, adventurous and academic.



IF ALL YOU WANT FROM CHURCH IS HELL, FIRE AND BRIMSTONE, BURN THIS AD.

Hell, fire, and brimstone you won't find in the Episcopal Church. But if it's warm fellowship and the love of a forgiving and understanding God you want, join us in worship this Sunday.

For further information call Lamar Bland, 584-7780.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER
320 E. Davis Street
Sunday Services at 8:30 and 10:30

'9 to 5' — a review

by Becky Kimbrell

Putting Jane Fonda, Lily Tomlin and Dolly Parton in a tough comedy about the horrors that women office workers face seemed almost too good to be true.

"9 to 5" proves entertaining and is sometimes funny. Early in the movie, we meet the women who work at a big corporation known as Consolidated. Tomlin plays a practical clerical worker who can't

make it to the top because she's a woman. Parton makes her debut as a sexy secretary who everyone thinks is having an affair with the boss; and Fonda is the naive newcomer who jumps in the business world by her recent divorce.

Then there's their boss Mr. Hart (Dabney Coleman) whose tyranny makes us want revenge. His villainy makes the movie much more

cont. on p. 8