

Alcohol : a serious problem

by Mari Behrend

Recently, alcohol has become a major point of discussion on campus. The problem is not that students drink alcohol, but the manner in which they consume it and for what purposes it is swallowed.

On many occasions when people are asked what they are going to do on an evening out, a common reply is: "I'm going to the Lighthouse or Ramada to get drunk!"

Although students think they will have a good time at the Lighthouse or Ramada, it appears to be a rare occasion when a student will think before going out to "get drunk" what the effects of the alcohol could be.

One effect of alcohol that affects the college heavily is

that a person who has become drunk or had a few drinks, will sometimes do things he normally would not do. Destruction and violence often occur when a few too many drinks have been consumed.

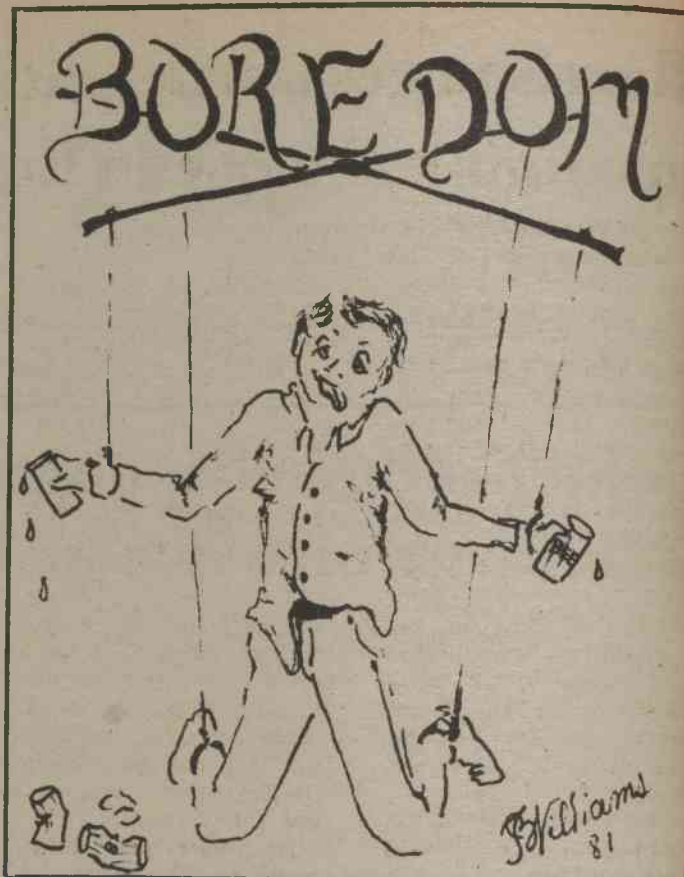
More serious side effects of alcohol include cirrhosis of the liver which occurs over a long period of time, often years of excessive drinking. The liver is slowly "eaten away" by the alcohol causing death. Another fact of alcohol is that if a large amount of it is consumed in a short time, such as 30 minutes, the alcohol can paralyze the brain and the mechanism that tells us to breathe, causing death.

The facts are real and frightening. The problem is, however, that most students don't know these facts and

many others about alcohol and what effect it can have on them.

One way to help students understand about drinking and their lives would be to enact an alcohol program which would answer students questions about alcohol and its effects. In this way students will be able to learn about alcohol and discuss problems of it, and most importantly, a program such as this would help people become intelligent drinkers instead of careless ones.

The program would be highly beneficial to everyone. Once taught, students could then become more aware of the problems of drinking and the amount of drunkenness on campus will probably decline.



Call if you need IFC escort service

To the editor:

Last week's Pendulum (March 12) carried a letter by Ms. Mary W. Watson concerning the new campus escort service. There are several points which the author mentioned to which I would like to respond.

Before any specifics, however, I need mention the outstanding work of the Interfraternal Council (IFC) in establishing the service. Students at Elon constantly respond to problems in a useful and creative way, and the IFC is no exception. They have gone to great lengths to meet an important need on our campus, and I am proud to have worked with them on the project.

While IFC attempts to serve the entire community, numbers and acres prevent answering calls anywhere but on campus. Therefore, had Ms. Watson contacted the escort service, they would

have been able to escort her from "the other side of the railroad tracks."

Another point regarded the switchboard's closing at 11 p.m. This is true but should not be a problem. Since the escorts are limited to the campus, students can use campus phones to call the escort. Hopefully all residence halls have phones in the common areas. I have discovered, though, that a few selfish individuals have decided that their needs outweigh those of the campus community and have taken the phones. Nevertheless, the physical plant is making every effort to replace these phones.

The campus escort service is an effort by some concerned folks to help others. It will not succeed if unjustly criticized or underutilized. Please call if you need us.

Jack Murphy
Director, campus security

Vandalism causes a pain in the pocketbook

To the Editor:

Thank you for your March 12 story, "Vandalism Costs High." Using a low figure of \$17,000 and a high figure of 2,500 students means the cost per student is well over \$500 per year.

Obviously a \$25-damage deposit covers less than a meager five percent of this cost. Who absorbs the rest? It is certainly not the college out of the goodness of their heart, understanding "Boys and girls will be boys and girls." No, it's you and I

and every student who has paid their own or their parents' hard-earned dollars to attend this college.

I certainly would rather have this money go for improvements we all can use rather than replacing, rebuilding, and restoring those things we already have.

So next time you see someone destroy or needlessly litter, remember it's a pain in your wallet as well as the ass. Do something about it.

Treasurer, SGA
Daniel W. Daly III

SUB secretary blasts Pendulum

I would like to lodge a formal complaint on behalf of the Student Union Board against the Pendulum and its staff. I feel that the Pendulum has treated SUB very poorly and with very little respect.

On numerous occasions, the Pendulum has agreed to do interviews or place certain articles in the newspaper in requested places and much to our dismay, these "promises" were not upheld.

One example of this is David Willis. We were told that if we could provide a picture of the artist we would get front-page coverage with the picture. The

picture was provided and placed in the paper but not in the spot agreed upon — instead of the front page, the picture was found on the next to the last page, far removed from its article on page one.

To add insult to injury, an interview was arranged and held with David following his performance on Feb. 18 — where is the article? Only the staff knows if they know. It hasn't been printed.

The members of the Student Union Board worked very hard to put "SUB Awareness Week" together and we get no feedback on what we've done. We feel we have done more than

enough to show the students and staff of Elon College who we are, what we do, and are worth our portion of the budget we are allotted every year. Who gets the recognition we deserve? The Student Government Association deserves all the credit, according to the Pendulum. But who does the work, who puts in the hours setting up and taking down before and after shows voluntarily? The Student Union Board does! Maybe it's time that Elon College and the staff of the Pendulum realize this.

I could cite many more items but I will refrain at this time. I would, however, like to close by saying that we are willing to work with the Pendulum on better coverage, but they have to meet us halfway. We've tried alone and been unsuccessful thus far. Thank you.

Rae DiProffo
Secretary
Student Union Board

Editor's Note: The Pendulum's reporter from last year, Joy Hamilton, has been unable to cover SUB events this year. However, an attempt to work with SUB has been made.

In the Oct. 16 issue, SUB had a front page coverage of the upcoming talent show. In the preceding issue, the Little River Band had a front page picture. The following week featured a front-page article by Janet Spoon, and also a paragraph about the October convention in Savannah, Ga.

In the sole January issue, (which incidentally was

cont. on p. 4

The Pendulum

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