



# The Pendulum

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## Early Valentine's gift

Twenty-month old Jennifer Williamson of Burlington isn't too young to enjoy Valentine's Day. Her mother, Jean Williamson, hands her newly purchased Valentine's balloon while the two were shopping at Holly Hill Mall last weekend.

Photo by Stuart White

## Apartheid

# Major issue to be examined in South Africa symposium

By Frank Isley  
News Editor

Beginning with *The Island*, a play by Athol Fugard, on Feb 16, Elon College will present a symposium on South Africa, which college Chaplain Richard McBride hopes will "help us get a clearer picture of a confusing part of the world."

"It is a good opportunity to improve what we know about South Africa," said Bob Anderson, assistant to the president at Elon College.

Anderson, who holds a graduate degree in African studies, has travelled to South Africa in 1976 and in 1977.

He said that although one may be able to understand why South African whites developed apartheid, it is still intolerable.

"It is probably one of the top human rights issues today," said Anderson.

"On paper, South Africa is an ally of the United States," Anderson said. "The U.S. could play a pretty constructive role if it wanted to in the change that is inevitable."

McBride said that while he is at Elon he hopes to see a number of global education symposia held, such as this one and the teach-in on South America last fall.

"They are 'citizen education,' McBride said, 'encouraging us to get involved and not just leave important issues up to the leaders.'"

The play, at 7:30 Sunday night, portrays the lives of two political prisoners at Robben Island, a maximum security prison off the coast of Cape Town, South Africa and will set the issues for the symposium.

At 2 p.m. Monday, Duke Kent-Brown, consul for press and information, South African Consulate-General, New York, will speak on "South Africa's Future-The Government's View."

At 4 p.m. that same day, "America's Role in South Africa's Future" will be discussed by William "Jake" Jacobsen, a member of both the Senior Foreign Service and the U.S. State Department's Working Group on South Africa.

At 7:30 p.m. Monday, Anderson will examine the historical origins of the current problems.

He will also discuss the reluctance of the white South Africans to abandon apartheid and what some of the long range repercussions will be.

"On Tuesday, voices calling for reforms and real change will be heard," said McBride.

At 9:30 a.m. a chapel talk, "The Churches Divided Voice in South Africa," will be presented by Dr. Kay-Robert Volkwiijn, a South African ex-patriot.

Tuesday at 2 p.m., Desiree Volkwiijn will discuss how educational institutions could be power for liberation instead of tools for apartheid.

In what is expected to be the most impassioned discussion of the symposium, Motlalepula Chabaku, a native of Soweto, South Africa who recently has been granted political assylum in the United States, will speak on "The Death and Rebirth of South Africa" at 4 p.m. Tuesday.

At 7:30 p.m., Dr. Absalom Vilakazi will wrap-up the symposium with "Options for South Africa's Future," a discussion of the possibilities of racial injustice in South Africa from the perspective of a native of the country.

Vilakazi will be on hand throughout the three days of the symposium serving as "scholar in residence" and lecturing to classes and groups.

The symposium is being sponsored by the Liberal Arts Forum, Black Cultural Society, the Chaplain's Office and Phi Alpha Theta (the history honor society).

# Alamance DA appeals former student's sentence

Former Elon student Arthur R. Griffin was sentenced last week to two years in prison for his conviction last fall of severely beating a 76-year-old Elon College woman. But Alamance District Attorney George E. Hunt is appealing the sentence on the grounds that it is not harsh enough.

If Alamance Superior Court Judge Robert Farmer's decision is upheld, "the integrity of the judicial system suffered," Hunt argued.

Griffin had been convicted on Oct. 30 on two charges, first-degree burglary and assault on a handicapped person with a dangerous weapon, in the May 2,

1985, beating of Mrs. Celia Hodge, who lives about a block from the campus.

Judge Farmer delayed sentencing pending the completion of psychiatric testing of Griffin by doctors in Raleigh.

In announcing his sentence last week, Farmer reduced the burglary charge—which carries a

14-year mandatory sentence in the state of North Carolina—to a misdemeanor breaking and entering. The judge also threw out the conviction for "felonious assault," contending that because no such crime existed in North Carolina law the indictment was "defective."

Farmer gave Griffin two years

in prison, a four and one-half year suspended sentence and five years' probation. Because Farmer credited Griffin's confinement in Raleigh's Central Prison's Mental Health Ward for psychiatric observation toward the two-year sentence, Griffin will be eligible for parole in two months, according to his attorney.

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