



The Pendulum

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Watt to speak to Board of Advisors

Frank Isley
Editor
Former Secretary of the Interior James Watt will make a visit to the College campus on May 8 to speak before the Presidential Board of Advisors.

According to Nan Perkins, director of public information, the board of advisors each Spring holds a business meeting, followed by a dinner and guest speaker.

Watt, who will be in Burlington on business, is a major investor in Environmental Diagnostics Inc., a Burlington-based company owned by Sam Powell, who is a member of the board of advisors. Perkins made the arrangements for Watt to speak, Perkins said.

It is a tradition for the board to have speakers of interest at the meetings," said Perkins, citing past visits by film director Martin Ritt and Marvin Stone, a retired editor of *U.S. News and World Report*. Stone, who served as President Reagan's interior secretary from 1981 to 1983, was criticized by environmental protection groups for many policies and public statements.

Watt released vast amounts of government lands for commercial development and permitted off-shore well drilling by oil companies on popular beaches. Watt increased user fees for the national parks and proposed expansion of the list of endangered animals and plants. Stone, as reported in *U.S. News and World Report* called "a combativeness" and "a flair for inflammatory phrases," Watt attacked the affirmative action program and eventually became a "political liability" to the president after making derisive comments about the affirmative-action commission of a federal commission. He resigned in October 1983.

Oliver graduate receives teaching award

Columna Donna H. Oliver, biology teacher at Hugh M. ... High School in Burlington, has been named North Carolina teacher of the year for 1985.

Oliver, 36, has taught in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg City Schools system for 10 years. She received her master's degree at Elon University and a master's degree in education from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Teacher of the Year, Oliver is relieved of her classroom duties next year to study, travel and promote teaching and education in the state.

She will also be North Carolina's representative in the National Teacher of the Year competition.

Oliver has also received the National Science Teachers Association's Excellence in Science Teaching and was a regional winner of the Governor's Business Award in Math and Science.

Describing her philosophy of education, Oliver told the *Burlington Daily Times-News* that "every student, regardless of ability, background or educational objectives, has the right to learn."



Photo by Paul Harris

ON THE LINE: Donna DeWoody takes maintenance requests daily over the phone for continued campus improvement.

DeWoody keeps campus maintenance, repairs in order

By Margie O'Connell
Special to The Pendulum
"Physical plant. May I help you?"

Pause.
"I'm sorry. He's up on campus. May I help you?"

Thus begins the day for Donna DeWoody, who has been stationed at 8 a.m. nearly every working day for the past four years in the Physical Plant office in the East Building.

DeWoody's main function is to get messages to her boss, Physical Plant Director Larry McCauley, and to five maintenance supervisors. Some of them wear pages; others don't. But she must get the messages

through whenever there are emergencies. Her job gets hectic.

The telephone, her connection to those on campus, is in constant use during the workday. As soon as the phone rings, DeWoody is reaching for it while her other hand is positioning her fine-point Bic pen over an ever-present steno pad.

Her major responsibility is to listen to complaints—from faculty, students and staff members. She is especially concerned with students; she says she's dedicated to keeping them happy.

"If there's a plea in a voice at the other end of the phone, I'll remind them there are channels that they must go through," she says.

"But then I'll go ahead and help them if I can.

At the College Coffee on March 27, DeWoody received a service award from the Southeastern Association of Housing Officers. People nominated for the award are those involved in residence life or who support or influence it in some way.

"My job is important because someone is relying on me to get the word to others that his toilet is leaky or that her lights are out. If (President) Fred Young doesn't have heat in his home at 4:55 in the afternoon, I'd better be here to answer the phone when he calls

See DeWoody, page 7

Sports networks
Elon students active in campus broadcasting p. 4

Fun in the sun
Students enjoy warm spring break p. 8