

The Pendulum

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Elon College, NC



Rob Borgstrom - President



Phil Murdock - V. President



Kent Pond - Treasurer

Borgstrom, Murdock, Pond take SGA office

by Aleta Sinkfield
Staff Writer

Student Government Association elections were held Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of last week. The winners were: President, Rob Borgstrom; Vice President, Phil Murdock; Treasurer, Kent Pond.

"We had a very high turn out in comparison to other years," said David Atkins, Director of Student Center/Activities.

It is estimated that 832 students voted in deciding who would hold SGA offices for the upcoming academic year.

As SGA president for the 1988-89 academic year, Borgstrom

holds much concern for making the whole campus accessible to handicapped students.

An upcoming senior from Media, PA, he feels that getting this goal accomplished "will be a great achievement for Elon in its 100th year because it would broaden the college's population."

Instead of dealing with the number of handicapped students here at Elon, their classes have been scheduled around those buildings having facilities which benefit the handicapped. Presently first floor Mooney, McEwen Library, Duke, Fine Arts Center,

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AIDS: a threat to today's youth

by Margaret Allen
Staff Writer

In the sixties when rebellion was a way of life and the sexual revolution was in full swing, the AIDS virus was nonexistent.

Today, the phrase "sexual revolution" has been redefined and taken on a new meaning. This is because AIDS threatens everyone, especially teenagers and college students who do not take proper precautions to protect themselves.

With the AIDS virus becoming more prevalent among young people, students need to be aware of the fact that they aren't immune to AIDS, and that having casual sex can evolve into a life threatening disease.

David Brumbach, director of the Maryland AIDS Foundation, said, "They are having sex with multiple partners or experimenting with the drugs, they are in a fire trap, and the enemy is a virus. It's deadly."

It is estimated that by 1991, the number of diagnosed AIDS cases is expected to increase to 270,000; 179,000 deaths are predicted to

have occurred because of the disease.

According to the Center for Disease Control, there are now 1.5 million people who have been exposed to the AIDS virus which is known to cause the breakdown of the body's immune system.

The center also reports that 20 to 30 percent of those infected will contract AIDS, and that all of the infected people are capable of transmitting the disease for the rest of their lives.

Experts say teenagers engage in high risk activities because they feel invulnerable to danger and don't believe that doing drugs or catching an infectious disease will hurt them.

However, reports from the Center for Disease Control say that teenagers are at risk, and that a total of 168 AIDS victims are between the ages of 13 and 19. This is slightly less than half of one percent of all AIDS cases in the U.S.

The center also revealed that one out of every five people with AIDS are between the ages of 20 and 29.

The AIDS scare among college students has prompted some

universities and colleges in or near urban areas across the country to begin programs to educate the student body about the risks of contracting AIDS. These programs encourage students to practice safe sex, if they must have sex at all.

Dr. William Wade of the Kansas AIDS Network said, "Heterosexuals are not changing their behavior as far as safe sex is concerned."

He said that, instead, they have fewer sexual encounters and their partners are people they know. He also said, "Heterosexuals are not talking to prospective partners about the disease and past partners as much as homosexuals now are."

George MacDonald, executive director of the AIDS council, attributes students' decisions not to change their sexual habits, despite the AIDS fear, to "idealism and optimism," saying that these are qualities one associates with youth.

He also said, "The fact that a deadly virus might be among them and that they may be susceptible to it just doesn't occur to them."

Minorities: judged on grades more than SAT

by John Hoyle
Senior Writer

The decline in minority enrollment over the past four years at Elon has raised much concern among students, faculty and administrators. In up-coming Pendulum issues, there will be related articles on the decline.

"Even though Elon's average SAT score rose by 100 points last year, in-coming students are evaluated by their grades first," said Dean of Admissions Joanne Soliday. "No student with good grades will be turned away because of a low SAT score," Soliday added.

Dean Soliday brought this up to clarify the confusion of a related article in the April 7 issue of *The Pendulum*. The statement in that article was as follows: "We raised the SAT acceptance by 100 points."

Entrance requirements are crucial to the issue of black enrollment, and Soliday was among several campus administrators, faculty, and students who have commented on the article on black enrollment.

There are, however, other problems that colleges and universities are facing with declining minority enrollment.

Statistics show that fewer black students are graduating from high school.

"From 1980 to 1984, North Carolina black high school graduates were down 3.9 percent," Soliday said. "Also, black student enrollment in colleges nation-wide are down because more and more blacks are going into the military."

Guilford College admissions counselor Jimmy Williams has also stated that blacks are turning to the military instead of college. "They are going to the armed services or technical schools," Williams said. "It's not a free choice because they need to get immediate skills so they can get a job as soon as they get out."

Working to solve the issue of declining minority enrollment is a continuing effort. Dean Soliday added, "The nation has found it difficult to solve this problem, and Elon has found the same difficulty."

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