

THIS WEEK AT ELON

Friday

- U.S. Air Force Tactical Air Command Wind Concert, Yeager Recital Hall, 3 p.m.
- Dave Miller, Comedian, Second Floor, McEwen Cafeteria 7 p.m.
- *Love Letters*, Yeager Recital Hall, 8 p.m. A dramatic valentine reading by Catherine McNeela and Clair Myers. Admission by ticket only. Tickets are \$5.

Saturday

- *Love Letters*, Yeager Recital Hall, 8 p.m. A dramatic valentine reading by Catherine McNeela and Clair Myers. Admission by ticket only. Tickets are \$5.
- SUB Club Dance, Harper Center, 9 p.m.- Midnight

Tuesday

- College Chapel, Whitley, 9:30 a.m.
- Wellness Program is sponsoring a nutrition education program, 12 p.m. large lounge of Long.
- John D' Emilio, "Does Sex Have a History?", 7:30 p.m, Fine Arts Theatre. The speaker is a published author on sex and politics. He is a history professor at UNCG.
- Young Democrats meet 7:30 p.m. in senate room of Long.

Thursday

- SUB Hair Cut Day, Large Lounge, Long Student Center, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- *JFK* the controversial Oliver Stone movie will be discussed - 8 p.m. Fine Arts Theatre. Former Advance Man for John F. Kennedy, Jerry Bruno, and former U.S. Rep. L. Richardson Preyer will lead discussion.

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER THEATRE

At Nick's Cuisine,
Wednesday, Feb. 26
6:30 p.m.

Tickets on sale now 1-4 p.m. in Long
202, Student Union Board office.
Call to reserve tickets, Ext. 2334.
\$10 Per Ticket

Johnson notes some of JFK's flaws

Tonya R. Taylor
The Pendulum

Interest in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy has been sparked by Oliver Stone's riveting and controversial film, *JFK*.

It has led many people to inquire about the role of federal government agencies and other organizations in the conspiracy to assassinate the president. Ray Johnson, Elon College assistant professor of communications, has done extensive research on the assassination.

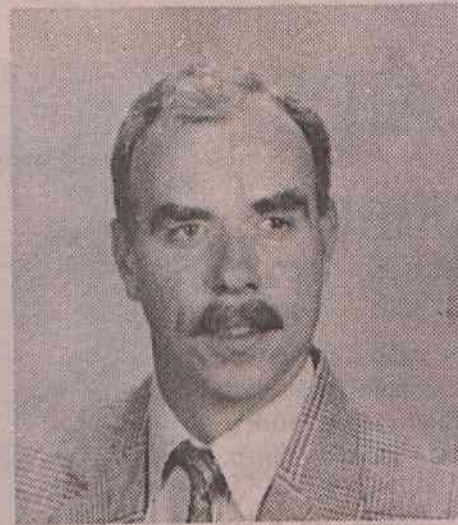
Johnson was in college when asked to prepare a speech defending the Warren Commission Reports, "I realized that any defense of the Warren Commission would be very weak," Johnson said.

Johnson read the entire Warren Report, information in the National Archives, and several books on the assassination.

He is pleased that Oliver Stone directed the film *JFK* because it has generated interest in the controversy. However, he does note the most significant flaws committed by the filmmaker, flaws not recognizable by most audiences.

Stone's incorporation of several different theories into the plot diminished its value, Johnson said.

"If you believe Oliver Stone, there are



Ray Johnson

thousands of people involved in this conspiracy, and that's a trap that people like Oliver Stone fall into," Johnson said. "It's just impossible to believe that the CIA and the FBI and the Dallas Police all got together to kill John Kennedy, that's ridiculous."

Johnson believes that the film does point out significant errors in the Warren Report. "It does get carried away and comes up with theories that are impractical, but that could have occurred," Johnson said. "It's almost like, who didn't kill John Kennedy?"

This flaw in the film discredits the work that Stone did in exposing the

inaccuracies of the Warren Report, Johnson said.

Stone's blending of historical facts, pictures and events created for the film has been attacked because of charges of misleading audiences. "The thing that bothers me is, now anyone viewing that film will mix fact with fiction and won't be able to separate them," Johnson said.

Former New Orleans District Attorney, Jim Garrison, is the man whose book, *On the Trail of the Assassins*, the film was primarily based on. Garrison's motives have been questioned in the past. Many claim that Garrison was seeking publicity in his efforts to expose the conspiracy.

"I think that it is unfortunate that Oliver Stone chose to make a hero out of Jim Garrison," Johnson said. "Remember that he was a politician."

Garrison did uncover some valid evidence in his research, Johnson said, yet he may have been guilty of fabricating evidence.

The film tried to encompass several of the conspiracy theories and the government agencies' alleged connection and involvement with Lee Harvey Oswald, Kennedy's accused assassin.

Stone tries to present these theories to the audience with the introduction of fictitious characters and events that never

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Stone movie awakens interest in JFK

Recently I went to see the movie *JFK*. Little did I know, this movie would grab my attention and interest in the way that it has.

The director, Oliver Stone, did a tremendous job of combining fact and theory to create dozens of questions over the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

Following the movie, I went out and bought Jim Garrison's book *On the Trail of the Assassins*, upon which the movie was based. I began reading editorials about the movie and articles about the assassination in national magazines and local newspapers. I must admit that researching the assassination has become a hobby.

Many Americans have seen this film and I hope that they don't stop with the movie but continue to research different opinions about the assassination.

I would urge any interested people to go beyond the theories of the movie and look at different viewpoints. Obviously, there are many people who have different ideas than Garrison and Stone.

Jerry Bruno and L. Richardson Preyer

MacHenry Schafer



are two men who have been very involved with the events of the assassination.

As Stone urged us in the movie to preserve the spirit of youth by searching for the truth, I urge you, the reader, to listen to the Bruno and Preyer discussion on February 20.

The Warren Commission, the committee headed by Earl Warren to investigate the assassination of JFK, made a tremendous mistake by not doing a thorough job of investigating the event. Due to this blunder, so many more theories and questions have been raised.

It is hard for me to handle the fact that Gerald Ford, our future president, sat on that committee and the investigation was so shabby. Who knows if the commission

was just in a rush or trying to cover up certain things, but it left many holes for people who were questioning the assassination to jump on.

My questions are:

1) Why did Lee Harvey Oswald spend his summer prior to the assassination in New Orleans (home of the FBI, CIA, and Navel Intelligence) working in and out of the same office of a former FBI official, Guy Banister, who then had a private investigation office?

2) How did Lee Harvey Oswald, who defected to the Soviet Union, get back into the country so easily? Surely someone who defects to the Soviet Union during the height of the Cold War would have a very difficult time getting back into the country, but why didn't Oswald?

3) Is it true that Oswald took a Nitrate test the day of the shooting that showed he had not fired a gun in the last 24 hours prior to arrest?

4) Clay Shaw, the New Orleans businessman Jim Garrison tried to connect with the conspiracy to kill JFK, was found to be a domestic contact for the CIA following the trial. Why was this not

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