



THE PENDULUM

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Organizations Look Forward to '96 Elections

Betty Carroll

In 1988, the percentage of young people voting in a presidential election fell to an all-time low of 36.2 percent, according to the Youth Vote Organization.

The same organization reported that the 1992 election had the largest voter turnout from young people, ages 18-25, in 24 years.

Because the efforts of Youth Vote, 42.8 percent of young people, voted in the 1992 presidential election.

The Elon College Democrats and Republicans are hoping that a large number of students will turn out to register to vote in the 1996 Presidential Election.

The two Elon organizations will be sponsoring voter registration drives beginning Sept. 30, in the Moseley Center, to encourage students to vote in the Presidential Election on Nov. 5.

The college Democrats are supporting the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority voter registration drive from Sept. 30 through Oct. 5.

Where to register

Students will be able to register in the Moseley Center from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and at College Coffee on Oct. 2.

Students wanting to register need to know their Social Security number as their form of ID.

The registration forms are applicable for most states. However, students that live out of state are being encouraged to register in



Members of Hillel pose at their Shabbat dinner, held last Friday. see story page 15.

Photo Submitted

North Carolina, said Tanya Brown, a member of the college Democrats.

Educating students during the registration drives to form their own opinions on the election is the main priority, said David Weslow, a member of the college Republicans.

A voter registration drive was

sponsored by the college Democrats on Sept. 19, at Senator Fred Harris' lecture on the 1996 elections.

About 10 students were successfully registered to vote, Brown said.

Both groups are hoping that the number of students registering

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The Pendulum Explores Eating Disorders

Andrea Stoffer

"It is time to stop judging women by the size of their waists and the size of their breasts, especially when one in five of our college girls has an eating disorder," said Marilyn Van Derbur, Miss America.

An estimated 2.5 percent of adult women suffer from chronic binging, bulimia (binge-and-purge), or anorexia nervosa (self-starvation), according to the National Academy of Eating Disorders.

The definition of an eating disorder has changed since it emerged in the 1970's. So it's difficult to gauge the prevalence of eating disorders.

But some studies show these problems are more common among preteens, teenagers and college

women. Nearly three-quarters of women in 1992 weren't happy with their bodies.

A survey was enclosed in the last issue, and in this issue, of *The Pendulum* to find out how Elon women feel about their bodies.

"Eating disorders are more common among women than men, perhaps because of the present cultural emphasis on thin women," according to Lauren Perdue and Brett Silverstein, authors of an eating disorder conference report.

Television is one of the primary influences of this thin standard of attractiveness.

Elon sophomore Heather Robalik thinks she is more influenced by television ads than other media portrayals of women.

Perdue and Silverstein did a study rating the age and weight of male and female characters from 33 popular TV shows. An analysis

of age and weight ratings showed that women on American television were rated as younger and thinner than men.

The Miss America televised swimsuit competition, which nearly a million viewers across the nation voted to maintain this year, continues to emphasize the importance of women's external appearance.

An article in the Sept. 17 edition of *The Philadelphia Inquirer* stated: "Had the public done the unpredictable and voted down the parade of bare thighs with a dance routine that would have shown plenty of skin."

Thin role models such as Katherine Hepburn were admired in the past. However, later in the 50's Marilyn Monroe was admired as a heavier and healthier model. Unfortunately, current media criti-

cized Alicia Silverstone for appearing to have gained weight at the Academy Awards.

Also, magazines victimize women by "running well-researched articles about eating disorders and loving ourselves 'just as we are' at the same time advertising under-weight pictures of women," said Donna Britt in an April 1 *Washington Post* article.

"Roger Moore, former *James Bond* actor criticized Calvin Klein and the fashion industry over waifs such as Kate Moss," stated an Aug. 30 article by *The Raleigh News & Observer*.

Robalik said, "Society always compares itself to supermodels instead of focusing on more realistic appearing models."

Brad Hamm, an Elon journalism professor, said, "Magazines di-

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