

THE CAMPUS CRIER

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A STUDENT GOVERNMENT NEWSLETTER

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An epidemic may soon strike the Elon Campus. There is a contagious disease which always appears around this time of year; and, once started, it catches everyone with low resistance--it is called apathy. Other names for the illness include "disinterest" and "passiveness", and the final diagnosis all adds up to, "I really care."

The path of apathy follows a yearly cycle that goes something like this: Everyone hits the campus after summer vacation with a real bang. A few students read the handbook and spread the news about the tyrannical new rules. The Freshmen are thoroughly indoctrinated with the "evils" of the brickwall playpen and the spirit on campus could set off a Niki missile. New classes, new ideas, new rules, new faces, old gripes in new forms ---all add to the fervor of the Student Body, and soon tension builds to the point where even the smallest new complaint or idea is strong enough to light a fire in the rain. All sorts of events take place, such as boycotts, marches, protests; honest initiative promotes worthwhile campus projects. This get-up-and-go is especially apparent on the part of SG officials. Officers and committee members burn the candles late as new ideas tick away in their heads and they enthusiastically make plans to revise everything and anything. Work! Work! Work! There is action, or talk of it, inspired by a stream of enthusiasm and awareness. This is the real point--awareness. And whatever form it takes--this is not evaluation--action indicates awareness.

And then--WHAM! Along comes vacation and in the grand exodus homeward, most of the spirit is packed right up into suitcase corners and carted away. Upon return to campus, vacation hangover takes hold and then the symptoms of the disease begins to appear. All of a sudden no one seems to care what happens about the anythings and the everythings, at least not actively. The main topic on campus becomes: who is dating who? Interest in doing gives away to interest in griping and giving up. Even some of the SG officials have to take vitamins for energy enough to keep them believing it is still worth the time and trouble. But some of the candles are blown out and the new ideas go no further than the file marked, "Maybe next year". The perfect conditions are set for an apathy epidemic.

What is the reason for this change? Loss of faith in action? Loss of interest? Staleness? Lack of energy or time? The realization that exams are coming and work on term papers is long overdue? Cold weather? Maybe a combination of these and other germs are what breed apathy. Unfortunately, we have yet to discover a cure and it seems that prevention requiring individual care and safeguarding on the part of the student is the only way to combat it. What can we do to keep our Student Body members from turning into apathetics? Perhaps we can give free "booster" shots in the cafeteria.--CT

SENATE NEWS

As the result of a bill passed by the Senate on November 28, the Freshman Board of Control will be re-established next fall to help with the enforcement of Elon traditions and Freshman rules and regulations.

Other bills passed at the meeting included a bill to levy a fine on students who neglect to pay their Student Government fees on time, and a bill for the appropriation of money for an adding machine for the Student Government Office.

Senator Ken Lumpkin, chairman of the Judicial Committee, presented the Bill on Student Government Fees as recommended by his committee. Under this law, students who do not pay their Student Government fees within two weeks after notification by the President will be fined \$2.00.

A new bill presented in the Senate by Senator Melvin Shreves calls for the establishment of a Student News Bureau. The Bureau, if established, will be responsible for sending news releases on students to their home town newspapers. The bill at present is being considered by the Committee on Academic and Campus Affairs.

Another bill now under consideration is one which calls for each senator to prepare fifty copies of the legislation which he presents to the group. Each senator would receive a copy and this will enable the representatives to keep files of bills and will help clarify the contents of legislations to the voter.

A bill to be presented in the near future calls for replacing the Sturgis Parliamentary Procedure now used in the Senate with a system based on Robert's Rules of Order.