

How far have we really come, baby?

1975 is International Women's Year, set by the United Nations to draw attention to how the role of women in society can be improved all over the world. Why was it necessary that a year be dedicated to women? Why was Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 needed? Why an Equal Rights Amendment?

The answer is that the past history of the treatment of women has been so dismal that finally, three-quarters of the way through the 20th century, some people are trying to rectify the situation. The most powerful forces are, of course, the Federal government and public opinion.

What progress is being made in colleges? We might expect institutions of higher learning to be on the frontier of social change and to reverse discriminatory practices. But they have moved with glacial speed. The last study by the American Council on Education of 42,000 teaching faculty members shows that in five years the percentage of women hired increased from 19.1 to 20 per cent. And this was during a period of much talk of "affirmative action."

One great accomplishment has been the scrapping of quotas for law schools and other professions. Sex is no longer supposed to be a factor in the choice of candidates. This progress is more important in the long run than equalizing dormitory rules and trying to strike a balance in athletic expenditures. Able women will have a chance in many professions.

What about Elon College and affirmative action? Because Elon is a private college, without Federal contracts of over \$50,000 at this time, it is not required by HEW to develop a written plan of action. Robert Baxter, vice-president for legal affairs, says that he has worked on the elimination of discrimination because of sex since 1973 and is still working on the Title IX memorandum on athletics.

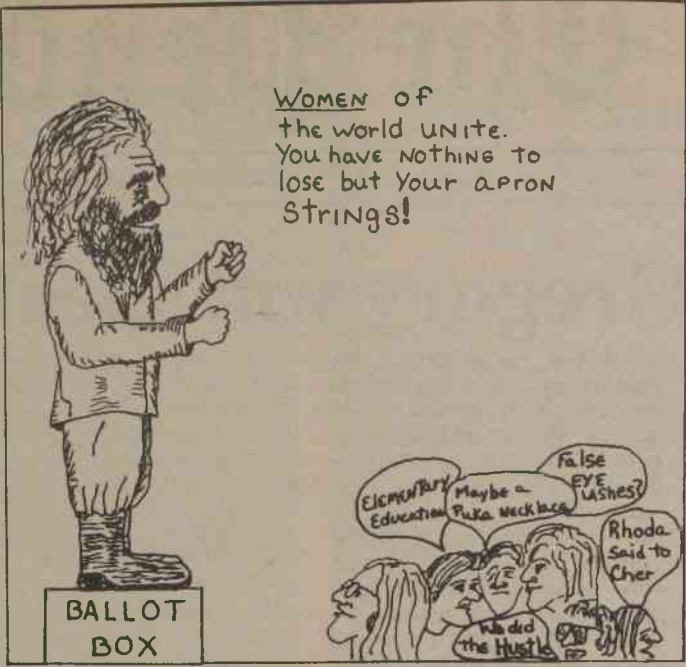
Colleges must perform a self-evaluation of their entire educational program, including athletics, before July 21, 1976. Matters of scholarships in sports and accommodating varied interests of both sexes must be carried out by July 21, 1978. Before then, HEW suggests publicizing plans to gain assistance of students, faculty, and staff in complying.

Progress has been made in Elon dormitory life with further suggestions on visitation rights of women presented at the Board of Trustees meeting. Elon has a woman president of SGA and a woman vice-president; a woman editor and one assistant editor of the newspaper; a woman head of the Liberal Arts Forum, and one woman on the soccer team.

In the top administration, Elon College has a woman dean; in the administrative staff of 37, nine are women. Among the 14 departments, only the developing Community Services Dept. of one person has a woman chairman. Of the 36 members of the Board of Trustees, three are women. Of the teaching faculty, two of the nine full professors are women. Of the 20 associate professors, seven are female.

Vice-President Baxter says that most matters of possible discrimination because of sex have been equalized or are being given equal opportunity status. He himself is the *de facto* affirmative action agent on campus. He feels that even a voluntary program would be costly, and that the college has, in effect, already carried out its own evaluation and action.

In the interests of keeping communications open, the students would like a report on precisely what has been done and is being done in affirmative action before the end of 1975, International Women's Year.



Profile on the Board of Trustees

by Lance Latane

Most students have only a vague idea of what the Board of Trustees is and does.

Handling many of the college's affairs, the board determines policies which often directly affect the student's experience at Elon. In an effort to develop better communications between trustees and students, some of the staff got together with Chairman of the Board Thad Eure last week to find out how he feels about his position and the interplay between the student and board should greatly increase each party's knowledge of the other and provide increased responsibility in mutual matters.

Congenial 76-year-old Thad Eure arrived wearing a foot-wide red bow tie and exclaiming, "I'm glad to meet with you all. There ought to be more of this." He has been chairman for 20 of his 33 years with the board. Between boyhood Gates County anecdotes, he continued to express his eagerness in learning what's on the students' minds. "I can relate to students," he said. "I know them personally; the men and the women's side. I've got three grandchildren—two girls and a boy—they're students. I was a student, and my children were students."

Mr. Eure went on to explain

the structure of the Board of Trustees. The Church has much influence since two-thirds of the 36 persons on the board must be members of the Southern Conference of the United Church of Christ. Affairs of the college are handled as the business of a corporation.

An extremely powerful organization, the board, as stated

committees: education, campus life, business, and development. "I'm on the campus life committee, and I invite all students' views and ideas. As long as I'm on that committee I want to hear them. I've never turned a deaf ear to students. I think it's a privilege to hear them."

These committees listen to



Pendulum staff members talk with Thad Eure, center. Robert Baxter, vice-president for legal affairs, joined the group. (Photo: ECNB)

in *The Charter and By-Laws of Elon College* "elects a President of the College to serve at the board's pleasure..." They also elect and hire the vice-presidents, secretary, treasurer and the professors.

Business is divided into four

appeals and then recommend their opinion to the board which votes on all matters.

Mr. Eure emphasized the board's responsibility of running the college as a corporation. As a business firm, they are sensitive to the college, they are sensitive to the community. As we sat there, he read us a letter from an irate alumnus who, after seeing a liquor advertisement in an Elon football program, announced that he would not consider donating "the first dollar" to the college. Pretty hard and cold facts, but the board fears may student proposals would repudiate potential benefactors.

"We have to consider, when dealing with any type proposal, if it is reasonable and workable under present circumstances. Public opinion and financial consideration play a large part," Mr. Eure said.

Thad Eure seems genuinely responsive to students. "We want everything here to give an enjoyable education experience to the student," he said.

An Elon ID entitles you to many wonderful things, and one of them you may not know about — discount tickets to the Terrace Theater in Burlington.

The tickets are over half reduced to \$1.35. They're also good at all ABC Theaters in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia.

Hafner's hang-ups

by Laurie Hafner, SGA president



I've got lots to say, so you might as well sit back and take it easy.

The house government elections were held last Tuesday and there was a good response. I really do hope this program proves a success and does in fact help the living and social conditions of resident students.

For those of you who didn't make it to the concert Wednesday night, you really missed it. Linda was hot and good. I want to thank Rick and Jay for all their hard work and thanks to the TKE's for doing such a terrific job cleaning, setting up, and marshaling.

Tonight, in conjunction with the Public Inquiries committee, the SGA is presenting the dynamic Dick Gregory. This guy is wild and will have a *dynamite* talk. Hope you all can make it. I want to thank Bob Hurst for coordinating this program.

The SGA held a trial period of

open visitation last Sunday and it went really well. Wes Strickland and Ron Osborne helped put it together. I also want to thank all you guys for sitting out there and registering the people. You all helped make it work.

To get really serious now, as many of you know, the Board of Trustees met last night. I presented three proposals: one about PIRG, one for Friday and Saturday evening visitation in men's and women's dorms, and finally visitation in the men's dorms.

I want you all to know I'm trying my best to get what you students want. Please let me know if you think I'm not or if you have some other ideas. I'm sponsoring an open forum from 2:30 till 4:00 out by O'Kelly Memorial. So come on out and let your gripes be heard. You will probably end up hearing mine and maybe we can get it all together.

The Pendulum

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