

Weather hampers caravan

by Victoria Huffman

Snow and hazardous road conditions seriously affected attendance at ERA Caravan program in Whitley on Feb. 22. But the crowd who attended responded to members of the caravan by asking many questions on ERA.

Dr. Miriam Slifkin from Chapel Hill introduced the program by explaining the history of the ERA and the goals of the caravan. She explained that passage of the 19th Amendment was only the first step for suffragists. Fifty years after the introduction of ERA to Congress, suffragists are still struggling to have two words added to the Constitution. Their wish is simply to have the words "and women" added to the phrase "all men are created equal." In a humorous aside, Dr. Slifkin explained the opposition's "incredible reasoning" in the fight against the vote for women was that the emotional impact of voting on pregnant women would cause miscarriages.

Another member of the caravan, Dr. Helen Courvoisie, a child psychiatrist from Winston-Salem, told of her personal experience with job discrimination while attending medical school. Dr. Courvoisie claims that ratification of the ERA will improve society emotionally and mentally.

A highlight of the program was the film, "How We Got

the Vote." The film showed the harsh realities that suffragists have undergone throughout the history of the movement. Women were jailed and treated cruelly for expressing their beliefs in women's rights.

Dr. Courvoisie pointed out a parallel in the film between President Woodrow Wilson's consistent refusal to act on the matter of women's rights and the reluctance of president Carter and Governor Hunt to give attention to equal rights.

In the question and answer period, Dr. Courvoisie said that only 17 per cent of divorced fathers pay child support today. The ERA would help more men (who are judged by the courts as more capable of caring for children in a split family than estranged wives) gain custody, now a rare occurrence in court cases. Today 60 per cent of wives are working because their husband earn less than \$7,000 yearly. Equal pay, she says, cannot, as the opposition suggests, destroy the home. Women in this country now maintain 19 million households, yet for every \$1.00 earned by a man, only 57 cents is earned by a woman.

In a survey taken earlier this year, it was shown that 70 per cent of the population favors the ERA. "Why don't we have it?" Dr. Courvoisie exclaimed. "North Carolina should be the next state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment," she said.

Musical drama to be staged

by Victoria Huffman

Dr. Walter Westafer's class in History of Musical Styles is working on a production of "Noye's Fludde." The music drama is to be a feature of the Liberal Arts Symposium which will be held on campus the week of April 11.

The production is a setting to music of the 15th century Chester, England, miracle play about Noah's flood. The music was written by the British composer Benjamin Britten in Middle English.

Chief characters are Noah,

his wife, and their family. Other characters include Noah's animals, roles to be played by the Burlington Boys Choir. Only one character, God, has a speaking part.

Mr. and Mrs. Noah will be sung by professionals of this area, the names to be announced.

Accompaniment includes a string quintet, an organ, a piano, recorders and percussion.

"Noye's Fludde" will be presented in Whitley auditorium on April 13 and 14 at 8 p.m.

New computer to be installed

by Bryant Colson

As a result of the \$2 million grant for an advanced institutional development program (AIDP) under the provisions of Title III of the Higher Education Act, Elon College is making the first major acquisition of the grant by purchasing a new computer system.

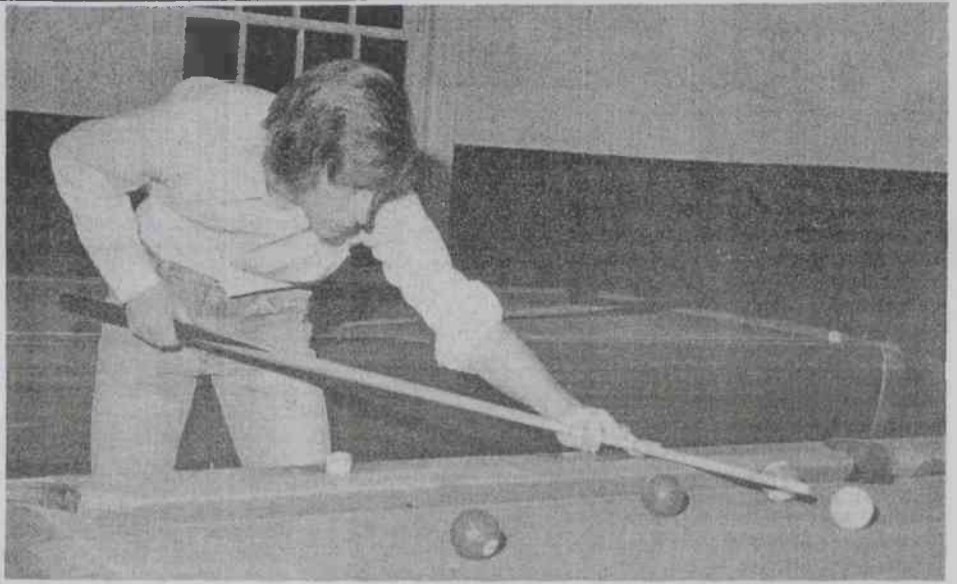
After considering several alternatives, a computer search committee has selected the MSL/Campus System to replace the present IBM System 32.

According to Kenneth L. Harper, director of administrative services, the new system will provide additional services for administrative units and

will make possible direct-on-line contact with the computer center by users by means of special CRT units. (These are television-like screens commonly seen in banks).

"The new system will streamline administrative processes," says Mr. Harper, "and make information more readily available." The system will aid during registration and will be a big asset to the business and administration offices, he says.

The installation of the MSL/Campus System is scheduled to begin in early summer. According to Mr. Harper, parts of the system will be in operation by winter term 1979.



Mike Hughes was the winner of last week's Student Union Board Pool Tournament.

ERA: third in a series

Some people are saying that the Equal Rights Amendment will require women — even mothers — to register for the draft and to serve alongside men in combat and this would ruin the morale and the effectiveness of the military.

Not true — the U.S. military has been attempting to determine through practical experience with both male and female members of the armed forces which jobs in the military women can effectively perform. Based on the results of these tests, the military will decide which assignments should be opened to women and which should continue to be restricted to males because of physiological, mental, combat effectiveness and military efficiency reasons.

Should the military establish that assigning women to certain duty would substantially impair the discipline or morale

of the armed forces — lessening the ability of the country to defend itself — women could be excluded from those assignments despite the ERA. In the military, an individual's constitutional rights are balanced against the needs and responsibilities of the Armed Forces.

A Senate Judiciary Report (S. Rept. 92-689) on the Equal Rights Amendment states:

"...the ERA will not require that all women serve in the military any more than all men are now required to serve. Those women who are physically or mentally unqualified, or who are conscientious objectors, or who are exempt because of their responsibilities (e.g. certain public officials, or those with dependents) will not have to serve, just as men who are unqualified or exempt do not serve today. Thus the fear

that mothers will be conscripted from their children into military service if the Equal Rights Amendment is ratified is totally and completely unfounded. Congress will allow exemptions from compulsory service. For example, Congress might well decide to exempt all parents of children under 18 from the draft."

"Congress has always had the authority to draft women. Just because ERA is ratified does not mean that they will be drafted. The same is true of women in combat. If the Congress and the courts determine that this is not the proper role for women, they could so rule," states Lt. Col. Verna Kellogg, USAF of the U.S. Department of Defense. Maj. Gen. Jeanne Holm, (USAF Ret.) says "I would expect that (these) issues — combat and the draft — will be settled soon by the military itself. . ."

Count the cross-stitchers

by Gib Buie

Counted cross-stitch, a relaxing activity, is a popular pastime in Elon's women's dorms. Among those involved in cross-stitch are Buffy Hol-

comb, Lisa McBryde, Martha Cagle, Beth Martin, and Bonny Smith. Marcia Dellinger's interest in cross-stitch is credited with being the catalyst for the growth of the hobby on

second floor Staley, although some of the girls were already experienced at the craft. Cassie Bondurant has a wall hanging just completed for her grandfather, and is already working on another project. The girls find it a good group activity. "It keeps your hands busy when watching television," and in addition you enjoy socializing while stitching."

Marcia Dellinger says those who are interested in learning how to cross-stitch should sign up for classes at The Cottage, a cross-stitch material shop in Holly Hill Mall. Classes are small (usually 4-6 people) and there are two one-hour sessions. The next classes are to begin at the end of March.

Study of Hunger

The active Religious Life Committee of Elon College is currently sponsoring a study group on hunger and related issues during March and April. A panel discussion includes Drs. Steve Caddell and Carol Chase. Six sessions, held each Wednesday, beginning March 8 and ending April 19, will compose the study. Anyone interested in the hunger issue should meet in the listening room (206) of Long Student Center. The concluding session on April 19 will mark the beginning of the CROP fast on campus. The fast will end April 20.

These meetings will involve not only Elon students, but members of the Elon Com-

munity as well. The topic for the opening session is "The Extent and Reality of the Hunger Problem." For the sessions a suggested text of Arthur Simon's **Bread for the World** is available at the Campus Shop at the cost of \$1.50.

Applications for the the position of

Editor of the

Phi Psi Cli

are now being accepted. Forms available

Room 211 Long Student Center

Deadline--March 15, 1978