

WOMEN'S VU

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A publication for and about women
at Vanderbilt University

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WOMEN'S SCIENCE WORKSHOP DRAWS CROWD

Over 150 women attended a workshop on "Careers in Science for Women" on October 27. Vanderbilt sponsored the conference, which was funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and coordinated by Molly Miller, Assistant Professor of Geology. Some of the workshop sessions dealt with strategies for integrating personal and professional lives productively, while others focussed on career opportunities for women in the various scientific disciplines.

One of the many interesting speakers was Dr. Maxine Savitz, Acting Assistant Secretary for Conservation and Solar Applications in the U.S. Department of Energy, who gave the address after dinner. She described conservation as a positive approach to energy use and discussed opportunities in federal jobs for women from different scientific disciplines. While women are still a small minority of the scientists employed by

government agencies, Dr. Savitz said that their numbers are growing. She believes that female applicants are given serious consideration for entry-level positions and that the future is bright for female scientists who seek employment in Washington.

As follow-up on the workshop, Anita Guy and Evon Batey Lee, two Vanderbilt students, under the supervision of Kathryn Smith of the Career Planning and Placement Office, gathered information about career opportunities in middle Tennessee. This information included a chart of major businesses and industries in the region which employ women at various degree levels, a list of female scientists currently employed in both private and the public sectors in Tennessee with advice they have to offer to students, a bibliography on career information and a list of associations of and for female scientists.

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Women's Studies Course Treats Public Policy

Women's Studies 151, Women and Public Policy, will be offered in the spring term, TT 1:00, by Dr. Donna Wood of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and Prof. Sheila Tobias, Visiting Professor of Women's Studies.

The course will examine the historical and current contexts of public policies affecting women, including issues in education, employment, and health and safety. The focus of the course will be on the formation (through legislative and interest group actions), implementation (by public agencies and private organizations), and judicial interpretation of policies affecting women, and on the degree to which changes in formal policy are congruent with the public's readiness for change.

A prospective syllabus may be obtained by calling Dr. Wood at 322-2824.

Women Trustees Meet Campus Women

An informal meeting of women in the university community and women on the Board of Trust was held on November 1, in conjunction with the semi-annual meeting of the Board of Trust. The agenda centered around the status of women at Vanderbilt, a review of the Women's Center's first year, and comments on the Women's Studies program.

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Board-of-Trust

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Elaine Sanders-Bush indicated that, while the presence of women in mid- and upper-echelon faculty and administrative positions has increased, the percentage of women in these posts is not nearly as high as would be desirable.

Gay Welch pointed out that, while the Women's Studies Program has made no great strides, it has held its own in terms of both enrollment and quality faculty. She also announced that Vanderbilt will host the Southeastern Women's Studies Association meeting in March.

The meeting concluded with expressions of gratitude to Jan Belcher and Verley Archer for their contributions to women's concerns during their many years of service to Vanderbilt, and a request that the women on the Board of Trust act as advocates for all women in the university.—*Bridgette Parisi*

Women March

"We're thankful for the support of the community," says Ann Marie Alderman, coordinator of the successful November 3 "Take Back the Night" march. A number of men and children joined two hundred women in a candlelit procession to protest violence against women. The march, which began at Metro courthouse, ended at Legislative Plaza, where speakers and entertainers took the platform to stress the fact that rape is an act of violence which affects all women.

In the days preceding the march, coordinators presented Mayor Richard Fulton's office with a list of recommendations dealing with more effective rape control measures. These recommendations call for: the formation of sexual offense and domestic violence teams within the police department; the formation of a citizens' coalition, with the mayor's approval and support; and the regular release in the media of police statistics pertaining to rape and rape attempts.

A meeting, open to all interested persons, concerning the formation of the citizens' coalition will be held at 4:00, November 17, at 250 Venture Circle in the Metro Center. For more information, contact Anne Marie Alderman (292-1597).—*Robyn Wells*

Book Review

Dinnerstein, Dorothy. *The Mermaid and the Minotaur: Sexual Arrangements and Human Malaise*, New York: Harper and Row, 1976.

Dinnerstein's book is perhaps the most thought-provoking study of the psychology of gender relationships to come out in recent years, if not in this century. She sees human life and civilization a crisis: either we change in order to heal the awful dualities in our human nature or we face self-annihilation. Our great hope for survival is a restructured gender arrangement characterized by the sharing of child-rearing responsibilities by men and women.

Dinnerstein argues that female dominance of an infant's surroundings educates the infant to understand a split in human sensibility defined along sexual lines. A split results: man is "clean," possesses an independent subjectivity, and is free to go about the ruling of the world; woman is cast in the role of scapegoat and rocker of the cradle, carries the limitation of flesh as well as the awesome powers of nature, and is only with difficulty acknowledged to be independent.

The informing principle of Dinnerstein's book is the effort to "shatter the collaboration" between women and men which maintains the present state of affairs. If we conceive both women and men as equal partners in the responsibilities of child-rearing, then we can begin to identify "human" as something not primarily male, because the infants we create can come to know the magic and the anguish of the flesh as the inherent quality of both males and females.

This effort makes the book both exciting and uncomfortable. She challenges us to take the risks necessary to set our natures in a more mature direction. Female efforts toward achieving social and economic equality will remain stymied until the grating splits in our child-rearing practices are reconciled. Dinnerstein offers the reader a perception of the human condition that opens up for both sexes the possibility for a fuller "access to pre-rational layers of sentience" and fuller pleasure in the exercise of our intellects as well.—*Marcia McDonald*

New Developments for Handicapped Students at Vanderbilt

Vanderbilt University is developing programs to assist physically disabled and sensory impaired students, 60% of whom are women. The Opportunity Development Center and the Task Force on the Opportunities for the Handicapped, with the cooperation of many campus offices, are continually evaluating the needs of Vanderbilt's handicapped students.

With the cooperation of the Tennessee Educational Service Department at the State Prison here in Nashville, arrangements have been made to have many campus publications brailled. A group of very skilled and dedicated men at the prison, who call themselves the "P.I.R.A.T.E.S." (Prison Inmates Recording and Transcribing Educational Materials for the Sightless), do the brailing. Some of the items being brailled are copies of the 1979-80 Freshman Orientation Program, brochures about Food Services, the Student Center, and the Interuniversity Psychological and Counselling Center, and an abbreviated version of the Campus Directory. Because of their volume, other items, such as the Arts and Science Catalogue and THE BOOK are being recorded on cassette tapes. Volunteers at the Tennessee Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped are providing this service. The Center hopes to have other school catalogues and publications made available in braille and on tape as the need arises.

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Women's Science Workshop

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There are few role models for women going into the sciences. It was good to talk with these women who are accepted as scientists by their mostly-male peers. It is not easy. Ann Zurowski, one of the panelists, was advised early in her career that she might, if she tried very hard, be a geological *librarian*. Today she is a geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey who goes into the drilling field to collect data.—*Debbie Ray*

STUDENTS HOLD PRO-CHOICE FAIR

In connection with Abortion Rights Action Week, Tennesseans Keeping Abortion Legal and Safe (TKALS) sponsored pro-choice fairs on October 23 and 24 at several middle-Tennessee universities, including Vanderbilt. As one TKALS member stated, the purpose of the fairs was not to debate the abortion issue, but to inform students of existing threats to women's right to choose abortion.

TKALS members set up booths at Rand and Hill Student Centers with buttons, pamphlets, and newsletters. Information was available concerning the impracticality of a new Tennessee law which requires a three day waiting period between the time a woman signs a consent for abortion and the time the abortion is performed. Another brochure addressed the ineffectual Medicaid compromise of July, 1979, which cuts off funds for abortion for poor women.

One of the main aims of the fair was to encourage members of the university community to actively support pro-choice efforts. TKALS members invited parents to show their support by signing petitions and sending "I'm Pro-Choice and I Vote" cards to Senators Baker and Sasser. Pro-choice advocates were encouraged to speak out against "Con-Con" by writing to state and federal legislators. "Con-Con" is a state bill calling for a second Constitutional Convention at which the U.S. Constitution would be amended to ban abortion. This bill has already passed the State Senate and will be voted on by the House in January.

TKALS wound up its pro-choice week activities on October 25 with a benefit film festival featuring the 1975 film, *Hester Street*. Contributions from the film showing will be used to support TKALS future activities.

Although it has been in existence for only six months, TKALS is now affiliated with subsidized by the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL). As TKALS' name suggests, it is not an organization for college students only, but is open to anyone concerned about keeping abortions legal and safe.—Carolyn Altgate

handicapped students

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As a continuing project, the Center is developing a resource library of materials and agency contacts which may be helpful to handicapped persons. The "Monitor" system, which was established in 1977, will continue to provide a contact person in each school and the College who can assist students with planning, orientation, and class scheduling and room assignments for greater accessibility.

As a result of the University's commitment to equal educational opportunity, handicapped students now participate in a wider variety of academic programs. With continued planning and on-going campus improvements, handicapped students at Vanderbilt can look forward to a more supportive and barrier-free campus environment in which to learn.—Patricia Pierce, Asst. Director, Opportunity Development Ctr.

News and Notes

Write On, Women!, a writer's guide to over 80 women's alternate press periodicals, giving circulation size, editorial policies, readership, types of writing published, etc., is available from Lynne D. Shapiro, 345 West 87th Street, New York, New York, 10024. The cost is \$4.00.

Legal Clinic, Women's Resource Center, up to 30 minutes of free legal advice. Two locations: YWCA, 1608 Woodmont Blvd., and Jefferson Street Missionary Baptist church, 2708 Jefferson Street. Time: Every Thursday, 6-8 p.m. Call the YWCA (385-3952) for appointment at either location.

Women's Health Clinic Task Force Group, Womankind Support Project, planning meetings, every other Sunday night; for dates and locations call Susan at 269-4984 or Andrea at 322-4773.

Women's Emergency Shelter Needs Funding

Shelter is one of the greatest needs of women in Nashville. Currently there are only 32 temporary beds for women, while there are 247 for men. Of the 32 beds available for women, only 18 have provision for children. A Shelter Task Force is working to meet this great need. Composed of 24 agencies and groups, the Task Force will sponsor the shelter for women who are victims of domestic violence or are in other crisis situations.

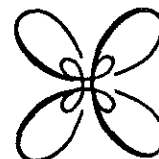
Approximately \$82,000, the estimated first year budget, is needed to open the shelter, which includes 24 hour staffing and counseling.

Many women in Nashville need such services. Police records show that 21.5% of all reported assaults and homicides in the city are related to domestic violence. In a Nashville survey conducted last March, 6 agencies were observed for one month. During this time, 125 requests for shelter were received from women with a total of 93 children. Only 40 of these women, and 10 children, were able to be served.

Sociological studies estimate that violence occurs in 50% of all families. According to the FBI Uniform Crime Reports, one-fourth of all murders occur within families, and half of these involve a husband and wife.

In the past in Nashville, SWIC (Services for Wo/Men in Crisis) has aided women in times of crisis. The main functions were referral and job advocacy. Last August, SWIC lost its funding, two years after it was formed.

Various organizations now receive calls from women seeking shelter. The YWCA and Crisis Call receive many such calls, along with the Salvation Army and Union Mission. But until more beds are available, most of the women and children who need a temporary place to stay cannot be accommodated.—Joy Mallick



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

There will be two important "firsts" for the women's basketball team in the 1979-80 season. This year marks the first time that season tickets will be available for women's basketball at Vanderbilt. Another exciting "first" is the broadcast by WSM Radio of the November 21 game between Vanderbilt and Tennessee, a game in which traditional rivalries run strong. If WSM receives a favorable response to this first broadcast, other Lady 'Dores games may be aired. Let's show our support for women's athletics at Vanderbilt by showing our support for giving women's sports events the same coverage traditionally received by men's teams.

LADY COMMODORES' BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Nov. 17	Georgia Tech	Nashville	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 19	Tennessee State	Nashville (A)	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 21	Tennessee	Nashville	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 24	Middle Tennessee State	Nashville	8:30 p.m.
Nov. 26	Belmont	Nashville (H)	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 1	Memphis State	Memphis	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 3	Ole Miss	Oxford, Miss.	5:15 p.m.
Dec. 8	UT-Chattanooga	Chattanooga	5:00 p.m.
Dec. 10	Florida	Gainesville, Fla.	7:00 p.m.
Dec. 14-16	UT Martin Christmas Tournament	Martin	
Jan. 12	East Tennessee State	Nashville	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 14	UT-Martin	Nashville	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 16	UT-Chattanooga	Nashville	5:15 p.m.
Jan. 23	Florida	Nashville	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 24	Tennessee Tech	Cookeville	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 28	Georgia Tech	Atlanta, Ga.	7:00 p.m.

ON THE AVERAGE, WOMEN WHO WORK FULL-TIME EARN 59 CENTS FOR EVERY \$1 EARNED BY MEN . . . The National Commission on Work Women says that during the last 25 years, women's earning as a percentage of men's have dropped steadily. In 1955, full-time women workers earned 64 cents to men's one dollar. Ten years later, women's earning were calculated to be 59.4 cents per men's one-dollar. The 1977 census data show that the median annual earnings for full-time male workers was \$14,626 and for female workers was \$8,618, or 58.9%.



EQUAL RIGHTS GUARANTEED

The Equal Rights Amendment:

Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this Article.

Section 3. This Amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

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