

# WOMEN'S VU

April 1982

A publication of Vanderbilt University Women's Center.

IV:6

## WHET Conference in Nashville April 24

**ASSESSING OURSELVES: ASSERTING OUR FUTURE:** Women in Higher Education in Tennessee will hold its 1982 Spring Conference April 24 here in Nashville at the downtown campus of Tennessee State University.

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. with the opening address given at 9:00 a.m. by WHET President Yvonne Ralston. Workshops and regional caucuses complete the morning program. Three workshops have been planned: "The Academic Game", "The State of Financial Assistance for Graduate Study", and "Political Involvement".

An integral part of the organization of WHET continues to be the six regional caucuses. With representatives elected to WHET's Executive Board from each one, caucuses formalize the input of concerns and issues from each region into WHET's statewide agenda.

Following the luncheon, new officers will be installed and Charles Warren, Field Representative of Tennessee State Employees Association, will speak.

Registration for the one day conference is \$15.00 and can be paid in advance or at registration. For further information please contact Pat Pierce, 322-4705.

## "Raises and Roses" for National Secretaries Week

National Secretaries Week is April 18-24, 1982. This year, WORKING WOMEN, the National Association of Office Workers, announces its "RAISES AND ROSES" campaign to recognize and promote respect for the 20,000,000 office workers in the United States.

*"Why a National Secretaries Week Campaign? Up until recently, National Secretaries Week was a prime time to reinforce stereotypes about women and work. But the fact is, as you know, a flower and a pat on the back don't begin to make up for the realities that women office workers earn an average of \$10,000 a year compared to \$17,000 brought home by their male coun-*

*continued on p. 4*

### An Invitation to the VANDERBILT COMMUNITY

The Women's Center Advisory Board invites you to  
a meeting with members of The Vanderbilt Board of Trust

on

THURSDAY, April 22, 1982

11:00-12:00 noon

in the A.J. Dyer Room of the Engineering Building.

The topic is Child Care for Vanderbilt. The Child Care Task Force will report preliminary findings from their fall survey and answer questions.

The next meeting to discuss the concerns of women on campus with members of the Board of Trust will take place Thursday, April 22, 1982, 11:00 to 12:00 noon in the A.J. Dyer Room in the Engineering Building.

Preliminary findings from the Child Care Questionnaire distributed last fall will be presented by Kathy Hearne, Chair of the Women's Center Task Force on Child Care. Members of the Task Force will be present to answer questions.

These biannual meetings with the Board of Trust to discuss women's issues grew out of a series of informal meetings between women on the Board of Trust and women on campus. For the first time last November the entire Board of Trust was invited. Almost 100 persons attended that meeting, which addressed the Langland case and faculty concerns. The inclusion of men became the

### DOLLARS AND CHANGE . . .

For years economists have been documenting the case that women have been discriminated against in the work place. The most direct decisive evidence yet of systematic sex discrimination in labor markets emerge not from an economic study, but, from a survey by Dr. Norman M. Fisk, a Stanford University psychiatrist. His questionnaire, sent to 170 people involved in sex-change operations, showed "that each person who changed from female to male earned more after the change."

-quoted in SAVVY, April 1982  
from Business Week, 1/25/82

"new tradition" of meeting together to explore our shared concerns for equity at Vanderbilt.

Responsibility for arranging the meeting has become a function of the Women's Center. Notices to Trustees, announcement of the time and place in the *VANDERBILT REGISTER*, and this preliminary notice to readers of the *Women's VU* are the principal ways of letting everyone know about the meeting. The agenda is set by the Women's Center Advisory Board which includes staff, undergraduate and postgraduate students, faculty and administrators. Because the time is very limited, the discussion usually is confined to one topic.

These meetings are truly a special event at Vanderbilt. It is unusual for university trustees to meet informally with members of the campus community to discuss issues like these. We are fortunate that members of the Board of Trust take the time to attend, to listen, and to express their views about women at Vanderbilt.

-Nancy A. Ransom, Director  
Women's Center

### STUDENTS FOR WOMEN'S EQUITY BENEFIT CONCERT

Tuesday, April 20, 1982  
8:00 p.m.

Langford Auditorium

Performers: Gonzo Theater and  
Riders in the Sky

Tickets are \$10.00 (Vanderbilt student ID: \$5.00) For further information please call the Women's Center, 322-4843.

## <sup>2</sup> Tennessee Women's Network Seeks Support

In 1975 an international women's conference was held in Mexico City. It launched the "Decade for Women" sponsored by the United Nations. Representatives of governments and independent groups from around the world gathered to set an agenda for women's equality in the ten years that lay ahead.

As a result of the non-governmental organizations' participation (NGO), a national committee was established in the United States which was called the National Women's Conference Committee. Each state is represented by two delegates who serve as the state "Network". In the spring of 1980, when plans were made for the Mid-Decade Conference, this committee was instrumental in organizing independent women's groups to arrange for their representation at the Mid-Decade Conference.

Now the Committee is looking ahead to 1985 and the end of the "Decade for Women". Meanwhile, much work remains to be done in the United States. At a national meeting of the Committee in February 1982, the prospects for final passage of the Equal Rights Amendment were examined. It was agreed that whether the ERA is ratified or not, American women must focus on the specific areas of concern to women: education, employment, health, family law, child care, international issues, and political participation, to name a few. To accomplish this, the Committee agreed to plan for regional women's conferences in 1983.

The theme for the Committee's present work is summed up in the title: A NEW DAY: BEYOND ERA". The Women's Center will continue to report on the Committee's plans and will announce the location and dates of the regional conference nearest Nashville. Additional information about the Tennessee Women's Network, which is our state branch, is available at the Women's Center.

Support of the committee and its work is needed. Women who want to support the work of the Committee should send annual dues of \$10.00 to Carolyn P. Cowan, Tennessee Women's Network, 245 Clearview Drive, Clarksville, TN 37040.

*-Nancy A. Ransom, Director  
Women's Center*

### DAY CARE . . .

Bethlehem Center, 1417 Charlotte Ave. (around the corner from Charlotte Avenue on Fifteenth)

Pre-school program for 3, 4, 5 year olds

After-school care program

Fees are based on a sliding scale.

Information can be obtained from Joyce Hyde or Anne Martin at 329-0261 or 329-3386.

## Womankind Health Center is Now Open!

After a long hard struggle to materialize the dream of extended health care services for women, the grand opening celebration of the Womankind Health Center was held on March 1, 1982. The center evolved originally from a local independent group called Womankind Support Project formed in October 1978. Its members outlined the kinds of health services women need throughout the Nashville area and then set about the task of fund-raising for both the health care center and the woman's emergency shelter. They established a coffeehouse (based at the Unitarian Church) which monthly features local women musicians. All proceeds go toward the center. In February 1980 the Susan B. Anthony Benefit raised \$10,000 for the center and the woman's shelter. But the task of finding a suitable location proved worrisome indeed and several attempts ended in failure throughout 1980 and 1981.

Even with the loss of several key organizers and difficulties in finding space, the dream never died. Others came to assist the project and in February 1982 found the health center's present location (currently shared with Lifestyle Health Services) at 1727 Church Street, Nashville, TN. The center offers gynecological and mental health services by women for women. It is staffed by four nurse practitioners, qualified mental health professionals, and health educators, with a support staff of consulting physicians. Physical health services include pelvic ex-

aminations, pap smears, complete birth control information, treatment of minor infections and illnesses, diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy diagnosis and referral, and stress, nutrition, and exercise counseling. In regard to mental health services, the center provides discussion and support groups and referrals to women identified therapists in the community. Workshops on physical and mental health topics such as childbirth, stress, aging, sexuality, self-help, etc., are included as part of the health topics such as childbirth, stress, aging, sexuality, self-help, etc., are included as part of health education aspects of the clinic. It also provides referral information about health care agencies and social, educational, and legal services.

The center will operate on a fee-for-service basis; sliding scale fees will be based on each woman's resources. Child care will be provided for women using these services. Hours for Womankind Health Center follows:

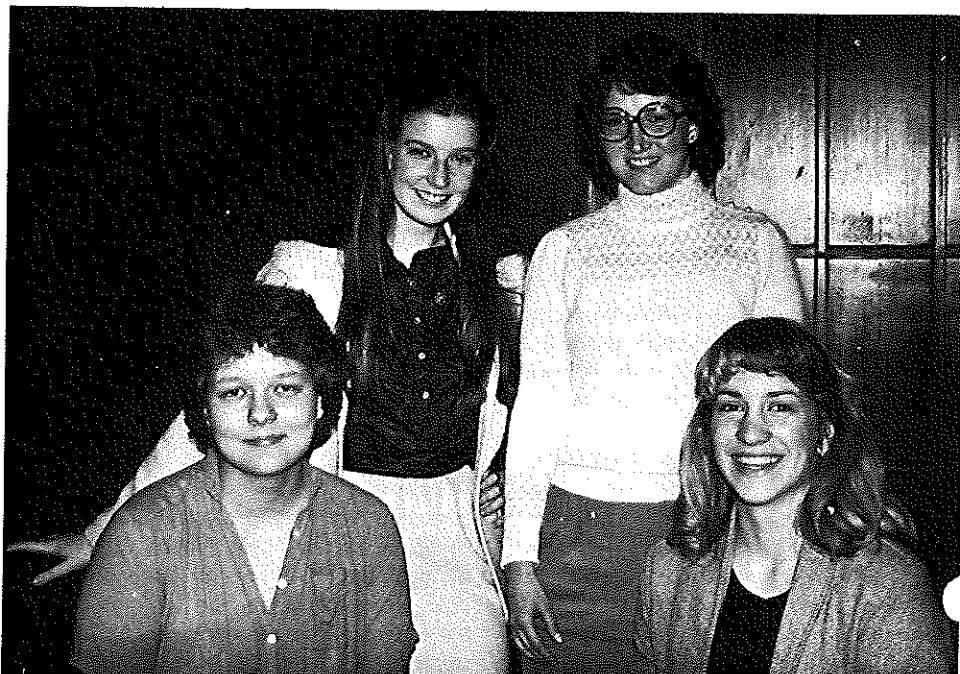
Monday 4:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Wednesday 4:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Saturday 8:00 to 12:00 a.m.

The Womankind Health Center needs your support, enthusiasm, and criticism to provide women of all ages quality health care in our extended community. Call the Womankind Health Center at 329-3817 for more information.

*-Michelle Balliet  
reprinted from Woman's City-Country  
Chronicle*



*photo by Lynda Ault  
Women's Week 1982 Coordinators: (standing) Laurie Weakley A&S 85, Kathy Egger A&S 83; Basia Holub, A&S 84, Rhonda Trace A&S 84.*

# Athletic Opportunities for Women at Vanderbilt

by Judson L. Pankey  
Women's Soccer Coach

Upon being asked to write an article on the opportunities for women in athletics, I felt I should comment on the overall status of the program at Vanderbilt. This will include both varsity and club sport level, as they both play an integral part of the athletic experience at the University.

Simply, the overall look for women's athletics at the varsity level is bleak. This can be attributed to many reasons - from a lawsuit between the AIAW and NCAA to a lack of funding and facilities. Yet, the problem, from my perception, lies within the attitude of the athletic department and a lack of commitment by the school.

The attitude problem exists because the women's program is basically non-revenue. As a result, the responsibility for allocation of funds falls to Mr. Kramer who must tend to the men's interests too. This is not to say that the women's budget has not been increased over the years, it has, but not enough. An increase in budget means more varsity teams, better facilities, and a more competitive program. The success of Vanderbilt's women's program, this year, is well documented,

the school has yet to have any national championship contenders at the varsity level. This includes the men too. I firmly believe that a national championship is not out of reach of the women's program, but more support is needed. Vanderbilt has had two nationally ranked teams in the women's program: soccer and field hockey; but they are remaining at club status. The athletic directors' reluctance in giving varsity status to new teams will cause irreparable harm to the respective programs. Sam Hirt, Director of Club Sports, can only do so much with teams of this nature. His funds are limited and his facilities are insufficient and over-taxed for a program that involves club teams playing on the varsity level. It is the responsibility of the school and athletic department to aid these varsity-potential teams. Yet, again the issue of funding becomes the major topic. As for money, how much importance will the director of athletics for men give the women's program?

In sharp contrast to a limited number of varsity women's teams is the club sports program. Women can choose to compete in intercollegiate competition on any of eight teams within the club sport program. It is within the club sport realm that Vanderbilt has attained national rankings against varsity competition. This success can be attributed to Director Sam Hirt and his Assistant Gary Randall, but they, too, are hindered by lack of facilities and funding.

# May Programs

## PARENTS . . . YES YOU CAN

- Talk comfortably and effectively with your children about sexuality.
- Share with your children the values that are important to you.
- Listen to what your children have to say.
- Enhance and enrich your family life.

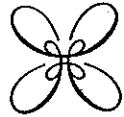
Classes are now being offered which will provide parents an opportunity to share experiences, gain valuable information and practice their role as sex educators of their children.

**LOCATION:** Planned Parenthood Center, 112 21st Avenue South, Second Floor Training Room

**TUITION:** \$40 per person, \$50 both parents

**DATES:** Series A May 3, 5, 10, 12; 7-9 p.m.  
Series B May 25, 27, June 1, 3; 7-9 p.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CALL 327-1097



This problem will only continue as the number of teams grows each year as does student participation. Inside the club sport program, women definitely have parity with the men's teams in all respects.

For all university women, the options for participation. Inside the club sport program, women definitely have parity with the men's teams in all respects.

For all university women, the options for participation in athletics is limited. Limited not only by lack of funding and facilities, but in some instances, by out-dated attitudes. It has been my experience in initiating change at the University that the process is slow, but not impossible. To change the overall position of women's athletics will take a persistent effort on the part of all concerned. It will only be a matter of time before McGugin Center realizes the positive contribution that Emily Harsh and Vanderbilt's women athletes can make toward establishing a winning reputation at Vanderbilt.

*Note: The Women's Swim Team just placed second in Division II National Championships. Their success was publicized after this article was written.*

Vanderbilt University Women's Center has joined the Nashville YWCA and the Nashville Women's Forum in sponsoring a half day seminar on Women and Alcohol. The date is May 18, 1982, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at TSU downtown campus. The seminar will address a variety of physical and emotional health issues related to the increase in drinking among women. It is designed to provide information and education for business, social, civic, and professional leaders in the Nashville-Middle Tennessee area. Persons in positions of leadership will benefit from the seminar by having more awareness of this multi-faceted problem and will learn what impact they can have both professionally and personally on this growing community concern.

This May 18 meeting is part of a nationwide alcohol abuse prevention campaign sponsored by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. While it is a media focused project, it is being expanded in Middle Tennessee to include speaking engagements with a variety of community groups. The national campaign and the local seminar will not suggest that women should stop drinking. Instead a focus will be on exploring some of the reasons why women drink, offering guidelines on how to stay out of trouble and what to do if you know someone who is already in trouble with alcohol or other drugs.

Featured speaker for the Nashville seminar will be Diane Choate, M.S.W., Associate Clinical Professional of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, George Washington University Medical School. She is a recognized authority in the alcohol field and provides consultation services to corporate managerial personnel to help understand, identify, and manage employees with alcohol problems.

The seminar is supported by Mid-Cumberland Council on Alcohol and Drugs, Cumberland Heights Treatment Center, and Samaritan Center. There will be a minimal registration fee to help cover expenses.

Everyone who receives this newsletter is invited to attend.

-Carol Kenner

We have to learn to live now the future we are fighting for, rather than compromising in vain hope of a future that is always deferred, always unreal. This creative leap implies a kind of recklessness born out of the death of false hope.

-Rosemary Radford Ruether  
Feminist theologian and professor  
Garrett-Seabury Evangelical Seminary

4 **"Raises and Roses"**  
continued from p. 1

terparts. 86% of women work for economic reasons, yet full-time clerical workers in your city are often eligible for food stamps because their salaries are so low. Not surprisingly, occupational stress has become a severe and recognized health hazard among clerical workers."

-Janet Selcer, *WORKING WOMEN*

At Vanderbilt there are 1315 women clerical/secretarial workers, 26% of the total number of staff employees. Comprising the largest number of all staff employee groups, clerical/secretarial workers include the job titles of Cashier, Library Assistant, Key-punch/CRT Operator, Admitting Officer, Buyer, Administrative Assistant, Development Researcher, Patient Account Representative and Utilization Review Coordinator among others. 94% of these clerical/secretarial positions are filled by women, and yet, under Vanderbilt's Affirmative Action Plan, there are goals to increase the proportion of women in the job groups, Clerical V (the highest clerical/secretarial group), and Supervisory/Clerical (which is classified within the supervisory group).

These figures which were publicized in the *Vanderbilt Register*, March 19, 1982, can be compared to national figures on working women from 1979 (taken from *Editorial Research Reports*, March 1981).

Women are 42% of the work force nationwide; at Vanderbilt, women comprise 61% of employees including faculty. Nationwide one woman worker in three is employed in a clerical position; at Vanderbilt 34% of all women employed are in clerical/secretarial positions.

In 1912, women workers on strike from the textile factories in Lawrence, Massa-

## Decision-making Program Offered at Counseling Center

Decision-making can be a dynamic and satisfying experience or a confusing and frustrating one. Are you aware of the process by which you make decisions?

The Counseling Center will be offering a program on decision-making this summer. The workshop, through the use of group exercises and discussion, enables participants to get a perspective on their current life situation (find out "where you're at") and then focus on a single dilemma to begin to resolve.

The program will be held once a week for three weeks. If you would like to register for the group or have any questions please call Donna Bottge at the Counseling Center, 322-2571.



chusetts, rallied to the cry of "BREAD AND ROSES", incorporated into a song by James Oppenheim. *WORKING WOMEN's* slogan for the National Secretaries Week reminds us of the strong women in our history who fought for the 10 hour workday, safe working conditions, livable wages, and respect for women who work.

*As we come marching, marching  
unnumbered women dead  
Go crying through our singing  
their ancient song of bread.  
Small art and love and beauty  
their drudging spirits knew.  
Yes, it is bread we fight for,  
But we fight for roses, too.*

-James Oppenheim, "Bread and Roses"

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMANKIND BOOKS will be closing its store on Belmont Blvd. on May 1. Thereafter we will be located at 2006 - 20th Avenue South (parallel to the present location three blocks over), open on Saturdays only, from noon to 6:00 p.m. We will continue to serve as a resource for referrals and information on happenings in the community—and a friendly place to visit.

We will also sell books through our annotated mail-order catalog. To receive yours, send your name and address to:

WOMANKIND BOOKS  
P.O. Box 121382  
Nashville, TN 37212

-Joanna Morrison  
Carole Powell

A Graduate and Professional Students in support of WEAV group was formed at an organizational meeting held February 24. The group is considering ways to offer concrete support to WEAV and to gain official recognition as an organization at Vanderbilt. All graduate and professional students in the Graduate School, the Law School, the Medical School, the School of Engineering, the Divinity School, the Nursing School, and the School of Management are eligible to join.

The group needs the participation of interested students and/or information concerning equity issues at the Graduate and Professional level. It is possible that separate or sub-groups from each school will be organized. If you are interested in participating in this group or for other information, please call the Women's Center - 322-4843. Notification concerning further meetings and activities of this group will be forthcoming.

WOMEN'S VU is edited by Linda Karwedsky.

If you are not receiving a labeled copy of WOMEN'S VU, please return the form below or call the Women's Center, 322-4843, to get your name on the list.

We regret that newsletters will be sent to off-campus addresses only for a \$2.00 fee. Please make checks payable to Vanderbilt University Women's Center.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_ (please give class and school)

Staff \_\_\_\_\_ Faculty \_\_\_\_\_



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