

## 'Feminist' and 'funny' not contradictory terms

Nancy Walker, director of women's studies program and professor of English

"Molly Ivins can't say that, can she?" Such was the reaction of some readers (and advertisers) to Ivins' no-holds-barred column about Texas politics in the *Dallas Times Herald* in the early 1980s. The folks at the *Times Herald* were clever enough to use this query in their advertising, and it finally became the title of her 1991 book—a collection of her columns about politics and other absurdities of contemporary life originally published in that paper as well as periodicals as diverse as *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Mother Jones*, *McCall's*, and *Ms.*

What was Molly Ivins saying to provoke such a reaction? Well, she *did* write that calling George Bush shallow was like calling a dwarf short. And that Ronald Reagan was "so amazing that zillions of future writers are daily being discouraged from ever trying their hands at fiction." And that a Speaker of the Texas House had "the ethical sensitivity of a walnut." This is not what is called pulling punches and winning friends; this is calling a Bubba a Bubba.

Still, Western culture has a long tradition of political humor and satire, some of it pretty direct, even brutal. Why should there be consternation when Molly Ivins points out hypocrisy or corruption or—her favorite—just plain stupidity?

There is a good chance that if her first name had been Harold or Richard or Sam, readers would just have chuckled and moved on to the comics. We don't often use the words "funny" and "female" in the same sentence, and "funny" and "feminine" seem entirely contradictory.

Yet the current popularity of Molly Ivins, who will visit the Vanderbilt campus later this month, thanks to Students for Women's Concerns, would suggest that something has changed—that our



*Welcome back, dear. While you were out, we invented humor.*

culture is finally ready to accept a woman writer whose very hallmark is irreverence.

Perhaps. But in fact Molly Ivins is by no means the first female columnist in America to use hard-hitting satire against cultural institutions that she perceived to be unworthy of respect. In the 1850s and 1860s, a writer who used the pseudonym "Fanny Fern" was the highest-paid newspaper columnist in the country, and many of her columns addressed religious hypocrisy, inhumane prison conditions, and women's inequality—issues that still have relevance, as Molly Ivins' columns attest. Although politics was not Fanny Fern's most common theme, she was deeply committed to the abolition of slavery, and in 1861 she attacked those who refused to take a stand on the basis of principle as practicing "ostrich endeavors to hide their deformed heads."

But despite Fanny Fern's popularity and wide readership, the nineteenth century valued women writers more for sentimentality than for satire, and Fanny Fern's work disappeared from view until the 1980s.

Thus, when Molly Ivins looked for inspiration, she found it in George Orwell and I. F. Stone rather than in a female journalistic tradition.

I have met Molly Ivins twice, and the second time I had the pleasure of a long conversation over coffee en route to the Columbia, Missouri, airport. Beneath the casual, slangy, don't-tread-on-me exterior is a person of great warmth and humanity who is deeply and sincerely outraged at injustice and folly. She would, I think, have liked Fanny Fern, and Fern would have been pleased by Ivins' fearlessness, her resistance to artificiality and cant, and—not least—her sense of humor. ■

## Artist and author Winifred Lubell comes to campus

The collages, drawings, and woodcuts of noted graphic artist Winifred Milius Lubell will be on display at the Cuninggim Center from March 14 to 31.

These works will appear in Lubell's soon-to-be released book, *The Metamorphosis of Baubo: Myths of Woman's Sexual Energy*, published by Vanderbilt University Press.

Lubell has authored and/or illustrated over thirty books, and her work has been exhibited in the National Museum of Women in the Arts and many other galleries throughout the country.

*The Metamorphosis of Baubo* is Lubell's recounting of the story of a pivotal mythological character who appears in a number of cultural settings and whose Greek name is linked etymologically with a euphemism for the vulva. Lubell's studies reveal how Baubo's bawdy pattern of joking and gesturing represents a universal expression of fundamental female energy, symbolized in the vulva, and the power to restore order and balance to nature.

Lubell will present a lecture, "Reclaiming Ancient Images of Woman,"



WOMEN'S VU FILE PHOTO

**The works of noted illustrator and author Winifred Milius Lubell will be on display at the Cuninggim Center from March 14-31.**

from 4:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 15 in Furman 114. During her visit to Vanderbilt, Lubell will also speak to several classes about the role of women through the ages as illustrated by the images of women produced by changing societies.

Lubell will be available to sign posters of her artwork at the Vanderbilt

Bookstore for one hour preceding the lecture and at a reception at the Women's Center afterwards.

Lubell's visit is sponsored by Vanderbilt University Press, the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, the Women's Studies Program, and others. Call Laurie Parker Duren at 322-3585 for more information. ■

Women's VU

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Pages 6 and 7 photos by Rebecca Fischer

## Two women artists explore myths in Sarratt exhibit

Anita Jung and Jenny Southlynn explore how the structure of myth overtly and subliminally influences women's everyday experiences in *Women in Myths: Women Image Women*.

The exhibit of mixed media works is on display in the Sarratt Gallery through March 17. The works bring together imagery from disparate sources which reflect the multifaceted construction, deconstruction, and reconstruction of myth.

On March 17, from 12:15-1:15 p.m., Jung and Southlynn visit Vanderbilt for a discussion and slide lecture. Lunch will be provided; for more information and for reservations, call 322-2471 by March 15.

The lunchtime lecture is sponsored by the Sarratt Visual Arts Club, the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, and Project Dialogue.



**Anita Jung's *From the Selected Poems of Edna St. Vincent Millay*, 1993, mixed media on paper**

# “NEWS QUOTES”

## *Navy women on ships to wear pants*

It isn't easy to navigate through the tight spaces wearing high heels, and it's embarrassing to climb a ladder while wearing a skirt. Nevertheless, the Navy had until now allowed commanders at sea to order women to wear skirts as a part of the khaki uniform worn by women officers and chiefs and with the service dress blues or white uniforms worn by all women. Women sailors standing watch or appearing on deck as the ships entered or left port were often required to wear skirts as well.

Although some senior officials opposed the change, Adm. Frank B. Kelso II, chief of naval operations, approved the new uniform regulations in November 1993. Now slacks will replace skirts for all women at sea except for formal occasions, and the Navy's uniform board has recommended that high-heeled shoes be replaced with safer low-cuts as well.

The Navy plans eventually to have completely gender-neutral uniform regulations in which no uniform item apart from undergarments could be specified for women only.

*Minerva's Bulletin Board*  
Winter 1993

## *A call for information: new classroom climate study*

The Center for Women Policy Studies has received a second grant to underwrite its new classroom climate project. The Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) is supplementing funds already received from the Lilly Endowment for the project, which will produce a guidebook describing how differential classroom behaviors toward women and others, along with certain teaching styles and

curricula, can create a chilly learning climate for all students. These factors will also be examined for their impact on women of color.

The guidebook will provide individual and institutional strategies to increase the participation of all students, especially women, and to improve faculty evaluation as it relates to teaching style and climate issues.

The report will be written by Bernice R. Sandler and Roberta M. Hall, who together wrote "The Classroom Climate: A Chilly One for Women" in 1982.

If you know of resources, research, examples of teaching strategies or institutional strategies, to increase participation of women and other students or have any other related information, write Bernice R. Sandler, Center for Women Policy Studies, 2000 P Street NW, Suite 508, Washington, DC 20036.

*About Women on Campus*  
Winter 1994

## *Antioch is not legislating 'sexual correctness'*

When Antioch College adopted a Sexual Offense Policy that requires students to obtain verbal consent for each stage of intimacy, it attracted voluminous media coverage in the United States and abroad. [*The Chronicle*] has been distressed at the extensive misinformation about the origin of the policy and its content. Many of the reports created sensationalized scenarios about "kissing contracts" and "sex police." Even in pieces that attempted to give balanced, in-depth reports, the magazines, newspapers, and telecasts focused on outsiders' concerns about Antioch's "legislating sexuality." Consequently, the issues of rape and sexual assault that originally gave rise to the policy were trivialized.

Statistics indicate that somewhere between one in four and one in seven women are survivors of rape or attempted rape. Yet, "Eye to Eye with Connie Chung" on CBS misled the audience by creating the impression that rape is not a real issue on college campuses, using statistics that understated the extent of the problem. An issue of *Newsweek* last fall that focused on "Sexual Correctness" described Antioch's policy as seeming to "stultify relations between men and women."

Antioch's Sexual Offense Policy de-

finer consent: "The act of willingly and verbally agreeing to engage in specific sexual contact or conduct." It requires consent by both parties in a sexual encounter, stating: "Obtaining consent is an on-going process in any sexual interaction. Verbal consent should be obtained with each new level of physical and/or sexual contact or conduct in any given interaction."

It is important to understand that this policy was not the college administration's attempt to legislate the sex lives of students. Instead, a group of female students drafted, demanded, and defended the policy, eventually winning its adoption by Antioch's Board of Trustees.

Critics object to the policy on three grounds:

- 1) It is unrealistic to expect individuals to talk about sex.
- 2) The policy limits the spontaneity of romantic sexual relations.
- 3) The policy is unenforceable.

With all due respect, we reject the first two arguments as simplistic reactions that rely upon dangerous notions about what it means to be sexually active in the 1990s. Antioch's policy places responsibility for obtaining verbal consent on the initiator of the sexual activity, thus reducing the possibility of misunderstandings. When verbal communication is not a central part of the sexual encounter, false assumptions may and do occur. Misreadings of body language may prevail.

It is true that, at first, talking openly about sex can be difficult, but this skill improves with practice.

To say that the policy is unenforceable, the third argument, misses the point. Antioch's policy exists to protect students and works toward preventing rape and sexual assault. Prevention, not enforcement, is the paramount objective.

The prevalence of sexual assaults or the potential for transmission of dangerous diseases cannot be ignored or erased casually by old-fashioned romantic notions. The media's parodies and headlines about "sex among semicolons" diverted discussion and diminished Antioch's policy. Our message is simple: Today's college student should have the right to consent verbally when anyone expects her or him to participate in sex. The consequences are potentially too significant or dangerous to presume a Yes.

*Chronicle of Higher Education*  
January 26, 1994

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*National  
Women's  
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Margaret  
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Women's  
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Please save and post. Individual flyers for these programs will not be sent.

March 1 (Tuesday)

**Sex, Fear, and Feminism on Campus: Response to Katie Roiphe.** Panel discussion on feminism in response to February 28 Project Dialogue lecture. Panelists are Melinda Lewis, president of Students for Women's Concerns; Susan Kline, A&S '94; Anne M. Coughlin, assistant professor of law; and Cecelia Tichi, William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of English. Project Dialogue Director, Nathan Vogt, moderates the program. 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., Sarratt 118. Co-sponsors are Panhellenic Council and Project Dialogue.

March 2 (Wednesday)

**Gender Study Group,** 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., Cuninggim Center. Spaces are available for new members. Text required. Women who are interested in joining the group should speak with Nancy Ransom, 322-4843. *Also meets March 16.*

March 9 (Wednesday)

**Writers Workshop,** 5:15 to 7:15 p.m., Cuninggim Center. *Also meets March 23.*

March 11 (Friday)

**Brown Bag Lunch for New Staff and Faculty.** The second Friday of each month throughout the year is designated as time for guests to meet the Cuninggim Center staff and learn about activities and programs. Men as well as women are invited to bring a lunch from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Hot and cold beverages are provided.

March 14-31

**The Metamorphosis of Baubo: Myths of Woman's Sexual Energy** by Winifred Milius Lubell is a soon-to-be released book. A pathbreaking textual and visual study of an archetypal symbol of female power and sexual energy. An exhibit of collages, drawings, and woodcuts from the book is on display in the Cuninggim Center Lounge. (See March 15 for lecture by Lubell.)

March 14 (Monday)

**Book Group** discusses *A Thousand Acres* by Jane Smiley. New members welcome. Facilitator Sandy Baggett. 5:15 to 6:15 p.m., Cuninggim Center.

March 15 (Tuesday)

**Reclaiming Ancient Images of Woman,** lecture by author and illustrator Winifred Milius Lubell. 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., Furman 114. Vanderbilt University Press sponsors in conjunction with Cuninggim Center, Women's Studies, and others. A reception at the Cuninggim Center follows the lecture. Illustrations from Lubell's book, *The Metamorphosis of Baubo: Myths of Woman's Sexual Energy*, are exhibited at the center through March.

March 16 (Wednesday)

**Images of the Ballerina in America.** A slide show of women dancers seen on American stages from the late eighteenth century to the present time. Maureen Costonis, professor of dance history, Blair School of Music. 12:15 to 1:15 p.m., Garland 220.

March 17 (Thursday)

**Women in Myths: Women Image Women.** A lunchtime lecture with artists Anita Jung and Jenny Southlynn. Sarratt Gallery is currently featuring a mixed media installation by these two artists. Lunch is provided. 12:15 to 1:15 p.m., Sarratt 118. RSVP by March 15 to Sarratt Student Center at 322-2471. This discussion and slide lecture is sponsored by the Sarratt Visual Arts Club, the Cuninggim Center, and Project Dialogue.

March 18 (Friday) *Rescheduled from February 10*

**Women in Science: The Changing Frontier.** A colloquium led by Suzanne Lenhart, professor of mathematics at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., Sarratt 205.

— CALENDAR continued on page 5

## National Women's History Month Calendar of Events

—continued from previous page

March 21 (Monday)

**Dissertation Writers Group I** meets from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Cuninggim Center.

March 23 (Wednesday)

**We've Come a Long Way Sister: Now Let's Talk About How Far We Have To Go**, lecture by Molly Ivins sponsored by Students for Women's Concerns. Ivins is a Texas syndicated journalist and author of *Molly Ivins Can't Say That, Can She?*

Tickets are available through Ticketmaster. They are free to faculty, staff, and students with a Vanderbilt ID. \$5.00 for the community.

Co-sponsors of the lecture are Cuninggim Center, Women's Studies, Project Dialogue, and University Lectures Committee.

March 28 (Monday)

**Dissertation Writers Group II** meets from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Cuninggim Center.

March 29 (Tuesday)

**Creative Life Planning: What Kind of Old Person Do You Want to Be?** Lynne Hays, PhD, speech/language pathologist, shares her ideas regarding the use of problem-solving techniques to define and develop oneself.

This workshop, the third in a series, is open to those who have not attended before as well as those who have. The focus is on developing your own support group. 12:15 to 1:15 p.m., Sarratt 205.

Registration required. Call 322-4843.

March 30 (Wednesday)

**Lunchtime Book Review.** Margaret A. Doody, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Humanities, reviews *The Robber Bride* by Margaret Atwood. 12:15 to 1:15 p.m., Cuninggim Center.

## Journalist Molly Ivins to speak on campus later this month

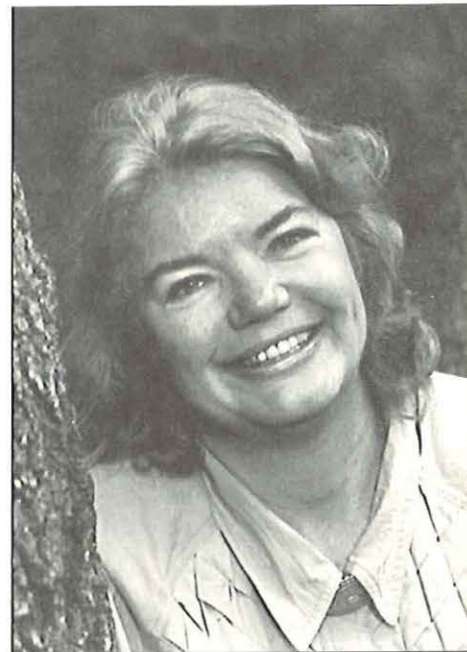
Texas syndicated journalist Molly Ivins comes to Vanderbilt March 23.

Ivins' lecture, "We've Come a Long Way Sister: Now Let's Talk About How Far We Have To Go," is at Langford Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

Ivins is the author of *Molly Ivins Can't Say That, Can She?*, and her work appears in a syndicated column in newspapers across the country.

Tickets are \$5.00 for the community and free to students, staff, and faculty with a Vanderbilt ID. Tickets may be purchased at all Ticketmaster locations, including the Sarratt front desk.

Ivins' lecture is sponsored by Students for Women's Concerns. Co-sponsors include the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, the Women's Studies Program, Project Dialogue, and Speakers Committee.



WOMEN'S VU FILE PHOTO

**Texas syndicated journalist  
Molly Ivins will speak at  
Langford on March 23.**

## Award-winning poet to read from upcoming work

Minnie Bruce Pratt wears many hats.

Essayist. Lesbian. Southerner. Poet. Mother. Activist. Role model. If you're looking for labels, Pratt has been given more than her share.

Though the world at large might strive to single out one label that will define Pratt, she does not seem to be any single one of these. Instead, she is all of these, and her writing is proof of this.

Pratt, winner of the 1989 Academy of American Poets Lamont Prize for her work *Crime Against Nature*, reads from her work-in-progress *S/he* in Furman 114 on March 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Like many of her other works, *S/he* deals with gender issues and how homosexual and lesbian aspects of our culture are more salient than commonly thought.

"These pieces are about the fluid quality of 'maleness' and 'femaleness' in our daily life, especially in our sexuality, and about how much more 'queer' the world is than we usually think," Pratt said.

Pratt is the author of works such as *Rebellion: Essays, 1980-1991*, *The Sound of One Fork*, and *We Say We Love Each Other*. "Pratt's poems about the South, her childhood, the love between women

are wonderfully detailed, precise, evocative, and wise," wrote Susan Sherman. "She is a poet of clear expression. Her voice is powerful. Her song true."

Pratt's reading is sponsored by Vanderbilt Lambda, GABLE, Women's Studies, Women's Offices of the Vanderbilt Divinity School, and the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center.

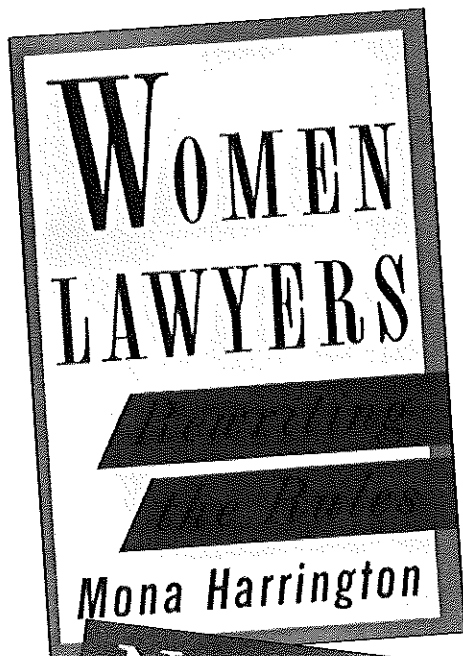


PHOTO BY SHARON FARMER

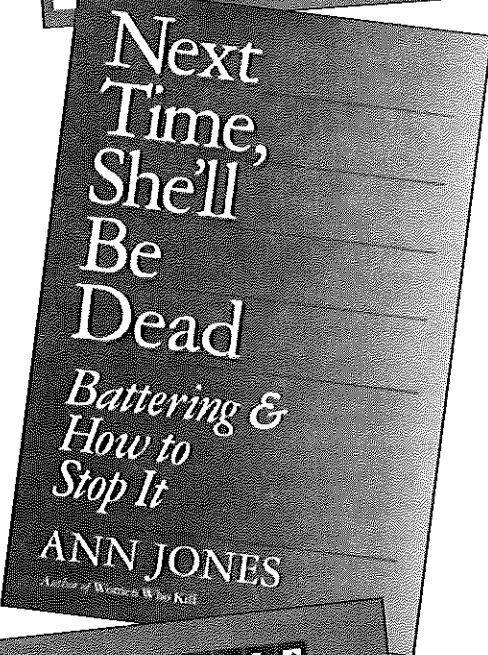
**Poet Minnie Bruce Pratt to read  
from work-in-progress, *S/he*.**

# Harrington examines the trials and tribulations of women lawyers

*Women have begun to gain more access to courtrooms*



*Women Lawyers: Rewriting the Rules* (Alfred A. Knopf, 1994) is by Mona Harrington, a political scientist who was formerly a lawyer. This book is based on interviews with more than one hundred women lawyers, law students, judges, and law school faculty in cities all over the country. Almost all the women are alumnae of Harvard Law School, from which the writer graduated in 1960. There were very few women in her class, but today about half the students in law schools are female.



Harrington recounts the varied experiences of the women over the past forty years and illustrates the changes that have occurred. She discusses the impediments to women's access to real power and authority, how feminist lawyers try to equalize power between male and female lawyers, and how they work to advance the equality of all women.

Those who acquire power and high positions in government tend to have been partners in major law firms. For a variety of reasons women rarely reach the higher levels in these organizations.

*Different Voices: Women and the Holocaust* (Paragon House, 1993) is edited by Carol Rittner and John K. Roth, who realized that little was available on women's experiences of the Holocaust. Women's experiences in the war and in concentration camps were different from those of men, and women reacted differently. Women and men were segregated in the camps, in many of which children and the elderly were killed upon arrival.

Many of the contributors to this volume are women who survived the camps and who describe their horrifying experiences and those of other women prisoners. There are articles by members of the French and Czech resistance and interviews with Franz and Theresa Stangl. He had been in charge of the Sobibor and Treblinka death camps, and his wife discusses her life during the war and her reactions when she discovered what was happening in the camps. Gisella Perl, a Jewish doc-



tor who was deported to Auschwitz, relates how she cared for the sick and dying in appalling conditions. Some writers discuss the women guards; they were fewer in number but they appeared to be at least as cruel as their male counterparts.

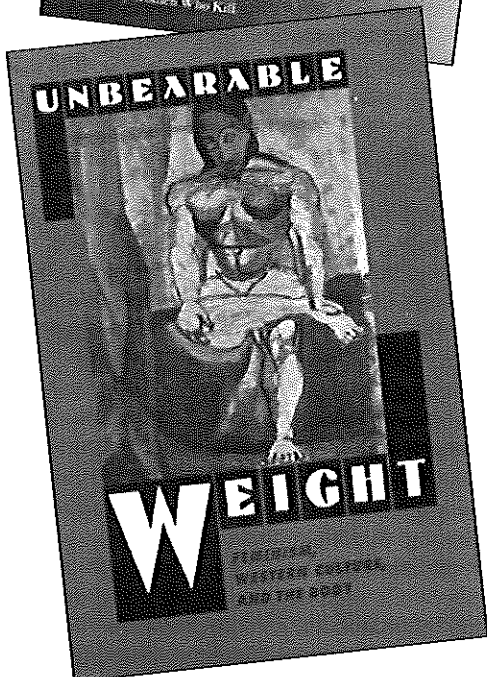
Some of the contributors are historians and other scholars who "step back from the immediacy of personal experience to analyze the larger picture, and their perspectives assess the particular ways in which Nazi theory and practice made an impact on women."

In *Next Time, She'll Be Dead: Battering & How to Stop It* (Beacon Press, 1994) Ann Jones shows how society unwittingly condones violence against women by men, and she illustrates why the problem persists. Many batterers also abuse children. Jones feels that battering became a "social problem" only when influential men realized how it affected them and their wallets.

Both women and men still tend to blame the victims and wonder why they don't leave their abusers. The writer explains why many women feel that they cannot leave and she gives examples of women being killed or beaten after they managed to escape. She shows why police frequently fail to arrest batterers—often with serious or fatal results.

Jones explains that battering "is a process of deliberate intimidation intended to coerce the victim to do the will of the victimizer." Violent men are training their wives or girlfriends to behave exactly the way they want them to; many men feel that they are entitled to do this because they are male. The

*—continued on next page*



PHYSICAL FITNESS ♀ REST ♀ SOCIAL SUPPORT ♀ GOOD DIET ♀ SELF-CARE ♀ FUN ♀



MEDICAL CARE ♀ SPIRITUALITY ♀ AWARENESS ♀ LOVE ♀ INTELLECTUAL INTERESTS

Library

—from previous page

writer suggests ways in which the criminal justice system, the health care system, clergy, schools, and other institutions can help to combat the problem of violence against women and children.

*Unbearable Weight: Feminism, Western Culture, and the Body* (University of California Press, 1993) is a study of body image, eating disorders, and beauty by philosopher Susan Bordo. She analyzes the complex factors that cause women to be preoccupied with the size and shape of their bodies and with food and control. This preoccupation has led to the current prevalence of eating disorders and has influenced many women to undergo surgery designed to alter or enhance their appearance.

Bordo explores "facets and intersections: cultural representations of female hunger and female eating, the role of consumer culture, long-standing philosophical and religious attitudes toward the body, similarities to other predominantly female disorders (agoraphobia, hysteria), connections with other contemporary body obsessions, continuities with 'normal' female experience in our culture."

Other new acquisitions include: *Rethinking Masculinity: Philosophical Explorations in Light of Feminism* edited by Larry May and Robert A. Strikwerda; *He Says, She Says: Closing the Communication Gap Between the Sexes* by Lillian Glass; *A Troubling in My Soul: Womanist Perspectives on Evil and Suffering* edited by Emilie M. Townes; and *Women on the Inner Journey: Building a Bridge: Healing Racial Wounds Through Art & Spirituality* by Noris Binet. ■

screening is not cost-effective. However, about one-sixth of all breast cancers are diagnosed in women age forty to forty-nine, and they account for about one-fourth of all breast cancer deaths. The issues of cost-effectiveness versus the value of early detection are under heated debate and will be important issues for all of us as health care reforms are implemented.

For more information on these topics, call the American Cancer Society at 327-0991. ■

## Understanding the importance of mammograms is crucial

The importance of mammography in the detection of early breast cancer has been emphasized over the past few years. There has, however, been some confusion and controversy surrounding this screening test.

In 1980, the American Cancer Society publicized mammography guidelines for screening women with no breast symptoms. It was recommended that women between the ages of thirty-five and forty receive one "baseline mammogram" to document the pattern of breast tissue in women in the low-risk age group. Subsequent mammograms could then be compared to this baseline study and minor changes would be able to be identified early with a resulting early diagnosis.

As experience grew, the "baseline" recommendation was removed in 1988, but many women are still under the impression that screening should begin in the mid-thirties.

Current American Cancer Society guidelines now recommend that screening mammography begin by age forty and be performed every one to two years until age fifty, when annual screening should begin. A clinical exam of the breast should be obtained yearly after age forty. Women with a strong family history of breast cancer may need different screening and should be under the care of a health professional who is familiar with these issues.

There is also confusion among clients and clinicians regarding the two types of mammography available. Screening mammograms are offered to women who have no physical findings (like a lump) and who need the x-ray as part of their routine health care. Two standard views of the breast are taken and submitted for interpretation. The interpretation is often delayed so that "batches" of mammograms can be analyzed at the same time. The efficiency of this process allows a lower cost for the screening examination. If an abnormality is found or if further evaluation is needed, the patient will be called back for those additional radiographic views. Reports become available to your clinician within a few days (in the same way a Pap smear report takes about a week to be available).

Beth Colvin Huff,  
RN, MSN



A diagnostic mammogram is performed when the clinician confirms the presence of an abnormality like a lump or bloody nipple discharge. The mammogram is requested to address a specific physical finding. Standard x-ray views of the breast are taken and then reviewed immediately by the radiologist. Additional views will be taken to adequately assess the area of abnormality. The result is usually available by the time you leave the office and can be communicated to your referring physician or nurse practitioner. The cost will be higher because of the radiologist's time and the additional radiographs.

You don't do yourself any favors by scheduling a low-cost screening mammogram when you've found a lump because the radiologist has no knowledge that there is an area that should be assessed differently through magnification and special views. Even if the mammogram is normal, a lump that can be felt always needs further evaluation by ultrasound, needle aspiration, or surgical biopsy. Mammograms will miss about 10-15% of all breast cancers that can be felt.

A recent area of controversy has focused on the routine screening of women under the age of fifty. Some studies have indicated that for the numbers of cancers found in this group,

■

# Announcements

## SUPPORT GROUP

The Vanderbilt Psychological and Counseling Center is offering a support/therapy group for women who have recently or are currently going through a divorce or separation. The group meets every Monday from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. To register or receive more information, call 936-0371.

## LECTURES

In 1853 Antoinette Brown Blackwell became the first ordained woman in America. She was active in all aspects of the women's movement throughout her life and shared many platforms with Susan B. Anthony and Julia Ward Howe. Today, the **Antoinette Brown Lecture** is intended to bring to the Divinity School distinguished women theologians and church leaders to speak on a variety of concerns for women in ministry. This year the lecture will feature Mary Ann Tolbert, professor of New Testament and Early Christianity at Vanderbilt Divinity School since 1981. Professor Tolbert will speak on "Reconstituting the World: Feminism, Power, and

the Bible" at 8 p.m., March 24, at Benton Chapel. A reception in Tillett Lounge immediately follows the lecture. Free child care is available. Call 322-4205 by March 17 for more information.

## THEATER

**Great Performances at Vanderbilt** presents Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll House*, starring Kate Forbes, native of Chattanooga and former Vanderbilt student, as Nora. There is a free pre-performance discussion on Ibsen at 6:45 p.m. in the Langford Lower Lobby. The performance is Thursday, March 17 at 8 p.m. in Langford Auditorium. Tickets are \$16, 14, and 12; \$8 for VU faculty and staff; \$4 for students. Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster outlets, including the Sarratt front desk.

*Henceforward. . .*, by Britain's foremost comic playwright, Alan Ayckbourn, is a dark comedy about the "not-so-distant future." Audiences will see how humanity fares in a synthesized world where gangs of female male-chauvinists terrorize the streets, and a man's best friend is his NAN300F: an auto-

mated woman designed to look after a child. Directed by associate professor of theater Terry Hallquist, *Henceforward. . .* opens April 8 in Neely Auditorium at 8 p.m. and runs for six performances through April 16. Tickets are free with an undergraduate Vanderbilt ID., \$3 for graduate students, and \$6 for others. The box office opens April 4. Please call 322-2404 for reservations.

## CONFERENCES

**The 1994 South Central Women's Studies Association Conference**, "Hands On, Hands Across: Doing Women's Studies," is March 11-12 at Tulane University in New Orleans. This is an interactive conference designed for everyone involved in women's issues, women's studies, women's education, and feminist activism to come together to share creative ideas and expertise on the practical aspects of research, teaching, writing, and working. Susan Griffin, a celebrated ecofeminist and author of many highly acclaimed books, will be the keynote speaker. For more information call (504) 865-5238.



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NANCY RANSOM  
DIRECTOR  
CUNINGGIM WOMEN'S CTR.  
STA B BOX 1513