

WOMEN'S VU

February 1988

A publication of the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center, Vanderbilt University

X:5

On the ball

Cindy Smith

In sports, as in other spheres, women are making strides toward equal opportunity. As the basketball season reaches its midpoint, Women's VU pays tribute to Vanderbilt's outstanding women's varsity basketball team. We urge readers to support this program by attending the games.

The Editor thanks Cindy Smith, Women's Sports Editor of The Tennessean, for writing this article.

The young woman and her parents sit in the stands at Memorial Gymnasium and watch the Vanderbilt Women's Basketball Team win another game. She is one of the top female high school basketball recruiting prospects in the nation, a hard-working and talented individual whose achievements in the classroom are as impressive as her athletic accomplishments.

She and her parents will visit Stanford and Virginia and other highly respected colleges, carefully considering what each school has to offer. She will talk to the coaches, visit the campuses, consider the scholarship offers, head home and make a decision. She will choose Vanderbilt University.



Obviously, not every outstanding female basketball player selects Vanderbilt. Not every prospect has the necessary high school grades or high enough test scores to be accepted by the university. But since 1980 when Phil Lee became head coach of the Women's Basketball team, a startling number of top prospects with impressive grade point averages (coupled with equally impressive points per game averages) have decided to attend Vanderbilt. They come for the education, they come for the basketball, they come because they like the atmosphere, the people, Nashville and Coach Lee.

"I decided on Vanderbilt because I knew I would get an outstanding education and be able to play basketball on a national level," said Barbara Bolden of Shreveport, La., (now a

freshman who was named the nation's No. 1 prep basketball prospect) entering her senior year in high school. "I could have gone to any college I wanted, and the college I wanted to attend was Vanderbilt."

They hear about the Vandy Women's Basketball program from as far away as Volga, South Dakota. That's where Renae Sallquist grew up. Now a sophomore, Sallquist was a *USA Today* Super 25 player, one of the elite in high school basketball. "I just loved everything about Vanderbilt," she said. "I was looking for a good education. I knew that Vandy had the kind of basketball program that might one day have a chance to win the NCAA national championship."

These are no 'dumb jocks or jockettes,' as the case may be. Former basketball stars Jackie Cowan and Karen Booker walked off the stage at graduation and straight into the jobs for which both had trained. In this day and age when college sports seems to be filled with scandals of athletes who can't do college work and some, sadly, who can't even read, the stories of female athletes who are lacking educationally are rare. "The women are more serious," said Coach Lee. "They know that all they're going to get from sports is a college education. There are no big pro contracts waiting to be signed. This is it for most of them."

How did Vanderbilt, which began its modern-day intercollegiate program in 1977 under pressure from the federal government in the form of Title IX, move to the forefront in women's basketball so quickly? How did the Women's Basketball team become a recruiting powerhouse? How does Vandy consistently find its way into the Top 20 of women's polls? What makes the Vanderbilt team good enough to receive back-to-back bids to the NCAA national tournament?

It is not as if women's basketball is completely new to Vanderbilt. The first game was played in March of 1897 when a Vandy team, under the direction of Stella Scott Vaughn, played a

VU Women's Basketball team plays some powerful SEC teams in February:

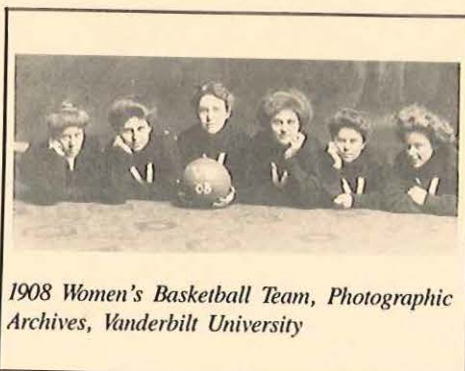
9 Evansville	7:00 pm
18 Alabama	7:00 pm
21 Georgia	2:00 pm
24 Memphis State	3:30 pm
28 Auburn	2:00 pm

game against Ward's Seminary on the Vanderbilt campus. The game was won by Vandy, 5-0 (one field goal counted five points according to an account by men's basketball team member Samuel Anderson Weakley.) The goal was made by Elizabeth Buttorff. Vaughn got the assist. Although spectators were not allowed in the gymnasium and the doors and windows were covered during the contests, at least one intrepid male hid in the gym and watched a game played on March 17, 1897. He was impressed with the players' ability, actually somewhat astonished.

Information is sketchy, but apparently, Vanderbilt fielded women's intercollegiate basketball teams on and off until 1919. A 5-2 record was posted in 1915 with losses to Kentucky and Transylvania. After 1928, women's athletics was limited to intramurals. Women's basketball was a club sport until 1976 — three or four years after most Southeastern Conference schools (including Tennessee) had started intercollegiate programs.

Vandy got off to a late start in the women's game but quickly picked up steam under Lee. The key is recruiting, the ability to track down the talent and convince the young woman and her parents that Vanderbilt is the place for her to spend four years. Sallquist's story is not unique. The battle for the 6-foot-3 center-forward was brutal. When she included Vanderbilt among her final list of schools, she was told that coming to Vandy would be a mistake. She was told Vandy would never win on a national level. Some of the stories she was told were ugly, many were lies. If it sounds like a sordid tale of recruiting in men's basketball, it was. That's how important the women's game has become; at times, it gets dirty. Sallquist stuck to her guns, and although she has struggled some on the court, she knows she made the right choice in coming to Vanderbilt.

Senior All-American candidate Carolyn Peck, a 6-4 center from Jefferson City, Tenn., was *USA Today's* top prospect and a Parade high school All-American. Peck recently became the newest member of the 1,000 point club. In many ways, it was Peck's decision to attend Vandy that made the rest of the nation's coaches sit up and take notice of Lee and his recruiting skills. Peck (continued on page 2)



1908 Women's Basketball Team, Photographic Archives, Vanderbilt University

In the news

Look Out for Age Bias. Employers are losing an increasing number of age-discrimination suits. A company can be held liable, for example, if an age-neutral layoff policy disproportionately affects older workers or if it involuntarily transfers an older worker for minimally acceptable performance or if someone overhears a conversation in which an executive calls an employee too old for his or her job. Some companies have even stopped asking date of birth or date of graduation from high school or college on application forms to protect themselves in case of a lawsuit.

Wall Street Journal, 10/13/87

Do You Know When You Can Retire? According to a study by the General Accounting Office, up to 82% of workers in pension programs were wrong when asked about when they would qualify for retirement benefits. Part of the problem is that the Labor Department still has not issued rules for employers to tell workers of their benefit status, as required by the 1974 Employee Retirement Income Security Act law.

Wall Street Journal, 9/29/87

On the Ball, continued from page 1

was a big-timer, a blue-chipper, and everyone wanted her, including Tennessee Coach Pat Head Summitt. "I knew Vanderbilt was right for me from the beginning," she has said. "It's the best decision I ever made."

Now Peck, along with fellow senior Patsy Smith, a Shelbyville native, and junior guard Deborah Denton, have their chance to keep the Women's Basketball winning tradition alive. The addition of Bolden and surprise starter Wendy Scholtens, a freshman from Fort Smith, Arkansas, has put the team on an even firmer footing although Lee was not pleased with a post-Christmas lull which resulted in a loss to unranked University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Could Vanderbilt win a NCAA national women's title? At the end of the 1983-84 season, Vanderbilt won the National Women's Invitational Tournament championship. The program continues to improve. For two straight years, Vandy has made the SEC Final Four. The idea of a university that doesn't take its female athletes seriously disturbs some coaches in the SEC. "That's not the case here at Vanderbilt," said Lee. We have the support from the administration and are getting support from the community. We can go as far as our talent will let us. I'd say the sky's the limit. ■

Cindy Smith is Women's Sports Editor for The Tennessean.

NOW's Bicentennial ERA Campaign. National Organization for Women (NOW) has reintroduced the Equal Rights Amendment into Congress; the SJR-1 in the Senate and HJR-1 in the House of Representatives.

At present, national polls, including a Louis Harris poll, show that support for the ERA is at an all-time high — 75% of voters throughout the nation.

This is why we must keep ERA on the front burner. Not just for ourselves, but for all women, today and tomorrow. Eventually, we will mount a major campaign to get the ERA through Congress and through the necessary 38 states. We must keep public support high, educate the public on the need for the ERA, and prepare constantly for the eventual ratification drive.

Information from *Nashville Chapter NOW*, November 1987

The National Women's Studies Association will begin publishing the *NWSA Quarterly Journal*, a new interdisciplinary, multi-cultural, feminist journal. The first issue is scheduled for Spring 1988. The journal welcomes submissions in all disciplines and is especially interested in essays written from an interdisciplinary approach, research focusing on feminist pedagogy, and articles by and about women of color. It also will be publishing reviews of books, films, and other educational materials, and on occasion, some student research. For more information, contact: MaryJo Wagner, Editor, NWSA Quarterly Journal, Center for Women's Studies, 207 Dulles Hall, 230 W. 17th Avenue, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43201; (614) 292-7014, or 292-1021.

TV's Portrayal of Women Essentially Unchanged Since the 1950's. An analysis by University of Georgia Professor Donald Davis of 48 hours of prime-time TV during the 1985 fall season shows a disturbing lack of change over the past 40 years in TV's treatment of women.

A summary of the study in *Media Report to Women* mentions that 66% of the speaking characters were found to be male (the same percentage as in 1954); of the male characters, 52% were 35 or older while 66% of the female characters were between the ages of 18 and 35.

Davis commented, "TV is our No. 1 socializer. If it's teaching little girls that their worth is measured by their sexuality and little boys that the worth of women is measured in terms of a woman's sexual value, then it's doing a disservice." ■

Eleanor Smeal Report, December 7, 1987

The Women's Center receives on a regular basis notices of grants and job opportunities for women in education. Due to limited space in *Women's VU*, we are unable to print them. These opportunities will be available on file at the Women's Center.

It's your health

*Beth Colvin, RN, MSN
Dept. of Obstetrics and Gynecology*

Too many American women still develop cervical cancer. It is estimated that almost 13,000 cases occurred in 1987 and that approximately 7,000 women died from this disease. Because of the development and use of the Pap smear 45 years ago, the death rate has dropped drastically. However, the Pap smear does not always give an accurate result. Why?

There are three main problems with the use of the Pap smear for cervical cancer screening. First, the Pap smear may not be obtained accurately. Studies have shown that two areas on the cervix should be sampled to provide the best results—the outside of the cervix (the ectocervix) and the inside of the cervix (the endocervix). Some cervical cancers may develop in the endocervix and if no Pap smear is obtained from this area, an early abnormality could be missed thus giving a false negative result. Not all health practitioners have been trained in this method of obtaining a Pap smear but it is quite easy and requires only a few seconds more to perform.

Second, the Pap smear may not be read by the cytotechnologist accurately. A recent article in *the Wall Street Journal* reported on findings of laboratory accuracy in interpreting the Pap smear, and found that some of the lower cost "Pap factories" may offer lower quality readings. This may ultimately result in a woman being falsely reassured that her Pap is normal when it really is not. Since cancer of the cervix is generally considered to be slow to develop, a yearly smear should eventually pick up an abnormality before it becomes cancer.

Third, if the Pap smear is not done at all, then the woman loses all the benefits of early detection. Women don't get Pap smears for a variety of reasons. They may fear a pelvic exam, they may have heard conflicting information about how often a woman needs a Pap smear, they may be concerned about cost, they may think that after hysterectomy a smear is no longer necessary. Because of the problems of Pap smear accuracy, most healthcare providers encourage yearly Paps and the American Cancer Society has recently changed their recommendations to support this. After hysterectomy, smears should be done every three to five years depending on risk factors for vaginal cancer. Smears may cost between \$10 and \$30. It is important to remember that the Pap smear screens for cervical cancer and is *not* the test of choice for abnormal bleeding, or for suspected uterine or ovarian abnormalities.

As you can see from the above, accurate Pap smears are a collaborative effort between the healthcare provider, the quality of the diagnostic test, and the participation of the woman client. Next month, I will discuss the implications of the abnormal Pap smear. ■



In the library

Virago Press, a small but successful British publisher, has built its reputation on reprinting classics by women of the eighteenth, nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Joint Managing Director Ursula Owen is quick to point out, however, that Virago is every bit as interested in current fiction and political writing of quality.

Though Virago does print books that do not necessarily conform to a feminist "correct line," Owen's purpose is "to obtain as much information as possible about women's lives, past and present, everywhere in the world, and to pass that information on, in the women's own words, to the multitudes." The range of subjects that Virago publishes includes social questions, women's studies, history, autobiography, literary and cultural criticism, poetry and health.

One of Virago's recent ventures is a series of biographies—"Virago Pioneers." In 1986 volumes were published on Emily Dickinson, Juila Margaret Cameron, Simone de Beauvoir and Vesta Tilley. Another series is "Virago Poetry." The Women's Center is the happy recipient of three volumes from the series. The first of these is *Long Road to Nowhere* by Amryl Johnson. Johnson came to England from Trinidad when she was eleven. Her poems are ones of painful introspection and self-discovery. Stef Pixner, author of *Sawdust and White Spirit*, was born and raised in London. Michele Roberts has said Pixner's poems are "funny, sad and surreal [that] both please and tantalize." In *Dry Air*, Denise Riley "takes apart the everyday language of femininity, turning it on itself, in an often tragicomic style." Riley was born in Carlisle, England, and has published several collections of poetry.

(Information from *Women's Review of Books*, v.3, no.2)

"... for it isn't enough to talk about peace.
One must believe in it.
And it isn't enough to believe in it.
One must work at it."

—Eleanor Roosevelt

Women's Center programs

Call 322-4843 for further information on the programs listed below.

Dissertation Writers Group will meet Tuesday, February 2 from 4-6 pm at the Women's Center. Women of all schools and disciplines are invited to attend.

Book Group will meet Monday, February 8, 5:15-6:15 pm at the Women's Center. Beth Mater will lead the discussion of *A Lover Scorned* by Isabelle Holland. New members are always welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

Symposium for Women Undergraduate Leaders will feature Sandra M. Carl, Executive Director of the Nashville Convention Center. Carl will share with undergraduate women leaders how she has risen to her present successful career level in a field usually dominated by men. Invited student leaders will gather at the former Peabody President's Home on Tuesday, February 9 from 4:30-6:00 pm for a light supper followed by a lecture and discussion period. For further information please call Judy Helfer, Women's Center Activities Coordinator, at 322-6518.

A Pre-Med Panel for undergraduate women will feature four Vanderbilt women medical students speaking about what medical school and working in the profession is like, what options there are following graduation, etc. There will be a question and answer period. An annual program, this panel will be informal, *informative*, and fun. It is open to women who are considering entering medical school. The panel will be Wednesday, February 10, 4:30-6:00 at the Women's Center. Light refreshments will be provided.

Noontime Seminar will showcase "Queen Gisela of Hungary: Patron of Eleventh Century Art." Helen Dickinson Baldwin will report on her research Thursday, February 18, at 12:30 in the Women's Center. Gisela was born into the Bavarian ducal house and was probably thirteen when she was sent east to marry the newly baptized Stephen I of Hungary. As one of the great queens of medieval Europe, Gisela was a lavish patron of the arts. With slides Baldwin will show the poignancy of some of Gisela's own commissioned pieces which illuminate the life and position of this eleventh century queen.

"**The Aging Impact: 35-60**" will focus on the female aging process from age 35 to 60, Thursday, February 18, 5-6:30 pm, in Sloan Conference Center, Medical Center North, Corridor A. Four clinicians will help us look at ways of maintaining autonomy over our lives as we grow older, better and wiser. Maxine Schaefer, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Carol Stoltz, Program Director of the Health Promotion Center, Gabriel Elston, Clinical Nurse Specialist, and Annell St. Charles, Coordinator of Appleworks Program, will each deal with differing aspects of middle adulthood.

"**Friends and Lovers**" is a panel of four couples telling what their relationships are like. Issues to be dealt with include dynamics of the initial relationship, crisis and conflict resolution, and factors that threaten and support a lasting relationship. Tuesday, February 23, 7:00 pm in Carmichael Towers East Formal Lounge. Co-sponsored by the Women's Center, Office of University Ministries and Interhall.

A Pre-Law Panel for undergraduate women will feature four Vanderbilt women law students telling what law school and working in the profession is like, what options there are following graduation, etc. There will be a question and answer period. An annual program, some questions that undergraduates have asked in the past included dating, marriage, application procedures and finances. Wednesday February 24, 4:30-6:00 pm at the Women's Center. Light refreshments will be available.

Thanks to your good suggestions we have renamed Dutch Treat Lunch to **Lunch with Community Leaders**. Pat Pierce, Director of the Opportunity Development Center, will discuss the activities of that office on Thursday, February 25, in Room 139 of the Divinity School. People may bring their lunch or purchase it in the Refectory. Coffee will be provided. ■

A study concluded that men are seen as deferential and thoughtful by their male superiors if they use reason and logic. Women are viewed as thoughtful if they use friendliness and flattery—or are passive. ■

Personal Report for the Executive, 12/1/87

Announcements et cetera

Planned Parenthood Association of Nashville offers a workshop entitled "Adoption As A Positive Option" on February 26, 9-12 am, led by Fran Mora, L.C.S.W. On February 27, 9-12 am, Sandy Milliken and Terry Menge will lead a workshop on PMS. There is a \$15 fee for each workshop. Call 327-1097 for information and to register.

The Psychological and Counseling Center is beginning a graduate/professional student support group. It will be an open-ended behavior-focused group for graduate students who are having difficulty meeting academic demands. Peggy Elam is the leader of the group. To register, or for more information, call 322-2571.

Sarratt Gallery announces the opening of "Eight for Eight-Eight", a survey exhibition featuring new media sculpture by eight contemporary artists, seven female and one male, from February 15 to March 22.

On opening day one of the artists, Carol Emons, will lecture at 12:15 in the gallery. Later, that evening of February 15, there will be a reception from 7 - 9 pm with many of the artists present. Funding for this project is made possible through a visual arts grant from the Tennessee Arts Commission.

Meet Your Legislator. February 25, 5:30 pm, room 16, Legislative Plaza you may meet the Davidson County Delegation. There will be a reception at 7:00 pm on the second floor of the newly renovated Capitol Building. Event is sponsored by League of Women Voters, Junior League, CABLE, National Council of Jewish Women and NOW.



The YWCA has an exciting list of 30 different classes this winter to help, support and teach. Some topics are history, support for newcomers, financial planning, where to find jobs, situation leadership, needlework, songwriting, health and fitness. The coupon above for 10% off is being given to *Women's VU* subscribers. For information on classes please call 269-YWCA.

Vanderbilt Women's Swimming & Diving Team will be in the SEC Championships in Knoxville, February 25-27.

The University of Kentucky announces its tenth **Women Writers Conference**, April 6-9, 1988. Visiting writers invited for the conference include Camille Bacon-Smith, Andrea Dworkin, Denise Giardina, Sandra Gilbert, Susan Gugar, Marilyn Hacker, Sharon Olds, Sherley Anne Williams and Billie Jean Young. For more information check the complete brochure on the conference posted at the Women's Center.

"Are You Living in Your Kind of Place?" by Charles Anzalone is an excellent article for people who expect to be making a move. *Where* you live can have a huge impact on *how* you live. Recent college graduates talk about varied approaches to choosing a place to live and suggest ways to minimize the discomfort of a poor choice. For your complimentary copy of the article you may come by the Women's Center.

New State Insurance Regulations. Women's Equity Action League (WEAL) President Mary W. Gray's testimony before the Massachusetts State Insurance Commissioner was instrumental in the final adoption in August of the regulation which makes that state, the home of many insurance companies, a leader in eliminating sex discrimination in insurance.

The regulation puts an end to the industry's practice of using sex to determine insurance rates. It is effective September 1, 1988, for all new and renewed policies from Massachusetts insurance companies.

Montana is the only other state that has succeeded in mandating sex-neutral insurance. Their mandate resulted from legislation which was passed, challenged, and reaffirmed despite the opposition of a powerful insurance lobby. ■

WEAL Washington Report

Snow Job

Marian K. Dunn
Williston, North Dakota

A friend of mine was dismayed to find, as she left work late one winter evening, that the city had been hit by a snowstorm. She dashed across the street to a late-night hardware store to purchase a window scraper.

When she returned, she began to scrape away at the ice and snow on the windshield. She finished the passenger side and proceeded to clear the driver's window. Getting through the ice, she was startled to see a man's face peering at her from behind the wheel. Her first thought was, *What is that doing in my car?* Upon closer examination, however, she realized that she had cleaned off the wrong car. And the man just sat there and let her finish the job.

Savvy, January 1986

Edited by Judith T. Helfer

TO RECEIVE YOUR OWN LABELED COPY OF WOMEN'S VU return the form below or call the Women's Center, 322-4843, to place your name on the mailing list.

Monthly newsletters, excluding July and August, are sent upon request to all students free. Newsletters to faculty and staff at campus addresses are free. For non-student, off-campus addresses there is a \$3.00 fee for one year. Please make checks payable to Vanderbilt University Women's Center.

Name _____

Department _____

Address _____

Campus phone _____

Student (please give school and class) _____

Staff _____ Faculty _____ Other _____

Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center
Vanderbilt University
Franklin Bldg., West Side Row
Box 1513, Station B
Nashville, TN 37235

**Address Correction Requested
Include mailing label**