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### Contact:

Archives & Special Collections  
Waidner-Spahr Library  
Dickinson College  
P.O. Box 1773  
Carlisle, PA 17013

717-245-1399

[archives@dickinson.edu](mailto:archives@dickinson.edu)





# The Dickinson Women's NEWSLETTER

Published by The Advisory and Planning Committee  
on Women's Programs

JANUARY, 1974

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## THE ADVISORY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S PROGRAMS

by Patricia Torres

Last year numerous activities of importance to women were initiated by Dean Mary Watson Carson and graduate intern Pamelee McFarland. A film series was sponsored in which various female roles were portrayed in each film. The film "Growing Up Female" was also shown on campus. Ms. Renee Taft, who researches developing career opportunities for women graduates, conducted a workshop at Dickinson. Also in the career category was the trip a number of Dickinson women took to Washington to participate in various workshops offered by the organization, Washington Opportunities for Women (WOW). Lastly, an identity workshop was conducted for interested women in one of the sororities on campus.

"The Advisory and Planning Committee on Women's Programs" was organized this year. At the start of the semester each woman received a newsletter upon which she indicated whether she would like to be a member of the committee. There are presently 25 women on the committee. Dean Carson and Pam McFarland realized the best way they could learn the needs of women students would be to receive input from the women on campus.

Last fall Dr. Barbara Varchol spoke on human sexuality on campus. For next semester many activities are being planned. The committee has assembled a film series similar to the one that was held last spring. (Also



Members of the committee plan the film series.

being investigated by Mary Lubin are plays and skits which would be performed by women.) A workshop/conference in Harrisburg for Dickinson women will be sponsored in which students may speak with women representing various careers.

In addition, Merry Brooks, a journalist from Harrisburg Patriot, will speak next semester--women and credit. A self-defense workshop will also be held. Matter-of-fact, this newsletter is the product of the efforts of women on the committee.

All suggestions or ideas for articles and/or programs are welcome.

*"The desire of a man for a woman is not directed at her because she is a human being, but because she is a woman. That she is a human being is of no concern to him."*

Immanuel Kant  
(1724-1804)

*"Men always want to be a woman's first love; women have a more subtle instinct: what they like is to be a man's last romance."*

Oscar Wilde  
(1854-1900)

WRA TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT  
SINGLES OR MIXED DOUBLES  
SIGN UP DOWNSTAIRS H.U.B. OR DORM  
OR CONTACT BONNIE EVERETT, H.U.B. 396



## W.O.W.EE: WHAT TO DO AFTER GRADUATION

by Karen Kenahan and Karen Faulds



Dickinson women discuss the W.O.W. trip.

Earlier this semester, the Office of Student Services sponsored a Career Planning Workshop for Dickinson College women. A group of 40 women traveled to Washington, D.C. to an information center known as Washington Opportunities for Women. This Division of the U.S. Department of Labor provides specialized information and counseling services concerning work and training opportunities for women in the Washington metropolitan area.

The morning session at W.O.W. was structured with some general discussion about the job market today and projections for the near future. In the afternoon, the women broke up into small workshop groups, discussing such topics as career decision-making and the "how-to's" of finding a job.

Although informative in nature, the workshop was especially thought-provoking, and thus was found to be most beneficial to underclass women who have time to assimilate the program. The staff at W.O.W. is dynamic; a woman cannot spend time there without finding genuine encouragement and useful information for starting out on a job-finding campaign. The women at W.O.W. are eager to share personal experiences with anyone venturing to the agency for help in finding the right job or career, as well as offer career counseling and guidance to the proper placement directories.

The atmosphere at the workshop was contagious optimism. The W.O.W. staff who shared their experiences with the Dickinson women had relied more upon personal skills and attributes than major fields of study to obtain the jobs they presently hold. Possessing a stable personality and healthy attitude seemed

for them to be just as important qualifications for landing a job as did holding a degree in a particular area.

The job market projections for the near future seem to indicate openings in fields which require specialized training - not necessarily long preparation, but specialized. This did not mean to the women at W.O.W. that there is no place for a broad liberal arts education; as an aid in personal growth and development it is invaluable to the individual.

The workers stressed some of the more practical elements of the job-finding and career-defining processes which were indeed enlightening, since this most important kind of consideration is so often ignored by those of us in our sheltered academic environment. Emphasis was placed upon a recognition of the kinds of skills a woman can acquire outside of a school situation, and the significance of using these skills to get a job in an entry level position. A major consideration for accepting a job should be "Can I advance to a better position - to one of greater responsibility - once I demonstrate my ability at this entry level job?" Time and again, the staff stressed the idea of starting at the bottom in order to work toward the top, and they reminded the group that a resume of oneself and one's skills should include those various practical experiences gained through the years which might set one apart from other applicants.

Although W.O.W. is located in the nation's capitol and offers information for jobs mostly offered in the metropolitan D.C. area, its services are open to any interested women. The agency operates on a first-come basis, Monday through Thursday, from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

W.O.W. began in 1966 on a much smaller scale than its present operation boasts today. As one of the organization's publications explains, "During the past decade, the steady movement of women into the labor force ...has placed new pressures on traditional family and employment patterns. W.O.W. has grown as a pioneering response to the resulting demands of women for new kinds of services." W.O.W. stresses the fact that women today must realize that they too must prepare to enter a competitive working world, and the organization helps some of these women address themselves to this responsibility.



## MEANDERINGS

by Barbara Chaapel

Write an article on women, they said. That's overwhelming - I don't represent all women, or all ministers, or all 25-year-olds, or all anything else. I am myself - a woman, a minister, a 25-year-old, but probably different from every other 25-year-old woman minister. All this is to say that the following thoughts are not meant to be generalizations about all women. They represent how I feel on this particularly dreary day in December. And just maybe they will trigger some reactions.

What do you do when you wake up one morning and suddenly come to the realization that you are a strange breed of person - that people have finally come up with a category for you - when you thought all along that your very being denied categorization!

To soar (or is it plummet?) rapidly from being what you thought an independent, self-controlled, concerned person with a relatively firm grasp on your past and your future, to being a member of the new breed - a "woman's libber": that's a strange journey. While finding strength in your own emotionality (yet without the need to steel yourself against that strange phenomenon with which most men cannot deal - tears), suddenly you are being called cold, unfeminine, aggressive - or worse yet - psychologically unstable for trying to deny your emotions (to which, as all good men know, all good women are slaves).

It is a strange journey - the road from being yourself to being a "woman's libber." It's a road from privacy into the public; a road from the individuality of your womanhood to association with a movement full of women who have chosen to let their individuality take a backseat at least for awhile.

Part of me resents that journey - resents being called "woman's libber" with a smile or a laugh (most men cannot speak about women's liberation without humor; many women have trouble taking it seriously). I have considered myself a liberated woman - a liberated person - since back before the "movement" brought my freedom to words. And no change in dress or language will make me either more or less liberated. Because liberation is fundamentally a head thing - a frame of mind - an attitude about oneself and one's relationships with others. For the very reason that it has to do with a woman's own perspective of herself, liberation is essentially something which every woman must achieve for herself through a lot of hard thinking. It's dealing with the "who am I" questions - questions like "How do I choose to relate to men?" "How do I choose to relate to other women?" "What is marriage and is it something in which I want to share?" "For what kind of an education and self-fulfilling career am I striving?" I believe every woman must answer those questions for herself - no institution, no movement, certainly no man



can answer them for her.

But the "movement" can offer support in the form of other women who are struggling with the same questions and finding their own answers. And once you have finally gotten your head together and decided where you are going, the political pressure of a large group of women working for legal changes in job placement, salaries, etc., is good support to have!

The point of these meanderings is basically this: I have talked to many women who resent the women's movement and do not care to be associated with it in any way. I say to them, fine, if they have done serious thinking about their lives, where they want to be in five or ten years from now, what their worth consists of as women, regardless of any man to whom they may be related. If you have not at least asked yourself these questions, then some exposure to the women's movement might raise them for you.

What I would really like to see is more women here at Dickinson - indeed more women everywhere - giving themselves some serious thought; taking a firm hand in shaping their own lives rather than letting them be shaped; learning how to find worth first in themselves, not primarily in their relationships with men. Then when dating relationships break, when marriages fail, when husband or lover or children decide there is no longer time for wife, mistress or mother, women's lives do not fall apart. Yes, it is human liberation; but for women, it is basically learning to know ourselves and like ourselves, and to enter into relationships with other men and women with the strength of that knowledge.

"Women can love men, yet not submerge themselves in men; can enjoy domesticity, but not devote themselves to it, can be feminine, but not make a fetish of it. In so being they miss the intense pleasure of submission, the unity of character, and security of role which the "normal" women enjoy, but they can also gain that breath of experience, intellectual and emotional, that free and single identity, which their majority of sisters are often denied."



# W.O.W. WOMEN: THE LAW WAITS YOU!

by Ms. Pam McFarland

The room was filled with women who munched doughnuts, sipped coffee and chatted with each other the way women are supposed to do. But these women were talking about the legal profession and their futures in it. It was a Saturday in October and 250 women, almost equally divided between Black women and White women, had come to a law school recruitment conference at Syracuse University sponsored by S.U.'s Women's Law Caucus.

The tone of the conference was one of tough-minded optimism about the future of women in the law. State Senator Carol Bellamy (Dem., N.Y.) made the opening statements about her rather difficult but determined experience as law student, lawyer, and now, politician. Three panel discussions followed, including a two-hour period where the women could meet with recruiters from nine law schools. (Stanford, New England School of Law, Dickinson, Suffolk U., Akron and others) Testing and admissions information was also covered on the agenda.

Carol Libow, partner in a New York City feminist law firm, said: "Men make all the laws. They enforce them and by the time you get to the courts, men are interpreting them. That has simply got to change. And we need you to help us change it." Faith Seidenberg, nationally known for both her civil rights and feminist legal work, commented: "Women are going to flock to women as their consciousness is raised. There are men

who are feminist-minded, but they're few and far between. The law is dominated by white male conservatives and as far as I'm concerned, we don't need any more."

The audience responded to the panelists and speakers with applause and cheers. Especially during the panel discussions, the women in the law caucus communicated an encouraging self-assured unity. The caucus women emphasized the need for more women law students, professors and lawyers.

Carolyn Bratt, who ranks first in her third-year class and who moderated the conference, told of one prof who used class discussion on rape as a forum for "atrocious sexist jokes." Someone called him on it in class, and it took a lot of courage to call a prof in front of his students. The next time he delivered the lecture, it was without the sexist jokes. He turned to the women in the class and asked, "Did I do it right?" The confrontation tactic had worked.

It seems that women in law school are really pushing hard for more women law students. If you are a woman who has thought about law as a career, don't hesitate to look into schools and their respective admissions requirements. The time is really ripe for us. If you have questions about your qualifications, write to the schools you are interested in and see what they say. But women are definitely wanted by the law.

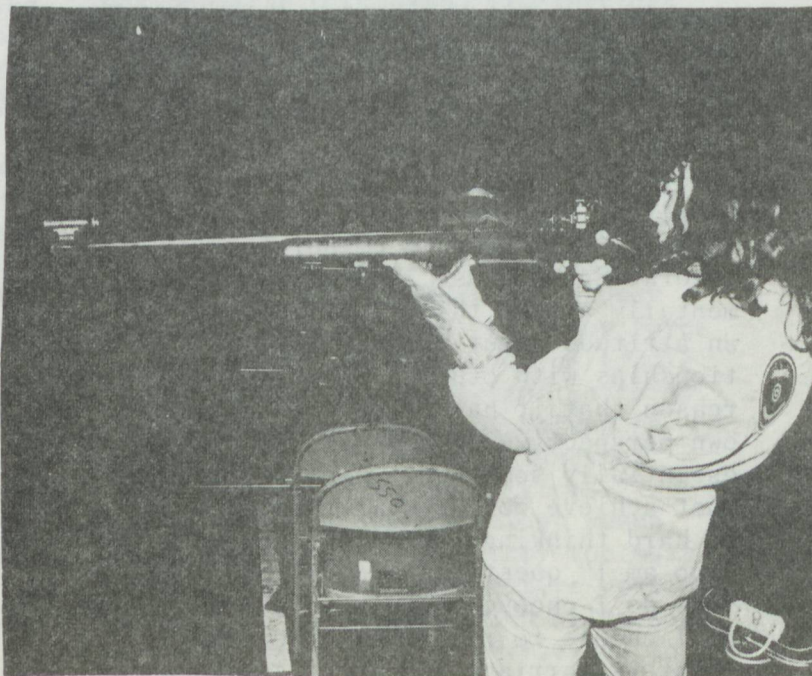
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## WESTBROOK SERENADED

For as long as college girls can remember, a pleasant memory has been Sigma Chi's serenades. Drayer First North (with a little help from their friends) has reversed this tradition and created another Dickinson First by serenading Mr. Robert Westbrook on Dec. 1. Rather than the traditional "Sweetheart Song" the group transformed an Elton John song into "O General I need you, Like a little child, You got something in you, To drive a school girl wild."

Apparently, it was considered unbelievable that thirty girls could rally together for such a purpose, especially as the girls were not a sorority.

After Sigma Chi had returned the serenade, the hall held a shower function for Ms. Cathy Widders, the pinee, and, another first, also doused Mr. Westbrook.





## DIALOGUE

with Katherine Barber

Mrs. Barber is an assistant professor of physical education here at Dickinson. Prior to her arrival here ten years ago, she taught at Sharon Hill High School (outside Philadelphia) and at Boiling Springs. She earned her B.A. in liberal arts with a physical education major at Syracuse University. She has done graduate work at Penn State and at Madison College.

Question: Mrs. Barber, what are your feelings about coed P.E. classes?

Answer: When I arrived here in 1960 we had had coed classes for four years. At that point there were only about 300 women. We are an originator of coed phys. ed.

I think it works fine. The girls work harder - not to impress, but rather not to bomb out in front of the guys. The men show up more. It makes for a more interesting teaching situation.

There is no problem in tennis and squash - pairing is by ability, not sex. The hang-up occurs for the men, not the women. It can become an ego thing if a skilled woman beats a man. He has to learn to cope.

Q. Will you give some background on the program in general.

A. Five years ago we switched from grades (which did not count in the average) to pass/fail. We have made the program very flexible. A student has more options. Testing out is in its second year.

In the last few years we went through a transition. For a while athletics (men's as well as women's) weren't appreciated. It's gone full circle -- we'll soon be back, I think, to P.E. uniforms. No athletes are recognized and admired.

Q. Are there any national women's athletic organizations?

A. Yes, the A.I.A.W., Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women, was founded two years ago. It is comparable to the N.C.A.A. It sponsors



tournaments with championships in most women's sports. (Lacrosse and Field Hockey have their own organizations.) Because of it we are now allowed to give athletic scholarships for women. (Although we haven't here -- we don't give them to men!) (Newsweek, 12/10/73, discusses Women's Athletics, Inc. Scholarships. See "The New Campus Rebels: Women")

Q. Do you think you are treated fairly here?

A. While salaries are not equal, as men come in higher salaried, things are being done to remedy the situation. Both Ms. Wagner and myself are assistant professors, but we don't have Master's degrees. It was our choice.

Q. Are women given fair treatment, as regards to athletics?

A. There are inequalities. Women are coming in with better background. If men were as good as our women, they'd go elsewhere on scholarship. Men are provided with practice clothes, women are cont'd, page 6

## ANOTHER VIEW

Professor David Watkins

What do you think of restrictions for women athletes here?

"The arrangement as it exists causes a woman to feel put upon and to look at the opportunities which exist as second class. This is obviously brought on by many things -- insufficient staff to oversee or work with women in their athletic endeavors (the facilities here leave something to be desired). It is not unique to Dickinson, it needs at least one more woman on the staff. We

need to establish our priorities -- both for men and women.

The Women's Commission subcommittee has done a great deal for the College and gotten the ball rolling. Both the Department of Athletics and the IPR Subcommittee on Athletics have contributed to a healthy outlook for athletic programs. Time will tell whether these recommendations will produce changes at the College."



## CURRENT COURSES

The following courses have some emphasis on women's studies, in some aspect.

- 01212A Introduction to American Studies: 1 MWF, Prof. Conrad  
 09403A Women as a Symbol: 2 MW, Prof. Culp  
 13216A Women in Scandanavian Literature: 11 TH, Prof. Eddy  
 27322A Psychology and Religion: 2-4:30 TH, Prof. Elkins  
 32241A Contemporary People of Latin America: 2 TH, Prof. deGrys  
 32322A Population: 2 MW, Prof. deGrys  
 32390A Relations Between Men and Women: 12:30 TH, Prof. Israel



not. Men hog free time in the gym and have more options on the facilities. Until the arrival of Shelly Wright, no trainer traveled with the team. Now during practice she is available in the training room and travels with the team.

Q. What is the intramural situation?

A. We need someone to oversee women's intramurals. Men have football, basketball, volleyball and softball. The fraternity system helps them work. It's no one's fault. We've tried tennis, swimming, badminton and softball. Volleyball this year was badly publicized. We'll offer whatever people are interested in, but we can't wait for people to say, "I want a sport." Women aren't used to having things provided, or for asking for them. It will take time for Dickinson women to learn to schedule in games, but once they do, they will find it worthwhile.

If one person could organize it as part of their job, it would work. We believe the interest is there. If the program is started, it will be self-generating. There is no reason a women's program must be parallel to men's.

Q. How does the immediate future look?

A. Bright -- but the problem (as with everything) is funding. The Commission's (the Dickinson Commission on the Status of Women) subcommittee has, with the IPR Committee, done a great deal to get the ball going. Have you ever seen the like of our locker room? We are embarrassed to bring in visiting teams.

Women's athletics are progressing in organization, participation and recognition. People are noticing, we exist and we enjoy competing in games.

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The Newsletter is published by the Women's Advisory and Planning Committee of Dickinson College.

Editor-in-Chief  
Sarah O'Neill

Contributors

Mary Watson Carson  
Barbara Chaapel  
Karen Kenahan

Karen Faulds

Pam McFarland  
Pat Torres  
Photos by Chuck Issacs

We would like to thank Noel Potter for our masthead. Any contributions would be welcomed (as well as comments or suggestions) at box 1298 or the Office of Student Services.

Typing by Ms. Shirley Trego