

INTRODUCTIONS: THE WOMEN'S CENTER STAFF Betsy Thomas continues to bring her experience and commitment to the Women's Center as director of the many programs and services available.

Leslie Gregory, who joined the Women's Center last March, is continuing to take on the many responsibilities of the office as the Receptionist/Interviewer.

With the generous continued and increased grant support of the Idaho Council on Domestic Violence, the Women's Center is able to provide ongoing services through the Sexual Assault Program. Gwen Snow will continue to be the Coordinator of this much needed program.

Kim Bouchard is the most recent addition to the staff. As the Educational Program Coordinator she will be organizing the noon programs, the newsletter and a number of special projects for the Women's Center.

OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATION: The staff at the Women's Center warmly invites all community members to stop by the Center on SEPTEMBER 16 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm to meet the staff and join in the day long series of activities. Old friends are encouraged to bring stories and photos of past Center activities and memorable events. New friends are welcome to participate in all the events of the day, to browse through the library and resource materials, share in the coffee, tea and other goodies, and to ask lots of questions. Come and join us for a day of celebration. We look forward to seeing you.

YES, IT'S A COURSE!: Health and Safety 404, Section 01, "Acquaintance Sexual Assault and Stranger Rape", is offered each Fall semester in recognition of the increase in sexual assault cases on campuses across the country. The unfortunate truth is that a growing number of the assaults are committed by perpetrators known to the victim. In response to this alarming problem the class is offered to give students the resources to become teachers on the subject and be an integral part of a campus wide early warning system that aids in protecting peers' and classmates' safety both on campus and in other potentially dangerous situations. Registration is still open for the class. For further information contact the Women's Center, 885-6616.

ATHENA: An Association supporting the interests of faculty and other professional women at the University of Idaho, is an organization providing the means for professional women to become acquainted with each other and to share mutual interests, activities, and concerns. The group meets monthly for a catered dinner and to consider issues on campus, share research, discuss books or articles, and meet colleagues informally.

Invitations were sent to many university employees for the annual fall social. If you did not receive one please call one of the new officers: President- Monique Lillard, Law, 885-6422; Vice Pres.- Gail DeSantis, PSES/Entomology, 885-6050; Secretary- Rebecca McCoy, History, 885-7166; and Treasurer- Mary George, PSES/Plant Science, 885-6635. WOMEN ON THE SHORT END OF THE STICK--STILL! United Nations researchers are gathering information about the world's women and so far they haven't found a single country that treats women as well as it treats its men. Throughout the world women are the neglected majority, concludes the 1993 U.N. Human Development Report.

The report said discrimination against women in industrial countries is mainly in employment and wages, with women often earning half the salary of men. In developing countries, the report shows disparities that also occur in health care, nutrition, and education.

In politics, women make up just over 10 percent of parliamentarians or national legislators and less than 4 percent of cabinet posts. Only six countries have women as heads of governments.

Based on a statistical study of 33 countries and qualityof-life rankings for income, education and life expectancy, the U.S. came in ninth. (by David Briscoe, Associated Press, 1993)

EMPOWERING WOMEN: ACHIEVING HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE 21st CENTURY is an international conference being held in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Oct.29-31. Calling itself "...a vehicle for education and a call to action." the Conference's stated goal is to discuss and activate: "An integrated approach to human rights, in which women and so-called feminine values are fully included."

In 1988 the International Research and Exchanges Board and the American Council of Learned Societies submitted proposals for an annual human rights conference that would be international in nature and global in scope.

The first conference took place in Berkeley, California in 1989. In 1990 the delegates met in Moscow, Russia on the issue of "Political and Nationality Rights". At that time the delegates developed a 10 year program of policy research to make the year 2000 the dawn of "A Human Rights Century" Each year would focus on a specific aspect of human rights.

This year we are fortunate to have the conference be so geographically accessible, as well as dealing principally with empowerment of women. Conference programs and registration forms are available at the Women's Center. September 15 is the deadline for pre-registration.

WOMEN'S HISTORY FIRSTS: A QUIZ!

(Answers on page 4)

1. Who was the first woman to publish a newspaper that was wholly operated by women?

2. Who was the first woman to have her invention patented?

3. Who was the first woman lawyer admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court?

4. Who was the first woman to play on an all male professional basketball team?

BUDGET CUTTING TIME: Last year many of you answered our call for \$5.00 for receiving a year's worth of our newsletter. We are once again appealling for your financial assistance to help offset the printing and distribution of the newsletter. Your \$5.00 contribution will be gratefully received. Thank you.



THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

WOMEN'S CENTER

Line Street and Idaho Avenue west of the Satellite SUB

Telephone: 885-6616

Hours: 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M., Monday-Friday

The Women's Center has a unique role at the University of Idaho and in the Moscow community. It serves as the focal point for women's issues and concerns and as a gathering place for individuals and groups who are committed to supporting opportunity, equality and justice for women.

As part of that mission, the Center provides a wide variety of educational programs and resources to help people explore what it means to be women and men in today's changing society. We strive to ensure that the Women's Center is a comfortable, nonjudgmental place where students, staff, faculty and community people can come together and find information, support and friendship. We offer the following programs and resources,

- 1. *Noon Programs*--Presentations and discussions every Tuesday and Wednesday at 12:30 covering a wide variety of issues.
- 2. Advocacy--We offer support and assistance to survivors of rape, domestic violence, discrimination and sexual harassment. We work closely with the University Affirmative Action Office.
- 3. Crisis Intervention--Staff can provide peer counseling and crisis intervention.
- 4. *Rape Education--*With the cooperation of the College of Education class, Health and Safety 404, we deliver a comprehensive program on acquaintance sexual assault and rape to on-campus living groups and classes throughout the year.
- 5. *Non-Traditional Students--*We provide a gathering place for non-traditional students, most of whom live off campus, to meet each other, gather, study, rest, care for infants or to learn they are not the only student over thirty.
- 6. *Library--*A circulating library of over 600 books dealing primarily with women's lives and issues of particular concern to women.
- 7. Outreach--Programs and speakers can usually be provided for campus organizations upon request. A newsletter is published 6 times a year. Call to have your name added to the mailing list.
- 8. Information and Referral--If you haven't found the answer to your question or you don't know where to ask, drop in or call us. We can help. We publish an updated *Child Care Directory* at the beginning of each semester.
- 9. Drop-in Lounge--A place to relax, read, have lunch, study, meet friends and exchange ideas and feelings. Individuals support, help and empower each other and themselves.

The University of Idaho Women's Center Support, assistance and education for women and those who care about women. ALCOHOL ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES: College students have a higher drinking level than their same age counterparts, drinking more often and more heavily than others their age who don't attend college. Why?

In her article "Questions We Must Answer First", Dorothy Siegel from Towson State University suggests "...the fact that there are no modifying social forces to influence the drinking behavior of students. I would propose that the environment is part of the problem. The student community is a separate, diverse community that is quite unrelated and uninfluenced by the more mature members of the university community--the faculty and staff. Students often do not consider faculty and staff as significant others who may influence their out-of-class behavior. In addition, we have created physical environments where there is very little likelihood that the faculty member and the student will meet at any time after class.

"I submit to you that campus [alcohol problems] are related to this unique environment... We must answer two questions before we solve such a problem. First, how does drinking become such an excessive behavior for so many students? And second, how can we expect students to create a sane environment without the influence of significant adults--not as parents, but as a presence and guide?"

ANSWERS AND TIDBITS:

1. ANNE E. McDOWELL - In 1855 she launched the weekly *Woman's Advocate*. The entire newspaper staff was women, not only the editors but the typesetters and printers as well, and they received the same wages as men working in the same fields.

2. SYBILLA MASTERS - In London, England in 1715 a patent was granted to Sybilla's invention of a device for cleaning and curing Indian corn.

3.BELVA ANN BENNETT McNALL LOCKWOOD

Actually in 1876 Lockwood was refused admission to the U.S. Supreme Court. Due to her personal lobbying efforts a bill was eventually passed in Congress and signed by then President Hayes on Feb. 15, 1879 which admitted women to practice before the court.

She was also the first woman to receive votes in a presidential election. A fervent suffragist she ran as a candidate of the National Equal Rights Party in 1884.

4. LYNETTE WOODARD - She was chosen for the Harlem Globetrotters team in 1985 and made her debut on the team on Nov. 13, 1985 in Seattle. She was also the winner of the 1981 Wade Trophy for outstanding woman player of the year and was captain of the 1984 U.S. women's basketball team that won the Olympic gold medal.

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