

# News Staffwomen Charge Sexism

Boulder, Colo. (AFS) — Although the field of journalism has opened up to more and more women in the past few years, women are still generally restricted to a few types of jobs—reporting for the women's, education or religion pages.

The female newsroom employees of the Boulder Daily Camera decided to challenge this restriction in a civil rights suit—and won. On Dec. 13, a hearing officer for the Colorado Civil Rights

Commission ruled that the Camera is guilty of "a pattern and practice of discrimination" against women.

The women on the Camera believe this is the first time a newspaper has been found guilty of discrimination based on sex.

But the suit is not over yet. The newspaper's publisher, editor and managing editor insist their paper discriminates against no one. They will appeal the decision.

The hearing officer ordered the Camera to establish an internal affirmative action program for hiring, as well as written objective guidelines concerning starting salaries, pay raises and promotional opportunities.

Her findings state that the Camera "failed to promote qualified women employees to straight news reporting positions and consistently discouraged qualified women employees from accepting news reporting positions which would eventually lead to promotion within the company."

There will be no plans for affirmative action, according to Norm Christiansen, the Camera's publisher. Asked whether he thought the paper was guilty of any kind of discrimination, Christiansen answered, "Indeed I don't."

The women filed the suit because "we wanted other women to know it can be done," said Beverly Butman, a staff writer for the women's section. "We all went to the civil rights commission together—almost all the women from the newsroom and women from other departments—and filed statements."

Butman said she filed a statement because "I could see myself trapped, tied to the same desk all the rest of my life."

Bringing the suit had little effect on her job, Butman said. "There were some tense things right after the hearing, but it wasn't too bad. Everyone was kind of nervous, but that was about all."

The case will now go back to the Colorado Civil Rights Commission for review.

# Abortion—The Big Question

By PAM OYSTON

New morality, women's rights and methods of contraception are all sources of controversy. However, no subject raises as many questions as abortion—the deliberate termination of pregnancy.

Monday the Supreme Court ruled laws prohibiting abortion

to be an invasion of privacy. A revolution has taken place in the legal status of abortion. However, it remains to be seen if the attitudes of the American public will change as well.

There is much to be said on both sides of the question. Whether to beget or bear a child is a

private matter. Unwanted children are a burden on both the individual and society. The Women's Liberation movement holds that abortion is necessary to make control over the process of reproduction complete, a right to which they feel entitled.

However, some believe unrestricted abortion will lead to immoral behavior. But the principal argument is that it destroys a potential human life, a human individual.

Questions are then raised as to when the fetus actually becomes a human being. When does an individual, a legal person, begin to exist? This choice would be largely determined by the individual's cultural and social background's definition as to what constitutes a human being.

When a sampling of A&M students were asked their opinion of the Supreme Court's decision and why, all favored the decision but reasons differed.

Mark Ivey—sophomore, "Every woman has a right to determine what to do with her life." In answer to whether or not he thought the ruling would have a degrading effect on American society, Mark answered that lowering the voting and drinking age didn't and he didn't see why this would.

Emily Braswell—freshman, "It screws up not only the girls' life but the child's too." Emily didn't feel the court's ruling would lead to an increase in permissiveness because she predicts the prices of abortion will rise.

Randy Ross, Student Government vice-president, "It should be between the woman and her qualified doctor." Randy also felt the father of the child should be aware of the child's fate. However, he was firmly against allowing the fetus to develop for six months. He felt that three months would be more legal.

David McKnight, senior, "I'm tired of seeing people getting married for noble reasons." David also says he would extend the age of the fetus if it wouldn't endanger the woman's health, though he personally would have made the decision before the six-month period.

These A&M students seem united in their positive attitude towards abortion and in their optimism towards its effect on society. Difference of opinion lay in what period of development the fetus should be aborted.

# Dean Schreiber To Speak At Panhellenic Luncheon

By PAM OYSTON

Dean of Women Toby M. Schreiber will be the featured guest speaker at the annual luncheon of the Panhellenic Association Saturday at the new women's club.

The organization, composed of alumnae of national Greek sororities, is not only social in function, but serves as a source of reference to those wishing to join a sorority as well.

Members of the organization include local women as well as those from Hearne, Brenham, Calvert, Navasota, Somerville, Anderson and Bedias.

Reservations for the luncheon may be made by contacting Mrs. Louis Newman III, Sorority members, not presently affiliated with their local chapter may contact

their Panhellenic representative.

These representatives are Mrs. William McFarland, Alpha Chi Omega; Mrs. Travis Engelbrecht, Alpha Delta Pi; Mrs. Wayne Gibson, Alpha Gamma Delta; Mrs. Walter Young, Alpha Xi Delta; Mrs. Robert White, Chi Omega; Mrs. R. G. Anthony, Delta Delta Delta; Mrs. Eddie Davis, Delta Gamma; Mrs. Clyde Porterfield, Gamma Phi Beta; Mrs. Henry Seale, Kappa Alpha Theta; Mrs. George Dresser, Kappa Delta; Mrs. R. J. Ridgway, Kappa Kappa Gamma; Mrs. D. B. Cafer, Pi Beta Phi; Mrs. Richard Wadsworth, Phi Mu; Mrs. George Potter, Sigma Kappa; Mrs. Lewis Newman III, Zeta Tau Alpha.

If the sorority is not listed contact Mrs. Robert White at 822-5592 or Mrs. Travis Engelbrecht.

# For The Birds And Squirrels....

Winter feeding of birds can create a natural laboratory just outside your window, providing an opportunity to observe some of nature's most beautiful creatures.

Charles Ramsey, wildlife specialist for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, suggests feeding birds especially during the winter months when ice storms or heavy snows seal up the food supply on the ground for days or even weeks.

Birds can stand frigid subzero weather if they can get enough food to keep up their body temperatures, points out the A&M specialist.

With the inquisitive chickadees usually the first to discover the whereabouts of generous hand-outs, birds readily accept any hospitality they can find during cold weather.

Once suet and seed are put out, Ramsey advises against discontinuing feeding later in the winter because the birds will come to depend on this regular supply of food.

Winter feeding is sometimes complicated by problem guests such as English sparrows, starlings and squirrels. English sparrows and starlings are introduced species that shoulder out their native competitors. They are not protected by law so they may be trapped and disposed of. There are several live-traps available commercially that are suitable, points out Ramsey.

Since trapping may not be feasible, the specialist suggests scattering scraps of bread on the ground in the open for sparrows and starlings while feeding grain to the more timid birds in a sheltered spot among trees or bushes.

Squirrels are sometimes troublesome, but they are also interesting to observe. Bird feeders suspended by small wires several feet from anything which squirrels might climb usually solves the problem.

Although some people object to the bullying ways of jays, these birds are beautiful creatures, which, like squirrels, are part of the native wildlife population. Jays like the larger seeds such as sunflower and will scatter a seed mixture with smaller seeds. So, Ramsey suggests feeding large seed in a separate feeder for jays.

Birds that would ordinarily eat insects must be fed animal food entirely; in other words, suet, beef fat or chopped meat. Seed-eating birds will eat little except vegetable food. Some birds such as nuthatches and chickadees, will eat both suet and seeds. A minimum variety of feed should include suet, sunflower seed, millet and cracked corn, suggests the specialist.

As far as feeding devices are concerned, many are available commercially. But a small shelf tacked to a tree to hold seeds and a small piece of hardware cloth to hold suet will be sufficient, adds Ramsey.

# Women's Lib Lives At A&M

Women's Lib has found A&M through an organizational meeting of the Women's Awareness Workshop Tuesday in the library.

The aims of the organization are twofold. Part of each meeting will be used as an encounter session. Both men and women may come and discuss the problems encountered in the day-to-day game of role playing. Concrete achievements are also desired. Freeing women from such alleged discriminations as loan requirements, an inferior physical educational department, and insufficient medical care are included in these prospective goals.

Probable speakers included the eminent Sheri Fudd and Dr. Hanna Levenson, professor at Baylor University, both members of NOW, the National Organization of Women. A possible trip to the National Women's Caucus in Houston was also discussed.

After a discussion of proper semantics, the organization's coordinators, Jill Parker and Judy Wooton were elected temporary co-chairmen. Ellen Williams was named treasurer, Celia Denney activities chairman, and Laurie Williams and Robin Howard telephone committee.

Tuesday, Feb. 20, has been scheduled as the group's next meeting. For more information contact Judy Wooton at 846-0695 or Jill Parker at 846-3907.

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# Supreme Court Grants Abortion

AUSTIN, Tex. (AP)—"Jane Roe," pregnant and unmarried, hired a lawyer and went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court to win the right to have an abortion.

She won her case, but had the baby, says her lawyer, state Rep. Sarah Weddington of Austin.

While protecting Miss Roe's identity, Ms. Weddington said her client was 27 when the case was first brought before a three-judge federal court in Dallas in 1970.

Miss Roe is a white woman who lives in the Dallas area, Ms. Weddington said. She did not finish high school and was employed as a waitress when she became pregnant.

"It was the best job she had ever held," Ms. Weddington said. She said Miss Roe lost the job because of her pregnancy.

Why did she decide to go ahead and have the baby after winning her case in the Dallas court?

"Partially because she had carried it too long and also to avert the possibility that the Supreme Court would declare her case moot," Ms. Weddington said.

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