

# LUBBOCK NOW TIMES

The Newsletter of the  
National Organization for Women

In Lubbock  
May 1981

## Rape City

Last night (as we go to press) the daughter of a woman many readers know was raped in the side yard of her own home. It is less than a year since the sister of a longtime friend of the victim was raped in her own bed. Worse than the violation, perhaps, in both cases was the threat of death or mutilation they were subjected to.

There are a variety of theories on what turns some men into rapists. Whatever the cause, we have an abundance of it in Lubbock. Much has been written, and we have little to add. But we are moved to reflect that rape is the worst crime of the patriarchy in its drive to hold women in subjection. The only answer to it is feminism and the society our movement can produce a society in which women will no longer be treated as thing to be dominated.

## MAY CALENDAR

May 5 7:30	PROGRAM MEETING TEXTBOOK REVIEW	Texas Tech Law School Room 104
May 12 7:30	ACTION MEETING BUDGET	1523 24th Place
May 28 5:30	HAPPY HOUR Dinner.	Mesquite's (across the alley from O'- Malley's)

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## Chicanas Poorly Paid

Editor's Note: The following article first appeared in the March 20, 1981 issue of The Lubbock Edition. We thank editor Jose I. Rubio for allowing us to reprint it here.

Movies and television portray female workers as powerful, glamorous and successful. Rarely do viewers see women factory workers, hospital aids, or custodians -- frequent female work roles, particularly for ethnic minorities. Mexican-American women who work outside the home generally are paid poorly, receive few job-related benefits or opportunities for occupational advancement.

Of about 83,000,000 American women age 16 and over, half work full-time. Fifty percent of the nation's estimated 3,000,000 Mexican-American women also hold full-time

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# To the Editor

Just a note to let you know that the Santa Fe NOW chapter was formed two days after Ronnie's election. There's a lot going on here. The NOW chapter already is participating in a boycott of national supermarkets based in unratified states. Hi to all in Lubbock.

Cathie Blackaller

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## Lubbock NOW Times

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Articles, poetry, etc., should be submitted to the editor, 2405 27th, Lubbock 79411, typed, double-spaced on a 35 character line. Articles are subject to rewrite.

# May Program Textbook Review


Lubbock NOW members will participate in a statewide textbook review project at the May 5 program meeting. A panel of reviewers from previous years will demonstrate strategies and techniques for evaluating texts currently under consideration for adoption by the legislature for use in public school classrooms.

Lubbock reviewers have been invited each year to testify before the Education Committee in Austin. In order to continue this tradition of involvement, NOW needs people willing to peruse and evaluate the proposed books for sexist content.

No experience or special expertise is required. The discussion at the meeting will prepare reviewers for the task. Join us on May 5 at 7:30 in Room 104 at the Tech Law School. Ample parking is available in the lot north of the building, located at 19th and Indiana.

## Budget Action

Disposition of proceeds from the art auction and other budget matters will be discussed at the May 12 action meeting at 1523 24th Place at 7:30 p.m. Suggestions for contributions, donations, purchases, etc., will be entertained. Proposals from members are requested.



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# Screenings



Some years ago, John Leonard, then editor of the New York Times Book Review decided to find out if his influence was sufficient to transform a private eye novelist he respected into a

best selling author. It was. Now any novel by Ross Macdonald is certain to make the Best Seller list.

I'd like to try a similar experiment -- two, actually. First, I want to save a dying television series; second, I want to preserve a noble experiment at a local movie theater.

The TV show is "Hill Street Blues," regularly listed about sixtieth in the Nielson Ratings. That NBC has not yet canceled the series, is, they say, an act of faith in the wisdom of the viewing public's judgment. Eventually, NBC executives argue, people will discover this high quality show and make it a hit. After all, that's what happened with "M\*A\*S\*H" and "All in the Family."

My more cynical guess is that Fred Silverman and the Company figure they won't win the ratings war no matter what they do, so why not keep one of the few shows that provides critical prestige for the Network.

Whatever the reason, "Hill Street Blues," deserves to be saved. Don't get me wrong; it's not great art.

(Continued on Page 5)

# FEMSOUNDS

One of the most exciting "underground" cultural phenomena of today is women's music. During the last decade women with experience in all facets of the music industry grew weary of dealing with the commercialism of the major companies, and the latter's refusal to promote meaningful songs. So these women formed their own organizations in order to sponsor and promote their own music. The quality of their products is one of the best-kept secrets in America.

In coming months I will be reviewing many of these records for the Lubbock NOW Times. They cover an incredibly diverse spectrum, from neo-classical and instrumental, through jazz and rock to bluegrass. No matter what you tastes, you'll find something to your liking.

The records may be ordered through Lubbock NOW, and the chapter will receive a certain portion of the price.

These women are bucking the system. Supporting their fight and enjoying their music will be money well spent.

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## Chicana Workers

(Continued from Page 1)  
 positions outside the home. Clerical is the most common type of female work, but more Chicanas remain in lower-pay factory and service employment than do either Black or Anglo women. Most factory work performed by women is in textiles, food preparation and packaging, and electronics; service employees are found in hospitals, cafeterias and restaurants, as custodians for government and industry, and as domestics in private homes. Pay is generally at or just over the minimum wage of \$3.35 per hour, but often falls below that rate. More than 10,000 Chicanas are classified in government records as full-time farm workers.

## Larger Numbers

Mexican-American women are joining the paid labor force in ever larger numbers. Still, many wish to work and cannot find jobs; unemployment among Mexican-American women is about 11%; while for Anglo women it is near 7%. Inflation has contributed to increased female job seeking. In 1977, the average annual income of Spanish-origin males was only \$8,271, almost \$3,000 less than that of men with non-Spanish backgrounds. Wives and children must become wage-earners if the families are to survive. Yet at least 20% of Mexican-American families live below the government's official poverty line of just under \$9,000 annually for a family of four, in comparison to approximately 10% of white, and more than 35% of Black families.

## Family Heads

The increased tendency for American women to head families has also forced many to look for work. About 15% of Mexican-American families are now female-headed, fewer proportionately than among other ethnic groups, but still a sizeable percentage. Half of Mexican-American female-headed families live below the poverty line, frequently depending upon  
 (Continued on page 8)

## Christian Nazis?

"When the Christian majority takes over this country, there will be no more talk of rights for homosexuals. After the Christian majority takes control, pluralism will be seen as immoral and evil and the state will not permit anybody the right to practice 'evil.'"

Gary Potter, President, Catholics for Christian Political Action. From the New Mexico Right to Choose. Submitted by Cathie Blackaller, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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ALFRED JUDD, MINISTER



## Screenings

(Continued from Page 3)

But the series about cops who are neither buffoons, villains, nor valorous upholders of justice and the American way does achieve real distinction.

The cops at the Hill Street Station work in a slum precinct of an unidentified city -- something of a cross between New York City and Los Angeles, I think. They try to get the crooks off the street, try to keep the honest citizens from killing each other, and try to keep their sanity. For some, that combination means being hard nosed lawmen, for others it entails a bit of graft. What it doesn't mean is car chases, blazing gunfights, or a happy home life. The streets are dirty and grimy. The mayor's office doesn't want to help out. (Who cares about a bunch of poor ethnics shooting each other?) The plot lines are complicated, and little gets resolved in the space of an hour.

I repeat, this is not great art. But it is solid television drama, as close as television has ever come to capturing what it's like to live in a big city. The large cast is excellent. We believe in their relationships with wives, ex-wives, boyfriends, girlfriends, and lovers.

There's really only one problem with the show; nobody watches it. So, if you have a Nielson box on your TV, turn the show on Saturday. It deserves a chance.

Something else which deserves a chance is an experiment at the Mann Slide Road theaters across from the Mall. During April, one of their screens is being converted to the showing of foreign films -- one each week. The selections: The Marriage of Maria Braun, The Last Wave, My Brilliant Career, and Picnic at Hanging Rock. I've seen the first three, and they're excellent. The fourth is reputed to be excellent also. Go. We need this.

I only hope that we'll still have the chance in May.

Jeffrey M. Gamso

## Chicana Workers

(Continued from Page 4)

AFDC, food stamps and other welfare programs.

Why do Mexican-American women work in low-wage, "dead-end" jobs? First, many lack educational credentials for more highly skilled and better paying positions. Only about 3% of Mexican-American women have college degrees. Second, women, more often than men, lack transportation to reach better jobs. Also, Mexican-American women are vulnerable to occupational discrimination on two counts, as women and as members of an ethnic minority group. But, most important, women are entering the job market at a time when American manufacturing is expanding only very slowly. New jobs are increasing in service and retail trades, where unskilled female and minority workers are welcome, but poorly rewarded. Organized labor's failure to enter these work settings, along with growing white male unemployment hinder the progress of minority and female workers. Current government budget-cutting makes establishment of support services for women workers, like day-care, unlikely. Yet, experts agree that the number of American women working, wanting work, and receiving too little for their work, will be greater than ever in the 1980's.

Marietta Morrissey

*Deadline*

*For Next Month's*

*Lubbock **NOW** Times*

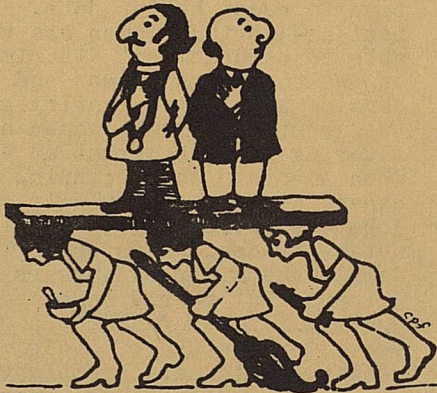
*May 11*



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# HOGWASH

The final day of the legislative session had its light moments in the South Dakota House -- as evidenced by the eager debate over a bill calling for more comfortable accommodations for lawmakers' patient wives.

The proposal, introduced as a joke on behalf of a legislative wives' group called the Capitol Club, asked for a new lounge with "nap couches" and a color television so the wives could watch soap operas during lengthy House sessions.

The phony bill also appealed for new, well-padded seats in House galleries for wives with tired der-

rieres -- a proposal that brought the following comment from one representative:

"I don't like to get into personalities," said Rep. George Mortimer. "But there are a few of them who already have padded seats."

The talk of padded seats was too much for Rep. Violet Biever. If wives were entitled to padded seats, she insisted, then her pet dog should get one, too.


Not wishing to discriminate, representatives quickly concurred.

From the Avalanche-Journal, March 1, 1981. Submitted by Pam Brink.

By JEFF MacNELLY

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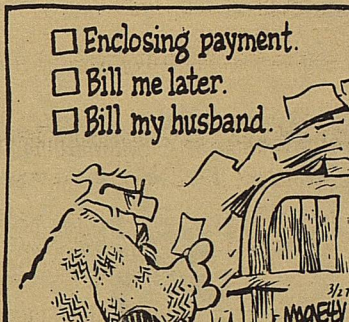


Illustration by JEFF MACNELLY

From the Avalanche-Journal, March 25, 1981. Submitted by Bebb Willow.



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From The University Daily, April 8, 1981. Submitted by Jeffrey M. Ganso.

Contributions to nogwash should be sent to The Editor, Lubbock NOW Times, 4213-B 36th St., Lubbock, TX. 79413.

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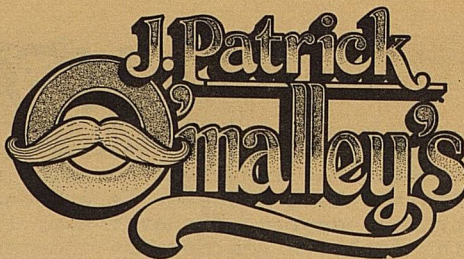


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