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We are attempting to get *Canadian Woman Studies* listed in the *Canadian Periodical Index*. This listing is not automatic. CPI indexes the magazines most often requested. The next series of inclusions is due this fall. Since women's studies materials do not have the research visibility they deserve, you can assist us in obtaining this essential resource. Please write a brief recommendation and request on behalf of CWS/cf and send your letter to:

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MOUNT SAINT VINCENT UNIVERSITY

Mount Saint Vincent University, Canada's only women's university, recently launched a \$1 million campaign to support scholarships and bursaries for deserving women and to fund neglected areas of research in women's issues. The university is asking \$1 from every Canadian woman to help reach its goal of \$3.5 million. The first \$2.5 million has been given in pledges, but many of them are contingent on the university's raising the remaining amount.

Be a part of the Canadian women's network. Send a contribution to Development Office, Mount Saint Vincent University, 166 Bedford Highway, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3M 2J6.

Editorial

Ann Hall

Over the past decade there has been increasing interest in the topic of women in sport. Quite noticeable is greater media coverage, an explosion in written material, both popular and scholarly, and a growing awareness among politicians and policy makers. Issues of concern to all sportswomen are being openly debated either informally among individuals or in volunteer sport-and-recreation organizations or in government-sponsored conferences, task forces, and the like.

As someone who has contributed to these debates, mainly through writing and research, I have noticed several trends developing over the past ten years or so.

The first is that our scholarship is improving both in its diversity and its quality. For instance, as women we are slowly discovering and documenting our rich sporting heritage. We have documented sex inequality in all aspects of the sports world. We have examined gender socialization into and via sport as well as sport's relationship to gender roles and gender identity. We have studied female sporting subcultures and athletic-team behaviour. The psyche of the female athlete is undergoing close scrutiny. There is, we are thankful, a growing body of physiological data and research that can be called upon to refute the many myths associated with the so-called weaker sex, insidious beliefs which have plagued women's sport for over a century. In short, women in sport has become a "hot" research topic fuelled by the increasing numbers of women entering graduate studies in physical education and by the realization that we have only scratched the surface in our search for knowledge and understanding.

There is also a growing recognition among researchers and scholars, be they young graduate students or established academics, as to the necessity of taking a feminist perspective. At present, what this means mostly is applying a feminist critique to what we know — and don't know — about women's experience in sport. It means drawing upon the ever-increasing volume of solid theoretical and empirical feminist scholarship apparent in every traditional discipline of knowledge. The purpose is to point out the androcentric assumptions that have shaped our knowledge about women in sport and to provide some guidelines for future, non-sexist research. This, indeed, is beginning to happen.

Another trend is the growing realization among sportswomen that their concerns and issues must be linked to those of the

women's movement in general. There is among sportswomen an increasing acceptance of feminism as a way of viewing the world and as a political force. The fact that "the personal is the political" is finally hitting home to sportswomen as they grapple with blatant inequality and discrimination in the sports world.

There is also a growing recognition on the part of feminists as to the significance of sport to the well-being of individual women and to the cultural framework of society. These indications of growing mutual awareness and acceptance by sportswomen and feminists — and there are many who consider themselves both — offer encouragement to everyone concerned about the furtherance of sex equality in sport, be it in unorganized recreational pursuits or in athletic competition at the highest levels.

The articles in this volume will, we hope, further the discussion of issues vital to achieving the right of all girls and women, regardless of class, colour, age, or physical potential, to participate freely in any form of physical activity or sport they so choose.

International Women's Writing Guild

The twelfth International Women's Writing Guild Conference will be held July 22-29, 1983, at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York. Women writers come from all over North America to learn and share their work and skills. The conference offers something for women who want to earn money through writing as well as for those women interested in writing for its own sake. Canadian participants make up about 30 per cent of the registrants. For more information contact the International Women's Writing Guild, Box 810, Gracie Station, New York, New York 10028.



Mother's Liturgy for Jonathan at 3

In the beginning
we strolled mindlessly on air
afraid of everything, though
no one knew
how much; you gave me hope.
We arrived and departed,
baby-faced, synonymous,
passing in and out daily
until age and ambition bored
between us.

I loved you then without fault.
I knew the pain of which
women tell:
"They grow up so fast . . ."

Today in a gesture of help
you reason symmetrically like
the man you will become
correcting my distress by
simple fact:
"It's here, mama! Here . . ."

May there be more prospect
before us
than merely *peace at the last*
and what we each remember
so differently
(if at all).

Margo Swiss