

WOMEN'S NEWS

GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL NEWS

The One and Only Women's News Show in Santa Cruz County

There's only one women's news radio show in Santa Cruz and it's run by UCSC students Sara Bubar and Pella Schafer.

The show is called *A New Perspective*, and it has the potential to reach 1.5 million listeners from the Berkeley Hills to San Jose to Monterey.

Sara and Pella were inspired when they learned that KZSC had broadcast a women's news show for several years before it folded two years ago.

Responding to the need for women's radio, Sara and Pella created a women's show that includes local, national and international news, prerecorded interviews, live interviews with call-ins, music, a bulletin of upcoming events and *Arts Corner*, a section for film reviews and promotion of local artists.

Sara was interested in starting the show because she wants to be an on-camera broadcaster. "I thought this would be a great opportunity to learn how to communicate on air, put together stories, go out and work with the public," said Sara, who added that she has never taken a women's studies class. "I'm learning as I'm teaching. I'm getting educated."

Pella, a women's studies and sociology major, said, "We feel this is a service to the women's community. Both Sara and I have a passion for women's issues."

But it takes more than passion to broadcast a news show. "Although the women's news show was happening two years ago, there's nothing left. There are no people left who worked on it, and nobody knows about it anymore. We've had to start from scratch—which means a lot of work."



In the Feminist Groove: Sara Bubar and Pella Schafer tune up KZSC with "A New Perspective" - Santa Cruz's Women's Radio.

"It is the blind leading the blind. We've had one quarter of training," said Sara.

Pella said they work on the show at least 40 hours per week.

"That's all I ever do besides go to class. Whenever I have any time at all, or even when I don't, I'm thinking about who I have to call, what I have to check up on, what kind of story am I working on now."

The long hours and hard work

have paid off. So far they have tackled such issues as date rape, sexual harassment, and body image and have future plans for discussions on pornography, women's health, sororities and drug addicted mothers.

A New Perspective tries to include many different women's issues, but Pella said she knows they are leaving some out. "We definitely are aware we're not includ-

ing enough multicultural or queer issues," said Pella, who hopes listeners will be patient. She encourages the public to offer ideas or, even better, to come in and help. "We want greater interaction with the community," said Pella.

"And we want to make the public aware that this is their show, we are here for them," added Sara.

A New Perspective welcomes live phone call-ins.

"It's really important that people can ask questions on the phone, live, and be anonymous," said Pella.

Sara said the majority of call-ins have been from men.

"That makes me feel better than anything because I don't want to be exclusive. I want to educate men about women's issues, keep them interested, get them involved."

Pella is also excited about the number of male call-ins.

"I think men have to be equal participants in the whole movement of equality. The women's movement has a responsibility not only to continue consciousness raising among certain individuals but to spread that awareness around to men and to other women who may not be familiar with with feminist ideas," said Pella.

The live call-ins have often been one of the most exciting and humorous parts of the show. One male caller referred to a female caller as a "chick." The man said, "I just wanted to comment on what that chick who just called in said. Can you hear me?"

"All too well," responded Gillian Greensite, who was on the air for a live interview. She added, "I think that was an unfortunate choice of words to use to refer to a person."

Currently there are openings for other people who want to make a difference through radio. Sara and Pella are looking for volunteers to work on the show.

"This show has the potential to be so excellent but right now we're cutting it short because there's only so much work two people can do," said Sara.

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A New Perspective airs Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8:30pm on KZSC, 88.1 FM.

Sabra Schneider