

'We're women, and we play music, we write music, and we perform music. People have more expectations of us because it's unusual. There aren't that many women in bands.'

— Cheryl Camelio

from being brought up in an environment where I didn't have people telling me what was socially correct for a girl."

Usually when a band has female members it will be a "token woman lead singer," Camelio says, but there has been more of a tendency these days for women to move into less typical roles, such as drums, bass and lead guitar. "I did the violin and the flute," she says, "and I played the guitar, but for me the bass is the heartbeat of the music, and I've always been interested in the bass."

Vion, who is primarily the drummer for Transister, but also plays bass and sings, says, "We're not breaking tradition for the sake of breaking tradition. I've never said, 'I want to be as different as I possibly can, so I'll play the drums.' I play drums because that's what's in me. I'm a drummer."

While many women started on more "traditional" instruments, Wright says she started playing bass as a freshman in high school, and joined her first metal band soon after. She says the men in her band "listen to me as much as everybody else. They respect that I've done my part, and I can cut it."

There is a real shortage of role

models for women playing bass and drums. Tina Weymouth (Talking Heads and Tom Tom Club) and Suzi Quatro are the most frequent bassists named as influences, and Karen Carpenter the only drummer. Women are more often inclined to emulate singers and songwriters like Chrissie Hynde (Pretenders), Janis Joplin, Bonnie Raitt, and Ann and Nancy Wilson (Heart). "I look at women doing anything musically," Wright says.

Bands with a woman as the front person often try to "cash in" by dressing the singer in sexy outfits, says Rathbun. She says she and Ozanich avoid this type of exploitation, "not that we don't express our sexuality or anything."

Hauk agrees, saying that while she doesn't want to negate her sexuality, "I don't want to play it up, either."

Ozanich says that it's been females, not males, who have approached the women in Single Mary suggesting that they wear mini-skirts and sexy outfits. "I think they expect that," she says. "We may have disappointed quite a few people throughout the years" by refusing to dress in that manner, "but we're not headed to sell our

bodies."

In fact, Single Mary has sometimes performed with Rathbun and Ozanich dressed as nuns and the men in the band dressed as priests. Rathbun says, laughing, that in doing that, it was possible "we were trying to explore our sexuality."

Ozanich shoots a dirty look from across the room. "That's B.S.," she says as they both laugh.

The general feeling is that the rock world is only now starting to open for women. "We have that much more to prove, because we're women," Camelio says, "but we really don't. We're women, and we play music, we write music, and we perform music. People have more expectations of us because it's unusual. There aren't that many women in bands."

"We've got a lot of experience to go through, like most of the male musicians already have," Ozanich says. "It's going to take quite a few more years before it's a normally accepted place for women. Things will change as more women do it."

—MARTY SCHWARZBAUER

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## Kernals

### "Sexploration"

That's the name of a new game Stanford University students and staff have devised to get students to think about such topics as contraception, abortion, drugs, sexually communicated diseases, and sexual relationships. Note: The game is for purely educational purposes.

### Foul Mouth

College professors and instructors don't have a First Amendment right to swear at students solely for the purpose of cussing them out, that according to a ruling handed down by the U.S. 5th District Court.

Midland College economics instructor, J.D. Martin, lost his job in 1984 for swearing at one of his classes, including the use of "God damn" while chastising an unruly class. The latest court ruling overturned a lower court decision that would have awarded Martin \$28,000 for lost wages stemming from his being fired.

### Then and Now

In 1962 the Westmoreland adult student housing complex was put into service; rent for a two-bedroom apartment was \$76 a month. Currently, a two-bedroom apartment at

Westmoreland rents for \$144.

### Home Sweet Home

Eighty-eight percent of Oregon college students decide to attend college in their home state, according to the U.S. Department of Education, compared to a national average of 86 percent.

### Four More?

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