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broadsheet

Broadsheet: Women, politics, culture.

Friday, April 13, 2007 17:22 PDT

Attack of the "seething sapphic septet"

New York Post: Headlined "Attack of the Killer Lesbians," this article about an attack by "seven bloodthirsty lesbians" could have been told with a vastly different perspective. But who can resist a headline like that? In all seriousness, though, the story, which covers the testimony of Dwayne Buckle about the "bizarre beat-down he suffered last summer, allegedly at the hands of a seething sapphic septet," may reveal another side altogether. The defense lawyer claims that the women were defending themselves and the man's anti-gay attack is all captured on a movie theater security video. No doubt the Post will be following this one closely.

Agence France-Presse: The Indian government has given up on its plan to require female civil servants to fill out [detailed questionnaires](#) about their [menstrual cycles](#) after several women raised holy hell. "A decision to this effect has been taken considering the sensitivity of the issue," an official said.

UNR NevadaNews: Where's the best place to be a college girl jock? According to the Gender Equity Score Card, developed by Charles L. Kennedy, a senior political science instructor at Penn State University-York, it's University of Nevada, hands down. For the second year in a row, the U-Nev. Intercollegiate Athletics Department topped the list of athletic programs that offer the most opportunities for women in sports.

Washington Post: New research suggests that hot flashes are a sign of a woman's high blood pressure. Since high blood pressure varies widely depending on stress level and activity, the new findings may give women new information about their risk of heart attacks.

Associated Press: With the rise of butt-crack fashion in stores like Forever 21 suggesting all women's bodies should be perpetually arrested in postpubescent perfection, this story about boomers not finding fashion made for their bodies caught our eye. Though boomer women supposedly spend lots of money and time shopping, companies haven't been terribly successful in trying to market to boomers: Gap's Forth & Towne stores are closing, as is Gymboree's Janeville. Perhaps it's because boomer women are a more diverse crowd -- both physically and aesthetically -- and retailers should forgo crude age classifications. But maybe it's also because stores like Forever 21 sell a fantasy of youth that all ages buy in to (even when the clothes don't fit), whereas so far no company has figured out how to market maturity as a must-have accessory.

— Carol Lloyd

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