



Aspidistra

by Alison Thomson

Engineering Week has arrived, but I do not propose to repeat the rather tired arguments that traditionally appear on these pages about the purpose for the Week and its manifestations.

I'm not going to talk about how the princesses are used as meat displays to satisfy the baser instincts of some of the men in engineering, or about the childishness of many of the pranks they indulge in. That would only provoke indignant and eminently predictable letters from engineering students, who clearly haven't the faintest gleam of understanding of the arguments presented, defending their "spirit".

This year, however, the engineering students, or to be fair, some engineering students, have passed all bounds of human decency, by any reasonable person's standards.

Godiva, the engineering week newspaper, contains an article suggesting, for the man bored with "ordinary" sexual pursuits, molesting eight- and nine-year-old girls, and, should that prove boring, killing them and raping the corpses. There's a lot more in that vein, and I'm not going to quadruple their circulation by repeating any of it.

I can't believe most of the students in engineering look with complacency or pride at this sort of thing being propagated in their name. The people who wrote and edited this newspaper have been too cowardly to put their names on their work (for the information of students not aware of some of the traditions surrounding engineering week, the named editor, Harvey G. Thomgirt, isn't a person; it's a stuffed snake). Thus this newspaper reflects on all the students in the faculty, and most of all on the staff of the usual engineering paper, *The Bridge*.

It is clearly incumbent on them to make their position clear on the matter; the Engineering Students' Society should make a public statement

accepting or denying responsibility for this filth. Those students responsible have an obligation to make themselves known. It is the only honorable course open to them, if using that word in connection with the authors of that degrading article isn't completely preposterous.

The rest of us have some obligation in the matter, as well. The Students' Union provides grants both to the ESS and to the engineering clubs; they owe it to all students who pay fees to ensure that money they provide isn't spent in this way.

Students appalled by this display of lack of intelligence, taste, and human decency on the part of some anonymous engineering students can take action. The Witching Hour collective, a group of women who produce a radio show for CJSR, has agreed to organize a protest; students (men and women) interested in taking the matter further can contact organizers at CJSR of the *Gateway*. Students can also come in and see the article before protesting.

Write to the Students' Union and your representative, asking how much student money was spent on *Godiva*. Write to the dean of engineering, university president Horowitz, and dean of students, Burton Smith, asking if they sanction this sort of thing from university students. Write to *Gateway* and the commercial media expressing your views.

I can't believe students find the contents of the *Godiva* acceptable, or humorous, or boyish fun. The authors have gone beyond that this time. A disclaimer about obscenity on the front page of the paper simply isn't good enough. Let's all make it clear where we stand; we owe it to our own names as university students and human beings to dissociate ourselves from "jokes" about child molesting.

Be a friend today; give your hemoglobin away

The first-term statistics for blood donation are in: the students in the Faculty of

Agriculture and Forestry have again shown their knack for giving until it hurts. They are the

highest (by percentage) donating faculty on campus, closely followed by the faculty of Rehabilitation

Medicine and the students in Dental Hygiene.

There's still a chance for the less well-drained faculties to get on the bandwagon. There's a blood donor clinic in SUB this week. They'd love to have you drop in for a pint.

Jan Byer
VP Internal

KILLAM EXCHANGE SCHOLARSHIPS WITH FRANCE

Each year the University of Alberta recommends to the Government of France three graduating students for positions as "Assistants" in either secondary or post-secondary French Educational Institutions. The students participate in this cultural exchange for 9 months (October - June). The rate of pay is about 2300 NF per month and often lodging and meals can be obtained at a reduced rate. Proficiency in written and oral French is required and the maximum age of applicant is 30. The exchange is restricted to Canadian citizens who have been a resident of Alberta for the past five years.

Interested students should obtain application forms from the Administrator of Student Awards by January 15th. Each applicant will be interviewed.

The most dangerous game

I would like to take advantage of this space to answer some of the many questions asked about ASSASSINS, the espionage role-playing game soon to hit this campus.

At registration on January 16, players must present 3 pictures of themselves with a schedule of their classes. From the time the pictures are taken, players cannot appreciably change their appearance.

Players pick up their game kits on Monday, Jan. 19, between 8 and 12 a. m. The game starts at 12:01 and can only be played on campus.

The kit contains an official dart gun which cannot be modified in any way. With this is a picture of their target along with two clues and the target's code name. Players then have 5 days in which to track down and "eliminate" their victims. Meanwhile, players themselves are targets of other assassins. If a player completes his/her assignment and is not assassinated, he/she moves into the second round which starts on Jan. 26 where he/she will receive a new target. The winner is the first player to record a "kill" in the third round (starting Feb. 3).

One twist: if you are the player and the person who is tracking you shoots and misses, you are then allowed to track him and if you assassinate him, he is

out of the game. (You must still complete your assignment to continue.)

Gets complicated, doesn't it? It should prove to be lots of fun and a great break from studying, so we would hope to see

all prospective Bond types on Jan. 16 in Rm. 276 SUB between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Numbers are limited so I would advise you to be there early.

D. Dmitroca
Med II

sub
theatre

tues 13

AL PACINO CRUISING

— IN DETAIL —

Tue., Jan. 13 - 7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. - CRUISING - 1980, USA, 100 min. Dir: William Friedkin. Cast: Al Pacino, Karen Allen, Paul Sorvino. Restricted Adult. Warning: Violent and sadistic content may be disturbing.

Wed., Jan. 14 - 8:00 p.m. - Edmonton Chamber Music Society - MAUREEN FORRESTER, contralto - Admission by membership only. Available: S.U. Box Office (HUB mall), Canadiana Gifts (10414 - Jasper Ave.), Edmonton Chamber Music Society (8539 - 120 Street).

Admission: \$2 with U of A ID \$3 non-students
For more information call 432-4764

JANUARY

What - me protest???

I would like to respond to the letter in the January 6 *Gateway* written by the three engineers supporting feminism. Why should we protest? Any action of adolescent engineers in their period of wanting and waiting is not worth the trouble it takes for us to put our shoes on.

Marian Weber
Arts I

SUELECTION

STUDENT UNION GENERAL ELECTION

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

SU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President
VP Internal Affairs
VP Academic
VP Finance & Administration
VP External Affairs

University Athletic Board (UAB)

President Men's Athletics
President Women's Athletics
VP Men's Athletics
VP Women's Athletics

Board of Governors

1 Student representative

Closing of Nominations:

1700 hr., Thursday, January 22, 1981

Election Day

Friday, February 6th, 1981

For further information, please contact the SU Returning Office (Room 271, SUB), or the Receptionist, SU Executive Offices (Room 259, SUB)