

## Editorial

### Engineers a pain

As another Engineering Week begins on our campus, professors, students, and janitors most of all, buckle down for what is annually the most annoying week of the winter session. For the entire week, songs will be sung, merriment will be made, and the seemingly undeniable generalization that "all engineers are idiots", will be whispered by nurse and law student alike.

First of all, there can be no doubt that any one opinion that is thrust upon a group several hundred large is not only unfair, but borders on some form of bigotry. And the old cliché about a few bad apples spoiling the whole barrel will always apply, especially when dealing with this kind of a celebration, when emotions are running high.

But could there possibly be some way that the rest of the 25,000 students at the U of A could be spared the annoyance of having to co-exist with the ever-growing number of classless slob that choose not only to subject uninterested bystanders to their moronic little games, but to label their entire faculty as the no-minds that only these few really are.

Don't get the point of this editorial misconstrued as something penned by some vengeance seeking Fine Arts student. Engineering Week is a great thing. If only the faculty of Arts had even a tenth of the unity that Engineers have. Business, Medicine, even Education make an honest effort to show some method to this madness of faculty spirit, but none rival the intensity of Engineering. Unfortunately, it is apparent that all sense of direction has been lost, and for the most part, what once was an effort in faculty allegiance has now turned into a drunken rampage through a campus that is rapidly growing weary of the same old crude songs and deafening bands.

For the remainder of this school week, RATT will be turned into a den for the profane, as Engineers who obviously cannot hold their liquor will shout four letter words across the room at each other, apparently oblivious to the fact that there are ladies present, and men for that matter, who don't necessarily choose to sit with people who speak in this manner. They will have no choice. Other patrons who perhaps decide to deviate from the norm somewhat in the style that they dress or the length of their hair will probably not solicit the opinions of these relatively few obnoxious ones. Still, they will receive the judgements all too often provided by righteous egotists who can see no other path in life besides the one taken by themselves. Funny, but it seems that when a member of the subject group finds himself amongst an assemblage of their peers that these aforementioned opinions fly more freely than when said person finds themselves at a table with, God forbid, an Aggie or two.

Engineers take heed. Your week of celebration has once again come. Hopefully the slave drivers that you call profs will go a little easy for this short period so that you may enjoy fully this week that is your own, to enjoy in whatever manner that you please. But to the few who will once again give all Engineers a bad name, try to remember that it is yourself, and yourself only, that will be the subject of ridicule when sobriety comes some time Monday morning. And to the rest of you, take care of these yard-apes because they aren't capable of doing so themselves.

Mark Spector

### Men just fine

I like men.

Strangely, there are some people who seem to think this fact disqualifies me from the realm of feminism.

A bit perturbed, I consulted Websters and Websters told me that to be feminist, it didn't matter if I like men or not, I just have to believe women deserve the same rights as men.

Well good, I thought, and began to wonder where this negative attitude comes from. Most of the feminists I know are simply women who want to be respected in their profession and as human beings. But every now and then, I run across someone who says:

"Men have treated women bad. So let's treat men bad back." (I'm paraphrasing, of course.)

These are the women who are apt to think being rude to a man scores points for womanhood; the ones who might tell me I can't be a feminist while I am able to appreciate any quality outside of castration in a man; and unfortunately, these are the women who give feminism a bad reputation.

Oh, I believe in equal rights and that man's attitude towards woman can be changed for the better, but rudeness and hatred is not the way to do it. A lot of men are now willing to accept women as their peers — a very positive improvement over bygone years. I find it embarrassing that some women want to take advantage of this new-found sensitivity by trying to make men feel guilty when they should be pursuing their own careers. I always thought feminism aims to give women the privileges that men enjoy — it never occurred to me that one of these privileges was to make men grovel.

I recently saw a feminist T-shirt designed for men that declared: "I'm the problem". The PROBLEM lies in misunderstanding, and this sort of finger pointing does absolutely nothing to further compassion between the sexes.

Cindy Rozeboom



Spike McIntosh and Georgina Ostapopovich stop for a moment to reminisce about their Norse heritage

## Letters to the Editor

### Nickel spews shit

Dear Editor:

It has come to my attention that the SU president, Mike Nickel, has publicly taken credit for my resignation. I would like to state very publicly that the man is spewing shit.

No one is responsible for my decision except myself. As my resignation letter clearly states, I must take the next four weeks off for medical reasons and do not think it fair to students on this campus to have an absentee representative for that length of time.

I feel that I have made an honourable decision and am furious at the political egomania of a president who has an eight-month history of big talk and little action.

I am proud of what I have accomplished as VP Academic and sincerely wish that I could continue. The decision to resign was a difficult responsibility and I refuse to have that decision demeaned by the babblings of a hyperactive baby-politician.

Caroline Nevin  
Science IV

### ASA's defense

Dear Editor:

After reading the article "Student Forms Free Speech Club" and the letter submitted by Danny Beauchamp, I feel it would be irresponsible if certain corrections/clarifications are not made.

With respect to the article, at no time has the Arts Students' Association EVER offered to stack a general meeting in return for concessions or for any other reasons.

With respect to the letter, it should be pointed out that Mr. Beauchamp did not present a valid petition or a petition of any type. Further, it is not up to Mr. Beauchamp or any individual to obtain quorum at a general meeting and thus the decision as to the date and time is not his.

If Mr. Beauchamp cannot understand why sponsoring his side of the issue, which the executive must impartially mediate, is not a conflict of interest, we suggest he re-evaluate his position. After all, it seems fairly uncomplicated.

Most importantly, the executive has NEVER prevented legitimately concerned Arts students from raising relevant issues. Indeed, the underlying principle of the Association is to provide an effective voice for students to do just that. We have and will continue to encourage all concerned students to get involved, to actively participate and to raise issues that concern them.

On the personal side, I fully deny stating that the issue was not relevant to Arts students. Mr. Beauchamp has taken the liberty of misquoting me. After reading his pamphlet and finding it contained inaccuracies, and discovering he had not even talked to the Arts representatives prior to attempting to impeach them, I stated I would not personally support his efforts.

One might question the possible motivations Mr. Beauchamp may have. He has made it known he intends to run in the upcoming Students' Union election. His impeachment campaign aimed at potential opponents, raises the question of whether he is trying to shoot the horses even before they leave the gate. His letter may have been calculated to gain free and widespread publicity. His formation of a "free speech club" could not make him seem any less desirable as a candidate, at least superficially. If these "underhanded" tactics are just that, then Mr. Beauchamp is without a doubt the political hack he accuses others of being.

As a final note, the "stacked" general meeting is to be held at noon on Wednesday, January 15, in lecture theatre one, Humanities Centre. I openly invite all Arts students to attend. I further extend an invitation to any concerned students to feel free to discuss with myself or any executive member any concerns or complaints they may have. Our office is located at HC 2-3 and our phone no. is 432-5085.

Sincerely,  
Lance Yuen  
President

Arts Students' Association

### More ASA defense

Dear Editor:

Last issue, a letter submitted by D. Beauchamp charged that the Arts Students' Association and an individual in particular, denied him the right to raise a concern. The reason Mr. Beauchamp created this unsubstantiated story can only be seen as a campaign