

Princesses OK sexism

by Peter Michalyshyn

Three of this year's six Engineering Week princesses admit the Queen contest is sexist, if only a little bit so.

Mary Jane Warshawski (electrical), Zandra Gargus (first year), and Mary Jane Kushnerek (chemical) said although sexism does exist, it isn't any worse than elsewhere.

"I don't think sexism is all that blatant in Engineering Week," says Warshawski.

"I don't think it's all that bad... I think they (engineers) are just having fun," says Gargus.

"There's a little bit of sexism but it's not bad... it's changing," says Kushnerek; the Mineral, Civil and Mechanical princesses were unavailable for comment.

"When I first heard about it the picture I had was of the meat market thing," Warshawski says. But she says that image was dispelled after she talked to other people involved.

"They carry it off with a lot of class," she says. "They (engineers) treat us really well," Gargus agrees, although she admits that the kicklines suffer more sexism than do the princesses.

"You've got your basic jerks who will catcall," Warshawski says but she also says the princess contest is more than a beauty contest.

"It's a beauty contest but it's also what message you give with your beauty."

But Kushnerek doesn't think it's a beauty contest. She says the role of the princesses is to introduce the kicklines, and to be a figurehead that engineering clubs can rally around.

And on sexism in general, Kushnerek says, "it has its advantages... the advantages some females can get..."



records

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Neil Young *Hawks and Doves*

This album could be subtitled *On the Beach: Part Two*. Neil is undeniably strong, and though his fickle fans still prefer "Heart of Gold," Neil knows where all union members deep down. A great party album.

John Renbourn *The Black Balloon*

Like Pentangle side kick Bert Jansch, Renbourn's been up and down since Pentangle split, but this album's definitely up. Welcome back, Tony Roberts.

Dave Cousins *Old School Songs*

With the garbage that the Strawbs have turned out recently, one forgets what a powerful singer and musician Strawbs frontman Cousins is. This album certainly refreshes the memory.

Greg Kihn Band *Glass House Rock*

Clean, crisp rock with absolutely no pretensions. Greg Kihn makes you want to move to San Francisco. The songs are energetic, witty and well played and those elements were a rarity in 1980.

Worst Albums:

Rather than waste time going through a long list for this category, I'll just rattle off some names of artists whose work in 1980 was despicable, regressive, unoriginal and otherwise totally without merit! Rolling Stones, Streetheart, Trooper, Poco, Rupert Holmes, Charlie Daniels, Benny Mardones, and Queen.

Other Awards:

Biggest embarrassment to Canada: Our rock bands with Pete Loughheed a close second.

Most pleasantly surprising album: Fleetwood Mac *Live*

Biggest jerks of 1980: Kenny Rogers, Dick Clark, Graham Hicks, and the entire K-97 on-air staff.

Quote of the year: "Mr. Lennon....?"

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