

Task Force recommends changes for the best - remember no kidnapping!

by Wes Oginski
 Head for the hills.
 Engineering students will be on the loose next week as Engineering Week once again hits the campus.
 Engineering Week actually started as a mid-winter carnival that all faculties participated in. Over the decades, all but the Faculty of Engineering has dropped out of the event.

"It has been around for several years," says Jeff Lowe, v.p. activities for the Engineering Students' Society (ESS).
 He adds that the Queen's Ball is the 45th annual.

The events featured during the week include tug-of-wars, pub crawls, toboggan races, skit night, CAB rally, keg races, boat races, and a beer brewing contest.

This year's Engineering Week has many changes.

Kidnapping of Engineering clubs' princesses is not allowed. Any such attempt is a federal offense and will be enforced this year.

"That's a step in the right direction," says Lowe.

Most of the changes in Engineering Week are directly due to a Task Force by the Faculty of Engineering held last year.

The Task Force was organized as a result of comments by media and the University community questioning the purpose and viability of Engineering Week. Much of the uproar was connected to an article published in the Engineering Week paper *Godiva* which the Task Force agreed was offensive and should not have appeared.

A lot of focus also fell on the clubs' use of princesses and kick

lines. The Task Force agreed that some groups and people on campus find such things offensive.

Their report reads: "...The Task Force recognizes that the 'beauty contest' aspect is objectionable to a minority of people within the university community and recommends that these aspects be substantially de-emphasized or eliminated in future Engineering Weeks. It

recognizes as well that the featuring of 'kicklines' in some activities will be objectionable to some, but in this instance felt that kicklines and associated activities could be a very positive part of Engineering Week provided that the atmosphere in which these events are presented is one of celebration and fun rather than one of vulgarity and roudiness.

The beauty contest has been

eliminated. Instead the Engineering Queen will be the club's princess who generates most points during the week.

Points are also awarded to clubs for performing pranks during the week. All stunts must be approved by the ESS, and ESS and the club involved will take responsibility if anything goes

wrong.

The *Godiva* will publish again this year, but a editorial board composed of professors will peruse the sections each club submits.

"Everything is relatively clean," Lowe says.

"It's just a week of activities in which all the clubs get together to compete and enjoy themselves," he adds.

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