

Bike thefts rampant

Somewhere, someone is enjoying my brand new bicycle. Someone is also enjoying the back wheel from the bike I bought to replace the first one. That's almost a \$350 loss to me, one a lot of students couldn't afford.

How pitiful to see a lone wheel chained to a bike rack where someone has unscrewed the rest of the bike and walked off with it. Or the reverse, a frame stripped of wheels, and/or toe clips, tire pump, water bottle. Thieves will take anything and everything not physically chained to the ground. Chains and cables don't always deter, either. Many thieves are equipped with wire cutters, bolt cutters, screwdrivers and wrenches.

Bike theft is rampant on campus. Campus Security has pretty much lost count of the number that happen each year. Maybe there will come a time when the demand for security is high enough to warrant a bicycle parking compound where students can pay to insure that their bike is still intact when they come back.

In the meantime, bike theft continues. My advice to bike owners to prevent it:

1. Record the serial number of your bike and register it with the police.
2. \$\$\$-wise, *don't* cut corners on a lock and chain/cable. All it takes is a snip-snip on a small, weak chain and your bike is history.
3. If possible, keep your bicycle inside your home. If not, park your bike in a well-lit area, preferably a busy one where other people can see.
4. If you have a quick-release feature, remove the wheel and position it against the bike in such a way that you can lock both wheels and the frame to the rack.

Maybe these few preventative measures will help cut down on stolen bikes. I hope it doesn't have to be *your* bike next time.

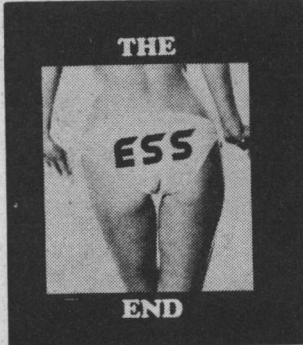
Jennifer A. Law
Home Economics 3

Ed. note: We would like to apologize to Berry Hsu for calling him a "Time fan", implying he accepted Times' position. Rather, he merely used Time as a resource for statistics.

Quixote

A column of opinion

by David Marples



"It is a pleasure to welcome students who are new to the Faculty of Engineering." Thus begins Dean Peter Adams in his forward to the U of A *Engineering Handbook 79-80*. This straightforward address precedes sixty-four pages of inane drivel designed to attract potential new recruits to the faculty. Or so one would suppose. It is beyond my powers to assess the appeal of a booklet which resembles a second-rate elementary school magazine, with cartoons which are about as subtle as a house brick.

But why, I hear you ask, why waste time and energy in attacking the Faculty of Engineering? Why not leave them to wend their inebriated ways towards their Bachelor degrees in peace? And what is wrong with the "nurses, booze and parties" which the *Handbook* advocates with such gusto. Actually, nothing. My objection is rather to the boorish, retrogressive and offensive attitude towards women which pervades the booklet, an attitude which one would have hoped to be obsolete in a university environment.

Let me illustrate this. Most of the handbook is taken up by photographs. In virtually all the photographs not devoted to portraying the pleasures of alcoholic excess, the subjects are women. Yet in none of the photographs do the women do anything other than pose for our beer-swilling brethren. A woman strips naked in the snow, others are accepted as "princesses" of the various branches of engineering. One particularly grating paradox is the sight of four girls performing a high-kicking dance act on stage whilst the men look on, under the caption "PARTICIPATE!! It's good for you."

If such a contrast in roles between the sexes is an engineering tradition, it is an outdated one; if it is a recent "innovation," then it is time to expose it as a practice totally alien to the concept of equality. In fact, the history of Engineering Week is not explained to the freshman. He or she is expected to fulfill an assigned part in the charade, with the knowledge that "the Queen Ball at the end of the week, when the Engineering Queen is chosen, is the classy event of the year." It is difficult to imagine a greater misuse of the English language than this reference to the Queen Ball as "classy."

It is easy to anticipate comments to the effect that these events are "just good fun," or more significantly, that no one is enforcing the bevy of would-be princesses to line up for the dubious honor of being Queen. Such statements are irrelevant. They may well provide amusement for a "red-neck fringe" and a handful of women willing to be manipulated. New students, however, should realize that events such as the Queen Ball will be carried out in their name, thus by implication, with their approval.

I stress that I am not knocking the *idea* of an Engineering Week. It matters little to me whether engineers wrap their VWs around trees or quaff forty beers and the snow carvings have, on occasion, been inventive. Yet these are subsidiary events. The *Handbook*, apparently endorsed by Dean Adams, makes it very clear that the focus of the week is the sex-object display known as the Queen Ball. As it stands, Engineering Week represents an open display of reactionary chauvinism.

It is perhaps too much to hope that Engineering Week under its present format could be held well away from the campus of the University of Alberta. The very idea of a "week without engineers" possesses a certain appeal, albeit a somewhat prejudiced one. The events, however, can be changed by freshmen engineers. The admonition should thus be to participate in introducing new ideas for Engineering Week (January 14-19, 1980). Failing this, the whole week should either be greeted with a noisy, vociferous protest or a total boycott, not only by the engineering students, but by the whole campus.

LONG JOHN BALDRY

TONIGHT

7:30 and 9:30 P.M.
DINWOODIE LOUNGE

Tickets: \$5 Advance
(Mikes & Hub Box Office)
\$6 Door

(Presented by the Students' Union & K97 Radio)



FEES DUE By October 1

The last day for payment of fees is October 1st. If a student is paying by instalments (terms), the amount of the first instalment is the First Term assessment and the last day for payment is October 1st; the amount of the second instalment is the Second Term assessment plus a \$5.00 instalment charge and the last day for payment is January 15th.

A penalty of \$15.00 will be charged on any payment received after these dates. If payment has not been made by October 15 for First Term fees and by January 31st for Second Term fees, registration will be subject to cancellation and the student to exclusion from classes.

If fees are to be paid from some form of student assistance, please refer to Section F of the Registration Procedures booklet or the calendar entitled "University Regulations and Information for Students".

Students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research are reminded that their fees are to be paid by the date indicated on their fee assessment notice which is to be mailed to them.

ETON RUN

