

Female engineer defends faculty

As a female engineer, I object to Ms. Bizon's letter to the editor in last Thursday's *Gateway*.

My daily contact with male engineers has never included them "ogling" at my womanly attributes. In contrast, I have always been treated equally and have never been subject to sexual discrimination by my Faculty.

With regard to the kicklines, the girls who danced in them were there not to flaunt "tits and asses" but to participate and have fun.

The males on campus could take offense to the men's kickline who (oh my God!) partially stripped in public. But unlike you, Ms. Bizon, most realize that this was done for comic relief and sheer fun.

In your letter, Ms. Bizon, you did not appreciate the stereotyped image of a woman portrayed by one of the Godiva articles. How

long has it been since you read "Dagwood" in the comics, or turned on the t.v.?

The witty pieces in the "Godiva" were composed for the sake of entertainment and humor. Perhaps you missed the message on the front page: "If you don't like its contents, don't read it."

If I were more of an expert in psychology Ms. Bizon, I might gather from your stinging remarks that you would enjoy having your "undulating curves" admired.

Perhaps your negative attitude toward the fine tradition of participation in a winter carnival and partying originates in deprivation. But then again, I'm not a psychologist.

In conclusion Ms. Bizon, why don't you concern yourself with the important issues of the women's movement?

Shelagh McCoy
Electrical II



Taffeta frills versus Mackenzie brother toques at Engineering week.

Sexism on both sides

In response to the bullshit floating around the "Letters to the Editor" section of last Thursday's *Gateway*, I would like to point out a few things.

First of all, there is no such person named "S. Wayne Mikelson" registered in the Student Directory and there is no Mikelson in the Edmonton telephone book. Therefore I will not even comment on "Pathological Porno".

As far as "Sexist portrayals unjustified" goes, I presume that Suzan Kabinowski never watched the entertainment in CAB on Wednesday. If she had, she would have noticed that the male kickline received the best ovation from the crowd. Her idea that more women should be in the tug of war competition is insane. Women (on the average) are physically weaker than men and the idea of a competition is to win.

There is nothing wrong with a women entering any competition as long as she is the best person to be entered by a team, but to say a woman should be in a competition just because she is a women is sexist.

The article by Suzan says nothing positive about engineering students or the stability of her thoughts as she wrote.

"Demand to annihilate sexism" was written by a Women's Centre member. I will show, by using bits and pieces of her article, the fanatical ideas and double standards that the people in that group have.

They want to be called women because they consider "girls, ladies, etc." degrading but they call all engineering students "boys".

Suzanne says that Mike Ekelund is an authority (degrading?) on kicklines because he states that men are "ogling" women but if he stated that kicklines are good I'm sure she would call him a "boy".

Those "boys in engineering are just a little bit frightened of women". If Suzanne would have gone to the bash that the students had on Thursday night I think that she would stop writing the bullshit that she does. I was there for four hours and if all men treated all women with as much respect and courtesy as I saw, there wouldn't ever be a battle of the sexes. Of course the women were treating the guys really nice. It is a two way street.

Gordon Stamp
Science 2

Refuting charges of ignorant sexism and bigotry

Last Thursday, while relaxing between classes, I happened to pick up a *Gateway*, fully expecting to enjoy a rare, peaceful interlude.

Upon reaching the "Letters to the Editor" section, my bliss was shattered. Two disturbing letters informed me that I am an extremely ignorant sexist who is resistant to progressive change. I read on to find that I am also a childish, stereo-typing bigot, and my fellow engineers are equally revolting. These are fairly strong accusations and I'm afraid I can't just passively ignore them.

The aforementioned witch hunters are Suzanne Bizon and Suzan Kabinowski. Ladies, the whole scenario of Engineering Week has been badly (and sadly)

misconstrued by your respective selves.

Granted, engineering students do provide a convenient target for radical feminists to rant and rave about but let's put this situation back into perspective.

First, Ms. Bizon dislikes being called a girl and would prefer to be called a woman. Done. I sincerely hope, however, that the majority of women out there are secure enough to overlook this picayune nuance.

Second, the statement (referring to kicklines): "I don't know why you even bother wearing clothes", is admirably sensational. However, it is also undeniably, to use an undeserved euphemism, absurd.

Third, the so called "choice cuts" to which she referred, just happen to be posters of either fully clad engineering princesses (often accompanied by fully clad club members) or perhaps just their faces which many people, strangely enough, do not consider obscene.

According to the wisdom of Ms. Kabinowski, "the number of women participating in 'sexist' roles far exceeds the number who participate as equals". Look again, lady.

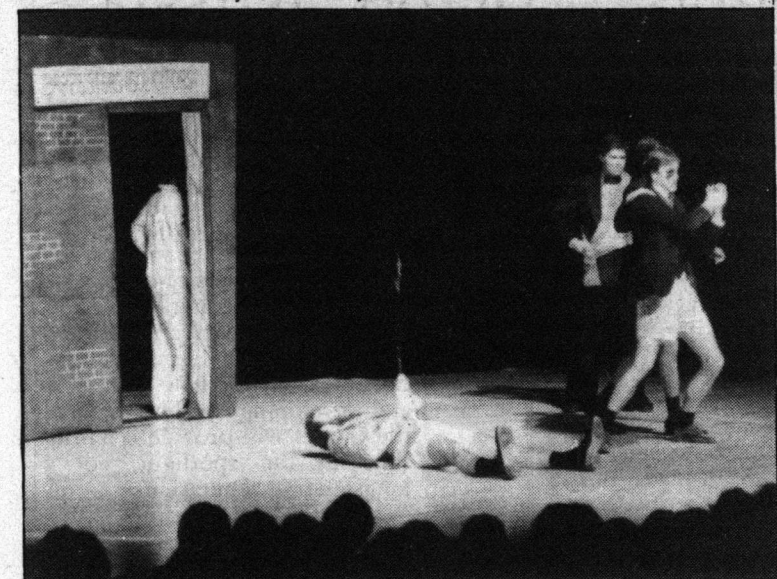
Also, in response to the "ego satisfaction" argument for women participants, these statements don't hold water and are nothing more than a blatant scare tactic to discourage participation and, in

turn, help serve the needs of a few over-reacting pseudo-crusaders.

In closing, for those who have not read the "Second Wind" column in the same *Gateway* by Wes Oginski, read it. For those who have read it, read it again. This is a man who knows what he is talking about.

Incidentally, I am all for equal rights, equal pay for equal work, equal opportunities, and equal everything else. I support everything this stands for but I am also for everyone who wants to have a good time - including women.

Bob Driver
Civil Engineering III



Med Show: Greek fountains and Roman warriors.

In defense of meds

Re: Pathological Porno

This letter is in reference to your recently published article in the *Gateway* (January 14, 1982) in which you seem to have taken it upon yourself to uphold the rights of the moral majority, and at the same time let the university know what you think (or don't think) of medical students. Your attack on us, in particular those involved with producing the Med Show, as far as I can see, comes unprovoked.

Your statements about pornography and its attack on human dignity are well made, something with which I am sure the great majority of university students would agree.

However, the sincerity of your remarks is questionable in light of your comments about coprophiliacs and people who attend, produce and/or act in the Med Show. The analogies you use for driving home pornography's effect on human dignity are at best a sad attempt to discredit the Faculty of Medicine.

For example, you claim that a coprophiliac has a preoccupation with obscenity (which is not necessarily synonymous with a fondness for pornography as you state) and therefore, has an inadequate personality. You then take the liberty of equating this to medical students and those people who attend and enjoy the med show.

Second, your wish that at the very least the Med Show should get some class from the Engineers is downright inane and requires no further discussion.

Finally, after defining a voyeur as "Peeping Toms who have a tendency to look at sexual activity" (and also the med show?) and suggesting that this is not a desirable characteristic, you want

us to lower the price of tickets so that they are available to the average student. Are we to conclude that the average student is a voyeur?

Obviously Mr. Mikelson your reasoning leaves something to be desired which leads me to the conclusion that your sole intent in writing the article was to take a cheap shot at the Med Show and the Faculty of Medicine.

One can only wonder about your underlying motivation for writing this article. Perhaps it is because of your honest concern about our so called "personality disorder". I must remind you that the question of inadequate personalities is not limited to those of us you define as coprophiliacs (which technically is a sociopathic personality disorder).

The paranoid personality (a psychotic like personality disorder) is characterized by a person who reacts poorly to criticism but may criticize others to achieve their own goals or to prove their own superiority. In fact underneath they are insecure and must utilize a defense mechanism called projection in an attempt to disguise their underlying deficit. Projection involves placing one's own wishes or insecurities on another person or object in order to protect one's self.

I do not consider those of us involved with the Med Show as coprophiliacs, and I would like to believe that in the future when you decide to enlighten the university population about a moral issue that you will refrain from including your biased opinion of one particular faculty. It is a poor example to drive your point home and it really is quite ineffective.

Sincerely,
W. Ward Flemons
Med II

Med students' handicap

In reference to Mikelson's "Proclamation", it is only fair to point out that we should not judge medical students in the same way as other university students.

The critical faculties of medical students have not been exposed to the normal rigors of a university education: they were never exposed to the rigors of philosophy or ethics courses.

For the first two years of their post secondary education they had to memorize science text books. Then, upon being admitted to the Faculty of Medicine, they memorized medical text books for

two years. After that it is on-the-job journeyman training in the hospital. They must have a photographic memory, but at no time are medical students to make critical or ethical judgments.

It is understandable, then, that they would regard adolescent masturbation as good humour. Unfortunately, they just haven't been exposed to the normal benefits of a university education. We should pity them for this handicap, not condemn them for their immaturity.

Sincerely,
Brian Andruski
G.S.

Idolizing Rubik's cube

Rather than call the metamorphosis of the aborted U-joint "the first visible prank" of engineering week 1982, I would rather call the transformation of so-called 'Pop Art' into a Rubik's cube a "stroke of genius".

Accolades to the imaginative student who came up with that

p.m. I wonder if the University would consider a permanent conversion? "The Cube" would seem a much better symbol of our objectives than "square-U-on edge".

Les Bourassa
Ed/A.D.

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