

VIEW THE



FROM TOP

Engineer's Periodical

Thursday, March 22, 1990

Engineers and inflatable dolls

(Source: The Varsity)

By Krishna Rau
and Clive Thompson

TORONTO (CUP) - University of Toronto engineering students are being called sexist - again.

Civil engineering students put up a rope bridge over the a student cafeteria, with an inflatable female doll standing on it. The doll wore coveralls open to the waist, with its breasts clearly visible. A sign beneath read "Erected to Last."

The display was taken down after Sharon Clapp, a library technician in the building complained to Engineering Dean Gary Heinke, and a campus paper.

"I was really quite offended," said Clapp. "And they wonder

why people think they're sexist. Considering what women in engineering have had to face lately with Montreal, it seems very ill-timed. Not that it would ever be well-timed."

Heinke said he thought engineers were getting too much coverage for their actions.

"Some student had a stupid idea and put this up. We took it down. I don't know what else there is to say."

Heinke said the faculty does have a policy against offensive displays in its buildings

"Of course we have a policy. With all the emphasis on this, I'm getting a bit tired. Things happen in life that should not happen. They happen in other faculties. It's impossible to be a policeman all the time."

Engineering student council president Cosetta Caporella, did not object to the display.

"I don't think that it interferes with anyone's academic life," she said. "If you're intelligent enough to get into engineering, you can recognize a joke."

Sandra Rehm, a first year industrial engineering student,

didn't mind the display.

"I guess because it doesn't affect me, really, that it doesn't bother me. And I'm not really a feminist, I don't participate in things like that."

But, Anita Shrivastava, a mechanical engineering student, was angered by the display.

"I think it's pretty disgusting. There's all this stuff going around about how engineers should be more sensitive. But, its obvious these people don't care.

"Her top is non-existent. It might as well not be there."

J.C. St.-Amour, a male metallurgical engineering student, said he didn't understand why the doll might be offensive.

Engineers dump persecuted paper's papers

(Source: The Varsity)

TORONTO (CUP) - Claiming it has an anti-engineering bias, engineering students removed copies of a University of Toronto campus paper from several downtown campus buildings March 12.

And police say that might be illegal.

Some copies were dumped on the front steps of The Varsity's offices.

Sergeant Len Paris of U of T police said there could be a criminal case.

David Neelands, assistant vice president Student Affairs, thought removing the papers reflected badly on engineers.

"It's a discreditable thing," he said. "If they value their freedom to publish, they should respect others' rights.

"If the people could be identified, they would probably be liable to criminal charges for mischief."

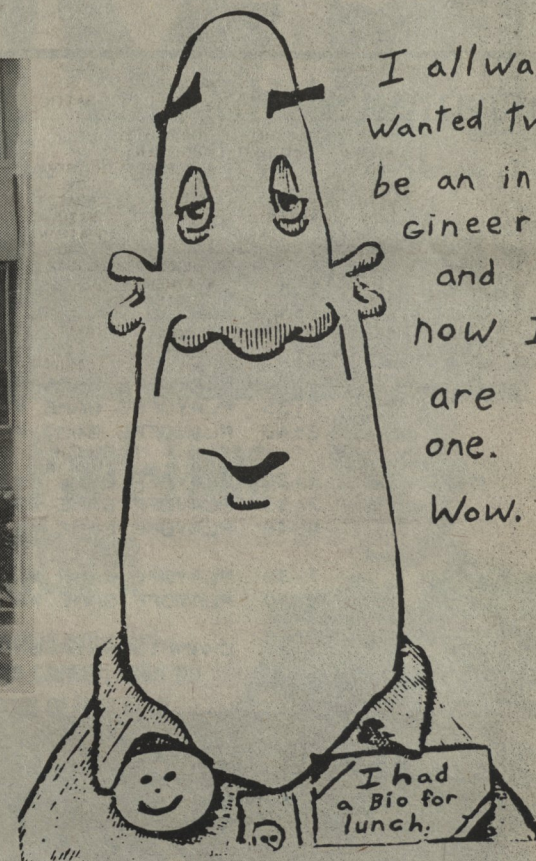
One of those involved was Kevin Fair, an engineering student council executive, running for council president. He said he did only watched and it was not an official council action.

"I think it's good. I'm glad," he said. "The Varsity has been sliming engineers for a long time."

Varsity editor Karen Hill said the action was not completely unexpected.

"I'm appalled, but I'm not surprised," she said.

"I find it ironic that people who supposedly support the concept of freedom of speech are the first ones to crush it when they see something they disagree with."



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