

Letters To The Editor

Coeducational Thoughts Expressed

Dear Sir:

This Thursday an official request will be made to Housing Director Chester R. Titus to approve use of television receivers in the Alderman Road dorms. This request comes with the overwhelming support of the students (many of whom have signed a petition that is to be presented to Mr. Titus) and the endorsement of both the Alderman Road Committee and the Executive Committee of Counselors. The present electrical system can easily handle the load, and it should be assumed upperclassmen are quite capable of regulating themselves in television usage. If indeed the dormitories are to function as true "living" areas for University students, we would hope Mr. Titus will consider the request with an open mind.

Edward S. Palazzo
Tazewell Dightrey
William G. Ramsey
Cameron A. Gillespie
Kistlin Lloyd Allen
William S. Davidson
Stanley Day
Ward L. Waltman
James A. Robinson
R. D. Berto

Co-Ed Reaction

Dear Sir:

Dr. Ewell's reaction to my gentle (I thought) letter in favor of coeducation was gratifying.

If the sentiments expressed by Dr. Ewell are typical of the arguments we are to face in the coming months, it would seem we have little reason for concern.

Dr. Ewell's letter does not state the disadvantages of coeducation. Dr. Ewell does not state why he favors status quo.

I strongly object to Dr. Ewell's use of terms with a derogatory connotation ("compound" "erected") when speaking of additional facilities for women.

As for "separate but equal," Dr. Ewell might simply check the article "The Economic Status of the Profession, 1968," AAUP Bulletin (June 1968) for figures on average faculty salary scales at Mary Washington, Longwood, Radford, etc. and at U. Va.

Raymond J. Cormier
Asst. Prof. of French

Sex Segregation

Dear Sir:

I wish to commend R.S. Goldberg and Richard O'Ryan for their thoughtful and human response to sexual segregation at U. Va. in their letters in the Oct. 31, 1968 issue of The Cavalier Daily. Their arguments are sound, and one knows exactly where they stand on this issue.

In sharp contrast is N.M. Ewell, Jr.'s letter of the same date. If he has any reasons, he certainly keeps them to himself. His position reminds me of the "separate but equal" educational philosophy which white supremacists use effectively to keep black children oppressed.

On what are your feelings based, Mr. Ewell if not on "tradition" or "discrimination?"

Paris Orchestra Cultural Success

By Roy Bonavita

One of the most attractive organizations of the Fifth Republic gave a concert Monday night in University Hall. The Orchestra of Paris, organized for the French by Charles Munch, formerly conductor of the Boston Symphony, opened their first American tour with a resounding performance of our National Anthem and then whipped into what I believe was the French National Anthem... but with a lot of flair.

Sergo Baudo, one of the two conductors of this orchestra besides Mr. Munch, more than proved a musical point by conducting from memory two of the best war horses

If we consider the University to be a human community then it would be quite natural to include women as an integral part of the community.

Arthur Thomas
Dept. of Pediatrics
Children and Youth Center

Admit Coeds

Dear Sir:

So far, the only opposition to coeducation that I have been able to find has been emotional and quite irrational. I have been given such reasons as, if girls were admitted, they would make better grades and ruin the curves; as, if you don't see them during the week you appreciate them more on the weekend; as, they are distracting, and one won't be able to study. One student even told me he agreed that women were being discriminated against, but that he would rather keep things the way they are. How anti-intellectual can one get? What are these people going to do when they suddenly find that they do have a responsibility to the opposite sex? Or when they find that they will be living with those who have developed a maturity far superior to that which UVA tends to develop? Is a maturity which is centered around a far keener understanding of life made possible by living in an intellectual atmosphere where all segments of society are represented?

Can those of us who are sincerely interested in making UVA an institution of learning, rather than one of molds and anti-intellectual traditions which stifle one's yearning for knowledge, let such responsibilities prevail? Or come anywhere near prevailing?

The greatest step that the University of Virginia could take towards establishing enlightenment and quest for learning as precedence and tradition, would be to admit coeds on an equal basis.

Richard O'Ryan
Engineering I

Woody And Women

Dear Sir:

Following the example of N.M. Ewell, Jr., M.D. I am enclosing my reply to the earlier circular by Dean Woody regarding the question of the possible admission of women students to the College of Arts and Sciences which I beg you to include with this communication as a Letter to the Editor of The Cavalier Daily.

Dear Dr. Woody:

There are a few entirely subjective comments offered for whatever they may be worth in regard to your circular of January 26th.

From my own observations I doubt that any significant percentage of members of this University, staff and students, feel a "need" for the admission of women to the College of Arts and Sciences. On the other hand, I believe that members of this University are prone to overestimate the changes which would occur if women students were to be freely admitted. Having myself studied at a co-educational

university, and having served as an assistant professor, associate professor and professor at three other co-educational universities, prior to coming here, my impression is that the admission of women to the College of Arts and Sciences would change the complexion of this University but little.

True, we should see many more women students on the Grounds, but I am convinced that the behavior, bearing and dress of our male students will be favorably affected, if it is changed at all. Similarly, in all other important aspects of University life, I would expect only minor changes. The reason for this expectation is, of course, my inability to discern significant differences between this University and the co-educational universities I have known, of a kind which could reasonably be traced to the fact that ours is very largely a men's university. More specifically it seems to me that the incidence of students' preoccupation with thoughts of girls is about the same, if not higher, than at the co-educational universities where I have taught.

Let me stress that all the above statements reflect my personal impressions. Certainly there can be wide variations of opinion on these matters, and indeed they are to be expected. Therefore I believe it would be wise to poll, by means of suitable questionnaires, a representative sample of students and faculty, here and elsewhere, as to their opinions on the various points mentioned in this letter, and/or any other which you and your committee may consider to be relevant.

My own teaching of mixed classes in physics has led me to conclude that girls tend to be at least as conscientious in their studies as boys are, and tend to give rise to less disciplinary problems. They are usually eager to please. Further, I found them generally to be at least as honest as male students. My own belief is that our honor system would survive the admission of larger numbers of women to this University, and would survive without undue strain.

In conformity with the views presented above, I do not anticipate any particular benefit from the admission of women, and thus am rather indifferent to the question at hand, except for one obvious consideration with which you must doubtless be quite familiar: It seems that discrimination among students on the basis of sex violates the law as much as similar discrimination on the basis of race or color. If this view is correct, this University has no choice in the matter and it would seem advisable to make the change quietly, without fanfare and without delay.

Doris Wildorf
Professor of Applied Science

Girl's Lament

Dear Sir:

It appears to be a popular lament of the college female that there is a "need for a re-evaluation of women." Apparently the lack of fruitful dialogue between the sexes is due to the male's inability to "communicate" with the female.

I accuse the college woman of being as neglectful in sharing "thought" and "emotion" with the college man as she seems to think he is with her. Oh, I'm quite certain that she's willing to intellectually discuss the inequities of the selective service system or the vagaries of the honor system at the University - and this is quite admirable. But I believe that she would be all too afraid to expose her true emotions and feelings to him. I don't honestly believe that this is unique to a University of Virginia problem or one necessarily generated by a sexually segregated environment, although I am confident that both tend to exacerbate the problem. If on the typical date the man tried to introduce any "sensitivity" into the situation, the woman wouldn't know what to do, and vice versa. If he tried "to get the ball rolling" by mentioning his own feelings and

"hangups," he would be branded an obtuse idiot - if he tried to asking similar questions he would promptly be upbraided for attempting to pry into her psyche (or worse yet, something else). Unfortunately one to one relationships need this type of interplay. So you see girls, it's not that we think of you as "sex machines" - it's just that we are too infrequently rewarded for the appropriate behavior!

I too believe that there is a need in today's complex life for "one to one personal relationships" and I am happy to see the Mary Munford girls criticize the lack of it at the University. And I would hope that they along with girls from Mary Washington, Sweet Briar, etc., realizing the difficulties of the situation, would assume the initiative and help us strike down the "mask" - try and open up lines of communication in which the man and woman communicate "with" each other rather than "at" each other; I "penetrate" her "defenses" by think that they might be surprised to find out that there is something beneath the University's "gentleman" veneer.

And it might also help if somewhere there could be a course that taught people how to be people.

Edwin Carter
College 4

Lucinda

Dear Sir:

It is with profound relief that I enjoyed The Cavalier Daily's beautiful, perceptive and poetically thrilling account of Lucinda Desha Robb's visit to the White House. Though unfortunately placed on the back page, the half-inch headline called sufficient attention to the consummate pastoral artistry of which the UPI has such astonishing command. After forcing myself to skim the boring and heavy articles on the altogether depressing national elections, the terrible war in Vietnam, and other such topics which should be left to politicians and not foisted on innocent readers, I was altogether captivated

by the lovely sense of Lucinda's grandeur waiting "arm in arm in the soft autumn sunlight." Not all of the article was given to such intricate and comely details, though, for it was noted that "the baby waved its arm (and) socked her fingers" and wore a yellow ribbon, explained in a sweet little rhyme which tactfully alluded to the fact that while the nation anxiously watches Lucinda, her father is far away killing our contemporary "Hun," the VC. The verse, incidentally, was from a John Wayne movie which was, I am assured, won at least a Pulitzer Prize. Finally, this journalistic enchantment disclosed the vividly important doctor's bill and subtly juxtaposed the distastefulness of carrying off her sugar water with the still haunting image of her father carrying a rifle. I am proud of our newspaper for striking such a courageous blow against cynicism, and am encouraged by the implication that not all people in this lovely world with which we are blessed trouble themselves needlessly about wars, inhumanities, social problems which they can't do anything about anyway. I am confident that with judicious gleaming of such nice articles in the future, The Cavalier Daily can attain the superior level dignity, respect and importance with which it is so seriously concerned.

Deek Nelson
College 2
Mostyn Withtisen, Secretary
Granny's Tea and Knitting Club

Toves Concert

Dear Sir:

May I beg of you a small space to offer my congratulations and those of Mrs. Mallett to the Silby Toves for their magnificent concert in Cabell Hall. The fact that this offering comes from the dim side of the generation gap may lessen its impact but cannot lessen its sincerity.

Marcus B. Mallett
Associate Dean for Special Scholars

Professor G. W. Foster of the University of Wisconsin Law School will be available today, Wednesday, to speak with Fourth-Year men and Undergraduates interested in attending the University of Wisconsin Law School or in legal education in general. For further information and an appointment, contact the Office of Placement at 5 Minor Hall.



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