

Raid a result of stifled urges: Smile if you're wearing panties!

If you read the Daily Nebraskan on Friday, you know that a group of UNL fraternity men went on a panty raid at a sorority on the Nebraska Wesleyan campus.

These brave young men forced their way past several sorority women and confiscated about 500 pairs of women's undergarments worth about \$1,100.



Bill Allen

It was a bold, daring adventure, and if it had happened during wartime, these men probably would be considered for the Congressional Medal of Honor.

However, this incident is irrelevant. I think there is something much deeper at stake here that threatens to destroy the foundations of machismo vs. feminism that the Greek system has strived so long to create and maintain.

The question that should be asked is not whether panty raids are right or wrong, but instead, why do fraternity men want those panties?

I think we all know the answer to that. It's some sick, perverse ritual in which men dress up in women's undergarments and parade around the chapter house in nothing but.

The more you think about it, the more hideous it becomes. At the same

time this kind of mental release is the obvious end result of stifled feelings. Basically, there is something Freudian about this whole panty raid business.

Greek men are taught to be macho and not cry. They all have to wear denim or leather jackets and aren't allowed to talk to women unless they used words like "wench," and belch after every few words.

Now, friends, don't condemn them, because Greek women love this kind of thing. Why, most women do. Just look at the number of misguided women who apply to be "little sisters" at fraternities just so they can suffer such degradation at the hands of Greek men.

Anyway, back to the undergarment thing. During their entire college lives these men are told to be MEN. They can't take ballet or eat quiche. They can't write poetry, unless it's got filthy words and says naughty things about a sorority chapter. And it has to rhyme.

So every once in a while these men need an outlet for the feminine side of their personalities. The feminine side of all of us. Some of us like to refer to it as the variety of humanness in all of us, but it is hard to use that kind of construct system when you work from a basic macho stance.

These men get an uncontrollable urge to wear women's clothes — an urge the rest of us don't have because we aren't forced to be macho. We have other outlets.

They, of course, can't go to J.C. Penney's and shop for lingerie, so they have

to do the macho thing. They have to raid a sorority house and confiscate undergarments in the name of macho prankism.

Then, late at night, after drinking and listening to Barry Manilow and Air Supply for hours, these men slowly and sensuously undress and don the undergarments of sorority women. So what that most of the panties are stretched beyond recognition and burst at the seams; so what that they can't bring themselves — yet — to take pictures and publish them in national magazines; it is still the only logical explanation.

Conversely, I've recently learned that sororities, in keeping with longstanding and upright Greek traditions, also have raided fraternities and made off with men's apparel!

It's a sordid and deeply perverted affair, but the only possible end result when a society sets itself up to stifle its humanness.

There is a cure. It is hard. Yet it's the only possible way to rid the Greeks of this terrible psychological affliction.

You, Greeks, must wear undergarments of the opposite sex under your regular clothing for a week or until you feel the total ridiculousness of this macho/feminine construct system.

Fraternity men, wear a panty today. Sorority women, pull on a jock strap. No one will know except you and me.

Smile if you're wearing panties!

Allen is a senior English major.

Letters

Brief letters are preferred, and longer letters may be edited. Writer's address and phone number are needed for verification.

Greek 'raiders' need favor returned

If I were a betting human being, John Rood, I'd gladly send good money after bad in support of the proposition that I could bring together a healthy bunch of men, who for all sorts of reasons, would gladly don the appropriate apparel, enter any number of your tradition-bound houses and gently, or with force, remove the undergarments of some of the finest young men on campus.

How might this make you and yours feel? Would you counter with your strength? I think not, for our numbers

would not allow you that choice. Would you gather with your brothers and condemn us from higher moral ground? Perhaps you should first find yourselves on that map, for I think you're neck deep in any swamp you care to mention.

My anger is only barely contained in my attempts at humor. I deeply believe you and your brothers are wrong and that I could gather forces against you.

Joseph Healey
junior
English

Depositors misuse Holocaust comparison

I'd like to take issue with the Commonwealth depositors as represented by Opal Bosley and Augusta Kreiner who were pictured on the front page of the Sept. 26 Daily Nebraskan, holding signs which read, "State of Nebraska and Commonwealth Holocaust Victims." Regardless of the amount of discomfort and inconvenience the Commonwealth situation has caused these people, I am shocked at the audacity they have to draw such an incredulous analogy.

I am currently preparing to appear in the University Theatre's production of "The Diary of Anne Frank" and thereby have been faced with the task of attempting to feel what it is like to be stalked, labeled and threatened

with death because of your religion. The magnitude of the emotion involved in that nightmare are vast, and I do not pretend to have even the slightest idea of what the Holocaust was like. Nor do I pretend to completely know what the depositors are experiencing. But I do know that there are absolutely no grounds for comparison of these two events.

We must not minimize what happened to the Jewish people in World War II. Commonwealth depositors lost their money — Anne Frank lost her life.

Brendan Kelly
senior
English

Comparison belittles Holocaust suffering

Regarding your front page photograph (DN, Sept. 26) showing two smiling women holding bumper stickers claiming themselves as Holocaust Victims. I think it is disgusting and insulting.

A holocaust is total destruction mostly by burning, according to the dictionary. According to society, a Holocaust occurred when six million people were slaughtered, tortured, raped and robbed. One million of those victims

were children who were starved and murdered. A Holocaust is when vast amounts of people are turned into slaves and destroyed.

It is a terrible thing to lose your livelihood and/or your savings but it is not a Holocaust. You are still alive and so is your family. Don't belittle the suffering of those who really know what a Holocaust is.

Barbara Steinfeld
Lincoln

Letter Policy

The Daily Nebraskan welcomes brief letters to the editor from all readers and interested others.

Letters will be selected for publication on the basis of clarity, originality, timeliness and space available.

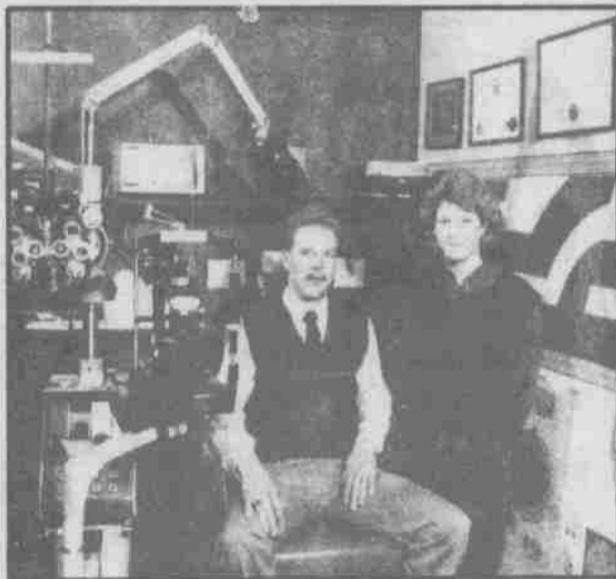
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Anonymous submissions will not be considered for publication. Letters should include the author's

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Submit material to the Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448.

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Jody Nelson and Jill Welsh, University Students.

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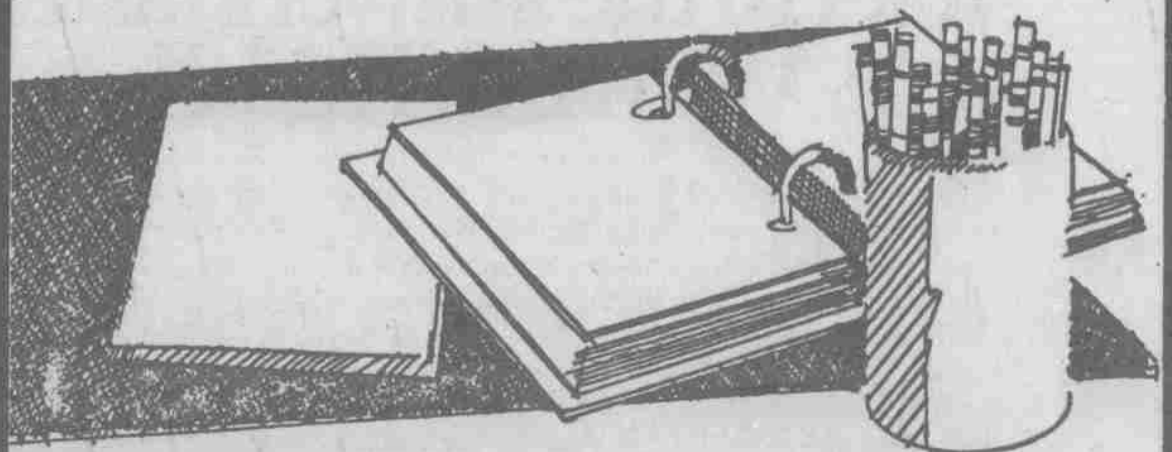
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