CD 1497 Hearing Notice

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Sun Journal

Lewiston, Maine, Sunday, April 3, 2005

PERSPECTIVE

women have such low self-esteem?

DAVE BARRY

a range of 300 yards. Being age does not bother them; age is fine, for men. This y men never ask anybody they look. Their primary of beauty care is to shave selves, which is essential- e same form of beauty care hey give to their lawns.

at the end of his four-min- daily beauty regimen, a has managed to wipe most e shaving cream out of his and is not bleeding too , he feels that he has done e can, so he stops thinking t his appearance.

men do not look at them- s this way. If I had to ex- , in three words, what I be- most women think about appearance, those words would be: "not good enough." No matter how attractive a woman may appear to be to others, when she looks at herself in the mirror, she thinks: woof.

She thinks that at any moment a municipal animal-control officer is going to throw a net over her and haul her off to the shelter.

Why do women have such low self-esteem? There are many complex psychological and societal reasons, by which I mean Barbie. Girls grow up playing with a doll proportioned such that, if it were a human, it would be seven feet tall and weigh 81 pounds, of which 53 pounds would be bosoms.

This is a difficult appearance standard to live up to, especially when you contrast it with the standard set for little boys by their dolls ... excuse me, by their action figures. Most of the action figures that my son played with when he was little were hideous-looking. For example, he was very fond of an action figure (part of the He-Man series) called "Buzz-Off," who was part human, part flying insect. Buzz-Off was not a looker. But he was extremely self-confident. You could not imagine Buzz-Off saying to the other action figures: "Do you think these wings make my hips look big?"

But women grow up thinking they need to look like Barbie, which for most women is impossible, although there is a multibillion-dollar beauty industry devoted to convincing women that they must try. I once saw an Oprah show wherein supermodel Cindy Crawford dispensed makeup tips to the studio audience. Cindy had all these middle-aged women applying beauty products to their faces; she stressed how important it was to apply them in a certain way, using the tips of their fingers. All the woman dutifully did this, even though it was obvious to any sane observer that, no matter how carefully they applied these products, they would never look remotely like Cindy Crawford, who is some kind of genetic mutation.

I'm not saying that men are superior. I'm just saying that you're not going to get a group of middle-aged men to sit in a room and apply cosmetics to themselves under the instruction of Brad Pitt, in hopes of looking more like him. Men would realize that this task was pointless and demeaning.

Of course, many women will argue that the reason they become obsessed with trying to look like Cindy Crawford is that men, being as shallow as a drop of spit, WANT women to look that way. To which I have two responses:

1. Hey, just because WE'RE idiots, that doesn't mean YOU have to be; and

2. Men don't even notice 97 percent of the beauty efforts you make anyway. Take fingernails. The average woman spends 5,000 hours per year worrying about her fingernails; I have never once, in more than 40 years of listening to men talk about women, heard a man say, "She has a nice set of fingernails!"

Anyway, to get back to my original point: If you're a man, and a woman asks you how she looks, you're in big trouble. Obviously, you can't say she looks bad. But you also can't say that she looks great, because she'll think you're lying, because she has spent countless hours, with the help of the multibillion-dollar beauty industry, obsessing about the differences between herself and Cindy Crawford. Also, she suspects that you're not qualified to judge anybody's appearance. This is because you have shaving cream in your hair.

This classic Dave Barry column was originally published on Feb. 1, 1998.

TOWN OF TURNER
REQUEST FOR BIDS
LAWN CARE MAINTENANCE

own of Turner requests bids for nance of grassed areas throughout the nity. Copies of the specifications for the eason are available upon request at the

FOR SALE BY BID

The Town of Monmouth has for sale by sealed bid one (1) 2001 Ford Crown Victoria, odometer reading 140,000, 4 door sedan in good running condition. This car was formerly used as a police cruiser. You can see this car at the Monmouth Town Office parking lot and will be available for

Notice to Contractors

The University of Southern Maine is seeking proposals for the construction of a CHP/Maintenance Storage Building on the Gorham Campus. The proposal must include all costs including all labor and material for a complete building. Project completion is scheduled for September 2005. Sealed Proposals will be received until 1:00 p.m. Friday, April 22, 2005 at the Facilities Management Office, USM located at 25 Bedford St. Portland, ME 04104. It is the

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE

Please take notice that AC Electric Corp. of 120 Merrow Rd. Auburn, Maine 04210 (207) 784-7341, intends to file an Air Emission License application with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) pursuant to the provisions of 38 M.R.S.A., Section 590 on April 8, 2005. The application is for an initial air emission license at 120 Merrow Rd. According to Department regulations, interested parties must be publicly notified, written comments invited, and if justified, an opportunity for public hearing given. A request for a public hearing or for the Board of Environmental Protection to assume jurisdiction must be received by the Department, in writing, no later than 20 days after the appli-

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE

Please take notice that DeCoster Egg Farms, Plains Road, Turner, ME 04282 (207) 224-8222 intends to file an Air Emission License application with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) pursuant to the provisions of 38 M.R.S.A., Section 590 on March 31, 2005. The application is for Air Emissions License Renewal at Plains Road, Turner. According to Department regulations, interested parties must be publicly notified, written comments invited, and if justified, an opportunity for public hearing given. A request for a public hearing or for the Board of Environmental Protection to assume jurisdiction must be received by the Department, in writing, no later than 20