

all letters  
Dec 5, 1975

## Letters Bates supported

### Editors—

I am an older student, (31), have had three children and yearly gynecological exams since my teens. So it is not because of an uneasiness with a first gynecological exam that Ms. Bates impressed me. It is also not because of preferring a female to a male examiner that I write this letter. I have encountered male gynecological examiners who answered my questions as competently and directly, without turning my question into a joke, and without prying into my personal reasons for the questions I ask during an exam. I have not as yet sought Dr. Fee's services, so I am not in a position to champion Ms. Bates' cause at his expense.

Without pretending to understand the personal, professional and political complexities involved in running a clinic, I write this letter in astonishment at the article in the Daily announcing that Ms. Bates is now so totally removed from an area in which she functioned for a year, not only competently, but (from what I understand from personal experience, and the feedback I have heard, and overheard) with outstanding relevance to the needs of the students she served.

Constance Tanczo  
Ames

### Editors—

This letter is written in protest of the transfer of Nurse Bates from the gynecology clinic. Many women who had confidence in and felt comfortable discussing gynecological problems with Nurse Bates do not feel the same about Dr. Fee. This is not only due to a personality difference, but also to the basic fact that only a woman can really understand women's health problems in a very real sense.

There can be tragic results from the neglect of health problems by

women who fear or mistrust the gynecologist. Thus it is most important that any relation with a gynecologist be positive, particularly the first. It is certainly strange that Dr. Augustyn would remove someone who is not only competent, but excellent in the job she held.

Many physical and psychological aspects are involved in birth control and other gynecological problems, and most women consider these extensively before involving themselves. Helpful, unbiased information is desirable; but criticism, implied or otherwise, is uncalled for.

Mrs. Bates: you are a warm, human person and I thank you for the care you gave me.

Amy Christensen Dostal  
Com S

FROM PERSONAL experience and from conversation with other women, it is evident that Dr. Fee is critical of women's use of birth control means, and their lack of knowledge of some aspects of it. There couldn't be a more destructive approach.

Kathy Bates has been specifically trained for gynecological work, she is a woman aware of women's problems, and she holds the confidence of women on this campus. Why should this talent be diverted from where it is really needed and replaced with what could only be called male domination?

Katie Beard  
LA 4

Nancy Larson  
For 4

Kathy Gates  
Pol 54

Sandra Fagan  
Pol 53

### Editors—

The removal of Mrs. Bates from the gynecology staff is a tremendous setback to the quality of care available to women students at ISU. A gynecological exam has the potential to be a frightening experience, and Nurse Bates did everything possible to make women feel comfortable. It