Women expect tension at first, acceptance later

It was the advertising flyer for men's boxer shorts that amused Kim Fainter of Glasgow the most.

At first she thought she'd gotten the mailing from Mink Inc. by mistake. Then her mother noticed it suggested that women could wear the shorts for sleepwear.

The young woman decided to pass up the offer.

Fainter, 18, who will become one of Washington and Lee University's first women undergraduates next month, isn't at all faint-hearted. She isn't even all that nervous yet about starting school as one of W&L's pioneering women undergraduates. (The law school has had women students since 1972.)

Fainter, a part-time cashier at Kroger supermarket near Lexington, expects a little tension at first with some of the male upperclassmen but thinks that'll wear off. "I think the guys are going to like it," she said of having women classmates.

"I've talked to some of them coming through Kroger. I've dropped little hints that I'll be going to W&L in the fall. They said, 'Well, see you in the fall.'"

It seemed natural to them already, she thought.

She's heard there might be some "screaming" from upperclassmen when they learn that one of their gym locker rooms is now

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