

OK COLLEGE

Workplace order a stab in back

Sarah Goetz says she was fired for having an eyebrow piercing

By Daily Courier Staff

Pluck it or a pack your things.

That's what a 24-year-old day-care worker says she was told by a manager, who said she'd be fired if she didn't remove an eyebrow piercing.

The ultimatum was especially surprising, Sarah Goetz said, because she was wearing the piercing during her interview for the job.

"After a few days, all of a sudden the piercing became a problem," Goetz said Friday. "I think they discriminated against me because of the way I looked."

Goetz was hired to work at a new day care at Okanagan College. The day care opened this fall, and is run by the Kelowna Family Y.

Officials with the Y would not comment on Goetz's assertion she was fired for having the eyebrow



GARY NYLANDER/The Daily Courier

Sarah Goetz says an eyebrow piercing is nothing new at Okanagan College.

piercing, saying it was a confidential employee-employer issue.

Goetz has been a day-care worker for four years, and says her piercing was never an issue with previous employers, or parents who dropped off their children at the day care.

The college day care, Goetz said,

will serve mostly faculty and students, and it's unlikely that many of them would be offended by an eyebrow piercing.

"They see people with piercings all day long at the college," she said.

Space is provided at the new day care for 63 children.

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