

Space scientist apologizes for shirt called sexist

November 14 2014



In this Nov. 12, 2014 picture ESA physicist Matt Taylor shows his 'Rosetta' tattoo at the satellite control center of the European Space Agency (ESA) in Darmstadt, Germany. British physicist Matt Taylor brimmed with excitement as the European Space Agency's Philae lander successfully separated from the Rosetta spacecraft, showing off a colorful tattoo on his thigh of both, while proclaiming "we're making history." But it was his bowling-shirt that attracted more attention than the unconventional Rosetta project scientist's words or ink -- a garish collage of pinup girls in various states of undress. (AP Photo/dpa,Arne Dedert)

British physicist Matt Taylor brimmed with excitement as the European Space Agency's Philae lander successfully separated from the Rosetta spacecraft, showing off a colorful tattoo on his thigh of both, while proclaiming "we're making history."

But it was his garish bowling shirt that attracted more attention than the unconventional Rosetta project scientist's words or ink—a collage of pinup girls in various states of undress.

Summarizing the firestorm, the Guardian proclaimed in a blog post: "ESA can land their robot on a comet. But they still can't see misogyny under their noses."

On Friday, Taylor—wearing a non-descript navy-blue ESA hoodie—offered an unsolicited apology.

"I made a big mistake and I offended many people," he said, breaking down in tears. "And I'm very sorry about this."



In this image issued from ESA, showing British physicist Matt Taylor Thursday Nov. 13, 2014, sporting a garish bowling shirt featuring a collage of pin-up girls in various states of undress, during an interview at the satellite control centre of the European Space Agency (ESA) in Darmstadt, Germany, on Thursday Nov. 13, 2014. On Friday Nov 14, Taylor offered an unsolicited apology about his shirt "I made a big mistake and I offended many people," he said. "And I'm very sorry about this." (AP Photo/ESA)



In this image taken from TV showing British physicist Matt Taylor Thursday Nov. 13, 2014, sporting a garish bowling shirt featuring a collage of pin-up girls in various states of undress, as he prepares for a TV interview at the satellite control centre of the European Space Agency (ESA) in Darmstadt, Germany, on Thursday Nov. 13, 2014. On Friday Nov 14, Taylor offered an unsolicited apology about his shirt "I made a big mistake and I offended many people," he said. "And I'm very sorry about this." (AP Photo/APTV)

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