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Mitzee Mitchell Skip Hove
Merrill Harrison
Ray Neely Sam Jensen Dick Keelmer
Neil Miller
Bruce Brugmann
Ron Blue
Howard Varn
Jan Harrison
Maryanne Hansen
Joy Nelson

Merry Christmas and HAPPY NEW YEAR

Husker Basketball, Football
Teams Carry Colors Down South
During Vacation—See Page 3

the NEBRASKAN

Nebraskan Clarifies, Repeats
Stand On Column Slogan, 'God
Has A Place On Campus'—Pg. 2

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SC Committee No Purpose Found For Class Officers

A special committee on class officers reported to the Student Council meeting Wednesday that it could find no reason to reinstate class officers at the University.

The committee reported that after investigating the advisability of having class officers, they found no function for such a group. Andy Hove, reporting for the committee, said that class officers would have a purpose only if there were a seniors' day in the spring, or a freshman tug-of-war in the fall.

Hove stated that the committee felt that the election of class officers was rightfully discontinued and should not be reinstated. This decision was the result of consideration of University faculty opinion and the situation of class officers at other universities.

Loss Of Tradition

The class officer committee reported to the Council that faculty opinion was that there would be no purpose for class officers on this campus since existing organizations can handle any tasks which might be done by class officers. Some faculty members also felt that additional activities might work toward the detriment of student scholarship. Some faculty members also felt, however, that elimination of class officers would mean the loss of some of the University's tradition.

Other Schools Contacted

The committee also contacted several Big Seven and Big Ten schools concerning class officers and found that many of those schools contacted either had no class officers or are in the process of eliminating them.

The special class officers committee, selected by the Student Council, was composed of Phil Visek, Marv Stromer, Len Barker, Tish Lowe, Sis Matzke, Marianne Hansen, Wade Dorland, Arley Waldo and Andy Hove.

The Council also voted to pass a resolution by Muriel Pickett to set up a special committee composed of interested students to study the advisability of sponsoring a spring event comparable to Colorado's CU Days.

Ag YMCA Announces Exec Slate

Russel Lang and Marvin Coffey have been nominated for the presidency of Ag YMCA. The runner-up of the election, to be held Jan. 6, will serve as first vice-president.

Nominated for second vice-president are Mark Clark and Bill Reed; secretary, John Burbank and Shad Gager; treasurer, Lonnie Wrasse and Kay Knudson, and district representative, Benny Carter and Bob Lubruska.

Russel Lang, a junior, belongs to the 4-H Club and First Methodist Youth Group. Marvin Coffey, a junior in Farm House, is a member of the Agronomy Club, Alpha Zeta and Ag Interdenominational Youth Fellowship.

Mark Clark belongs to the 4-H Club, Square Dance Club, Union, Voc Ag Association and is a sophomore in Alpha Gamma Rho. Bill Reed, sophomore in Alpha Gamma Sigma, is a member of the Block and Bridle Club.

John Burbank, sophomore, is in the Dairy Club, Ag Interdenominational Youth Fellowship and a member of Farm House.

Shad Gager is in Ag Men's Club, Agronomy Club, Ag Religious Council and an active member in Warren Methodist Church.

Lonnie Wrasse, junior in Alpha Gamma Sigma, belongs to the 4-H Club and Agronomy Club. Kay Knudson is in the Block and Bridle Club, Pershing Rifles, Lutheran Student Association and Alpha Gamma Sigma.

A freshman in Alpha Gamma Rho, Benny Carter belongs to Builders, 4-H Club and Ag Interdenominational Youth Fellowship. Bob Lubruska belongs to Agronomy Club and is a freshman in Alpha Gamma Sigma.

The polls will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jan. 6. Only members of Ag YMCA may vote.

Circle K Club Collects Toys For Children

The University Circle K Club, student organization sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, collected discarded toys this week for homeless children.

A one and a half ton truck was filled with the toys which included small parlor games, bicycles and wagons. The Lincoln Air Force Base Fire Department will recondition the toys and distribute them to local orphanages.

Dr. C. M. Elliot, professor of economics and insurance, is the University sponsor of the organization. Col. Francis F. Greenleaf of the National Guard is the Kiwanis sponsor.

Jim Collman, Circle K president, said that he is looking forward to an "eventful year." He said that the club was planning an ice cream social, Jan. 5, at the home of Lou Kallar, 714 So. 17th. All male students are invited to attend.

Correction

It was incorrectly reported in Wednesday's Social Column that Billie Smith was pinned to Walter Gerlach, Phi Gamma Delta.

New Year's Traditions First Footfall Tells Household's Future

In Germany lead was melted in a spoon over a candle and thrown into water. From the different formations of the lead, omens were drawn. In Lithuania various symbolic objects formed of dough were baked and laid under platters. Each person would then take up three and whatever he chose was symbolic of his future for the year.

Two olive leaves representing a pair of lovers were laid on cinders in Greece. As these curled, approached, recoiled or flamed up, so would be the result of the courtship.

This may be much more effective than twisting a straw or plucking petals from a daisy.

Another custom was the "first foot" tradition. It is based on the belief that the character of the first visitor on New Year's Day effects the welfare of the household during the year. This superstition was found in many countries.

In England the most important principle was that if luck was to rest on a house, the "first foot" must not be a woman. To avoid unlucky accidents, people would often engage a boy or man to make an early call.

For good fortune to prevail throughout the year, there were other qualifications and limitations in some places. The "first foot" in some places had to be a man who would not only have to be a man but it was necessary for him to be dark-haired. In Northumberland the man could not be flat-footed. What luck there is in the first footfall of a size 12 boot is hard to understand.



Courtesy Lincoln Star

IFC Orphans' Party

A Christmas party which featured a chili feed, entertainment, Santa Claus and gifts was held Wednesday in the Union Ballroom for approximately 83 children from Whitehall Orphanage. Members of Interfraternity Council sponsored the party, and Bruce Martin acted as Santa.

Gather Round, Children You Might Disagree, But— There Is A Santa Claus

Through the stillness of the snow-drifted night comes a tiny, merry sound. Soft and high at first, it sounds like the chuckling of the wind, until it comes closer and becomes more distinct, and a sound of tapping as from tiny hoofs is heard on the shingles.

Not everyone can hear this merry, jingling sound; perhaps it is only the wind through the trees. But children can hear it, even if grownups cannot. It is the sound of Santa Claus and his reindeer and his sleigh.

Santa Claus is strictly American, like baseball. Like baseball, he derived himself from customs and traditions brought over from Europe by his ancestors. In Europe it is Saint Nicholas and cricket; in American it is Santa Claus and baseball.

Popular Saint

Saint Nicholas is a popular saint. He is revered by both the Greeks and the Latins on December 6. Belonging to the fourth century of the Christian era, he was a native of the city of Patara, in Lycia, Asia Minor.

Saint Nicholas has always been a very busy figure. He is the patron saint of Russia, the patron of robbers, special guardian of virgins, children and sailors and the protector of scholars. He is also known as the patron of pawn brokers, through no fault of his.

Because he once made gifts of gold to a man to provide dowries for his daughters, Saint Nicholas started the idea of giving presents in secret. A legend attributing him with miraculously restoring the lives of the three boys killed by an irate innkeeper, Saint Nicholas has been deemed the patron of children.

For a long time, the celebration of Saint Nicholas Day was important in the Low Countries and the Rhine provinces. Growing concentration on Christmas Day and the Christmas tree have caused Saint Nicholas to be absorbed into Christmas celebrations.

Drops Gifts Down Chimneys

In Europe he visits houses on Christmas Eve, dropping gifts down the chimney—much like our own Santa Claus. Children place their shoes, stockings and baskets under the chimney to catch the gifts being dropped down. He is reputed to ride a white donkey or a gray horse. The children put out hay and water for his steeds, receiving candy in return.

The Dutch brought the Saint Nicholas customs to New York from where they spread across the country. Santa Claus is a corruption of the Dutch "San Nikolaas." Santa has since spread back across the Atlantic to England, down to India, and across the jungles into Australia, where he is as popular as in the United States.

Santa has become immortal through the famous poem, "The Night Before Christmas," by Clement C. Moore, which makes him a jolly old elf "Saint Nick," who rides "in a miniature sleigh drawn by eight tiny reindeer"—a far cry from a gray horse and a white ass.

So, on the night before Christmas, countless tiny ears will be glued to the chimney, waiting for a tiny, ageless sound of sleigh bells.

Kappa Epsilon

Kappa Epsilon, professional fraternity for women in pharmacy, recently pledged three women at a meeting attended by two national officers.

New members are Karen Greenlee, freshman; Kathleen McCullough, senior, and Barbara Skull, freshman. President of the University chapter is Jo Heelan, junior.

Four-Piece Combo Jazz Pianist Brubeck To Perform Jan. 18

Dave Brubeck and his Combo will give a two-performance jazz concert in the Union Ballroom Jan. 18 at 4 and 7:30 p.m.

Brubeck, considered by jazz masters as "the most exciting new jazz artist at work today," is now in the midst of a nation-wide tour including numerous college campuses.

The combo includes Brubeck at the piano, Paul Desmond with the alto saxophone, drummer Joe Dodge and Bob Bates with the bass.

Introducing what many acclaim to be a new kind of jazz, Brubeck's quartet had its start on the West Coast. It has now grown to nation-wide jazz appeal, especially on college campuses. He has played at Zardi's in Los Angeles, Boston's Storyville and Manhattan's Basin Street and recently gave a concert in Carnegie Hall.

'Tremendous Drive'

Brubeck has developed "a kind of teamwork which is without parallel in the entire field of music," said jazz expert George Avakian. His music has "tremendous drive and surprising warmth," acclaimed critic John Hammond.

Brubeck thinks his technique is getting smoother all the time. "Everything we play is superimposed on the tune, and each chorus is superimposed on the one before it."

Saxophonist Desmond says, "The melody is just a vehicle. It's like an old Ford with a new Cadillac motor put in."

Wins Polls

Brubeck's popularity was given a large boost last year when he placed first in both the popularity poll and the critic's poll sponsored by Down Beat, national jazz magazine. He also won Mentron magazine's "All-Star" poll.

Starting his musical career as a college jazz pianist, Brubeck at first planned to be a veterinarian and help his father in the ranching business. He couldn't keep himself away from music, he says.

Contemplating current trends, Brubeck thinks that jazz reflects the American scene. It is tremendously complex, but it is free. He and his combo keep playing their "new style"—never playing a tune the same way twice, but relying on melodious and rhythmic effects.



BRUBECK

Honors Convo To Recognize Total Average

Cumulated grade averages will be used as the basis for class Honor Lists in the Honors Convocation program instead of the present system of counting only two-semester averages.

The University Faculty Senate voted to honor seniors whose cumulated averages place them in the upper 3 per cent of their respective colleges and those whose averages place them in the upper 10 per cent of each college class.

This present system is a two-semester sampling of the total achievement of the student while the new plan will recognize high achievement resulting from sustained effort.

The adopted device is consistent with the present practice determining graduation with distinction. It is also used by the scholastic honorary societies as the basis for eligibility for membership.

NU Professor Asked To Join London Club

Professor Robert P. Crawford's book "Techniques of Creative Thinking" has brought him an invitation to become a member of The London Author's Club.

The club, founded in 1891 by the Victorian novelist Sir Walter Besant, has had as early members Conan Doyle, Jerome K. Jerome, Hall Caine, Henry Harland, Morley Roberts and Anthony Hope.

Crawford received a request from the Copenhagen Graduate Business School for further information on creative thinking. "I am organizing and leading all over Scandinavia management conferences which are based more or less on the subject of idea organization," Palle Hansen, director of this conference, wrote.

Press Impartiality Blumberg Tells Danger Of Pre-Election Polls

Six ways newspaper coverage of political campaigns can be made more objective were outlined by Dr. Nathan B. Blumberg, assistant professor of journalism at a Grinnell College convocation in Iowa recently.

The United Press sent the release on its national wire to newspapers throughout the country. Lowell Thomas, national newscaster, commented on Dr. Blumberg's suggestion for improving the impartiality of the press by considering the value of pre-election polls.

Dr. Blumberg said these polls in the past have been "worthless" but now have become dangerous as potential political weapons. The record of pollsters forecasting election results "is so ludicrously bad" it is a wonder anyone takes them seriously, he said.

Another suggestion offered by Dr. Blumberg was that every newspaper should assess its news presentation every day, both before and after publication. He said "newspapers which employed conscious devices of shared display and relatively equal space received less criticism from their readers."

Newspapers need a more balance photo coverage, Dr. Blumberg said.

Orange Bowl Bets Placed By NU Frats

Several fraternities on the Nebraska campus have received challenges from their chapters at Duke University concerning the outcome of the Orange Bowl game.

Zeta Beta Tau has wagered a bearskin that Big Red will win. No points were given. If Duke wins by 14 or more points, the Nebraska Sigma Nus will forfeit a cowhide.

A letter received from the Duke Theta Chis stated that Nebraska chapter "may as well send the skin now." The Nebraska chapter replied that they "scooped at any early shipment of the skin."

Kappa Sigma has bet a chamois skin on the game which is a tradition with the fraternity. Pi Kappa Phi has bet a banner with their Duke chapter.

Bill Campiell, president of Phi Gamma Delta, said that he knew of one person who was anxious to bet on the game. The dean of men at Duke, whom Campbell met during the Interfraternity Council convention in Philadelphia, is willing to give 40 points to any takers.

Phi Kappa Psi received a challenge from their Duke chapter, asking them to bet a chamois skin. The Phi Pias accepted the bet and stand ready to collect, according to Joe Smith, Phi Psi president.



See You Next Year

Gathered around a Christmas tree perched atop the copy desk in the Nebraskan office are members of the Cornhusker and Nebraskan staffs. Journalism was forgotten Wednesday afternoon as the staffs combined to throw their annual Christmas party and celebrate the close of another year.