

Nebraskan Editorials:

We're With You

This morning, at nine o'clock, the University of Nebraska football team boarded an airliner and set out on what most observers would deem a hapless venture.

It is very doubtful that anyone was there to see them off. It is even unlikely that anyone knew they left. Or cared, very much.

Last week, as everyone knows, the Cornhuskers lost a football game to the University of Hawaii, by one touchdown. The Rainbows, as everyone knew, weren't considered to be good enough to play in Memorial Stadium.

Everyone, that is, except Hawaii, who probably wouldn't have believed it anyway. Maybe they weren't in the habit of reading the Lincoln sports pages.

So, Nebraska lost. It is probably not the first football game they have lost. It is not the last. It happened unfortunately, to be to a team who was supposed to walk into the stadium and immediately lie down quietly on their backs and let the Scarlet steamroller run back and forth at will.

However, Hawaii just didn't feel like lying down that Saturday afternoon, and besides, they had a few little tricks of their own, such as speed, agility and a sort of reckless determination that Nebraska hadn't run into last December. So they won, and earned it all themselves. It is thus that the Cornhuskers, and Coach Glassford in particular, find themselves nailed to a journalistic cross from which the nails can be pulled only by the venerable scribes themselves.

The armchair alumni, always ready to voice their scorn in loud and raucous tones, have joined the contest. It is rather like a primitive village stoning their local champion from the premises after he lost a fair fight to a smaller man. It is also a little disgusting.

If the champion, after licking his wounds, should rise from his place of appointed mediocrity and beat the living tar out of someone else, he would immediately be accepted back into the tribe, so that his glory would be reflected back to his fellows. And so on.

But now, dark clouds form on the horizon, and brows are furrowed in disgust, and oaths spit from the mouths of the wise men like the flickering heat of a Homecoming bonfire. There is no hope. There is no future. Our team is no good. Why? Because they lost a game. So what.

So, loyal Cornhuskers, don't you think it a good idea to lay down your bluejeans and your newspaper editorials and your "Goodbye, Bill" posters and, perhaps while no one is looking, whisper a "Go, Big Red," or a little of that corny old "Come a-running, Boys."

Maybe you're a little out of practice, and it's not what everyone else is doing, but you'll feel a little better for it. And you will be doing the team, the school and yourself a big favor.

As Preacher Franklin said: "We will fight, and get hurt, and lie down and bleed awhile, and then get up and fight some more."

Under The Crib...

Now that everyone's attended one or two classes, the confusion of dropping and adding is over and the first football game is a matter of history, it might be good for us to stop for a few moments and consider in a somewhat informal, off-the-cuff fashion one of the issues that has been in the middle of almost every discussion, both verbal and in print, since early this month.

The issue is Rush Week. Certainly, it surprises nobody, but it does effect everybody, Greek and independent alike.

For a good many years the entire Greek system has been criticized from many quarters. Far too many have jumped on the bandwagon of the "Take Care Of My Little Girl" attitude. But none of the critics of the Greek world have been entirely wrong. And all of the legitimate criticism has centered around Rush Week, what precedes it and what follows in its immediate wake. This is the sorest spot in the entire Greek world, overlooking the Aegian of course, and this is as it should be.

Already too much has been written about the problems of this year's Rush Week. The University's Panhell has been noted nationally as one of the smoothest in its conduct of Rush Week for the sororities. The IFC has received no such commendation but in the last few years nobody has been sufficiently aroused about the open and flagrant violations of the avowed rush rules to do anything about it.

This year, undoubtedly one of the worst as far as

The bleeding, to be sure, has been bad enough. There is no need to aggravate it. And no one can say he has heard the team complaining any.—F. T. D.

No Fight

The controversy between Zeta Beta Tau and Sigma Alpha Mu quietly came to an end Tuesday evening.

The settlement announced in Wednesday's Nebraskan, a credit to both fraternities, that Sigma Alpha Mu had pleaded guilty to spiking charges and Zeta Beta Tau had withdrawn their letter of protest from the IFC Executive Council marked the end of nearly two weeks of negotiations between the two groups.

The compromise was finally reached because each house realized that a fight, and there could have been some real legal gun-slinging from both quarters, would do nothing but harm to each fraternity.

The entire affair, from the time the Sammies pledged 21 out of 24 boys to the submission of protest by the ZBT's to the series of diplomatic conferences, was a source of amusement to outsiders.

To the two houses involved, however, it was an important and justifiably so, case of "saving as much face as possible."

The Sammies made no secret of the fact that they had spiked 19 boys before Rush Week started.

The ZBT's wanted this proved conclusively to everyone's satisfaction before the IFC. A protest was submitted.

An important aspect of the situation is that in years past the ZBT's and Sammies have been considered somewhat detached from the IFC rushing regulations. Consequently, as the two houses were rushing only against each other, they attempted to handle their own problems between themselves.

In the past each house has been guilty of violating rush week rules, including spiking violations.

This year, however, the balance was thrown way out of proportion as the Sammies, admittedly tried for the clean sweep.

Thus, the ZBT protest to the IFC had a touch of "sour grapes." They had been cleanly out-manuevered in a game each house had been playing for years.

But the protest also was a justifiable complaint against the Sammies for taking the sport out of the game and forcing the IFC, inevitably, to impose more stringent regulations upon rushing.

As it now stands, the entire campus knows the Sammies spiked more than their share of boys illegally. They do have a pledge class of 21.

The issue is neither heads nor tails. It's dead gray. Neither house is free of condemnation.

The important point to evolve from the hassle is that the IFC cannot fail to see that spiking, which has been going on for years, is slowly getting out of hand.—B. B.

rushing went, the general tone on the campus seemed to be "so what." Too many people have closed their eyes to open violations by saying, "Well, everyone does it."

This is not healthy and only a silly person would really believe it, but there are seemingly many very silly people living up and down two of our streets.

The IFC recognizes the existing problems, and it plans to revamp its entire program for Rush Week. There are still two essential elements which must come out in everybody's mind if this new program, no matter how ingenious it is, is to work.

First, the IFC must assert itself. It must take the initiative in the future and grapple with the issues. There is no excuse for a governing body such as the IFC, especially when it is dealing with what is admitted to be a "touchy" problem, to sit back. The new set of rules will have to have the necessary strength to lend themselves to enforcement. The IFC should be a real governing body for all fraternities. It should be able to handle its own difficult situations. Heretofore, this has been overlooked, sometimes on purpose, sometimes accidentally.

Secondly, and for the later to succeed this must be dominant, the general tone among all Greeks must change. There can be none of this closing of one's eyes to infractions of rules. There must be complete and unanimous support by campus or our best attempts will come to naught.—D. F.

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS

by Dick Bibler



"ONE NICE THING ABOUT THIS COURSE—YOU ONLY HAVE ONE TEXT TO BUY."

Charles Lomon

French-Moroccan Strife Reviewed

A prominent national magazine recently published a series of photos showing a Moroccan being shot in the back by a French Legionnaire. No pictures were available, however, of the mutilated bodies of French civilians carved up in bloody Moroccan demonstrations this month.

The unpleasant truth is that in this age of ultimate weapons and collective security treaties man in many climes still assumes that the solution to an immediate problem is the insertion of a knife beneath the fourth rib of his personal enemy.

Strangely enough, the United States is responsible for the recent Moroccan disturbances. At the Casablanca Conference of 1943 President Roosevelt is reported to have encouraged the Sultan of Morocco to throw out the French regime.

Whether Roosevelt actually said it or not, the Moroccans think he did which is the same thing. Naturally, the French government is overjoyed at the prospect of losing the rich (since irrigation) wheat and olive lands along the southern shore of the Mediterranean.

Because they feel any steps toward native self-government are only preliminaries to independence, the French have been reluctant to grant any reforms from the semi-feudalistic governmental conditions existing under the hereditary Sultan of Morocco.

Nationalistic aspirations have "moderate" supporters among both French officials and native leaders, but extremist agitators have drenched the area in a blood bath as exhausting to France as it is distasteful to most Arab leaders. In 1952 the Istiqlal (Independence) Party decided to take the question of greater self-government for Morocco and Tunisia to the United Nations Security Council.

France refused to discuss the matter, so nationalist agitators kindled riots in Casablanca on Dec. 7 to emphasize their demands. Sixty-four French and 160 Arabs became casualties in the blood-letting.

A month later U. S. Delegate Henry Cabot Lodge arose in the Security Council to vote on whether or not to discuss the North African question and informed the world that, "I have been instructed to abstain."

Anxious to be inoffensive to NATO allies, the USA, it seemed, could only twiddle its diplomatic thumbs. A violin might have been more appropriate in the Security Council chamber—the flames of nationalism were being fanned.

Three years of bloodshed and slow negotiation followed, and on June 3, 1955, talks in Tunisia were finally closed with the ratification of a self-government convention. Former Premier Mendes-France promised this status to Morocco also, but colonial administrators maintained that Morocco was less well developed than Tunisia (which is true) and thus not prepared for greater self-government (which is not necessarily true).

During the three intervening years, instead of granting major reforms, Paris sent a battalion of French marines, Senegalese units from Indo-China, three squadrons

of the riot-cracking Garde Mobile of the Parisian Police, Foreign Legion reinforcements and small arms to the French colonists.

Sultan Ben Youssef embarrassed the regime with pro-nationalist statements and was deposed by the French. His elderly successor, Moulay Arafat, has been maligned and shot at for being a French puppet.

Though previously "uninspiring" as a ruler, Ben Youssef's exile on Madagascar became the focal point for Istiqlal agitation, and his return to the throne has been demanded.

On August 20, 1955, thousands of Berber tribesmen descended from Atlas mountain strongholds to rape and murder on the streets of the colonial town of Oued Zem.

Following the Berber lead, knives flashed all over Morocco. Ninety-two French and 1000 Arabs perished at Oued Zem—thousands more died throughout the protectorate.

This terror shocked the Paris government, made cautious if not lethargic by domestic politics, into adopting a compromise plan calling for the removal of Sultan Arafat and the setting up of a regency council pending the return of Ben Youssef.

A full general, Georges Catroux, was sent to persuade Ben Youssef to return (unique bargaining position!) to Morocco. Oddly enough, the man who was responsible for the proposal was sacrificed to politics in the process. Resident-General Gilbert Grandval was too moderate for French colonialists—he was fired.

Reasons for the awkwardness of the French position are legion, but inaction is not monopolized by Paris. Anxious to preserve the security of the U. S. air bases at Sidi Slimane, Marrakech and Nouasseur, Washington has shunned taking any position in this game of international politics.

What the state department appears to forget is that the writings of Jefferson and the Wilsonian statements on self-determination prompt nationalistic aspirations.

It is difficult to believe that the laissez-faire policy which the U. S. has followed has done anything except contribute to the discord.

To say that the U. S. has had nothing to do with the native protest against French colonialism is naive; we are committed by tradition and ideology. To abstain because "It's not our affair" is a national disgrace.

Lowell Vestal

Independent Stand Given



Another fall has rolled around and a new Nebraskan staff is ready to inform you, entertain you, perhaps bore you but most important to stimulate your thinking.

The purpose of this column will be to present the viewpoint of the independent student in the issues that arise throughout the semester. However, other topics will be included from time to time.

Representing the independent is a difficult job. There are many kinds of them. Some students are independent because of necessity, others by choice. Some are interested in activities, others are content to attend classes, earn a diploma and leave the campus without once associating themselves with the student organization.

As the name of this column implies, the independent students constitute a minority of University students. However, as a group they have no official spokesman or central organization. They are not an "interested group" in that any one interest can be found in all of them.

There are some general ideas that most independents would like to see advanced. To these this column is dedicated. If this column tends to represent the independents who live in organized houses and are interested in activities, it is because those are the ones with whom the writer has the most contact and in whom he has the most interest.

With this in mind let us look at the independent on the University campus. Of one thing we can be sure: his numbers are growing. Notwithstanding an increase of enrollment this year, fraternity pledge classes are smaller. Pledging is far from ended, but early indications point to a lessened interest in fraternal living. Why? There are several reasons. Let us explore a few.

In the last decade, colleges and universities across the nation have pushed forward long-delayed plans to provide student housing operated by the parent institution. The University has been no exception.

Beginning around 1946-7, the first men's residence halls were built, accommodating fewer than 250 men. In 1954 the capacity was increased to more than 900 men. This year has seen a small increase in accommodations. Plans now call for an addition to the women's residence halls to increase their capacity.

These statements explain a physical reason for the growth of independents. There is more housing close to the campus which is available without the necessity of joining any organization.

Another reason is linked to the fact that more young men and women are attending college than ever before. In 1930 about 12 per cent of all high school graduates went on to school. Now the figure is near 30 per cent who further their education. Obviously, many families are represented on the campus who were not a generation ago. Sons and daughters of parents who did not attend college are less likely to join social fraternities and sororities than students who can approach the campus as legacies or whose parents at least have told their offspring about Greek-letter societies.

A third attraction to the independent ranks is related to the increase of residence halls housing. The increasing number of independents in organized houses has allowed those houses to offer attractions found before only in the Greek system.

The same decade which has seen a nationwide growth in independent housing has also witnessed equal or greater progress by residence halls government, both by students and administration.

Years ago residence halls were called dormitories and were just what the name denotes—a place to sleep. Not so today. Now the modern living unit provides social and activities programs which compare favorably with any Greek organization.

This factor has led many a potential pledge to remain independent.

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