

Editorial Comment:

Council 'Dead Day' Idea Is Reasonable Request

Faculty-student controversy over final exam schedules is not an issue new to the editorial pages of the Daily Nebraskan.

The whole thing was touched off in May of 1955 when the Faculty Senate approved a one week exam schedule. Student protests were long and loud, however, and the Senate delayed the institution of their action.

During the delay, the Student Council conducted a poll of University students which showed them to be 4 1/2 to 1 in favor of an exam schedule running two weeks.

Nevertheless, the Faculty Senate switched the calendar to the present eight day exam period during the 1956-57 school year.

The object of the eight day schedule is to give instructors time to grade papers and prepare for second semester courses.

The Student Council has been trying for some time to find a way to get the students some extra time to review for exams. Their latest, and we think best, idea is to delay the start of exams for one day. This would create a sort of "dead day" without any exams or campus events of any kind to interrupt studies.

To this the Calendar Committee objects on the grounds that:

1. The faculty would not have time to finish the past semester's business before preparing for the coming semester.

2. It is doubtful whether or not one extra day of study would make any difference to students.

3. It would delay the administration in sending out grades.

None of these appear to be really solid reasons for denying the Student Council recommendation for a "dead day" because:

1. The faculty would still retain four days without any tests. Some of the preparation for the next semester could undoubtedly be transferred to the "dead day" and such a day would be an ideal time to catch up on faculty work not completed at the end of regularly scheduled classes. Furthermore, as the Council suggested, secretaries would have more time to mimeograph tests.

2. It is certain that an extra day of study would make a difference with students. The claim is that students have Saturday and Sunday to get ready for tests. But many classes had finals on Saturday this semester. Also, a majority of the people contacted by the Daily Nebraskan on this subject reported that they had many of their tests crammed into the first three or four days of finals. Totals of five finals in four days and four finals in three days were not uncommon. An extra day of study for such people, if used conscientiously, would undoubtedly give them time to be better prepared.

3. The administration would be delayed only one day in sending out grades. If the grade turns out better, because the student had an extra day to prepare for his test, it is hardly conceivable that the student would complain about the delay. And one day extra isn't going to inconvenience the registrars office now that they save so much time with alphabetical registration.

4. "Dead days" and even "dead weeks" before finals are not uncommon on other campuses. Kansas State allows its students an entire week before finals and according to the Kansas State Collegian, the week is a great success.

Some sample quotes from the Collegian include this one by a junior speech major: "Even though you study consistently, there's a lot to review at the end. At our house girls are isolating themselves in the dining room, in the laundry, or in a corner of a stairway. Everybody is working hard."

Another campus that uses the "dead day" is Harvard. Somehow, neither the faculty nor the administration are terribly inconvenienced by such days on these campuses. But for some reason, our University has shed increasingly away from inconvenience—for University personnel.

More Sidewalks

Sometimes institutional logic can be just a little strange.

Take for instance the signs the men from buildings and grounds keep putting up on the grass around campus. These little green and white tags urge students to "Please use the walks." They are usually planted in the middle of a favorite shortcut, notably to Swede's and the Temple.

Now there is nothing wrong with trying to maintain well manicured lawns. The people at buildings and grounds have been most successful in doing this and there is no doubt that their success has added much to the campus.

But the shortest distance between two points is still a straight line. And students, being human beings, follow the trail blazing instincts of their pioneer forefathers by trying to get where they want to go by the shortest route possible.

So why not put the sidewalks there? It is true that curving walkways and shadowed bowers make for a lovely campus. At the same time, there is no use trying to fight something that can't be licked. Someone must have thought of that when the sidewalks on the mall between the library and the Coliseum were laid. They are functional enough. Why not continue to combine function with beauty all over the campus?

From the Slot

There's a bill going through the legislative mill now which could give a much needed shot of adrenalin to one phase of Nebraska education. LB425 would require that special instruction, facilities and special adaptive classrooms be provided for mentally gifted students. Under the proposed law, every school district would provide educational opportunities for gifted children, whether by providing tuition to attend a neighboring district, or providing the facilities itself.



Diana

As it stands, the bill may be a little extreme. Many Nebraska schools already have some sort of program for the gifted. Many are linked with the University and other state colleges. Others, however, have neither the money, facilities, teachers or students to conduct elaborate programs for gifted students. No large, sweeping state program can be put into effect in a school where only one gifted student is enrolled.

However, LB425, as proposed by senators Stanley Portsche of Lincoln, Norman Otto of Kearney and Fern Orme of Lincoln, is definitely a step in the right direction. The gifted child, as a Chicago elementary school teacher pointed out, "is an ace coaster." When classes move slowly, the gifted student is more than likely to develop sluffing techniques that would put a GI goldbricker to shame.

On the other hand, Dr. Marshall Hiskey, head of the educational psychology clinic on campus, assured me that many research studies have shown the tremendous gains that can be taken by gifted students given the proper stimulus. He also struck out at the traditional argument against special education for gifted

students, which is that "segregating them" will somehow do "irreparable damage" to both the gifted and the average student.

The issue is not, however, whether to segregate these students. It's whether to give them an educational "break" by challenging their minds while they are at their most impressionistic peak—in the elementary and high schools. And, in most cases what would be involved is pulling these kids into special classes for an hour or two a day, or letting them take extra courses above and beyond the minimum for less capable students.

This sort of thing is already being practiced in schools in Lincoln, Omaha, Ainsworth, Kearney, Lexington, etc., etc., etc. As a start, this is great. What is needed now is an overall awareness of the importance of educating the gifted child by awakening him to the excitement of knowledge. This is hard to do when he is able to excel in a class of average students. Unless somehow, he is forced, at least part of the time to compete with others of similar capabilities as himself, it seems like a tremendous temptation for the gifted student to become that ace coaster.

Another point worth considering is the "average" or "slow" student. It has been said that this student needs the "leadership" of the gifted student. Research in this area has shown that these students frequently develop their own leadership qualities, and actually strive harder when not faced with the impossibility of competing with an especially talented student on his own terms.

Three cheers then for LB 425. It serves to focus attention on this vital area of education.

Diana Maxwell

Daily Nebraskan

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the Briar Patch

One Saturday night last semester I had the privilege of attending a jam session by a group of corn-picking Iowa boys who concentrate on guitars and drums.

They called themselves the Hi-Phis, a pseudo Greek name, but their music is far from Grecian.

In fact their melodic output that night was so intriguing I was forced to postpone my beauty rest for a full hour so that I could be amongst the equally excited spectators.

Therefore, I was most pleased to learn that said group of musical wizards would be in the vicinity of our beloved campus this Friday night.

And to all those who appreciate fine rhythm plus flavored song and dance I recommend your attendance at the Turnpike Friday.

Crazy, man!

No More Draft

Not that I'm a coward or a Communist as certain regimented personnel have suggested, but I am advocating the abolishing of the draft, that awesome law which terrifies the I-A populus of my class.

It seems that said bill is coming up for reapproval in our beloved Congress sometime this summer.

Might I suggest to all those seniors and other interested parties that they write their Congressman in

the near future and earnestly request the axing of the current conscription law.

After all we have that well known assemblage of zealous soldiers known as the ROTC to protect us in case of sudden invasion.

And we have 18,887 atom bombs, numerous other lethal weapons, and a whole corps of intelligentsia housed in a five cornered building in Washington to augment the Pershing Rifle people.

Besides, most people drafted today would be doing their country a much greater service by selling shoes or collecting bottles from roadside ditches instead of polishing M-1 bolts.

Touchy Subject

I must be polite now for we are dealing with a touchy subject.

Therefore may I courteously suggest that the campus police could perhaps supplement their rigorous duties of ticket taping and minor-beer-buyers-gathering by directing the maze of 8 a.m. traffic which daily congregates at 14th and S, etc.

This drastic revolution of the campus protection league would certainly improve dispositions of both students and professors.

It would also prevent many late to class situations.

And it would help lower the University's fatality record, an item rising faster than the NU budget.

Photo Play

by John West

In 1941, and at the tender age of 26, Orson Welles produced, directed, partially wrote and starred in Citizen Kane.

Charles Foster Kane, the subject of the film (although hardly the hero) was a newspaperman, but certainly not an ordinary one as he owned and operated about 20 papers across the country. As a molder of public opinion, and as a colorful character, Kane was great. At the same time he was ruthless, lustful and dangerously impulsive.

Kane obviously was Welles' takeoff on journalistic tycoon William Randolph Hearst. In fact, the film so closely portrayed certain of the Hearst activities (political aspirations, romantic adventures), that he ordered his entire string of papers to refuse to take advertising on the picture — which to most of the world was an open admission of guilt.

Supporting Welles in this American classic are Joseph Cotton and that fine actor, Everett Sloane. Citizen Kane was recently selected one of the 10 best features of all time from any country by a panel on international film

critics. The Union shows it Sunday.

Cooper Foundations offerings for the coming weekend are more than interesting. A re-showing of George Stevens' production of A Place In The Sun, starring Elizabeth Taylor and Montgomery Clift, is slated for the Lincoln and the Stuart will present Clifton Webb's latest, The Remarkable Mr. Penny-packer. The latter represents the hilarious situation in which a Pennsylvania businessman is the father of 17 children, mothered by two different women, to whom he is married at the same time. The complications are a scream.

THE WORLDWIDE MENTAL HEALTH MOVEMENT IN COLLEGES
A Group Discussion Led by DR. WILLIAM BRILL
Head Psychiatrist, NU
Sun., Feb. 8, 6:30 P.M.
2811 So. 46th
FREE SUPPER — Transportation from Main Lobby of Union, 6 P.M.
ALSO — Luncheon Group Every Friday Noon, Parlor B - Student Union
Sponsored by UNITARIAN STUDENT GROUP

Lending Library Opening Delayed

The Union pictures lending library opening will be delayed one week. The new opening is scheduled for Feb. 12-13, from 9-12 a.m. and 1-5 p.m. in the Union Lounge.

KOOL ANSWER
ARES PSI RESTORED MISOGYNY SNELL TL EEL SMOKE ELM DIFFERENT TEAM VIA SUET CIGARETTE FEE ICE SIB WAC BAH DICTA ACID LOVELORN FRAU STURGEON TEND OSE EDDA

Switch from Hots to Snow Fresh Filter KOOL

Attention Lovers of Fine Music. The Instrumental Group Known as: The Hi-Phis WILL APPEAR AT THE TURNPIKE BALLROOM FRIDAY, FEB. 6 9-12 P.M.
If music be the Food of Love, play on Hi-Phi's. Bill Shakespeare, Stratford Rag. \$2.00 per couple Tickets at Door

HELP! Yes - We Need Help! We have part time student jobs open 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday
These Hours Are Specific If you have these times open Apply Room 104—Main Office Student Union, 14th & R.—Mr. Bennett

KOOL CROSSWORD No. 13
ACROSS: 1. Greek god, 2. Fraternal follower of Chi, 3. Not the same as rattopped, 4. Woman-hater's affliction, 5. Wolf's on the loose, 6. Trade Last (abbr.), 7. Slippery customer, 8. Willie says, "Cool", 9. Big tree of Big 2, 10. See how wonderfully Koola are, 11. A he and a she, 12. By way of, 13. Tee makes sue lat, 14. Cool-America's most refreshing, 15. Proud of it to turn, 16. Willie's milieu, 17. Kind of thing, 18. Six specialists in defense, 19. Phony, 20. Pronouncements from the doct, 21. What happens of a faultline, 22. Caviar containers, 23. It starts tenderly, 24. Lechrymose sading, 25. An old, old story, 26. Oh, to be Latin, 27. Girly garment sounds dishes, 28. Curious way to get loose from a ditch, 29. Entrapped, 30. Love story meant sound the work, 31. Used the eye approach, 32. It's evil to do it backward, 33. How an begins, 34. What gal BA's go on to become, 35. French egg, 36. On which that said Mom, 37. Bracketed without rock, 38. And so on, 39. Onu-type necking, 40. Guy who makes time with a gal you can't get it backward, 41. This is to be kind, 42. A Waller, 43. Any guy whose name you don't know, 44. Southern fellow, 45. This is soft when done, 46. This hoopy is off the bottom, 47. How their emts travel, 48. A little ground, 49. Kind of ran, 50. Switch from tenderly, 51. She's mostly cheer, 52. Stepped on, 53. Girl from Annapolis, 54. She's nothing on a date, 55. Pre.
DOWN: 1. Shape holders, 2. Pull up a pony
SWITCH FROM HOTS TO Snow Fresh FILTER KOOL FILTER KOOL Cigarettes
As cool and clean as a breath of fresh air. Finest leaf tobacco... mild refreshing menthol—and the world's most thoroughly tested filter! With every puff your mouth feels clean, your throat refreshed! America's Most Refreshing Cigarette