

Editorial Comment:

Forced ROTC--Costly, But Benefits Are Few

Too Much Waste

Ed Cassidy, president of the Student Against Compulsory ROTC (SAC-ROTC) at the University of Arizona, has compiled some interesting figures on the taxpayers' cost of the basic military science program.

The figures, he says were obtained from the military science departments at the University of Arizona and Arizona State University.

Reprinted here is a portion of his article:

"The present compulsory program is wasteful and inefficient. . . Approximately 2,000 students are enrolled in the two-year program. The cost to the student is 180 hours. The cost to the taxpayer is \$1,200 to \$1,600 per cadet. This program last year elected only 53 cadets from the Army and 24 from the Air Force to go on to advanced training.

"Simple arithmetic will show that, using the minimal \$1,200 figure as the cost for one cadet for the two-year basic course, the taxpayers' cost for 154 men who were deemed worthy to receive further training at the U. of A. amounts to \$2,400,000. Moreover, the college program does not complete the training for these few. All who receive commissions must go on to other training courses."

Students Snort; Selleck Snow Shoveling Slow

It is encouraging to note that the Student Council parking board is going to look into a situation that has had a number of students scratching their heads lately in wonder and some disgust.

That is the fact that with the many recent snowfalls, faculty lots have been the first to be shoveled clear, with the student lots hardly noticed.

Students may be on the average a little more hardy than their professor contemporaries, but getting stuck every day in a parking stall quickly winds the best.

Students like to believe that they're just a little bit important, even if it only means scooping a little snow out of the way.

From the Editor's Desk:

It Seems to Me . . .

By Carroll Kraus

Sniff, honk, cough; sniff, honk, cough. Oh, excuse me, but I have quite a cold and can't quite—sniff—get rid of it.

My nose—honk—is red as an alcoholic's and my handkerchief supply has dwindled down to the blue and white monogrammed type.

But Student Health has been very kind to me and I now am the proud possessor of two small bottles of multi-colored medicinal tablets.

The trouble is, though, I'm always taking ex post facto-type pills instead of the preventative type.

It makes me feel like a 180-pound weakling.

The Kingston Trio was even more par excellence Wednesday night in their concert at Pershing than they were a year ago.

They've revised a lot of their material, and of necessity the song concerned with the riots in Africa.

Probably 95 per cent of the audience was sorry to see them leave and so on, it seemed.

It was interesting to note at the beginning of the show when Corn Cobs made an apology for Johnny Mathis' not appearing, there was nothing but applause for the substitute performers.

Perhaps Mathis' cancellation was a blessing in disguise for the Cobs. I, for one, would like to give them credit for weathering the storm and coming through with a group whose performance won't be forgotten for quite a while.

Pet peeve (one of many): The Union record rooms on the west end of first floor are chock full of listening goodies.

Only incomplete figures could be obtained from the University military science department. The annual budget for the Army department was estimated to be \$75,000. Salaries would be about 7,000 additional.

Not included are the University contribution, uniforms, the expense of providing weapons (in many cases used or outdated), and physical plant expenses. The \$75,000 dollar figure does include the monthly payments to advanced cadets and travel expense to summer camp.

No speculation is made on the accuracy or comparability of the Arizona figures.

The point is evident that the basic ROTC course is costly.

Little Value

Mr. Cassidy says the purpose of the organization he heads is not to eliminate or weaken the ROTC, but to make it more efficient and purposeful.

"We feel it (ROTC) is useless for those who do not become officers," he states.

He continues on this point:

"Those who have been forced to enroll in the basic course and do not go into advanced ROTC receive no benefits from the course. The uselessness of the basic ROTC program is attested by the refusal of the Army itself to give credit upon enlistment for these two years of ROTC.

"If the Armed Forces do not recognize the value of basic ROTC, then why should we?"

"Even those who admit the wastefulness of the basic course sometimes attempt to justify it as a course in military history, 'citizenship' and 'science.' Yet the scientific emphasis is so slight as to be unworthy of mention.

"Does citizenship consist of shining one's shoes and paring one's fingernails, or does it consist of learning to analyze objectively current political controversies?"

"The first duty of a soldier is to obey. The first duty of a student is to think, to question, to analyze for himself . . ."

The SAC-ROTC is circulating petitions to be presented to the Arizona Board of Regents to place ROTC on a voluntary basis.



On Campuses . . . n' Things

By Diana Maxwell

Once upon a turn-table there spun a story of Hungry I's or-i or something of the like.

The lead in the trio was a booming voice whose tones offended the ears of the second member of the trio, who was monotonous one refrain, "I won't, I won't, I won't let you either." The third singer was sort of a chorus of discreet chucklers chuckling at the noise of the other two.

And if I were a Greek I'd probably chuckle, too.

What the lead in the trio is trying to do has been termed by some forgotten scribe as attempting to "organize the unorganizable, and manage the unmanageable," i.e., introduce into Selleck some semblance of being more than a nicely furnished barracks.

The monotonous have roared back with all the righteous indignation of any good representatives of the nothingness cult. Large I's flash from their windows as symbols of their sterling powers of holdout-ism. Well, yeah group.

RAM President Eason's comments may not rank as the most tactful statement of objectives ever made, but what HELP is shooting for needs to be done!

Perhaps the statement that the "I's" (those non-affiliated students who nevertheless would like a more active participation in campus affairs) are a "frustrated group of would be fraternity men" should be stricken from the record.

What is being lost in all the squabble is a simple idea which many non-affiliated students seem to neglect. That idea is that participating in the life of the campus is not an all one-way sort of thing—like if you are a fraternity man you join at least one organization, have parties, meet girls, etc; and if you

are not a fraternity man, then you do not participate in any other campus organization; the Student union is off-limits to you; you do not organize parties and you do not meet girls.

The quad men who are being called I's have every right in the world to refuse to follow what they consider to be the "Rah, rah" college line. But what about the others?

It seems to me that they deserve to be offered something more than merely a place to eat and sleep and which will organize their intramurals for them.

The HELP plan, as explained to the public, would utilize only two of the houses within the Quadrangle as experimental units to "unite the Independents" with interest, ambition and energy and give them a chance to show what they can do."

This really does not sound as though it would in any way encroach upon the privacy of those who do not want to be "united" in any way, shape or manner.

Love Memorial Hall on Ag campus seems to me to be an indisputable proof that this sort of thing can work. It does not challenge the sorority system, it simply gives Ag girls who do not wish or cannot afford to be sorority members a friendly, homelike atmosphere in which to attend college. It does not force independents to live there—they apply for the privilege.

It also gives them an opportunity to develop some leadership, something which certainly is not overly apparent in the activities of most Quad residents.

The tiny handful within RAM each year which attempts to do something with the Quad surely cannot have tapped all the leadership potential which must be lurking behind some of those picture windows.

Conservative Estimate

By John Hoerner

A group of what appeared to be highly intelligent men with a knack for asking questions that demanded straight answers appeared on the University campus this week.

These members of the North Central association of colleges and secondary schools, here on a routine check, chose to spend Tuesday noon having lunch with the Student Council in an effort to get student opinion on the University.

There is nothing quite as stimulating to self-analysis as to have an outsider ask direct questions on different facets of the University. One question which caused sort of an uncomfortable, I've just started to itch, look at our table was, "How are foreign students treated here?"

Hardly a day passes without hearing someone repeat the old statement "There are more important things you learn at college than just getting grades and studying." This person as we all know is referring to the exchange of ideas, development in getting along with others, and other valuable benefits derived from projects, organizations, activities, parties, dating and all the other extra-

curricular activities which occupy the spare time of the American College student.

It is entirely possible that through neglect, false pride, or just plain ignorance that we are denying to the foreign students at this university a phase of education which we ourselves seem to value so highly.

Cosmopolitan Club was organized to combat this situation but it is now not in what you would call a position to carry out its position to carry out its

The answer, I think, lies not in a club only but in the attitudes of each student toward our foreign guests.

The United States spends millions each year for foreign aid. The good we could do right here at Nebraska with little effort and at no expense to ourselves would be immeasurable in terms of dollars.

As somebody must have said, "One unselfish act is worth a thousand bushels of wheat!"

That darn question bothered me. Can you answer it?

Webster's New World Dictionary defines foreign first as "situated outside one's own country, province, locality, etc." A little later on in the definition however one notices a different meaning, "not belonging."

Could it be that some students have their definitions a little mixed up?

By George!

By George Moyer

As the song goes, "This is our once a year day." Today this column will be devoted to various and sundry complaints that we have wanted us to print all year.

First, from all the law students comes a request for more papers in the Rag distribution box. Come on Youngdahl, there are only 123 of us as it is.

B. J. Holcomb requests that noisy seniors revert to being quiet sophomores while in the law library.

A nice, well-modulated discussion or two is all right, she says, but let's knock off the yelling.

(Note—oh please note up-erclassmen—This is a request complaint and does not necessarily reflect the views of the author who is in enough trouble what with refereeing the basketball games.)

From John Heeckt, who got so carried away last week that he didn't have room to put this in his column, comes a plea for cleaner sidewalks east of the Phi Psi house and north of the Theta house.

Sam Grimminger adds that whoever you are, bring those furslugginer snow shovels back.

From the Kingston Trio we have a complaint directed at Frontier Airlines. The boys like to fly, but spending 5 hours in the air between Kansas City and little ole Lincoln is too much at a dose.

This isn't really a complaint, just a personal observation. Jack Nielsen notes that the first issue to arouse most Selleck residents from their miasma of apathy since he has been in school is a fight to keep that apathy. A point well taken. I wonder if the "i's" ever considered what the natural consequence of apathy is?

And I mean apathy anywhere — government, studies, business, activities, community service, y o u name it.

But never mind, fellows. Just pull the nice warm blanket over your heads and fall asleep. What's the motto on that blanket? Why, it says "I just sleep, eat and study here."

Hope you wake up in the same world you went to sleep in.

Letterip

The Daily Nebraskan will publish only those letters which are signed. Letters attacking individuals must carry the author's name. Others may use initials or a pen name. Letters should not exceed 100 words. When letters exceed this limit the Nebraskan reserves the right to edit down them, retaining the writer's views.

Thought Involved

To the Editor: The editorial comment on Feb. 23 concerning Religious Emphasis Week certainly reflects a justified interest in the traditional programs of the University.

It would have been better, however, had the editor checked with his staff concerning the full context of the interview or consulted the persons directly involved. In the event that such action might not have been possible, the present writer offers the following comments.

The Council on Religion's decision to cancel this year's R. E. Week was not made without considerable thought. The first step, taken early in the fall, was to investigate its raison d'etre, a policy which the present writer would recommend to every organization on campus.

Having unanimously decided that the week did fulfill a purpose, the Council suggested that the program would have a more enduring success if a speaker of national renown was involved. This would entail a year of preparation, and the Council voted that this year be utilized for that purpose.

Many other problems were involved, but the preceding illustrates the primary reasons for the Council's actions.

Apart from the Council on Religion, the editor might be interested in knowing that approximately 13 religious bodies on the University campus are carrying on a continual program of religious emphasis. Furthermore, many of these denominations feel that faith, if it has any reality, is not a matter of emphasis but the very center of life itself.

Many of the Christian groups next week will be beginning intensive programs for the Lenten season, and the Nebraskan's support in giving attention to such programs in its news columns would undoubtedly be appreciated by the religious organizations. Jack K. King



CAMPUS WORSHIP SERVICES
DISCIPLES STUDENT FELLOWSHIP (CHRISTIAN CHURCHES)
1227 E Street
Keith D. Stephenson, minister
10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Coffee and Discussion
5:00 p.m. Supper
6:00 p.m. Worship and Program
LUTHERAN STUDENT CHAPEL (NATIONAL LUTHERAN COUNCIL)
525 North 15th Street
Alvin K. Peterson, pastor
9:15 a.m. Student Church Council with Bible Study
1st and 3rd Sundays
L.E.A. Cabinet with Bible Study
(2nd and 4th Sundays)
10:45 a.m. Morning Worship
Lutheran Student Association
SACRAMENT THOMAS AQUINAS CHURCH (CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER)
1112 G Street
C. J. Keenan, pastor
R. F. Shady, J. R. Myers, associates
Sunday Masses at 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
Confessions on Saturday: 4:30-5:30 p.m. and 7:00-8:30 p.m.
UNITED CAMPUS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (PRESBYTERIAN, CONGREGATIONAL, E.U.B., E & R)
222 No. 14th Street
Rex Kowicz, minister
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. Supper
6:00 p.m. Vespers
6:30 p.m. Forum
UNIVERSITY EPISCOPAL CHAPEL
15th and E Streets
Gilbert M. Armstrong, Chaplain
9:00 a.m. Holy Communion
9:30 p.m. Evening Prayer
11:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
6:00 p.m. Catechism
UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHAPEL (MISSOURI SYNOUD)
15th and E Streets
Alvin J. Nordert, pastor
9:30 a.m. Bible Class
10:45 a.m. Morning Worship (520 N. 14th)
10:30 a.m. Coffee hour and Bible Study (Wesley House)
5:00 p.m. Supper (Wesley House)
6:00 p.m. Forum (Student Union)
7:00 p.m. Vespers (Wesley House)
UNIVERSITY METHODIST CHAPEL (WESLEY FOUNDATION)
W. B. Guld and J. B. White, ministers
8:00 a.m. Holy Communion (Wesley House, 1417 E)
9:30 a.m. Morning Worship (520 N. 14th)
10:30 a.m. Coffee hour and Bible Study (Wesley House)
5:00 p.m. Supper (Wesley House)
6:00 p.m. Forum (Student Union)
7:00 p.m. Vespers (Wesley House)

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