

WHY SUSPENSION?

University Issues Statement

In an effort to clarify the questions posed in the Campus Forum column today and others, the University Administration—from the Chancellor's office on down to the Division of Student Affairs—has compiled an answer.

The policy statement gives seven reasons why the University feels that the sub-rosa organizations are a malignancy that must be removed and why suspension is automatic once a student has been identified as a member.

Many people, especially those who are outside the University community,

have a difficult time rationalizing the actions of the Administration in suspending students for membership in a certain organization which the University has outlawed. It is difficult to understand unless you are close to the problem of sub-rosas; and people, including students, will continue to condemn these actions because they do not understand. As Dean Ross has said, this is a job of educating and explaining to these people who attempt to oppose the University in this regard. It is hoped that this statement will help.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT CONCERNING SUB-ROSAS

Any group or society which refuses to stand the light of inquiry and denies permission for responsible evaluation of its purposes and actions is not compatible with the academic mission and will not be sanctioned by the University of Nebraska.

The University in its efforts to eliminate this malignancy has experienced behavior and actions of these groups in the following areas:

1. Creation of suspicion among students and faculty.
2. Division of student groups precipitating the loss of student leadership.
3. Acts of dishonesty.
4. Acts of vandalism.
5. Unlawful consumption of alcoholic beverages.
6. Failure to assume responsibility for acts or statements.
7. Libelous Acts.

The opposition of the University to such groups is based upon their violation of the fundamental American concept of democracy and their incompatibility with the methods the University employs in its search for truth and knowledge and in its efforts to support the maximum development of personal integrity and responsibility in its students.

The guarantees which the American system extends to its people are based on the belief that the individual is endowed with certain rights, including the right to inquire and know. This concept is violated by any group or society which seeks to hide its leadership, its identity, and its purposes and which also refuses to accept responsibility for its actions.

In the long pursuit of learning certain basic principles have won acceptance by virtue of the beneficial results they have helped to produce. Among these is the principle of free and responsible inquiry. The right to investigate the unknown, to study it, and to evaluate it in the impartial light of truth is one which the academic community insists upon preserving. Indeed, the very symbol of higher education is a lamp to light the way.

The permanent elimination of these groups depends upon the full cooperation and active support of students, faculty, alumni, and friends of the University.



Writer Questions: 'What's Wrong With Sub-Rosas?'

To the Editor:

I wish that someone would explain what is so bad about these "sub-rosa" organizations. All that I can learn from the Daily Nebraskan is that students shouldn't belong to them because that would be against the rules and they might get caught. Nowhere have I found an explanation of why such membership is against the rules, or why the penalty for getting caught is so extreme.

Granted, these organizations are downright silly in concept, and in practice they sometimes sponsor minor property damage. The same can be said for many legal organizations. But don't we all have a right to be silly at times? And should minor property damage be punishment able by

suspension and a permanent blot on the record? If the punishment is to fit the crime, then it should be shown that a crime is extreme before punishment is applied. We are all aware that the really extreme crime, in an intellectual community, of academic dishonesty brings hardly any punishment at all by our administration.

I have been at this University a number of years, and have heard these organizations bitterly denounced not only by the student newspaper, but also by some of my

close and trusted colleagues. But I could never find out why. What have I overlooked?

Sincerely yours,
A Professor

★ ★ ★ Confusion, Doubt Over Sub-Rosas

To the Editor:

I have been observing over a period of time, through your Daily Nebraskan articles, a campus faction very nearly gone mad over what appears to me, nothing.

I am not, as a rule, very interested in these events; but this one has me highly interested. It has an aspect of "much ado

I would like to know why these people are being suspended, how they are doing wrong and by whose interpretation?

Just what is the (sub-rosa) problem?

Sincerely yours,
James K. Taylor, Jr.

About Letters

The Daily Nebraskan invites readers to use it for expression of opinion on current topics regardless of viewpoint. Letters must be signed, contain a verifiable address, and be free of libelous material. Pen names may be included and will be released upon written request.

Severity and legibility increase the chance of publication. Lengthy letters may be edited or omitted. Absolutely none will be returned.

WILLIAM TELLS

by Robert I. Williams

The October issue of Esquire contains a provocative article on football by John Keats entitled "Kickoff . . . and Kickback." In the article, Mr. Keats thoroughly airs the deplorable state of football. He not only discusses college ball, but also high school, junior high, and grade school ball. Although many articles have been written on the subject, this one comes the closest to exacting the blame for the situation. Mr. Keats puts most of the burden on the schools themselves. I'm inclined to agree, but I also feel that it goes a little deeper than this.

The blame should go to our society itself. The school officials are merely instruments. They have to present the public with what it wants. The probable key to the whole situation is organization and formalization. What used to be a game is now a business for public spectacle. We're heard these complaints in everything from little league baseball to college basketball, but football requires our first attention because it is the biggest.

We are all familiar with all the shady deals. There is no need to reiterate these. The general situation can be summed up

in the term students use to describe the football player—"the animals."

We are all aware of the problem. Now, what can be done, or is something already being done? The first step is to put the fun back into football. Teams should have good equipment and coaches, but as amateurs they should play for fun. Professionals play for loot. This means the end of athletic scholarships and all other niceties. No matter how one may try to talk around it, an athletic scholarship is payment for playing ball. How many of today's college football players would play for fun?

Some authors have come out in favor of abolishing inter-school contests. I say nyet. In its proper perspective, nothing can build school pride and spirit like athletic contests between schools. A fine step in this direction is the College Athletic Conference consisting of Centre College, Southwestern of Memphis, Washington and Lee University, University of the South (Sewanee), and Washington University of St. Louis. None of these schools pay their athletes, yet each produces teams which play good ball. Most important of all, the students are proud of them.

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Daily Nebraskan
 SEVENTY-SECOND YEAR OF PUBLICATION
 Telephone 432-7631 ext. 4225, 4226, 4227
 Member Associated Collegiate Press, International Press Representative, National Advertising Service, Incorporated.
 Published at: Room 51, Student Union, Lincoln 8, Nebraska.
 14th & R
 Entered as second class matter, postage paid, at the post office at Lincoln, Nebraska.
 The Daily Nebraskan is published Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday during the school year, except during vacations and some holidays, and once during August, by the University of Nebraska under the authorization of the Committee on Student Affairs as an expression

From Other Campuses And Things

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — The student body president and the presidents of five student organizations at Michigan State University have been placed on academic probation for violating their school's speaker policy.

The six students violated the university's policy by sponsoring three speakers from the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee without prior approval from the University Speaker Screening Committee.

(Michigan State recently adopted a new policy under which no speaker may advocate any illegal action, and all speakers must be approved by a screening committee of five students and five faculty members.)

Michigan State student government President Robert Howard refused to sit on the committee in protest against the "pre-censoring" body. He is an ex-officio member of the committee.

The Campus Club Conference, which Howard formed with the presidents of the local campus chapters of the Young Democrats, Young Socialists, NAACP, the United Nations Club and the Humanist Society, violated the regulations.

The six students were placed on disciplinary probation of at least 90 days by the Committee of Student Affairs. During that time they may not participate in student activities.

The committee also reprimanded the five organizations and said any further violation of the regulations would result in the loss of their charters.

Howard has refused to resign his post officially although he has not functioned as president since he was placed on probation. The Speaker of the Student Congress, James Barnes, has assumed the duties of the presidency.

The Humanist Club announced they would sponsor tonight, without prior approval, a speaker from Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State — the second violation of the speaker policy by that organization.

A petition in support of Howard has about 1,600 signatures (Michigan State University has an enrollment of 26,000) and demonstrations have been held to support him.



Take It Easy... But Take It

Ha, Ha, Ha, Bill Jennings. You got beat, whomped is the word, by your own boys.

One must remember that all of the Husker squad with the exception of Jim Baffico and the student manager were recruited by Jennings. What did he do with them? Three wins, six losses and one tie. I heard him on the radio in an interview before Saturday's game and he said, "There isn't much difference in the squad. The only new players this year are sophomores Kent McCloughan, and transfers Baffico and Theisen. It's basically the same squad as last year."

After the game he was quoted as saying, "Oh well, it was just one of those days. They just beat us." Isn't it great to hear him say that in the Kansas dressing room instead of ours?

But, you were wrong again in your estimation of people, Bill. From what I could perceive from covering the team last year and talking to the players, etc. Jennings treated the players like machines. He was good to them but never really realized that they were people who occasionally needed a pep talk or a slap on the back, or maybe even, (heaven forbid!) a joke! Jennings is a fine

man and a good recruiter but he never did understand the nature of the players. Anyway, he left Devaney a group of players that had gone 3-6-1 and who were used to hearing "Oh well, another one of those games, they just beat us."

What did Rapid Robert do? He brought with him assistants who promulgated his philosophy that the purpose of football is to win; it takes a lot of hard work to be successful; and, it can be fun. This philosophy permeated spring practice.

When the players reported for the grueling fall camp, he greeted each of them with a handshake and an inquiry as to their family, summer job, etc. He actually treated them as people!

In short, Devaney does realize that football players are a bunch of young men who are willing to try hard to win. He treated them as men, and correspondingly, gave them a man's job to do — WIN. They've done it.

So, in a way it was the same squad as last year. The same men, a few position changes, they were going to play in the same stadium that the Huskers lost 31-0 two years ago. But was it the same squad?

40-16. That's the difference. On the plane going down on Friday were the coaches, players, all the equipment, a few officials, and a desire and determination to win. Would they win? Nobody knew. But they were going to give it a hell, that they were all

sure of. They hadn't heard, "Oh well, it was just one of those days" after the Missouri game, they didn't think that way.

Kansas Coach Jack Mitchell said in a post-game radio interview that he didn't understand what happened, that the game was a complete mystery to him. He said that Nebraska didn't do it, but that something had happened to Kansas and he didn't know what.

Jack, I suggest that what happened is that your team just got beat! It's as simple as that. Don't feel bad, Jack, they were beat by a better team. Whether it was man power (which you denied) or just desire (which it must be if it isn't manpower, Jack) that made it so open to conjecture, but Nebraska was the best team. They wanted to win more than your players, is that such a mystery.

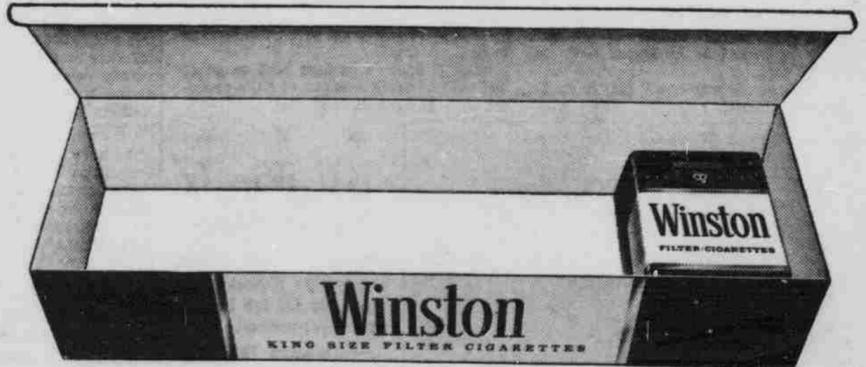
An example of what I mean by the Husker's desire and hustle, Co-Captain Dwain Carlson, told me after the game, "The score would have been 50-0 if we hadn't have stopped for half time, we had so much momentum going. Nobody could have stopped us."

Whether Oklahoma State and Oklahoma will be able to stop them remains to be seen, but Kansas couldn't Saturday and I really don't see the mystery in it.

One thing for sure, though, Nebraska will "slug it out" in the next two games. Again, I appeal to the students to give them all the support, they do need it and deserve it.

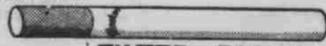
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