

# Ferguson... 'Head in Clouds... Feet on Ground'

By KAREN GUNLICKS  
Nebraskan Staff Writer

Outstanding Nebraskan Don Ferguson feels that a student leader is a person "with his head in the clouds and his feet on the ground."

He said that a leader must have ideas aimed at idealistic goals which are for the



FUNNY YOU SHOULD MENTION IT—Don Ferguson, chosen the student Outstanding Nebraskan for the first semester, is amazed that his admirer "just happened" to select one of his columns for the point of interest in the picture. Ferguson, a past editor of the Daily Nebraskan, has taken part in many activities connected with journalism. (Photo by Doug McCartney)

KNUS To Offer  
'Studying' Music

KNUS Radio Station will broadcast during finals. The programs will feature music to study by. Long play albums will be played straight through with one minute breaks between recordings.

The broadcasts will begin Monday from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Program nights include January 21-25 and the following Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights, Jan. 27-29.

This is the first time in several years that the campus radio station has broadcast during finals.

Disc jockeys will be made up from the members of Speech 175.

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good of the majority and not personal, and then he must know how to accomplish them.

One must know how to lead people without being dictatorial, and go with the group and not necessarily follow it, Ferguson observed.

Ability, willingness and humility are also important characteristics of a leader who knows where he's going, he said, and added "Leadership is an opportunity for service."

**Political Decision**

Ferguson has served in Builders, Young Democrats and Young Republicans, ("because I was politically independent when I came to school"), Inter-Fraternity Council, and the Daily Nebraskan during his four years of college.

"Five year Ferg" has exercised his influence through the personal relationships which he has built up among various other leaders on campus.

His acquaintance with many of the organizations on campus has been a relationship of discussion. "If I have an opinion, I'm going to tell somebody," he emphasized as he took his elbows off the desk. "This is a community-type obligation, and we must assume the role of a city of 100,000 people," he remarked.

The education-journalism major helped reorganize the structure of the IFC which gave the organization's members the opportunity to pick the candidates they wanted for the higher offices. While attending the National Inter-Fraternity Convention, he and his associates started an expansion program for the Greek system by interesting Chi Phi and Triangle fraternities to colonize on this campus.

**Morrison Booster**

Committing himself to the Democrats, "Ferg" helped in Morrison's campaign for the senate and governor. He was appointed student coordinator of the Young Democrats National Committee and was also appointed to the Student

Youth Committee for the Kennedy Campaign.

Supplementing his campus activities, Ferguson is active in his house, Phi Gamma Delta. Among his various positions are house president, alumni and public relations committee, building program and editor of the Newsletter.

Ferg became editor of the Daily Nebraskan after serving as business manager. He initiated a policy on the Nebraskan to educate the students on what the various activities on campus are and what they do. He feels that the major organizations on campus, and especially the governing bodies, have a tremendous effect on what the students do. Also, he stated, when an organization knows that anything it does will be published, the members and leaders of the organization will consider the power they really have.

The former editor believes the paper should be basically campus-oriented. "There is no reason why it can't bring the students' activities and administration closer together by interpreting and informing."

"The potential of a campus is unlimited," he stated. It depends on how it is used since there are so many different areas of influence, he added. "It can, through its influence, defeat or make an issue by directing the students' thinking," he pointed out.

The Outstanding Nebraskan believes that the Student Council is now involved in a changing concept of trying not only to carry on the regular administrative duties, such as decisions on Honors Day Program, parking, etc., but also of studying and voicing student opinions on public issues. "What it does is give students the opportunity to speak out and let the people in power positions (legislature, etc.) know what they think." We have an obligation to let these people know, and student government is a good vehicle for doing this."

Ferguson is now student teaching modern problems and assisting in journalism at University High School. "I am also a 'glorified assistant' to Dr. William Hall in the journalism department," he smiled. He is handling the Journalism national convention arrangements and recruitment of journalism students.

Ferg feels that the Greek system is one of the finest contributions to the individual, school and state. "The changing fraternity idea has become an active part in continuing education. Universities are getting more educationally oriented — there is no time to waste on 'Mickey Mouse' pledge training — while stressing scholarship and citizenship," he said.

**Unified Challenge**

"We can't have 24 individual islands, instead we need a unified program. This is a challenge."

Ferg modestly asserted,

"Anything I have accomplished or any impression I've made had to be done with the help of some very fine people." He praised faculty members, administration, students and especially his parents, who gave him incentive, by having confidence in him and helping him. "You can't neglect someone's devotion," he said as he added, "A whole lot of people lead together, one person doesn't lead singly."

The whole attitude of being in college is getting an education — not only academically on which point he admitted that he had not personally emphasized as much as he would have liked to but also in learning to get along with and work with people. "College crams a little of everything that will eventually happen to one throughout his life into four years. Too many kids come to college just to be here — not to get a full education, he said."

Ferguson has applied at New York University for his graduate work. He expressed his desire to be a teacher or administrator in a college community.

Nebraska... A Challenge

He said that he wants to accept the challenge of working in Nebraska. "Nebraska has a strangeness no other state has. It is not the cause of its problems, but of its people. Since Nebraska is not heavily populated, there is more opportunity for the individual."

Ferg has looked into the possibilities of Nebraska's future and feels it has potential. "I don't know why people who are a part of an institution or state don't take the time to find out what it really is," he said sadly.

Although his roommates call him a "damned idealist", he feels that when "I think of what is best, I must set high goals." However, it is hard to bridge realism and idealism. These are the major motivating factors for what I've done," the Outstanding Nebraskan concluded.

## Nebraskan Applauds

Prof. Rudolph M. Sandstedt, who will direct research under a 1963 grant to the University from Corn Industries Research Foundation, Inc.

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