

NU FRATERNITIES:

Get Good Grades

Recently fraternity presidents at Iowa State met to act on a proposed scholastic sanctions bill. It was reported in an editorial as a rather bold and daring plan to improve fraternity scholarship. Strangely enough, it was presented by a candidate for the IFC presidency there.

The plan called for fraternities to keep their averages above a 2.350 on a four point scale. The IOWA STATE DAILY proposed a long range goal to prompt the fraternities into keeping their averages above the All Men's Average there, which is currently 2.413.

The IOWA STATE DAILY complimented the author of the plan and the IFC there for this, a bold answer to the scholastic problem. This is the first step for Iowa State fraternities, the IOWA STATE DAILY said, but the second will have the most lasting and publically accepted effect.

It is reassuring for fraternities here to take note that their average is 5.410 edging over the All Men's at 5.163. Iowa State's 2.350 on a four point scale would be 5.287 on the University's nine point scale.

A note for NU fraternities, while improvement is still very possible: they have conducted themselves academically (1) on campus, evidently better than other men and (2) off campus, evidently better than at least fraternities at one other University and probably better than many other systems.

A 5.410 All Fraternity average certainly speaks well for NU's fraternities today when average and above average grades are increasingly difficult to attain.

View From The Right

By Dick Recker

Dear Mr. Link:

In reply to your letter in last Friday's paper I wrote that column and take full responsibility for it.

Mr. Link makes a series of assertions with which I shall take issue with. He then tells me in effect to crawl out from under my rock and reveal myself.

In his letter Mr. Link says "The facts are easily ascertainable . . . Truman fired MacArthur because he flagrantly disobeyed orders from his superior."

The fact is, Mr. Link, that Truman never fired MacArthur. True popular mythology has recorded this act as such but it is not so.

Truman relieved him of his command and there is quite a bit of difference. Had Gen. MacArthur disobeyed a direct order of his commander-in-chief he should have been court marshalled. MacArthur did not face the same fate as Billy Mitchell before him because there were not grounds for court marshalling him.

What Truman did was issue a policy directive to the Far Eastern Command saying that all public statements had to be cleared with Washington.

A second fact stated by Mr. Link is thusly "Most responsible historians agree that Truman's decision was right and MacArthur's was wrong." Mr. Link you have statements which are both pretentious and wrong.

It is my contention that many contemporary historians are not being responsible. This is what I meant by my "gross distortions" of history statements.

To give substance to my charge let me illustrate with this example. There is a textbook called THE NATIONAL EXPERIENCE. It is a very popular one at least here at NU. In this text Mr. Arthur Schlesinger Jr. gives his version of history. By the way, Mr. Link, if you want an example of hero worship try reading the AGE OF ROOSEVELT.

On page 750 we find these words "For the moment the President contented himself with a reaffirmation of his earlier directive requiring clearance of all public statements. Then on April 5, Congressman Joseph Martin of Mass., the Republican leader in the House, read a new letter challenging Administration policy. On April 11, Truman relieved MacArthur of his command."

This is an interesting paragraph chiefly for what it omits. This says in effect (1) Truman told MacArthur to make no policy statements. (2) MacArthur

thought Martin publicly disobeyed the directive. Conclusion: Truman had no choice but to get rid of MacArthur.

Now for the facts of the case. MacArthur did send a letter to Martin in which MacArthur affirmed his belief of the wisdom of using Free China troops.

The letter was not meant as a public statement it was meant as background material for a big man on Capitol Hill. This is a common custom. It is no more evil than the then Sen. Lodge meeting with Ike as SHAPE boss to plot the overthrow of a Democratic Administration in the next election. As for Mr. Link's statement that Truman was right and MacArthur was wrong, this paper could not give enough space in a week to present the facts in the case for a person to make a clear judgement.

It is only possible to discuss MacArthur's proposals in the realm of conjecture. The results of Truman's policies can be seen. For months and months afterward our troops were bled white in a struggle they were forbidden to win. Only Ike's prestige as a military hero could hide the humiliating defeat we had suffered by the time of the signing of the Armistice.

Red China was now able to mock the U.S. as a paper tiger to the rest of the Far East. The Red Chinese by having a foreign war were able to divert their people were able to consolidate their rule.

With the passing of years Red China has built herself as a power. Now she is entering the victorious phase of her conquest of Southeast Asia. America with her insane policies is preparing to throw away a land of 240 million people. Southeast Asia is the richest area on earth in natural resources and everyone from deGaulle to Sukarno admits Red China will get it.

So in closing, Mr. Link, I, too, prefer fact to emotion. So will you please present facts and not emotional tirades against me.

"A SUPERSONIC THRILLER" - TIME

Peter Sellers • George C. Scott
Stanley Kubrick's
Dr. Strangelove
Or: How I Learned To Stop Worrying
And Love The Bomb
VARSAITY
13TH AND P

Firetruck:

Change To Ranking,
Not Grouping, Needed

By Arnie Garson

On March 15, 1960, The DAILY NEBRASKAN carried banner headlines to the effect that the system of computing grades on a comparative house basis had been changed from a rank listing to the now familiar group listing.

The following day, the NEBRASKAN editorially hailed the move as a step in the right direction. But it was also pointed out that the new plan was not the best possible and many valid objections were raised.

Now, more than four years later, the plan has become an institution. The objections have gone unanswered and apparently no one has objected to the system enough to stimulate any action.

One of major objections was that a group rating system discouraged interhouse competition. Yes, I agree. Rumors are that this year the sororities ranked in the following order: Pi Beta Phi, Chi Omega, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Gamma Phi Beta, Kappa Alpha Theta. But according to the administration rating system, these houses are all in the same group and therefore equal. Taken only as a case in point, these houses could enjoy spirited, healthy academic competition if their grade averages were published according to rank.

The same thing holds true for fraternities and other living units. For fraternities, the distinction is important for rushing purposes. Last semester, 15 fraternities ranked in Group IV. Now any one of these fraternities—or all of them—may have been below the all male average or the all fraternity average. Their exact position in relation to these two means should be a matter of public record, not speculation as is now the case.

Another valid objection to the system, but not quite as important as the first, is that discouraging competition may deemphasize academics.

Independents would also benefit from a return to the

ranking system. The individual houses and floors which were so anxious to have their grades computed as a separate living unit would have a much greater basis for comparison if the grades were ranked, not grouped.

Some of the arguments in favor of the grouping system do, however, have some degree of merit. Groupings may give a better picture of house standings since there is only a difference of half a grade point between the top and bottom house in a group. Yet, I submit that that half a point is a significant one.

The March 16, 1960, NEBRASKAN listed the fact that a slight rise or decline in grades under the new system probably would keep a residence in the same group as a credit to the grouping system. It seems to me that for competitive purposes, the slight rise or decline is significant.

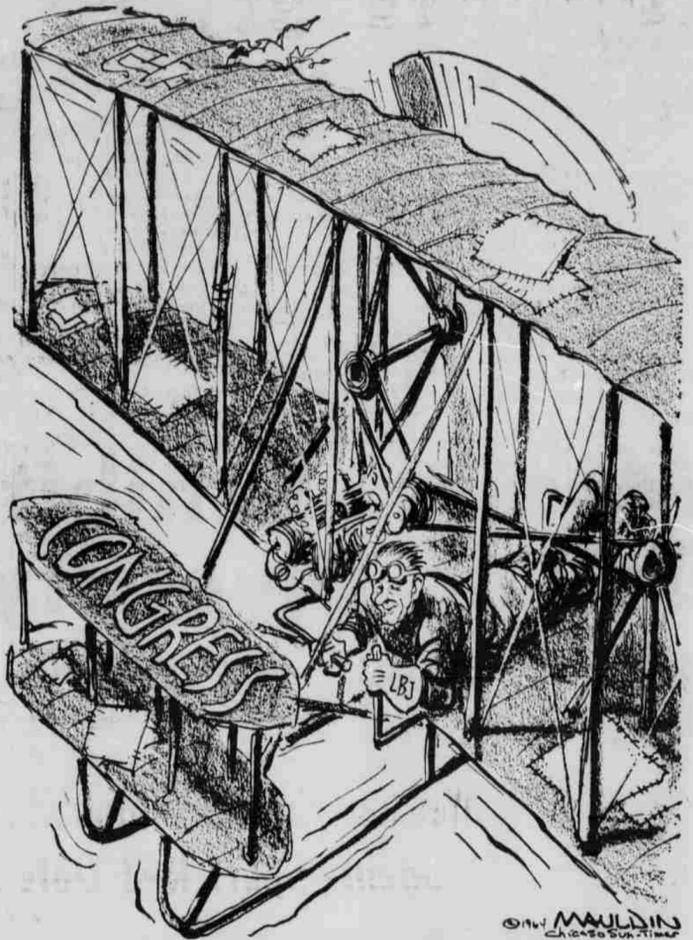
J. P. Colbert, former dean of Student Affairs, noted in 1960 that if listed numerically, a house might be ranked 11th or 12th and actually be only 3 or 4 grade point from the top average.

If this is the case, I think that it is perfectly obvious to any half way intelligent human being. A ranked listing with grade averages, reveals exactly how far a house is from the top, mean and bottom. The rumor and speculation which can be so vicious is removed.

Colbert also noted that for the eight semesters prior to spring, 1960, the same houses usually remained in the top group from semester to semester. This, I feel, is all the more reason to rank houses numerically—to distinguish them, not group them.

One possible answer to the dilemma would be a narrower grouping system. This was proposed as a possible improvement on the system when it was begun. Groupings of .25 grade points rather than the current .5 grade points might satisfy both factions.

Certainly a revision of some sort is in order.



"THE TRICK IS TO COORDINATE THE CONTROLS."

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CAMPUS OPINION

Turk Week, Why Not?

Dear Editor:
I was just the other day skipping moodily off to Interpersonal Relations 205, and letting my oxford splash around in the mud and all, and worrying about all that feuding and all down in Cyprus and all, and all that heartless shooting of folks down there among the everglades and all the sun (what I never did figure out was why all those Greeks and those folks from Turkey ever decided to settle themselves down right there all together like that in Florida anyway if they don't get along in brotherly spirit and besides most of the immi-

grants that I've met seem to be settled right here in the midwest which I think is just fine and I don't see why they wanted to go to Florida in the first place and especially not both of them right together there in the Gardens and all) and anyway I was wondering why this University doesn't have a Turk Week too because I think that would be fairer since nobody seems to be persecuting anybody since after all they're just fighting with each other shooting and all not making speeches and riding buses and voting and so I think this University should
(Con't on page 3)

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