

## Bright Spots

With winter settling in bones and bark and plastic coated car seats, a walk or ride to class can seem very bleak—especially if one is concentrating on all the tests and papers due before vacation.

A bright spot in the cold weather season is already visible on campus. Sploches of scotch plaid, and tattered check are now a part of some men's wardrobe.

We're delighted to see the bright colors in an otherwise gray, leafless, cold-brick-building-look of our University campus.

And the cold, brisk, winter air is invigorating. It takes fewer minutes to walk—even to the 501 Building or Nebraska Hall.

## For Full Stadium

The athletic department's decision that no identification cards will be needed for the Oklahoma game is a welcome announcement.

THOSE STUDENTS who might have hesitated in turning over their ID card with their ticket for the entire Thanksgiving vacation will not have to worry. The ticket can be sold or given away without worry about the possibility of losing an ID card.

Emphasis in the official statement was given to the fact that the "no ID card waiver" is a one-game affair—"because of the unusual circumstances involved with this game." Many students will go home for the Thanksgiving vacation and will not be in Memorial Stadium.

THE THREAT of a spotted stadium of people on national television was enough to prompt the action.

The announcement endorses officially what probably would have happened in most cases—students will pass their tickets on to another person.

CONSIDERATION WAS GIVEN to collecting all the students' tickets by the ticket office who were not planning to attend and reselling them to other would-be ticket purchasers. This procedure would have involved too much bookwork and confusion. It is much simpler to make it officially legitimate to pass a student ticket on to another fan—without identification and fear of penalty. The move was a wise one.

Re-scheduling of vacation because of the Thanksgiving Day game has brought some discussion—especially from out-state and out-of-state students, who must travel hundreds or even thousands of miles to get to their homes for the four day vacation.

WE CAN UNDERSTAND these students' complaint. They would prefer to have vacation begin on Wednesday so that they can arrive home in time for turkey and all the trimmings. We can also understand that some of the students would rather spend the time with their families, especially when they can watch the Huskers on television from an easy chair.

But, the majority of the students, we believe, will be in Memorial Stadium Nov. 25. Or if they are not, some fan will be. The "no identification requirement" guarantees that the stadium will be filled—and that's the way it should be.

MARILYN HOEGEMEYER

## CAMPUS OPINION

## Democracy Stood Poor Test

Dear Editor:

Some of my good American friends have been asking my view on the recent political development in Rhodesia, and I think this is the proper medium to convey the called-for-point of view to many who want it.

To many of us the word democracy is an ideal word; it stands for a system of government with people elected by the people to rule the country. It is a system introduced into Africa by the Europeans who went there for "destructive exploitation." Indeed, they introduced it after sabotaging the personality of the continent, calling it the Dark Continent to prevent further scrambling for Africa by other countries outside Europe.

Democratically, the British succeeded in Nigeria, Ghana and in other West African countries. The French failed in Guinea and Algeria. The Belgians left the Congo undemocratic and in chaos, the Portuguese have done nothing to democratize their territories in Africa, and the Spanish too who were the first to believe in wealth in gold and in decimating their territories in Africa, and the Spanish too who were the first Indians to attain their goal are now on equal economic footing with the people of the territories they are ruling.

The British did a poor job in South Africa and the present political crisis in Rhodesia foreshadows another great failure when the British principles of democracy and practices are put to test.

The European colonialism has done much damage to Africa. The present political event in Rhodesia has given many Africans something to think about the great cloak worn by those who verbalize about democracy but fall short of its practices.

Various sources are blamed for the present crisis. Many people blame the physical geography of Rhodesia, the open nature of the country and its mineralization, which attracted the Europeans, some blame the Rhodesians for giving the early Englishmen in Rhodesia land to settle on. Some blame the Rhodesians themselves for not demonstrating to the world that the democratic government is no longer working.

Some blame England who allowed "her Sons" to leave her warm temperate west coast marine climate to settle and exploit Rhodesia. And some even blame the UN for the way the Rhodesian issue is handled since the political interests of some nations in the United Nations are going to conflict with their economic interests in Rhodesia. Some even blame democracy and say communism can work where democracy has done its worst.

The French abstained in the UN from voting "on the grounds that the issue was not international dispute but primarily British"—a sure indication of the failure of the British Parliamentary

## War: A Nurse's View

Bien Hoa—The scene of recent battles in Viet Nam is also the location of a make-shift hospital where a group of nurses attempt to keep pace bandaging the injured men, and boosting the morale of the soldiers and themselves.

A registered nurse from Nebraska arrived in Bien Hoa Oct. 31. Her sister, a junior at the University, provided copies of her letters home—letters which give snapshots of her personal experiences in the middle of the battle area.

The first letter describes the boat trip to Viet Nam.

The Editor—

Nov. 2

Dear Mom, Dad and Bets:

Well Folks, we have arrived . . . We have met loads of interesting people . . .

We have "muster" about 8 a.m., breakfast at 8:15 a.m., play bridge and then lunch at 12:30 . . . play more bridge, supper at 5:30 p.m. then play bridge, see a movie or play bingo. Really very little variety . . . A week would have been real nice but this is a little too long.

The poor, poor EM's (enlisted men)—they live in conditions something comparable to the slaves in the fallows. There are about 1,500 of them—we hit a storm the second day out and I mean to tell you it was bad. We are on the top of the ship with lots of windows and decks but the EM's are on the bottom so have no portholes and you can imagine the odor with at least half of them sick plus being very warm with no air at all. I was so mad I just sat and cried for them . . .

We arrived at 2300 hours on Oct. 31. No one was expecting us—they didn't even realize we were here until they woke up and saw this strange ship . . . We found that two troop ships were to arrive today with priority over us so would be unloaded first. At the moment we expect to be unloaded Nov. 4. We are surrounded by about 20 battle, troop and freight ships—looks just like something out of a movie. When the MP's from shore came on board they brought guards for us. It seems several months ago a Viet Cong frogman swam under a ship in Saigon, put dynamite in a porthole and sank it. So—these guards look for bubbles and if they see any they throw grenades.

Then there are little "junks" all around — the Viet Cong have a habit of getting next to the ship and throwing grenades in the portholes so every now and then we hear the rat-at-tat of a machine gun pointed at these "junks" to make them keep their distance. Fun, Fun.

The word is now that we disembark on Thursday . . . fly to Bien Hoa and set up our hospital there—it is about 15 miles from Saigon. I'm glad we're getting out of here because they expect heavy fighting here in the next 10-15 days.—Mercy.

My spirits are still up and I am not scared—but I am miserable due to extreme heat—it's like our hottest summer day plus twice the humidity . . . Can't think of much else—I'm fine . . . will write often and hope you do likewise.

Nov. 7

## 'Rotten and Miserable'

Dear family:

Have been going to write for two days but for once in my life I am at a real loss for words. I hate to tell you how completely rotten and miserable—but I have never been able to keep it back before.

Keep one thing in mind—I have a very good attitude and don't really mind. The other kids are all so depressed and are really worse off because they are married and I must keep cheery to help them along.

We got off the Buckner into PT boats and went in to shore. All had helmets on and machine guns all around to protect us. You would think we were going to war or something. No one knew we were coming or where we were to go so 47 unprotected females in open trucks drive through Bien Hoa—these people are unbelievable to see and the way they live makes our slums look like resort areas.

So we went where the first division was . . . when the men realized we were American women, they almost

clipped their wigs . . . finally we went to our future home. It's difficult to describe. We drove to this little hill where one tent sat — the rest was rocks, grimy, gritty dirt and not sun. This is our home. They didn't expect us for three days so didn't have the tents — in fact, there are none to be had. We borrowed some tents from the Navy we set these up and it was supper time—had c rations—no one ate—then it was 6:30 and dark—no electricity—then had to go to the John—none—you go over the hill and your buddy holds up a jacket to shield you from a million prying eyes . . .

Nov. 8

## 'Like Miss America'

Dear Family:

Let me restate. No matter how much I gripe I'm fine—and coping better than most—just like to let off steam.

We arrived Thursday the 4th—Friday we got to take showers—down the road at some other unit—so off we went in a truck—you see this square thing surrounded by canvas. In you walk and you have an open air "heater" covered on all four sides but no top—15 or 20 girls strip and stand around washing hair, clothes and bodies in one happy group. Really, it's just too much. Only one really big problem—the helicopter pilots know we are here so 20 or 30 buzz around in a circle taking a real good look. So what can you do except laugh. On the way back the dust blows and it's very hot so you get back just as dirty but at least it's new dirt.

We have eaten twice in four days . . . All the units around are so nice and willing to give us anything they have . . . As you ride down the road in a truck feeling dirty, ugly and very uncomfortable, all the units along the side suddenly realize we are women—the cheers they give us make us feel like Miss America—they are so blamed happy to see us it really makes the whole thing worth it . . .

Last night was the best—we came back at 2000 hours because we heard mail was here and everyone was devouring the letters and all of a sudden the rain was here —Not like we think of rain but a darned flood! We have no floors and the tent was poorly put up so we all sat in the dark on our cots with three inches of water all around and all of our bags floating around in it. Then the wind blew and almost BLEW DOWN THE TENT—many holes in the tent we tried unsuccessfully to patch so we sat and giggled till we cried.

We woke up this AM and almost threw in the towel but you can't—so you just try to dry things out, slop around in the mud and continue coping.

Nov. 10

## Safe—For Now

Dear Family:

I imagine that by this time you have heard about the activity right out of Bien Hoa—Imagine you are out of your mind with worry—well, don't worry yet—we are still alive and OK. It was about 10 miles down the road. There were about 20 killed and 150 injured—eight of the girls went to third surgery to help out and said it was just ghastly.

Many came back crying—19 year-old boys without arms and legs. They couldn't pick lots of them up that were injured yesterday until this morning and one had a bad stomach wound with maggots crawling around. Don't know if I can cope with that. At any rate, for the moment we are safe but the entire area around is crawling with Viet Cong and we might as well all accept the fact that it is real dangerous . . .

## Hyde Park To Continue

Dear Editor:

I am writing in behalf of the Union Talks and Topics Committee concerning the editorial published last Friday (Nov. 12). To ease any doubts that you might have concerning the future of Hyde Park, may I stress that this open forum will continue to be held.

This coming Thursday (Nov. 18) Hyde Park will be held in the Main Lounge of the Union on a trial basis, to see whether or not the traffic congestion can be alleviated. Members of the Union Talks and Topics Committee will be "on duty" to see that interested passersby step into the lounge to listen to the speakers rather than stand in the hallway and block traffic.

As for the cancellation of Hyde Park last Thursday (Nov. 11), I take complete responsibility. After the Union Management notified me that Hyde Park would have to be moved because of hallway congestion, I made the decision on behalf of the committee to cancel Hyde Park rather than have it held in the Small Auditorium which was the only place available. I felt that the location would stifle the spontaneity of the forum and decided to cancel it for that week rather than have it be unsuccessful.

Hyde Park will continue every week, hopefully in the Lounge, and will hold true to its pledge to provide a platform for free speech on the University of Nebraska campus.

Liz Aitken  
Chairman of Union Talks and Topics Committee

## Directory Colorful

Dear Editor:

The new student directory has a colorful, reasonably-accurate cover. That is the only part.

Dirty Old Man

## Base-r

Contrary to popular belief, excuse us, knowledge, it was not especially easy for the Nebraska to get the exact text to the petition filed by Tassels. It surely couldn't be that the president of Student Senate is not sure of his position of leader of the "supreme governing body" of the University. Anyway, it is assumed that when the petition is brought before the Student Court all proceedings will be public. Is that right?

Andy Akpan

Nigeria



## CAMPUS OPINION

## Nebraskan Improved

Dear Editor:

I would like to reply to recent criticism of the Daily Nebraskan by saying that, overall, the Nebraskan is better this semester than it has been for at least two years.

In terms of newsworthiness, the Nebraskan has done a much better job this semester than in the past in covering straight news and in digging up interesting features. This would indicate that the news editor is doing a good job.

Contrary to the opinions of some, I believe that the writing in the Nebraskan this semester has, as a whole, been better than that of the past. There have been isolated instances of writing which has not been up to par, but this will happen on any newspaper.

The photography has been much better than in the past; the make-up has been comparable to that of the Nebraskan of the past two years.

Despite the progress of the Nebraskan this semester, however, there is room for improvement and I am sure the staff members recognize that fact.

But I think that most NU students don't recognize the good job that the Nebraskan staff is doing. Therefore, I would like to congratulate

you and your staff and say that I do appreciate what you are doing.

My qualifications for judging your performance: I have been a reporter for the past three years for the Omaha World-Herald, member of the Omaha Press Club, the National Press Photographers Association and Sigma Delta Chi, journalism honorary.

Hal Foster

Journalism Major

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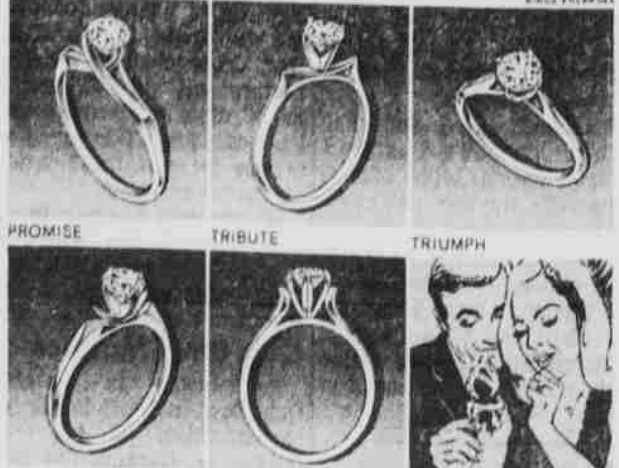
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