

Jo Stohlman, editor

Mike Kirkman, business manager

Opinions and Meaning

If you've been reading the letters to the editor column lately (we like to go on the assumption that you have) you will recall that a good deal of space has been given to persons who have opinions on U.S. policy in Viet Nam, U.S. policy in general, and SDS.

The letters column, we feel, is a good place for persons such as these to express their opinions. Usually ideas expressed have little tendency to change opinions, while often they reinforce opinions already held.

These writers usually face two problems—writing for an audience who doesn't know a great deal about the facts surrounding the situation (such as Viet Nam) and expressing their opinion by words which have meaning.

The Daily Nebraskan, in an effort to determine how much students do know about one current (when isn't it) issue, interviewed 250 students about Viet Nam. The results weren't surprising. A great many did not know some of the keynote facts about the Viet Nam war situation.

Expressing opinions to these people is bound to have little effect. And we can't necessarily blame those who don't know, for not knowing. It is hard to understand, evaluate and keep track of a war, though undeclared, which is thousands of miles away.

The second problem of an opinion writer is use of words which have meaning. Even when writing for an audience which understands the basic facts concerning a situation such as Viet Nam, it is difficult to speak in terms that carry the desired meaning to the audience.

It's fairly obvious how terms such as democracy, communism, socialism, left, right, liberal, conservative, radical, American policy, etc., have been bantered around so much that they mean next to nothing without a definition.

Another term fast entering this category is SDS. Goals may be explained, reasons for action expressed, but what it is, is still unclear.

"SDS" by itself, may soon, if it does not already, mean little.

FOX'S FACTS

By GALE POKORNY

Sociologists who have spent years doing research on the subject tell us that there are numerous ways of getting children to do what their elders think best for them. If, for example, Junior persists in tracking mud on the living room carpet every time it rains, there are several courses of action open to us for the cure.

Now, as any semi-intelligent five-year-old sociologist

can tell you, the last choice is of course the best one. If you want children to respond to your wishes, you must provide for some sort of reward.

This same theory can also be applied to the adult world and especially to the college crowd. Rewards and awards are the thing of the day. If father and mother wish to influence the lives of their college bound sons and daughters, what better way to bargain than over the keys of a Mustang or two.

One would be somewhat surprised to see what good grades, a couple of touchdowns or social recognition add up to in dollars and cents.

And so it is then, that along these same lines, I have finally decided to make known a previously unknown private award designed to promote more of the same type of action in its field.

Unknown to many of us, there exists on this campus a breed of individuals dedicated to making your business, their business. They may talk like the rest of us but there the similarity ends.

Twenty four hours a day, these people are on the look out for a chance to butt-in and offer all sorts of advice (most of it unwanted).

I've named this award in honor of my champion-heroine. That fat little woman who sticks her nose in dozens of places a day, Mrs. Olson. (She barely edged out Mary Worth who ran a very close second).

The Mrs. Olson award is given once a week, however, I am sure that given the proper information, the award could be given daily.

This week the award went to an extremely deserving young individual in my

Archery class. I was nearing completion of a highly entertaining hour spent shooting arrows (aimed at the target) into the floor, west wall, and ceiling.

I had just finished the hour by utilizing to the fullest, my clear right eye, iron nerves, steady arms, and cold precision ability to plant six perfectly good arrows into the wall several feet above and to the right of all five targets (thus leaving my perfect record intact) when this guy in my class walks up to me, looks at the arrows quivering in the brick wall, and at the bow that I am trying to break over my knee and says, "Hey don't cry, you just have to shoot a little better."

Last week, during the wind and rain storm, I was out walking to class when the wind caught my umbrella and turned it inside out. As I was standing there enjoying the cold water soaking me and running down my neck, fighting the wind and struggling with the umbrella, a guy walking down the sidewalk stops, looks at my useless umbrella, taps it with his finger and hollers over the noise of the wind, rain, and my cursing, "You shouldn't do that, it stretches the fabric."

Immediately, I awarded him the Mrs. O. Award, the umbrella and a knuckle sandwich just to even things out.

By now I think you know the type of person that I am talking about and I am sure you can start making your own awards, but don't be too bitter with them. After all they are doing our country a valuable service.

They make people glad to join the army just to get away from here.



Sorry About That!

Being a compendium of farce, humor and comment, selected arbitrarily by the Editor...

Historical Note of the Day: In 1350, Atlantic Ocean, Eric the Damp water-skiis from Skool, Norway to Point of No Return, Nebraska.

Thought for the Day: Only eight more days till freedom... er, vacation.

The cries of the students who protest administrative red tape are certainly not in the minority. The Daily Nebraskan staffers have been emitting a few cries lately... of an utterly anguished sort.

Whenever a reporter calls Chancellor Hardin or Vice Chancellor Joseph Soshnik to get information confirmed the reporter gets either a denial, or worse yet, gobbledegook of the most proficient sort.

This sort of run-around does not speak well for Hardin or Soshnik, or by virtue of them, University administration as a whole. It will only make us more determined to get the truth, to get the story.

But possibly they don't know, as they so often say. After all, they just work here...

Chivalry, I've happily found, is not completely dead. You know how crowded the Union parking lot gets. Well, the other day I found my car blocked... by a bus.

A sincere thank-you to the 10 boys

who lifted my car about a yard to get it out. Now if they'd moved that semi...

Remember that controversy last semester that Tassels had with ASUN over Homecoming Queen candidate selections? Tassels was a bit unhappy at ASUN usurping their power in the area, even went so far as to prove ASUN action was unconstitutional.

Won't be any problems next year, though. Tassels has requested that ASUN handle the candidates' selection next year.

The editor of the South Carolina paper, The Gamecock, recently wrote an editorial entitled, "Apathy, One More Time." He'll learn.

Goody, Goody Gum Drop! Enter two more queens on the NU scene.

The two latest will be a Miss University of Nebraska and a candidate for Miss NEBRASKALand.

Miss NEBRASKALand should be an interesting girl. She has to appear "in a costume representative of the girl's home vacation attraction."

Wonder how the University's candidate will find a costume representative of the Crib.

The girl also will be judged on an "extemporaneous two to three minute talk on the state's over-all vacation potential."

Good thing they limited the time of the talk.

If University officials cut Dr. Hoover's projected enrollment figures again, they may be Sorry About That!

CAMPUS OPINION

Propriety of Meters

Dear Editor,

I question the propriety or justice of the University's maintaining a metered parking lot in which to be eligible to park one must sport a University parking sticker. Why is it that one must pay ever-increasing tuition, books, and housing, be required to pay five dollars to label his car for the campus police, and still have to pay the standard nickel-an-hour meter rates to the City of Lincoln (or to the university, as the case may be)?

I parked my car in the metered lot in front of Selleck, and when my time ran out I got a ticket which cost me five dollars because I didn't have a sticker.

It seems to me that a metered lot should be open to use by the whole public, or else the meters should be removed and the lot open only to Area S stickered cars. To have to feed the meter and still have to have a sticker seems like double jeopardy of a sort.

Can someone explain, perhaps justify, the pertinent policies about this?

Jim Behlen

Contradictory Positions?

Dear Editor,

The United States believes that it should feed, clothe, heal and support the underprivileged people of the world as a means of fighting Communism. That is the significance of billions of dollars of foreign aid, of the Peace Corps, of AID, of Food for Peace, of the Alliance for Progress, of our support of the World Bank, the various development funds, and the United Nations' humanitarian programs.

That is the significance of CARE, of Dr. Tom Dooley's great sacrifice, of the innumerable efforts that America, as a government and as a people, has made to improve mankind's lot. Even more such efforts are badly needed.

But the hard reality, that hunger, want, and oppression are not going to disappear overnight at one wave of an American magic wand, remains. The job is going to take hard work and sacrifice and guts and above all time—decades of time.

But the Communist schedule for world domination doesn't give us that kind of time. It calls on capitalizing on misery now, before our efforts have an effect. And Communism is not soft-hearted about using force whenever it thinks it can get away with it.

That is why America must provide a shield against Communism, why America must respond while communism uses force. Behind the shield we must continue and intensify our efforts to end human suffering. But the shield must be there to give these efforts time to work.

The SDS demands that we remove that shield. It opposes our use of force to counter Communist force. But SDS admits that Communism is evil; and it admits that Communist use of force would be successful if we did not oppose it. So how does SDS justify its position? It has said, "We have no right to force our way of life on others."

But now we find that SDS thinks we should force our way of life on South Africa. Perhaps we should. But I say that these two positions are contradictory. If it is right to try to free the people of South Africa from economic and political domination, how can we be wrong to try to defend the world from the much more complete and ruthless domination of Communism?

Ray Wilson

A Challenge To Act

Dear Editor,

The continuing quest for truth is the strength of our society. In our democratic society the search for the truth is each individual's responsibility. Sadly, I must admit that many of us shirk this responsibility, and what is worse we ridicule and put to shame those few individuals who do.

Who is responsible for this injustice—society, nay, it is you and I. Because people think, look, or talk different than we do we tend to shun them. Its almost as if we said if you don't do everything just as I do I nor any of my friends will associate with you.

Why does this happen? Is it perhaps because we are too lazy to check the story, to find out the true facts in the case? Or is it because we are secretly distrustful of those who are different from us? Is it because they wear their hair a little longer, dress a little differently that we want and watch for something bad about them to believe, no matter how ridiculous?

I now make a challenge to you, all of you. I dare you to put aside physical appearances and superficial appearances and consider the facts. I dare you to get up at a public meeting and expound your own views. I dare you to go out and get your own facts. I dare you to break away from the crowd.

In short I dare you to act for yourself and become worthy of being a man.

Robert Vuhrmann

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STATE

"YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS IT!" —New Yorker Magazine

Advertisement for 'The Silencers' featuring Dean Martin as Matt Helm. Text includes 'MATT HELM SHOTS THE WORKS!', 'VARSAITY', 'COLUMBIADOLOR', 'DEAN MARTIN as MATT HELM', 'THE SILENCERS', and a list of cast members: STELLA STEVENS, DALIAH LAVI, VICTOR BUNDO, ARTHUR O'CONNELL, ROBERT WEBBER, JAMES GREGORY, ROGER C. CARMEL, BEVERLY ADAMS, and CYD CHARISSE.

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Advertisement for 'Attention! Seniors and Graduate Students' at The Nebraska Union. Text includes 'Excellent Opportunity For Valuable Management Experience', 'Full time Asst. Night Manager position available. Evening & weekend work.', and 'For Interview, Contact: Mr. Barnes, Ass't. Director, Nebraska Union, Administrative Office #111'.

Advertisement for 'A Perceptive and Absorbing Study of Young People' featuring the movie 'Leather Boys'. Text includes 'NEBRASKA NOW SHOWING', 'A PERCEPTIVE AND ABSORBING STUDY OF YOUNG PEOPLE', 'ONE OF THE BEST PICTURES I'VE SEEN THIS YEAR!', 'A PICTURE OF DISTINCTION!', 'FASCINATING!', and 'THE FRUSTRATIONS OF TODAY'S YOUTH'.

Selleck's Second Annual

April Foolishness Saturday April 2 7:30 Union Ballroom No Admission Fee