

# The Assembly

All year the Daily Nebraskan and student government leaders have been talking about a Student Bill of Rights.

The Nebraskan has made it clear since first semester that it feels such a statement from the students will make the University more conducive to individual fulfillment, give the campus a thinking atmosphere and the students a more responsible, adult role.

We feel that one of the greatest attributes in stressing such a proclamation is that it will cause the average student to think about his education.

Beginning Sunday every student on campus will have the chance to contribute and argue his own thoughts and ideas toward such a document.

This is the main student issue at the University this year. It's a broad issue which can include every general gripe or feeling that students have about the school.

Every student—who has ever felt that changes should be made to improve the educational environment at the University—should be vitally interested and concerned with the Student Bill of Rights question. Every student must try to take

part in the Assembly, which is open to everyone, and contribute his own thinking to what such a document should include.

According to a random poll taken by the Nebraskan Thursday afternoon, many of the official delegates to the Student Bill of Rights Assembly know little about the concept or the specific points of the original rough draft.

The Daily Nebraskan strongly urges these students to take their responsibility as living unit representatives seriously and to inform themselves on the issues.

If a student feels that part of the proposed rough draft of the Bill of Rights is wrong or should be changed, fine—but he must attend the meetings and make his ideas heard. In this way the final document can be supported by all the students.

The Student Bill of Rights Assembly must be a success. Students must take part in it and make their feelings known.

If a large percentage of the average student body fails to do this—then it will be true once and for all that Nebraskans just don't care.

## Dean Snyder

Helen Snyder, assistant dean of Student Affairs, said in Thursday's paper that the proposed Student Bill of Rights "could be effective" if several changes are made in the wording of the original document.

She further said that students could improve the Bill of Rights by establishing correct means of communication between students and administrators, and that the bill's goals would not be accomplished by simply stating opposition to existing University rules.

The Daily Nebraskan agrees that several changes need to be made in the wording of the original document. This is the purpose of the Bill of Rights Assembly which starts Sunday. However, in light of several other comments which Miss Snyder made, it appears obvious that she prefers drastic change in the meaning of the words in the Bill of Rights. In other words, she is against it.

Perhaps she is against it because she feels that students have not gone about securing their goals in the correct manner. It is necessary to point out the Bill of Rights did not pop up overnight.

It became an issue in last year's Student Senate election and sincere efforts to draw up a respectable presentation of the document and to work with the University administrators have been made ever since. The Student Conduct Committee not only interviewed officials to get the facts about existing policies, but they held a series of panel discussions with the entire Faculty Committee on Student Affairs in order to explain their position and negotiate in a reasonable manner for the desired changes.

Perhaps these discussions could have been continued but as was pointed out in this semester's first editorial, they did not appear to be accomplishing anything but frustration and delay.

## Visiting Hours

It would be a wonderful thing if any proposed reforms in our society were not necessary because so far we have been able to function without them.

In such a case the University would not have to worry about the budget, crowded classrooms or faculty evacuation. Students would not need to be concerned about building a stronger student government or securing passage of a Bill of Rights or working for curriculum changes. We have gotten along, somehow, without them.

The case in issue concerns the proposed recognition of informal visiting hours in University dormitories. Dean Ross, when interviewed by the Daily Nebraskan, commented that "coed visiting hours are obviously not necessary as we have been able to function without them."

It is difficult to believe that Dean Ross personally meant this in such a blatant sense, but unfortunately this type of thinking exists too much among University administrators.

It is obvious that many students feel that visiting hours are necessary. Arguments which soon will be presented to the Faculty Committee on Student Affairs by a special Abel Hall committee are well-founded.

They claim that students should be able to entertain members of the opposite sex in their rooms because the rooms are their homes. The statement is obvious, but the fact is that home-like conditions do not exist. It would be beneficial for students who live in a fast-paced community to relax in a semi-private atmosphere with their friends, at least one afternoon a week.

Furthermore, the students say that the atmosphere in room and floor lounges is too chaotic to permit concentrated study. Libraries provide only small consolation, for they are crowded and often noisy. Therefore, it seems reasonable to request

So students are now asking: If stating opposition to existing University rules will not bring about desired changes, what will?

Miss Snyder suggested that existing student bodies are capable of reflecting the students' opinions and securing changes. She states, for instance, that students already have a right to a voice in the areas of curriculum and selection of faculty and therefore the section securing the right to petition for such changes should be reworded.

A start has been made in that direction through the new Arts and Sciences Advisory Board. However, the Bill of Rights would give the students on this board, and those to be organized soon, more authority and power in their suggestions.

ASUN, likewise, does not enjoy the authority to actually govern the students and initiate significant changes. The Bill of Rights would clear up the ambiguous relationship between the Student Senate and the Administration.

Other points which Miss Snyder made indicate that she is not in agreement with the fundamental basis of the Bill of Rights. Students are asking for alterations in their relationship to the Administration because they feel that outdated restrictions are not in their educational interest, and furthermore, are contrary to the basic rights of citizens of the society at large.

Miss Snyder may not term her policy "in loco parentis" but when she speaks in vague terms of "protecting the student," we wonder what she would call her policy.

Until the Administration understands that students want to and deserve to be treated as adults, a lack of rapport between students and the Administration will be inevitable.

visiting hours in rooms for study purposes.

Another point the students are making is that "open houses" now exist so the new policy would merely eliminate the formality of registering the hours every time they are sponsored. The mere fact that the hours must be registered suggests an air of formality. This is inherently contrary to the idea of visiting hours.

The final point is the one which the Daily Nebraskan wishes to emphasize. Instead of the Administration asking why the students want regular coed visiting hours, the students should be asking, why not? It is a generally accepted maxim that the student generation today is more sophisticated and generally more concerned about problems of morality and personal identity than ever before. The Administration, then, should not suspect that the men and women who support this new proposal are secretly conniving for wide-open conditions where immorality may run rampant.

On the contrary, the proposal is indicative of students' desires to lessen the grips of parents and prove to themselves and the watching community that they are mature enough to handle the more liberal living conditions with utmost regard for the stated purposes.

The proposal is indeed quite moderate and is qualified by requiring a supervisor to be present during these hours. The doors to the rooms where guests are being entertained must be open. Each dorm would decide if and when the hours were to be in effect. Furthermore, in accordance with the wishes of Dean Ross, Russell Brown and Dean Snyder, the students are asking for visiting hours just one afternoon a week, instead of two.

The Daily Nebraskan applauds the committee for approaching the issue with discretion and patience, and heartily supports the proposal.

DON'T SQUIRM—OR YOU WON'T GET YOUR LOLLIPOP



## if up's the word

... BY KELLEY BAKER

I thought the readers would be interested in a transcript of a tape recording taken from the ANUS office, focal point of the big deals on campus. Only the names have been garbled to protect the innocents involved. The following conversation took place just before the beginning of second semester between Tarry Scialaf, president of ANUS, and Rajah, Do'er, vice-president and Tarry's public relations advisor.

DO'ER: You know nobody knows your name.

SCHLAF: No.

DO'ER: And cut out that "no" business. You don't want to be known as a "no" body, do you?

SCHLAF: No.

DO'ER: Look Tarry, sweetheart, things just aren't as good as they could be. I had Tom Biggs take a secret telephone poll and I hate to tell you what he found out. I really do. Tom told me that only four percent of the student body knew your name and only six percent knew what ANUS stands for.

SCHLAF: It can't be that bad.

DO'ER: We've got to face facts, baby, and the fact is that this represents a drop of three percent from your peak. Put the shawl back in the drawer and listen to me Tarry. You can go too far with the image Abe, er Tarry, and the campus can just take so much.

SCHLAF: I thought the stovepipe hat did a lot for my stature and I wasn't going to wear the shawl anywhere but the office and at meetings with the governor.

DO'ER: Honest Tarry, sometimes I just don't know what to do with you. The beard and the wart are fine, but the rest has to go, especially the part about the Schlep house being made of logs.

SCHLAF: O.K. Rajah, I guess I've gone too far. This reading by the fire every night is giving me eyestrain. People are beginning to say I'm myopic.

DO'ER: Listen honey, last night just before I went to bed I came up with this tremendous idea that is guaranteed to put you back on top of the pile. We'll have you write this letter to YAWS (Your Associated Women Students). We'll explain the basis of our power and ask where they get theirs.

SCHLAF: Great, Rajah! Meme Razz, Pam Hotshot, Stiff Timer and the girls are all sure to put out their own answers but they'll never do it as a group.

DO'ER: Look Tarry, I think you're going too far.

SCHLAF: No Rajah, if we want to improve our image we'll have to go all the way.

DO'ER: Stop writing on the envelope Tarry. I've already made up the letter. You'll love it. It starts "Five score minus two years ago..." And you should hear the ending, "And that government of Tarry, by Tarry and for Tarry shall not perish from this campus."

SCHLAF: Perfect, Rajah. Now let's take some time off. I've got a couple tickets to a play.

COMMENTATOR: Will history repeat itself?

## Our Man Hoppe

## Drab And The Gooks



Arthur Hoppe

"Henceforth," said Captain Buck Ace with a frown, "you men will stop referring to our loyal South Vietnamese allies, with whom we are fighting shoulder to shoulder for freedom, as 'gooks.'"

"Oh?" said Private Oliver Drab, 378-18-4454, with curiosity. "Why's that, sir?"

"Because, soldier," said Captain Ace patiently, "General Westmoreland himself has ordered all commands to help erase the image of our brave allies as a bunch of combat-dodging, duty-shirking, would-be deserters. He feels this hurts the war effort."

"Yes, sir," said Private Drab, enthusiastically. "I'd like to volunteer for that, sir."

"Getting closer to their soldiers, sir. You can count on me, Captain. I figure the closer I get the safer I'll be."

"Damn it, Drab," said the Captain, "that's just the kind of talk we're not going to have any more of. You are to respect and admire their fighting qualities. And that's an order."

Private Drab looked surprised. "But I do, sir. Honest. I met one once. We were under pretty heavy fire and there he was, right at my side. I never admired a fellow more."

"That's the talk, Drab. He put a good show, eh?"

come it. But this was the first fellow I'd met who had it worse than me. And I could tell he'd kind of learned to live with it. So I couldn't help respecting him for it. And I'd sure like to transfer over to his outfit and...

"Oh, shut up, Drab. You're just griping because you heard they've been withdrawn from combat. But don't forget, soldier, somebody's got to die for their country."

"I guess so, sir," said Private Drab without much enthusiasm. "But I still figure I could learn a lot from a fellow like that. Say, I got an idea, Captain. As long as they're not doing much, why couldn't we make them our military advisers?"

"Well, I think the Army's right about one thing," said Private Drab later to his friend, Corporal Partz. "We really shouldn't call them gooks. It isn't nice. But what should we call them?"

## Gale Pokorny's FOX'S FACTS

Nebraska, for some reason or the other, has always possessed a mania for dedicating a certain day or week to certain people, groups or causes. Arbor Day, Football Week and Safety Week are but a few examples. The most recent instance occurred earlier this week when our favorite governor appeared on national television proclaiming April 1 to be Johnny Carson's Day in Nebraska, an extremely fitting gesture, I must say.

The N.U. student body it would seem then comes by this practice naturally. It has proceeded from year to year utilizing this tendency in almost every conceivable area, Rush Week, Spring Day, E Week and Hell Week. This list, too, could be almost endless.

It is however, the last example that we here on this campus should be concerned with or rather with the connotations that the name implies.

It is high time, indeed it has been so for quite a while, for the students in Nebraska's institutions of higher education to raise a little! What this campus needs is a slightly modified version of Hell Week—Yell Week.

No, I am not advocating an unruly march to the capitol or governor's mansion where both parties may exchange polite insults and then retreat with nothing more accomplished than providing the newspapers with ample opportunity to degrade both.

Nor do I propose that we all grow beards, don baggy suede sport coats and ill fitting tennis shoes and sit in the halls of some comfortable building singing songs of gross impersonality, ugly wars or police brutality.

We have witnessed numerous examples of both kinds of such action on campuses large and small across the country and we have seen that neither has ever resulted in more than increased discontent on behalf of the student and an increased resistance on the part of those differing with the student's way of thinking. Again what arises after the storm is the wide spread generalization branding any and all college people as little more than up and coming troublemakers.

The moment is now at hand when we desperately need to prove the fallacy of this impression if this school and others like it are to get the public support such institutions need so badly. For little known to the non-academic world beyond the limits of college campuses, there exists today a population of American college students more promising than those ever seen before. With the advantages of this era and with the knowledge willed to us by preceding eras, the potential and the capacity exist to create an educated population that need encounter no limits.

But the catalyst for this process lies not in the hands of the student but rather with the general public. What can we do? We need to make the above facts known. We need to yell a little but not scream. We need to convince the state that their conception of a typical college student, i.e. that perpetuated by self appointed and largely misinformed "experts" such as Al Capp etc. is wrong.

We are not all ignorant or spoiled and soiled or rebels as they might think. We are intelligent young ADULTS capable of any responsibility society wishes to thrust upon us and more. Those people with whom we graduated from high school and did not go on to college are for the most part considered adults in their own right. The fact that we continued our education should not contain connotations of inability to think and react as others do, and that we are still juveniles.

I propose a gigantic public relations program initiated by the individual student primarily on a person to person basis in an effort to present the true image to any people who oppose supporting these schools in the manner they deserve and I further propose a "visit" not a march to Governor Tiemann in a quiet orderly fashion to explain to him the financial plight of the student today let alone tomorrow if the increased costs are to be supplied out of the student's pocket. If we ignore the situation as it stands today, we will live to see the day when education will indeed be a rich man's luxury.

## CAMPUS OPINION

### Heart Is Within The Brain

Dear Editor: Would you please give this message to Steve Abbott.

Dear Mr. Abbott: "Let it come from the heart baby, not the brain." You like that statement, eh Mr. Steve? Has the sweet ring of truth and all that sort of thing, eh Mr. Steve? Well, let me just add a few little words and then I'll like it too—let it come from the heart baby, not JUST the brain BUT YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THE HEART IS WITHIN THE BRAIN. Now I like it too Mr. Steve.

No, I can't imagine Tom Jones reading "Playboy". But perhaps he just might take a peek at the pictures, don't you think Mr. Steve?

"A sexual person has an alert awareness toward life, a readiness to love his own mystery."—you say Mr. Steve? Would it not be better to understand as much as possible of life rather than just be aware of it? Mystery is a thing to love?

Quite frankly, Mr. Steve, I fear most things that are a mystery to me. It seems strange does it not Mr. Steve that two people can be so different; you, who loves in mystery and I, who loves in understanding. One of us must be very "different". I wonder which one it is, Mr. Steve. Really, I do wonder.

I would like to go on, Mr. Steve, but I must get back to my studies. But first could I ask you to do me a favor. Please don't use such big words any more. It takes so long to look them up and everything.

Besides didn't anyone ever tell you that big words tend to confuse shallow meanings especially if the subject is one of great depth. Ahh, but then maybe you were playing a funny on all of us here at the U. of N. Maybe you were just testing us to see if we were up on our vocabulary. Tricky, very tricky Mr. Steve.

Oh yes, by the way, Mr. Steve, God didn't start with sex—"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth; the earth was waste and void." Book of Genesis, first chapter, first sixteen words. You're so tricky Mr. Steve!

John Bruce Hiller

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