Greek Discrimination

Discrimination will be the major topic of discussion at a conference tomorrow which will close out Greek Week activities on the University campus. This is significant not only in that it represents a seemingly sincere effort on the part of fraternities and sororities to come to terms with a nagging and emotional problem, but it takes on special interest in regard to recent discussion in the Student Senate.

Exist De Facto

The problem of discrimination in the Greek system has evolved in recent years, due to action by the federal government via university administrations, into a relatively simple one. There is no discrimination in the Greek system on this campus, per se. But it is a surprise to no one that discrimination indeed does exist, de facto.

The question which has been tossed around in many circles for some time, and has now been brought up for the consideration of student government leaders, is what can be done about this shameful situation? Many persons, both within and outside the Greek system, very honestly believe that nothing should be done about it and that, in fact, the moral suasion used to eliminate discrimination clauses in national fraternity charters in the past few years was dreadfully wrong. These people argue that it is the inalienable right of people in our society to make free selection of membership to private social organizations.

In the opinion of the Daily Nebraskan this attitude is morally wrong and, because of the progress made in attaining civil rights in the past ten years in the United States, irrelevant. The tons of words poured on the subject amount to the fact that free selection is indeed a right of a group as long as that selection does not take into account characteristics over which a person has no control. Those fraternities which used to have discrimination caluses should have been relieved to rid themselves of prerequisites for membership which had nothing to do with "fineness of character."

Enough Courage

Students at the University are now blushing as the subject of de facto discrimination is brought into the open. They realize that no one individual house or organization has had enough courage to defy the status quo and pledge or urge Greek houses to accept an otherwise acceptable Negro.

Progress in this still very touchy area can be achieved through one of two very obvious means: from without or from within the system. It is generally agreed that force from without would be unfortunate. A test case in rush week sponsored by an outside group, for instance, would most likely prove inconclusive, for a house could always reject a Negro on the pretense that the person in question had other disagreeable qualities.

If it was proven that a Negro was discriminated against, how could just one house or even a few houses be blamed, and how could anyone, whether student government, administration, or the U.S. government, in good conscience, force a house to accept a Negro when it would clearly be an unbearable situation on both sides?

From Within

The answer then is that change must come from within. First the people involved in the Greek system must quit being afraid to talk about it—in painful, plain terms. Each person must examine his conscience, not let it be soothed by the fact that discrimination on paper is a thing of the past.

If the conference Saturday lives up to expectations, this could be the beginning. Then of course people in the Greek system must display creative leadership and moral courage in order to make de facto discrimination also history.

No Censorship

At Hyde Park Thursday one candidate for ASUN president stated that the Daily Nebraskan is censored.

What he meant by censorship he didn't explain although he did say that the paper is not allowed to advertise cigarettes or liquor. He did not give any other examples.

Traditional Policy

The candidate's example of liquor and cigarette ads is correct. The Nebraskan's traditional advertising policy like many papers in the United States does not include these kinds of ads. The student business staff does not have complete autonomy in regard to the business side of the paper.

The University several years ago hired by the request of Pub Board and the staff a member of the faculty, experienced in newspaper advertising, to assist and guide the business management of the paper. This position has proved extremely successful and the management of the paper's large and confusing finances has improved considerably.

However, other than administrative and faculty assistance with the business side of the paper, the Daily Nebraskan has no type or kind of censorship other than that which the editor imposes on himself and the rest of the staff.

Solely Responsible

The editor and to lesser degrees the rest of the staff are solely responsible for everything (except possibly the advertising) which is printed in the paper and make all decisions themselves concerning newspaper policy.

The newspaper's policy regarding content, taste and direction is determined completely by the editor's own conscience, personal convictions and journalistic ideals.

The present Nebraskan staff knows of no instance in the last three years when a member of the University administration or faculty has pressured or threatened for any type of newspaper policy. The staff has been told on occasion by more experienced journalists than themselves that for some reason "they were poor journalists," but have at no time received any sort of outside censorship on news or editorial content.

Any Criticism

Any criticism of the Daily Nebraskan should be directed solely to the editor.

Another topic discussed at Hyde Park briefly centered around selection of the editor. It seems to the paper at this time that the present system of the Publications Board choosing the editor is completely adequate.

The only needed change that a future ASUN president might suggest is that more students be encouraged to apply for Pub Board positions and that Student Senate take the selection of these student members as seriously as possible. The student member of Pub Board have always played a large part in selecting the editor and assistant editors of the paper.

GALE POKORNY'S

Fox's Facts

One can always tell when Spring sneaks into our fair state of Nebraska. It usually gets quite cold and snows a lot. This year however, something appears to have gone amiss. The grass has turned green and I even saw some dandelions blooming on our lawn, a sure sign that a blizzard similar to the one of '89 is just around the corner.

Plain Signs

The signs of Spring's arrival on our campus are unmistakably plain these days too. A nocturnal stroll past the coliseum and other assorted dimly-lit lurking places will assure the sharp-eared pedestiran that all those noises assailing his ears can't possibly be coming only from the long earred variety of rabbits.

Another sure sign of the new season is the annual buried treasure hunt. It never fails that every year about this time, crews of industrious little elves show up out of nowhere to fence off several heavily used sections of sidewalk and dig like it was going out of style. After they scoop out their crater-like pit, they varnish for at least two or three weeks, forcing the students to crawl over rolls of wire, fencing, piles of pipe etc. in an effort to reach the other side of campus.

Sprinkler

Another somewhat more refreshing experience that announces the green season is produced when an unsuspecting typical college student (with eyelids at half-mast) wanders down a typical university sidewalk (trying desperately to avoid the pitfalls) when a typical university lawn sprinkler delivers a blast of freezing cold water squarely in his face, surpassed only by the water spout of the great white whale.

These clever little sprinklers are most commonly found lurking behind hedges and trees ready to attack the unwary at a moment's notice. Special underground pumps have been installed (probably by the pit digging elves) to supply these sprinklers with an amazing amount of pressure. The lawn crew undoubtedly runs tests and has a detailed diagram of the campus sidewalks. They sit up late into the night trying to figure out the best way to position these sprinklers so they can reach the most people.

Precarious Venture

Spring invariably brings out the football and baseball in a man too and what was once a relatively safe walk past a residence hall or fraternity house is now a very precarious venture to say the least. One who undertakes such a feat these days need to be equipped with lightening reflexes, 20-20 vision and an old army helmet just to be on the safe side.

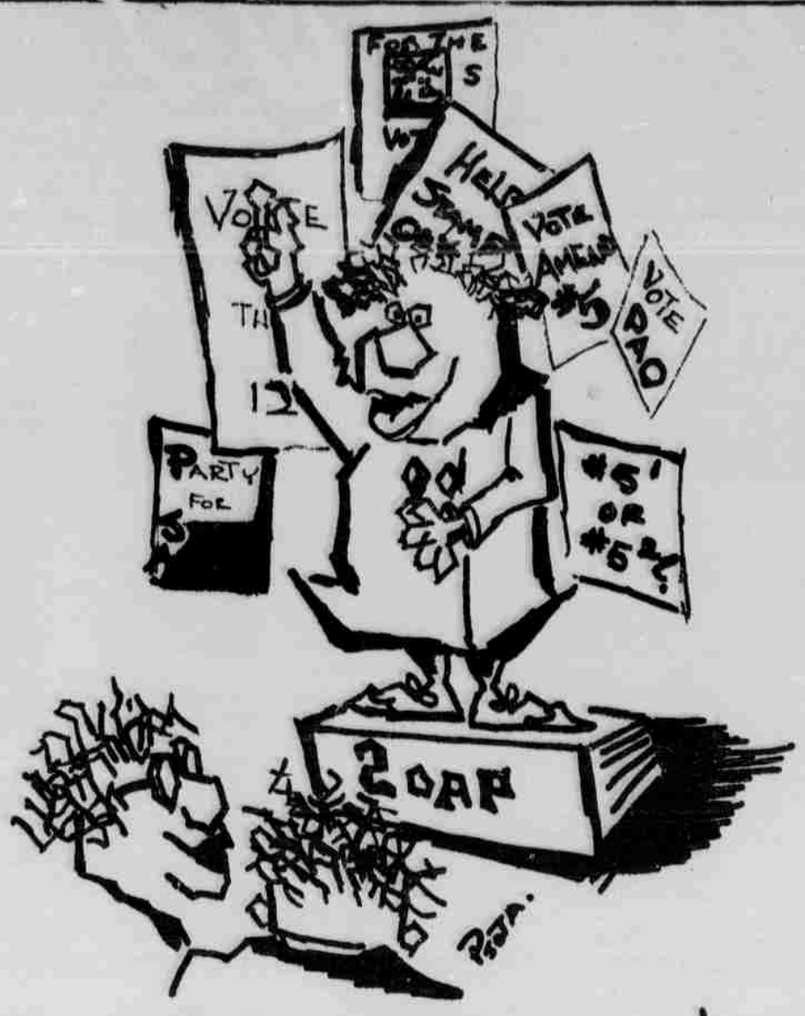
The face guard usually seen only at fencing meets is also a handy item to pack. With one eye on the guys firing that football inches past your ear, you must keep the other eye on the bunch throwing that rock-like baseball, and bang, they get you with a two toned frisbee right in the back of the head.

Blat Blat Bang

But the real signals of spring are the gentle sounds that drift lazily into my window all day (and a good portion of the night). The most obvious is the nerve soothing blat blat bang (etc.) of the several hundred mad motorcyclists careening their merry way down streets and sidewalks, highways byways and hallways.

They are a carefree bunch of fun seekers who enjoy tearing through crowds scattering people in all directions. Spring is also heralded by multitudes of pedestrians on canes and crutches and a committee has been formed to see if there is any kind of ratio between the number of cycles and the number on crutches.

But while we may at times find faults with the new season, it is generally agreed it has its benefits, far outnumbering the evils produced by elves armed with shovels and sprinklers, and amateur Angels armed with souped up Hondas. Benefits like the fact that summer vacation almost always follows the advent of spring.



IS THE AIR WARMER—OR IS IT JUST SPRING?

Our Man Hoppe

Piercing The Iron Curtain

Arthur Hoppe

Leningrad

I have seen the future and it works! But my electric razor doesn't.

The point, however, is that I have pierced the Iron Curtain. I have at last reached this land of mystery and intrigue. It wasn't easy.

Bottles of Scotch

There I was in the bustling airport of gay Copenhagen selecting paperback books for the long flight in. Let's see, "The Spy Who Came in from the Cold"? I'd read it. "The ABCs of Espionage"? The title lacked appeal. So I decided to buy a couple of bottles of Scotch for friends in Moscow. In case I made any.

Good heavens! TWO bottles of whiskey? What were the Soviet customs regulations? One bottle. I was sure I'd read somewhere that tourists were allowed one bottle. If that. You know how the Russians are. I was a criminal. Twenty years in Siberia. Oh, farewell loved ones.

We landed. The door opened. A stolid, uniformed officer appeared. "I have two bottles of whiskey," I said. He took my passport away.

Lucky You

They let me go along with the other passengers to the customs area. At last, a customs form. I would declare my sins. Only there wasn't any place on it to declare whiskey. "I told a man in a black hat desperately. "Lucky you," he said in flawless English.

The moment of truth came. The Customs Inspector approached my luggage. "I have two bottles of whiskey," I said weakly.

"Do you have any seeds, plants weapons or art objects?" he said with a yawn.

Weird Moan

The Astoria Hotel, huge barren-seeming, crazily furnished from a nation's attic. But there is a plug for electric razors on the bathroom wall. It says, "220." I set my razor with trembling fingers to 220 volts. I plug it in. Nothing but a weird moan.

It is too much. I totter down to the bar. "Straight Vodka," I say to the jolly Russian bartender and when he comes I pour out my soul. I tell him about 220 volts and converters and special plugs and how the razor sounds in its agony. "What should I do about it?" I ask him.

"Have another vodka," he said.

And he's absolutely right. I feel marvelously clean-shaven. Moreover, I like all the Russians I've met—bartenders, porters, guides, maids. Cheery people all. I even like Soviet Government policy—at least when it comes to inspecting luggage.

But I don't know about the future. It looks hairy.

Strange Selectivity

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a book review of "The Wrong Man In Uniform" by Bruce K. Chapman. In his book, Chapman examines the Selective Service System and suggests ways it should be changed.)

★ ★ ★

The Selective Service System has until recently been regarded by many Americans as a mysterious but necessary organization which insured that there would always be a sufficient number of men in the Armed Forces.

Local Board

The little that was known of the workings of the system seemed to imply that it was as universal and democratic as its spokesmen claimed. After all, everyone was required to register and everyone's case was handled by a local board.

But now, in the midst of the Vietnam war, with increased draft calls resulting from escalation of the "war effort," people are beginning to wonder. The draft is hitting home. Boys from the neighborhood are dying "over there."

Marriages are rushed or postponed. Educations are interrupted or senselessly prolonged. Families are losing husbands and fathers. And very few people are sure exactly why. The Selective Service System and its operations, national and local, have become a matter of concern to parents, students, employers employees, husbands, wives and almost every young fellow on the street.

Face-Saving

Some are reacting. The government has set up face-saving commissions and investigations; universities have held conferences; students have held demonstrations. Condemnations are frequent, solutions numerous and action only sporadic and limited.

This debate has prompted Bruce K. Chapman to write his book, "The Wrong Man In Uniform." His main thesis is that America's draft policies are "antiquated, inefficient, and uneconomical" and that the system itself is "inherently unfree and coincidentally undemocratic."

In 143 pages he undertakes to criticize the present Selective Service System, analyze and condemn various attitudes and individuals supporting it and offer his own solution to the present situation.

Mass Registrants

The post-war "baby-boom" has come of age and has flooded the draft pool. The present draft system, organized fifteen years ago, is incapable of dealing with this mass of registrants.

In its attempts to control the size of the I-A pool through locally administered disqualifications and deferments, the Selective Service System has effectively managed to abolish any remanant of universality or fairness in its operations. Deferments are granted solely at the discretion of the local board and norms are arbitrarily changed according to board members' attitudes and the board's need to meet a monthly quota.

Mr. Chapman's solution to the draft situation merits attention. He calls for a three-to-five transitional draft while a plan of completely voluntary military service is set up. Those choosing to enlist would be paid a salary somewhat less than the average American income.

Cut Turnover

It would be designed to attract professional soldiers through improved living conditions and training. The establishment of such a force would cut down the Army's present massive turnover in men, and the consequently huge burden of training.

It would also provide specialists to replace civilians now employed by the military. Meanwhile, transitional draft would fill up the gaps left by men (mostly former draftees) leaving the Army. These new draftees would be chosen from a completely universal pool of all eighteen-year-olds, drafted before they entered college or married.

This solution appears to be sound. In any case, the book is on the whole a valuable contribution to current debate.

—Larry Choate
Collegiate Press Service

Campus Opinion

A Successful NFU Course

Dear Editor:

Although I am not familiar with a number of the other courses offered through Nebraska Free University, judging from the response shown toward the class I am associated with, I would agree with Dr. Gruner in Wednesday's Daily Nebraskan that his report on the unsuccessfulness of his two classes is indeed a minority report. The NFU course, Human Reproduction, sponsored by Theta Nu, pre-medical honorary and structured by its Executive Board has been consistently well attended.

The class was structured in such a way that the lecture for each meeting was given by a different Lincoln-area doctor speaking on his specialty. Beginning with an initial registration of 77, the attendance has varied from a low of 35 to a high of 90, with an average class of 45 to 50.

This kind of student response cannot help but be encouraging to the coordinating committee which first conceived of the idea of a free university, and I hope that their work will be continued next semester by another group of students interested in expanding the scope of total education of this campus.

Rod Basler
Secretary—Theta Nu

Convince Don't Convert

Dear Editor:

Any column representing hard work deserves comment, and Mr. Voss's is no exception. I was disappointed to find none of the "unfamiliar facts and opinions" about Vietnam of which Voss had been touted as a purveyor. Perhaps next week.

What bothers me most is Voss's ignorance of ambiguous reactions. A policeman in "Crime and Punishment:" "This damn psychology cuts both ways."

Blood Sacrifice?

1. Why avoid bloody pictures? I've seen photos taken by the other side showing the "ugliness (North Vietnam) has helped created." No difference. One picture is worth 10,000 words. Whose 10,000 words? Conclusion: squeemishness is not necessarily a political phenomenon. Perhaps a return to regular blood sacrifices would cure us.

2. Is it my duty to fight there? That depends. On whether anything is wrong. That is what Mr. Voss forgot to tell us. Is war in Vietnam wrong because it is just like war on Jews? Or is it wrong because it is war? And what is wrong with war? Oh, I forgot. We are squeemish because of no blood sacrifices lately.

3. What's the difference between a Speck and a Specialist 3c Voss? One of logic, I think. Or else everyone in WWII ought to be made to prove that he fired in self-defense or as a hunting accident. Mr. Voss has crossed his legal and his war concepts, or he is pleading for a change in usage. Now tell us why we should change.

What And Why

4. Does the end justify the means? What end? Or perhaps Mr. Voss is a man with means but no end. Is "Better dead then Red" any different than "Better Red than Dead?" More than maxims, please. Or your enemies will shoot you down with nothing but a paltry "You had rather switch than fight." That proves nothing either. Shabby logic cannot establish shabby morality. The trouble is simply that I don't know what Mr. Voss is driving at or why. Just that he doesn't like war or the Vietnam war and that he doesn't want us to like one or the other. In short, I couldn't find the fact or opinion.

Now before Mr. Voss dismisses me as a hawk, let me say I not only dislike war in general and the war in Vietnam (who ever said you were supposed to like war anyway), but I am as a matter of principle against both. But not on grounds of shabby logic or pulpitized pleas. And not because I can't stand the sight of blood. More facts and clearer opinions, please.

Lest the ghost of McCarthy and the skeleton of Russell damn you with "Red, here, now." Or worse, "Non-red, not here, not now," accompanied by an accusing non-point of the specter finger. Don't be squeemish, Mr. Voss: Give us a bloody good effort. Convince; don't convert. Leave that to the missionaries. Or . . . No! You couldn't be.

In truth
Logicus

Brink Of Radical Conservatism

Dear Editor:

Billy Blue and his boys therein have blown their cool. If Lincoln ever had a case that would stand up in higher courts, they have lost it now. For the arrest of the salesclerks in the Heroic Bookstore on flimsy grounds will cost them Steen as well as the girls. What amuses me most is that Nebraska in general and Lincoln in particular has consistently portrayed themselves as the land of intelligent rational conservativism. By this, I used to assume that they kept their eyes open for the practicalities of getting what they wanted. How close to the brink of radical and irrational conservativism they were, and we never suspected. For with eyes closed to the tactics needed to put their case on Steen safely beyond appeal, they have blindly and precipitously plunged into a course of action that can only lose all.

Ant that, my radical friends, is genuinely humorous. Do not be so serious about your cause that you fail to see the humor, or you might become as blind as the trumpeteers in the haystack. Nay, take heart and laugh.

Those humorists among us who cannot stop laughing long enough to go to jail with you, will at least support you by buying the rest of our books at Heroic. Salesclerks or not. The government of free enterprise trying to put a free enterprise out of business just to rid themselves of one man: that is funmy. And I hope good advertising for Heroic.

A Bookworm

Daily Nebraskan

Vol. 90 No. 83 April 5, 1967

Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, Neb.
TELEPHONE: 477-6711. Extensions 2588, 2589 and 2590.

Subscription rates are $4 per semester or $6 for the academic year. Published Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday during the school year, except during vacations and exam periods, by the students of the University of Nebraska under the jurisdiction of the Faculty Subcommittee on Student Publications. Publications shall be free from censorship by the Subcommittee or any person outside the University. Members of the Nebraskan are responsible for what they cause to be printed.

Member Associated Collegiate Press, National Advertising Service, Incorporated. Published at Room 51, Nebraska Union, Lincoln, Neb., 68508.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor Wayne Kreuscher; Managing Editor Bruce Giles; News Editor Jan Itkin; Night News Editor Pes Bennett; Editorial Page Assistant Susie Phelps; Sports Editor Ed Icenogle; Assistant Sports Editor Terry Gramnick; Senior Staff Writers, Julie Morris, Cheryl Tritt, Randy Irey; Junior Staff Writers, Mick Lowe, David Buntain, Roger Bare, Jim Evinger, Dan Looker, Paul Eaton, Mark Gordon, Chris Carlson; News Assistant Eileen Wirth; Photographers, Mike Sayman, Doug Keister; Copy Editors Romney Reutzel, Lynn Ann Gottschalk, Marty Dietrich, Jackie Glascock, Chris Stockwell, Diane Lindquist, Ann Hoesemeyer.

BUSINESS STAFF

Business Manager Bob Ginn; National Advertising Manager Roger Boye; Production Manager Charlie Baxter; Classified Advertising Managers Janet Bostman, John Flemming; Secretary Amy Bouska; Business Assistants Bob Carter, Glenn Friendt, Russ Fuller, Chris Lougee, Kathy Schooley, Linda Jeffrey; Subscription Manager Jim Bunts; Circulation Manager Lynn Rathjen; Circulation Assistant Gary Meyer; Bookkeeping Craig Martinson.