

Continue Free University

Responses to the Nebraska Free University, an experiment in education unique to this campus, indicate that there is a diversity of opinion as to its general success.

Reports from students and instructors who lead the classes show that attendance in most cases dribbled down to just a few students in the last sessions.

Catch-All Category

Other criticisms of the Free University fall into the catch-all category of politics. Many people felt that the entire "institution" was insulted and degraded when some students used it as a selling point in the campus political whirl.

The Daily Nebraskan feels that in part these objections are valid. For the persons who dedicated scarce time to the development of an idea which seemed exciting and plausible, the reaction of the majority of students is of course disappointing.

However, it can not be so discouraging as to warrant discontinuation of a project which has hardly had time to be tested. First it must be remembered that the regular University has a load of courses designed to get all the students educated.

will stimulate change in the Institution. Therefore it is somewhat irrelevant if only a few students continued in their Free University courses, if those few students were benefited by it.

Numbers Increase

Second, if numbers of students sincerely interested is a criterion for judging the validity of continuing NFU, then it should also be remembered that the University is getting larger each year and logically, the number of students interested in some extra-curricular education will also increase.

Also, the fact that NFU has now been around for a while will help. Next semester the Free University will not pop up like it's the bandwagon to jump on.

Regarding the accusations that the Free University became a political tool, the Daily Nebraskan feels that these are hardly fair. Students who helped organize NFU should not have to negate that fact.

The Daily Nebraskan urges the students and the instructors who were involved in the Free University this semester to get together to discuss its perpetuation.

Going To Europe 'Un-American'?

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Benno Wyman a University student from Germany, wrote the following article on student experiences and travel in Europe. Wyman is studying for his doctorate in economics. He has guided students several times throughout Europe and has traveled extensively in Europe, Asia and the Middle East.)

★ ★ ★

As you probably all know, we foreigners are all the same, just terrible. We have all kinds of bad habits and many of us don't even know how to use the American language properly.

So Backward

But even if you keep all those disadvantages in mind you still might consider visiting our countries, because it will show you how much better off you are at home. If you just keep in mind that many Dutchmen still use wooden shoes, most Frenchmen drink wine because their water is not as good, which is also the same reason why the Germans have no choice but to drink that terrible barley juice (beer), and above all many Austrians and Swiss still live in the mountains, you can understand why Europe is so backward.

Union Jack

It will make you real proud being an American. But seriously, it makes a very big difference whether you have been abroad or not. If nothing else it will make you look differently at your own country.

Little Money

You meet at them students from around the world and pay often no more than 25 cents. And don't think that spending little money is being "cheap." Europeans think it is smart. But that again might be a different way of looking at life and perhaps it might be a little "un-American"

When you hit a university town in Europe, be sure to stop by at the local student office to find out where you can find reasonable accommodations, student restaurants and if you like, student beer and-or jazz cellars.

Different Light

You will see things in a different light and will judge them differently. Also, having once traveled on your own and having been able to get along in foreign countries will most likely give you a new feeling of confidence in yourself.

But please don't go to Europe flying from one place to the next, or use a big American car and stay at the big hotel. You are neither doing yourself, your country nor Europe a favor.

Really Live

Don't just look at them from your big hotel window like you are in a zoo. If one might try to compare Europeans with Americans in that way, one might say many Europeans are not as rich as Americans, but many more Europeans really live.

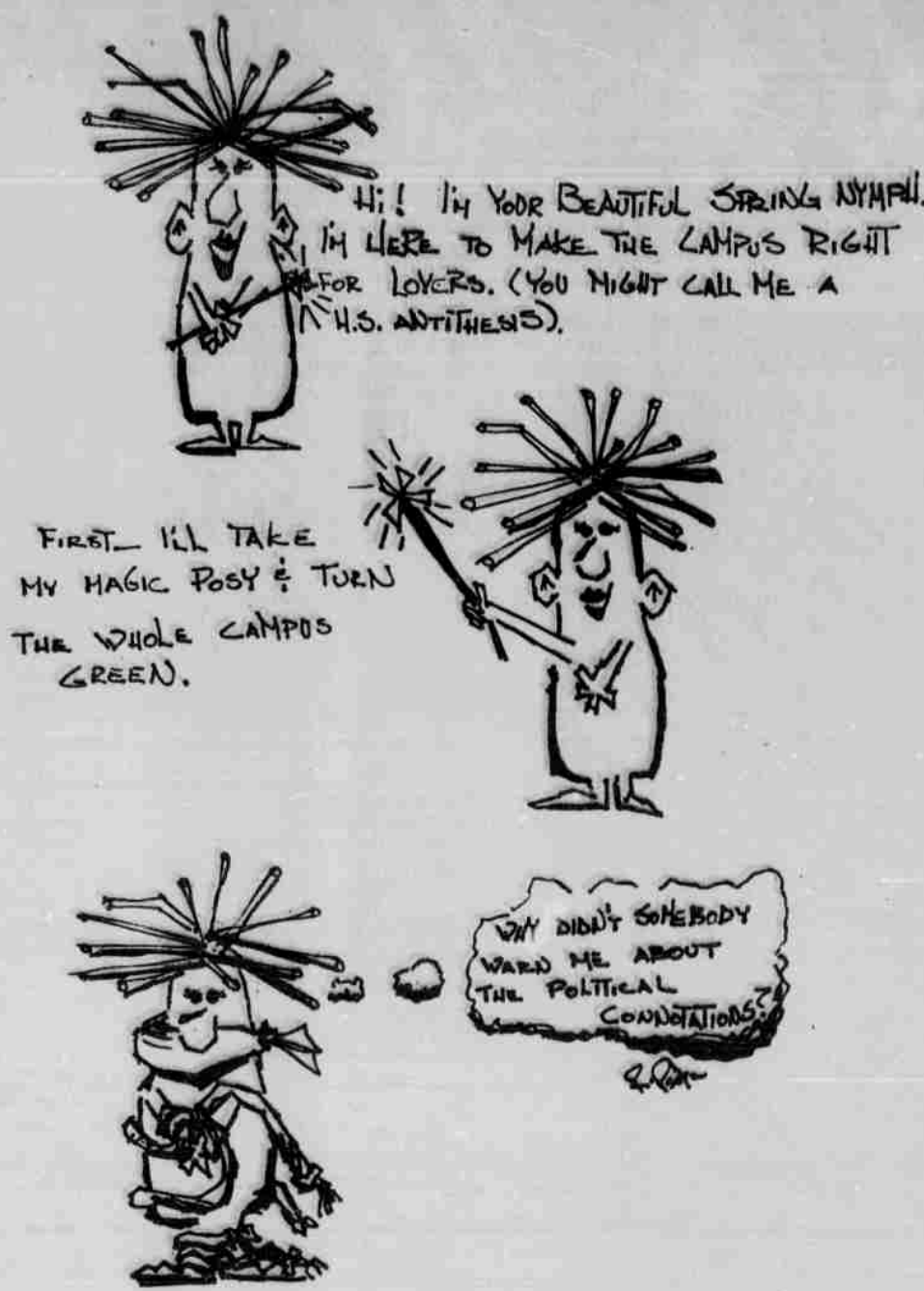
While speaking of hostels be sure to stay at the "Af Champman" while in Stockholm. It is an old sailing vessel made into a youth hostel. Of the about 700 German youth hostels, about 50 are actually old castles.

Health Service

If you are afraid you might get sick, sign up for low cost but high quality student health service throughout Europe.

But make sure you have your international student ID card along. Also find out the day when you can visit museums. For example for the Louvre it would be on Sundays and national holidays.

But whatever you do please don't go to Europe as the "big man." I honestly think that Europeans would care absolutely less and would tend more to see you as the "overbearing American student." Go to Europe and "live." You might enjoy it so much you might never want to come back.



Campus Opinion

Nebraskan Criticism Valid

Dear Editor: A reporter (Mark Gordon) from the Daily Nebraskan interviewed me last Wednesday about the fairness of the campaign previous to ASUN elections. I said that elections were important in a democratic republic, and then I asked him if he was referring to the "Tombstone Epitaph."

He said, "Yes." I said the contributors showed a great deal of courage, and their criticism was done in a humorous manner. I said that the Daily Nebraskan has been very radical in its views, and the reporting done in it has been very biased.

And when the contents are criticized, their reply is that the critic is using "dirty tactics." (How closed can a mind get?) At that, the reporter left and I felt my comments would not be published (another example of biased reporting), and so I am writing this.

I would like to comment that publishing a paper such as the "Tombstone Epitaph" had become a necessity, and its contributors are to be praised for their courage. In its humor, I did not feel it was slanderous, but in fact implied the truth of the situation at the Daily Nebraskan office. And I do not feel that it affected the voting of the informed student. But there is need to inform.

Many, particularly radicals (left-winger), seem to lack faith in the intelligence of the general public, and feel that they must "think for them." Such is the Communist ideology, and also that of "dictatorships" (some of which are classified as right wing.)

Such is the "Battle for the Mind" in opposition to the "Battle for the Heart" as espoused by honest Christianity. My policy is to always to have an open mind and to accept nothing as fact, per se.

Oscar Blomstedt

Our Man Hoppe

The Great Ruin Shortage



Arthur Hoppe

Athens While the Greek economy has skyrocketed in the past fifteen years, the happy people of this sunny land now face a hitherto unforeseen problem—namely a grave shortage of ruins. The problem was perhaps best explained by Mr. Zorba K. Xenophilos, Assistant Sub-director of the Bureau of Ruins, during a brief tour of this booming city. "Fifteen years ago," began Mr. Xenophilos, "what did we have to offer the tourist? Ruins. We had more ruins per capita than any nation in the world. Big ruins, little ruins—the whole country was one giant ruin."

All The Lonely People

... by bob samuelson

As a "Call to Action" this column will have about as much effect as a Superball that has been dunked in liquid oxygen, but here goes. In the five years I have been at the University, there has been much criticism leveled at the Innocents society, none of it has done any apparent good although much of it has been valid.

The greatest harm that this body does to the campus, however, is to force campus leadership into patterns of conformity and conservatism. In fact, lack of any leadership qualities at all have "made" many Innocents in the past and there is no reason to think this year's selections will alter this sad trend.

One of the enigmas on this campus, and probably a reflection of its innate reactionary tendencies is the esteem associated with "being an Innocent" not only by undergraduates, but by some members themselves! This body, by mere fact that it is self-selecting is conservative and potentially dangerous to Student Government.

Group pressure in itself is not a bad thing, but Innocents have been known to wave the red robes like a bribe in front of a jockey. An essential fact of good leadership is that it eventually alienates almost all people at some times, yet this is what most prospective Innocents steer clear of like athletes on Ivy Day.

My purpose, an idealistic one, is to plead with the prospective innocents on campus this year to NOT limit membership in Spring '68 to only thirteen. If this necessitates a change in ritual the change must take place. Instead, like the Mortar Boards, take those men, be it ten or twenty-five, who have done the most work for the University in their first three years of college. The idea that there are always thirteen qualified persons and no more at any other time is, of course, inconsistent with the principles of an honorary organization.

Broadening the number eligible for selection will have several beneficial effects. One, it will liberate leadership among males from a middle-of-the-road path. Two, it will increase the esteem of the organization in the minds of many who consider it now only a child's game of petty politics. Three, it will give the society itself a broader base of thought, and prohibit a one-minded paranoiac fear that diversity is somehow bad.

Union Is Hot

Dear Editor: Recently when I was in the Nebraskan Union, I asked one of the managers why he didn't turn up the air conditioning. "Turn it up," says he, "they don't even turn it on till July first."

Are the students who spend five or six or more hours in the sweat house (only because it's the only place on campus for day hops and apartment dwellers) aware of this grave mismanagement? Arise fellow sweaters. Let's gross out the perpetrators of this atrocity.

The air conditioning is here and they are apparently running some kind of blower so why not air conditioning. Surely not because of electricity. I'd appreciate any reply anyone would care to make.

Hot

Quality Of Speech Doubted

Dear Editor: I would like to seriously question the quality of Mr. Bunche's speech Thursday. Did he really say anything?

I am thankful that someone finally came here to speak and Bunche is a respectable and dignified man, but really this is supposed to be an educational institution.

In The Audience

Professionalism Praised

Dear Editor: I personally feel that the Daily Nebraskan has never tried to be as much of a real newspaper as it has this year.

The paper has a professional attitude and look. I commend you. As for the paper being radical, only Nebraskans could say that.

Toot

Apathetics Arise!

Dear Editor: It is well known that we have had with us for some time, representatives of the socio-political right wing in the Young Republicans, and representatives of the left wing in the SDS.

With great delight we now welcome a voice from the middle wing in the form of the Tombstone Epitaph. At last we have, represented here on campus, the bird in its entirety.

Seriously, we have had an anti-establishment group (in the SDS) in campus so long that it has become too well established. Perhaps it is good that we also now have established an anti-anti-establishment establishment, but the time may come when this establishment, too, becomes too well established. Let us now, then, unite into a great and powerful anti-group group, an anti-society society, a revolution of the grass class. Let there be an establishment established which will prevent the establishment of any more establishments! Enough is enough! Apathetics arise!

A meeting for the Foundation of such a society will be held following the conclusion of the next Happy Rock Wino Festival, say about 2 a.m. Everyone will be welcome.

T.H.E. Kidd

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