

Baby—There Is Action

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Baby, the University isn't such a bad place at all! What a discovery! Don't insult us and call us a cultural wasteland. Don't call us a bunch of hopelessly dull country boys. Because if you are here — there can be action.)

What's a nice person like you doing in a place like this. I mean really, what do you think you're doing here? It was probably your Mom and Dad who had always expected you to go to college, and because you wanted to get away from home, the university seemed just far enough distance.

Maybe you had already completed your graduate work and you and your wife thought you could make better advancement as a professor at a university which was more in keeping with your own cultural background.

Well, now that you're where all the action is, baby, what is the action? It isn't dialing the phone yourself and asking Mom and Dad for a little extra spending money or going for a coke in the Union to watch those guys in beards and wire-rim glasses and not have the courage to talk with them.

If you are the one who chose fraternity blue over Army khaki, action isn't getting up early for your military science class and then sneaking back to your room before anyone sees you.

In the rush to get to the high paying job, the altar, the department promotion or the student body presidency, you'll probably miss most of the real action. The action, interaction and human dialogue, out of life. A part of that comes from the textbook and the lecture, but the more important end is in you and other persons.

Learning to live where the action is requires loosening up enough as a professor to ask a few of your coffeees to your home for some coke or coffee and an evening's conversation, or to accept their invitation to a party or for a beer after your night class.

Getting the most out of life is talking to your 60-year-old next door neighbor about how it was when he was your age, or taking the time out of your busy schedule to sit in on a juvenile court hearing and talking afterward with a few of the losers.

It is in this place, where the action is, that you can practice with other persons how best to live and enjoy life. You will meet success and failure in this experience of change and come to really know other persons and finally begin to define and better understand yourself.

But you can't have any of this action until you free-up enough to take it, and taking any of it means to replace it with part of yourself. Where is the action, baby? Take a look around. Take a look inside. How much of living do you want to take today?

by Tom Helzer The Collegiate Press Service



Our Man Hoppe

Black and White

Arthur Hoppe

It was one of those days, white clouds scudding across a blue sky, yellow-green buds swelling in the park. Another spring, as fresh-colored and new as eternity's first. How good it was to be alive.

On the newstands, in the stark black and white, the papers told how the world was that day.

A Russian cosmonaut, trapped in his capsule, had fallen four miles to the earth below. In Bonn, President Johnson was discussing nuclear proliferation with the Germans. In New York, General Westmoreland made a major address on the war in Vietnam.

His troops, said the General grimly, "are dismayed, as I am, by recent unpatriotic acts here at home."

Outside the five-and-ten, a thin old man in a chef's cap, a tattered malon overcoat and white spats was talking into a baby blue toy telephone hung about his neck. "The Lord says repent," he announced, cupping the receiver with his hand. "Are you ready to die?" No one answered.

The enemy, the General said gravely in New York, "does not understand that American democracy is

founded on debate, and he sees every protest as evidence of crumbling morale and diminishing resolve. . . This, inevitably will cost lives — American, Vietnamese and those of our other brave allies."

The old man in the chef's cap turned to denouncing cheap wine. The smiles of his listeners broadened and they applauded tolerantly when he paused. Across the street, a blind lady with an accordion sat in the sun singing.

"I was delighted," said the General in New York, "to learn of the two MIG bases bombed today."

"Somewhere, over the rainbow . . ." sang the blind lady. She had a thin, flat voice, yet it carried well through the clatter of the streetcars, the roar of the buses. It sounded wistful and beautiful.

"I foresee in the months ahead," warned the General in New York, "some of the bitterest fighting of the war."

There was a candy store down the street. You could smell the peanut brittle, warm and sweet.

"There are civilian casualties in Vietnam," said the General, "and these are of constant concern to me, my commanders and men."

A girl with long hair was passing out flowers with a genuinely lovely smile. Two sailors stopped and they laughed gently together.

"I must honestly say that I am concerned about ceasefire proposals," said the General bluntly. "Inevitably it will be a military advantage to the enemy and a detriment to our side."

★ ★ ★

On the way home, I paused on a hilltop and watched the sun set nakedly in the rainwashed air. And I felt for the first time (it always seems the first time) how incredibly precious life is.

How precious it is to me and to the old man and the blind lady and the pretty girl and the sailors. How equally precious it must be to each American soldier, to each ally, to each Vietnamese, friend or foe. How incredibly full and joyous and replenishing the world seemed.

Not the stark black and white world of newspaper and battle plans and global strategy in which our leaders live. I mean the real world. And never, as on this spring day, had the two seemed further apart.

The Peaceful Snatch

by Steve Abbott

Is war an inevitable pattern of human behavior? That is the central question.

If your answer is yes, then the debate is ended. We can only count our bombs and wait for the inevitable destruction of the world . . . and yet, weren't there other patterns of behavior that men once thought were inevitable and intrinsic to human nature that have proved not to be?

Gandhi Confronted

What about human sacrifice? What about human slavery? What about the caste system that Gandhi confronted?

The solution is that we must change our ways of thinking from merely being against (which focuses and fixes our whole attention on what we want to forget) to being for. In this case, being for human dignity. For loving persons instead of manipulating them as objects.

The hang-up is that we figure that there must always be somebody we can categorize as the bad guys (we're the good guys of course), somebody we can use as a scapegoat. Must that hostility control us? I don't deny that we'll always have some hostility and disagreements. My point is that we needn't lose our heads and fly off with the mouth and the bombs. We need to de-escalate the emotions.

Nursery Rhymes

Critics of the war as well as war supporters may be accused of losing their heads in these times of crisis. I'm not just thinking of Martin Luther King. I'm thinking of myself too. It's very hard to be rational when nobody listens, when the government seems totally remote from our influence. Its very frustrating trying to talk to a brick wall. Somehow shouting at the wall seems a better release for our frustrations (I'll huff and I'll puff, and I'll blow the White House down . . . Yes, all of life can be reduced to nursery rhymes).

All I ask is just one week that will not be an "anti-week" for us. Be for something or, better yet, someone. Maybe be for reforming yourself as you think it should be done.

Don't be anti-PSA, anti-SDS, anti-hippie, anti-Greek, anti-Negro. I mean maybe it will seem like a pretty big vacuum at first, but then that tells us something about ourselves. If anyone must be reformed this week, let's just work on ourselves as you yourself think it should be done.

There's sort of a silent pray-in scheduled for Wednesday, but I'm not so sure we need to be urged to make that scene. I'd probably go myself but for you . . . only you know what you need. Make your own scene this week and take yourself seriously. That's the start of human dignity.

BOB SAMUELSON'S

All The Lonely People

(EDITOR'S NOTE: In his column for the last several issues of the Daily Nebraskan, Bob Samuelson, former second vice president and senator of ASUN, is concentrating on student government, its history and its power at the University.)

Last installment we discussed a short history of ASUN's development, its philosophy, and one of its most important accomplishments, the Faculty Evaluation Booklet. We discussed at some length the rather rocky road toward its approval by the Faculty Senate Subcommittee on Student Affairs. We came to the conclusion that because students had faith enough to stand up for what they believed, they were able to overcome administrative opposition to the booklet.

Instead of taking up the second of the four major accomplishments of ASUN as was scheduled for this article, I shall turn toward a matter of very pressing importance. That is the Faculty Senate Subcommittee on Student Affairs and its rather dubious role in the University machinery.

Procedure Unclear

We mentioned last Thursday that Vice Chancellor Ross is the chairman of this subcommittee. It is not clear whether or not a subject of student concern must be approved by the entire Faculty Senate after it passes this subcommittee, before it goes to the Board of Regents for final approval.

Neither is it clear just what the Board of Regents must approve, for sometimes it does not consider matters of importance. In the instance of the Faculty Evaluation Booklet, the Board of Regents was merely informed of its imminent publication and gave no formal approval. The criterion for whether the Board of Regents is called upon to give approval of student requests, actions, or projects seems to be whether or not the Office of Student Affairs wants the measure to be vetoed. The Faculty Senate seems to be getting bypassed in a wholesale manner in almost every instance.

Visiting Hours Proposal

The most recent case-in-point of the Board of Regents acting as a veto for the Office of Student Affairs in the coed visiting hours proposal. This proposal was passed by the subcommittee and then voted down by the Board of Regents after Dean Ross spoke against the measure. Dean Ross was acting in a two-fold capacity at the Board of Regents meeting — he was representing his office of Student Affairs and also he was representing (supposedly) the subcommittee whose vote he went against in speaking against the visiting hours proposal. This is a clear case of a conflict of interests.

The reason this is a clear case of conflict of interests is that the Board of Regents is not well informed on what goes on at this University — especially where students are concerned. This is common knowledge among students and

faculty alike. The Board of Regents relies — as does Chancellor Clifford Hardin — on the Office of Student Affairs for knowledge of what is happening among students at the University. The Board of Regents, the Chancellor, and the students are all fortunate in that the three principle decision makers of the Office of Student Affairs, Dean Ross, Dean Helen Snyder, and Russell Brown, are all very intelligent, dedicated, able and well-informed people. If any of these three people ever leave the University and their power is turned over to others the students could have an intolerable situation, but this is beside the point.

Duality Should Cease

The point is that the Office of Student Affairs is a small body and no matter how diligent and intelligent the people are, they are people, and as people they can make wrong judgments and decisions. Also, because Dean Ross cannot act fairly upon matters in which either of his dual representations differs from the other and because the Board of Regents is at best an innocuous figurehead and at worst an uninformed detriment to the progress of the University, this dual representation should cease.

Another important question is whether the Faculty Senate should have a subcommittee on student affairs with the power to make decisions which negate — but seemingly do not affirm — student projects or innovations of student policy. ASUN has not seen any need to set up a student subcommittee on faculty affairs. (It has set up a committee for closer student-faculty liaison in order to bring closer harmony between students and faculty which is an admirable goal.)

Skeleton Bill

But the Bill of Rights and the proposal of the Ad Hoc Housing Committee are now before this committee for its consideration. Why the Bill of Rights must gain approval from every body from the subcommittee on up is a mystery to many people. While it is true that the principles affirmed in the Bill of Rights are more apt to have immediate acceptance by the administration if the administration is allowed to approve them first, what will happen is that they will give approval to those articles of the Bill with which they have no disagreement, and they will not approve the special amendment on housing and anything else which might cause them administration or public relations difficulties.

We will then be left with a skeleton Bill of Rights which will have no importance or meaning. There was no — repeat no — special approval of the amendments which were passed in the spring of 1966, and there is no reason why this spring's amendments, of which the Bill of Rights is a part should need approval. Once these amendments were passed by the students they were AFFIRMED. (Did the colonists send their Bill of Rights to King George for his ok?)

Campus Opinion

Coed Shocked By Policy

Dear Editor: As a senior who has thoroughly enjoyed and taken full advantage of a senior key, I was utterly shocked today upon hearing that Dean Helen Snyder has contacted the Campus Police Department concerning what she considers an abuse of the system.

According to a fellow senior who has been questioned by the campus police about this, Dean Snyder has asked their assistance in "apprehending" senior girls who use their keys to stay out with their dates and — !!! — park. She has requested that campus police ask to be shown the senior key for proof that the woman is a senior and then take the names and addresses of these women found parking after regular women's hours and give the names to her.

I cannot help but question her motives for doing this and ask what she intends to do about these "infractions" or "abuses."

Whether a girl stays out till 12 — or 1 — or 2 — or even 3 or 4 — studying at a library (yes, Virginia, there are some still open then) or parking with a date is none of her business.

She consented to the key system philosophy on the grounds that a senior woman is a mature, responsible person able to conduct herself as she deems right. Is Dean Snyder now denying this concept, saying that she, Dean Snyder, ought to at all times be able to slap the hands of those using keys in a way Dean Snyder considers improper or, perhaps, immoral.

The senior key system can work only when senior women have complete control of their own actions and conduct. Its purpose is thwarted when Dean Snyder decides to attach any more regulations and personal beliefs to its operation.

Patricia L. Layman

Cather Amendment Endorsed

Dear Editor: The secession of thirteenth floor from the Cather Executive Council, although functionally meaningless, has pointed up many inadequacies in the government of the hall, not the least of which is the fiasco that is erroneously labeled "the hall legislative process."

Cather government is now an oligarchy. The Executive Council conceives, debates and passes laws without considering the sentiment of the individual residents. Consequently the present administration had met a forcible backlash in response to the recently enacted by-laws, decrees if you will.

President Bruce Bailey, not insensitive to pronounced public opinion, has now proposed a constitutional amendment that would subject any proposed by-law to the approval or disapproval of the members of the individual floors. Under the proposal, a floor would consider the pending bill, vote on it, and instruct its president to vote in the Executive Council as the floor voted.

This, we feel, would endow Cather government with the representative character it so desperately needs. Once instituted this amendment would provide a framework within which the other difficulties plaguing the hall could be remedied.

We fully endorse Bruce's proposal but at the same time wish to make it unmistakably clear that prompt action must be taken now. Any government incapable of giving a redress of grievances shall not long enjoy the support of its people.

Cather 12

Trivia Contributed

Dear Editor: This is just a short note to contribute my bit of trivia to our campus newspaper. Recently there have been several completely unimportant errors in your paper and I feel that every cosmopolitan Nebraskan should know the truth.

MIT is not a member of the Ivy League even though it is located east of Ohio. Pembroke is not a university. It is the Women's Coordinate College in Brown University. Classes at Brown are coed with only one faculty and "brokers" live and eat at a separate campus a few blocks away.

Checking on quotes and facts once in a while may prove useful.

Eugene F. Maleski

Outside Art Defended

Dear Editor: The complaints about the art department's "sculpture garden" can easily be answered. The students working out-of-doors are working there principally because there is not enough room inside the building. This was not the fault of the art department but rather, a lack of funds with which to build an adequate building.

We have been suffering under the lack of space for many months and with the coming of warmer weather, it was decided to move some of the students outside. I am certain that the work being done by the art students adds very little to the eye sore that the campus already is this spring, and we can all stand it a few weeks more.

Jan Chamberlain

WRA Complaints Tested

Dear Editor: I would like you to print this letter for one reason. I wish to see how much power is behind the complaint that WRA is unjust and/or unduly severe in its rules and the punishments based there on.

Would anyone who feels that they have a legitimate complaint against WRA please call 432-4815 between the hours of 3 p.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, or between 10:30 a.m. and noon Sunday, from the time of printing of this letter until the dorms close (please ask for Terry Weymouth).

If these complaints prove sufficient in number and validity, they will be presented in or offered as evidence for a formal case to the Board of Regents, the Faculty Committee on Student Affairs and WRA.

If this letter proves unfruitful, there shall be no alternative but to assume that complaints are based on chance miscarriages of justice and rumor.

Terry E. Weymouth

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