

Editorials

THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

Commentary

No books this summer

"To me this course is what education should be — on your own, some guidance where needed, but with all the mickey mouse cut out."

The course proved to be a tremendous success. No students failed the course and most of them suggested that the course should be expanded to other departments.

If the advisory board felt it was too overburdened with other pressing matters it shouldn't have accepted the job in the first place.

On second investigation it is extremely difficult to pinpoint why the other activities were occupying so much of the board's energies.

But otherwise the board has little to show for an entire year's work. Most of their projects such as the student advising system and the survey of six departments to be presented to the Unicameral were in connection with Senate committees, so the responsibility was entirely left to the board.

A new arts and advisory board was elected yesterday. Instead of the usual year's work to accomplish they'll probably have the equivalent of two years work to complete.

There is a slim possibility that if the board organizes quickly it can still continue the summer program and extend it into other departments, but immediate attention is needed.

Cheryl Tritt

Campus Opinion

Dear Editor:

Several members of the AS4000 AFROTC class would like to respond to an editorial by you concerning ROTC. Some of us can agree with you on some of the points you made.

As far as ROTC's place on campus, that is for the University, the taxpayers of Nebraska, and national policy to decide. The military itself is subordinate to civilian authority, and therefore it is ultimately the people who decide the place of the military.

We have to disagree with some of your statements. From our experience in the AFROTC program we believe at least some are inaccurate.

We do not know of any cadet in Air Force ROTC who has taken more than the required 16 hours for the four year program or 19 hours if he chooses to fly.

We consider the last two years of AFROTC in particular more academic than many of the so-called academic courses. Since our junior year subjects such as aerospace, communication, management, organization, world events and principles of leadership have been covered.

How many former Air Force officers do you know who are on welfare? Many large corporations, airlines, educational institutions, and professions see fit to open their doors to officers leaving active duty.

Several of us will get our master's degrees and at least one cadet will receive a doctorate before active duty. Rare is the officer who does not get additional schooling while in the Air Force.

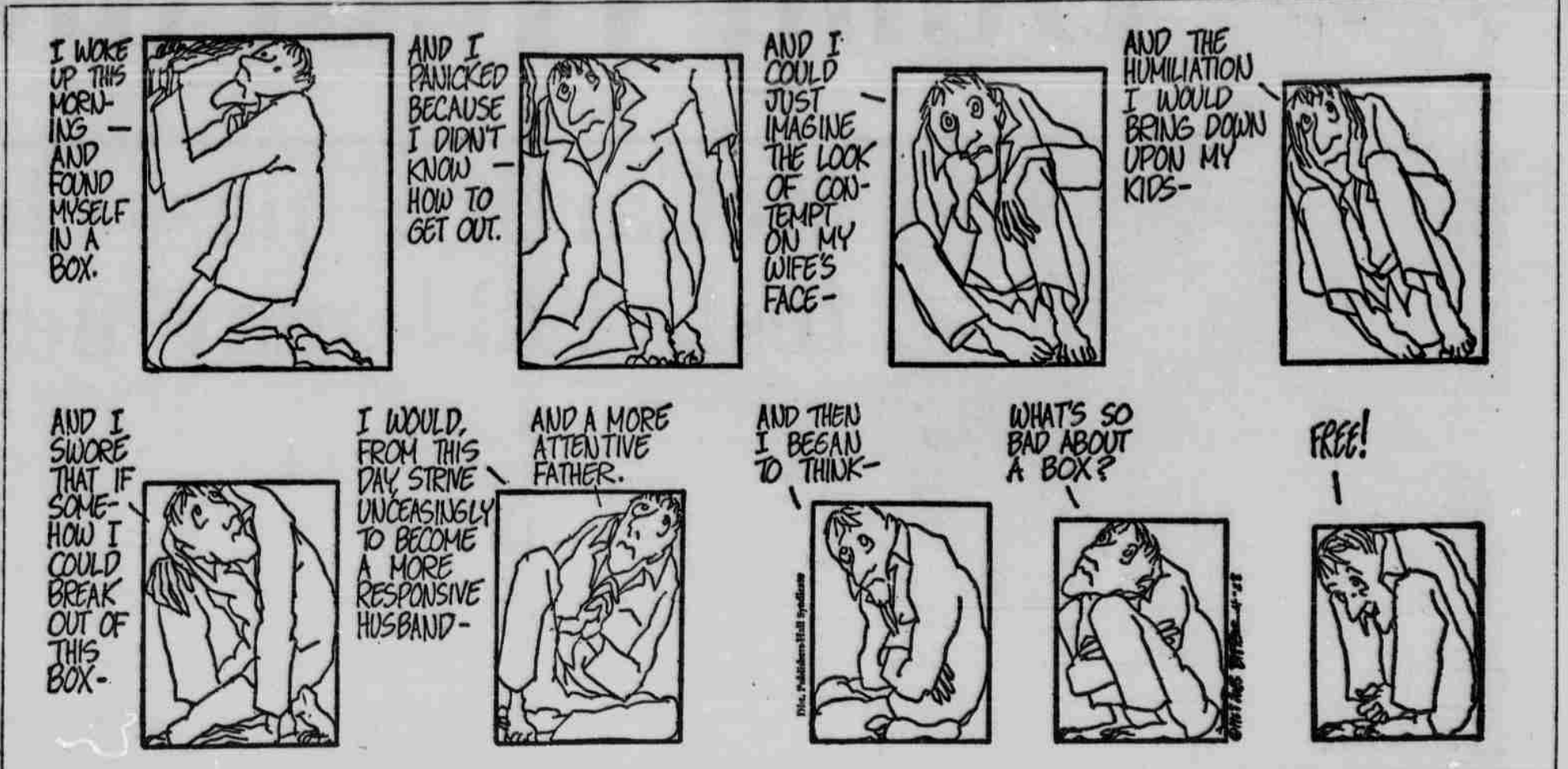
You say our basic purpose is war. That definition is yours. The people decide our ultimate mission so if it is war it is what they have decided, not the members of the ROTC program or the Air Force.

You say our purpose is war. We ask you who airlifted food to the Indians of the Southwest during the snowstorm or who flew in the sandbags to Grand Island during last year's flood?

Remember, whatever our purpose is, it is the people who define it and when and if they think that purpose is wrong, they can change it.

One last point must be made. You say if credit were not given then ROTC programs would disappear from campuses. We doubt this. The College of Engineering does not allow credit in excess of three hours for any ROTC courses.

David Powell, George Boeshart, W. Eric Wood, D. R. Murray, Claude Bolton Jr., Sam Pizzo Jr., Bruce Elekoff, Ron Oelsigle, Norman L. Meistrick, Charles T. West



Mick Lowe

Ann and the Reader's Digest

If Nebraska has "an elite law enforcement agency" it must be the Nebraska State Patrol.

Starched-and-pressed hulking six-footers all, the Patrolmen combine to form an efficient, reliable, and even professional extension to the state's legal arm, which is otherwise best described as a stump.

Knowing this, and aware of the good senator Carpenter's movings and shakings concerning drugs on the campus, I decided to pay a visit to the state's recently-formed drug control division, which is operated under the auspices of the State Patrol.

The head of the division, the man who bears the dubious responsibility of deflowering Nebraska's budding flower children, is Sgt. Wayne Rowe.

Before my visit, I suspected that all drug users on the campus had reason to be extremely paranoid — now I'm not so sure. But read on before you light that joint in the middle of an Emily Dickinson lecture.

First of all, Sgt. Rowe definitely has his mind right for the job. He is a part of the Old Guard that still believes marijuana to be "the weed with its roots in Hell."

Marijuana, he told me solemnly, leads to addiction, crime, and a general breakdown of the foursquare principles of ambitious free enterprise upon which our great country is based.

The Sargeant had a filing cabinet full of literature on drugs — including the report

of the Task Force on Law Enforcement, better known as the President's Crime Commission.

The Task Force was chaired by that flaming radical Nicholas Katzenbach, and included such academic and social know-nothings as Kingman Brewster, the President of Yale, and Whitney Young, head of the Urban League.

But the report on the whole is somewhat sympathetic to a more liberal legal stance concerning marijuana. "The points made against it," (the present rather strict laws concerning grass possession) "deserve a hearing."

So, I asked Sgt. Rowe if he had read the report. He had, so I quoted him several passages.

I asked Rowe how the old theory that marijuana leads to crime held up in light of the medical report quoted in the Commission's findings:

"The Medical Society of the County of New York has stated flatly that there is no evidence that marijuana use is associated with crimes of violence in this country."

"That's not true," Rowe protested. He produced, as refutation, a Reader's Digest reprint entitled, in the best Digestese, "Cool Talk about Hot Drugs."

I read Rowe another passage from the President's report casting doubt on the old saw that marijuana leads to addiction.

Rowe responded with a Xeroxed copy of — I swear to God — an Ann Landers Column

complete with her wholesome toothy, and probably false, grin.

I asked Rowe if he had ever tried any of the drugs he is so interested in wiping out with the serious thought that personal experience might help his enforcement.

"Who, me?" he asked. "No, Heavens no!"

But Rowe admitted that if he were my age, he probably would try something.

Rowe is actually one of the most benevolent men I have ever met. I think he is misinformed, naive and I disagree with what he is doing, but I like him.

As it turned out, the Drug Control Division includes four whole agents, which is probably about what the "problem" deserves.

Rowe said he figures our state has about 18 bona fide addicts. Which gives us one agent for every four and-a-half addicts.

As for the campus situation, Rowe said he uses his oft-discussed plainclothesmen not with the thought of persecuting students, but for making "buys" in quantity as evidence against bigger-time pushers.

The Agency, as one might expect, is more concerned with the suppliers than with scattered student drug users. All of which leads me to the conclusion that there is little need for paranoia.

Consider one of Lincoln's major "busts" — the five non-students caught with grass last December or so.

The police stopped at their house after they had received some sort of routine call. But the men panicked and tossed their stuff-brightly-out a window, almost hitting the policeman stationed at the side of the house as a mere observer.

But a few final words of caution. The penalties for simple possession of marijuana are still severe.

Pat Lilly, the University coed who allegedly left her stuff laying around her dorm room could still go to prison for her oversight. (And, while that sort of thing makes for good Paul Newman flicks, it's not really necessary for total education.)

Secondly, there is no need to discuss grass trips over coffee in places like the Union cafeteria. Those who smoke won't be impressed, and those who don't won't understand anyway.

Be especially careful when dealing with any sort of supplier — that's where the heat is.

Finally, if by some extreme mischance you are caught, don't say anything to anyone until you have legal counsel.

All of those neat new Supreme Court decisions don't seem to matter much to Nebraska police officials hot on a good drug conviction. They'll nail you to the wall anyway they can.

All in all, if you can't stand the heat, stay out of the kitchen. You will receive little sympathy from citizens of the state once you are caught. But, I suspect, the heat may not be as intense as some people would like us to believe. Happy trails...

Al Spangler

The sad demise of non-violence

"The policy of the Federal Government is to play Russian roulette with riots; it is prepared to gamble with another summer of disaster. Despite two consecutive summers of violence, not a single basic cause of riots has been corrected.

All of the misery that stoked the flames of rage and rebellion remains undiminished. With unemployment, intolerable housing and discriminatory education a scourge in Negro ghettos, Congress and the Administration still tinker with trivial, halfhearted measures." Thus spoke Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Presently, the Congress is tinkering with another trivial measure, a new Civil Rights Bill. One of our own Congressmen, Dave Martin, has been an opponent of this bill. It is because of people like Martin that civil rights bills are "trivial, halfhearted measures."

The bill would ban discrimination in housing in three stages, covering the sale or rental of 80% of the nations homes and apartments by 1970. The bill would also, as the UPI put it, "crack down on rioting." One can only guess why a civil rights bill contains such a provision.

The bill won't affect most of the people in the ghettos. They can't afford to move out into the suburbs anyway. Yet the press is making a very big deal out of the effect Dr. King's death will have on the passage of this measure.

It was thought to be, in some sense, tragic that the news of his death was followed quickly by violence in the ghettos. Yet there has always been violence in the ghetto of a less visible nature which most of White America doesn't see or care about.

Dr. King's death has been said to mark the end of non-violent protest. This is bemoaned as tragic. Yet how many of those who so solemnly mourn his passing could say with him, "I'm committed to non-violence absolutely. I'm not going to kill anybody, whether it's in Vietnam or here." Think about that statement this summer, when you read that some black "rioter" has been shot for stealing a six-pack.

The midnight raid

Washington (CPS) — Five Federal Narcotics agents recently roused students out of bed at 5:30 a.m. in a marijuana raid at American University.

The agents said they arrested seven students, all allegedly dealers in marijuana. But university officials gave various other estimates of the number of arrests which ran as high as 17. The campus newspaper, the Eagle, said most campus sources put the number at 13.

The raid had full co-operation of University officials. Graduate student counselors who live in the dorms "were all in coats and ties," according to one student, who added that "they got all the dealers in the dorm." The raid involved three floors in one of American's three men's dormitories.

University President Hurst Anderson issued a statement dated March 21, that the university believes "it to be our responsibility to co-operate with federal authorities in the enforcement of drug control laws and to take steps to see that the campus environment is free from the effects of law violation in this area."

University officials said the arrested students may also face disciplinary action from the University.

Many students at American believe the raid was planned on March 21, when the statement was drawn up but not released, but was held off until just before Easter Vacation, which begins Saturday.

U.S. Narcotics Commissioner Harry Giordana, who announced the arrests, said they were made after two months of undercover investigation with the full co-operation of university officials.

Because many students had already left for vacation and were expected to leave before the hour of the raid, no action by students is expected in response to the raid. The Eagle, in a. editorial, is not opposing the raid, since "the students broke the law."

This is the second such pre-dawn raid this year. An earlier raid at the State University of New York at Stony Brook resulted in 34 arrests on marijuana charges.

William F. Buckley, Jr.

Rest in peace . . . but

It is curious, and melancholy, that hours after the death of the Reverend Martin Luther King, and one-hundred thousand words after the doleful announcement of his murder, not a single commentator on radio or on television has mentioned what one would suppose is a critical datum, namely that Mr. King was an ordained minister in the Christian faith, and that those who believe that the ministry is other than merely symbolic servitude to God, must hope, and pray that he is today happier than he was yesterday, united with his Maker, with the angels and the saints, with the prophets whose words of inspiration he quoted with such telling effect in his hot pursuit of a secular milleniarism.

No, it is the secular aspects of his death that obsess us; very well then, let us in his memory make a few observations:

1. Whatever his virtues, and whatever his faults, he did not deserve assassination. There are the special few — one thinks of Joan of Arc—whose career dictates, as a matter of theatrical necessity, a violent end, early in life. Dr. King was not of that cast. His virtues were considerable, most notably his extraordinary capacity to inspire. But although the dream he had

seemed to many Americans, particularly the black militants, but not excluding many orthodox liberals, less and less useful (freedom now, in the sense he understood it, was a dream, mischievously deceptive), it simply wasn't ever required that, in order to reify that vision, he should surrender his own life.

In that sense his martyrdom was simply not useful. Because it is plainly impossible that, on account of his death, things are going to change. The martyrdom he seemed sometimes almost to be seeking may commend him to history and to God, but not like-ly to Scarsdale, New York; which has never credited the charge that the white community of America conspires to insure the wretchedness of

the brothers of Martin Luther King.

2. And concerning his weaknesses, it would take a lunatic (his murderer has not at this point been apprehended, but he is sure to be one) to reason that Dr. King's faults justified a private assassination. The theory to which most of us subscribe is that there is no vice so hideous as to justify private murder.

Even so, we tend emotionally to waive that categorical imperative every now and then. If someone had shot down Adolf Eichmann in a motel, the chances are that our deploring of the assassin's means would have been ritualistic. The only people who were genuinely annoyed by Jack Ruby's assassination of Lee Harvey Oswald were

those who maintained a fastidious interest in the survival of Oswald, for the sake of the record.

Dr. King's faults, and they most surely existed, were far from the category of the faults of those whose assassination is more or less tolerated, as we all of us more or less tolerated the assassination of George Lincoln Rockwell. Those faults were a terribly mistaken judgment — above all.

A year ago he accused the United States of committing crimes equal in horror to those committed by the Nazis in Germany. One could only gasp at the profanation. Ten days ago in his penultimate speech, delivered at the Washington Cathedral, he accused the United States of waging a war as indefensible as any war committed during the 20th century.

Several years ago, on the way back from Stockholm where he received the Nobel Peace Prize, he conspicuously declined to criticize the Gbenye movement in the North Congo, which was even then engaged in slaughtering, as brutally as Dr. King was slaughtered, his brothers in Christ. But for such transgressions in logic and in judgment, one does not receive the death sentence.

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