

Editorials

Commentary

Something's wrong . . .

. . . but much is right

There is something wrong with the Student in the Academic Community Committee recommendations.

What's wrong is the manner in which the students are to be selected for the proposed Council on Student Life.

IF, INDEED, the Council on Student Life becomes reality, it will be the supreme government on many areas of crucial importance to all students.

The student positions on the Council should be elected democratically, by open election; they should not be passed around as political plums by the executives and pseudo-parties that win the spring elections.

It would be rather sickening, if not intolerable, to see some future ASUN president (himself a member of the Council) direct the selection of the other six members.

students might end up battling their own officials — rather than the administration — while securing their rights.

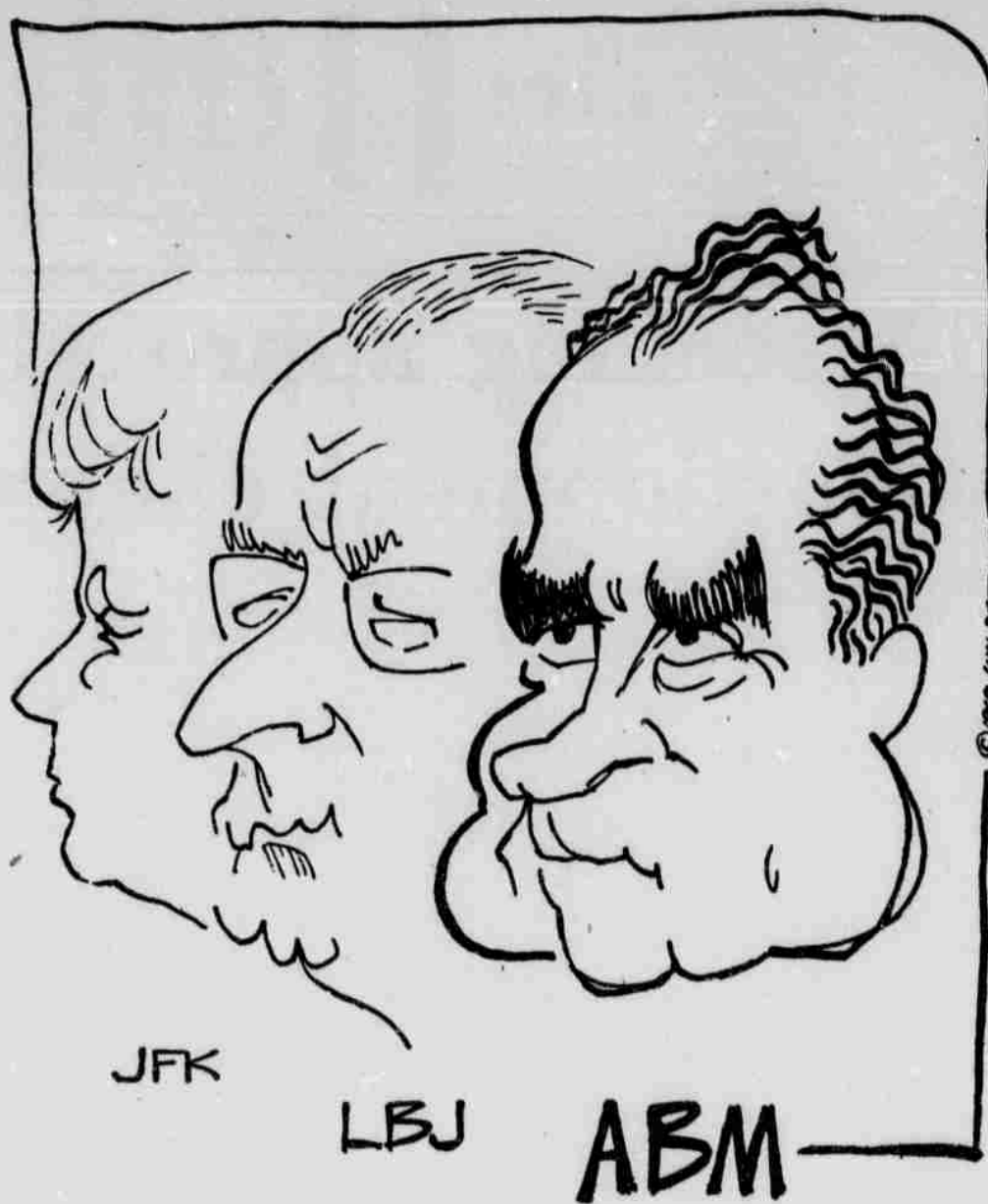
But there is . . .

An yet, there is something very right about the recommendations. When the method of selecting student representatives is ignored, it is difficult to escape the impression that University students can make the Council an effective way of attaining the freedom and rights of human beings.

It is the intention of the Committee that such a Council review policies, take action on matters affecting students, make judgments concerning the participation of students in University decision-making — and other things.

And in such a climate, the process of education cannot help but improve.

Ed Icenogle



Jockeying for position in spring race

The safety blitz is off. Randy Reeves will not run for ASUN president.

Reeves' decision not to enter the ASUN sweepstakes comes at the mid-point of an unseen two-month push by various ASUN aspirants to assemble and elect a compatible Executive Slate.

The Reeves presidential bubble had been surfacing for several months. Even before former ASUN President Craig Dreeszen resigned from office at the start of second semester, numerous people in and out of Senate were searching for a moderate-conservative candidate who could beat a Dreeszen-type liberal in the presidential election this spring.

REEVES SEEMED to be the logical choice for several reasons. He is probably the best known student at NU now, one of the rare breed of "scholar-athletes" who maintains a near-perfect average while starring as safety on the Cornhusker football team.

An independent, Reeves is known and respected by the Greek community, a quality which would have enhanced his electability and effectiveness in office.

Finally, by his own admission, Reeves is a moderate, a middle-of-the-roader, who would have given the campus a conservative alternative to the other, more liberal candidates who are expected to run.

IN FACT, his candidacy is said to have been welcomed by both the Student Affairs office and

The lonely crowd

. . . by Dave Buntain

the Athletic Department, the latter fearing that a more activist president might encourage NU's black athletes to adopt a militant stance.

Reeves was receptive to the suggestions that he run. Perhaps he had considered running prior to hearing these suggestions. In either event, he joined other presidential aspirants a month ago in formulating the all-important executive slates.

From the beginning a Reeves candidacy was feared by his potential opponents. Pointing out his lack of prior experience with the Senate, they doubted his qualifications. In reality, they doubted their own ability to win against him.

BUT THE vice-presidents must attend Senate meetings, and these Wednesday afternoon affairs conflict with football practice.

The formidability of the Reeves threat increased as his slate was completed, with Dave Landis, a Greek, in the first vice-presidential slot and Brent Skinner from East Campus as second vice-president.

Yet even as the ticket was completed, Reeves began to question his goals. Realizing that he would have to fight to regain his starting safety position next fall (since a knee injury will keep him out of spring contact work) and seeing in the Centennial College a challenge more in line with his interests,

Reeves finally decided to leave the Senate to the Senators and to focus his attention on these activities.

More than anything else, he recognized that he didn't have "the enthusiasm necessary to do all the things required of an ASUN President."

REEVES' DECISION to withdraw his name from consideration gives the ASUN election a much more wide-open look than it had several weeks ago.

Senator Bob Zucker apparently is cranking up a well-oiled propaganda machine to sell NU on his qualifications for Senate President. (Which should be interesting, since he will have to explain away his failures as Faculty-Evaluation Book editor and NSA co-ordinator.)

Another senator, Bill Chaloupka, and his running mate, Diane Theisen, also seem eager to capitalize on Reeves' withdrawal, though they, too, need a strong campaign to achieve familiarity with the electorate.

Finally, there are rumblings that one or more Greeks will try to get a piece of this independent-dominated action. Reeves, ticket-mate, Dave Landis, is expected to throw his banjo into the ring, and Sid Loggeman, former Union and IFC president, still has that presidential gleam in his eye.

BUT REGARDLESS of the candidates who emerge between now and election day, one thing seems fairly certain: any running which Randy Reeves does this spring will be in a sweat-suit and sneakers.

To those campus liberals who had feared the on-slaughter of a Student Body Right formation, this comes as surprising and welcome news.

Misuse of federal funds discovered in SBA

by Rowland Evans and Robert Novak

Washington — The government's loan of nearly half a million dollars to a Mafia-controlled company in New York run by one of the country's most vicious loan sharks reveals how Small Business Administration (SBA) policies can favor well-heeled hoodlums over impoverished ghetto merchants.

The SBA's \$400,000 in loans to the gangster-owned ANR Leasing Co. in 1965 was revealed last week in hearings by bureaucratic secrecy here and perhaps may be pried loose only by Congressional probing. Available information does point to slipshod administration by the SBA, possibly aided by a rare investigatory lapse by the FBI.

Beyond the identity of the culprit, however, is the exposure of what's wrong with rigid government lending policies: while Negro businessmen in the ghetto are often denied loans because of poor credit ratings, the good risk has the best

shot at the Federal Treasury quite apart from the desirability of his enterprise.

Significantly, the suspect loans of \$66,000 and \$400,000 to ANR were made by SBA's New York area office run by Charles Kriger, a 67-year-old lawyer closely connected with the Brooklyn Democratic Organization. Removed from his post last fall because of a notorious record for withholding loans from minority businessmen, Kriger has now been reinstated through the demands of his patron: Rep. John J. Rooney of Brooklyn.

While super-cautious in processing loan requests by ghetto enterprises, Kriger found no difficulty in quickly approving application of the unsavory cast of characters running ANR Leasing.

One officer of ANR is Thomas McKeever, a former official of the International Longshoremen's Assn. (ILA) who has been convicted by Federal courts of labor racketeering and truck theft. The other listed officer in ANR, John Masiello, Jr., has a name much more familiar to students of the Mafia.

HIS FATHER, John Masiello, Sr., really controlled ANR and is an important middle-level Mafia figure. A soldier in the Vito Genovese family, he served Federal time for grand larceny and is one of New York's biggest loan sharks. Inside the Mafia, he has argued for the loan shark business as the safest and most lucrative of rackets.

Officially, the SBA flatly refuses to say whether it requested a name check from the FBI — routine procedure — before granting the loans to ANR. However, two separate SBA officials informed us privately that name checks were requested and that the ANR officials were given a clean bill that would defy credulity.

Even if the FBI erred, however, the SBA's own investigators should have discovered ANR's messy pedigree with any thorough check. Rather, there is evidence that Kriger's SBA office depended almost exclusively on the credit reference given ANR by Royal National Bank of New York and its president, William Goldfine (which financed 25 percent of the loan while Uncle Sam provided the rest). Goldfine had close associations with both the senior Masiello and Kriger, bridging the gap between organized crime and government.

THUS, THE SBA took at face value ANR's

explanation that the loan was needed for "consolidation of debts and working capital." In fact, investigators in New York believe it likely that the Federal money was pumped into Masiello's loan shark racket where victims pay at 300 percent.

In November, 1966, SBA headquarters in Washington, belatedly, became aware of ANR's gangster origin and requested an FBI check. This time, the FBI responded with full criminal records for Masiello Sr. and McKeever. Moreover, Masiello Jr. now had acquired his own record: indictment in an August, 1965, barroom brawl in Yonkers, N.Y., resulting in the death of one elderly businessman and the loss of an eye by another.

Even with the FBI's dossier at hand, the SBA remained silent as ANR conscientiously repaid its debt. Indeed, SBA's scandalous loan might never have been exposed had not the New York State Investigation Commission come across it in its probe of the Mafia.

Furthermore, ANR Leasing decided to make another try for Federal largesse. On January 1, it applied for a new loan of \$400,000 from the SBA.

INCREDIBLY, THE SBA's New York office did not reject the application out of hand but dispatched it to Washington where the bureaucrats pondered without decision. After last week's revelation in New York, however, ANR Leasing Co. withdrew its application. The Mafia figured, finally, there was some limit to favors from Washington.

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Slightly irreverent

. . . by John Fryar

"Yes, sir, I've been interested in working for the Ace Diaper Conglomerate for some time now." Spring is here. Bus Ad Bennie is applying for a career. He thinks he's found what he wants: a company with group insurance, substantial pension plan and a three-week interview trip to Chicago, Las Vegas and Miami.

"FIRST, YOUNG man, let's review your qualifications. I really haven't had time to glance at your resume, so why don't you begin by telling me a little bit about yourself?" "Well, first off, I've been active in the Tri Sigs. I have been social chairman, rush chairman, scholarship chairman and now I'm president." Bennie winks and polishes his diamond-crested pin, just as the interviewer frowns.

"OH? NEVER belonged to a sorority myself. Rather infantile, wouldn't you say?" "Er, you see, my soror—uh, fraternity is quite progressive. We've outlawed hazing and lineups. We've even had a speaker this year."

"Umm, besides, some of my best friends are dorm — er, independents."

"SON, WHAT Ace Diapers wants to know is what you've done to qualify you as a junior executive."

Bennie beams. "I, sir, am an Innocent." "Himm. One would think that four years of college would have cured that, wouldn't one? By the way, what liberal arts courses have you had? Ace Diapers likes a broad background." "Well, I've had English 21 and 22, for a start." "Hobbies?"

"I REALLY enjoy minor sports. You know — frisbee, catch, woodsies." "Woodsies?" "Yes, they're . . . picnics. That's it." "I'll be darned. Don't college kids drink any more?"

Bennie relaxes and winks again. "Well, we don't drink any less." "That's too bad. Our personnel manager is a teetotaler."

BENNIE SHRINKS and begins to play with the matching tie to his matching shirt, the sweat dripping clear down to his coordinated calf-length hose.

"What work experience have you had?" Bennie perks up. "Quite a bit. I was a Spring Day worker, and a Builders worker, and a Red Cross worker, and an AUF worker, and a Kosmet Klub worker . . ."

"References?" "Senator Backlash is an alum of our house. I'm sure he'd vouch for me."

"INTERESTING FELLOW. Didn't vote for him, myself."

"There's 'Numbers' Feebleman, my accounting instructor."

"Poor old Numbers. He still around? Never could make it in business, the old coot." "Frankly, sir, what do you think?" "Ace Diapers always needs bright young men. Can you drive a truck? No? Actually, Bennie, what we're looking for is someone a little more radical. Someone with new ideas to shake the industry. Someone to prove that we're just as progressive as anyone."

"I WAS in charge of Hyde Park once."

"Sorry, Bennie."

"I read the Nebraskan regularly."

"Try again after graduate school. Give me five. It was nice talking to you, anyway."

A month and several missed shaves later, Bennie tries again.

"Hey, man, I mean, just what does your Establishment scene, I mean, Fahrquart Pipe Wrenches, Ltd., I mean, what's in it for me and the Movement?"

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