

Nebraskan editorial page

Shutouts find strong friend

Two letters in the Open Forum (Oct. 17 and today's issue) have criticized the Board of Regents for procedures which graduate students — interested in liberalization of visiting policies in graduate dorms — say have shut them off from any real discussions with the Board.

While the students may be overly sensitive and lack of time may be a valid defense for the Regents, students who feel cut off and ignored must be regarded as a failure on the part of the Board.

The new Council on Student Life stands in an excellent position to remedy such situations. Because it does have an official standing with the Board, its suggestions for policy changes undoubtedly will be a formal part of meetings; student ideas and requests will no longer be an extra on the agenda, to be gotten to when there's time left over.

Dr. John Davis, chairman of the Council, plans to start establishing the nature of that relationship at the Council's first meeting Tuesday. He sees the first tasks of the Council as setting up its own operation, meeting and hearing procedures and, further defining with the Regents its areas of authority. He stresses that it will be a legitimate function of the Council to research and make suggestions concerning matters on which it may not have specific powers but are of importance to students.

Such procedures are designed to give students maximum access to the Council and to insure a good, working relationship with the Regents. These are exactly what students have lacked in attempts to work out policy with the Regents, whose main concern must be financial and administrative affairs of a large university.

Dr. Davis is to be congratulated for setting such a tone for the Council, and previously disappointed students can begin to look to an official friend — a friend in power.

at Rapping random by Ron Alexander

The student government is providing two opportunities this year in which students can discuss topics of concern for us as university citizens. Next spring World in Revolution will explore America's urban problems. Monday and Tuesday, Time Out will discuss the University.

Time Out is a program dedicated to the idea of setting aside daily academic matters to consider specific issues as a community.

Many questions will be raised next week. What role does the university play in society? What obligations does the university have to help solve our social ills? What part should students play in governing their university? And, finally, what reforms do we need to make our university best achieve the goals we set?

Time Out is based on the idea that students invite speakers they want to hear and gain an opportunity to talk to them.

The speakers or research people are to present a body of information, but the most important part of the program is discussion. Interaction amongst those attending the rap sessions provides answers to personal points of view. Through the discussions individuals begin to understand the problems, as does the community. Resulting from the understanding is the creation of a platform for actual reform.

To make the most important parts of Time Out a success we must be prepared for the discussion sessions. ASUN has reproduced articles by the four speakers which serve as an introduction to the viewpoints to be discussed.

The article "The University is a Marshmallow" by William Birenbaum is an introduction to the idea that the university is at present not truly involved in such real problems of America as the ghettos next door, and that unless the university assumes the initiative it may die as an institution.

Birenbaum says that "an order based upon what (a framework which) no longer works, an order which dishonors the new knowledge and ignores the perceptions of the younger, such an order is the enemy of reform and the greatest deterrent to learning." He is president of Long Island Community College, and was associated with the New School for Social Research, an experimental college in New York City.

Another participant in Time Out is Carl Davidson, NU grad who has devoted the last several years to pushing for more student involvement in governing the university.

Charles Palmer, another speaker, was elected president of NSA at last summer's convention and played a significant role in the events which lead to passage of black demands at the convention.

James Turner is Director of the Center for Afro-American Studies at Cornell University. He has played a significant role in organizing black students there as well as at Northwestern, where he is a Ph.D. candidate.

Time Out is not a program composed of national stars and starlets. The invited speakers are dedicated to the problems of the university, and are coming to help us discuss our university. At these sessions we will have opportunities to air our opinions and hopefully to arrive at some useful suggestions for improving our university.

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Lecture series (for credit)

Goshen Hole

... J. L. Schmidt

"If I listen long enough to you, I'd find a way to believe that it's all true."

Tim Hardin

Tim Hardin is all true, and all for you on the album "The Best of Tim Hardin" released by Verve Forecast.

Hardin, probably better known as the composer of hits ranging from "Misty Roses" to "If I Were a Carpenter" is also a performer in his own right and sings with a sometimes haunting tenor which fits the mood of most of his work.

A great rhythm section and some heavy (at times too heavy) orchestration are characteristic of some of his songs. "Don't Make Promises" and "It'll Never Happen" are two songs which have this heavy background. "Misty Roses" has an interesting vibes background and "How Can We Hang on to a Dream" is spiced with sad violin strains.

"Black Sheep Boy" and "Red Balloon" feature some of Hardin's brilliant guitar solo work.

The song "Smugglin' Man" doesn't really belong on this album, save for the fact that it was the best of this genre of music which he has concocted, and he hasn't done too much of this.

Two Hardin hits made big by Bobby Darin, "If I Were a Carpenter" and "Lady Came from Baltimore," succumb to the Hardin style with an interesting percussion background. Hardin does them slightly better than Darin, with a bit more of the feeling that only the composer can transmit.

In short, Tim Hardin sings Tim Hardin very well and makes for good listening.

Dale Hawkins "L.A., Memphis and Tyler, Texas" (Bell Stereo) is every bit as bad as Hardin is good. The album was recorded in the three cities and this was made the specialty gimmick of the record for a reason known only to Hawkins.

The orchestration comes across with a soul beat, Hawkins tries to talk country and sing black blues. The result sounds like the "Flippers" trying to jam with "The Buckaroos." Bad.

Notable, or notorious, versions of "Hound Dog" and "Ruby" deserve mention. One gets the idea on "Ruby" that the rest of the orchestra is in a hurry to leave the studio and is about five bars ahead of Hawkins. Some wailing like Howlin' Wolf is tried on "Hound Dog" but isn't very effective.

In short, this is a very weak attempt at Hawkins trying to find his talent, which singing isn't. I would say that he should stick to writing and producing, even though his big hits were the questionable gummer favorites, "Do It Again a Little Bit Slower," and "Western Union."

A confusing album which may, or may not get your head straight. I'll leave the decision up to you on this one.



So goes the nation Appointee lacks judge's wisdom

The nomination of Judge Clement F. Haynsworth Jr. to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States poses difficult issues for members of the Senate — who must confirm or reject him — and for individual citizens who must make some judgment about the wisdom of the nomination.

His nomination has been questioned on charges of conflict of interest, consistent opposition to effective implementation of Supreme Court decisions on equal rights, and consistent bias against employees in labor-management cases.

Each of these questions is serious, particularly at a time when the integrity and the impartiality of the Supreme Court are under fire. The decision on the Haynsworth nomination will effect the composition of the court, its standing in our society, and the confidence of citizens in our democratic system of government.

The Supreme Court represents the ultimate authority within the framework of our judicial institutions. Maintaining the public's confidence in the court — in the integrity and understanding of its members — is essential to an orderly system of justice.

More than ever before it is essential that any person appointed to the court exhibit an unquestionable sensitivity to the ethical requirements of his position and an appreciation of the moral imperatives of America in the 1970's. Unfortunately, President Nixon's nomination raises serious questions on both counts — questions which would not have been posed had the President followed the standards for judicial appointments he described when he nominated Chief Justice Burger.

There is strong evidence that Judge Haynsworth is insensitive to conflict of interest risks — both in his participation in a case involving a substantial customer of a company in which he had an active interest and in his purchase of stock from a company involved in a case before his court. There is strong evidence that in cases of doubt he was either oblivious to the issues involved or inclined to lean in the direction of his outside financial interests.

The second question posed by Judge Haynsworth's nomination is that of the meaning and direction of his opinions on civil rights cases. Today a Supreme Court justice must be fully sensitive to the efforts of black Americans, poverty-stricken Americans, and millions of other Americans to participate fully in our society. He must consider, with understanding and compassion, cases which are a part of the most perplexing social problems besetting our nation.

Judge Haynsworth's decisions in a series of school desegregation cases — where he supported more delays in equal rights — do not show the sensitivity and understanding that this task demands. His addition to the Supreme Court would not only have an impact on the Court's decisions in this area, but would also, I am afraid, further encourage those resisting meaningful desegregation.

In the field of labor-management relations, Judge Haynsworth's record is no better. It reveals a similar insensitivity to the legitimate efforts of workers to improve the conditions under which they labor.

Judge Haynsworth's overall record indicates a view highly favorable to management. He has written 7 opinions on labor management disputes which have been reviewed by the Supreme Court. In all 7, he resolved the issue contrary to the position asserted by employees. In all 7 cases, he was reversed by the Supreme Court, and in all but one of these reversals, the Supreme Court acted unanimously. This is not a record which suggests that he would deal with labor and management with an even hand, as a member of the Supreme Court.

There seems to be little question that Judge Haynsworth is a competent lawyer. But the Supreme Court needs more than competence. It needs judges who, in their independent status, exercise the greatest ethical discretion, exhibit deep compassion for the needs and aspirations of those who must depend on the Court for protection and support.

A Supreme Court judge must be able to cut through the obfuscation of procedural road-blocks to those Constitutional issues which are relevant to the individuals involved, important to the society in which they live and essential to the vitality and the integrity of our Democratic system. Unfortunately, Judge Haynsworth does not seem to measure up to that standard.

Open forum

Dear Editor:

The Board of Regents held an "open" business meeting Friday afternoon, October 24, and as a representative of the graduate dormitories I attended with the hope of furthering communication with the Regents on the issue of coed visitation.

An October 21 letter from the president of the Board informed our group that we could present a statement to respond to their reasons for denial of visitation. However, the closing minutes of the meeting were conducted in such a manner that we were unable to present our stand.

In fact, the almost simultaneous utterances of "Is there any other business?" and "Meeting adjourned," as well as the failure to address the audience, denied all spectators the opportunity to address the Regents.

My concern is not so much with the fact our graduate statement was not presented, but rather with the insensitive procedure which, in effect, prevented anyone from publicly discussing any issue with the Board of Regents. This certainly is not in keeping with the Regents' professed willingness to listen to what students have to say.

By failing to allow free and open discussion the Board has closed off a necessary channel of communication which is essential to democratic governance. While I'm sure the Regents would be first to emphasize that any change must occur through the existing rules and structures, they certainly have not facilitated this idea.

What are responsible individuals who are willing to work within the existing framework to do when this means of access to the

decision-makers is denied them? If the existing channels are closed and democratic processes restricted, should individuals or groups still be expected to abide by them?

David Griffith

Dear Editor:

I have recently read an article by Gerald Farber entitled "The Student as a Nigger" which is being distributed on campus in connection with Time-Out. I was disturbed by it, to say the least.

Gerald Farber is a teacher at California State at Los Angeles. He tells of what the students there put up with, I feel sorry for students at Cal State L.A. if this is the case, but then he gradually shifts this specific condition to all students. He concludes that the student is a "nigger," a "slave" to education and then takes a look at the teachers' role.

He says that teachers have the student under control with the grade as a weapon. He says it is more powerful than a gun. He says the teacher is afraid of the student because "after all, students are different, just like black people." He says that too little education takes place in the schools, and then offers a solution.

His conclusion is "you can't really get away from it (educational oppression) and appeals to students to use their "immense unused power."

Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 27 and 28, Time-Out will sponsor discussions throughout the campus concerning these issues. I see nothing wrong with discussions of these topics to open up minds, but I hope Nebraska students will ask themselves, "Do these situations really exist at the University of Nebraska?"

Paul Eldridge