



The Daily Nebraskan

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1970

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

VOL. 93, NO. 55

Dorm coed lounges little used

by CAROL ANDERSON
Nebraskan Staff Writer

Experimental coed lounges, approved for use in three dormitories since last November, haven't been used much by students and no one is sure why.

IDA President Theresa Sledge said that although "not

an overwhelming number of people have participated, we aren't counting numbers as success."

She sees the open lounges implemented in Sandoz, Schramm and Abel-South halls as "a step to provide more opportunities to hall residents to take advantage of this type of

visitation."

IDA's open lounge proposal was okayed last summer by the Regents. Each floor in the three dorms voted on whether they wanted their floor lounges open to the opposite sex during specified times under sponsorship by dorm staff and student floor officers. Floors

approving the proposal set their own open lounge times within IDA guidelines.

Eight of Schramm's nine floors voted to participate in the experiment; six out of 12 Abel-South floors and most floors in Sandoz although the vote was close in the girls' dorm.

Smith Hall which was originally included as one of the experimental dorms turned it down for fear of invasion of privacy, Miss Sledge said.

Barry Pilger, IDA vice president, has a different opinion on the open lounges. Pilger opposes open lounges calling the experiment the Regents' way of appeasing students about the coed visitation issue.

Open lounges are "not popular — kids are not using them," Pilger said. Open lounges were gotten "on our hands and knees begging the Regents," according to Pilger who said the goal of student self-determination was set back by open lounges.

"Control of the students' social and non-academic life should be in the hands of the individual dorms," he stressed.

Before approving the open lounge proposal, the Regents toured the dorms to see if the physical facilities were suited to the experiment.

"The Regents admitted that the dorm lounge facilities are inadequate," Pilger continued, when they asked the floors to submit improvement plans to the Housing Office.

Abel President Brad Brooks said the submitted plans call for additional furniture, carpeting and wall paneling. Women's dorms already have some of these facilities, Brooks said. Improvements will take time, he continued, and as yet no money has been allocated.

Open lounges "are working out pretty well," but participation is greater on floors that voted to have it more often, Brooks said.

Housing Director Ely Meyerson said that although the experimental lounges are "getting limited use, those participating enjoy it and use it responsibly. We've had no problems with student behavior."

Open lounges were originally a one-semester experiment, Meyerson said, and plans for expanding it have not been made. "No one has asked for it."

Schramm Hall President Rod Patent admits that "at times the lounges aren't used." More activities such as bridge parties would make the girls less inhibited about "coming up," Patent said.

Miss Sledge said the Regents would not approve Pound and Cather Halls for the experiment because the floor lounges in these dorms are not enclosed.

The question of sponsorship is another hang-up in the Cather-Pound proposal that was passed by IDA. That proposal called for sponsorship by floor officers instead of parents and faculty as is the case with sponsorship of IDA hours.

"It's hard to get parents and faculty as sponsors," Miss Sledge said. According to the IDA President, Dean of Student Affairs, G. Robert Ross told her that the Pound-Cather proposal could be implemented if student sponsorship were deleted or the issue could be taken to the Regents.

Panel disclaims black status

By MARY PAT FOWLER
Nebraskan Staff Writer

A handful of students listened Friday as a minority student panel discussed the "disease" of racism in the final event of Black History Week.

About 100 students heard several of the five-member panel disclaim their second class citizenship status, condemn the Vietnam war and proclaim violence as practically the only means to attain their goal of equality.

Jerome Drakeford, a sophomore majoring in Physics commented at the meeting in the Union Lounge that he didn't feel like an American "except when it comes time to go to Vietnam or pay taxes."

Al Lewis agreed with him and added that "until the time comes when I have equal rights and am judged fairly, I'll just live here. I'm not really a citizen."

The Mexican-American on the panel replied to this question

by saying that Chicanos on the whole are so oppressed that they don't even think about being American citizens. "They spend all their time in the fields under terrible working conditions."

When asked about the Vietnam War, Lewis answered, "First of all, we have no good reason to be there, and secondly it just isn't my war."

Drakeford responded to the subject of Vietnam when he said, "The government propaganda says that the U.S. is there to insure the South Vietnamese the right of self-determination. I'm not foolish enough to believe it."

"If we are there to protect that right, why aren't we in South Africa, Rhodesia, and an even bigger question is 'Why aren't we in the South or the Northern ghettos?'"

He added that in his opinion, the "U.S. doesn't do anything unless there's a buck in it," and then asked the question, "How can the U.S. help other countries if they're not doing anything here?"

George Anyatonwu, graduate student in economics and a former Biafran now Nigerian, pointed out that from even an economic point of view the Vietnam war is damaging to the U.S.

Lynetta Harrold, panel moderator then turned the discussion to the subject of how the members of the panel as minority leaders could return power to the people and also what mean they would use to do it.

"Society doesn't deal with individuals, so we must develop a political social and economic organization to guarantee our human rights," said Miss Harrold.

"Our only means seems to be violence. You have to rap with people on their own level; you have to rap with white people through violence."

"Violence is even necessary to effect basic changes in the university," she said. "The fat cats in administration didn't listen to us last year because our demonstration was peaceful."

When asked to describe exactly what "any means necessary" entails, Drakeford said, "It means I'll go to Dean Ross's office and sweet talk him. It means I'll teach black kids how to add so that they won't get gyped at the store."

"I can teach people how to shoot. I learned that in high school ROTC. In chemistry I learned how to make napalm. In Physics they explained to us how missile systems are put together. In economics, we'll deceive them at their own game. I can do anything but be a fool."



Photo by Dan Ladely

Charlotte

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| WHAT'S INSIDE | |
| Students for Peterson | Page 2 |
| Lottery editorial | Page 4 |
| Sports | Page 6 |
| East Campus | Page 8 |