

## A view of the oasis

It has been suggested that Nebraska might become an economic oasis for out-of-state students if the State Supreme Court upholds a recent District Court decision overthrowing the University's policy for determining resident tuition status.

Currently it is impossible for a person to obtain resident status for tuition purposes while he is studying at a state school. The decision, if upheld, would allow a student 20 years old or over to establish residency after living in the state for four months.

Since four other states, Minnesota, Oregon, Tennessee and Washington, allow non-residents to establish residency while attending school, Nebraska would hardly become an oasis. There is really no desert.

NU Director of Admissions John Aronson said recently that a student would have to show his intent of staying in Nebraska after graduation to qualify for resident status. But, this would be almost impossible.

It could also be argued that students whose parents live in Nebraska and are thus classified as residents do not have to show an intent of making Nebraska their permanent home.

Aronson later clarified probable requisites for resident classification. The first requirement would be that the non-resident student be over 20, since a minor's legal residence remains with his parents.

The student would have to live in Nebraska for four months after his twentieth birthday, pay taxes in Nebraska, vote in Nebraska and otherwise be a true legal resident.

Though the Lincoln Star estimated recently that the ruling might cost the University as much as \$2.5 million per year, University business manager Miles Tommeraasen has estimated the figure at closer to \$1 million. Even this estimate seems a bit high.

The ruling would affect mainly graduate and professional students at the University. Even if all the 1,500 to 1,700 students affected applied for and got resident status, the figure would be closer to \$800 or \$900 thousand per year.

But, this is still a great deal of money and at a time when University funds are likely to be cut, every little bit helps.

It is evident that if the current law is overturned, the legislature will lose no time in establishing a new one of some type.

But, even if the current system is retained, this might be a good time to re-examine the structure of resident and non-resident tuition, with an eye toward fairness for those true Nebraska citizens classified as non-residents.

Bill Smitherman  
News Editor

## A minute of glory

The University Corn Cobs are sponsoring an effort to send a float from Nebraska to the Orange Bowl Parade New Year's Eve.

It is estimated that the float will cost \$10,000 and no statewide organizations have been willing to put up the money. On the surface, the Corn Cob drive seems to be a good idea.

Corn Cob Gary Kuklin said Nebraska must have a float in the parade because "it will embarrass the state" if we don't. The float would also serve as a tribute to Nebraska's unbeaten football team, he said.

But, lets consider what the Corn Cobs will really be buying if they reach their goal. The result will be a minute or so of national television time where the state will be mentioned, nothing more.

Nebraska will not be embarrassed by the lack of this minute. Indeed, it is doubtful that anyone will notice. The parade will have no lack of floats without Nebraska.

In order to send the float, \$6,000 must be collected by Wednesday of next week. If this goal isn't met, the money that is collected will be sent to funds for the dependents of the Marshall and Wichita State University plane crash tragedies.

It seems that a contribution to these funds, honoring fallen athletes, would be a more fitting tribute to an unbeaten football team than a one-day float. That might still even get Nebraska some TV time, if such things matter.

A contribution to the University funds would help more than 100 children and many widows. A float would really help no one.

## THE NEBRASKAN

Telephones: Editor: 472-2588, Business: 472-2590, News: 472-2589. Second class postage paid at Lincoln, Neb.  
Subscription rates are \$5 per semester or \$8.50 per year. Published Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday during the school year except during vacations and exam periods. Member of the Intercollegiate Press, National Educational Advertising Service.  
The Nebraskan is a student publication, independent of the University of Nebraska's administration, faculty and student government.  
Address: The Nebraskan

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"Mass suicide is always a terrible thing . . ."

## Letters

### An American gift

Dear Editor,

Mr. Larry Cooper has indicated that he opposes giving money to individuals through the PACE program on the grounds that "loans" are preferable to "gifts" (witness the bad experience with "foreign aid!"). I observe that Mr. Cooper is attending a land grant college and an agricultural school.

The same Nebraskan which quotes Mr. Cooper also includes two articles about Native American people on this campus. We might all recall that the "land-grant" which formed the basic grant to the educational institution which Mr. Cooper now attends, that the land which my ancestors farmed and which his ancestors must have farmed if they farmed at all, that the land on which the agricultural experiment stations are located, is American people at the point of a gun.

I see no prospect that white America will treat what it has stolen from Native American people as a loan. Wounded Knee ended that hope in 1893. Now the average age of death for Indian people in Nebraska is about 40 years (in some places, well under forty). The dropout rates for Indian children are 70%; college attendance is almost non-existent. And in Blake's phrase, "Babes are reduced to misery."

Desperation can change people's manners and courtesies to one another almost as much as can greed; we should hope that America's

Indian people will gain back their "gifts" to us in a manner somewhat gentler than the manner of our greedy and starving ancestors.

But the responsiveness of the University, the schools, and of those who hold power in our society is not very great. I do not know that a revolution is around the corner or that our present insensitivity to social need will lead to greater polarization in our society. I do know that despair prescribes desperate courses.

Some Native Americans whom I know are beginning to feel that they want their loan back; that is the significance of the request to the University of Nebraska to grant free tuition to Indian Students. It is also the significance of the sit-in on Mount Crazy Horse (Mount Rushmore).

Paul A. Olson

### Response to critics

Dear Editor:

Several weeks ago, I came out with my alternative proposal, taking the best points of both PACE and of STOPACE. Since that time there has been considerable discussion, and before things go any further, there are several arguments I would like to respond to.

One argument is that "there are already too many registration forms to fill out, and the addition easily could be lost or ignored." This is a very weak and superficial argument to me. I believe that the cost of implementing this proposal would be significantly less than PACE's.

Another argument is that my proposal, to put PACE on a

voluntary base, would have to be explained every year to incoming freshmen. I do not believe that this is at all bad. Out of a continuous, yearly dialogue exists the possibility that a better program will evolve. Under PACE, there is no provision to explain PACE to incoming freshmen. In time students would be paying for a program which they had no part in, and the reasons for the tuition hike would be lost or forgotten.

Then it is argued that my proposal is "inadequate" and would not raise significant funds. Those who preach this line are showing a gross lack of faith in the generosity of their fellow man. This is quite out of place with the lofty, idealistic terms PACE people like to talk in.

Finally some object because they say my alternative is "charity" while PACE is a "true commitment." Both programs are cases of those having the means for higher education giving to those who have-not the means for higher education. Call it what you will. Terminology is unimportant.

Next Wednesday, December 9, 1970, at 4:00 p.m. in the Union, the ASUN will consider and hopefully vote on this proposal. I am urging all interested students to get in touch with their ASUN senator and inform him of your views. Also I ask that all members of ASUN study carefully all sides of the issues so that a vote, if taken, may be made rationally and intelligently.

Doug Voegler

Dear Editor: