

# dear editor

## NU women's lib

Dear editor,

This letter is in response to the letter by Scott Yahnke in Monday's *Daily Nebraskan*.

The questions you raise Mr. Yahnke pertain not at all to the issues of Women's Liberation but rather to your own understanding of the social and personal realities you find around you.

Do you really think Mr. Yahnke that laws change people's ways of thinking? Does the fact that you are under twenty keep you from drinking beer? Do laws against walking on grass convince me that hot concrete feels better to my bare feet?

No, Mr. Yahnke, all the laws in the world will not change the sexual reality you find surround you. Nor, I fear, will all the might and power that the womens' movement can muster, now or in the future. The real struggle, Mr. Yahnke, must be made in your own mind and the minds of those like you. And pious statements such as "I am not a male chauvinist" show that the battle is not even joined.

As to your idiotic suggestion that a sorority should retaliate by portraying men as sex objects: why, Mr. Yahnke, should they stoop to your level. What need have they to proclaim themselves as uncertain about their identity and sexuality as you do?

If your letter were meant as a defense of the fraternity, I am sure there must be better defenses than you suggest. If not, it doesn't deserve to exist. The "noise," Mr. Yahnke, was directed towards you and the brothers, simply because you are the enemy. Where else would you direct it?

John C. Hughes, Jr.

## Questions scholarships

Dear editor,

On March 14, 1971, the University issued a press release announcing a bequest given to the University of Nebraska foundation, in the amount of \$200,000. The bequest was specifically designated for use in scholarship funds for "worthy and needy" female students at the University.

Some weeks ago the Foundation turned down a gift that was specified for use by "minority students." There seems to be a blatant inconsistency on the part of the University Foundation. Apparently the minority scholarship was turned down because the Foundation could not specify use of its funds for one particular group. Why was this permitted to happen?

A big why also as to the whereabouts of the University Women's Actions Group concerning the receipt of these funds. It appears that this is another "sexist" conspiracy that they should be aware of.

Sincerely,

Gene Barry  
Arthur R. Todd  
Shadraque Bushido

## Med sophs speak

Dear editor,

Governor Exon's budget in terms of actual state aid for the University of Nebraska is decreased from previous years. The limitations on the budget for the Medical Center (UNMC) appears to be a most

unwise approach of solving the health care needs in Nebraska. There are many reasons why this budget should not be cut, but rather funded as requested by UNMC.

The commitment of UNMC to the needs of the state are reflected by the findings of a recent survey. For instance, 75% of the C.P.'s in Nebraska cities of less than 10,000 population were trained at UNMC, and 56% of all physicians in the state are Nebraska graduates. At UNMC today over 90% of the medical student population are Nebraska residents.

With the budget request UNMC could increase the number of internships and residency programs available to graduating doctors. A health manpower survey showed that four out of every six medical school graduates end up practicing in the state in which they receive their internship and residency training. Only one out of six physicians who went outside the state to obtain intern and residency training returned to Nebraska to practice. Right now there are not enough spaces in Nebraska to accommodate the graduating medical school classes for internship and residency training. Increasing the number of young doctors staying in the state to receive their internship and residency training will in effect, increase the number of doctors staying to practice. The results will not be immediate. For example, our class will graduate in two years, to be followed by at least three years of graduate medical education not to mention the two years in the armed forces. It will be seven years before the effect of the budget on our sophomore class will be felt in Nebraska. In other words, the effect of an adequate budget will be felt not only today but the investment would have long-range returns. How can Nebraska expect to have enough doctors if there is an inadequate number of postgraduate positions? The UNMC budget request would allow more Nebraska students to stay in Nebraska for postgraduate training and subsequently, practice here.

In addition, the responsiveness of the state legislature and governor to the health needs of the people tells the medical student much about what to expect when he begins to practice medicine in that state. For instance, continued medical education programs, medical library services, consultations and referral of patients are necessary items the practicing G. P. needs from his medical center. If the state is reluctant to grant budget requests for the medical center, doubt arises in the student's mind as to what he can expect when he begins to practice medicine. Making the practice of good medicine more difficult by not providing such services does not attract young doctors to stay in the state. We ask, can Nebraska alleviate its doctor shortage with such an approach?

The budget request would allow UNMC to increase the size of its student body. In 1964, there were 87 students in the freshman medical class, in 1971, there are 130. In a few years with adequate support, this could grow significantly. The total number of students at the Medical Center in 1971-1973 is expected to be more than double what it was in 1968-1969 (includes medical,



nursing, graduate, and allied health students). The increased student body requires increases in the faculty and staff, resulting ultimately in an increase of patient care and health services for the state. Again, this is a long-range effect of the budget.

Other effects will be more immediate and tangible. They include the introduction of new programs like a Division of Rural Health designed to attack the problems of health care outside the metropolitan area, or the Physician's Assistant Training Program designed to help meet the health care shortage of the state, or a Kidney Dialysis Unit which would have both inpatient and at home kidney machines for Nebraskans suffering from kidney failure. There are many other new approaches to serving Nebraska's health needs.

Given that the function of UNMC is to meet the health needs of the people of Nebraska, it would appear unwise for the legislature not to grant the UNMC budget request. Only in this way can UNMC attempt to meet the health needs of the people now and in the future. We trust that you are fully aware of the effects this budget request will have on the people of Nebraska.

Sincerely yours,

Sophomore Medical Students  
University of Nebraska

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