

Apathy again?

This year, like most of the past, ASUN elections will probably go unnoticed by 80 per cent of the student body.

They will probably go unnoticed unless some new interest can be generated this week. And that interest cannot be generated by a student newspaper, but it must come from the candidates and their parties.

At universities across the country, election results indicate that, despite all the controversy on college campuses, the majority of students are not participating in student elections this year.

Just last week, the University of Iowa, a school of 30,000 students, held an election in which only 3000 students voted. The same thing has happened at other schools.

Apparently, little esteem is held for student governments, even by students themselves, (not to mention Regents and administrators).

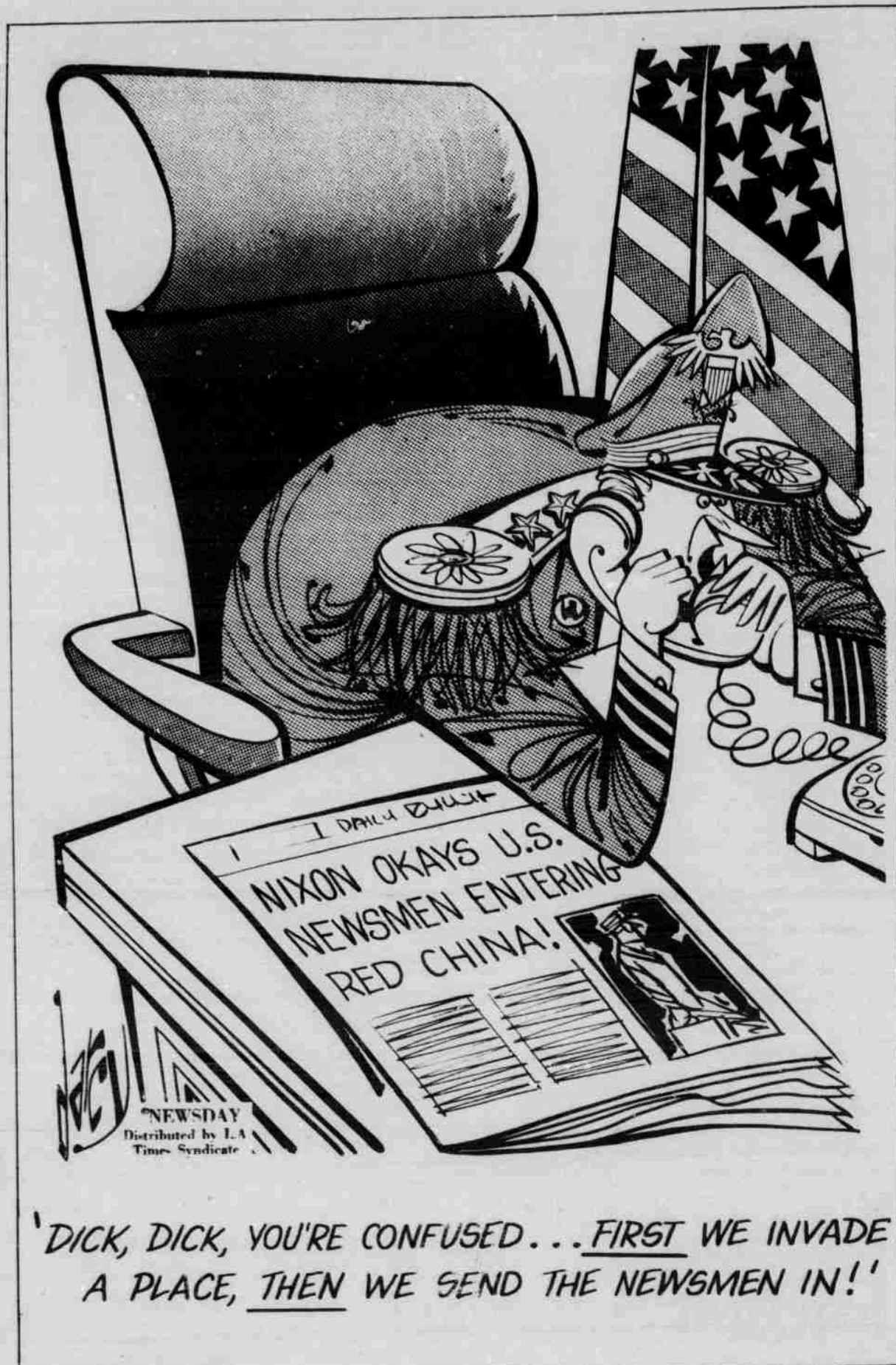
Likewise, most NU students think ASUN is either a joke or a waste of time. Maybe it's both, but the point is it doesn't have to be either. ASUN can become more than just a passive, slow-to-move body. It can become an active agent of educational reform if it has a mandate from the students.

This week the candidates will begin to campaign in the living units on the campuses. Traditionally, the living units are flooded with brochures, pamphlets and posters. This might be the year to arrest that tradition. What is needed is some rational discourse.

All the posters and pamphlets won't generate interest, especially in a student election. There has to be more to it than that. There has to be a listening to the grievances of the students, so that the candidates can formulate their methods of solving student problems.

If this is not done, and if students are not given some say in the platforms of the parties, then this year will be no different from the past.

Mick Moriarty



'DICK, DICK, YOU'RE CONFUSED... FIRST WE INVADE A PLACE, THEN WE SEND THE NEWSMEN IN!'

dear editor ... dear editor

Dear Governor Exon:

The University of Nebraska Student Veterans Organization appreciates very much your reply to our letter concerning the 1971-72 University budget.

We feel compelled, however, to raise some questions concerning statements contained in your reply. You stated that your recommendation of \$78,038 million for next year is up 8.5 percent over the amount received this year. Isn't it true that to accomplish this increase in funds, the University would have to generate \$7.2 million additional income in one year from sources other than state tax support? Isn't it also true that in actuality you have recommended an amount from the General Fund for the University of Nebraska which is 3.6 percent less than the amount received for 1970-71?

It is clearly evident that the University must either save a very large sum of money or generate a very large sum internally if these recommendations are followed. There are two methods which would most probably be used to accomplish these ends. To save a large sum, limiting

enrollment would probably be the method. To generate a large sum, an increase in tuition would probably be forthcoming. We feel that these two methods have far reaching implications for the entire student body, but they have special significance concerning the student veteran.

In the case of a tuition increase, some preliminary calculations indicate that it would cost student veterans alone between \$35,000 and \$40,000 per semester. This savings to the taxpayers would be replaced by monies generated by student veterans, which would successfully negate the cost of living increase we received approximately one year ago.

Should enrollment be limited, would this not severely cripple a returning veteran's chances of getting into the University? Although their academic achievements were often not spectacular, many veterans attended college prior to entering military service. Upon returning to college, these same students have, in most cases, been above average to excellent students. If an enrollment limitation plan is put into effect, many highly potential Nebraska veterans

may never develop their capabilities to the fullest extent.

Is the veteran asking too much when he asks those in whose name he has served for the chance of a quality education at a reasonable cost?

As for the entire student body, can you foresee the number of students who will, of necessity, discontinue their enrollment at the University? In reference to an enrollment limitation, how would your children feel if they were told the University budget was not large enough for them to be admitted?

We feel that we must once again respectfully ask for your reconsideration of your proposed University budget. Thank you for your concern in this matter.

Sincerely yours,
Dan L. Cuda

President

editorial
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