

## Back people . . . back PACE

In the abbreviated style of the day it is called PACE, which stands for Program of Active Commitment to Education. But to many low-income students of all colors and creeds, PACE could mean a ticket to a college education.

When tuition statements arrive in the mail this week, University students will be asked to contribute to the PACE scholarship fund, which was created last year in response to the cut-back in state and federal scholarship funds available to low-income students.

In a plan approved in last spring's student elections, students will be asked to contribute \$3.50 per semester (\$1.75 per summer session) to the PACE scholarship fund. The PACE fee will be included in the tuition, but there will be an explanation stating that the \$3.50 fee is voluntary and can be deducted from the tuition total.

Contributing to PACE will help increase the small number of low-income students who are currently able to attend college. A recent report shows that in Nebraska only 18.9 per cent of the graduating high school seniors from low-income families are able to attend college while 65 per cent of the middle and upper income high school graduates go on to college.

The University Financial Aids Office has made substantial commitments in awards letters to low-income students on the basis of the summer showing of PACE in which 29 per cent of those enrolled contributed. The office is assuming that about one-third of the first semester students will contribute.

The federal government will also be kicking in matching funds to help PACE, but the amount it contributes will depend on the amount of money raised locally.

The PACE committee also plans a faculty fund drive starting October 1 and will solicit funds from businessmen and foundations in Lincoln and other Nebraska communities.

The success of the program depends largely on the individual student. If you or your parents can afford it, contribute the \$3.50 to PACE. Back people by backing PACE.

## The Volunteer Bureau wants you

What are you doing with your spare time this semester?

Sitting in the Union lounge rapping? Drinking at the local bar? Watching hour after hour of television?

If you feel you are vegetating and want to get out of your rut then you might consider volunteer work. The Student Volunteer Bureau, which coordinates volunteer programs at UNL, is looking for help.

The Bureau, which is in its second year of operation, is looking for volunteers to staff such agencies as the Student Action Front, University 4H and University Y. Interested students should contact the Student Activities office in the Nebraska Union.

"There are a lot of wants that students don't know need to be met," according to Mary Dean, the Bureau's director. For example, volunteers are needed for the Big Sister and Big Brother programs, which try to establish a one-to-one relationship between students and children of low-income families.

Volunteers are also needed to work in the Lincoln Action Program and in the hostels operated by the Lancaster Office for the Mentally Retarded. The Looking Glass Drug Program has contacted the Bureau to help recruit ex-users for a 24-hour drug referral program.

The Bureau last spring acquired a volunteer van to assist volunteer groups in their work. This Oct. 9 the Bureau is sponsoring a volunteers orientation workshop, which will be open to anyone interested. The workshop will deal with the many community problems of Lincoln and will pay particular attention to low-income residents.

If you have the time and the commitment, then you should contact the Student Volunteer Bureau.

Gary Seacrest

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"Okay, quick! Build a platform under me!"



bill smitherman

## When cops cop out

As the siren fades and two policemen rush out to save the girl in the park from a mugger the announcer asks: "What would you do if the cops copped out?"

But the question raised in this nationally-produced TV spot may not be the one originally intended.

If you can't call the police, who can you call? If you are harrassed by the police, what can you do?

Ron Kurtenbach, who was arrested for distributing anti-war leaflets at the Nebraska State Fair, has an interesting story to tell about the police.

He says he went to the fair this year with no intention of getting arrested, but only to see if the fair administration was willing to arrest him. He was then prepared to stop leafletting and go to court with a suit to fight the fair's rule against leafletting on the grounds of first amendment freedoms.

But Kurtenbach was not threatened with arrest. He was told by sheriff's deputies to stop leafletting and leave the fair. He refused.

Then, without arresting him, a deputy reportedly

grabbed Kurtenbach by the wrists and dragged him through the crowd to the sheriff's office. This much was caught on film by a news photographer.

After the deputy had dragged him to the station and let him go, Kurtenbach told the deputy that he was going to press assault charges.

The deputy reportedly replied: "I didn't touch you. Show me the marks."

Kurtenbach said there were red marks on his wrists.

So, who do you call when the cops cop out? Who in the legal framework protects you from the police? There is no one.

For this reason, the police cannot simply do their job with no consideration of who's rights are being trampled. To act in anything less than a strictly fair and impartial manner is a serious breach in the very foundation of society.

Kurtenbach also talks about the twenty minutes he was held in the sheriff's office. During this time he was not allowed to call a lawyer (because he wasn't under arrest) and wasn't allowed to leave.

It was only when the officers tried to bodily throw him out of the fair and he refused to cooperate that he was arrested. Kurtenbach said he was finally told he was under arrest as he was being dragged to a waiting police car.

If a law enforcement agency can hold a person without arresting him and thus deny him even the right to call a lawyer, how can any civil liberty be safe? This amounts to arbitrary denial of due process.

The Lincoln police have, in the past, distinguished themselves for fairness. In my few dealings with the sheriff's office it, too, has seemed to be a good force.

But, there is no way that the improper procedures and outright lying that Kurtenbach describes can be condoned. We cannot allow the cops to cop out for any reason.

Students are continually told to work for peaceful change within the system. But what the officers of the system reportedly did to Ron Kurtenbach is very hard to forgive. Events like this must be stopped if there is to remain a viable system to work within.