

Farney: Pentagon Papers represent new trend

by Steve Kadel

Dennis Farney, a reporter for *The Wall Street Journal*, said during a visit to UNL last week the controversy over the Pentagon Papers can't be understood unless it is looked at in the larger context of the increased criticism of the press.

Speaking in the Nebraska Union ballroom to a meeting of Pi Sigma Alpha, Professional Political Science Society, Farney said the incident was part of the current question of how much power the press really has.

"NIXON'S administration seems to be trying to make the press a political issue," Farney said. "I find it ominous that

the Nixon administration has continued to do this because it seems to reinforce an already existing public climate of questioning the credibility of the press."

Farney told the crowd that former Presidential advisor Pat Moynihan, another critic of today's press, said the typical person entering journalism today is an elitist who wishes to erode the President's status by criticism.

According to Farney, Moynihan argues that because today's young journalists hold philosophies which are usually at war with the middle class, they make it hard for the President to carry out his policies.

FARNEY SAID since the criticism from Moynihan and Vice Pres. Spiro Agnew, the press has been changing the way it covers news and now relies more on unofficial sources than official ones for getting news.

"It is this tendency that is bothering Moynihan," Farney said. "The Pentagon Papers are an example of this new reporting style, and they contradicted much of the official optimistic reports on the war under the Kennedy and Johnson administrations."

Farney was asked if it

wasn't arrogant of the New York Times to publish the papers, knowing it would damage American diplomacy.

"I FEEL IT would have been more arrogant for the Times to have this information and not publish it because it was too hot to handle and the people weren't up to handling it," he replied.

"I believe the essential role of a newspaperman is to unearth as much information as possible and get it into print, and not worry about the consequences," Farney said. "They must do the best job

they can in digging up news, then print it and let the chips fall where they may."

Farney said the Pentagon Papers once again raised the fundamental constitutional question of freedom of the press.

"FREEDOMS of the press have been enlarged in recent years, especially under the Warren Court," he said. "But one thing that disturbs me is that only three of the nine Supreme Court Judges argued that the protection of the press

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Short Stuff

The NFU Teach-in on Prison Reform will be held on Oct. 26, not Oct. 20 as previously announced in *The Daily Nebraskan*. The Teach-in speakers will include State Senators Ernest Chambers and Roland A. Ludtke.

The president of the City-Side Tenants Assn., Mrs. Bea Richmond and Carl Kopines, city housing administrator will speak and answer questions about the housing situation in Lincoln at tonight's meeting of Sigma Delta Chi at 8 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

Applications for Student Court are being taken until Oct. 22 in the ASUN Office, Rm. 335. The Court rules on interpretations of ASUN's Constitution involving contested elections or any matters dealing with student organizations.

Individuals in the University

community are in the process of planning a Poverty Conference. The initial purpose is to reveal poverty as it exists in Lincoln and what can be done to alleviate the frustrations of poverty. A preliminary meeting will be held Oct. 24 at 7 p.m. Wesley Foundation, 640 N. 16, 432-0355.

Would you like to volunteer? The YMCA needs one or two male college students to organize a recreational group for boys 9-12 in the West Lincoln area. Students are needed to help in pre-school work with children 5-7 in a low income housing group and math tutors are needed to help at a girls' home. Contact Mary Dean in Nebraska Union Rm. 338 or call 472-2486 to volunteer.

Phi Eta Sigma, mens freshman honorary.

membership certificates for those initiated last spring may be claimed in Rm. 204, Burnett Hall.

Thursday's CSL meeting will be in the Abel Hall North Lounge from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. with the first half hour open for anyone to present items of interest to the council. Items on the agenda are:

- 1) Disciplinary Procedures
- 2) Report on procedures for appointing students to CSL committees
- 3) Continued discussion on the "12-Hour Rule"
- 4) Consideration of the "guest rights" proposal.
- 5) Progress reports from the CSL Student Fees Committee
- 6) Collecting Student Opinions.

Alpha Zeta will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at the Nebraska Union. Carol Thompson will be speaking on Ag Communications.

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