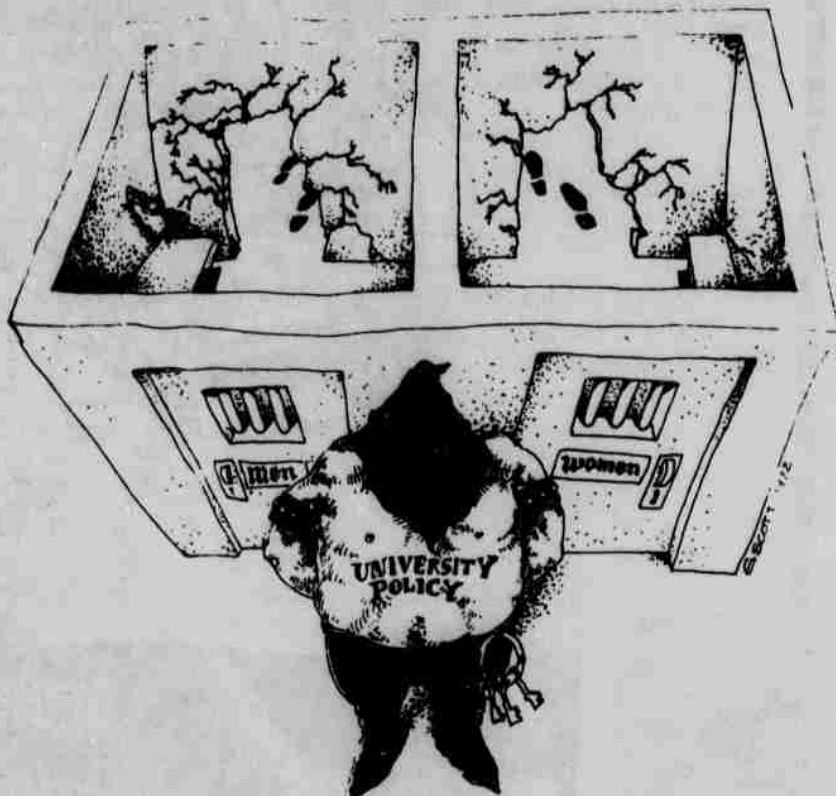


editorial opinion page



Two-way threat

All three sides scored a victory late Saturday night as Chancellor James H. Zumberge released plans effective immediately to revise one part of the RHA hours policy and re-interpret another.

The regents, several top administrators and a large number of students have much to gain by the change in policy. Students have been given more responsibility, the resolution of the lack of clarity in

the old policy will make the new one easier to administrate and a possibly disastrous confrontation between students and the University was avoided.

If compromise solutions to problems are ever successful, this one certainly has excellent chances of survival. The diligence with which the policy change was sought by RHA executives and the UNL Chancellor are a credit to both parties.

The Board of Regents will now be faced with a tough decision come their next meeting March 11. They will presumably be acting upon the results of the parent-student survey and will most likely be in a position to act one way or another on the RHA policy change promulgated by Chancellor Zumberge's office.

The board must be aware of the gravity of its actions in regards to the visitation idea. Should their next decision be unfavorable to students, further student reprisals may definitely be threatened.

Threats are nothing new to the Board of Regents. The threat of mass violation of visitation policy did manage to turn the tables a bit, though.

The most recent threat that members of the Board of Regents have dealt with has come from their own ranks. The threat by certain regents to terminate student fees was issued only a short time ago. It works both ways.

If any regents termed the visitation violation threat irresponsible, one can only wonder what could be said about their threats to terminate certain student fees.

The self determination of a student's own social environment

The self determination of a student's own social environment is of vital concern here. The faith that the Board of Regents has in UNL students will become apparent once solutions have been reached with both the fee issue and the visitation question. If the Board indeed considers the "majority of students to be mature individuals", they in good conscience can only act in response to the needs of students as stated by students.

Barry Pilger

editorial



Most scrutable, these Chinese!

Much to the surprise of all the experts, Nixon's trip to China actually resulted in tremendous changes in, to start with, Nixon.

The problem was the parties, late hours and the numerous toasts in the insidious Chinese liquor, mao tai. Nixon had devoted his entire adult life to avoiding parties, late hours and hard liquor. So he simply wasn't prepared.

Anyone who watched the television coverage of the very first banquet in Peking could clearly see what was happening. After 30 or 40 toasts in mao tai, Nixon suddenly left the main table and began wandering around the room, clinking the glass of whomever he could reach. "Seize the day, boys!" he

appeared to be saying. "Bottoms up!"

What happened to Nixon as a result of this riotous living should have been expected. It happens to virtually everyone who first tries partying, late hours and strong drink late in life. He liked it.

The first person to have any inkling of the change that had overtaken Nixon was, of course, Ms. Nixon.

They were in the East Room one evening not a week after their return from China, she later confided to friends, when she put down her knitting and said to him as was her nightly custom: "It's 10 o'clock, dear—time for your Ovaltine."

Nixon, who had been sitting there with a far-away look in his eye, suddenly clenched his fist and pounded it on the arm of his chair. "The hell with my Ovaltine," he cried, leaping up, "where's the Scotch?"

The last thing Ms. Nixon remembers before falling asleep is Nixon lying on the couch, one shoe off, tie askew, drink in hand and chewing on a cigar while talking to Henry Kissinger on the telephone:

"Hank, baby, you're a real swinger. Tell me another one of your traveling salesman jokes. I know it's 3 a.m., but they really make me laugh and laugh. Pat, wait till you hear this one. It's about this traveling salesman who comes to this farmhouse and . . ."

The next morning the President's daily 7:30 a.m. staff briefing was cancelled. In fact, it was never held again.

But the public was unaware of the change in their Chief Executive for months. There were naturally rumors. For one thing State dinners now seemed to last till all hours; the guest list usually included Jill St. John, Jackie Gleason and other "fun people"; and the press was barred from covering what went on.

But the change became obvious when a grinning Nixon appeared on television wearing sideburns below his ears, a fire-engine red sports coat and a peace-symbol necklace in lieu of a tie. "Hi out there, guys and dolls," he began cheerfully. "Here's the scoop on the economy . . ."

Needless to say, this kind of lollygagging had an overwhelming effect on the election that November. Nixon won in a landslide.

For the fact was that Nixon's greatest problem in politics had always been that not enough people liked him very much. Admired him, yes; liked him, no.

It wasn't that he was not a serious, dutiful, right-thinking, extremely sober leader. It was that he was.

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hoppe
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