

## Social commitment

Some students take their social commitment seriously:

Half of the volunteers at the YWCA are students. Nearly a third of the Lincoln Volunteer Bureau is student help. Students help with the Lincoln Free School, with assorted Big Brother and Big Sister programs, run University programs, help with NOVA and work at the Lincoln Regional Center.

"This generation shows the concern to get things

done," Bob Furman of the YWCA Youth Services Bureau said. "If we had to rely on the older generation or big business, we wouldn't get anything done."

He said 150 students work with young people in YWCA programs, while others volunteer for office work. Harriet Anderson of the Lincoln Volunteer Bureau says 40 students run the Personal Crisis Service, along with students working with mentally retarded children, child care, the elderly, the Head Start program and handicapped children.

"People are very active. We've had outstanding student volunteers who aren't afraid of anything. There is a new interest in social problems that has produced a very dedicated group of students," Anderson said.

Students who work with people who need help learn a lot about people and about themselves. Their perspective is better, and they develop a rare sensitivity to other people's concerns.

My praise for their efforts is unnecessary—their own satisfaction in what they do is more than enough.

And yet, much more help is needed. The YMCA has a waiting list of 50 young boys who need guidance and attention. The Lincoln Volunteer Bureau needs 10 people to help handicapped children in a swimming program. The Juvenile Court always needs concerned people to help youngsters in trouble.

College students lead an easy existence. They have plenty to eat, all the necessities, and most of the luxuries of life. Because students are so well endowed, they should share their good fortune with those less fortunate.

The American student has the time, the energy and the intelligence to solve America's deepening social problems. Start anywhere. Start now.

Sara Schwieder

editorial



## to the editor

Letters appear in the Daily Nebraskan at the editor's discretion. A letter's appearance is based on its timeliness, originality, coherence and interest. All letters must be accompanied by the writer's true name, but may be submitted for publication under a pen name or initials. Use of such letters will be determined by the editor. Brevity is encouraged. All letters are subject to condensation and editing.

Dear editor:

Webster's *New World Dictionary* defines "plagiarize" as "taking the ideas, writings etc. from another and offering them as one's own." The *Readers Digest Encyclopedia Dictionary* defines it as "passing off as one's own the writings, ideas, etc. from another."

Pat Burch's letter to the *Daily Nebraskan* (April 6) reports that John Vihstadt, author of an article carried by the *Daily Nebraskan*, copied not only the historical facts of a committee's newsletter, but also used them in the same manner to convey the same observations. This seems to fit everyone's definition of plagiarism except the *Daily Nebraskan's* or Barry Pilger's.

For the sake of ethics and intellectual integrity that we all adhere to as University students, I call for the dropping of the article "Different Drummer," and the dismissal of its alleged author. In the words of Larry Wolfley, "He is not our kind of person, he hasn't been playing by the rules we consider fair. We should have the moral strength to stand up and say we simply do not like it."

I would like to ask the *Daily Nebraskan* staff why they defend Vihstadt and accuse Prokop. Perhaps the answer lies in the words of R.D. Stock, English professor:

"I find distasteful the eagerness with which leftist students and even some faculty members impugn the moral characters of those who presume to disagree with them, especially when the same individuals can

justify breaking the law when it suits their own interests."

James Talcott

Dear editor:

Who would you like to have come and speak and interact with the students at the University of Nebraska? William F. Buckley? Buckminster Fuller? William Kunstler? Betty Freidan?

If you are interested in hearing a particular speaker, or would like to be involved in the process of contacting speakers, making arrangements, and escorting them when they come to campus, Union Talks and Topics is what you are looking for.

Talks and Topics will be meeting from now until the end of the semester Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in 237 Nebraska Union. All students are eligible to become members of Talks and Topics, and anyone is welcome to present an idea, suggestion or philosophy.

The people who will speak on campus next year will be contacted in the near future. If you want your voice to count in the selection, the means are available to you.

If you have some conflict and can't make the scheduled time, contact me at 432-5966.

Doug Voegler  
Chairman, Talks and Topics

Dear editor:

As a fan of objective journalism, I was rather appalled at the way you chopped up my letter ("Thought control") just before vacation.

I thought it was a fairly well reasoned little essay on irresponsible reform vs. civil liberties, but what made print looked like just another long-haired paranoid apocalypse.

Now you may think that fits the spirit of my letter, brother, but in view of the fact that a number of people have spoken to me about it, necessitating some clarification, because nowhere do you have the usual "The editor reserves the right to condense... etc." statement that even the *World-Herald* feels obligated to print, thus placing the burden of proof upon the writer in cases of incoherence. I feel duty bound to demand that you print such a statement in the future or refrain from tampering with your correspondents' ideas. It's the responsible thing to do, don't you think?

Mark Dalton

Editor's note: The *Daily Nebraskan* policy on letters to the editor appears frequently above the day's letters.

Dear editor:

*Imagine there's no countries,*

*It isn't hard to do*

*It's easy if you try*

*Imagine all the people*

*Living life in peace*

*Sharing all the world*

*You may say I'm a dreamer,*

*But I'm not the only one,*

*I hope someday you'll join us,*

*And the world will be as one."*

John Lennon

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UNL has joined John Lennon in proving that the dream "isn't hard to do..." "To imagine all the people, living life in peace"... and "sharing all the world!" It has done that since it approved, developed and opened the International House, which unfortunately, though naturally for UNL, all you hear about is that "it's a play where a bunch of wierd foreign students live on campus!"

You've never been told that this program, which was opened last September, is now one of the best international programs in the Midwest... thanks to a number of interested and enthusiastic students, faculty, staff and community persons, both American and foreign. What the 60 American and foreign students of both sexes are really doing at the I-House is proving that "the world will be as one." They try to give a damn and care about the common things we all have together as human beings. Maybe we should too.

Raad Hermes

Dear editor:

The University of Nebraska is like a ship in a terrible storm at sea. Waves are coming over the bow and it is taking water badly.

The students are busy tanning themselves.

The faculty are debating the merits of instituting a beginning swimming course.

The administrators are drilling holes in the bottom so the water can drain out.

Gary L. Snodgrass