

## Study calls drug use 'learned behavior'

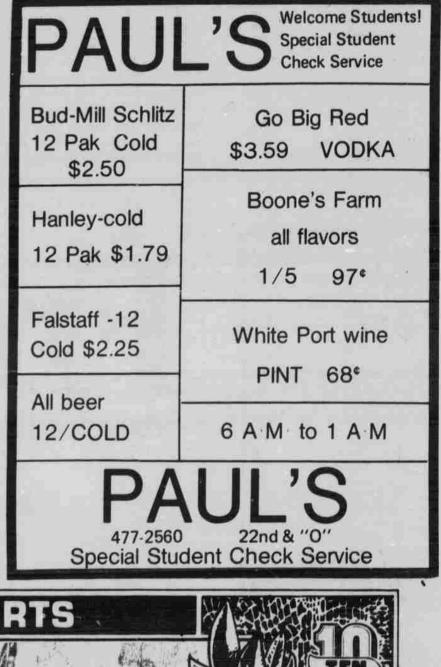
Drug use among the young may not result from "a generation gap or youthful defiance" as it is popularly held, but from "a form of learned behavior handed down from parent to child," according to a report from the American Psychological Association (APA).

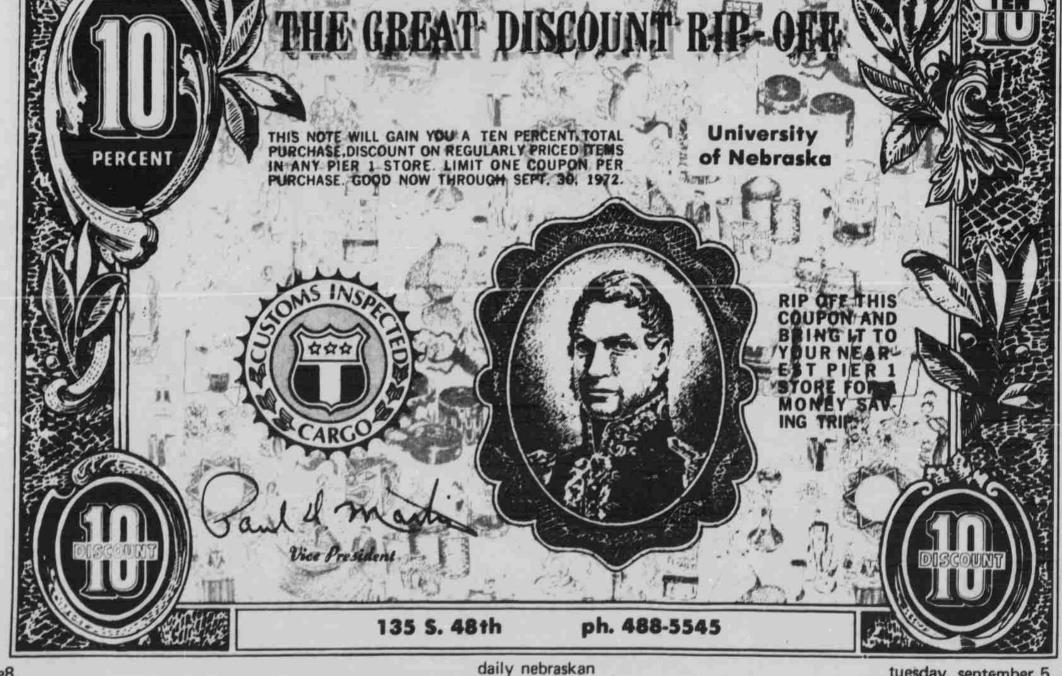
Research concerning parent-child drug relationships was presented recently in an article by Dr. Reginald Smart and Dianne Fejer in the *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*.

The project was sponsored by the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Research Foundation of Toronto. Data was collected from questionnaires answered by 8,865 high school students in the suburbs and inner-city of Toronto in 1970.

"Parents who regularly use mood-changing drugs, including alcohol and tobacco, may unintentionally pass on to offspring an attitude favoring drug experimentation," said the APA.

The study also indicates that young drug users who follow their parents' example often try a variety of psycho-active and illegal drugs.





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