



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,

In memory of 11 Olympians—innocent men who perished because of a political madness—the flame of remembrance, the spark of life, burns in front of Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity.

A 24-hour vigil is being observed by those of us who say "never again." We feel the sorrow of losing our Jewish brethren. And each time we see the fire, we remember that they were unable to complete a long and promising life. At the same time, each flicker of light reminds us of the gruesome terrorism that shadows the world.

The Olympics offer all the nations of the world an opportunity to compete in peace, a chance to prove their prowess on the playing field, not the battlefield.

If peaceful co-existence is to be a reality, this terrorism which stopped the 20th Olympiad, must be ceased. Such inhumane acts of wanton abandonment of international law cannot be tolerated. It's time for the nations of the world to unite against all forms of terrorism.

Howard Epstein, president
Joseph Mintz, secretary
Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity

Because the following letter was submitted prior to the announcement of the Daily Nebraskan's letter policy, it is printed here despite the fact it was unsigned. In the future, all letters must be signed, even if a pen name is to be used in the newspaper.

Dear editor,

This year's crop of freshmen is receiving a grand introduction to one of the oldest, most popular

traditions at UNL... namely "step on the niggers."

In this fall's freshman handbook, published as a guide to freshmen, there appears an illustration of a prototype Li'l Black Sambo. This figure supposedly represents the Afro-American Collegiate Society, the black student union.

A typical white freshman will look at the illustration and automatically assume it is the correct Cornhusker attitude toward black people, especially since the odds are against he or she having had any previous contact with blacks.

I imagine, to white liberals (whatever those are), this whole thing sounds farfetched; but stop to analyze this thing closer.

The alarming fact about the derogatory illustration is the booklet is sanctioned by ASUN, supposedly the supreme body of student government. This action underlines the problem. For if ASUN proves itself to be so ignorant and insensitive it can surely be no better than the student body it was elected by.

ASUN has apologized by letter... but that isn't enough, because the booklet was made public. A public apology is necessary—and soon—if bloodshed is to be avoided.

The Nebraska Union has done nothing to improve its image with blacks this year by putting a trash tray by the north corner of the North Crib—a space where black students have been sitting since the new addition of the Union was built.

If there is doubt that stepping on niggers isn't popular at dear ol' NU, here's further proof. Every year UNL recruits a select number of black high school seniors to become freshmen. Each year a number of those students are systematically eliminated from the institution—and this fact is underlined by the fact that only 15 per cent of the black freshman class of 1969 are now seniors.

The tradition is upheld by the University's athletic and intramural departments. Only the nation's "winningest coach" knows exactly how many black athletic careers have been cut short on Nebraska's fields tracks and courts.

The Intramural Department also has the correct Cornhusker attitude, whose horde of sightless and unskilled referees are engaged in a running war with Kappa Alpha Psi, NU's predominately black fraternity. War has been declared ever since blacks have constituted a threat to snapping the previous all-white domination of intramural competition.

However, one thing must be made clear—blacks have never accepted the grand UNL tradition, just as



Cartoon by Conrad

"Had it not been for the international campaign waged throughout the world, particularly in the socialist countries and the Soviet Union, I am certain I would never have been released from prison!"

the slave never accepted slavery. The similarity continues in that the University administration, just like the southern plantation owners, tells the world its niggers are happy—always smiling (just like in the freshman handbook).

But if you white folks knew your Afro-American History, you'd know that slave revolts were unpublicized—and common.

A concerned black student

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