

Fees breakdown

Dear editor,

In the interest of promoting rational, if not intelligent decision-making, would you publish a breakdown of the disbursement of student fees? The entire issue concerning the use of these fees is entirely emotional and rather pointless without this information.

If possible, a complete listing of all activities and programs funded in part or in whole by student fees should be given. The list should also include per cent of student fees fund to that program and per cent of that program's reliance on student fees for funding.

Rich Steinmetz

Dear Mr. Steinmetz,

Easier said than done. In researching student fee disbursement, it became clear immediately that there is no solid black and white in the current policy setup—everything is a convenient shade of gray.

Some fee information is well-kept and easy for the individual student to find. Most, however, is not. Most agencies, while courteous and helpful, are hopelessly confused themselves about their current fee setup. The truth is that few agencies understand their own fee structures, which indicates a certain failure in the system.

A case in point is the Recreation and Intramurals Department, which on inquiry was not certain whether it received \$2 per semester per student as the bursar claims, or \$1 as one of its administrators claims. Further

inspection backed-up the \$2 figure, but the confusion displayed is typical.

Along with this confusion on student fee receipts comes confusion on exactly where the fees are going. Prominently listed in the fee disbursement is an item called "unallocated monies."

According to the bursar's office, this fund is distributed to student fee areas "at the discretion of the comptroller." Effectively, this means the fate of each student's \$1.95 lies in the hands of an administrator, to use at his discretion.

This \$1.95 is 70 cents per student more than the Daily Nebraskan receives per semester. It is six and one-half times as much as is allocated to ASUN. And nearly as much as is allocated to either recreation facilities or recreation equipment.

Where the unallocated funds have gone is unknown. "We'd have to do a lot of checking into individual budgets," an administration official said.

In other areas, where no confusion exists, questions of propriety in the distribution of funds do exist. One such item is the \$5 bonded indebtedness fund, which goes primarily for University housing. Why all students, the bulk of whom live off-campus pay for funding on-campus living quarters is not explained.

Also unclear is why 41 per cent (the largest percentage) of the total fee budget goes to the University Health Center. According to Dr. Samuel Fuenning, Health Center director, 85 per cent of the fee monies is used for operation of the center's clinic services. These

Fees distribution

	Amt. per student per semester	% of total fee budget	% of total budget provided by fees
University Health Center	\$21.00	41%	63%
Union bonded indebtedness	9.50	19	100
Union operation, facilities	6.00	12	27
Bonded indebtedness (housing)	5.00	9	*
New student union (E. Campus)	2.50	5	100
Recreation facilities	2.00	4	100
Recreation equipment	2.00	4	100
Unallocated monies	1.95	4	*
Daily Nebraskan	1.25	1.5	43
ASUN	.30	.5	94
	\$51.50	100%	

*figure not available

Daily Nebraskan Table by Vickie Horton

services, while available to all fee-paying students, are unused by a large percentage of UNL students. Yet all students pay \$21 per semester to the center.

These questioned fee areas are only a few among many in which serious doubts can and should be registered as new fee disbursement procedures are being set up by the administration. Student input into the new plan for fee distribution is essential.

One can only hope the new plan will clear up some of the confusion and problems the current system has in abundance.

Jim Gray

Youth and other related disasters

arthur hoppe
innocent bystander

The latest Gallup Poll shows our nation's youth now favor Nixon by a whopping 61-36 per cent—an even wider margin than the President holds among their parents.

While the poll surprised the experts, it stunned parents everywhere. Surely there wasn't a rational parent in the country who didn't read the news with a growing sense of unease. For here, clearly, was another straw in the mysterious wind that's been gathering strength lately.

Typical was the reaction of Wilbur Wasp. Though a staunch Republican, Wasp felt a familiar churn in his stomach as he read the item and he automatically bellowed: "Irwin, come here!"

"Here I am, Dad," said Irwin, appearing quick as a flash. "Anything I can do for you, sir?"

"Will you please explain to me, Irwin, why your generation should suddenly..." said Wasp, looking up from his paper. "Irwin? Irwin, is that you?"

"Sure it's me, Dad. I guess you didn't recognize me with my new short haircut. All the guys in my frat have one. I hope you like it."

"I never knew your ears stuck out like that," said Wasp, frowning. "Frat? Don't tell me you joined a fraternity?"

"I thought you'd be happy, Dad. I mean you've always talked about what fun you had in yours in college. And don't worry about these saddle shoes. I bought them myself. I've got a paper route, so I won't have to sponge off you this semester."

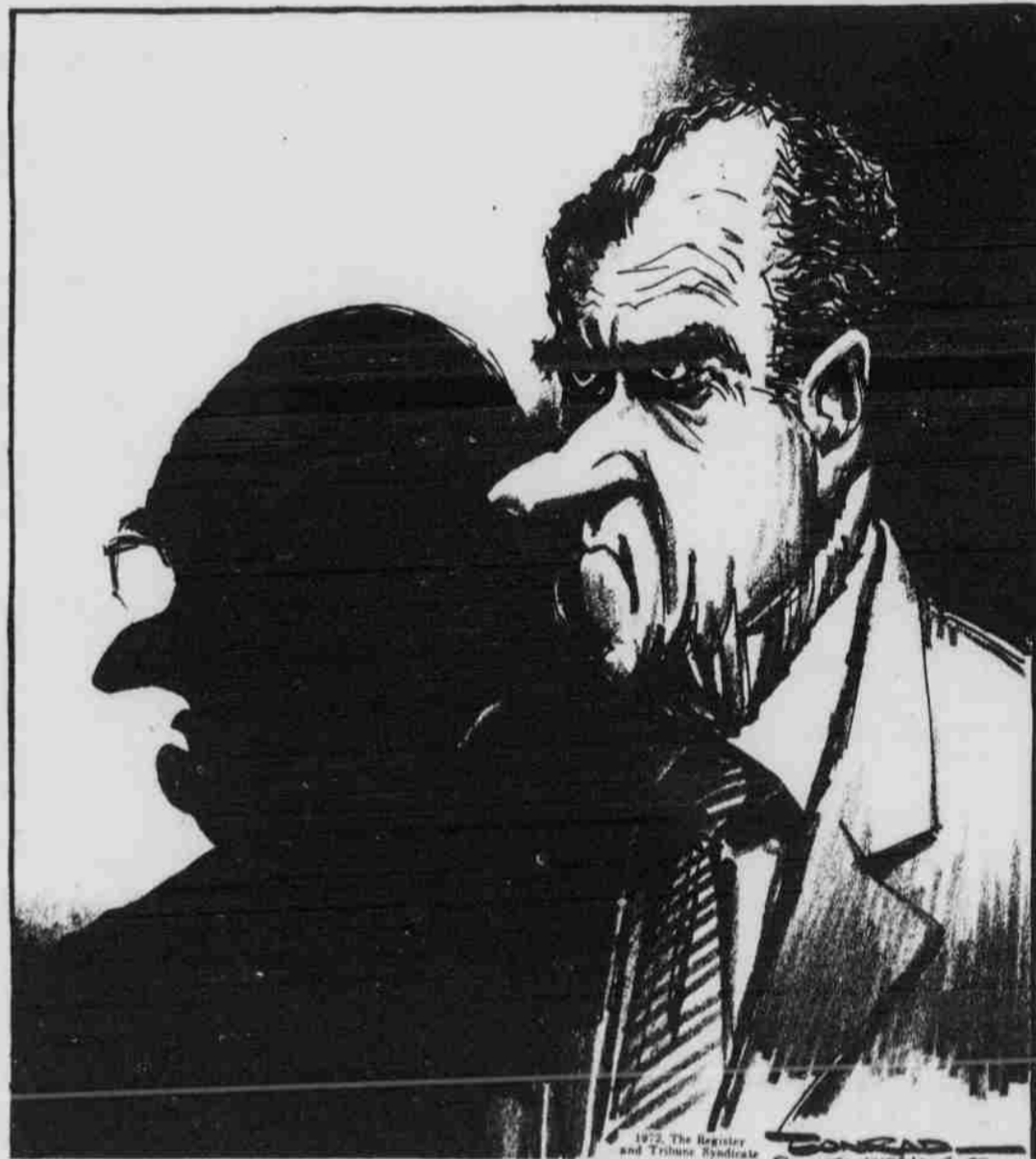
"A job? Tell me something, Irwin," said Wasp, glaring suspiciously at his son, "are you stoned?"

"Stoned? Gosh, Dad, we don't smoke marijuana any more, not after the President said it might have long-range effects on our minds. Just a beer now and then, like you used to do. That's okay, isn't it?"

"Yes. No. I mean... Look, first tell me why you got a job. Wasn't your allowance sufficient?"

"Oh, it wasn't the money, Dad. It's what the President said about the work ethic and the value of honest toil. He's sure right about that. I really feel great."

"That doesn't leave you much time,"



Only the name has been changed

said Wasp dryly, "to demonstrate for Students to End the War and Hang the President."

"Yeah, Dad, that was just a phase. I mean the President must know what he's doing. He's such a swell, decent guy. Besides, if I got arrested, it might hurt my chances of getting a job with a big corporation when I graduate."

"I thought you wanted to be a bongo player."

"I switched to Biz Ad, Dad. I just want to get married some day and raise a family and contribute what I can to a strong America and a sound dollar. Aren't you pleased?"

"Yes. No. I mean... Look, Irwin,

when you're young, it's the time to try new ideas, new ways of doing things. I can't figure out what your generation's up to now. Don't you see the danger?"

"What danger, Dad?" asked Irwin innocently.

"Damn it, Irwin!" thundered his red-faced father. "You're going to be just like us!"

That evening, Irwin recounted the scene word for word to a group of his young friends who clutched their sides with glee throughout the telling.

"Man!" Irwin managed to say between gasps of laughter when he'd finished. "At last we've found the way to really drive them up the wall!"

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