

Eco 2: out of class

While the University seems to have an ample, if disconnected, classwork setup for ecological studies, it appears educational areas outside the classroom are not doing as well.

Inquiries this week revealed that most educational non-classroom agencies now display little or no interest in ecological problems and their solutions.

Nebraska Free University, (NFU) frequently heralded as a great step in educational enrichment currently has no course directly relating to problems of the environment. Often a leader in developing coursework in areas difficult to add to department schedules, NFU seems to be sadly lacking in environmental studies.



A second major non-classroom innovator, the Centennial Education Program, also is nearly devoid of environmental study. Only one student in the Centennial program now works with environmental concerns. Since the Centennial College started in 1969, many students have been involved in ecological study in connection with projects on taxation, agriculture, law, nuclear power and wildlife. Apparently the Centennial students' emphasis has switched away from the environmental—an injudicial shift.

The non-involvement of these two out-of-classroom educators in environmental concerns directly reflects the nearly universal lack of student interest in this field. Apparently students feel environmental

studies in the classroom are enough. They are wrong.

It is essential that every possible educational tool be used to solve our ecological nightmares. Unless the problems of the environment are solved, any other concerns will be totally insignificant.

Promises promises

As time goes on and excuses get thicker, it appears more and more likely the promised ASUN student cooperative may become yet another rotten egg laid by that august body.

Last spring before the election, high plans for a cooperative to save students a great deal of money were professed. It was estimated by many candidates, who were later elected to office, that the proposed cooperative would be off and running in the fall.

It was primarily for organization of this

cooperative and other ASUN projects that ASUN executives were granted salary raises for their summer work. This summer, ASUN President Bruce Beecher received \$516; First Vice President Sam Brower, \$155; and Second Vice President Michelle Gagne, \$363. Last year the three executives earned \$100 each for their summer work.

Unfortunately, the cooperative did not appear immediately this fall. Early estimates indicated the cooperative would be ready to operate by Oct. 15.

But now the story has changed again. The starting date for the cooperative has been set back indefinitely because of procedural hassling. Whether the grand co-op will ever really get off the ground is uncertain.

Students can only hope that in this instance campaign promises prove to be more than just promises.

Jim Gray



Ted Kennedy and the McGovern spectacle

The latest Democratic spectacle, *McGovern*, now is well into its third act and, at no surprise to anyone, a most interesting understudy has been brought in to stir a little attention with the American audience.

The media floodlights now are fixed upon that gifted New England actor, Massachusetts Sen. Edward Kennedy. Due to visit at least 20 states before the Nov. 7 folding date, our star thespian hits the road with the McGovern troupe in its series of last ditch engagements as if he himself were the chief attraction. Kennedy apparently is not afraid to be associated with what no doubt will be the biggest box office flop of the 20th century.

The McGovern show is, of course, simply a dress rehearsal for Ted Kennedy, who wants top billing for himself come 1976. A perfect public buffer for his comeback attempt, it is the return to the road of presidential stardom which was so rudely detoured at Chappaquiddick three years ago. Banking heavily on the far-fetched theory that the American people have forgotten that infamous and tragic July night in 1969 when Mary Jo Kopeckne's life was needlessly extinguished (not to mention all his other misjudgments and improprieties), Kennedy also is relying on the magic of the Kennedy name authored by his late brothers and on the seemingly "untouchable" status accorded him by the liberal news media.

Kennedy merely is a straw man whose image of greatness and aura of supreme righteousness has been created through the immense powers of persuasion of the mass media. If this man's name were Edward Jones instead of Edward Kennedy, he most certainly would hold no public office whatever. Edward Jones would now be serving a prison sentence for drunk driving, leaving the scene of an accident and possibly manslaughter for his part in the Kopeckne affair. Or, at the very least, he would be ostracized from all levels of society through the basic concept of human decency.

Behind this shallow veneer of attractiveness built around him by an adoring national media, Kennedy is a person utterly devoid of morals. This man, who felt not a qualm about having others take tests for him in college and who now cheats socially and sexually without social stigma on his wife Joan, cruelly misuses the great love and respect of the American people for his dead brothers into the catalyst for his own cheap and selfish political aspirations. It must be clearly understood that this man resembles John and



Robert in no way other than likeness and name. President Kennedy had the promise of becoming a great president, as did Bobby, but I am of the opinion that their younger brother has neither the ability nor the moral aptitude to achieve greatness or even mediocrity.

This man, now trotted out as a tower of stature and statesmanship, has nothing to do but sit still and look pretty. In a concerted effort to accentuate the positive and ignore the negative, the news media both here and abroad have materialized Kennedy's current

image out of thin air. They cast him as if he were a major, if not omnipotent, force in American politics, although the truth of the matter is that he has been a most ineffectual U.S. senator.

Why else would he have been defeated for re-election as Democratic whip by his own party colleagues in favor of conservative and obscure Sen. Robert Byrd of West Virginia? Why else would he have submitted the name of a corrupt and incompetent political hack and close family friend, Francis X. Morrissey, to a Federal judgeship in Massachusetts only to have it forcibly withdrawn on President Johnson's orders after it became obvious to even his fellow Democrats what a disastrous nomination he had made?

He has acted out the role of Mr. Big to the hilt, spewing out his gilded words of wisdom on virtually every subject known to man, and the cameras dutifully have passed this along to a misled American public. We all heard Kennedy earlier this year call for active U.S. intervention in the North Ireland and India-Pakistan controversies and at the same time condemn American "meddling" into the "local" affairs of Southeast Asia. His stance on foreign policy matters seems to be one of get in where we are not and get out where we are.

It is clear to all that this pretender of a fallen dynasty has, from the very inception of his adult life, shown a startling propensity for error—error in judgment and error in decision. This country's future depends on public knowledge of this man. So long as he pushes relentlessly onward towards the highest office in the land, we cannot forget about him. And we will not forget—about Chappaquiddick, about his rejection by fellow Democrats in the Senate, about Francis X. Morrissey, about his familial infidelity, about his sensitivity to alcohol, about his reckless driving, about his college cheating. No, Edward Kennedy, you are not fit to be President of the United States.