



## to the editor

Dear editor,

In response to Jim Gray's editorial in last Friday's *Daily Nebraskan*, I would like to correct him on several points.

Gray said since the College of Arts and Sciences will accept 10 of a ROTC student's 19 credit hours as electives to count toward graduation, he concluded that this reduces the course load ROTC students must take to graduate. This shows lack of sound reasoning on the author's part.

Contrary to Gray's statement, a ROTC student must take a heavier course load than a non-ROTC student. For example, if the college will accept only 10 of a student's 19 ROTC credit hours, he is still left with nine hours outstanding. So he must take a heavier than average load each semester to graduate in four years.

Gray also erred in saying that "39 UNL students are currently on ROTC scholarships." With adequate research, he would have found that 162 students currently are on Army, Navy and Air Force scholarships at UNL.

The article reported that "ROTC classes do not generally interrelate with other classroom curriculum." As an NROTC senior, I feel qualified to discuss those courses that I have taken. In none of my courses do NROTC students receive "instruction in the destruction of man," as Gray stated. To the contrary, NROTC courses encompass diverse subjects. Obviously, the author's conclusions reflect little or no research at all.

I wondered if Gray had ever taken a ROTC course when I read that "the credits earned in ROTC classes are not on the level of most academic hours." As a first semester senior in social sciences, I have found that in four of my seven semesters at UNL, my most difficult course has been Navy ROTC. I am not insinuating that social sciences in an overly-easy curriculum. I only wish to make the point that most NROTC courses require a great deal of studying and hard work.

Gray also stated that ROTC courses are "taught by instructors with inferior academic qualifications." The Joint ROTC Committee, made up of University faculty and students, reached a different conclusion. "It was the committee's conclusion that the academic background of these men, coupled with military experience, service schools attended, service school teaching assignments and formal

teaching orientation classes attended before assignment to the campus uniquely qualifies them to teach ROTC courses... We believe the present staff of ROTC teachers perform their teaching functions as well as other undergraduate instructors in the University."

As editor of the *Daily Nebraskan*, Jim Gray, I feel, should become more conscious of responsible research, and be certain he has all the facts on a topic, before he makes a critical judgement.

G. Martin Black

*Editor's note: All information used in the ROTC editorial was obtained by the editorial assistant in a full-day interview with officials of Army ROTC. Conclusions were drawn by the author on the basis of that information.*

### Notoriety

Dear Editor,

What is this University coming to? The *Daily Nebraskan* would come out with all kinds of information to where to write to get an absentee ballot, where to get it notarized, and so on. But that was last spring, nothing now, when its the most important.

Also, people have been saying that a certain writer has been cutting down McGovern and the Democratic party, and making the other party sound great, well those people are crazy, at least to me they are. John V. (Vihstadt, *Daily Nebraskan* columnist) has at least broken through your paper's "freeze" on Nixon. I mean by that, that your paper writes good things about the Democratic party and its leader and bad things about Nixon and his party.

Ever since I've been going here, almost three full years, its your paper saying the Democrats are great and the Republicans are bad, at least that's what it looks like to me.

Don't get the idea I'm cutting down your paper, except for the above you have a great paper, otherwise. Let's have more University news and not so much "other" stuff.

Thank you,  
Doug Haggart

*Editor's note: Various articles listing procedures for obtaining absentee ballots have appeared in the Daily Nebraskan this fall. An article Oct. 6 listed procedures for notarizing ballots prior to the election. More articles giving notary locations will follow.*

### A new plan

Dear editor,

An ingenious way to end the Vietnam war (now referred to as the POW issue) has suddenly occurred to me. All that must be done is for the Army to designate the area surrounding the POW camps as military targets. A bombing raid would then be initiated against these areas.

However, through some sort of "mistake," the POW camps proper would be destroyed. Melvin Laird could either apologize to the families



"Is Paris burning?"

"No, just the French mission in Hanoi!"

of the POWs or blame the destruction on the North Vietnamese.

Think how safe this ploy would be. I doubt the camps are defended against air attack.

Next, since Vietnamization is such a success, Thieu doesn't need our assistance anymore. We could stop bombing the North. So we could bring every living American back to the States with another war victory.

Write to your Congressman today about this plan so we can win this war now!

Bob Johnson

### Thone's record

Dear editor,

I question your judgment in using Roy Baldwin's article in Wednesday's paper. In direct response to Roy: Thone's record is a strong one. He has been far more active in the House than many freshmen congressmen, and more active than many First District Representatives in the recent past. He is a Republican, but he refuses to follow the Republican party-line when his conscience and the needs of his constituents dictate otherwise.

The SST vote Roy mentions, the vote against government support for a loan to Lockheed, and the vote to increase railroad pensions (neither of which Roy cites) are highly visible, easily understandable examples of Charley Thone's independence.

How the United States should best extricate itself from the Vietnam war is a legitimate area for debate. Neither side can prove that their proposed solution will best ensure the safe return of our prisoners of war. Thone

agrees with President Nixon that to set a unilateral withdrawal date will harm our negotiating position. Because each of the "end-the-war" amendments has specified a certain withdrawal date he has voted against them. He has, however, been urging publicly, and privately to administration officials, ever since his nomination two years ago, that we get out of the war.

Realizing that there is waste in the military budget, Charley Thone voted a defense appropriations bill 3.9 billion dollars less than the President requested.

Thone's record on agriculture is sound. He believes that one of the best methods to increase farm prices is to increase farm exports and has worked to that end. Contrary to Roy's statement, Thone opposed any increase in meat imports.

Whether or not Thone serves on the Agriculture Committee is a moot point. During and after the 1970 campaign, Charley Thone said his first two committee choices would be public works and agriculture. He was assigned to public works and government operations.

Thone's record is good in other areas, too. His votes in Congress for anti-pollution bills, for education, help for the elderly and the American Indian; his co-sponsorship of a bill calling for an all-volunteer armed services and for improved pay and conditions for enlisted people; his many efforts to improve the way the government operates make him a Congressman well-worth returning to Washington.

Jody Beck

## Liberal Republicans face ideological problem

*Daily Nebraskan Staff Writer Steve Arvanette is a senior majoring in journalism and political science.*

by Steve Arvanette

A serious problem faces my fellow liberal and moderate Republicans this election year—whether to support the incumbent candidate for president or jump party affiliation and vote for George McGovern.

The Republican party's future is in serious trouble despite what John Vihstadt and the Gallup poll say of this year's presidential election. One would therefore expect most Republicans to support gladly an incumbent Republican president for re-election.

Gallup shows the Democrats far ahead in the race for the House of Representatives. Unless a major ideology change is made by Republicans, the chance of ever gaining control of Congress is very slim.

The reason is simple—more and more people are identifying with the Democratic party. The Republican party in recent years has become a third party. Nearly as many Americans term themselves independents as Republicans.

How could a Republican president ever get elected? The answer is simple, American voters don't vote party line when voting for president, they vote on the individual.

The problem facing moderate and liberal Republicans is one of both ideology and principle.

In any other election year, would an incumbent

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whose term of office had been so shrouded in scandal and deceit be re-elected?

Nixon has told campaign aides that the American public doesn't really understand the ITT affair and will forget the Watergate intrusion before election day. If Americans are so blind and ignorant, then democracy is in serious trouble.

It was in 1964 that Nixon called on Lyndon Johnson to bring forth all the information concerning Bobby Baker. When it comes to John Mitchell and other campaign re-election officials eight years later, the story is different.

It is a sad day for America when an incumbent President's campaign staff purchases a paper shredder because they fear sensitive information might be leaked to the press.

Most Republicans could over look these problems in the Nixon administration's first term as being

major blunders—possibly not the fault of the incumbent himself.

However, one can not maintain a closed eye attitude to basic ideology decisions made by Nixon in the past four years.

What scares this writer most about another four years of Richard Nixon is the damage that may be done to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Nixon had his first two appointees to the court turned down by the Senate. Their philosophy was not only questioned but their qualifications were poor.

Already, the court has turned from the civil liberties course of Earl Warren's day.

Nixon's attempts to circumvent court-ordered school busing seems a direct slap at integrating the nation's school children and providing equal education for all.

All things aside, the real issue facing voters Nov. 7 is the continued war in Vietnam.

Nixon had a secret plan to end the war. It was to withdraw American ground troops so that the public thought we were "out."

America is not out of Vietnam and the war is not over. This country is bombing the women and children of North Vietnam mercilessly under the pretext that we are aiming at military targets.

It is because of this continued massacre of innocent people, that this Republican must vote Nov. 7 against the incumbent president.