



# to the editor

Dear editor:

Eighty children, from six months to five years of age, along with their parents, have become victims of ASUN's persistent negligence and irresponsibility in its failure to respond to the needs of an integral part of the academic community.

ASUN's inability to use foresight and to view needed child care facilities in a larger, more relevant scope only emphasizes more strongly the need for revising the student fee system and the methods by which these fees are allocated for the various student service groups.

We parents and children have not been given a fair and adequate hearing by ASUN. It is quite evident how misguided their (ASUN) priorities are when a rowing team, of little or no benefit to any student on this campus, receives \$900 as opposed to not giving a penny toward the welfare of our children, our greatest natural resource. The ability of individuals (served by these groups) to remain in school was and is not contingent upon these groups receiving or not receiving funds to operate. For 270 individuals on this campus, it is now a dire problem as to whether we can remain in school any longer, since we are a low-income group with more responsibilities than the average student.

From 80 parents, the amount of fees paid each semester amounts to \$4000. We strongly feel that we should have the right to direct the use of these fees to areas that are of the most concern to us rather than have the fees whimsically and arbitrarily given over to some groups whose very existence, let alone their funding, deserve thoughtful questioning on the part of each and every student. We live on limited incomes and cannot afford to pay \$80 a month per child that would be charged us for the same services that have been given us and our children at the Day Care Center.

We have tried and exhausted every source imaginable, so that we might be funded. Wherever we have gone, though, we are repeatedly told that we cannot receive help unless we have the recognition and backing of the University. ASUN has told us that we have not "tried hard enough" and has also

expressed the feeling that our services are not wanted and needed by a sizable part of the student body. We have a waiting list that exceeds 100 people and daily have to turn people away due to lack of funding and staff and larger, better facilities. It seems now that those waiting 100 people, their children and ourselves are to be denied the right to an education and good, inexpensive child care by the bludgeon of ignorance and indifference, deftly wielded by those loving people of ASUN.

Student status, along with the times, is rapidly changing; the stereotype is challenged by our attendance and involvement in the University. Any institution of higher education that fails to understand and respond to the problems and needs of the "student family" is seriously jeopardizing its integrity and its future. The implications of these changing times implore that all factions be recognized and dealt with according to their needs.

We will run a parent, or sympathetic candidate, for every position and office in ASUN if that is what it takes to help provide for the children and the better education of their parents, who are all an integral part of and a great deciding factor in our collective futures.

DeLana M. Cromer  
for Day Care Center staff,  
parents' organization  
and children

## Pen pal

Dear editor:

I am an inmate in a branch of the Ohio Penitentiary, I was a college student before my incarceration. I have lost contact with a lot of people since then and I would like to hear from any students or faculty members interested in corresponding—and bringing a little sunshine into a guy's life... who has found out what darkness is all about.

Milan B. Martin  
Box 69-132/112  
London, Ohio 43140

## Budget logic

Dear editor:

Is it possible that ASUN's Budget Committee was exercising some justifiable logic in not recommending the allocation of funds to the Day Care Center—even a reduction of the \$702 which was requested?

In view of the other causes which were given priority, an explanation is in order. Of those requesting funds, the Day Care Center is among the few whose continuance could determine whether a

student is able to remain in school.

Before the final approval next week, serious discussion should be held and necessary changes made in the proposed budget.

Elizabeth Ziers

## ASUN aristocracy

The following letter was printed with the unfortunate inclusion of a number of editing and typographical errors in the Daily Nebraskan, Feb. 1. It is reprinted below in its entirety.

Dear editor:

Confronted by a sense of irony, we find it amazing that ASUN can criticize anyone. In the past year, ASUN's present regime's actions have shown a lack of creativity, direction, resiliency, responsiveness and strength.

The number of student services has not increased in the past year (indeed, they may have decreased). They have allowed PACE to go down the drain, which is unforgivable. And they have bumbled the Koop. Why does it take three people a summer and semester or organize a Koop? And what about the Book Exchange?

The present regime has not come up with any new, creative ideas. The Koop and student regent ideas have been kicked around for years.

We also question the motivation, or lack of it, of many of the senators. Ideally, we need a representative assembly responsive to and interested in the student body. The senators should realize the obligations and responsibilities of their office. If they are unable to fulfill these, then they should resign. The present ASUN Senate has also shown an unwillingness to take any type of stand on controversial issues. If they are afraid to stick out their necks on anything, why have a student government at all?

Finally, it is amazing that Michele Gagne can decide to spend \$2040 in student money on advertising ASUN in a newspaper criticized by the same student government. If what ASUN is doing isn't newsworthy it seems hopeless to dig up old items of interest and pay to make ASUN seem bigger than it really is. This executive decision is another example of the aristocracy of our current ASUN executives. We sincerely hope that positive ASUN activities such as PACE, the Record Store and Women's Resource Center will not be sold out for the inflation of three people's egos.

Joe McCarty  
Scott Coop

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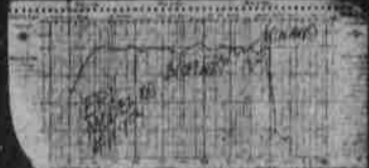
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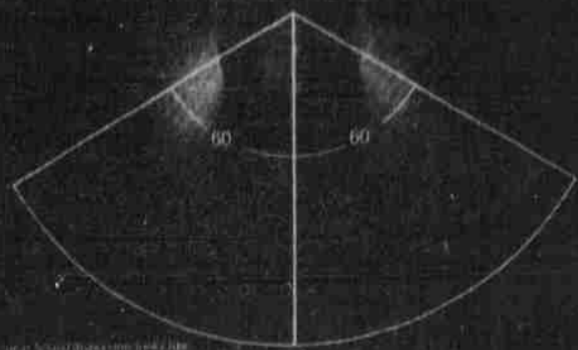
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