



**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.

**Ugly truth**

Dear editor:

Once again the ASUN election has come and gone amidst a flurry of posters and column space in the Daily Nebraskan. And again I did not vote. I find that I have but one consolation in facing this ugly truth, for which I thank the Board of Regents, God, President Nixon, etc., while I had no effect on the outcome of the ASUN elections, I am confident that in the coming year, the outcome will have absolutely no effect on me.

508-68-931

**Reading rip-off**

Dear editor:

When the University started offering summer reading courses, most students thought it was a good idea. They could earn credit hours during the summer without going to classes. It was independent study, and there were advantages: students could go home and still take courses. Also, tuition was reasonable both for residents and nonresidents: \$20 per credit hour for residents and \$21 per credit hour for

nonresidents. This year, the tuition for summer reading courses has taken a drastic turn. The tuition now is \$18 per credit hour for residents and \$48.25 per credit hour for nonresidents. This is the same tuition one pays for attending regular courses. This is a rip-off by the University. Students did not have any previous notice about the raise in tuition by the University Extension Division. This year fewer reading courses are offered. What is the University planning to do to students? What with increase in dorm rates and increase in next year's tuition?

L.M.

**Library policies**

Dear editor:

It seems that "screw the undergraduate" is the policy theme of our UNL library system. Besides all the time restrictions imposed on the loan of books to undergraduates as opposed to graduate students, fines for delayed return of books is so great, they could almost start going into business with it! After due day, the fine is \$1 per book. Then an extra dime per book per day is added on if the book is not immediately returned. Thus, once you've crossed the deadline, it makes little difference how much longer you want to keep the book. Moreover, there is no provision for special cases or even a discussion of the matter. Students could miss a final exam and with good reasons be given a second chance. Our librarians, however, have no time for discussions. You could be dead by the deadline, but you would still have to pay the fine! I propose an ascending fine, not one that starts at \$1 and goes down to a dime. There at least should be provisions for special cases—the two weeks we are allowed is not much.

Raad H. Hermes

**Fees battle fatigue**

The Unicameral's Education Committee currently is considering Millard Sen. James Dickinson's LB362 which would cut off all student fees except those earmarked for debt retirement. University lobbyist Ann Campbell has worked closely with the committee during its deliberations on the fees issue.

Throughout the fees debate, the University administration, through Campbell, has maintained publicly that it supports the current fees system. It now appears that University administrators have been singing a different tune in their private strategy meetings.

Campbell was at Wednesday's ASUN meeting to explain her activities on behalf of the NU administration in this most recent student fees strife. She again said that the University is officially against LB362, but she also said that the University had itself drafted an amendment to that measure which would allow fees to be eliminated from the campus speakers program. Perhaps Campbell is too close to the battle to be able to distinguish the enemy. But there does seem to be some amount of inconsistency in the various positions the University has taken on the fees issue during the last two weeks.

University officialdom evidently has been intimidated by what Campbell termed the "political reality" of the fees dispute. ASUN's legislative liaison has been ineffective. It is time for involved and concerned students to organize their own lobbying effort. Again, it appears that administrators, University or student, are poor advocates of student concerns.

Tom Lansworth

**Peace, patience needed for Indian advancement**



"Violence surely does attract the public's attention to an issue—usually the law and order issue."

The Indians who siezed the tiny town of Wounded Knee, S.D. more than three weeks ago to dramatize what they claim is a long series of broken promises and violated treaties are in the process of forfeiting whatever sympathy that people in this county may have for them.

Instigators of the conflict, the militant American Indian Movement (AIM), have succeeded in bringing the plight of their people before the eyes of what has become an overly complacent and apathetic nation. Now having attained the spotlight, however, they appear loath to leave it and, in continuing to hold the village, are seriously damaging their case of legitimate grievances.

Their persistent intransigence in refusing to negotiate their demands speaks little for the reasonableness of those demands or for the persons who assert them. Their further declaration that they no longer recognize the U.S. government and are instituting their own government casts additional doubts about the wisdom of the Indian leadership.

While both sides seem to be exercising restraint, the possibility is omnipresent that lives will be lost

town have already exchanged shots, although only one minor injury has so far resulted.

Evidence indicates that AIM has done extensive damage to certain buildings in the vicinity. Similar Indian demonstrations at Alcatraz in 1969 and an invasion of the Bureau of Indian Affairs building at Washington last autumn also resulted in widespread vandalism. This, again, is needless and hardly conducive to advancing the Indian cause.

Of course, it is high time that the entire handling of Indian affairs undergoes a wholesale revision. The concept of keeping descendants of the original settlers of this land on reservations as vassals of the state is ridiculous. And while the Indians have every right to their tribal background and rich cultural heritage, there is no reason why they cannot, at the same time, share the advanced developments of our civilization like anyone else.

The Nixon Administration is making quiet yet rapid strides toward Indian progress. Current budgeting for the Health Services and Mental Health Administration for Indian Programs is up \$19 million over last year. Indian-operated businesses have been encouraged by grants from the Indian Business Development Fund to Indians unable to qualify for small business loans from other sources. Three-fourths of the 20 executive positions at the Bureau of Indian Affairs are filled by Indians. This kind of headway is no less significant just because the liberal press does not choose to give it the priority attention it deserves.

Hundreds of years of obvious wrongs perpetrated against our Indian citizens will not be righted instantly. Nor will they be corrected by violence and demonstrations such as Wounded Knee. Peace, patience, cooperation and compromise are what is needed for Indian advancement.

john vihstadt  
**different drummer**

before the occupation is ended. Indeed, the heavily armed Indians and the government forces outside the