



Dear editor,
Once again the Rodeo Club went ahead with the rodeo—that exercise in futility where they try to thrill the city folk.

There are some of us who don't think it's such a good deal. What fun is there in seeing helpless animals misused and prodded into outrageous stunts? It's just as sickening to have women out there wrestling and twisting on a small goat, tied to a stake. A pathetic sight, and degrading to man and beast.

If the rodeo members have riding skills or want to drill in unison to show off their nice horses, that is a horse of another color.

But exploiting animals—no thank you. How about it—does anyone else care to speak out on this?

There is growing sentiment in the country against this outdated form of exercise. Couldn't we in Nebraska take the lead?

A. Hageman

Dear editor,

I read the metric "Tirade" of Keith Landgren in "Desperate Remedies" (Daily Nebraskan, April 10). It was interesting, had a substantial message and was masterfully done. His conclusion, though hopeful, will not be realized.

State Sen. Ernie Chambers

Veterans' thrift

It's most disconcerting that many young men and women who beat the odds and survived military service in Southeast Asia have returned to the United States to find themselves casualties of the system that sent them there.

It seems that the Veterans Administration (VA) is lamentably slow in dispatching checks to veterans for their job training or education. One Lincoln couple waited 3½ months for the husband's first check. When it arrived, it was for \$7.35, although the wife claims the amount expected was much more.

The couple still awaits more than \$800 owed for the first four months of this year.

In other local cases, the University shares the blame, along with federal and state VA offices. Another woman said she could write a book about the headaches she and her husband experienced with the VA in being issued their checks. She and her husband, both veterans attending UNL, had to borrow money to get by and for a time "lived on bread and water." Her first check was a month late; her husband's was 3½ months overdue. The reason, according to the local VA office, was that the University sent in its enrollment lists late.

Problems concerning University studies and veterans' benefits are exacerbated when the vet changes courses, goes from full-time to part-time status or changes schools. But it's unfortunate that the University hasn't exercised more responsibility in bulldozing aside the ever present red tape in aiding veterans in their attempts to get through school while maintaining an adequate standard of living.

The veterans should not have to be penalized for the bungling of the VA or the tardiness—or unconcern—of the University.

Mary Voboril



That's what they always say.

Nixon's Original Cabinet - 12/11/68

Marvel has faith in voters' perception

State Sen. Richard Marvel arrived late to make his campaign speech. The Unicameral had just adjourned, and he looked a little harried. Even when he took the floor, the senator from Hastings still looked milkily unhappy until he spotted the blackboard, and found a piece of chalk. Only then did he seem to forget the speech, and begin a lecture on applied political science.

After all, it was only natural. He has taught political science nearly as long as he has practiced it in the Legislature. The result is an unusual juxtaposition of the academic and the practical. It makes for a remarkable politician.

He began to talk about the functions of the Unicameral, the governor and the parties in a "nonpartisan" state. In passing he commented on the present governor's political skill.

Then came the practical talk: the frustration of trying to get around a line item veto, the difficulty of fighting a Democratic governor who listed as one of his three biggest tasks as governor the building of a party machine; the difficulty of confronting him, period, when he never seems to hold to a position for more than 10 minutes. Throughout, Marvel combined theory, technique and experience in a way few people can match.

mary cannon cannon law

Marvel is running for governor after 15 years as a state senator, 13 of those years as chairman of the Legislature's Appropriations Committee, and 11 years of teaching political science. Although he is highly qualified for the job, I think his greatest attribute is his attitude toward government. Exon is like a fox. He likes to be all things to all men, and he often seems to be more concerned with political advantage than with the state's progress.

Marvel is more like a lion—he tackles problems head-on, and has no patience with those who do not. There is no pretense about him, no crepe paper trimmings. Wily, he isn't. He is more inclined to see government as a matter of getting things done, whereas Exon thinks of attaining positions.

For instance, he counted up seven state agencies dealing

with water policy, and dozens of others concerned with natural resources and energy. That is inefficient. The directors must spend too much time getting coordinated, and there are endless jurisdictional problems. To solve this and similar problems, Marvel is thinking of proposing a more functional reorganization of the state administration.

The state has several long-range plans for highway development, but last year 38% of the new highway construction authorized was not included in any plan. Are our highways so badly built that we need to spend 40% of our money making "emergency" repairs? Or are the plans so poorly laid that they could be 40% off every year? Or could it be that the governor had an "emergency" need to dispense some patronage? Marvel thinks that either way, the taxpayer is badly served, and he thinks he can do better.

Exon was elected on a wave of opposition to the state income tax—the brand new—and to the fact that his predecessor had gathered more than \$30 million in the state treasury. Right now the state's surplus is \$55 million.

He lists one of his greatest accomplishments as governor as balancing the budget, always a worthy achievement, except that the state constitution requires it already. Nearly every year since the state was formed the budget has balanced.

In announcing his candidacy for re-election, Exon listed three achievements of his administration. First, the balancing of the budget, secondly, the strengthening of the state's Democratic Party (at the expense of the rest of us); and a third claim which is the most outrageous of all.

With great to-do, he claimed responsibility for lowering income taxes, as he had promised to do in his first campaign.

Marvel finds this a little irritating, because it was Marvel who led the fight, against Democratic opposition, to lower the taxes. And he successfully resisted an attempt to raise them again. Exon even lobbied in the Capitol rotunda against increasing the state food sales tax credit.

Marvel has a lot of faith in the ability of Nebraskans to dig out the facts, and to choose between sham and substance. Although Exon has made much noise and political smoke, his own re-election speech in effect admits that there have been few achievements that benefited the state.

Marvel is banking on the voters seeing this. It will be an uphill battle, as it usually is against an incumbent, but wouldn't it be nice to have a governor who makes sense?