

## Serious candidates wanted

WANTED: Student (other than graduating senior) familiar with university, particularly with problems of students. Must have working knowledge of faculty and administrative problems. Knowledge of UNL power structure helpful. Need Friday evenings and Saturday mornings free once a month for NU Board of Regents meetings. No experience necessary. Start work April 2. Low pay, long hours. Those with an aversion to regents and red tape, or apathetic students need not apply.

\*\*\*

Presumably now that the ASUN Senate has achieved a quorum (practically at gunpoint) and has set a date for this year's ASUN elections, there are groups of students meeting in the proverbial smoke-filled-rooms forming parties, preparing platforms and trying to come up with clever acronyms that don't commit them to anything.

And just as in past years, this year's election will, no doubt have its share of spoof parties that put down "the system," make interesting news stories and just generally keep everyone's mind off a serious look at the issues.

After six months of trudging to and from

class, filling out forms and making the required payments (all with a straight face), it does students good to have a laugh at the university's expense, to satirize its faults in hopes of bringing change. The spoof parties serve that purpose. May we always have them.

But may we always remember that the real advancements in students rights weren't made by jokesters, unless they were jokesters who at some time seriously revealed the purpose of their humor.

Laughter for laughter's sake is fine. But spoof ASUN president candidates should have purpose behind their jokes and should be kind enough to let us know what that purpose is before the election.

ASUN is a joke, it is only because we students have made it that. Any student who doesn't fit the qualifications listed above doesn't have any business running, even as a joke.

This year we will elect not only an ASUN president but a member of the NU Board of Regents. After all the trouble students went to to get membership on that board, it would be a mistake to treat it as a joke.

Wes Albers

## Nuclear moratorium urged

(Editor's note: Rob Aiken is chairman of the Environmental Task Force.)

As far as energy goes, I'm not surprised at the condition the world finds itself in. While conservationists point out people are running out of fossil fuels, this is only one point of view.

From the energy industry viewpoint, we have a surplus of oil, coal and natural gas. According to James Ridgeway, in *The Last Play, America* has 3.2 trillion tons of coal, 2.1 trillion cubic feet of natural gas and 29 billion barrels of oil in proved reserves. These figures on oil and gas are from the energy industry so one can't be sure how much more will be "discovered" with proper "incentives."

If all these reserves flood the market at once, the vast over-supply of fuel would reduce the price of energy to nearly zilch. Obviously this won't happen, but lots of small coal companies scrapping to sell coal to buyers would likely result in more fuel mined and sold at a lower price.

Ridgeway, in his analysis of the energy industry, traces the expansion of Consolidation Coal. By buying out marginal companies, reaching an understanding with the United Mine Workers and reducing the supply of coal, Consolidation was able to dictate coal prices and reap profits. In 1968, *Fortune* reported a 15 per cent profit margin for the industry as a whole.

The pattern is established. Only by forming a few huge corporations can the energy industry clamp down the supply of fuel and extract profits. Ridgeway says the seven international oil companies have controlled two-thirds of the world's oil for a generation. Now the "seven sisters" are buying coal in the Rocky Mountain states—expanding to control over a quarter of coal and uranium production in the U.S.

Corporations rarely have been afraid to use

their concentrated power. Back in the mid-thirties I.G. Farben, the big German chemical company, discovered a way to convert coal into gasoline. Because coal reserves dwarf oil, coal gasification carries a lethal threat to big oil. To prevent the unhappy consequence of competition, Jersey Standard entered an agreement with the German firm in the 30's to keep coal gasification under wraps. Hence we depend on Mid-east oil rather than our own coal.

Industry and the utilities developing nuclear facilities tend to work hand in hand. Oil companies tend to become involved in mining and processing uranium (nuclear fuel), then design and manufacture the huge nuclear power plants and retain maintenance responsibility. Nuclear power becomes a lucrative long-term business for corporations.

Understandably, information is often withheld—not only on safety and efficiency of plants but also on cost of building the plants.

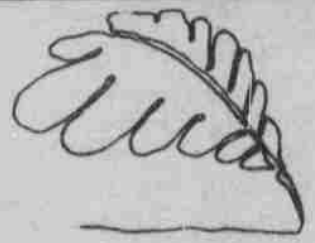
## guest opinion

*Friends of the Earth* discovered General Electric abandoned a completed \$80 million nuclear fuel reprocessing plant because it doesn't work.

One can only expect industry to continue flexing its muscle and making plans for our future. People can fight back only through government. If we want to, we can say "No more nuclear power plants in Nebraska" and that will be that.

March 6 is a chance to be heard at the State Capital. The Public Works Committee is holding a public hearing to consider a moratorium on further nuclear power plants in Nebraska.

## to the editor



Dear editor:

The drawing by Ron Wheeler which appeared in the Feb. 17 article concerning discrimination against women by the Recreation Dept. was an example of the frequent unfortunate reaction to such justifiable protests by women.

First, it is a cartoon insinuating that the whole issue of women not being able to use the courts is a joke. It is not a joke to be treated as a second-class person.

Second, the woman pictured looks like a cross between a football tackle and an Amazon. Another myth from the Dark Ages about the image of women who participate in sports.

Linda Cotter

## Criminal Justice High School

Dear editor:

After attending the ASUN meeting and reading the opinion of two criminal justice majors, we think there is a great deal of misunderstanding about what we are attempting to accomplish.

We are not arguing the point concerning the quality of education of either campus or the 55-mile drive to UNO, but that the majority of students come to UNL to graduate from this campus. The statistics bear out the fact that 96 per cent of the criminal justice students surveyed wanted a UNL or NU diploma. While we want to be sensitive to the viewpoint of others, there doesn't appear to be adequate support for the views expressed by Rowoldt and Schorr.

To reiterate our position, we came to UNL because we wanted to graduate from UNL, not "West Dodge High."

Martin Crowley  
Kathy Andersen

## Who are Friends?

Dear editor:

This article ("Student calls for end to racism, *Daily Nebraskan*, Feb. 17) would be an even better topic to indulge in if A'Jamal Byndon had dropped a few names. This would make some students, primarily the minority sect of the student body, aware of who they are sitting next to in class, who they're breaking bread with at the dinner table and so on.

Being a black I know for a fact that A'Jamal's topic is 100 per cent valid. Some readers may not feel the article was fair to the people from Tablerock, Loop City, Burwell or McGrue. I realize that people from these towns only see blacks on television, and I understand this situation.

So I'm making an appeal to the marginal blacks or the ones who don't realize they're black. Read A'Jamal's article again and again until you're aware of what he's saying. Then ask yourself who exactly are your friends.

Kenneth Gilreath

## Big brass rising

Dear editor:

It never ceases to amaze me how those who "have religion" never miss a chance to push their values on those who don't "have religion," but on what a pious outcry there is when the don'ts fight back.

Now that the turmoil in the wake of Josh has passed, the religious big brass is rising up in anger because someone dared to question the religious preference card in the registration packets.

The most outrageous statement so far has been that this will hamper campus ministries and cause confusion among students and parents as to the religious opportunities on campus. What a bunch of crap and what a gross insult to the intelligence of those very students and parents.

Eric Seberg

