# editorial opinion



Suzanne Murdock

Jim Balters

Dear editor:

I would like to add a footnote to the comments by Chuck Strinz (Daily Nebraskan, April 7) and Ben Aymon (April 10) concerning relationship among foreign and American students. I agree people should be able to recognize humor in the situations involving human beings of different languages and cultural backgrounds. However, I believe the cartoon in question, which depicts a foreign student as completely disoriented, blind and unable to speak a word of English, was not simply a matter of finding humor in a natural situation-it was also the expression of an attitude.

Why did the cartoonist chose to caricature an Arab (or at least, obviously non-Western student)? Perhaps it was no accident. As a tutor to foreign students at the Writing Center, I have become aware that many of them do feel the effects of prejudices)and especially those from non-Western, non-European and

non-Christian cultures.

No, a single cartoon is not all that powerful or important. But it may reflect an attitude which feeds upon itself and which can be an obstacle to friendship between foreigners and Americans.

Beliefs matter

Dear editor:

Bruce Nelson makes a very good point concerning what he would do if he was in Saigon when the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese come marching in. If one wasn't on the Viet Cong death list for collaborating with the United States invaders, then all one need do is hang a VC flag on the door and he wouldn't have to worry about execution. If he was on the death list and he truly disagreed with the VC's form of political rule, then he could leave Saigon early and drift into the jungles with those who agreed with him and fire up their own guerrilla war, just as the VC themselves did years ago.

I guess it matters, though, who one believes in and

how much.

#### Little Red schoolhouse

Dear editor:

After reading Bruce Nelson's asinine essay on Vietnam in which Communists are heroes and Americans are villains, I dismissed it as the type of drivel you could only expect from someone dropped on his head in infancy. Little did I realize how many additional rabid communist sympathizers this would flush from the bush.

Bruce Ehrlich evidently put down his Little Red Book long enough to roundly denounce the United States and praise, to quote him, "Vietnam's Communist-led national independence movement." He sounds like a former speech writer for Ho Chi Minh. I would like Comrade Ehrlich to name just one Communist-controlled nation which with its "independence" allows little privileges as free elections or free speech.

Ehrlich heaps all the blame for atrocities on the U.S. military, taking his unbiased proof, the report of the Bertrand Russel War Crimes Tribunal. To use a Bertrand Russel source as unbiased is about like using

material from Pravda.

After Hue was recaptured following the 1968 Tet offensive, all one had to do is turn on the TV news to be told in full gory detail about the bodies of thousands of Hue citizens which had been found in mass graves many with their hands and feet tied with wire and buried alive, courtesy of "Vietnam's Communist-led National independence movement." Regarding this, Comrade Ehrlich blandly states that "these charges have never been substantiated."

It is quite evident that much of the education of people like Nelson and Ehrlich must have taken place in the little Red schoolhouse.

Ernest Rousek

#### Criticism political

Dear editor:

In regard to the recent ASUN elections, the ASUN Electoral Commission would like to clarify, from the Commission's viewpoint, several events which occurred prior to and during the elections.

One of the major criticisms of the election rules concerned the fairness of requiring parties to obtain 500 signatures in order to have the party's initials placed on the ballot. We are not addressing ourselves

to the fairness question but rather to the fact that people had sufficient opportunity and forum to express their dissatisfaction with the rules. All ASUN Senate meetings are open to the public; the access to information concerning the elections is open to the public. Inquiries about the process can be answered

by contact with the ASUN office.

Secondly, there appeared concern that the confusion about the Outstanding Professor Award was the fault of the Commission. It should be pointed out that the list of names received by the Commission was incorrect. The Builders' Organization is responsible for conducting the Outstanding Professor Awards. The Electoral Commission does not have anything to do with the selection of names which appear on the ballot. The Commission merely conducts the elections for the Builders. The Commission suggests that in the future the Builders work in closer conjunction with the Commission concerning the Outstanding Professor Award. Additionally, the Commission suggests that Com Cobs and Tassels also work closer with the Commission to avoid problems with the Homecoming elections held in the fall.

We thought the Daily Nebraskan did a good job of covering the campaign, but we take exception to the coverage of the early Senate discussions concerning the election rules. The Commission believes a better job could have been performed in delivering this information to the public. Additionally, the sample ballot that appeared in the Daily Nebraskan contained several errors and omissions. We encourage the Daily Nebraskan and the Commission to work closer with each to avoid such mistakes in the future.

After viewing the actual operations of this year's elections, the Commission believes that two inadequacies exist. First, the Commission should coordinate the operations of the entire election process. It is important that this person delegate responsibilities to the Commission members in a reasonable manner. Secondly, the Commission needs to begin work next fall to review the election rules and to encourage discussion of these rules early so as to avoid the problems of this year's elections.

In conclusion, the Electoral Commission welcomes and encourages public discussion of the rules. But it should be emphasized that, in our opinion, much of the criticism aimed at the Commission was political in nature and not based on procedural reasons.

The ASUN Electoral Commission

### UNL Recreation Dept - Daily Nebraskan





#### open five mile

open to any UNL student sponsored by

Freewheelin' Bike Shop

427 South 13th, Featuring fine imports and top line accessories to fit your bicycle needs. Complete service shop.

Prize - \$20 in merchandise

#### open 4000 meter

open to any UNL Student soonsored by

11th. & Cornhusker hwy. We repair all makes of bikes.

Prize - \$20 in merchandise

#### co-rec one lap sprint

one girl and one guy on landem bicycle (furnished by rec. dept.) sponsored by

## Lincoln Schwing

Lincoln's Bicycle Sales and Service Center

Prize - \$20 in merchandise

#### women's 1000 meter

open to all female UNL students,

sponsored by

Prize - \$25 gift certificate

## men's

1000 meter

open to all male UNL students. sponsored by

11th & Cornhusker Hwy, Open 4 to midnight - open all night during finals week & tournaments during finals week,

Prize - \$20 in merchandise

#### co-rec one lap

relay tour girls and tour guys per team on I tandem bicycles (furnished by rec, dept.)

## Valentino's

Prize - one large pizza to each member of winning team

## Sunday April 27

First event starts at 1 p.m. Registration is from 12:30 to 1. You must be a UNL student to enter. Race to be held at the tractor test track on East Campus. For more information, call the UNL recreation department 472-3467.