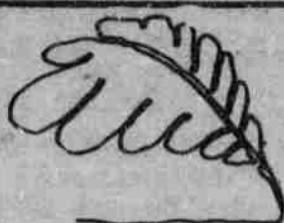


editorial / opinion

to the editor



Dear editor,
 In the 1975-76 UNL Student Handbook (appropriately subtitled "Jumping University Hurdles") on p. 46 under student housing policy, section III, Social Regulations, is a statement on coed visitation. It is followed by a statement on morality.

If, after weighing the value of these two statements, your conclusion agrees with ours, you may want to help do something about this situation. We are working toward a 24-hour visitation option for all campus housing units. We need people to help circulate petitions and to organize calling and letter writing efforts. But most important show your support by signing the petition. Please contact:

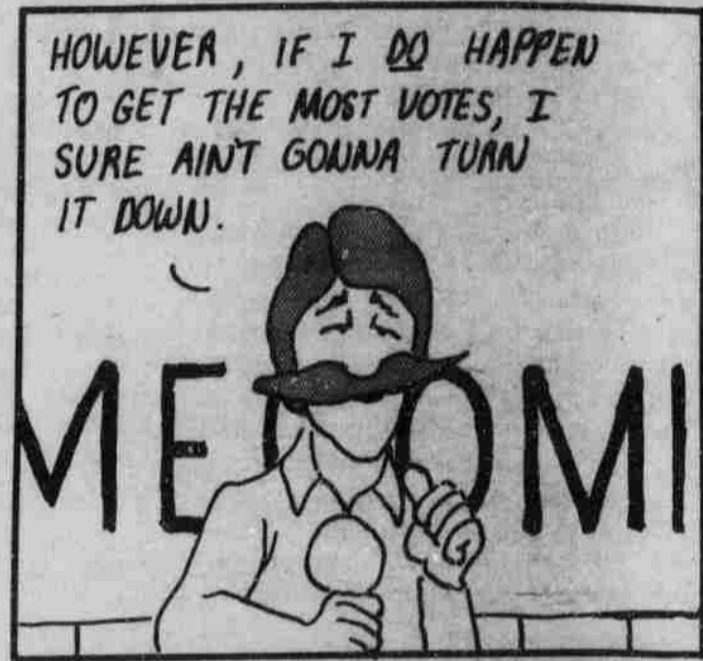
"Jumping University Hurdles"
 Social Chairman, 11th floor Abel
 475-0971

or
 Scoop, VP, 11th floor Abel
 475-0908

Gustafson commended

Dear editor,
 As a reader of the Daily Nebraskan, I would like to take this opportunity to commend the outstanding writer of "The Word Unheard", Del Gustafson.
 Mr. Gustafson's controversial columns, written every Friday, add a special touch to the whole Daily Nebraskan. I encourage Mr. Gustafson in his future pursuit of "The Word Unheard."

Ginger Wilson
 Kearney, Ne.



vine street irregulars



Hands of bureaucracy defy grad students

By Michael Hilligoss

I had agreed to meet Yossarian at Oscar's, but my VSI informant didn't appear on schedule. An hour and a couple of Bloody Marys later, I saw him puffing up the stairs with a large brown parcel under his arm.

"What do you have there?" I asked as he sat down.
 "Oh, you'd be interested," he said. "They're the posters for the VSI's Annual UNL Bureaucracy Recognition Day."

"That is interesting," I said. "Is some sort of demonstration going with it?"

"Yes, this year we plan to do a dramatization," he answered.

I prompted him, "Some sort of cynical put-down, I suppose?"

"No," he said, "quite the contrary. We're doing a factual documentary on a UNL grad student's losing battle with bureaucracy and red tape."

"Can you give me a preview?" I asked.

"Sure," he said, handing me the outline of the script:

Scene One: Bureaucracy's right hand awards a graduate student (hereafter called "GS") a "double" assistantship, which entails teaching 11 credit hours with full course responsibility.

(Technical Note: A double assistantship usually means twice as much work for something less than double the

pay.)

Scene Two: Bureaucracy's left hand discovers GS's "good" fortune and rules that no TA (double or not) is permitted to teach that many hours.

Scene Three: Bureaucracy's right hand solves this problem by changing GS's title (not his work load or salary) from teaching assistant to part-time instructor. The left hand then rules that it's legal for GS to teach 11 credit hours because his title has been changed.

Scene Four: The left hand of bureaucracy informs GS that while TAs get paid in 10 monthly installments beginning in August, instructors get paid in nine monthly installments beginning in September. Because GS was paid in August as a TA, it will be necessary to deduct that August TA payment from GS's September check as an instructor.

Scene Five: Although GS now has no money, the right hand of bureaucracy appears at the door exclaiming that the tuition payment is due. (Technical note: GS is still trying to register for classes and get through graduate school.)

The left hand tries to cover up its mess by arranging an

interest-free loan for GS to cover the tuition payment.

Scene Six: In desperation, GS takes the loan, then discovers that he will have less money than he planned for to pay it back. Since GS is now an instructor, the right hand rules, several deductions that TAs aren't subject to (such as social security), must now be deducted from GS's monthly check.

Epilog: GS, now in debt, with less pay, and still over-worked, sits at his desk with his studies and course preparations opened before him. His numbed mind tries in vain to remember the Campus Ombudsman's phone number. Curtain.

"But Yossarian," I protested, "You said this was going to be a factual story, not a parody."

"But this isn't exaggerated at all," he said. "It's happening to a UNL grad student this fall, just this way."

"No one will believe you," I said. "People will think you made it up."

"Hilligoss," chided Yossarian, "you should realize by now, after all I've told you, that the life of the UNL graduate student is stranger than fiction."

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