

# editorial / opinion

vine street irregulars



## Red suits conceal profits

By Michael Hilligoss

I met Yossarian for lunch at the Harvest Room in the Nebraska Union. He motioned me to a table to one side of the room.

"Shhhhh!" he said, "They'll see me."

"Who?" I asked, somewhat surprised by Yossarian's sudden secretiveness.

"It's our rivals," he said, "the infamous Plastic Suit Gang."

"I've never head of them," I replied. "Which ones are they?"

"Two tables over," he pointed. "See the ones with the blue and red double knit sportcoats, white plastic shoes and the name tags that say 'Nebraska Union?'"

"You don't mean the people who run the Union, do you?" I asked.

Yossarian nodded gravely. "They look innocent enough until you watch some of the things they do."

"Like what? Give me an example," I demanded. "Those men wear red suits because they're loyal to the university and to the students who eat lunch here every day in their cafeteria."

"Mere camouflage," he responded. "Just analyze your own last statement. Remember, this isn't their cafeteria, it's our cafeteria."

"But Yossarian, they provide a needed service. Arranging for nonprofit meals every day is no easy task."

"Of course it isn't easy," he exclaimed. "That's why they don't do it!"

"They don't?" I asked.

"Hell no! Do you think those guys care one bit about the thousands of grad students who depend on the Union food service every day?"

"Watch them," he instructed. "Here comes one by the cash register now. Listen, does the girl ask for the full amount?"

"Why, no, she doesn't," I responded. "She only charges him half price!"

"You see," he said triumphantly. "It's no wonder those guys don't think the prices in the Harvest Room are too high. They get a 50 per cent discount."

"And by the way, food service in the Harvest Room is anything but nonprofit. It makes money which the Plastic Suit Gang spends on other 'worthwhile' activities."

"That's amazing," I said. "I never would have believed it, taking money from students' food budgets to support other activities. It's almost criminal when you think about it."

"Lift your feet, Hilligoss," Yossarian commanded. "Here comes the final insult. Just to remind us that we're still students they send this little man around with a smelly dust mop to sweep under your table and bother you while you're trying to finish your overpriced dessert."

## DJ's firing needs Strike Day action

Today may be Women's Strike Day to you, but it is Tuesday to us.

Since the Daily Nebraskan is always a day ahead of itself, you see, if we were to strike today, that is, Wednesday, the effects wouldn't be felt until tomorrow, Thursday, the day after the strike, which is really two days after the strike if this is being written on Tuesday . . . er, that is . . .

Quite seriously, though, we support Women's Strike Day, especially as it is being interpreted by the Lincoln chapter of the National Organization for Women.

"Aware But at Work" is the slogan Lincoln working women are being asked to wear at their jobs today. In a sense, it has been the slogan of this semester's Daily Nebraskan staff since we began publishing in August.

As we pointed out in an earlier editorial, about two-thirds of this semester's news staff is women. In part, that ratio reflects the rising enrollment of women in the journalism school, although not all our staff members are journalism majors.

In addition, all three of our professional staff members—the business, production and advertising managers—are women.

We are proud of those statistics.

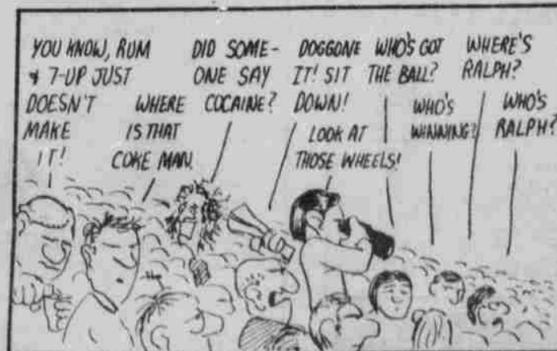
But while women at the Daily Nebraskan have equality of pay and responsibility, and more than equality in numbers, we are aware that professional women in journalism and related fields do not fare as well.

Case in point is the firing of radio announcer Ann Perkinson by KFMQ-FM. Perkinson's crime was to say, on the air, that she supported Women's Strike Day and would either strike herself or play an all-woman program.

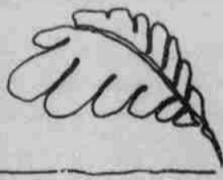
Lincoln women and men, who would like to observe Women's Strike Day with more than just awareness should phone or write KFMQ's general manager, Steve Agnew, to protest Perkinson's dismissal.

KFMQ's action was deplorable, and their defense for the firing, that Perkinson's professional performance had been unsatisfactory, is very weak under the circumstances.

KFMQ's phone is 432-8565; the address is 1025 Terminal Bldg., 941 O St., 68508. Protest today—that is, Wednesday. That is, Strike Day.  
Rebecca Brite



## to the editor



Dear editor,

Enough of the Greek vs. Dorm issue. There will be fewer Greek houses and fewer residence halls if students cease to come to campus for an education. What kind of education can you expect or afford if the university budget is cut?

You now complain about dirty classrooms, lack of modern facilities, the ridiculous student/teacher ratio, the cost of your tuition and what you're getting for it. What happens when the university budget is cut?

It doesn't affect you? Your classes are more important than a few hours of your time Thursday morning at the Capitol? When that budget is cut, jobs will be cut. Those jobs include janitors, instructors, people working in drop and add and in registration and students who work at the university (other than work-study).

Those cuts include a decrease in supplies, in paper, utilities, secretaries, the sections of a class available and the classes offered. There is the chance that summer school may be eliminated.

Sound dramatic? It's fact and those facts aren't going to disappear before you leave UNL. I don't believe the accusations of apathy directed at students. When it's important, students will act.

What will you do if the university budget is cut? Where are you going to get the money to pay for classes; how many jobs can you hold to pay for higher tuition? What will your degree be worth?

What can you do so the budget won't be cut? Be at the State Capitol Thursday at 9 a.m. for the public hearing. Write your senators. They have no choice but to listen—their reelection depends on it.

Robin Buchman

"Look, we exist in this society where inequities are apparent. As people who realize that, let us take a stand."

Thus they support the United Farm Workers grape boycott, a boycott that millions of Americans have supported since the late '60s and continue to support today.

Student governments traditionally have been influential in the development of advanced thought. Gustafson deprecates it. He prefers that the whiteness of fraternities and sororities go unmentioned.

Or Gustafson might tell us "there's a time and a place"—failing to realize the impact of national recommendations. Presumably students are bright enough to distinguish between progressive and retrogressive positions. If the NSA recommends corrupt stands, we are free to disagree.

Gustafson continues the popular and traditional occupation of silencing the left wherever it rears itself, under the guise of preserving neutrality.

By all means let him rebuke those who are trying to think through the errors of the capitalist system. But do not let him pretend that anything, including his column and its selections of facts, is apolitical.

Gillian Campbell

### Skin therapeutic

Dear editor,

In response to the letter from a "Honky Taxpayer" (Daily Nebraskan, Oct. 23), I would like to clear up some popular misconceptions about pornography.

Contrary to popular opinion, there are many beneficial ways that pornography can be put to use. I know because I've been there.

At age 14, my sex life consisted of kissing volleyballs and frequent hip baths. It was obvious that drastic action was called for. In my case, this necessitated massive doses of therapeutic pornography.

After years of intensive care and a brand spanking new Voit volleyball, I've found that I'm much taller in a horizontal position.

"Prune Legs"

### Nothing apolitical

Dear editor,

Del Gustafson states (Daily Nebraskan, Oct. 24) that the National Student Association's (NSA) record will reveal it is about as apolitical as Hubert Humphrey.

It is not the fact that NSA is political that Gustafson objects to, but the kind of politics it puts forward (as well as taking other positive stands for students, not mentioned in the column).

It is an organization which is not pretending that campuses are ivory towers where each student pursues his or her interests in a vacuum. It is an organization that says,

The Daily Nebraskan welcomes letters to the editor and guest opinions. Choices of material published will be based on timeliness and originality. Letters must be accompanied by the writer's name, but may be published under a pen name if requested. Guest opinions should be typed, triple-spaced, on nonerasable paper. They should be accompanied by the author's name, class standing and major, or occupation. All material submitted to these pages is subject to editing and condensation, and cannot be returned to the writer.

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