

d.n. soapbox

guest opinion | Students' support urged; three regents targeted

By Karen Lundquist

The time has come for students to exercise their political power!

After pursuing every university administrative path to allow alcohol consumption and 24-hour visitation on campus, many students think they have reached a dead end.

Frustration bred by unreasonable and illogical explanations of opposing regents has triggered two extreme reactions, neither which would benefit students. They are the popular apathetic nonreaction and, at the opposite end of the scale, a revolutionary attitude based primarily on mass violation of conduct codes.

In past years we have seen the regents use student apathy as an excuse to refuse student requests.

Explaining that a proposal lacks student support, the regents have denied student rights. Even this year, after

to student popularity in outstate Nebraska. After being labeled "children," irrational action such as mass violation of conduct codes would prove the accused immaturity of students too impatient to seek logical means. News of the negative action would spread through Nebraska faster than the concern and research that went into the proposed experimental options. Obviously, any student reaction should be orderly and disciplined to create the most positive reputation for students.

Perhaps the most viable solution is the tremendous amount of previously untapped student political power. With the current regents in office, there is no chance of passing either proposal. The emotional decisions regarding these student rights were, for the most part, made before students presented any arguments and evidence. Fortunately, this year students can replace three regents who have histories of opposing student rights. They are James Moylan, Robert Koeftoot and Robert Prokop.

For six years students have dealt with the inadequate attitudes and decisions of these elected-and-not-appointed officials. Now, with enough support, we can replace them with competent and objective representatives.

Accomplishing this end requires:

-Finding possible regent candidates with views sympathetic to student concerns yet representative of public opinion within their districts. Such a movement has started and will end March 12, the filing date.

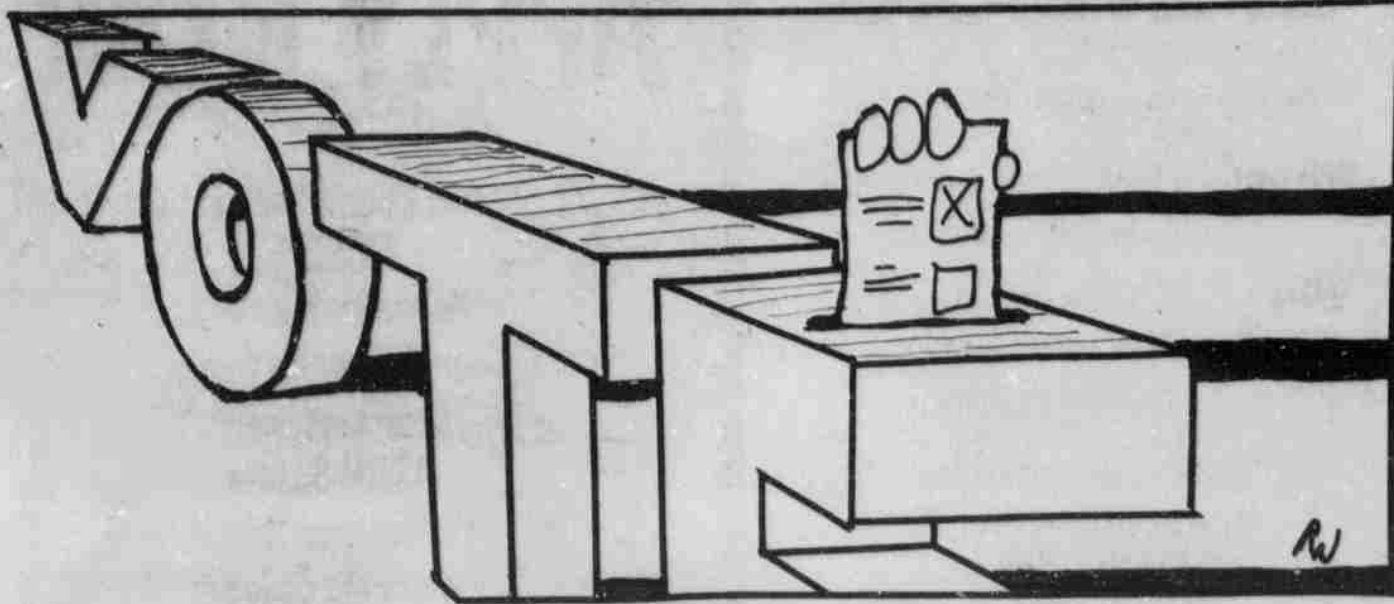
-Continuous campaigning for student-supported candidates until the November elections to convince parents and taxpayers of the need to oust the incumbents.

-Registering students in those districts and encouraging them to vote. Students voting in a block can carry enough weight in these districts to overwhelm the incumbents. Anyone doubting this should recall the 1974 student regent amendment-student absentee ballots finalized the vote in favor of the amendment.

By using political means to remove those regents from their positions, other regents sharing their views will be forced to recognize students' political force.

If you feel an obligation to this cause that will carry your enthusiasm through the summer into the November elections, then we need your help. Thursday night, past McGovern campaign manager, Jim Humlicek will speak at an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. in the Abel Hall North Office. The topic concerns campaign tactics. Volunteers can call 472-8455 or 472-8659 for further information.

Karen Lundquist is a junior majoring in Chemical Engineering.



letters to the editor

I have finally come to an agreement with Sen. Ernie Chambers on an issue. I think it would be a fine idea to execute vicious criminals in Memorial Stadium. I would further suggest that the electrocutions take place during halftime of a Big Red football game. The band can be pretty boring after a number of Saturday afternoons.

I do not agree that the governor and other officials should pull the lever however. I think the victim or members of the victim's family should have the pleasure of getting revenge on a criminal who has hurt them.

Public killings would also cut down on prison populations. I think we should all get on the bandwagon of the Omaha senator and lobby for this creative and just resolution to the problems we have with law and order. If there aren't any hoodlums there won't be any crime. America can be safe again.

Ben Sullivan

Racism rehashed?

Here we go again! The same old rehash of racism, oppression and exploitation. Okay, fine, we all know it, now "can" the rhetoric.

Everybody is discriminated against at one time or another. We all have our individual problems because life is oftentimes cruel and hard. Being white can be difficult also.

I think minority groups might be better off if they do not demonstrate such extreme arrogance and impatience. If we do not learn to live together, then everyone (not only whites) have to try to be cooperative.

Rudy Graham

Keep the draft

It was with sincere regret that I read the article on the closing of the Selective Service Office in Lincoln (Daily Nebraskan, Feb. 27.). I fear tht America is losing its guts and will soon find itself in the grasp of a foreign influence. It wasn't hurting anyone to be up for the draft at the age of 18. We all had to face it. Now we are turning our backs to the United States' pledge to protect the free world. We have a volunteer army that is made up of misfits and lazy drifters.

I honestly feel that we will pay for our weakness later on when other nations see that we are willing to give up our peace-keeping functions throughout the world.

The next thing you know they will be granting total amnesty to all of those who "wouldn't face the music" like so many others of us had to do in Vietnam. Keep the draft or we'll be blown away by the might of others more corrupt than ourselves.

Philip O. Stewart

Not guilty

I wish to inform all those who may have seen or heard of my detention by Campus Police on Monday night, March 1, in connection with the pulling of a false fire alarm at Schramm Hall. I was found innocent.

I wish to extend my personal thanks to Campus Police, The Schramm Hall residence director, and to all interested parties for their support, assistance, and show of professionalism. I have learned the true meaning of humility.

Steve Kemp

surveys of 40 per cent of the residence hall population showed that 50 per cent preferred the 0 to 24 hour visitation option and 84 per cent preferred alcohol in their living units, some regents still question student support.

Although about 50 students attended the regents' Feb. 14 meeting to support the proposals, the lack of prior student-regent contact was evident. If UNL students are ready to utilize the rights we supposedly assumed upon reaching the age of majority, we must prove it through mass support when next year's proposals reach the board.

The second extreme could be much more detrimental

word unheard

By Del Gustafson

Last week, Richard Nixon returned to Red China. Since Nixon's first visit there in 1971, we Americans have greedily gobbled up any news from that mysterious land, so long sealed from the corrupting influence of the United States. Some reflections are in order upon the picture of Red Chinese society we have received and the manner in which Americans have received that picture.

Styles seem to change slowly in Red China. The basic grey gown with matching revolutionary beret ensemble continues to enjoy 100 per cent popularity. That capricious tyrant, fashion, has been overthrown in China. No longer does the Chinese peasant have to concern himself with what he will wear: the Party is the ultimate arbiter of style.

The typical problems of the Western working-man do not confront the Chinese worker. The Party, in its infinite wisdom, determines an individual's vocation, wages, and place of employment.

The Party even controls art in Red China. For ballet-lovers, the fare consists either of (1) glorification of some aspect of the revolution, (2) determination to subjugate Taiwan (3) denunciation of the revisionist Soviets, or (4) denunciation of the decadent Americans. There is no biting political satire here; Chevy Chase would not last long in Peking.

But the deeper question is, would there be any dissent in China if it were allowed? To answer this question, probe the essence of the Chinese Revolution. One need watch only so many Chinese peasants marching merrily to the fields, and listen to only so many observers comment upon the absence of crime in China until a realiza-

Exploding the China myth— a society of hollow men?

tion of the totality of the revolution sinks in. The Taiwanese used to call for a revolution on the mainland; one might just as well urge the cattle of China to revolt. The Party, I fear, determines human behavior.

The mechanism whereby this remarkably sanitary uniformity has been achieved is quite simply mass murder. The sight of a few thousand ancestor-worshippers, black marketeers and various other social misfits floating dead down the Yangtze is sufficient to rivet any Chinese youngster's eye upon the angelic face of Chairman Mao.

And what has been the response of Americans to this national experiment in behavior modification? Do we, like Lady Astor to Stalin, accost Mao and ask him why he is killing people? Definitely not. Instead, our journalists extol the benefits of Maoism for the Chinese. Shirley MacLaine, freshly returned from a visit to the antihill society of Red China, sounded as if she had been granted a glimpse of Heaven. Our Presidents toast China's murderous tyrants in terms generally reserved for Grandpa Walton.

We Americans allow this kind of claptrap to continue because our philosophical underpinnings have become materialistic. If a regime ushers in material progress, and in the process, transforms people into automatons, we nod our collective approval. Mussolini made the trains run on time—hooray for Mussolini.

The whole affair makes one return to his room and heartily thank God that he lives in greedy, crime-ridden America. And maybe even slip in a short prayer that the next time any American praises the achievements of the Chinese slave-drivers without mentioning the awesome cost, they be miraculously transported to a Cantonese rice field where they, too, can sing the glories of the revolution, and join the ranks of the hollow men.

ralph by ron wheeler

