

editorials

Grants are good; hurdle is not

NU would be better off if the Board of Regents takes Sam Jensen's advice and does not set up any hurdles.

Jensen, president of the UNL Alumni Association, says he opposes entrance requirements for the university. The idea of entrance requirements was bandied about earlier this year by some regents who expressed concern that freshmen were not properly prepared for college.

That concern prompted NU President Ronald Roskens to propose a committee to look into the state's college preparation.

We agree with Jensen on this point. NU is a state university partly supported by taxes. It best serves the state by accepting students and letting college pressures weed out those that don't belong.

That does not mean that education in the state cannot be improved. Indeed, we would like to

see continuing efforts to upgrade the state's schools. But tough entrance requirements are not the answer.

In opposing the entrance requirements, Jensen made another suggestion worth looking at.

He proposed spending \$25,000 to \$30,000 a year to recruit top students.

Our only possible quibble with the idea is its price. Where would the money go? Promotion packages and recruiting trips don't seem to fit in with the idea of a state university (unless you're the Athletic Dept.).

But if money can be channeled into scholarships and grants, the recruiting idea should work within this setting.

Currently, the top academic scholarship the university hands out is the Regents Scholarship. It pays for tuition.

We know that Chancellor Roy Young has been looking at alternatives which might provide more money for academic grants. The idea would be to pay tuition plus more—like an athletic scholarship.

The visible commitment of money to such a project might encourage top students to take a second look at NU. Further, if they received the scholarship, they might not go elsewhere.

As it is, too many Regents Scholarship winners leave the state for college.

As opposed to accepting bowl bids during finals week, such strides only can improve NU's academic image. We should pay top scholars to go here just as we pay top athletes.



letters
to the editor

Although Anita Stork cleverly recounted many interesting but pedestrian anecdotes in her article on metric conversion (*Daily Nebraskan*, Dec. 7), she had better study her own conversion tables a bit more carefully.

If the football field in Northfield, Minn. is 109.36

yards from one goal line to another, then its metric length is 100 meters and not 120 meters.

One final point: only the most crass football fan would celebrate with a fifth of Jack Daniels. A true connoisseur would choose 0.76 liter of Glenlivet.

Laird A. Thompson

Banding together

To Eileen Duffy and any other person who is against the band going to Memphis (see *Daily Nebraskan*, Dec. 5):

It sounds like you are jealous and, because of this, you have been very inconsiderate toward the band. Let me clear up a few things you forgot to mention.

First, anyone is welcome to try out for the band so if you think it is unfair and you want to crash cymbals, try out next year.

Next, if you read the papers, the money the band received was not from UNL, but from the meeting of Big 8 Conference officials in Kansas last week. Thank you to Bob Devaney and Vice (sic) Chancellor Roy Young for their support of the band.

You are right. Some of the members will not be taking finals as scheduled. The finals that are rescheduled will be taken before the band leaves so they will

not get extra time to study.

Now, I have a few questions for you. If there wasn't the band, who would play school songs: the crowd? What would they use: a kazoo, slide clarinets, humming or the bottles they drink from?

Who always shows up at pep rallies? Who has several small groups that play at several small pep rallies throughout the city and state? All of this the band does.

They have within their organization unity, trust, friendship and spirit. Not just band spirit, but spirit for the team and UNL. They support a lot more than what you think.

So if you are still jealous, why don't you just try out next year. But remember, you have to be coordinated to march and crash cymbals at the same time.

People from all over the United States have complimented the band on their fantastic performances. The UNL marching band is the best band in this country and I think everyone in this school should be proud of the band and support it instead of fighting against it.

Rodene Essman.

Band member and Squad Leader

Editor's note: Roy Young is UNL's chancellor, not vice chancellor.

Wanted: Americans; willing to pay

Congressional investigators revealed last week that the Korean CIA budgeted \$750,000 to buy up every political, religious and opinion leader in the country—and thus the loyalty of every American. But, heck, I knew that. I just couldn't believe it.

I guess it was a year ago. I was sitting in a laundromat I frequent if there's nothing good on television, when this Oriental guy in a blue suit and dark glasses sidles up to me and says, "I'll give you this \$50 bill for..."

"Gladly," says I, removing my shirt on the natural assumption he's a detergent salesman.

"No, I wish to buy you," says he.

arthur hoppe
innocent bystander

"Get away from me, Buster, or I'll call a cop," I respond politely.

"Please, Mr. Cronkite," he says desperately. "South Korea needs your network."

When I inform him I'm not Mr. Cronkite, he pockets the fifty. "Darn," he says, "all you Americans look alike to me."

Ace newsman

I tell him I'm an ace newsman, however, and he cheers up. "Let's see," he says, taking out a Blue Book, "News-men, Ace... I can give \$1.98 for you."

I tell him he can't get two lambchops for that. "Look," he says, "I've only \$750,000 to buy up 200 million Americans. That's less than four-tenths of a cent apiece." Now I'm sore.

"Listen, mister," I say, "we've spent five billion bucks over the years making sure you lovable South Koreans remain members of our Free World. That comes to \$151.50 per lovable Korean."

"And you couldn't have made a better buy," he says. "We're loyal, hard-working and compact."

"Maybe so," says I, "but what makes you think you're worth all that while you can buy us for a nickel a dozen?"

"Teeming millions"

"Supply and demand," he says. "Think of your teeming millions crowded into your decaying cities, your landless peasants scratching out a bare existence, your hopeless unemployed, your..."

"Are you saying life is cheap in America?" I demand. "Well, four-tenths of a cent isn't exactly dear," he says with a shrug. "But if you get a better offer, take it."

He had more to say, ranting on about "Manifest Destiny," "Eastward the course of empire," and "the yellow man's burden," but I was too furious to listen.

So let us rise up, fellow Americans, and throw off the yoke of Asian imperialism in human wave attacks! Let us dream of the day when we will once again be free with souls to call our own!

Imagine the gall of these mercenary foreign exploiters—going around actually trying to buy up the loyalty of the citizens of a distant land for a bunch of filthy lucre. Who do they think they are?

Us?

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