

# opinion/editorial

## Jaycees bylaw throwback to Dark Ages

The U.S. Jaycees' resolution to prohibit women from being voting members in the organization is a throwback to pre-19th amendment days. Another anti-women restriction in the resolution includes not allowing women the right to hold office.

These Dark Ages ideas are absurd when women contribute a great deal to communities through the Jaycees.

The status women will be able to hold in the organization after December 1 is a token position. The Jaycees term this as an associate members.

U.S. Jaycee president Barry Kennedy, a Nebraskan will probably defend and uphold the organization's bylaws.

But Omaha Chapter President Doug Perry will not. Perry should be applauded for his stand to keep women as active members, even if this action means the Omaha chapter will lose its charter.

Perry must realize that giving women a token rank and taking away their rights as members will damage the Jaycees' relationship with other community organizations and rob them of viable active members.

The urban areas will be hit the hardest by the bylaw since the majority of women members reside there.

The resolution takes away any incentive women may have to join. And it is the organization that will suffer for its actions rather than women.

Omaha Jaycees member Carol Weisenkamp, said, "Having women in the organization provides the Jaycees with opportunity for growth and common knowledge."

The Jaycees will notice a deficiency in growth after December 1.

## letters

My name is Ted Weiner and I am presently incarcerated in Green Haven State Prison for possession of Quaaludes. This being my first offense, the tension and loneliness of prison life has taxed my control to the limit.

I wish to correspond with anyone willing to write and help ease a troubled spirit. Thank you.

Ted Weiner  
76A-3002-E-5-273  
Drawer B  
Stormville, New York 12582

## Primate enters primary, runs for governor

I had a phone call the other night from a press agent who claimed he'd just seen that Harvard-educated gorilla swinging off through the trees in Hollywood Hills with a gorgeous rock star under one arm.

"Oh, my God!" I said. "He's running for governor."

Sure enough, the very next morning the charismatic primate called a press conference to throw his figurative hat into the ring. The first question he was asked, of course, was whether, like the governor of Oklahoma, he would open his campaign by swearing on the Bible that he wasn't gay.

"Gay?" cried the straight-shooting contender indignantly. "I'm not even reasonably content."

### Qualifications

That issue disposed of, the broad-browed intellectual modestly listed his other qualification for the governorship. "Like all the major candidates," he said, "I

more experience than either of my opponents who have devoted their lives solely to politics."

If elected, the unassuming, barefoot candidate said he would refuse to live in the Governor's Mansion. "I plan to sleep in a tree in Capital Park without so much as an air mattress under me," he pledged.

### Mobile moped

"As a further economy measure, I'll get everywhere that I have to go on a chauffeur-driven moped. Actually, I'd drive it myself, but I don't want people to lose respect for the high office of governorship."

The fresh-faced challenger freely conceded that he had no plans to launch a state-financed space program. "I used to be into outer space," he said. "But that was before the passage of Proposition 13. Now I'm into inner space and Sufi

dancing."

Formerly a vigorous opponent of Proposition 13, the open-minded thinker is now one of its most fervent supporters. "I've had several long talks with my disciple, Howard Jarvis," said the stocky, five-foot battler for tax relief. "And I'm glad to say we see eye-to-eye. Yes, sir, Howard's one of my kind of creatures. As I've said all along, we fellow passengers on spaceship Earth must be willing to lower our expectations."

In fact, said the keen-minded student of political strategy, he expected to ride this very theme to landslide victory in November. And with that he unveiled a sample billboard bearing his likeness and the slogan of his campaign:

"If you really want to lower your expectations," it read, "vote for a gorilla."

## Direction needed

In last Thursday's Daily Nebraskan we read that ASUN passed a bill that would help AUF finance projects on campus.

ASUN President Marienau stressed that money should go to hiring students for the Sports Complex. A good idea, since it would allow more student use of the complex.

But, sponsoring political speakers, which has been an issue with so many students this past year, was only "mentioned" by Marienau.

I'm glad to hear that ASUN will set up a committee to suggest projects. I would like to be on that committee and I'd like to see students of all kinds have a voice there.

ASUN needs direction and it's clear to me that the president is unable to provide the needed leadership.

Willie Watters

## arthur hoppe

after all, been a middle linebacker for the Des Moines Cowhawks, a movie star in that hit picture *Queen Kong*, and a well-known tee-vee personality who was under consideration at one time to replace Barbara Walters as anchorcreature on the evening news. I therefore feel I have a great deal am emphasizing my experience. I have



## Idyllic childhood depends upon parents' anger vent

This world is usually a pretty cold place—foreign even in native territory.

There are so many phenomena which happen outside of one's sphere of understanding. World power, federal power, even city government is vested in the hands of a few whose selection may seem a bit doubtful (I mean, how many people will admit to voting for Nixon other than my mother?) Yet people of Nixon's caliber usually govern not only our public but our private lives.

Control over your own life is, sadly, hardly more than a mental ideal. Most of the control we accept is something we must do in order to do what we really would like to. But it is control none the less.

Now, with that bleak picture of your adult world firmly rooted, shake off your responsibilities and your "I have to's" and skip on back to childhood.

### Idyllic childhood

Yeah. Remember that carefree time when the biggest headache was the mandatory 8:30 bath? Days were idyllic fantasy for a lass (or lad) of five. Reality didn't exist much for me then (and I question the extent to which it does now). Days seemed like endless voyages of adventure, nights were mysterious journeys alone in my room with evil creatures of my imagination to entertain me and both days and nights blended into an endless, amazing dream world.

But, hey, was that childhood world only idyllic because of your age? Did it just suddenly vanish when you turned 18 or was it ever really there?

What do you do if you're five and hungry? Does a fantasy put food in your belly? If you opened a cupboard for food, what prevented you from gobbling down something marked poison?

## kate gaul

What if that mandatory bath wasn't forthcoming? Would a three-year-old have the sense or the ability to run a tub of water, or would she waddle around in filth because no one was there to put her in the tub?

### Adult control

A happy childhood isn't predicated on merely being under age 18.

It's given to us by the adults who control our childhood experiences. And by the same token, it can be denied us.

The extent of parental control is understandably necessary, but it is not necessarily good or even decent.

The Nebraska Department of Public Welfare reported 791 cases of child abuse and neglect in the first 7 months of 1977. Lancaster County accounted for 213 of these cases (cases, hell! They're human beings under 18) and Douglas County reported 409 in that time period.

Of the 213 reported cases, 72 were "validated," which means they were proven cases of child neglect and/or abuse. The remaining cases were in error or there was, possibly, no way to substantiate the cases.

Want some more figures? Hey, I've got

plenty!

During a Governor's Conference on Child Abuse in Iowa, Richard Tompkins, assistant Cerro Gordo County Iowa attorney, reported that, according to national child abuse statistics, "few of the reports are frivolous or malicious."

His report, which I gleaned from a Des Moines Register article, said that 80 percent of reported child abuse cases are strong enough to investigate and in 60 percent of those, child abuse or neglect is present.

"In 70 percent of the cases, yours will be the first report. Don't say someone else know about it and they'll call. You report it."

I wonder how many cases go unreported because of the cop-out of not wanting to get involved. Face facts, sugar. You were born human, you're involved.

There were 2,300 cases of suspected child abuse reported to Iowa authorities last year alone. 60 percent? That's 1,380 substantiated.

September 10 through 16 is Child Abuse Awareness Week in Lincoln.

Don't think it applies to you? Have you every felt so frustrated that you slapped the cocker spaniel? Or in anger, tossed the cat outside?

Don't have any children?

### Anger vent

What happens when, as you grow older and the pressures of adult life mount, and you've got a toddler around crying and eating up your hard earned cash? What prevents you from slapping that kid? A brick wall? Hey, things are tough and you

can't always vent your anger on the authority figure that caused it.

Don't be naive. All those cases aren't out of abject cruelty, although that's the result.

It's time to expand your awareness. It's time to get involved with something more than Psych 170. And National Child Abuse Week provides an excellent opportunity.

Child Abuse Awareness Week is sponsored by the Citizen's Coalition for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect. They've been organized since April of this year, tying together the community efforts to prevent child abuse and aid abuse-prone parents.

### Awareness Week

The Awareness Week shapes up with a play about abusive parents entitled "Dessie." It shows at 2 p.m. at Claire McPhee School, 820 S. 15 St., and at 7:30 at O'Donnell Auditorium on the Wesleyan campus. Babysitting will be provided. Admission is one dollar.

There are workshops, open to the general public, on Tuesday and Thursday at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education on 33rd and Holdrege streets. They start at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

In Nebraska, cases of child abuse should be reported to the police. Sue Bean from the Coalition, said Nebraska is the only state whose law has not been changed so that abuse cases are reported directly to the welfare department.

If you've got a problem there is Parents Anonymous. It's a 24-hour service. Don't hesitate to call.

And don't hesitate to answer.