

opinion/editorial

Lincoln needs to concentrate on mass transportation

Eric Youngberg's foresight in recognizing mass transit as a crucial Lincoln concern must be applauded in light of America's growing energy dependence.

Youngberg, a Lincoln city councilman, recently told a Young Democrat group the city must eliminate its "bias in favor of the automobile" before it can develop an effective mass transit system.

As an example, he cited the city for using local tax dollars for road building and automobile parking instead of sinking the funds into mass transit.

The divorce between the American public and the automobile is steadily approaching as our Mideast friends decide to fatten their pocket-

books. And the inconvenience of gas shortages may be one of the main reasons for Jimmy Carter's likely rejection next fall.

It is time for America to realize that it must change its attitude toward energy or suffer economic burdens at the whim of energy major oil company or foreign oil producing country that flexes its muscles.

Gas shortages hit many major cities this summer, including Washington, D.C. where it appeared politicians were purposely being made uncomfortable.

At the same time Washington was experiencing two hour gas lines, Grand Island was having a gasoline price war on the interstate.

Although Nebraska is sometimes

removed from the mainstream of temporary economic impacts, Youngberg realizes that energy dependence is a reality for everyone and has serious implications for the future.

Mass transit in Lincoln is not only a good idea, in time it may be the only feasible mode of transportation unless some technological break through occurs first.

During Washington's shortage in June, their metro system set new records for passenger service and people actually discovered that traveling by rail and bus wasn't as bad as once feared.

And observing the mass hysteria that occurred when 250,000 Washington commuters couldn't find gas

to get to work was almost frightening.

For this reason, Youngberg's opposition to the Northeast Radial and the West Bypass must also be praised for insight into a problem that may not be that far in the future.

Another Youngberg proposal includes more bicycle paths through Lincoln, including one between UNL's two campuses. With the recent recreation boom of jogging and cycling, one can't argue much with that idea.

Attitudes toward energy need to change in American society. Let's hope the energy attitudes in Lincoln, Neb. will lead the nation.

Rocky Strunk



Budget tight for DN

By Michael Zangari

Today, class, we will deal with a subject near and dear to the hearts of every student—money. We will be discussing pertinent elements of the Daily Nebraskan's budget. Time is short, so it won't be a comprehensive survey, but if you'll see me after class, I'll be more than happy to show you an itemized listing of the budget.

ombudsman

Are your notebooks out? Good, plug in your magic fingers, kiddies, it's time to fly.

Student fee money has steadily declined as time has worn on. The Daily Nebraskan received \$1,900 less from student fees than it received last year. This year's allocation is \$32,900. It is slightly less than 8 percent of the paper's total budget and can safely be said to go entirely to printing costs. Of student fees money, 1 1/3 cents per issue is the cost to the student.

If there are any questions along here, please ask.

The other 92 percent of the paper's expenses are paid in subscription money and the revenues brought in by the Daily Nebraskan's advertising department. Considering that the average support most newspapers (real world, big city papers) get from advertising sales hovers around 75 percent, the ad staff here is going a long way to help make the paper strongly self-supporting. From this revenue, all office expenses (to the tune of about \$68,486) are paid. This figure takes in the professional staff's salaries, equipment rental, telephone expenses, office and production supplies, and magazine subscriptions for staff research.

It also pays all of the student staff salaries. The editor in chief makes \$600 a month. The news editor, managing editor, and photo chief receive \$375 a month. The associate news editors and features editor make \$325 a month, and the night news editor makes \$250. Sports and entertainment editors ear \$220. The east campus bureau chief and magazine managing editor make \$150 a month, and the assistant night news makes \$130 a month.

The assistant entertainment editor is a new position this semester, and a monthly salary hasn't been established yet.

The ombudsman's salary is none of your business, (a little humor, class). I make \$200 a month.

Full-time reporters make \$130 a month. Full-time photographers make \$150. Part-time reporters receive \$65 a month. Part-time photographers make \$75. Copyeditors are paid \$7.50 a day.

letters

There has been an ongoing controversy involving women's rights in the Daily Nebraskan. The paper has stated that it is not its policy to censor cartoons or editorials, yet as Sandra Shank mentioned in her letter printed Friday, Sept. 7, it is doubtful that the Daily Nebraskan would "print a cartoon calling black people 'niggers'."

As synchronicity would predict, late last Friday afternoon I had the misfortune to experience the epitome of the macho male mentality that pervaded the column and cartoon in question. While I and my roommate were stopped at a red light on our bicycles at the corner of 16th and R, three young men walked in front of my bicycle and made a microscopic examination of my chest. One of the "young men" came closer, made a remark that I am sure he considered a compliment to my anatomy, and then touched my breast. I cannot positively identify any of these "young men", for when I had recovered from the shock I turned only in time to see their backs.

We then called the police and an officer met us on the corner in question. While I was explaining to the officer that I could not make a positive identification, another young man, who had not been there at the time of the

incident, walked up to question me further. He asked me if I was sure if the young man I had pointed out to the officer was the same one who had accosted me. I told him that I preferred to discuss the issue with the officer alone. He started to reiterate his statement when the officer finally asked him to leave.

Officer Olson is to be commended for his handling of the situation. He was extremely kind and understanding. I

hope that he is the rule and not the exception of the Lincoln Police Department.

No, I still cannot positively identify the young men involved, but I do have something to say to them. I am not a toy to be randomly fondled. I am certain I speak for all women. I do not find the remark you made concerning my anatomy complimentary. (And by the way, the word you used is, in and of itself, derogatory—women have breasts.) The whole incident has me wondering about your level of maturity.

As to any women who find themselves venturing down "Fraternity Row", I hope that you have the presence of mind (which I did not have, unfortunately) to take a good look at anyone who harasses you. If you should have the misfortune to undergo a similar experience, I hope that you will not be afraid to report it. As I said, I have nothing but compliments for the Lincoln Police's handling of this matter.

Continued on Page 5



Continued on Page 5