

# opinion/editorial

## Inconvenience of closing university worth benefits

As a result of NU Board of Regents approval Friday, the university, in an effort to cut utility expenses, will close several days between the fall and spring semesters.

When the university shuts down, most university buildings and offices will be completely closed and the heat and lights shut off. Some departments including security, payroll and the power plant probably will remain open.

The shutdown was approved because the university expected to spend nearly \$1 million more for utilities than is included in the bud-

get for this fiscal year. The deficit, officials say, occurred because increased fuel expenses outpaced the cost estimates made last spring.

Whatever the cause, clearly it was necessary that steps be taken to reduce costs somewhere along the line. The shutdown seems like the logical solution.

Other alternatives included reducing purchases of new laboratory equipment. But because students benefit from those purchases and generally will not be on campus to be hurt by the shutdown, the shutdown seems to be in their best inter-

ests. Shutting down in the summer would be less feasible because heating oil costs have risen tremendously in the last several years so that heating the university in the winter is considerably more expensive than cooling it in the summer.

Clearly there will be problems with the closing. Most concern with the plan has concerned non-professional university employees who will be forced to take vacation time during the break rather than at another time in the year.

Under the plan employees will not

work from Dec. 22 to Jan. 6. Because several of those days already are scheduled for Christmas and New Years holidays and weekends, the time actually affected is small.

Two spring break holidays will be transferred to December and employees will be required to take vacation time the other four days.

This is an unfortunate turn of events for employees who had planned vacations around other schedules. But the benefits of the shutdown—estimated at \$10,000 a day—make the inconvenience seem worthwhile.

## Heisman to North is goal of students

I think I know what it feels like to be accused of being a communist. I came to this conclusion when I wore a purple T-shirt to a Nebraska football game.

I felt stares as sharp as ice picks as people looked at me. But then I realized they were looking at what was printed on my shirt. In white lettering, it read "Tom North for Heisman."

I could hear the questions. "Who is Tom North and what is this thing called Heisman?"

tom prentiss

Tom North is a reserve split end at Northwestern University. Northwestern is regarded by many to have the worst college football team in Evanston, Ill. and the nation.

Tom stands 6-3 and weighs 185 pounds. He chose Northwestern partly because of its academic excellence. Right time to go to Northwestern. But he also wanted to play football. Wrong time to go to Northwestern.

But Tom chose Northwestern partly because he wanted a Northwestern education and because he would enjoy the challenge of helping to improve a bad team.

The Downtown Athletic Club of New York annually awards the Heisman to the nation's premier college football player. Usually only the big name schools get any attention from the press. The Tom North for Heisman committee (TNFH for short) will change that.

SOME FRIENDS of mine and I have formed the Tom North for Heisman committee, whose sole goal is to see the Heisman awarded to Tom at the end of next season. We'll concede this year's trophy to Billy Sims, Charles White or Jarvis Redwine, but next year will be ours.

Tom's record at Northwestern is impressive. Last year he had 10 catches for 130 yards. This year he has taken on a new position that we think will aid him in his Heisman quest. We are hoping that Tom will be the first Heisman winner to be a first-string holder for field goals and extra points.

But, because Northwestern's scoring punch lacks potency, Tom may be denied his chance to shine.

Northwestern hasn't had a winning season since 1971, but has made improvements. They won their second game of the season over Wyoming. Last year under first-year head coach Rick Venturi, Northwestern fans (all 463 of them) were told to "Expect the Unexpected." What is there is expected from a 0-10-1 team except a lot of punts?

We do have values built into the campaign.

THE 70s HAVE been described by sociologists as the "Me Decade," with people only concerned with themselves.

But the TNFH campaign is a group working for someone most people haven't even met. I went to high school with Tom and the friends I have recruited have been very generous in their time and effort spent thus far.

We already have five purple TNFH T-shirts floating around this campus. We plan to get at least one representative for TNFH in every state. We will also have representatives from Iran and Mexico.

We realize our actions may seem silly to others. But we are not concerned with appearance. We are concerned with results.

We figured that since almost everything has been commercialized, it wouldn't hurt to commercialize the Heisman. This will take money. We have been researching the possibilities of holding a nationwide telethon to raise funds.

Sure, this idea may sound crazy at first. That's because it is. But we think we can get enough people to make it work. As philosopher George Santayana said, "The Difficult is that which can be done immediately; the impossible that which takes a little longer."



letters

For weeks I have been silent on expressing my views about articles appearing in this newspaper which put down black Americans—but my silence stops here. The article "Jackson's Alignment With the PLO Constricts Progress" (Oct. 8) is an erroneous interpretation of the intent of Rev. Jessie Jackson. As a future multi-national businessman, who happens to be black, I have a vested interest in maintaining the integrity of the black international arbitrator.

To begin, Rev. Jackson is not campaigning, nor is he a candidate, for any political office: so how was his trip to the Mideast an attempt at taking advantage of so-called "black American anger regarding the resignation of Andrew Young."

Than, too, blacks are not angry about Andrew Young's resignation. Mr. Young has explained his actions. Reading between the lines blacks understand Mr. Young did only what he was told to do by his boss, the President of the United States.

It is American international policy that is taking advantage of Mr. Young and Rev. Jackson. America needs the intellectual lift in international policy it is receiving from Mr. Young and Rev. Jackson. After all, it was not Mr. Young nor Rev. Jackson who thought up the "cold war" and the nonrecognition of eight hundred million Chinese. The non-recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization is another blunder of American international policy.

Secondly, the so-called antagonistic and angry relations between blacks and Jews did not begin with Mr. Young nor with Rev. Jackson. Intra-group despondency between

blacks and Jews generated when Jewish Organizations argued against quotas and thus in favor of Bakke. So this is where it started. Now set the record straight.

Next, Begin's refusal to talk with Rev. Jackson is merely another example of the belligerent and uncompromising attitude (which may be racist) of Begin. Beyond this, Begin (until he was promised five billion dollars from the United States economy) was foul and contemptuous to the President of the United States. Behind Begin's refusal to talk to Rev. Jackson is the Israeli demand for United States fighting troops to be based in Israel.

Rev. Jackson's assertion that America reassess its Mideast policy is valid; How can the United States continue to support Israel and Israeli constitutional milieu that calls for the destruction of Jordan and Syria yet not recognize the PLO because it calls for the destruction of Israel. Watch, as soon as the PLO is dealt justice there will be yet another source to settle in the Mideast. Next time it will be Jordan and Syria with the Jews and Begin in the middle of that also.

The article I am responding to read "Rev. Jackson did not have to go to the Mideast to make his point." It should be made clear that Rev. Jackson can go anywhere, anytime, and speak up for what is right. Even in America as black Americans we're being hung, beaten, bombed, and abused. Rev. Jackson spoke out for what was right, over and against those white Americans who said he (Jackson) need not try to stop racism and discrimination in this country.

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