

letters to the editor

A notice to black high school students:
Friends:

Avoid the University of Nebraska like a plague:
Unless you are prepared to deal with a university that has designed itself to get fully 80 percent of you down its hallowed halls and out its back doors before you even reach your senior year;

Unless you are prepared to cope with a university that tolerates your black skin only if it's either under a Big Red uniform or out of sight;

Unless you are prepared to tolerate working with so-called liberal white students who love you until you assert your blackness;

Unless you are prepared to stomach a university leadership that would gladly sell you down the river, jump into bed with P.W. Botha of South Africa and financially support South African racism if it means a few bucks for the university;

Unless you are prepared to withstand a white 'greek' system that is the racist, sexist blueprint for the social system of this racist, sexist state, a "black fraternity" which in terms of black progress is no more than a social club, or a "black sorority" which eases the guilty Panhellenic consciences and exhibits neither blackness nor sorority (sisterhood);

Unless you are prepared to stand a comatose black student body which is either totally and irreparably blind to its own oppressed state or is too disco-funkitized, zapped, and blown away to care;

Unless you are prepared to find the prayed-for-means to unite the people and get us all out of this putrid garbage can before the politics of racist, repressionist Reaganism slam down the lid on all of us forever.

Edmund Guthrie

Editorial criticized

On behalf of the Talks and Topics Committee and the University's Program Council, I would like to reply to Barb Richardson's editorial which appeared Monday.

Perhaps the first fact which needs to be brought to light is that the Talks and Topics Committee, which is a committee within UPC, subsidized the Gonzales lecture with \$400, which was the total amount of money requested. Therefore, the accusations of prejudice against Chicanos that Rumalzo Lovato has made against the Talks and Topics Committee and the UPC are not only extremely hard to understand but ludicrous.

The idealism espoused by Ms. Richardson in her editorial is fine, but she chose not to include enough facts in her article to make it realistic.

Ms. Richardson states: "The Talks and Topics Committee may have learned that selecting speakers should be

an open process with student involvement." The Talks and Topics Committee is entirely composed of students and always has been.

T & T members take very seriously their role as representatives of the entire UNL student body in the selection of speakers. Furthermore, the Talks and Topics Committee is very receptive to student input in the selecting of speakers. Consequently, all of our meetings are posted on the university calendar and open to the public.

Moreover, the Daily Nebraskan was negligent in serving the student population by not sending a reporter or two lectures this semester which were part of the UNL Afternoon Speakers Forum sponsored by Talks and Topics.

Kathryn Sjulín

Chairperson of the Talks and Topics Committee

CAP went beyond objectives

On Dec. 4 the Daily Nebraskan printed an article entitled "Gonzales visit elicits accusations of prejudice." The article tried to present, in detail, the controversy that arose during an attempt to bring a speaker to the UNL campus.

While some of the statements presented in the article were true, the article missed the main point of the controversy. The author presented the controversy as arising from a personal conflict between a student and the Campus Activities Program office, rather than from the CAP office's denying the Chicano students and student organizations to put on a program for the entire student body.

With the Gonzales event, as with other events put on by Chicano organizations on campus, the CAP office has gone beyond the stated objectives of the office, i.e., providing advice and assistance to students and organizations.

In this particular instance the CAP office, without consulting all the groups involved, made decisions on housing and transportation, sent correspondences, did not inform the groups when and why the speaker was contacted, contributed to funding misunderstandings, gave false information to the media, insisted that the sponsors not contact speakers, use student fee money to control the students' program, used a Chicano staff person against Chicano organizations and finally, attempted to cast doubts on a student's credibility.

Therefore, the Mexican American Student Association, the Chicano Graduate Student Association, and the United Chicanos and Chicanas of Aztlan endorse and support the principles that underlie the controversy reported by the Dec. 4th article.

Our organization supports the use of student fees for

Chicano events, freedom of expression by students through their involvement in the planning and developing of programs, and thereby oppose the censorship and control of our programs, and the acts and attitudes which institutionalize racism on our campus.

Mexican American Student Association
Chicano Graduate Student Association
United Chicanos and Chicanas of Aztlan

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These houses were also tremendously helpful:

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