



Letters

Law justified

We are writing in response to the letter written by Sharon Lewandowski and Brian D. Striman (Daily Nebraskan, Sept. 9) which argued that financial aid should not be denied to students who failed to register for the draft, because financial aid and higher education are rights, not privileges.

Although the assumption is debatable, let us assume that financial aid and education itself are rights. As with all rights, these two are contingent upon the citizen following the rules of our society. For example, if a citizen refuses to pay his taxes, the government may restrict his right of financial freedom by confiscating his property or by forced withholding of pay from his paycheck.

Just because a student registers for the draft doesn't mean that he agrees with the views of the U.S. government. He is only obeying a law which he can oppose through established means of changing laws and regulations.

Therefore, we feel that enforcing compliance with a law by threat of denying financial aid is legitimate. We agree that education develops critical thought, but we disagree that useful critical thought results in disobeying a law of our government. If disobeying a

law is the result of the "... good sense that education inspires.", perhaps Lewandowski and Striman should ask themselves whether they would finance someone's education knowing that there would be no reciprocal commitment. Since there are legitimate methods of changing laws, why should a student disobey a law simply because he disagrees with the principle behind it, thus biting the hand that feeds him?

Brian D. Adam
Glenn Hess
Graduate College

Athletics first?

I found it quite disheartening to learn that the NU Board of Regents found it appropriate to cut 21 faculty jobs and 63 classes at UNO, while in the same night, managed to approve a "development of needs" statement for a \$1 million athletic training and study table here at UNL.

It seems the priorities of these publically-elected officials need to be questioned. After all, aren't the athletics, which are unquestionably of extreme excellence, derived from the university, not the other way around?

Tim DeBuse
sophomore
architecture

Daily Nebraskan

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The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board Monday through Friday in the fall and spring semesters and Tuesdays and Fridays in the summer sessions, except during vacations. Subscriptions: \$20/semester, \$30/two semesters, \$35/year.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448.

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