

Women's 'only' sin' was offering opinion

As the administrator with major responsibility for supervision of the Women's Resource Center and as the associate director of the Nebraska Unions, I was extremely disappointed by

Guest Opinion

the editorial entitled "Women's Resource Center ingoring majority's needs" (Daily Nebraskan, Feb. 3). The Daily Nebraskan should depend on fair and objective treatment of fact as the basis for its credibility, and when the editor either is unaware or ignores facts in his editorial comment the paper is, of course, the weaker for it.

For those readers who value facts, the case of the Union Board and the women's lounge users is a simple one. A flyer was placed in the first floor

lounge of the Nebraska Union notifying users of a potential change of function for the space. The notice also encouraged interested students to share their reactions with the Nebraska Union Board. This is one of many techniques which the board has used to secure input from students prior to making decisions. Some women who use the lounge responded to the request for input by starting a petition to urge the Union Board not to change the function of the lounge. The women needed somewhere to place the petition so it would be accessible to those who wished to sign it, and they asked to place it in the Women's Resource Center. I personally gave permission for them to do this so that the objective of the Union Board to get reaction could be achieved. It is important to realize that providing a convenient place for a petition does not imply endorsement; it merely implies service to a group of students. After the petition was presented to the

Union Board, a Daily Nebraskan reporter visited the Women's Resource Center and was told that the WRC had, in fact, not taken a position concerning the lounge function but rather they were providing space for the petition to be kept as a service to interested women. What happened with that information I can only speculate. For whatever reason, the editorial was not based on fact since it stated, "... the WRC is leading the campaign that could, if successful, keep the Nebraska Union from having a 24-hour computer center."

There is another point to be made in this case. There are 170 women who signed a petition asking the Union Board to continue the first floor women's lounge. Are they "at it again" and is it "hard to figure out just how much value" they have as the editorial stated mistakenly about the Women's Resource Center? Are these women "ignoring majority's needs" as the headline stated?

Or, are these 170 women simply responding to a request for input by registering their opinions? Is their participation in the decision-making process of this university an act which a newspaper editor should deplore? While I was angered by the writer's inability to use facts in the editorial, I was sickened by the implication that the women who responded to a request to participate in institutional decision-making somehow shouldn't have.

I hope the Daily Nebraskan simply made a mistake in not getting the facts. I hope the implication that the open forum isn't important was accidental. At the very least, an apology would seem to be in order to the Women's Resource Center and the 170 women whose only sin was to give their opinion when it was requested.

Sara Boatman
Director, Campus Activities and Programs
Associate Director, Nebraska Unions

Terminal site dilemma needs student input

We students who complain about our inability to effect changes in university affairs which affect our lives now have an opportunity to put up or shut up.



Christopher Burbach

I suggest we put up.

Control Data donated 260 computer terminals to dear old NU. One hundred of those are fated to serve the general UNL population (that's us, kids). Those terminals will be placed in residence halls and, perhaps, in the Nebraska Union.

Details remain to be resolved, however; their resolution should rest on student demands.

The Nebraska Union Board is interested in providing space for some of the terminals. Just where they would go and how many hours of the day they will be available is still up for debate. Students who will be affected by the outcome of that debate should make known to decision makers (i.e. the Union Board) just what their needs

are.

A recent petition drive against using the women's lounge on the first floor of the union for the computer facility is an excellent example of what students should do. A large number of people use that lounge; they did not wish to relinquish the right to continue doing so. Those who initiated the petition drive were eminently correct in speaking out for themselves—the union is public space, they are the public. They spoke in defense of their interests. They are to be applauded.

Interested students should consider several questions. What need is there for a computer terminal facility in the union? How much student fee money will it take to provide daily maintenance of the proposed facility, pay for utilities, provide security if it is to be open 24 hours and execute any necessary renovations? With the proposed facilities in residence halls and the existing 24-hour facilities at Nebraska Hall, would a 24-hour service in the union be superfluous?

Nebraska Union Director Daryl Swanson said if 24-hour access is not critical, the whole building is open for consideration. Because practically every square inch of space in the union is

perennially occupied, someone will be displaced no matter where the facility ends up.

A need for increased computer terminal availability definitely exists, as current facilities are proving inadequate to meet the growing demand. Officials are prepared to accept student advice on the issue of whether a facility in the union is worth the

money, work and worry it would require.

Swanson said he is indifferent about the location of the proposed facility. He said he's more interested in student interests, because the union is public space. Students who care should take that as an invitation to make their desires known, much as the initiators of the women's lounge petition did.



A Double feature at



GLITTER MAKEUP

A subtle sparkle but an eye-catching dazzle!

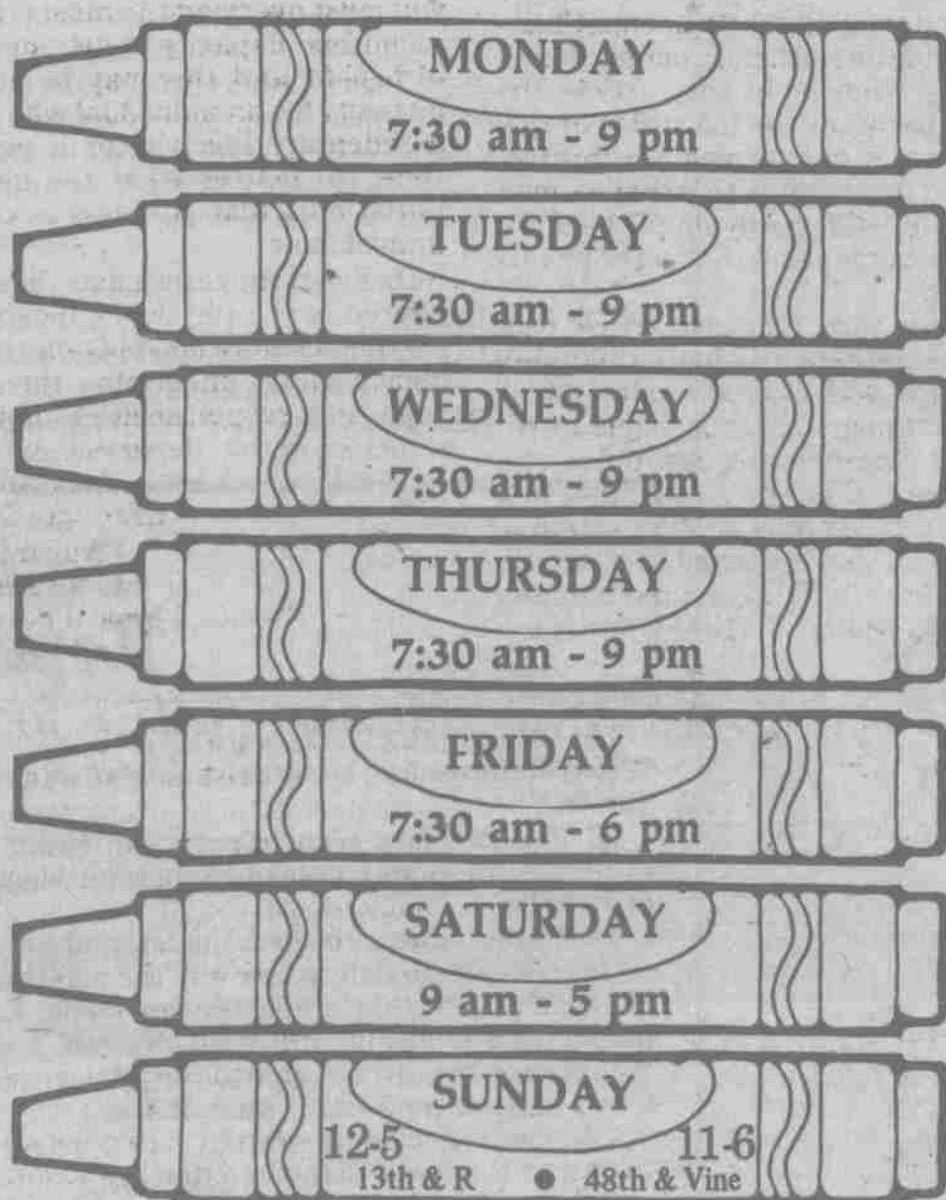
BOOT-SHOES



The Latest in cute & comfy!

ACROSS FROM TEMPLE THEATRE AT 335 N. 12th

COLOR KINKO'S CONVENIENT



COPIES • BINDINGS • PASSPORT PHOTOS
SELF-SERVICE COPIERS
13th & R and 48th & Vine

Brain Food.

Is your computer syntax throwing a loop in your schedule?

Is getting a proper meal an exercise in quantum mechanics?

Fear not. Domino's Pizza will give your brain a break as well as provide nutritious energy. We deliver made-to-order pizza in 30 minutes or less.

Now, that's a formula you can't afford to miss!

Call Us.

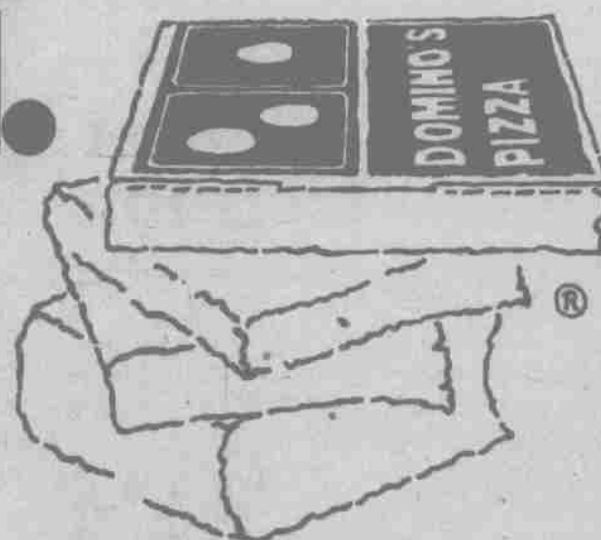
475-7672
611 North 27th St.

476-0787
11th & Cornhusker
Belmont Plaza

476-9944
1415 South St.
South Area

466-2377
2933 North 48th St.
Uniplace

489-9631
4728 Prescott
Collegeview



Our drivers carry less than \$20.00.
Limited delivery area.
© 1984 Domino's Pizza, Inc.

\$1 Off!

\$1.00 off any large (16") pizza with 1 or more items.

One coupon per pizza. Expires 2/12/84.

Good at locations listed. Fast, Free Delivery™

