

Editorial

Superpowers hurt Olympic spirit

Somewhere, the two superpowers have lost the spirit of Olympic competition.

Four years ago, the United States withdrew from the Moscow summer games because of the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan. Now, the Soviets are unhappy about the way the 1984 Los Angeles games are being handled and have hinted that they might withdraw from them.

The Soviets charge that the United States has commercialized the 1984 games and that the Reagan administration is using them for "selfish political ends," according to the April 23 edition of *Time* magazine. They've complained loud enough that the International Olympic Committee has called a special meeting for Tuesday in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Their concern about the games becoming too commercial is valid. Nobody can commercialize an event like the Americans. But after watching the financial disasters other cities have had with the Olympics, the Los Angeles organizers cannot be blamed for making every effort to clear expenses.

The charges of using the Olympics for political purposes are unfounded.

The Soviets were miffed last month when the United States refused to admit Oleg Yermishkin, a suspected KGB agent the Soviets wanted to use as their attache. But it is not unreasonable for any nation to

prohibit the entry of suspected foreign spies. Certainly, the Soviets would not have allowed known CIA agents into Moscow.

Soviet officials also have complained about the anti-communist demonstrations planned by some

groups in Los Angeles. One such organization, the Ban the Soviets Coalition, has said it will encourage Russian athletes to defect to the United States.

The USSR and other nations must understand that the U.S. Constitution guarantees all Americans the right of free speech. The government cannot suspend that right just because the Olympics are in town.

The government has no authority to stop demonstrations as long as they remain peaceful and stay within certain guidelines. If the Soviets are frightened that large numbers of their athletes will defect, the fault lies with their own political system, not the U.S. government.

The United States has made reasonable concessions. *Time* reported that the ban on Soviet passenger flights into this country will be temporarily lifted for the games. The Soviets also have been given special permission to use a ship as a floating hotel.

If the Soviet Union chooses to participate in the games, its athletes should be afforded the same rights and privileges as those from other visiting nations, but they should not receive special treatment.

If the Soviets decide to stay home, the fans will be denied the privilege of seeing some tremendous athletic talent, but the game can go on without them.



Greek Week: Don't include me

"Be a Part of It."
Greek Week '84.

Like wow, just when things are totally tubular, I mean like awesome, something really funtastic comes along to blow you away. F-U-N, fun.

Alphas, Betas.
Gammas, too.



**Bill
Allen**

Boy, have we got fun for you.
Greek Week.

UNL fraternities and sororities will celebrate Greek Week today through Saturday.

"It's a kind of hypocrisy," one fratman said, "because none of our members are from Greece. I once knew a guy from Portugal, though. Real nice guy, too."

There's only one word to describe the Greek events that will take place this week, and I can't think of it. If you do think of it, send the word to Bill Allen's "Describe Greek Week in a Word" contest, along with a stamped envelope. There will be no prizes, but I sure could use those stamped envelopes.

Today, there will be something called a Greek Sing and Dessert on the Union Plaza. I've seen the Greeks sing before, but how does a person dessert? Anyway, hopefully it will be rained out.

And no, those banners you see aren't up there to hide the chipped paint and cracks in frat houses. They are there to illustrate this year's theme, "Be a Part of It."

A banquet Wednesday will recognize outstanding Greek members, not to be confused with outstanding loans. Most of us normal people, much to our dismay, won't be able to attend this banquet, (after all, Wednesday is double-beef cheeseburger night at Burger King), but wait! The Daily Nebraskan probably will cover the event, hence a story and possibly a picture of an outstanding Greek! Clip and save.

There will be a talent show Wednesday night and Friday night the Men's Physical Education building will be the site of an All-Greek Dance. As if anyone else wanted to go.

Being the resourceful reporter I've imagined myself to be, I have uncovered yet more Greek contests and events that will take place this week.

These events aren't as publicized and may even be denied by many Greeks, but they will take place even so.

1. Stereo Blaring Contest. From the sounds of things, the Greeks have been

practicing for this one all semester, but things hit high volume this week as fratmen campuswide answer the question, "How idiotic can I prove myself to be?"

2. Bare Chest Contest. It's really embarrassing to let all those pretty preppy shirts hang unworn in Greek closets, but fraternities and sororities highlight their upper anatomy this week with only one difference between the two — the frats walk around in front of their houses and the sororities lay out on top of theirs. Both groups say to the world, "I couldn't go all the way and join a nudist colony, so I became a Greek instead."

3. The Best Dressed Greek event was canceled because they all wear the same things anyway.

4. The Sorority Make-up Contest was canceled because area stores could not order enough supplies for a full-scale sorority contest.

"It would take 10,000 gallons of nail polish, four tons of rouge and God knows how much eye shadow," said one area merchant.

5. Hazing Seminar. Fraternities don't haze anymore. Everyone knows that. Besides, only a total idiot would subject himself to the child-like rituals that fraternities used to employ. However, just to relive some of those earlier, immature days, the brothers will get together Tuesday night and exchange hazing ideas they used to use. But they don't do that stuff anymore. Everyone knows that. And just for fun, mind you, they will bring a few pledges along for demonstrations.

6. Little Sister Dance. Who will ever forget the famous *Rolling Stone* magazine headline, "Moms, would you let your son marry a little sister?" The little sisters (isn't it cute the way these grown men call these grown women by such a belittling name?), are not really part of the Greek system, and they certainly are not a dating system for the frats (just ask any of them), but they do come in handy as party favors and part-time maids. To show their appreciation for all they mean to them, the fraternities will host a little sister dance, the day after Greek Week, of course. All little sisters should come to a very important little sister meeting Tuesday, (after all, you are planning the dance). And don't forget your dues. Big Brother is watching you.

So there you have it. Greek Week '84. Rollicking, vomiting fun.

"It's kind of hypocrisy," one sorority girl said, "because none of our members are from Greece. I once had a girl from Cleveland in a class, though. Real nice girl, too. Too bad she was black or she could have been in our house."



Letters

Frustration shared

This is to express my appreciation of a recent column titled "U.S. tyranny hurts" by Christopher Burbach (Daily Nebraskan, April 17).

I could not have made the point any better. It appears that Reagan has lulled the majority of people to sleep while he is getting away with murder in his foreign policy. As Don Walton said in the *Lincoln Star* recently, Carter got into trouble with the voters for bringing all Americans home safely from Iran, but Reagan is a hero for sacrificing more than 200 marines in Lebanon. I am afraid, in fact terrified, that he is going to do the same in Central America.

S.S. Jaswal
professor
physics

Sloppiness noticed

I determined that the proofing staff at the Daily Nebraskan has gotten lax in their skills after glancing through the April 17 issue.

For starters, front-page headlines should read easily and be spelled correctly. (i.e., "Regents hopeful accents his fiscal responsibility")

Lastly, the content of stories should be accurate. Unless of course, the Page 3 story covering the American Lung Association race May 9 is really for computers.

Molly M. Andrews
Lincoln

Flat tax rate fairer

In your editorial "Tax structure unfair" (Daily Nebraskan, April 18) you correctly conclude that the present tax structure is unfair and needs major overhaul, preferably, complete replacement. I find however, your endorsement of a National Sales Tax (NST) totally ill-advised and inconsistent with your call for equalization. The reason the current system is unfair is the addition over the years of exemptions, deductions and other "loopholes" that generally only the rich can afford, which has in effect turned it from a progressive rate to a regressive structure.

An NST also would be a regressive tax. For example, let's take two wage earners, A and B. A earns \$50,000 a year while B earns \$10,000. Let's say

that each only needs to spend \$8,000 a year for necessities such as food, clothing and housing. That's already well over half of B's income, while it's less than one-sixth of A's. Now let's add a NST of the proposed 4 percent. That is an additional \$320 for necessities. Who is paying a greater portion of income to tax, A with his \$42,000 excess or B with his \$2,000 excess? Now let's add the other half of President Reagan's proposed NST, that being the partial exemption from tax for savings. Who will benefit more from that, A or B? Some will say A actually will spend more, thus increasing the amount of taxes paid. They overlook the fact that A has the choice to spend or save (increasing exemption) his extra income, while B does not.

The only truly equitable solution is a flat tax that takes a fixed percentage of income. A would pay 4 percent, (\$2,000) and B would pay 4 percent (\$400).

The final reason to oppose the NST is that it is a "hidden tax." It would be levied on the producers of goods, then passed to us in increased prices, in effect adding a "pseudo inflation." This was tried some years ago and sparked a revolution which resulted in the pollution of a bay with tea and the ousting of one of our current allies from its colony.

Greg Bowzer
senior
broadcasting

Rock too influential

Alix Dobkin's comments concerning rock and pop music (Daily Nebraskan, April 19) are not new. Conservative Christian leaders have been saying the same thing for years. The results of allowing pop/rock attitudes to become "normal" are obvious — record rates for crime, rape, VD, spouse and child abuse, divorce, teenage pregnancy, etc.

The real irony is that right above the article covering Dobkin's presentation was a picture of a rock group that blared its message throughout the campus Thursday afternoon. It's a real shame that classes are being disrupted and our student fees wasted promoting the message that Dobkin and Christians denounce, since its destructiveness is so clear.

Tini Larson
junior
mechanical engineering
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