

Study area violates students' rights

When students sign their contracts with the Office of University Housing, they forfeit a number of rights.

For example, residents more than 21 years old exchange their right to have alcohol in their rooms for the right to live on state property. Residents more than 18 years old exchange their right to have members of the opposite sex on their floor between certain hours in exchange for privacy and, in some cases, a higher degree of safety. Stu-

The use of residence hall space is within the hall governments' jurisdiction. The policy states that the main lounges may not, among other things, be reserved "on a regular basis (more than twice a month)." Also, when lounges are reserved for any person, the activity must be "open to all members of the complex." The women's athletic study area in Smith hall directly violates HSS law.

Contrary to what was stated in the Daily Nebraskan editorial on Sept. 23, the UNL athletic department did not go through the proper channels in approving construction of the women's athletic study area in Smith Hall. Throughout the summer, members of RHA worked closely with housing staff in Seaton Hall on the upcoming Residence Hall Week and various other projects. The fact that RHA representatives were not available on campus this summer is simply not true. This indicates complete disregard for Smith residents and student opinion.

If student opinion had been sought available compromise could have been reached. Since Mabel Lee is the female athletic building and is next to the women's softball field, it would have been a superior choice to Smith Hall. Also, it would not have invaded the home of 500 hall residents.

Residents are wondering why the construction wasn't stalled until classes started and the student governments had been consulted. Apparently, the hall was used to save the administration from further embarrassment over

unequal athletic facilities. The male and female study facilities still are incomparable.

The student governments, HSS, RHA and ASUN are appalled at the lack of respect administrators have shown to residents. Promising to consult them "next time" just is not good enough, although necessary. There is more at stake than a badly missed piano room and lounge area. What is at stake is the legitimacy of UNL's student government.

Peter Castellano
RHA vice president
Harper Hall resident

Patty Sokolik
ASUN engineering senator
Smith Hall resident

Guest opinion

dents give the housing staff the power to make rules and policy to preserve individual rights and make the operation of the halls more efficient.

Popularly elected hall, complex and Residence Hall Association governments operate within the remaining unforfeited rights on behalf of residents. In theory, the RHA senate is a council that represents a population of nearly 5,000 students. In practice, this student government maintains control of a limited area of residence hall life. Nevertheless, this legitimate power comes from the paying residents and is not a token power granted by the university.

In 1982, the Harper-Schramm-Smith Senate approved a building use policy and revised it last January. This policy was developed and passed with the help and approval of the housing staff.

Heart program faces challenge

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new as medicine. But when Haydon lies for 250 days in a coronary-care unit on and off a respirator, when Schroeder's life shrinks to its current status, it is fair to ask if these are patients or subjects.

DeVries wrestles with this issue himself, balancing quality-of-life interests with those of research, trying to be forthright with the families. But more than once, he describes the goals of the recipients in a way that merges all too conveniently with his own. "Most of these people," he says, "really do it for experimental, altruistic motives." That may be true, but only when a cure begins to look remote.

People are not as eager to be subjects as they are to be patients. At Humana, heart-transplant patients have come and gone home while artificial-heart recipients remain. These days, the program gets about one call a week instead of one call a day. DeVries has not yet found an appropriate person to be number five out of the seven allotted to this project before government review.

I remain unconvinced that the artificial-heart program is doing more good than harm, unconvinced that it should continue. But at least there is truth-in-labeling. This is not a therapeutic program where failure and success are being measured strictly by the well-being of the patient. It is an experiment for researchers, if not patients. Dr. DeVries says realistically, "anything you learn is a success."

Goodman is a Pulitzer prize-winning columnist for the Boston Globe.

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Shorts

The Counseling Center will offer an opportunity to learn and practice general assertive skills. This fall's group will meet on Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m., Oct. 1 through Nov. 19. For more information, contact Sue or Meribeth at the Counseling Center, 472-3461.

The Educational Psychology Clinic is offering a pre-statistics workshop beginning Oct. 21. The main topics include: review of necessary math skills, calculator uses, introduction to basic topics and dealing with affective aspects of fear of statistics. For more information, contact the Educational Psychology Clinic, 472-1152.

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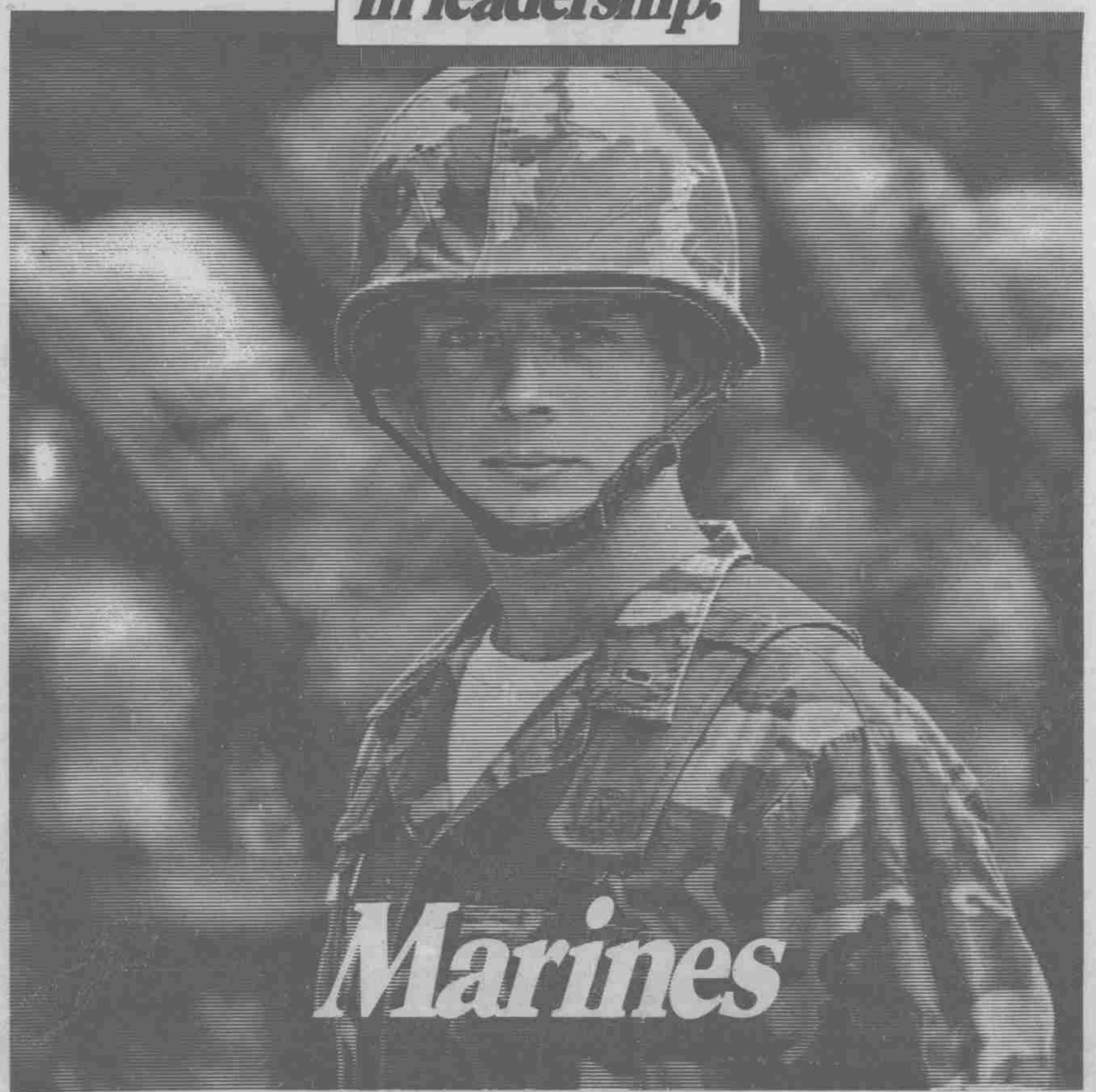
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