Letters

Brief letters are preferred, and longer letters may be edited. Writer's address and phone number are needed for verification.

Student asks for 'fair, equal' Greek coverage

I have been a member of the Greek system for several years and have seen the system involved in various philanthropy projects. The organizations patronized by Greeks are diverse—ranging from contributing money to medical research institutions to visiting children's homes in Licnoln.

As a system, the UNL Greeks have helped restore public buildings in downtown Lincoln and finance air conditioning units for Morrill Hall.

Many houses also work to support various charities. Phi Mu sorority raises money to support Project H.O.P.E., Health Opportunities for People Everywhere, which provides doctors for underprivileged nations. Acacia fraternity puts on Melodrama each year and gives the proceeds to the Shrine Burn Institute. Delta Gamma sorority sponsors its annual Anchor Splash for the Society to Prevent Blindness.

However, during this time I have seen little, if any, coverage of these programs by the Daily Nebraskan. As a student-run, student-supported newspaper, I feel that responsibility of covering community related programs that involve uni-

I have been a member of the Greek system for versity students who are members of the Greek veral years and have seen the system involved community is not being met.

I realize that because of certain restrictions, the DN is unable to provide coverage of philanthropies before they occur, but the fact remains that the Daily Nebraskan refuses to mention the existence of such events even after they occur.

With all fairness to the approximately 3,000 Greeks who make up only 15 percent of the student body at UNL, I am only asking for what I feel we deserve — fair and equal coverage.

John J. Lowry
UNL Greek Publications Chairman
EDITOR'S NOTE: The Daily Nebraskan
would jeopardize its third-class mailing
license if it published stories about philanthropies before they occur.

In addition, most philanthropy projects are not news because Greeks have always participated in them. Also, if all philanthropies were covered, there would be no room for other news.

To give the projects some exposure, the DN previously has run stories that deal with the projects in general.

Bloodmobile nurse says AIDS fear groundless

By Michael Hooper Staff Reporter

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will come to the Nebraska Union Thursday — but Red Cross nurse Phyllis Hatt is worried that some students won't donate be-cause they think they'll get AIDS.

"There are a lot of myths out there, and one of them is that giving blood might give you AIDS," she said.

There is no reason to fear getting acquired immune deficiency syndrome when donating blood, Hatt said, because the needles used to extract blood are sterile and they are used only once.

"One way of getting AIDS is sharing a needle with someone who has AIDS," she said. "But we don't share needles."

Hatt said the myth of getting AIDS by donating blood has caused the number of blood donors to decline. Blood is always needed in hospitals everywhere, she said.

"We're hoping for as many students as possible to donate, because the blood supply has gone down because of the AIDS scare," Hatt said. Donors don't need an appointment, she said, just to stop in and register.

Hatt said donors must be at least 110 pounds and must have eaten a good breakfast. They should plan on being there an hour. Also, Hatt said, students should not use medicine before donating.

Some people think giving blood will weaken them, she said.

"But as long as they don't come on an empty stomach, they'll be OK," she said. After students donate, they will be fed orange juice and cookies, Hatt said.

"They're not sacrificing too much, and besides you'll feel good about yourself for donating something for someone else," Hatt said.

All donations help, especially rare blood types, Hatt said.

"If those people that have rare types of blood stop giving, then the ones who need it will be endangered," she said.

Since March 1985, the AIDS virus has been out of the blood banks. If a donor's blood tests to the HTLV-3 virus of AIDS, then that blood is thrown out — even if it is a false positive, Hatt said.

Industry backs belts, sacks bags

COHEN from Page 4

Dole's compromise has put the states in a real quandary. Seat belts sometimes save lives; in a head-on collision, air bags almost always do. By choosing the former, the states all but rule out the latter. But worse than that, the Dole rule revives the pernicious notion that we are always the captain of our ship. This was the advertising dogma of the auto industry in its irresponsible pre-Nader era: Safe driving was your responsibility and any accident was either your — or the other guy's — fault.

No mention was made of poorly made cars, bad tires, roads designed by the mayor's nephew or the fact, uncontested since time immemorial, that accidents will happen. People will be careless or drunk or silly or, when it comes to men, distracted by some young thing walking on the side of the road.

Now we are creeping back to that era. Of course people are responsible for their own welfare, but so, too, are auto manufacturers and a government that (barely) regulates the industry. Seat belts are now being touted as some sort of panacea against injury. They are no such thing, General Motors offers \$10,000 to the heirs of anyone killed while wearing a seat belt in one of their cars, suggesting that such a possibility is remote. But by the first of this year, GM had paid out \$2.4 million to the heirs of 240 former GM owners or passengers.

So now, it's Saturday morning again. The kids are watching cartoon shows on TV and there's tough Mr. T wearing his seat belt. An adult watching has to smile. He or she knows that in real life neither Mr. T, nor the bad guys nor lots of other people, would ever wear a belt.

The cartoon is like the Dole rule itself. It's a joke.

©1986, Washington Post Writers Group Cohen writes an editorial column for the Washington Post.

'86 gives library funds

PHONES from Page 1

After researching and soliciting ideas, the committee came up with four gift ideas: a distinguished chair of teaching, which would have been awarded annually; a fund for a lecture series; kiosks, which are round, wooden, outdoor bulletin boards; and the endowment funds for the library.

Seniors then were asked to vote for their preference. The library endowment won by 40 percent.

Sixteen UNL groups now are asking seniors to donate \$100 in four installments, Ash sid. The first \$10 installment is due six months after graduation and \$25 is due in the second year. The third- and fourth-year installments are \$30 and \$35 respectively.

"We think \$10 within the first six months of graduation is not too much if someone genuinely cares about the university," Ash said.

At one time, senior classes left gifts to their universities as part of a longstanding tradition, Ash said. But the tradition faded, he said, and the Student Foundation didn't revive the tradition until last year.

"It gets people in the mode of thinking of giving something back," Ash said.

Since graduates receive an education from UNL and they probably will base their careers on that education, it is not too much to ask them to leave something behind to benefit the education of other students, he said.

"Our student foundation is educating our student body, telling them that their education is due largely from private donors," he said.

Last year's senior class collected \$19,652 in five nights, Ash said.

This year's class already has surpassed that amount and hopes to keep mounting its total, Ash said. But getting a hold of seniors has been a problem, he said.



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WEDNESDAY

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