

Complaints and inconveniences galore . . .

Letters

DN article points out problem with ASUN

Lee Rood's article (Daily Nebraskan, Feb. 4) about senate appointments of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska brings up some important questions. ASUN leaders don't answer them. There is a real problem at ASUN right now, not because of a lack of interest by the people in the residence halls and off-campus, but because of the system and its leaders.

Brad Katz, speaker of the senate, said he "would swear on a stack of Bibles" that the senators they chose were the "best qualified." But just what does "best qualified" mean? Does it mean that the applicant was president of his or her pledge class or served on the Interfraternity Council or Panhellenic? Emphasizing these types of activities in the application process excludes the residence halls and off-campus students.

In the article, ASUN President Andy Pollock said Greek domination in ASUN shouldn't bother students. He said all they need to do is "get involved in the system." But how can people "get involved" when they are not allowed in the system? Pollock's argument is a cop-out, as many independent students can tell you.

ASUN, as always, has a real problem on its hands. Its leaders are obviously serious only about choosing qualified Greeks to fill vacancies. We as students deserve much more. Our voices must be heard.

Lisa Rager
junior
business

An affectionate poem to the Husker coaches

I'd like to submit this letter to the coaches of the athletes of the university in the form of the following poem:

Today I saw the horses run
With all of their muscular splendor
Determination embedded in their glance for not speed, but victory they are bred.
The horses respond to their owner's call
Obedient; yet without feeling — for that has long since been forgotten
The gun sounds, the gates open, time to go to work!
The finish line holds the balance of the future

For life depends on victory; they may go on the others; some back to the track, some though simply forgotten.

For faster young colts are waiting in the pasture.

Mark T. Landgren
sophomore
public relations

General student body can use practice field

This is in response to the letter submitted by Michael Roeber (Daily Nebraskan, Feb. 5) about the Cook Pavilion practice field. If Roeber would have checked with the Office of Campus Recreation, he would have found that the general student body can use the new building.

Cook Pavilion is available for open running from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. This means that students and faculty can run laps around the field or run sprints on the field at this time. All you need is a current University of Nebraska-Lincoln ID card and the appropriate running shoes. The afternoons are reserved for the football teams, and during the evenings the facility is used for club sports, such as the soccer and rugby teams.

All students need to do is check with Campus Recreation and they will find there are many facilities open for various activities on both City and East campuses. All you need is a student ID.

Grant Richards
sophomore
criminal justice

UNL's support staff needs more pay, too

Since the Nebraska Legislature will vote soon upon allocation for funding to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, I want to state that I am appalled at having seen precious little concern regarding any significant increase in pay for the support staff. I question the convoluted reasoning that excludes grossly underpaid "C Line" staff from serious consideration for a meaningful increase.

If there are only "X" dollars to be distributed among all employees of the university, consider this (3 percent seems to be the usual annual increase):

— 3 percent of \$10,000 is \$300 (a typical "C Line" employee's annual gross income); whereas 3 percent of \$24,000 (likely typical of new in-

structors' pay) is \$720.

If both are supporting a family of two-plus on their incomes, I ask you: Who is more in need of the larger increase? Let us not even approach the plea for "fair." Let us, instead, approach a sense of humane reason.

One of the current proposals, as I understand it, presents a large increase for faculty, spread over a three-year period — figures such as 12 percent per year or more, a highly desirable raise. I maintain that similar increases for support staff are a definite need. A university can't function without faculty and administrators; neither could it function without the support staff who perform the day-to-day maintenance that keeps the wheels running smoothly!

I have great respect for the faculty and administrators with whom I work. I have no desire to see them "go without." At the same time, I want the Legislature and the university hierarchy to understand that many of us among the support staff are "sole wage-earners" for our families. Furthermore, those who remain in the background of the education machine "also serve," and we could do it more gracefully if remuneration were more in line with our duties. The humane reason approach would call for the Legislature to allocate funds

for identical percentage increases for support staff and faculty and administrators.

Neva Carter
Staff Secretary II

Live your own life; don't put others down

Who cares if a student is on athletic scholarship or not? Go about your own business and they will attend to theirs! I don't have any argument to settle here, only some insight.

To begin, I was once a student athlete. I do not want to dispute any of the preceding opinions, I just want to express the benefits of my experience.

- Background: As a product of a divorced family with five children, my mother did her best to work overtime and nights in a mental institution to keep us provided for. There was no extra to fund a college education.

- Financial aid was a nice idea; however, last year's income disqualified us for that.

- Student loans were also a means for college funding, but as we all know, they have their limits.

- Answer: I was lucky enough to be somewhat athletically inclined

and received a half scholarship to a college. Without the scholarship I could not have attended. Even as I attended college, I worked various jobs, sometimes more than 40 hours per week. So I have enjoyed both sides of the table that my fellow students are tangling about here, but in all due respect, I was glad to be in college!

While participating in sports, I really learned how to budget my time; discipline, which lapsed over into good study habits; and responsibility for actions, no matter who I was. In addition, our team traveled to several parts of the country and learned respect for the different ways people live their lives.

So, as you can see, there are many positive claims that can be made to participation in college athletics via scholarship or not, and as a graduate student today, I appreciate the financial help in getting to college in the first place.

Can't everyone at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln just go about their mission without putting others down? Who cares how you achieve your goals as long as you get there? I'm sure everybody out there has a unique situation. Muddle through and prosper!

Dorothy Watson
graduate
food science and technology

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