

opinion READER

Greek system, pay for athletes under readers' fire once again

Student employee sees benefits from changes

I'm really excited about this talk of whether to treat student athletes the same as student employees and pay them a wage.

As a student employee for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, I can only profit if this is enacted. If student athletes will be treated as student employees, then we will all receive the same benefits, right? Free tutoring, meals and game tickets will make up nicely for that study time I am sacrificing while working. But, the university had better set up a scholarship program for student employees soon if it wants to keep up with peer institutions such as the University of Minnesota.

Todd Lofton senior computer science student employee

Allen's contradictions revealed by reader

Talk about a contradiction in terms. Printing the best of Bill Allen (Daily Nebraskan, Aug. 30) is like printing the best of the National Enquirer — it gets your blood boiling, it gives you something to talk about in lecture, and best of all, it gives you something to put in the bottom of your bird cage.

But like the writing in the Enquirer, most of what Allen writes is false.

Let's get one thing straight. I'm a dormie, a non-greek who is a bit irked that Allen has gotten away with slandering as many people as he has without being sued or killed. Of course, nobody really said what happened to him once he graduated. We can only hope.

These greeks must be awfully good natured to put up with that garbage for four years without putting a price on the guy's head. But then, I must be wrong, because Bill insists that they are intolerant, rude scumbuckets.

Silly me. Allen reminds me of that idiot who stands out by Broyhill Fountain, accusing people he doesn't know of being "faggots" and "whoremongers" and all sorts of other nasty things. The cops hauled him away.

But for several years, Allen has been spouting epithets at greeks, most of them untrue, and all of them uncalculated for. And he gets paid for it. Rough life. Meanwhile, the dormies cut out his columns and tape them to their doors, as if they were divinely in-

spired (If you don't believe me, go look for yourself).

I'll probably be lynched for using the word "dorm" eight times in my letter. They have a real paranoia about that word. Here, I'll use it again — DORM. If they were really worried about little four-letter words, they would get rid of the "FINK Week" festivities. FINK sounds much worse than dorm, and an entire week has been named after it.

Bill had to make up events to ridicule Greek Week. Like the bare chest contest and the stereo blaring contest. But FINK Week has dumb events built in. How about the "Beach Dance" and the "Watermelon Feed"? Why make up dumb activities when you can use real ones?

Here's an idea. Go get an ex-dormie who went greek and have him or her write a column making fun of dormies. Have this column run every week or so and be sure to make him use the word "dorm" in 48-point type in each headline. And then just wait wait for the hate mail to roll in. After four years of Allen, it's about time for a change of perspective.

Michael Ho junior computer science dormie

Reader rebels against 'out of whack' claims

Once again the confrontation between greek and non-greek factions arises. Every year, Bill Allen or someone hoping to impress the "Save the Whales" or "Vegetables Have Rights Too" groups takes a cheap shot at the greek system. Better yet, Lonnie Buresh (Daily Nebraskan letters, Sept. 2) brings down the integrity of most college women. Or was this sarcasm? You tell me, Lonnie.

Buresh's reports on greek men and the intricate art of macaroni-and-cheese making (sounds like one of Allen's columns last year. How original) seems to be a completely valid measuring stick for the intelligence capacity of fraternity men, even though the top fraternity on campus, garmard (sic) a 3.36 grade-point average last year. That turns out to be a meager 49 percent above all men's averages.

It is only fair to expound on the incredible intellect of non-greek men. I still remember last year when I would go visit some friends in residence halls only to be nauseated by the stench of urine in the elevators on Friday and Saturday mornings.

I assumed that the bathrooms were reserved for the "less intelligent." This was a frequent event, furthering

my suspicions (sic) that non-greeks are all members of Mensa.

I believe Buresh's allegations about fraternities and their discrimination policies are way out of whack. Much of the reason why fraternities do not get very much of an ethnic blend is:

• A wide number of black students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln are involved in athletics. Trying to juggle school and sports along with responsibilities to a fraternity is very hard to do.

• Still other blacks and many of the other "non-white" students are at the university on student visas, also making it difficult to be both a visiting student and a fraternity member. To be honest, the money factor and other expenses are a burdensome problem and can cause others to be uninterested in joining a fraternity. As far as someone's religious and political party affiliations, many members in my house are Catholic and an alumni is even the president of the Young Democrats organization in Lincoln.

Fraternally,

Luke Schollmeyer sophomore political science

Editor's note: The Interfraternity Council was unable to confirm the statistics in Schollmeyer's letter. But according to statistics released by the Office of Records, the all-university (male and female) GPA last spring was 2.875. The all-male average at UNL was 2.774 and the all-fraternity average was 2.870.

Jimmi Smith, director of Multicultural Affairs, said there are more black men at UNL who are not involved in athletics than who are.

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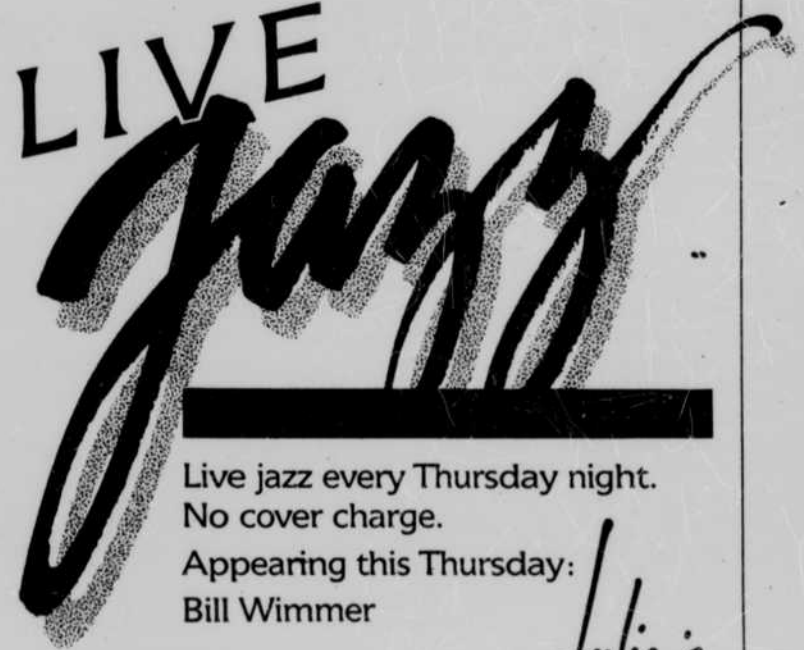


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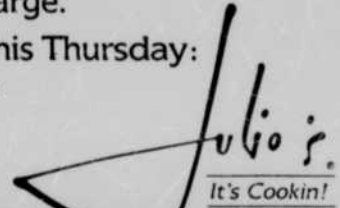
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