

News coverage under fire from all sides

Front-page photo total invasion of privacy

I am disgusted with the Daily Nebraskan's front-page coverage April 23 of a student being taken to the University Health Center. The photograph was a total invasion of the student's privacy and served no real purpose (besides perhaps giving readers the same "thrill" as following a firetruck to its destination). While we should be concerned for the welfare of our fellow students, publicizing this as if it were some sort of event is extremely tasteless and lacking in compassion.

Barb Nielsen
junior
music education

DN must report positive aspects of greek events

I feel that I am representing the majority of UNL students in greek houses when I write of the severe disappointment in the Daily Nebraskan's coverage of the Sigma Chi Fight Night. Monday's article entitled, "Two arrested at Fight Night" was an unwelcome shock to early morning reading before classes.

For a newspaper that is financed by students and intended for increasing campus awareness, the article was discouragingly more similar to tabloid journalism that useful transfer of information. All, I am sure, deeply regret the events that transpired that evening, and my sympathies are extended to those individuals who were injured, thankfully none seriously.

I here seems to be a distinct void, however, in published information about the positive things that have come out of Sigma Chi's annual philanthropy. This year being no exception, the men of Sigma Chi made a large donation to Wallace Village with the proceeds from the event. Several needy children are given assistance every year, and, to me, that is highly newsworthy.

Kevin Dasher's comment that most spectators felt Fight Night was run well, and about not wanting to be "ripped on in the Daily Nebraskan" was overlooked by the author of the article in favor of a story that would sell more papers (that we already bought when we paid our tuition).

The main point of my comments is that it is truly a travesty that the work of Sigma Chi, the contributions of its sponsors, the effort of the boxers themselves, and the support of the spectators was overshadowed by the brawl. I am not saying that the incident should have been hidden, I just sincerely feel that it is the job of the DN to inform the student body who supports it of the positive things that are being done for the community by students of UNL, particularly greek organizations that have all lately fallen prey to the rumor mill.

Mark A. Rinehart
sophomore
international business

Fraternity system breeds violence, illegal drinking

Incredible! Seven altercations involving 25 to 30 people, two injuries requiring medical attention at a scene that Deputy Sheriff Mike Novacek calls "a battle zone" and Mr. Kevin Dasher of Sigma Chi Fight Night tells us that "things were not unusually violent." I am almost afraid to ask what Mr. Dasher would consider "unusually violent."

There is not doubt in my mind that this event will be long forgotten after this week. Fraternity boys are well-protected by the university system and will continue to be sheltered by the powers that be. Administrators who were once fraternity boys themselves will continue to turn a blind eye to the violence perpetuated by the

greek system, saying, "Boys will be boys."

But no matter what the administrators of the greek system think, the greek system is corrupt and violent. Fraternity boys on this campus drink beer openly in their houses and flaunt visitation hours, making the potential for rape all the more a reality. As much as I despise the paternalism of the residence halls, I find it preferable to the open season on women condoned by the fraternity system. If things are so violent at a public event such as a Sigma Chi Fight Night, one can imagine what takes place behind closed doors. But I don't want to just single out Sigma Chi here. The fraternity system itself breeds violence.

Fraternity members will protest that they are valuable members of the university community, doing philanthropy for charities. I hardly think that is the sole reason for the existence of fraternities on this campus. After all, fraternity houses are the only places on campus that students can drink with impunity. How many people would have attended Sigma Chi Fight Night if it had been an alcohol-free event?

If Mr. Dasher has no complaints about the fact that "one female student was hit in the face with a chair another female student was kicked in the face," I certainly fear for any woman who enters into the Sigma Chi fraternity house.

I am certain that many individuals join fraternity houses with the best of intentions, but we see quite clearly from incidents such as this what happens when you mix booze and brotherhood.

Sharon L. O'Neil
graduate student
classics

New definitions will not solve old problems

This letter is in response to the slew of letters in the DN on April 15.

First of all, I would like to know what an unpatriotic act is. In my opinion, not questioning your government is unpatriotic and ogling over a piece of cloth instead of reading a progressive paper (it might be interesting to see the other side's point of view once in a while) is unpatriotic. Obviously, Ms. Berney and I disagree on the meaning of this word and it could be said that this is a loaded word that in fact has not meaning.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Telling gay, lesbian, and bisexual people what to do is quite condescending. Perhaps I should tell you what to do in your heterosexual life, but I am not going to. Neither should the U.S. military or any other governing body for that matter, but they are doing just that.

We live in the United States where freedom of speech is supposedly a protected right -- if you don't like hearing or seeing different points of view, move to a country where there is no freedom of speech.

To Mr. Moore, it is fine if you believe in God, I respect that, but everyone does not believe in God. There are plenty of people on this earth to reproduce; not everyone on this earth is gay, lesbian, or bisexual, millions of people are heterosexual. And thanks to socialization of the United States, the overwhelming majority of people will be heterosexual.

Much of Christianity originates from pagan religions, whether or not one wishes to acknowledge this is their choice. In the United States, we have freedom of religion and we should not make governmental policy according to Christianity. Everyone is not going to accept homosexuality, just as everyone is not going to accept Christianity. All I want is a little respect, the right to be left alone, and live my own life as I choose.

And to Mr. Cannon, apparently you do not know about the non-dis-

criminatory policy of the University of Nebraska that includes sexual orientation. ROTC is directly violating the policy through the exclusion of gays, lesbians and bisexuals. This is direct discrimination and needs to be stopped.

The Pentagon issued a very positive report about gays and lesbians in the military last year. The arguments are running out, folks; it is time to change. Perhaps, Mr. Cannon is not a gay, lesbian or bisexual person interested in joining the ROTC program, so he has no understanding of this discrimination.

In closing, I do not think the initial change of "little sister" to "sister" is going to stop date rape. I think changing our language is really important but the problem of rape and language is connected to much more than the word "little." I've said my pieces -- have a sunny day.

Lynn Kister
junior
women's studies/English

TRIAD T-shirts display elitist, arrogant attitudes

Thetas, Gamma Phis and Kappas, I'm really wondering what you could have possibly been thinking! I found your TRIAD T-shirts utterly repulsive. The more I think about it, the more irritated I become. Your T-shirt

reads, "Party for the Elite and Privileged." Do you actually realize how arrogant and uncultured this statement is?

I'm sure your party was an excellent time, but by saying that it is a privilege constitutes a growing criticism. This party was definitely open only to the few, but do you really believe your dates found it an honor and privilege attending?

Do you really believe that you are an elite because you belong to Gamma Phi Beta, Kappa Alpha Theta or Kappa Kappa Gamma? To believe and say this shows ignorance, not only towards the greek system, but also towards yourselves. Implying that you are an elite makes you socially superior. Do you really believe that others regard you as socially superior? Maybe you should have a talk with your T-shirt logo creators and tell them what your houses are actually based upon. You must realize that your organizations are based on the adjective form of elite, which means you are seeking to achieve higher status. Keep in mind that you have not and will not attain it simply because of your affiliation in the greek system.

You are three excellent organizations, but making statements like this only shows that you are trying to pacify insecurities about your social status at this institution. Next time, hopefully, you'll think about your credibility in the greek system before you print something as outrageously ignorant as the TRIAD T-shirts.

Daniel P. Thibodeau
senior
health education

Grand Opening Sale!

SPRING BREAKERS



Mr. Big

\$9.77 CD

\$5.77 Cassette

Also available:
Saigon Kick
Rembrandts
Tangier
Rik Emmett



RUDE BOYS
RUDE AWAKENING

marc cohn

blue rodeo
Casino

Pickles celebrates the opening of their new store at 56th & Hwy 2 (in front of the Edgewood Theatres) at all their stores with Spring Breakers prices. Sale runs through April 30, 1991.

Plus, all \$12.99 CDs
Just \$10.99

REGISTER FOR DRAWINGS

Pickles

RECORDS · TAPES · COMPACT DISCS
17th & P * 3814 Normal Blvd
237 S 70th * 56th & Hwy 2

LAW

COMPARE OUR PARALEGAL PROGRAM TO ALL OTHERS

Founded in 1977, and exclusively dedicated to Paralegal studies, Denver Paralegal Institute offers the quality education which only a well established institution can provide.

- REPUTATION American Bar Association Approved
- INSTRUCTORS Licensed Practicing Attorneys
- HIGH PLACEMENT Graduates Working Nationwide
- SCHEDULES 5-month day program, includes 100 hour working internship
- ENTRY REQUIREMENTS College Degree or Related Legal Experience With College



CALL 1-800-848-0550 for our FREE video "Your Career In Law"