

ANNE STEYER

# Who are you calling Slacker?

With all this babble and blather about Generation X, I can't help but ponder the reality of my generation and where I fit into it.

I'm not sure that I do fit in, if what the newspaper articles say is true.

I see the profiles of the self-proclaimed slackers, the environments in which they thrive and the ideas they embrace and espouse.

And I'm distressed. Maybe I don't fit in with these X-people at all.

Strike one. The slackers seem to have no goals. I don't think I fit in here. I have some goals: I want to be happy. I want to make enough money to pay the rent, to make my student loan payment and to buy groceries.

Strike Two. Some slacker types spout ideas about individuality, all the while wearing the latest clothing trends, and are supposed to represent me. I don't fit in here either. I do think individuality is great. However, I can't follow every fashion trend: Those big, black shoes are too expensive, and I'm too poor.

Strike three. Other slackers have no job and no home, and they like it that way. They also don't care about college or want a degree. Whoops, no place for me here. I have a job, two in fact, and I have a home, one I like a great deal. And I don't necessarily care about college, but I'll get my degree next year. Actually, I'll get two.

Hmm, maybe I can give one to someone of "my generation."

Strike four—shouldn't I be out by now? One smattering of slackers, blaming their parents for subscribing to the ideals of their generation, thinks everyone in my whole generation are losers and without hope. Gosh darn golly, will I ever fit in? I like my parents and I don't think they embody all the evil in the world. I don't think I'm a loser, and I have hope for both myself and for the future.

Then again, maybe I'm still in the game.



**These slackers exist in every decade, in every generation. There is nothing terribly original about them, nothing that really separates them from any other generation before them.**

Hit: It's only a single, but at least I'm on base. Many slackers don't know what they want to be when they grow up. Holy cow — finally a place for me. I don't know what I want to be when I grow up either. I don't even know if I want to grow up.

I also have no solid ideas of success or where my career destination lies.

But my part in the game ends there. My misdirection, unlike the slackers', is no one's fault. It's certainly not the fault of my parents, and the government can be to blame for only so much.

Sure, the horizon isn't as sunny as it may have been in previous years and for previous generations, but that certainly is no excuse to let slackers stand up and symbolize my generation.

These traits are simply typical of people when they hit my age bracket, when we come to one of the more difficult crossroads in life. Typical when we have to decide if we want to grow up and if so, what we'll be when we get there. Typical of my age range, not my generation.

So these slackers, these so-called representatives of myself and my generation, are not.

They are representative of little more than those who shy away from the crossroads.

These slackers exist in every decade, in every generation. There is nothing terribly original about them, nothing that really separates them

from any other generation before them.

They are merely recycled caricatures of previous generations. They've just been called different things over the years. Slackers are the Beats of the '50s, except they have less soul. They are the Lost Generation of the '20s, except they have less to write about.

OK, so they think their parents subscribed to the American Dream and it died. So they think the government subscribed to intense capitalism and the country's ideals crashed. And inequality runs rampant and the few get the most and the few get stronger.

Of course, according to the slackers there is no answer to the world's ills. And if that's the case, what options do these people have except to turn their backs on their future and slack their way to old age.

I understand some of these objections to our world. But I expect more out of myself and more out of my generation than to just sit and bitch over a steaming cup of java.

Slacker, I am not. Nor am I hip or cool. I'm just a regular person with regular dreams. I do drink coffee and I do ponder my fate and I do worry about the world.

These "symbols" of Generation X don't symbolize me at all. And just because the newspaper says they represent my generation does not mean they do.

Steyer is a senior English and history major, a senior Arts and Entertainment reporter and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.

## SHOW YOUR HUSKER SPIRIT

Broyhill Fountain  
6:30 pm

## PEP RALLY TODAY

Sponsored by: KLIN & UNL Spirit Club



JAMES CAAN

HALLE BERRY

OMAR EPPS

CRAIG SHEFFER

KRISTY SWANSON

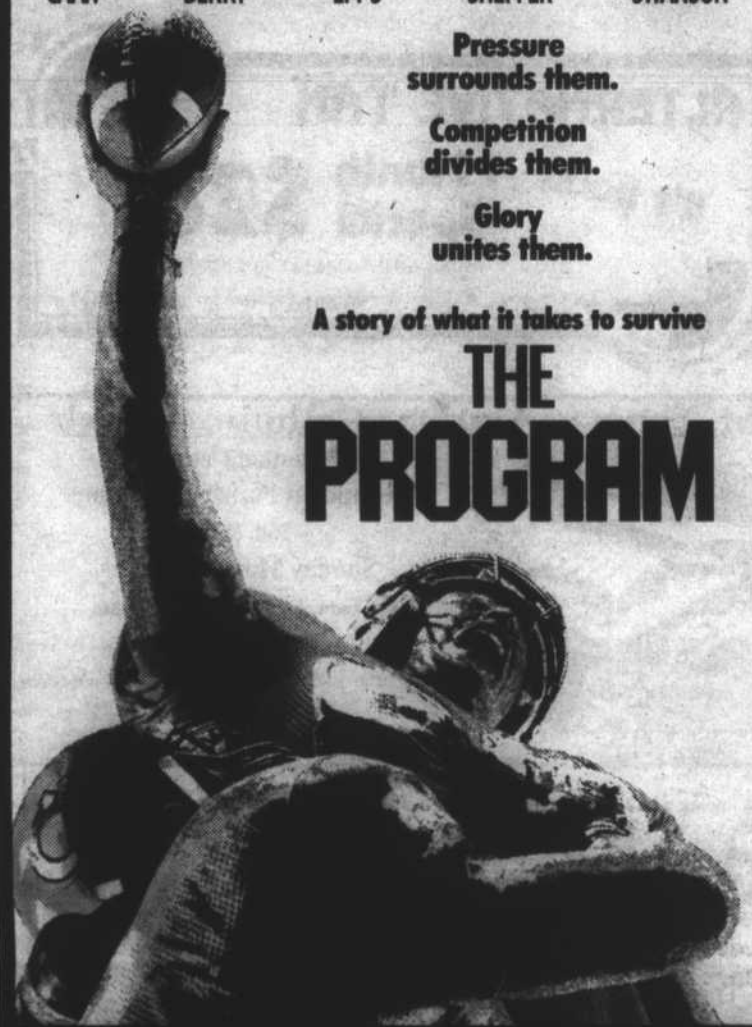
Pressure surrounds them.

Competition divides them.

Glory unites them.

A story of what it takes to survive

# THE PROGRAM



STARTS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 AT THEATRES EVERYWHERE

## THE FIRSTIER SURVIVAL KIT... YOU CAN'T MAKE IT THROUGH SCHOOL WITHOUT IT!

### REGULAR CHECKING...

Low \$100 Minimum Balance Checking!

- Unlimited check writing
- No monthly service charge with a low \$100 minimum balance in checking or \$1,000 in a Regular Savings Account
- Firstier Teller ATM Card\*

### FIRSTIER EDGE...

Worry Free, Hassle Free Checking!

- Unlimited check writing
- No minimum balance
- Free Firstier style checks
- Firstier Teller ATM Card\*

### VALUE PLUS CHECKING...

Pay As You Go Checking!

- No minimum balance
- Low \$2.50 monthly service charge for 10 checks or less. (If you write more than 10 checks a month, there is a \$.35 fee for each check or automatic payment over 10.)
- Firstier Teller ATM Card\*
- Free Firstier Teller ATM transactions

### STUDENT VISA\* CARD...

When You Need Cash Fast!

- No annual fee
- No co-signer needed
- Minimum \$500 line with credit approval
- 24 hour ATM cash access

\*A fee applies to transactions at ATMs that are not Firstier Tellers.



**DON'T WAIT FOR AN EMERGENCY!**

**OPEN AN ACCOUNT NOW!**

**Firstier**  
You're First Here®  
Firstier Bank, N.A., Member FDIC

## Summer III



### FOR JUNIOR NURSING STUDENTS

**A NURSING EXPERIENCE AT MAYO FOUNDATION HOSPITALS - ROCHESTER, MN**

Here is your opportunity to work at Mayo Medical Center for the summer.

Summer III is a paid, supervised hospital work experience at Saint Marys Hospital and Rochester Methodist Hospital, both part of Mayo Medical Center in Rochester, Minnesota.

You are eligible for Summer III after your junior year of a four year baccalaureate nursing program. It includes experience on medical and surgical nursing units or in operating rooms.

**Application Deadline:** December 1, 1993.  
For more information contact:



**Mayo Medical Center**  
Nursing Recruitment  
P.O. Box 6057  
Rochester, Minnesota 55903  
1-800-247-8590

Mayo Foundation is an affirmative action and equal opportunity educator and employer. A smoke-free institution.