

Editorial

Daily Nebraskan

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Welcome aboard! Editor explains DN's goals

Welcome aboard! I have a friend who always would use the above phrase when he met new people. Now I have the chance to say it to thousands — a kind of humbling experience.

What you will find in this "Back to School" issue of the Daily Nebraskan is just a hint of what you will find in the coming semester. The DN is published five times a week, Monday through Friday, and will try to provide the news students should have and want to know.

Within this issue you will find stories concerning the goals and objectives of UNL administration as seen by UNL leaders like Chancellor Martin Massengale and student regent and ASUN president Chris Scudder. The arts and entertainment section provides an in depth look at the Lincoln entertainment industry with features ranging from bands to comics. The sports department takes a peek at the Nebraska football team and other Husker teams.

For new students we have included a map of downtown Lincoln businesses and information about services and programs available on campus.

A calendar of the fall semester is included to help students plan the next four months.

The Associated Press brings news from around the country and state to keep students up to date on current issues.

Last year the DN stayed on top of the issues pertinent to UNL students and will try to do so again this year. The role of the newspaper is to keep students and faculty aware of what is happening on their campus.

Daily Nebraskan eyes will turn toward the political scene as the Nov. 4 election day nears. The

DN will keep abreast of the unique governor's race and other political campaigns. (Nebraska is the first state to have two women running for governor.)

The goal of this semester's arts and entertainment section is to gear articles toward the student population under 21. With an increase in the drinking age, many students are unable to see bands performing in bars. Outside of the bar scene, Lincoln and the university provide a wide variety of entertainment. "Diversions," the Daily Nebraskan's weekend entertainment magazine, will be included in every Thursday paper.

The sports section will maintain their steady coverage of varsity sports. Their goal is to increase coverage of intramurals and campus recreation.

The editorial page features columns from student writers and syndicated columnists. Mike Royko, Ellen Goodman, William F. Buckley and Charles Krauthammer. Editorial cartoonist Richard Wright also will appear in the editorial section.

Opus and the rest of the crew from Bloom County return in Berke Breathed's comic strip. Gary Larson's "The Far Side" has been added for the fall semester.

The Daily Nebraskan encourages reader response through brief letters and phone calls. We are a student newspaper and can benefit from criticism and ideas. The DN newsline number is 472-1763, and my number is 472-1766.

As students, take time to familiarize yourselves with the university and its faculty this semester and make the Daily Nebraskan a part of your college day. And, again, welcome aboard.

Jeff Korbek
Editor

Editorial Policy

Unsigned editorials represent official policy of the fall 1986 Daily Nebraskan. Policy is set by the Daily Nebraskan Editorial Board. Its members are Jeff Korbek, editor; James Rogers, editorial page editor; Gene Gentrup, managing editor; Todd Von Kampen, editorial page assistant and Tammy Kaup, associate news editor.

Editorials do not necessarily reflect the views of the univer-

sity, its employees, the students or the NU Board of Regents.

The Daily Nebraskan's publishers are the regents, who established the UNL Publications Board to supervise the daily production of the paper.

According to policy set by the regents, responsibility for the editorial content of the newspaper lies solely in the hands of its student editors.

Letter Policy

The Daily Nebraskan welcomes brief letters to the editor from all readers and interested others.

Letters will be selected for publication on the basis of clarity, originality, timeliness and space available. The Daily Nebraskan retains the right to edit all material submitted.

Readers also are welcome to submit material as guest opinions.

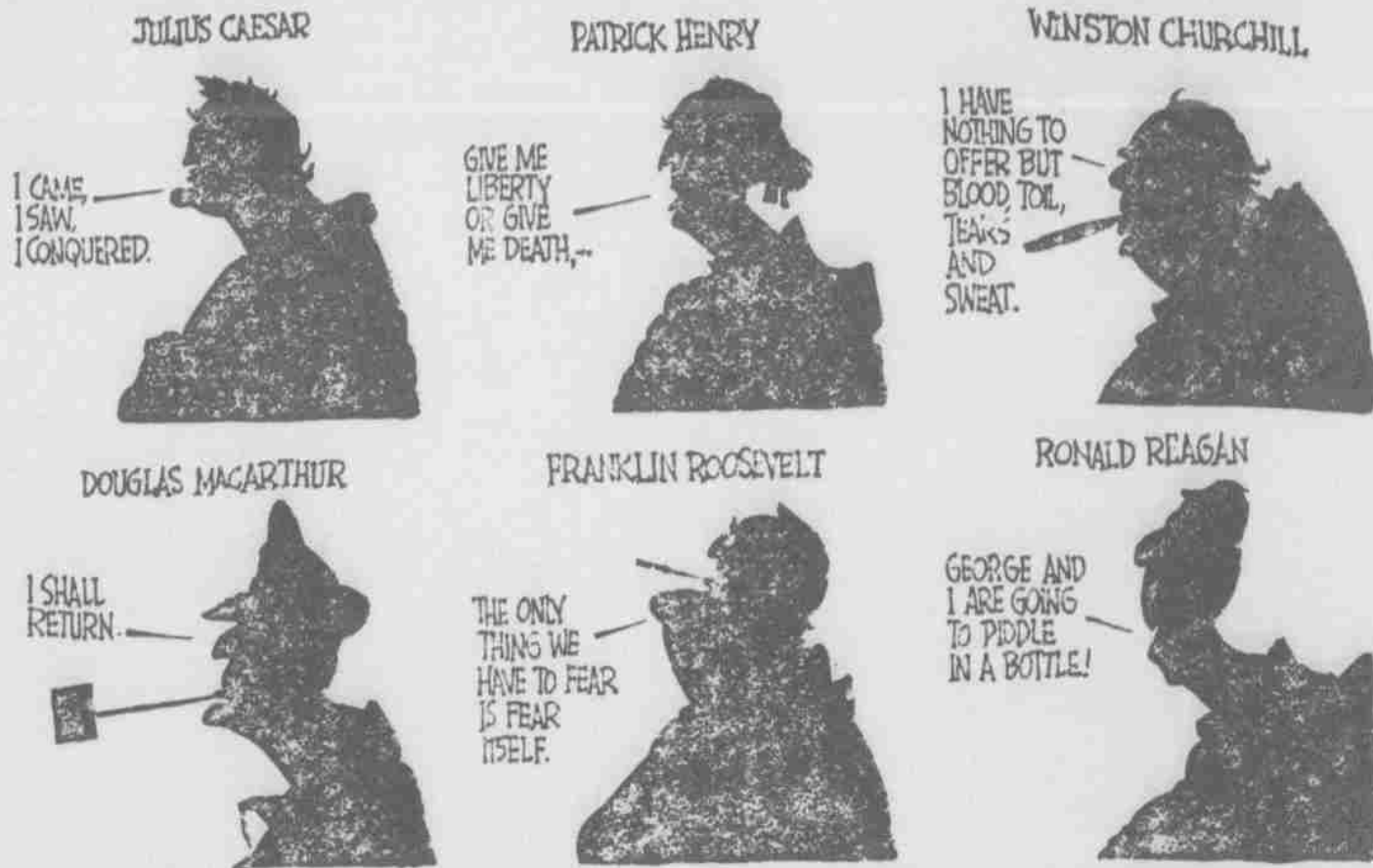
Letters and guest opinions sent to the newspaper become

property of the Daily Nebraskan and cannot be returned.

Anonymous submissions will not be considered for publication. Letters should include the author's name, year in school, major and group affiliation, if any. Requests to withhold names from publication will not be granted.

Submit material to the Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448.

FAMOUS QUOTATIONS FROM EPIC FIGURES IN HISTORY:



Feeling good despite facts

A commitment to the ideals of civic virtue should be made

The beginning of a new school year is always an occasion for rosy reflections upon the past and for perceiving the future as being pregnant with possibilities yet to be realized. Especially these days, midway through President Reagan's second term, an aura of well-being somehow pervades university life.

It's strange to live in a society intoxicated with the elixir of good feeling — as if wondering, for the first time seriously, whether this is indeed the best of all possible worlds.

Yet, ironically, this general feeling of well-being is cause for concern. After all, it is simply a feeling, and feelings need not comport with reality.

The germane question, then, is why? Why do we feel so good? On the one hand, if our feeling results from a job well done and we simply are enjoying the fruits of our collective labor, then such a feeling is certainly appropriate.

But such an answer cannot be posited without asking the further question: what, then, is the good work we have done to overcome the malaise of the late '70s? After all, what substantive problem does not now exist that existed then? Our current era of good feeling really isn't based on substance, but on will: America simply grew tired of feeling that it could not solve the complex problems surrounding it and instead

determined to feel good irrespective of the facts. America willied to feel good.

Such a basis for the aura of good feeling portends serious trouble. The will to frivolity is based on not taking problems seriously. "Eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die," the hedonic proverb says. Appended to this is the desire to shunt onto our children an entire generation of neglected problems.



Jim Rogers

In 1942 the distinguished Harvard economist Joseph Schumpeter penned words that could hardly be more appropriate to the current era: "(T)he typical bourgeoisie is rapidly losing faith in his own creed. . . . They talk and plead — or hire people to do it for them; they snatch at every chance of compromise; they are ever ready to give in; they never put up a fight under the flag of their own ideals. . . ."

"The only explanation for the meekness we observe is that the bourgeoisie order no longer makes any sense to the bourgeoisie itself and that, when all is said and nothing is done, it does not really care."

Pursuit of pleasure, the will to pleasure as an end, has become a "legitimate" goal among the elite of American culture. Civic virtue cannot, and has not, survived in such a corrosive moral atmosphere. For the desire for justice and righteousness, at times, requires self-sacrifice; sacrifice is not consistent with hedonism.

In 1978 exiled Soviet dissident Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn accurately portrayed the danger the current attitude spells: "(T)he majority of the people have been granted well-being to the extent their fathers and grandfathers could not even dream about; it has become possible to raise young people according to these ideals, preparing them for and summoning them toward physical bloom, happiness, the possession of material goods, money and leisure, toward an almost unlimited freedom in the choice of pleasures.

"So who should now renounce all this, why and for the sake of what should one risk one's precious life in defense of the common good. . . ."

What we need to inculcate in ourselves — and what the university ought to aid in — is a commitment to the ideals and beliefs that make human life distinct from that of the brutes. To the extent that is done, this new year of school, when past, can be considered a success.

'Comes a Brave New Lied' leaves bad taste in the mouth

The following is a preview of coming attractions at UNL.

Coming this autumn from Boondogle or Conspiracy? Productions, is the empty lot on 12th and R streets, a mystery/comedy/yuppie romance. At first the lot appears to be any of three things. Judging by the way the bulldozers continue to scrape, load and play with the dirt & rubble, even though nothing is being built there and the buildings that once stood there were razed four months ago, it could be either a landfill site or an experiment in urban strip mining.

There is talk amongst the new armchair sleuths on campus that the empty lot resulted from a terrorist attack on the old Nebraska Bookstore. This would explain why the new bookstore is built like a completely defensible fortress or airplane hanger.

This also would explain why the bookstore is disguised as a Target store on the first floor and basement. President Reagan tells us that few terrorists speak English, so they would be unable to read the Nebraska Bookstore logo printed on the front of the new building. Terrorists are completely confused when they encounter the toilet paper and automotive displays just inside the door.

But veterans of last year's economic downfall at UNL know the truth. The lot was to be the Lied Center, the cultural salvation of the plains — opera to the farmers, ballet to the masses, ego for the Lieds — all this and more.



Charles Lieurance

The model for this monolithic structure was gorgeous but initially inaccurate. It showed the center without a roof. This seemed a glaring fault for such an expensive edifice, but now that the Lied Center's first cost estimates have proven short by some \$8 million, this model is nearly perfect. The Lied Center will probably not have a roof and will resemble the Druid megalith, Stonehenge. Instead of opera, Ice Capades and hockey will enlighten the rubes.

At the end of this story, probably sometime in 1999, we see members of the Michael Ryan Guerrilla Theatre performing their special version of "Swan Lake." The "Death of the Swan" section is especially effective. The

actors gather around the squawking waterfowl, kicking up numerous dust devils on the dirt floor of the amphitheatre and taunt it while yelling, "Yahweh! Yahweh!"

Down the block, meanwhile, the University Bookstore has become an underground gay disco. They keep the music down so that the Michael Ryan Guerrilla Theatre won't decide to make this gilded haven the site of their next performance.

The cry comes up from the center of the football stadium, "Math!" There is a mass motion, slightly resembling the now archaic "wave," as the students of UNL switch from their English books to their math texts. The last four UNL professors stand on a dais in the middle of the stadium waiting for their class periods to come around.

Bif says, from D section, "I'm sure glad all our classes are in the stadium."

"Yeah, I'm sure," says Jif.

"I hate having to walk by the Lied Center on my way to class every morning," says Bif.

"This morning I got chicken blood and dirt all over my pastel rugby shirt," says Jif.

Of course at the end Toto, Dorothy and Auntie Em make it safely home to Kansas.