

# Editorial

**Daily Nebraskan**  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Jeff Korbelik, Editor, 472-1766  
James Rogers, Editorial Page Editor  
Gene Gentrup, Managing Editor  
Tammy Kaup, Associate News Editor  
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## Testing is no cure Others also should be included

UNL's athletic department has jumped on the drug testing bandwagon as it randomly tests athletes for signs of steroids, cocaine and any other illegal substances. The only problems are that drug testing should not be limited to only athletes at the university, and questions have been raised concerning the accuracy of the tests.

More and more colleges are testing athletes, joining a growing number of employers in the business world, including the U.S. government, that demand workers to be drug free as a condition of employment.

The Christian Science Monitor reported that many professional sports team owners, corporate executives, state and local government officials and others are increasingly relying on drug tests to discourage drug abuse among workers.

"We want to emphasize the

unacceptability of drug use in the workplace, and one important place to do that is the federal government," Terry Eastland, spokesman for Attorney General Edwin Meese III, said in the article.

The Daily Nebraskan believes something should be done about drugs, but not if it is limited to certain individuals — in this case athletes. The university should either disband drug testing or come up with a more consistent plan where administrators and faculty also are tested. After all, students are paying for a proper education.

Secondly, drug tests have not always proved to be accurate. Reputations could be damaged beyond repair because of an inaccurate test.

In the long run drug testing may not be the answer to problems in both college athletics and the common workplace.

## Rehnquist congratulated Time to get back to business as usual

After much hemming and hawing on Capitol Hill, it's finally been settled. When the U.S. Supreme Court begins new term on the first Monday in October, William Rehnquist will take his seat as the 16th Chief Justice of the United States.

It wasn't easy to get the Senate to go along with Rehnquist, who has served on the Court for 15 years as an associate justice. Thirty-three senators, including Nebraska's J.J. Exon, voted to reject the appointment — the highest negative vote ever on such a high-level nomination. By contrast, the Senate voted 98-0 to confirm Antonin Scalia, a federal appeals court judge, as Rehnquist's replacement as associate justice.

Critics of Rehnquist and the Reagan administration worked furiously to stop what they saw as a travesty of jurisprudence in this country. But their reasons for opposing Rehnquist weren't enough to keep him from being "first among equals" on the highest court in the land. From all appearances, that's as it should be.

In the first place, Rehnquist's qualifications as a judge and a member of the legal profession were largely overlooked by the critics. The American Bar Association, which sets the professional standards for all judges and rates them accordingly, strongly supported Rehnquist's appointment. So did many federal and state judges.

The various allegations about Rehnquist — that he once supported racial segregation, that he harassed black and Hispanic

voters before becoming a judge and so on — were controversial enough that they should have been checked into. But once it was settled that Rehnquist didn't know about this, couldn't remember that or had changed his mind over the last 30 years, the matters should have been dropped. Instead, the critics continued to harp on the allegations right up to the final vote.

In the end, the main objection of the critics seemed to be that Rehnquist was too conservative for their tastes. His voting record on the Court confirms that view. But it's been standard practice for presidents of both parties to choose judges not only on judicial qualifications but on their apparent political views. Given that tradition, much of the opposition to Rehnquist seemed to be a case of "sour grapes."

The ideological makeup of the Supreme Court is unlikely to change in any event. Although Rehnquist does have the role of leader now, he only has one vote of nine when it comes to deciding cases. Since Rehnquist was already on the Court, the exchange of Scalia for retiring Chief Justice Warren Burger is the only real change in Court membership. Both are seen as conservative, but not extremely so.

The fight over the Rehnquist nomination may have been "much ado about very little" as one senator said. But the Senate exercised its advise-and-consent powers in a thorough fashion and confirmed the appointment by almost a 2-to-1 margin. It's time to congratulate Rehnquist and Scalia and get back to court business-as-usual.



## 'Alice's Restaurant' revisited Picture man wrongfully accused in the 'Great Bus Bust'

This is how Elliot "Chuck" Phillips, 21, UNL band member, Picture Man photographer and music major was arrested for a crime he did not commit.

It all began at 6:30 p.m. Saturday. A ride to hell aboard a Good Life Coach. Chuck's assignment: shoot the Phi Psi's Sandblast party. He was promised big money for the job and planned to shoot at least 20 rolls of film at the remote, moonlit beach near Valley, Neb.

He was riding in the senior bus at the lead of the convoy of four. In his shotgun position, he caught the first glimpse of the flashing red-lit horizon.

"My first impression was that maybe it was an accident because there were so many cop cars," Chuck said. It may have been. At the time of the bus bust, no one was drinking. No one was even singing about "ninety-nine bottles of beer on the bus," —leastways, not that Chuck detected.

Then the trooper boarded the bus, asking if there was liquor aboard. There was. Then he announced that the group had won a special police-escorted trip to beautiful downtown Wahoo. Next he took up a collection — of coolers and cans.

Everyone aboard was wondering just what other surprises the State Patrol had in store for them. Maybe Arlo Guthrie's epic ballad of littering, "Alice's Restaurant," could have provided some clues:

"When we got to the police officer station there was a possibility that we hadn't even counted upon and we were immediately arrested. . . And friends, I want to tell you about the town of

Stockbridge, Mass., where this was happening. They got three stop signs, two police officers and one police car. But when we got to the scene of the crime there was five police officers and three police cars, being the biggest crime of the last 50 years and everybody wanted to get in a newspaper story about it."

There were more than five police cars at Wahoo. And there were nearly 20 police officers. There were members of the Nebraska State Patrol, the Saunders County Sheriff's department, the Wahoo police force. And the Ceresco chief of police.



Lise Olsen

Chuck said the officer who guarded their bus during the three hours that it was parked in Wahoo said there were all of five prisoners in the Saunders County jail.

Chuck and the senior Phi Psi's and their dates had to wait until last to be processed. While they were waiting, Chuck took a few "party pictures" of Phi Psi's, their dates and their tickets.

Finally, Chuck was admitted into a big room where eight officers were busy serving an express ticket lane. The arrestees were so tired of waiting that they started doing the "wave."

When Chuck got up to the table to

receive his party favor (there was a choice of two — either MIP or procuring for a minor), he was asked for his age, his ID and his parents' names.

"You not only have to be 21, you have to have 10 forms of ID and a note from your mother," Chuck said. He admits that he did call his parents Sunday just in case his name was in the paper — "Yes, dad, I was working last night like I said."

On the way home, people were wondering if there was a conspiracy against them. Maybe they forgot that the liquor stores have to report large keg sales. Maybe they forgot that they've had the same party in about the same place at about the same time for years. Maybe they forgot about that big white sheet hanging outside their fraternity house.

But the Liquor Control Commission officers are like elephants. They remember. And they have big ears.

Several of the unlucky 124 ticket holders plan to plead innocent. A lawyer advising the group, who also happens to be the father of a fraternity member, wonders why everyone was arrested just because alcohol and people under 21 were in the same bus. What if they'd all been in a restaurant or on an airplane or on a deserted island?

Chuck also plans to contest the charges. He was working — not drinking. "I'm confident I'll be proven innocent. I'm not going to pay anything — not even court costs, he said.

For now, Chuck will enjoy celebrity status. He's the only Picture Man employee ever to be arrested while working at a party.

And he's got the pictures to prove it. Olsen is a senior news-editorial major.

## A patriot by any other name is still a radical when he's left by himself

Both teams were on the field. The crowd stood for the singing of the National Anthem.

Everybody except one man. He just sat and studied his program.

The band began playing. The singing was led by a TV star who had been up all night drinking gin. Ten jets swooped over the stadium. Fifty majorettes thrust out their chest.

The one man stayed in his seat and looked at his program.

Somebody gave him a nudge. He ignores it.

"Stand up," somebody else hissed.

"I'll stand for the kickoff," the man said.

Another man glared at him. "Why don't you stand and sing?"

"I don't believe in it," he said.

The other man gasped. "You don't believe in the National Anthem?"

"I don't believe in singing it at

commercial events. I wouldn't sing it in a nightclub or in a gambling casino, and I won't sing it at a football game."

A man behind him said: "What are you, a damn radical?"

He shook his head. "I'm not a stadium patriot."

"I'll make you stand up," a husky man said, seizing his fleece collar.

They scuffled and struck each other with their programs. Somebody dropped a hip flask.

"What's wrong?" people shouted from

a few rows away.

"A radical insulted the anthem," someone yelled.

"I did not," the man yelled "I will not be a stadium patriot."

"He says he's not patriot," someone else roared, swinging a punch.

A policeman pushed through. "What's going on here. Break it up."

People yelled. "He insulted the flag. . . . He refused to stand. . . . He's a radical. . . . Sit down, I can't see the girls."

The policeman said: "Why wouldn't you stand?"

"Not at a football game," the man said.

"Hear that?" someone yelled, shaking a fist.

"Let's go, fella," the policeman said, leading him away.

Mike Royko

