

# d.n. soapbox

The Daily Nebraskan welcomes letters to the editor and guest opinions. Choices of material published will be based on timeliness and originality. Letters must be accompanied by the writer's name, but may be published under a pen name if requested.

Guest opinions should be typed, triple-spaced, on nonerasable paper. They should be accompanied by the author's name, class standing and major, or occupation. All material submitted to these pages is subject to editing and condensation, and cannot be returned to the writer.

## letters to the editor

### Slanted Abortion Reporting

I was both irritated and disgusted with your reports concerning the abortion issue, (Third Dimension, Jan. 21). It was obvious that the report was slanted and did not take into account both sides of the issue. When will we ever hear the alternatives to abortion? Yes, I agree that a woman should have complete control over her own body as well as her mind and her very person. What concerns me is that an unborn child has that very same right. It surprises me that feminists (and I consider myself a feminist), who are so very concerned about women's rights and people's rights, seemed to have overlooked that point. Children forced to live up to society's ideal of "maleness" and "femaleness" are just as oppressed as women. And what about our unborn children?

A woman has the right to decide whether or not she will bear children. A woman is not required to raise a child after it is born if she feels unfit to do so. There are hundreds of people, married and single, who are forced to wait years going through adoption proceedings and waiting for an available child.

Secondly, I felt that in your main source of information for your article: "Hospitals' Abortion Policies Vary," one Dr. Weston was an excellent example of someone who feels that the state has the right to virtually "control our minds" by making our moral decisions for us. The statement: "Weston said he thinks doctors and hospitals infringe on personal liberties when they refuse to perform abortions for moral or religious reasons," made me stop and think about the situation we're in. Dr. Weston, did you ever stop to think that you, or a patient or the almighty, all-knowing Supreme Court may be infringing on the rights of a particular doctor who does not feel it is morally right to infringe on the rights of the unborn child?

Thirdly, believe it or not, Dr. Weston, despite the fact that I am anti-abortion, and therefore considered "unprogressive" by you, I do not oppose sex education!

Liz Brelin

## Ticket proposal result of bad day

What has traditionally been only a pain in the rear for students may become a pain in the wallet as well.

For years students have tried to make a few extra bucks during football season by hawking their tickets, an income-producing tactic that has become an American fact of life at sports events, plays and other cultural happenings.

And during those same years, UNL administrators have tried to discourage, quite properly in their eyes, the resale of student tickets.

And students who only wanted to give their ticket to a friend or relative were doubly penalized—they legally could not transfer the ticket and they ran the risk of ticket confiscation if a stadium official questioned the individual who showed up at a game with the ticket.

Students, operating under pain of possible ticket confiscation and stepped-up pre-game stadium patrols, continued to occasionally sell their tickets.

All the while, administrators decried the action of students who sold tickets, implying that students were allowed to purchase tickets cheaply and should not abuse that privilege.

That principle now has crumbled in the face of one compelling motivator—more money.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Ken Bader will propose to ASUN Senate and the Council on Student Life this week that students be allowed to transfer their tickets next year.

In turn, students will be asked to shell out \$12.50 extra for the 'legalization' of selling tickets.

Added to the next year's planned student ticket price of \$17 for six home games (compared to the same price for seven games last season), a student transferable season ticket would cost \$29.50.

Traditionally, students have been given a break on ticket prices because if there were no students, there would be no Big Red. Faculty members and staff also were given ticket-purchasing privileges that affirmed their relation with the university that sponsors the football team.

A faculty member's ticket always has been transferable to family members. Faculty members probably will pay about \$25.00 for their tickets next year.

The problem, administrators say, is that it is unenforceable to demand that faculty members not transfer their tickets.

The problem, it seems, is that the administrators responsible for the plan to change student ticket policies suffer from an acute case of double standard.

Either it becomes a matter of principle or a matter of logistics, but the same yardstick should be used for both students and faculty members.

If the principle is evoked, neither faculty members nor students should be allowed to transfer tickets. If logistics is the key, it seems believable that the no-transfer policy is unenforceable for both groups.

So why suggest asking students to dig deeper for the \$12.50 to magically create a legal transfer policy?

Not to mention the unfairness to devoted student football fans who never sell their tickets and who would find the \$12.50 a burden for which they get no added options.

It is hoped that the policy is rejected by student governing groups. It is unworkable and unfair.

It can only be the product of a colossal bad day in some Administration Bldg. office.

Vince Boucher

### ralph by ron wheeler



## word unheard Independence Party rises from Republican wreckage

By Del Gustafson

While political developments in New Hampshire occupy the American press, the major portion of the American electorate is only peripherally concerned with such inter-party struggles. The contemporary political scene is the domain of the independent voter.

He is tired of the coalition-building, compromising, unprincipled politics of the two major parties. He desires, if one can believe George Gallup, to stem the flow of individual substance into the never-satiated belly of the federal government.

It all adds up to a major disruption of the American political structure if the unwillingness of the major parties to take up the popular cry and battle Washington continues.

The embryonic Independence Party believes an electoral majority awaits a party committed to the slaying of the bureaucratic dragon.

William Rusher, in his book *The Making of the New Majority Party*, provides much of the framework for the Independence Party. He cites statistical evidence to show that the Republican Party traditional vehicle of conservative sentiment, is dead or dying, while the numbers of conservatives are increasing. The reason for this paradox is the powerful influence exerted on the national Republican Party by its minority liberal wing.

Out of the wreckage of the Republican Party, argues Rusher, the traditional economic conservatives can be salvaged. United with blue-collar social conservatives, who generally oppose welfare, busing, abortion and detente, they can form an unbeatable political party. The major obstacle to such a synthesis is the economic issue. That is, to what degree the social conservatives are willing to support the traditional conservative goal of less interference in the marketplace.

With the admiration accorded such practitioners of limited government as Jerry Brown, it may well be that the worker sees the virtues of the free market even more clearly than Rusher thought. Firm in the belief that the Republican elephant has gone the way of the dinosaur and that the national Democratic Party is devoutly committed to God-like government (omniscient, omnipotent, and omnipresent), the Independence Party is attempting to get on the ballot in many states such as Nebraska so that conservatives are given a choice in 1976.

The Independence Party may never win an election. All of us someday may be the merry serfs of the federal lord in Washington. I do not know; I am not a prophet. But it seems evident that neither major party is prepared to dally with principle when power is at stake. Men of principle—go Independent.

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