

opinion/editorial

Iba's contract renewal ensures more mediocrity

The NU Board of Regents took commendable action recently in boosting Acting Head Basketball Coach Moe Iba's salary by \$6,900 effective July 1.

However, the board's decisions to change Iba's title to Assistant Head Coach, and to give him a special three-year contract, were mistakes.

Last November, on extremely short notice, Iba assumed the head coaching responsibilities while Joe Cipriano received chemotherapy for cancer. Iba, along with Assistant Coach Tom Baack, led the Huskers to a second place Big Eight tie with Kansas State, and to a bid to the National Invitational Tournament.

In acting as head coach, and assuming all the duties of a head coach, Iba deserved monetary com-

pensation.

But, as far as contracts and titles are concerned, Nebraska basketball fans are more deserving of a national caliber team.

Nebraska has not won a Big Eight title since 1950, and has never seriously challenged to do so during the 17 years Cipriano has been head coach.

By giving Iba a contract renewal, the regents have assured UNL of the same second-rate basketball it has received for too long.

Iba, until this year, had served as an assistant coach at UNL for nine years. During those nine years no major improvements were seen concerning team personnel, scheduling,

or season records.

In 1976 the \$13 million Bob Devaney Sports Center was finished—giving UNL one of the top complexes in the nation. Many assumed this would aid UNL in athletic recruiting and, with many sports, it has.

However, UNL's weak, if not embarrassing basketball schedule in the last couple of years has nullified any advantage the Sports Center might have given Cipriano's teams.

In 1977-78—Cipriano's most successful year as UNL head coach—the Huskers finished 22-8, second in the Big Eight, and made it to the second round of the NIT.

Yet, eight of those wins came by beating teams like Missouri South-

ern, South Dakota, Montana State and Nevada Reno.

This year, Nebraska also gained eight of its 18 wins over teams like Wisconsin-Oshkosh and Angelo State.

Iba has had his chance—nine years of chances—to actively change the role UNL has played in basketball.

If UNL is ever to recruit top quality basketball players, and become a top quality team, it must first have a top quality coach—the facilities and the funds are already here.

Renewing Iba's contract, while a mistake, is not a step in any direction for Cornhusker basketball. It simply allows the rest of the nation to step ahead.

Shelley Smith



Church and state conflict reflected in Josh decision

The uneasy relations between church and state are once again being redefined in a series of disputes going on before the U.S. Supreme Court.

jerry fairbanks

At issue is a ruling last July concerning a small Presbyterian church in Macon, Ga. The majority of that congregation voted to leave the parent body over a doctrinal dispute.

The parent body had no way of forcing the maverick majority back into the fold, but they investigated and ruled that the building belonged to the loyal minority. The majority took the issue to court and the Supreme Court gave the building to them.

Since 1871, the Court has refused to rule on ownership of church buildings when the structure of the national organization is "interlocking," that is, when the church bureaucracy is given, by church doctrine, power over local church units. The issue of who owned a church building was decided within the local structure.

In congregational churches, the courts have had an easier time of it. They needed only to enforce the doctrine that each congregation was a discrete unit and therefore whatever group had the majority of adherents was the one who owned the building. By this ruling, the Court has ignored the difference in denominational structures and said, in effect, that the social structure of American churches is locally based.

Continued on Page 5

letters to the editor

Mr. Hubert Brown, 1st V.P. ASUN, and Senior/Journalism, has just stuck his foot (both feet?) in his pseudo-elocquent mouth again. Heretofore, we had to contend with dramatic criticism of the Regent's alleged turpitude regarding the quality of education at UNL. Yet, the benevolence of an alumnus is not seen as a contribution to the department of Engineering and Technology, but rather racist debauchery which supports the South African Government. Look up "hypocrisy" in your Webster's Hubie.

But the fun doesn't stop. Ironically, our friend has the "unmitigated gall" to criticize an attempt to demean the editor of this paper in a fashion bordering, if not outrightly libelous. Such conduct from a journalism major is unprofessional and audacious in the "real media."

And now, wonder of wonders. Hubie, as speaker of the ASUN Senate, accepts two absentee votes in the selection of an additional justice (Jim Young) for the ASUN Student Court. So the deadlock is broken and Parsons' grievances are thrown out without a hearing. But wait a minute! Robert's Rules of Order state that absentee votes are only applicable when explicitly provided for in the constitution or bylaws of an organization. So we take a look-see at the ASUN constitution and draw a blank. Are we to capriciously interchange "tradition" and Robert's Rules of Order depending on situation and/or circumstance(s)?

Is the Krugerrand issue an affront to our intelligence and education? Are students in journalism being schooled in differentiation between free speech and unembroidered libel, or have a few been cutting classes? Is the recent election even valid (depending on "tradition" or Robert's Rules of Order, which ever is more appropriate)?

Tobin N. Anderson
Senior/Construction Management

Rape is no option

I finally figured out what bothered me about the latest issue of Fathom: the lead article was about rape. Rape is not sex—it is a violent crime. It makes me nervous to see pornography, massage parlors and topless dancing

lumped together with rape, because rape is male expression of violence, anger and misogyny. It is not an "option" as is the case with buying pornographic magazines or frequenting massage parlors and single bars.

Maybe rape would be less traumatic if more people started seeing it as a brutal crime against women, and not just another aspect of sex.

Colleen Holloran
Junior/Arts and Sciences

Unwarranted action

I'm not an angry young man by nature, but on Wednesday my disposition bordered on the furious. Frustrated would be more accurate. I found a ticket on my car along with a "rhino boot." I had heard of this procedure but was not aware that it was instigated for a single ticket. I had parked there for class on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday all semester, not having seen a sign saying a permit was required.

I then walked over to the police trailer at 3:20 p.m. to find what I had to do to get it removed. I found no less than 12 officers and civilian personnel making small talk and smoking. When I was finally helped I was informed that I had two tickets outstanding from the first week of school; late August and early September. Never having seen those tickets I denied this and said there must be some mistake. I was told they must be paid.

"But I never received them!"

"The wind could have blown them off, but you still have to pay them!"

I didn't have any money on me so I asked if I could have my car unlocked and I could go to my bank. She said I had to pay first.

"Shall I walk across town and pick up my checkbook and walk back?"

She smiled, "I guess that's what you'll have to do." I chose rather to call a friend who went by my house

and got a check blank for me and came down to the police trailer. When he showed up I waited another 10 minutes for services from one of the small-talking employees. I was then told that they did not accept checks. I said it was as good as anything and that the other lady had told me that my only alternative was to go get my checkbook.

"I didn't say that," she smiled.

My friend had a VISA card and paid the damages for me. I then asked what I had to do next. The employee said an officer would be at my car by the time I got to it. I got to my car and waited about a half an hour for an officer to unlock it. Two of them drove by but were obviously too involved in stimulating conversation to stop and take care of any real business.

In the meantime approximately one hundred students passed by my car. The general reaction was laughter and whispers. By this time I was as embarrassed and humiliated as any common criminal could be.

I sat with lowered head and contemplated all that had occurred. I had been lied to, told my credit was no good (checkwise), been called a liar, made the butt of some sick joke, and ultimately laughed at by my peers. In the process of these things, I missed an appointment and had imposed on a good friend.

Now I have a question. Should any organization have the power to convict without due process? The power to abort the constitution by considering an individual guilty until proven innocent or rather guilty without any recourse available?

I'm not a criminal, just a student who works and studies while trying to do the right things. I feel this malicious action taken against me is unwarranted and taken without consideration for my rights as a constructive member of the university and society.

Colin P. Sumpter
Senior/Education