

# opinion/editorial

## Chamber's proposed football bill can't hold water

The legislative sieve award for the 1981 session should go to state Sen. Ernie Chambers for a bill he has sponsored proposing to pay salaries to UNL football players.

The Omaha senator contends that Cornhusker football players are exploited for the selfish interests of the university. Chambers has said that since NU profits from the hard work and dedication of these athletes, they should be financially compensated for the sacrifices of time and hard work inherent with being a member of the team.

However, several holes exist in the reasoning the senator offers in support of the bill.

First of all, Chambers is making gross generalizations when he asserts that "football players have strong bodies and weak academic accomplishments."

The list of former football players who have been successful since leaving the college playing

field is long and includes people now employed in the areas of business, law and medicine. These people obviously do not suffer from weak academic accomplishments.

Further, the consistency with which Nebraska regularly places football players on the various academic teams is proof these individuals are not being neglected in university classrooms.

The senator has said the university harms football players by expecting less of them than is expected of other students. This simply is not true.

There may be instances when a student's status as a football player is abused, but that abuse undoubtedly begins with the individual.

Chambers also maintains that these athletes have lower class requirements, inflated grades and are accorded special privileges.

Again, he is guilty of outlandish and misleading generalizations. An educational opportunity, regardless of how it is offered to a person, is no more and no less than what the student decides to make of it.

Cheating in the classroom and grades given that may not have been earned is not restricted to football players. Ideally, this does not occur often. But realistically it is a mistake to assume that when it does happen, it involved special treatment given just to members of the UNL football team.

But perhaps the most important criticism of Chambers' bill or the biggest hole in this legislative sieve is that no one is forced to participate in the sport.

Football players must make their own decisions concerning their futures as students, people and, finally, as athletes.

## You too can be nominated deputy secretary of state

Do you like to travel? Would you like to be able to visit places outside of Waverly? Do you think you could stand a job that would take you to Rome, London or Paris? If you answered yes, then you're probably an excellent candidate to become the next U.S. deputy secretary of state. Yes, you too can become the next deputy secretary of state. After all, the United States is the land of opportunities.

### richardson

How do you qualify? Easy. If you can answer at least one of the following questions, then the president should submit your name to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for confirmation instead of William Clark's.

1. What is the name of the canal between North and South America?  
Hint: There's a country with the same name.
2. What does Solidarity mean in Poland?  
Hint: It has nothing to do with Polish pudding.
3. Who is Margaret Thatcher?  
Hint: She is not Mrs. Olsen's neighbor.
4. Which U.S. senator is at his best while swimming?  
Hint: If he were president today, he wouldn't have nominated Clark for deputy secretary of state.

### daily nebraskan

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5. How many states are in the United States?  
Hint: Include Hawaii and Alaska in your count.
6. Who is Jerry Falwell?  
Hint: It's rumored that he inspired the creation of the movie *The Jerk*.
7. How many words per minute will you be required to type as deputy secretary of state?  
Hint: Guess low.
8. What body of water separates the United States from Europe?  
Hint: The Missouri and Mississippi are names of rivers that run through the United States.
9. What ring circles the world?  
Hint: Ring around the collar is not a good answer.
10. And finally, the bonus question. Take your time because it's worth extra points. Who is the President of the United States?  
Hint: The initials of his first and last name are the same.

If you answered just one of the questions, you're more qualified to be deputy secretary of state than William Clark.

Clark said "I don't know" to several questions the Senate Foreign Relations Committee asked during last week's confirmation hearing, including questions asking for the names of the prime ministers of South Africa and Zimbabwe and questions about the Labor Party in England.

The person acting in an official capacity below General Haig should be able to say more than "I don't know" to foreign officials. Haig should have a No. 2 that at least knows the name of the world's leaders and the basic world problems. And probably most important, the person below Haig should have the intelligence to keep an eye on the good General.

It's hoped that people who are nominated to represent the United States will have the respect of leaders in other countries. But Clark will enter the world of foreign relations with very little respect if none at all. Last week the international press commented on Clark's knowledge of the world. Clark was called a "nitwit" by an Amsterdam daily. "Ask Me Another" was the *London Daily Express* headline on the story about Clark's appointment. And the Soviet news agency Tass called Clark an incompetent.

It's unrealistic to believe Clark will be an effective representative. It's difficult to imagine Clark negotiating treaties with countries such as Iran. Nonetheless, presidents are usually granted their nominations for appointments and Clark probably will be making a fool of the United States and himself sooner than we think.

It is possible, though, that General Haig and Henry Kissinger will be able to keep Clark away from foreign diplomats and important world negotiations. But still, how can the United States retain the little respect it has among foreign countries with a "nitwit" in the state department?



## Mandatory sex education attacked as 'indoctrination'

Washington — As the Kansas City convention approached in 1976, it became clear to Ronald Reagan's delegate counters they would fall narrowly short of the number needed to deprive President Ford of the nomination. So, the candidate and his counselors gambled.

to command the world's largest government agency, the Department of Health and Human Services. Schweiker's first controversial statement has vindicated the Republican Right in the belief that the movement's "born-again conservative" has the zeal of the convert.

The federal government, said the secretary, has no business in the sex education of school children, and tax dollars should not be used for doctors to supply contraceptive counseling or supplies to teenage children.

In his first statement, Schweiker broke his pick with Planned Parenthood. But, if he wishes backing for his position, he should have an aide look up the lead article in the neo-conservative *Public Interest* magazine, spring 1979 issue.

"Turning Children Into Sex Experts" is the title of the piece by economics professor Jacqueline Kasun of Humboldt State University.

Unless you conservatives want more teen-age pregnancies and more abortions, the argument runs, you had best pony up for the sex education and contraceptive counseling the kids need to prevent pregnancies.

But, after years of experience, there is little evidence sex education leads to a diminished incidence of teen-age pregnancies, and considerable evidence to the contrary.

### buchanan

They trolled the vice presidential nomination in front of liberal Republican Richard Schweiker of Pennsylvania, who almost snapped the line seizing it.

The Republican Right was inconsolable. But time vindicated Reagan's choice. Despite his portrayal by congressional colleagues as a turncoat, Schweiker took his loyalty oath to Reagan and Reagan's platform. Realizing he was the obstacle preventing conservative Republicans from following their hearts instead of their heads, Schweiker offered to fall on his sword, and publicly remove himself from the odd-couple ticket.

In character, Reagan refused. We came into this convention together, he said; together we leave.

When he returned to the Senate, Schweiker's conservative voting index rose like a SAM-7. By 1980, he was Reagan's — and the Republican Right's — first choice

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