

op/ed

During the early 1950s the Nebraska State Historical Society and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission moved into the historic Ft. Robinson area with the intent to establish a state park. This would be a place where people could vacation, enjoy themselves and the surrounding area, and just get away from it all. Through the cooperation of these two Nebraska organizations, Ft. Robinson grew to be one of the most historic and scenic vacation areas in the Midwest.

This area's history, to say the least, is outstanding. The fort grew from a mere tent camp in 1874 to the vacation paradise that it is today. The fort was a cavalry regimental headquarters until World War I. The world's largest remount depot remained at the fort until the 1940s. German prisoners of war were confined there during World War II. With the cooperation of the University of Nebraska, a U.S. Department of Agriculture beef research station was at the fort until phased out in the early 1970s. Arthur MacArthur, the father of the famous Gen. Douglass MacArthur, was stationed at Ft. Robinson.

For many years the Crawford area has been my home. This area is one of the most scenic in Nebraska. From the Pine Ridge to the Badlands, the beauty of the land cannot be equaled in Nebraska.

I have been employed at the park for the last two summers as a museum assistant for the Historical Society. The fort comes alive with tourism during the summer months. People come from every state in the nation and many foreign countries to relive the past and enjoy the clean atmosphere and quiet surroundings of the pine ridge.

The youth of the surrounding towns turn to the fort for employment opportunities during the summer months. There are many people from Lincoln who are employed at the fort nearly 400 miles away. There are more job requests than could possibly be filled. Where would a lot of these people be left to turn if you take away these opportunities from them?

I am appalled at Amaco Mineral and Dalco for their intrusion on the state park and Forest Service lands. The way they carried on the staking of the land was truly outrageous. This type of irresponsible action cannot be justified and certainly not condoned.

The mining of uranium will have a definite and irreversible effect upon the people and the land. Because of the selfishness of these profit seekers, many people will suffer from the mining of uranium on the state property. You could be one who will suffer.

Kyle Poppert  
Computer Science

### SSA merits petition

Renee Wessels, champion of the students' right to be heard, has shown her true colors on the State Student Association issue. Wessels wants to keep the SSA question off the ballot because the students may not be informed enough to make a decision, although Wessels does not challenge the students' knowledge of the issue when it comes to their signing a petition.

The Daily Nebraskan encourages 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 in the newspaper.

Letters sent to the newspaper for publication become the property of the Daily Nebraskan and cannot be returned.

The Daily Nebraskan reserves the right to edit and condense all letters submitted.

Readers are also welcome to submit material as guest opinions, subject to the editor's decision to print or not print the material, either as a letter or as a guest opinion.

Anonymous submission will not be considered for publication, and requests to withhold names will be granted only in exceptional circumstances.

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

daily nebraskan

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The contradiction here is obvious. I would suggest to Wessels and ASUN that, rather than disgrace themselves further on this issue with transparent rhetoric and attempts to railroad this proposal past the students, they simply put the question to a vote, the ASUN being bound to the majority decision.

While I realize that a referendum is not a perfect tool for decision making, Wessels' election last spring being an obvious example, I do think that for an issue of importance it is far more appropriate than a petition drive.

Jeremiah M. Murphy  
Senior, Political Science

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