

opinion/editorial

Football fans to find changed Memorial Stadium

As students prepare for the Husker home opener against Florida State, it may be a good time to point out some changes that Husker fans can expect to find in Memorial Stadium.

First, there still is the problem of the students who were denied regular reserved seats due to the ticket shortage. While the Athletic Ticket Office, the administration and ASUN were able to work out a plan to get tickets for those students, there is no guarantee the plan is foolproof.

For instance, many students who have tickets for the bleacher seats may want to sit with friends in predominantly student sections.

And as all the students try to squeeze into a full row, fans may have a hard time remaining

calm and cheerful as they are being told to "move down a little."

But, if problems do arise, at least the new task forces roaming through the stadium may be able to help.

This year the UNL Police Department is grouping officers in an attempt to better control problems that occur whenever 76,000 people are at one place at the same time.

The officers will be drawn from campus, city, county and state police forces.

The task force will be keeping a lookout for gate-crashing, fighting among fans, drinking and the ever-popular custom of throwing objects onto the field.

The task forces probably won't do much to

change fan behavior at the games. People will always get in fights, drink or throw oranges. Some do all three.

But if the task forces can help make the stadium safer for all fans, then let's hope it works well.

Being a law enforcement officer can't be an easy job on football Saturdays. Residence hall students cannot drink alcohol, according to university policy, yet they can watch tailgaters in nearby parking lots preparing drinks from the back of station wagons.

If the university really wants to treat all who visit or attend here fairly, then officers shouldn't hesitate to tell Mom or Dad to pour out their beer, too.



Columnist reveals lack of enthusiasm for Big Red fever

Hold on to your hats, Husker fans. This one's got to be a first.

Would you believe I've been a Lincoln resident since the age of 6. Would you believe I'm a junior at this big state university? Would you believe I've never bought a football season ticket? And this is it—would you believe that never, before last Saturday, had I been to a Big Red football game?

Unprecedented, I'm told. No, I'm not a communist. Yes, I salute the American flag. But no, I'm not a gung-ho Husker fan.

patti gallagher

I've never had an overriding interest in football and saw no reason to change just because this state gets half-crazed at the sight of a big, red "N."

I really don't know what went wrong. The rest of my family isn't this way. They gather around the television set for every televised game.

And when the Huskers beat Oklahoma in November, 1978, my brother and sisters joined with other neighborhood football groupies in running around the front yard chanting "Go Big Red! Go Big Red!"

My father's one true disappointment in life is his inability to get his own season tickets. He's been trying for years. Hes on the phone with contacts weekly during the on-season looking for "just two to Saturday's game."

Listen to a recent dinnertime conversation at my house. The subject: Husker football tickets.

Dad: (to me) Can't your boyfriend-sportswriter get me a couple of tickets?

Me: No

Dad: Um. . . (then to Mom) Hey, Mar, remember that job you said you were going to look for after the first of the year?

Mom: Yeah. . .

Dad: Well, as long as you want a job, why not work for the university?

Mom: Yeah?

Dad: Yeah, that way we'd get some faculty season tickets.

Me: Ugh. . . You'd sell your own mother for season tickets.

Mom: No, just the gold out of her teeth.

Even as I sit here typing, my 12-year-old brother is glued to the set (complete with ESPN) in the next room watching a Canadian league game, leafing through his Husker media guide. He's worse than my father.

So what happened to me? I'm still trying to figure it out. In high school, I dutifully went to all home varsity football games. The fact that band members were required to show was only half the reason.

I genuinely liked the games. I think it was because I knew the players. They were my classmates.

How many of us can say, "Yea, Turner Gill, I know him. He's in my biology class, second period"?

It just isn't the same here. So, I never bought a football ticket for the Huskers. And the only time I've been in Memorial Stadium was while giving a guided tour of Lincoln to a visiting cousin.

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letters to the editor

Solidarity Day supported

Last Wednesday night at the ASUN Senate meeting, the senate voted against a proposal to support working people, poor people, women and minorities in their Sept. 19 Solidarity Day.

Solidarity Day has been called by Lane Kirkland president of AFL-CIO and supported by NAACP NOW and many other groups representing the victims of President Reagan's economic measures.

In the name of less paperwork, the president has effectively stopped enforcement of affirmative action programs. The president opposes the minimum wage. The president gives tax cuts to the unneedy while cutting social

programs for the truly needy. All this is being done in the name of trickle-down economics that even Wall Street isn't buying.

Some senators claimed that Solidarity Day doesn't concern students. How many students are working for the minimum wage that Reagan opposes?

If the minimum wage is lowered in a college community where labor supply far exceeds demand, many students will be working for much less money.

One senator could not support the proposal even in opposing the tightening of student loans and aid, stating that he knew of a number of students he didn't think should even be in school.

Who are these students? Are they black? Are they poor? Did they vote for him? A senator who will pass judgment on his fellow students in this manner should not be representing them.

Support Solidarity Day in front of the Federal Building at 10 a.m. Saturday.

Charles Quinn, junior

Deal only with students

Monday's editorial, "ASUN Senate should stop evading social issues," was totally off-base.

The business of the senate is to deal with issues that affect students as students. In other words, the concerns of the student senate are rightly limited to educational issues.

Beyond that, the Senate has no business choosing which ideas and issues students should concern themselves with.

ASUN is our representative only to the extent of our connection with the University and the concerns that arise from that connection. The test for any issue should be: "Does this have anything to do with being a student?"

Social issues like labor, El Salvador, and Reaganomics concern us all, and cannot and should not be ignored on this campus — except by the senate. They are not student issues but citizen issues; not questions for student government but for state and national government, for individuals, and for newspapers and editorial writers.

Dan Kurtenbach
former ASUN Senator

daily nebraskan

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