

Bureaucrats forget...

Continued from Page 4

By now, the fight for CCWPIAUNL was taking its toll on Max. As a sociologist, he never had encountered stress before, and it was beginning to affect his job performance. Nonetheless, early the next month, he appeared in front of a special subcommittee of the Nebraska Legislature.

After taking a loyalty oath, Max explained his idea. Afterward, committee member Howard Peterson of Grand Island took him to task.

"Courtesy Counts, huh? When I was them college kids' age, courtesy didn't amount to a bucket of spit. It was survival of the fittest. You're kinda scrawny for a university professor, ain't you? You're one of them Arts & Sciences varmints, ain't you?"

Eventually, the committee approved the CCWPIAUNL measure, 7-0, after Max made a last-minute concession to print the signs with a red background. ("To honor them Cornhuskers, buckaroo," Sen. Peterson suggested.)

And soon, the signs were all around campus. But it was too late for Max (the one pronounced 'mocks'). The weeks of dealing with the bureaucracy turned out to be too much for him, ironically. Now he's in that great sociology department in the sky, where everybody's a functionalist.

So, remember next time you're cheerfully turned away from the Scholarship and Financial Aids Office: A sociologist died for your courtesy.

Obscene 'gesture'...

Continued from Page 4

"But then I saw signs taped to the sides of the cars that said, 'Jews Are Killers.' I got heated. I am not a religious Jew, in fact I am not religious at all, but I just couldn't sit by and watch signs that said all Jews are killers. So I got up, held my left hand up and I extended my middle finger. They were making their protest and I was making mine."

Roth politely refused when a cop walked over and told him to stop it. So the cop called for a backup car and had Roth handcuffed, arrested and charged.

The worst that can happen to Roth is

a fine of from \$5 to \$500, though he doesn't think he should be prosecuted at all.

"They had their free speech and I had mine," Roth said. "But I do apologize to those people who were just genuinely there to mourn. I didn't mean to insult them, only those with the signs."

Considering that in 25 minutes of mutual insults, nobody got hurt. I think Roth may have accidentally hit on a solution to the Mideast problem.

Both sides could line up, make rude gestures at each other and then go home feeling satisfied.

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Letters are on Page 14 Because of space constraints, today's letters to the editor column appears on Page 14.

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Good for 50¢ off Wednesday Admission




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