

NCLU...

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"We feel that the death penalty is a form of cruel and unusual punishment," he said. "Even the victims of the most hideous murders didn't have the terror of knowing what time they would die because most murders are done in the heat of passion."

Kurtenbach said he also objects to the state killing someone in the name of all people.

"The reason for the death penalty is that it deters other murders," Kurtenbach said, "but that simply cannot be proven."

Another problem with the death penalty is that it is a final form of punishment. Since 1910, Kurtenbach said there has been at least one case a year where someone who was charged and convicted of first degree murder was found innocent.

The NCLU also favors the insanity defense so a person could plead not responsible by reason of insanity, he said.

"A person lacking criminal intent who did not know what he or she was doing at the time of the offense should serve time until he or she is cured and then be released," Kurtenbach said. "That would be our criminal justice system at its best."

Kurtenbach said a person's race and economic status should not be a factor in something as serious as the death penalty. For example, a black or minority person has 60 percent better chance of receiving the death penalty with an all-white jury than a white person has, he

said. Wealthy people have an advantage because they can hire the best attorneys, he said.

In the Louisville Faith Christian School case, Kurtenbach said the NCLU is probably on both sides. The state must insure that adequate education takes place, he said, yet the people attending the school have First Amendment rights.

As a solution, Kurtenbach said, he would like to see direct mandatory testing used at the school. If the children's scores were similar to the scores of children in other schools, they would be left alone. If not, the teachers would have to be certified, he said.

"They have a right to ignore the law as long as they are willing to accept the consequences," Kurtenbach said. "We have a history of civil disobedience in this country."

A NCLU case that has national ramifications involved a paid Protestant chaplain who began each legislative session with a prayer. Members of the clergy now take turns giving the prayer so all major denominations are represented and they are not paid.

However, Kurtenbach said Sen. Ernest Chambers, who filed the complaint, would like to see the prayer eliminated. Kurtenbach said there are chaplains in Congress who are paid as much as \$60,000 a year.

"No law is self-enforcing. The government can be arrogant," he said. "Somebody has to be around to fight in an organized way. We offer that support to people."

Union...

Continued from Page 1

The board announced the following UPC chair appointments
 Black Entertainment and Travel: Elizabeth Burden;
 Black Special Events: Elizabeth Burden; Chicano Entertainment and Travel: Yolanda Medina; Chicano Special Events: Yolanda Medina; Native American Entertainment: Rodney Grant; Native American Special Events: Debra Jo Coffey; UPC East President: Dewayne Ullsperger; UPC East Vice President: Mary Trumble; Publicity: Sue Hanson; Main Events: Deanna Armstrong; Speakers and Topics: Dawn Lebowitz; Cornstalk: Todd Skokan; Kaleidoscope: Mari Anderson; Sights and Sounds: Paul Rohlifing.

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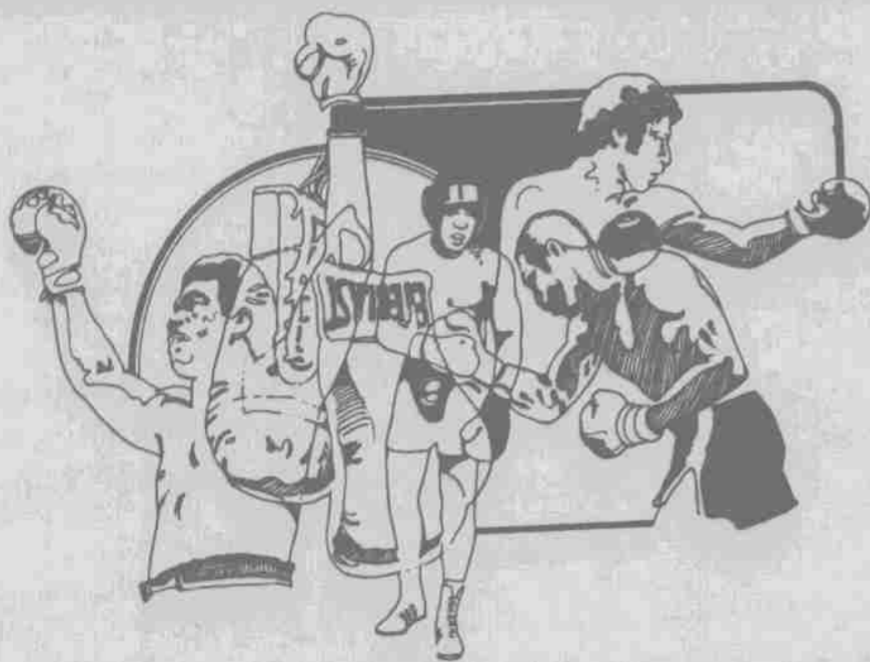
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