

Editorial

Certification argument ignores legal equality

The Rev. Everett Sileven is at it again. For the seventh straight year, he has opened classes at his Faith Christian School in Louisville. And for the seventh straight year, he is in violation of a Nebraska law which requires all schools — public and private — to hire certified teachers before they conduct classes.

Sileven is not talking to the press this time around, but in the past, he has said his school follows the laws of God, not the laws of man, and therefore will continue to operate.

Perhaps Sileven and the parents who send their children to his school could use a lesson on organized society and why it has laws.

It simply would be impossible for mankind to live in this world without some kind of organized government, some semblance of order. To maintain order, there has to be law.

For laws to be effective, they must be enforced equally. They cannot, as Sileven claims, be lifted when someone's religious or other personal beliefs are in conflict with them.

We realize Nebraska is in the minority on the private school controversy. Most states do allow certification exemptions for some private schools. But in this instance, Nebraska is right.

The state law is not in conflict with Christian beliefs; it simply is a safeguard so that those who are unqualified cannot call themselves teachers and open a school.

Nebraska law does not prevent the operations of church-supported schools. In fact, there are elementary and secondary schools throughout the state that offer education with a religious background.

Nearly all of them are operating within the laws established by the state and most of them are offering high quality education, maybe better than what is available in public schools.

If nothing else, these schools have proven that the separation of church and state does not necessarily mean the two can't coexist.

Sileven would be wise to study some of these institutions and pattern Faith Christian School after them. If he does, he will have little trouble finding certified instructors with a religious background, and he will have little trouble from law enforcement officials.

If Sileven chooses to continue operating without certified teachers, Nebraska and Cass County officials should put an end to his mockery of the law. They should close his school for good.

Editorial Policy

Unsigned editorials represent official policy of the fall 1983 Daily Nebraskan. They are written by this semester's editor in chief, Larry Sparks.

Other staff members will write editorials throughout the semester. They will carry the author's name after the final sentence.

Guards patrol campground slums

Writer views 'Reaganville's' weary

Other ace newsmen may fritter away their vacations carousing in Paris and Monaco. Not I. Driven by grim-visaged duty, I devoted mine to assessing the effects of Reaganomics on this once-proud nation.

Have we ever got trouble!

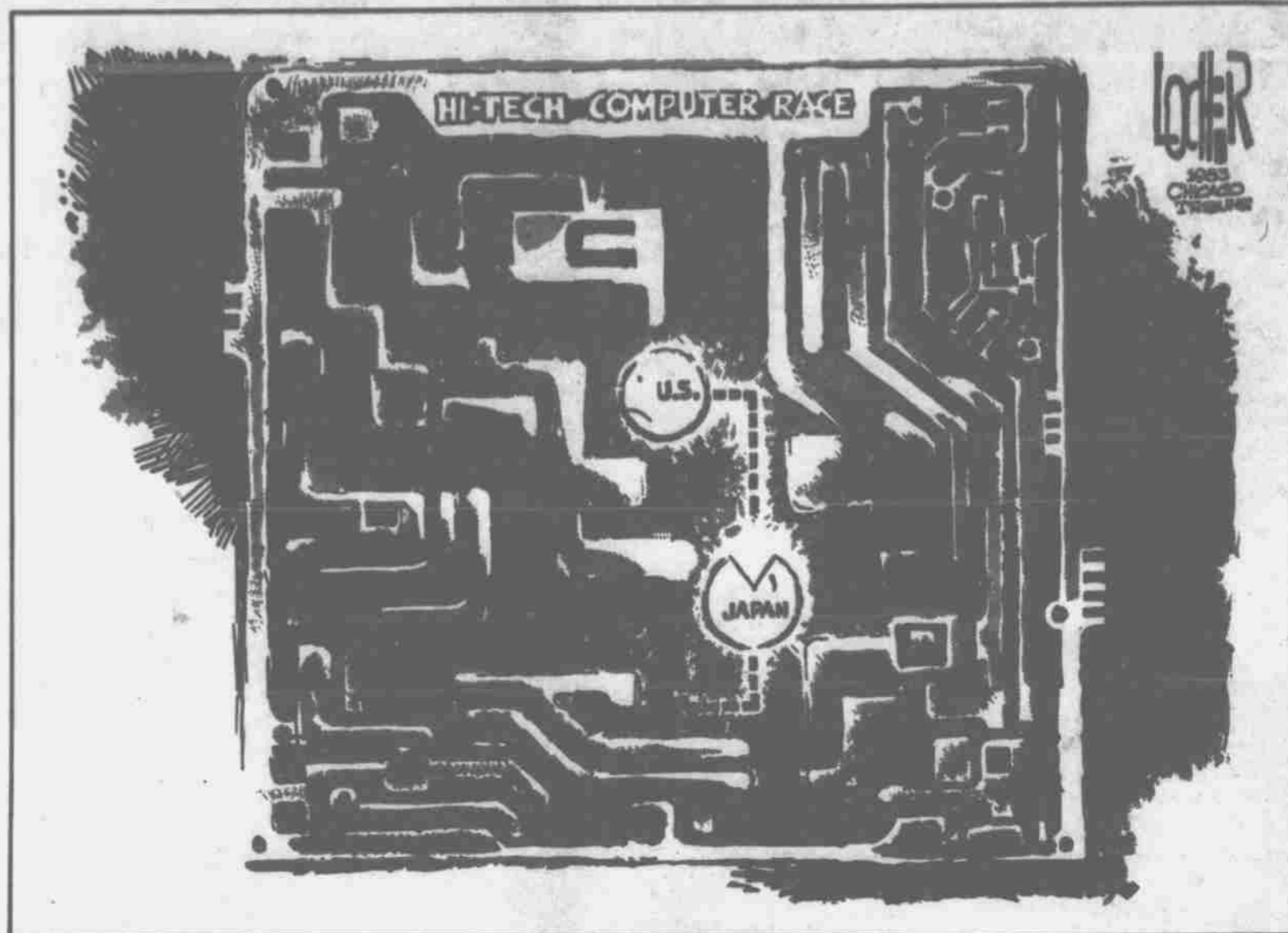


Arthur Hoppe

Oh, I'd heard rumors of so-called "Reaganvilles" dotting the countryside, but never had I seen one of these pockets of abject poverty so reminiscent of The Great Depression.

Thus imagine my horror on rounding a bend in a dusty road high in a remote section of wilderness to find just such a pitiful slum hidden away among the trees. The horror! The horror!

Several hundred of the destitute were huddled amidst the rocks and on the barren dirt — men, women, children even squawling babes in arms. Most had managed to erect flimsy cloth shelters to protect themselves from the elements. But some — especially the young — slept out upon the naked earth exposed to nature at its rawest.



Anchorwoman's case sets precedent

When a Kansas City jury found in favor of Christine Craft, it found against show-biz news.

The TV anchorwoman was awarded half a million dollars because she had been fired "for her looks." Many American women celebrated that victory if only because, these days, anybody can demand and

Paul Harvey

get "equal rights" ... Even illegal immigrants. Even convicts.

It would be an inexcusable affront if only women were denied.

Christine Craft accused her former employer of fraud, unequal pay and sex discrimination.

"But what I thought about most," she says, "was the sex discrimination; that was the most obvious." She resented being paid \$40,000 less than her male counterpart. "That was disconcerting."

She resented her employer's determination to alter her appearance after she had been promised that appearance was not a consideration in her employment.

But, however her attorneys chose to focus her complaints, what bugged her most — what she wanted most to "make them pay for" — was the personal affront of being punished for being female.

Every woman knows that feeling. And this is just the beginning.

Presently, a prestigious law firm in Atlanta is accused of discriminating against one of its lawyers because she was a she. Two courts voted against her. The Supreme Court is hearing her appeal.

The law firm, King and Spaulding, believes that law firms should be excused from the law — that there should be a special exemption for lawyers — so that they might continue to discriminate against women.

Ironically, had Miss Craft's employers fired her without explanation, they would have been spared this prosecution.

Their undoing was the admission that she was fired because of her appearance and attitude.

Paul Harvey Comments has been syndicated on more than 100 television stations for more than 13 years. I have known the frustration of working diligently over some carefully prepared commentary, then to be distracted by the director's admonitions: "Tie straight, cuffs out, make-up on, collar up, shirt down, hair in place — look natural!"

But as ABC's *Roone Arledge* says, "It's a fact of life; the criteria for TV news people are different."

However, the court precedent established by the case of Christine Craft vs. show-biz news is already being cited by corporate attorneys in every industry. Executives are being coached in what to say and what not to say to female employees.

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a sob of, "But there's nowhere to put anything down!"

So the young are filthy, the adults grimy and the whole lot bug-ridden. God knows what plagues they may be germinating in their sorry state.

Yet who among us more fortunate citizens with our Maytags and Whirlpools can condemn them? They must bathe in frigid water and the children wince at even brushing their teeth in barely melted snow. Surely they do the best they can to maintain what tattered remnants of civilization still bless their brute-like existence.

It's little wonder that uniformed government guards constantly patrol among them on the outlook for incipient riot, if not all-out revolution.

And yet, amazingly enough, these obvious victims of Reaganomics actually express admiration for the president. I recall approaching one man who was staring moodily into a fire — this being their only nighttime occupation as they of course cannot afford television.

"I guess if it weren't for President Reagan you wouldn't be here," I said.

"That's right," he replied cheerfully. "Doing a great job, isn't he?"

I know the pundits say Mr. Reagan retains his personal popularity despite his economic policies. But this is ridiculous.

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