

# Editorial



## Academic programs deserve support, too

The Campus Quotes survey in Thursday's Daily Nebraskan helped confirm what many of us already suspected — people on this campus think athletics are given too much attention.

The survey was by no means a scientific sampling; only five people were questioned. But the guess here is that the 4-to-1 majority is fairly representative of campus opinion.

UNL has many positive points, but the faculty and students are not so naive as to believe that it is one of the great academic institutions of the world.

But we hope the students realize that not all the blame for UNL's over-emphasis on athletics lies with the administration and the NU Board of Regents.

The Nebraska athletic program has one of the most loyal groups of fans in the country, but when it comes to support for UNL's academics, the citizens of the state have been less than enthusiastic.

In the eyes of far too many Nebraskans, if the athletic program is doing fine, the university is doing fine.

When Nebraska football Coach Tom Osborne considered leaving UNL for a position at Colorado a few years ago, there was no trouble in rallying enough support to keep him here.

But when it recently was announced

*'Commies will be everywhere'*

## Cold Warriors find communism near home

I knew that when the chips were down I could count on my son, Mordred. He came home the other day with shoulders squared and eyes shining to announce: "I've signed up for Cold War II, Dad."

I snapped off a mock salute and clapped him on the back. "Good thinking, Son," I said. "It's best to enlist early in Cold Wars. Look at Roy Cohn and G.



**Arthur Hoppe**

David Schine, Sen. Joe McCarthy's two young aides. They're rich and respected men today."

Mordred looked at me coolly. "I'm not in this for the money," he said.

"Of course not, of course not," I said hastily. "You patriotically wish to defend our way of life from the specter of international communism. I'd suggest you arm yourself with a list of 87 card-carrying Communists in the State Department."

"Whose names do I put on it?"

"Anyone you want. How about Secretary of State George Schultz for starters? That ought to make a splash. And he looks like this spineless administration's house pinko to me."

Mordred arched his eyebrows. "You sure, Dad?" he asked.

"Kid, you're talking to a grizzled veteran of Cold War I who knows the ropes." There was a lump of nostalgia in my throat. "Don't forget the movies."

"You mean like that new Russian film, 'Shadows of Forgotten Running Shoes'?" Mordred asked. "I'm pretty sure it was made by Communists."

"You can't nail the producers," I said thoughtfully. "They're safe in the Kremlin. But you might nail those who have seen it. Remember our Cold War I slogan: 'If you can't get a Russian, get an American.' Then too, a 'Reds' scare is a natural."

"A 'Reds' scare, Dad?"

"Well, I'd just hate to be in Diane Keaton's shoes, living in sin with an avowed Communist like Warren Beatty. And don't overlook Flashdance."

"What's subversive about Flashdance?"

"Whatever you say. In a Cold War, son, you have to think big. Who's fluoridating our water in order to destroy our teeth and our will to resist? Who's playing rock 'n' roll music in order to waste the little brains of our little children? Who is now, or has ever been, a member of Woodchuck Dea Number 80 of the Boy Rangers? Believe me, those damn Commies will be everywhere."

"Gosh, Dad, would you send a kid like me out on a mission like that?"

"I've got faith in you, Mordred. Just keep a sharp eye peeled for secular humanists with paper-stuffed pumpkins who are for civil rights, abortions, keeping God out of our schools and mental health."

"Mental health?"

"As any veteran Cold Warrior will tell you: Show me an advocate of mental health and I'll show you a tool of the masterminds of the Kremlin."

"It sure sounds exciting, Dad," Mordred said. "But aren't you afraid I may blow it and nail some innocent victim?"

"Don't you know there's a Cold War on, Son?" I asked, squeezing his shoulder. "That's the price we must pay to defend our sacred heritage of individual freedom."

"I'm glad you said that, Dad," Mordred said, brightening. "What kind of toothpaste do you use?"

"Crest," I said unthinkingly. "Wait a minute, Mordred. That's stannous fluoride. It builds strong Americanism eight ways."

"That's exactly what a dirty Commie rat would say," Mordred crowed triumphantly. "I have no choice but to put you on my blacklist, you dirty Commie rat."

"What a ldd! Sharp as a tack and a real American to boot. Yes, sir, he'll be leading the way."

©1983, Chronicle Publishing Co.



## Letters

### Out of context

I would like to correct an impression some of your readers may have gotten from John Kopetsky's column on the training table funds (Daily Nebraskan, Sept. 21). He was totally in error on the context of the former University of Oklahoma president's remark about "... a university the football team could be proud of." That remark was made by George Lynn Cross, one of the most respected presidents in the history of OU and one of the strongest academic leaders in higher education in this nation's history.

The remark was one of sarcasm, directed at the Oklahoma Legislature, for failing to support the academic programs while at the same time enjoying the entertainment provided by a winning football program. To back up his philosophy of academics first, Cross also, over strong opposition from his own Board of Regents, denied the University of Oklahoma football team the opportunity to go to a bowl game, citing as his reason that "football had become too important on this campus."

The entire subject of academics vs. athletics is well documented as a case study by Cross in his book "Presidents Can't Punt" (University of Oklahoma Press). I submit that the book should be required reading for higher administrators and regents of major athletic powers.

John Janovy, Jr.  
professor  
life sciences

Oklahoma graduate, 1959

### Up with wopeople

In regard to Janet Ward's attack on sexist language (Daily Nebraskan, Sept. 21), she's absolutely right! Language is a powerful means of communication and it is the sexist nature of our language that has kept wopeople from being recognized as intelligent huperson beings.

Perhaps the biggest roadblock to the de-sexualizing of our language comes from those who feel that such a change would be too troublesome. Ah — no greater fallacy exists! Why should we use such terms as "brotherhood" and "founding fathers" when such excellent alternative (as in the bar) expressions are available? We could just as easily say siblinghood and

founding progenitors. Why must we continue to use the sexist terms maniacal and menopause when we could use the non-discriminatory personiacal and peoplepause? Trite and unwieldy you say? Rot and ballderdash!

Only when we decide to stop downgrading wopeople with sexist terms such as MANagement and eMANcipation will we be able to wipe out the scourge of job discrimination, acid rain, baby seals, rape and unsightly dental plaque which so sorely afflicts our nation.

Philip L. Holtzen  
freshman

College of Arts and Sciences

### Graph flawed

Recently you published an article regarding foreign student enrollment at UNL (Daily Nebraskan, Sept. 15). In the article, you listed the number of foreign students enrolled in each of the colleges and designated how many in each college were graduate and undergraduate students. Usually, a graph accompanying such numeric data helps the reader to comprehend the information presented, and you did include a graph with your article for this purpose. However, the graph was so seriously flawed that it is doubtful anyone was able to correctly extract the intended message.

Graphs are used to visually convey information in an effective way that tables, lists and sentences cannot. But if you cannot construct graphs correctly, please leave them out of your paper.

Bob Harding  
graduate student  
geography

## Letters Policy

The Daily Nebraskan welcomes brief letters to the editor from all readers and interested others.

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

Submit material to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68598-0448.