

Editorial

Women's Resource Center ignoring majority's needs

Sometimes it's hard to figure out just how much value the Women's Resource Center has on this campus.

Now, they're at it again. This time, the WRC is leading the campaign that could, if successful, keep the Nebraska Union from having a 24-hour student computer center.

The Nebraska Union Board is considering placing eight to 16 computer terminals in the building before the end of the spring semester.

Daryl Swanson, union director, told the board that the only place the terminals could be accessible 24 hours a day without major re-construction would be the first floor room currently being used as a women's lounge.

That's where the catch comes in. It seems that some women aren't willing to give up the lounge, even though it would be to the benefit of all students.

The WRC collected 170 signatures on a petition opposing the computer room proposal and Deb Swinton, a senior human development major, presented them to the Union Board Tues-

day night.

Swinton told the board the lounge is a peaceful place for women to relax and get away from the pressures of school for awhile. She is correct, of course, but there are other places on campus where students — male or female — can go to relax.

With 260 computer terminals on the way, it seems only logical that some of them should be placed in the building with the highest amount of student traffic. And it would seem wise to make them accessible at all hours, if possible.

It is unrealistic to expect the union to finance a major reconstruction project just so the students who use the women's lounge won't be inconvenienced.

The Union Board should continue with its 24-hour computer room project. It is one of those rare opportunities to improve the educational resources at UNL and it should not be halted by a few students who are more concerned with their own comfort.



Faith Christian's methods should not obscure the issues

A state task force, put together by Gov. Bob Kerrey, favored Faith Christian School in its opposition to teacher certification requirements; and the release of the task force report:

rett Sileven, who fled an arrest warrant, went through the Deep South and to the East Coast to stir up fundamentalist supporters, making a brief but dramatic helicopter return to Louisville to address his people with a bullhorn.

For state officials, their position was a matter of pride and rigid acceptance of the status quo; for church officials, it was a matter of pride and what they felt was their freedom of religious expression and instruction. Sileven acknowledged that his was a minority position even in this state: "I'm not looking for a grass roots swell of support out of Nebraska," he told the *Lincoln Journal*.

However, he and seven parents involved with the school have all spent time in jail for contempt of court charges related to that involvement.

The fundamentalists have come another step closer to winning because of their firmness of belief and their willingness to defy the state for it. Although State Education Commissioner Joe Lutjeharms and Nebraska State Education Association Director Herb Schimek have cried out against letting four task force members decide the fate of the Faith Christian School — something they would never have objected to if the task force had agreed with them — clear reason and social harmony demand that the suggestions of the report be accepted. As Spire put it, "Let's reason calmly. We are not arguing a case. We're trying to get some reconciliation."



Eric Peterson

last week probably gave Kerrey as much relief as it gave fundamentalist leaders a kind of vindication of their protest.

The task force, led by Omaha attorney Robert Spire, recommended that some Christian schools have been demanding all along — an end to the certification requirement, which could be replaced with testing of students and evidence that the school has a structured program. Fundamentalist school officials felt that the certification law, which requires that teachers attend a state college and obtain state certificates, was a violation of freedom of religion.

Basically, parents, officials and supporters on the Faith Christian School side proved too smart tactically for the state to continue to actively suppress the protest. Fund-raising and marches, an ill-conceived but persistent telephone campaign and sit-ins were all used in an effort which for the most part was an instance of classic civil disobedience.

School supporters included Jerry Falwell and Jesse Jackson. Rev. E-

Letters

Stand by your team

Concerning the tasteless remarks an individual has made in the personals column of the Daily Nebraskan calling for the replacement of Moe Iba:

I would like to speak for another class of Nebraska basketball fans. You exemplify the faults of the new ticket policy installed this year (reserving student seats in the bleachers through a lottery system). Fans who have been going to games for years had to put up with your remarks at a game during Christmas break and your tasteless remarks haven't changed since then. You are part of the reason seats have been empty this year and why crowds have been dead.

If you so dislike Nebraska basketball, give your ticket to someone who would appreciate its use. Better yet, go up in the ozone seats and give your good seat to the loyal fan yelling his head off in order to be heard below by the "mellow" fans in Section A. He is probably one of the fans who supports the team through thick and thin and used to stand in line for two hours before a game to get a floor seat. Why don't you stand up at the next home game and identify yourself so the rest of the fans can see what a fair-weather fan really looks like.

I don't think Dick Vitale would coach in a place filled with fans like you. I also urge the ticket office to reverse this

ridiculous reserved seating policy. Let's bring back Nebraska's sixth man!

Daniel J. Samani
senior
life sciences

Column draws fire

Matthew Stelly's column comparing professional sports to total institutions (*Daily Nebraskan*, Feb. 1) is the most asinine piece of trash I think I have ever read.

Honestly, Matthew, how can you say that a professional sports player wears a number which is reminiscent of an individual being "mugged and printed" before heading into prison and still be able to face yourself in the mirror?

Also, is it possible that the Los Angeles Raiders are called the bad guys of professional football simply because they were the most penalized team last year, or do you still insist that it is just because they wear black?

These two examples are typical of the entire article — one gross, misleading generalization after another. Occasionally, the *Daily Nebraskan* prints an excellent editorial. Unfortunately, yours was a total waste of space and paper.

Scott Gerdes
senior
College of Arts and Sciences

Humanist counterattack begins with Bible

Enough is enough. When fanatic fundamentalists can force the state of Texas to pass a law saying that biology textbooks need not mention Charles Darwin's theory, it's time for us atheistic, secular humanists to counterattack.



Krishna Madan

Although the law does not require textbooks to actually drop the theory of evolution, this omission will be the practical effect of the legislation. When faced with the choice of buying a controversial textbook that contains Darwin's theory or an innocuous one that doesn't, it is obvious which way the pussyfooted school boards are going to vote.

To fight back, we secular humanists are going to have to hit those foggy-minded fanatics where it hurts, i.e., in their Bible.

If Charles Darwin is a disreputable character who should be excluded from any mention in textbooks, I can think of a thousand such characters who

should be excluded from any decent version of the Bible.

Let us start with Cain and Abel. Since there weren't any other women around at the time, one can only imagine what tricks these two little devils were up to with their mother, Eve.

I therefore propose that we pass a law requiring all future editions of the Bible to omit the names of Cain and Abel. Who wants our children to grow up believing that our ancestors were an incestuous bunch of fornicators? The same principle applies to Noah. This old seaman suffered so much from cabin fever during his 40 days and 40 nights in the ark that he lost all control when it finally landed.

Old Noah was so happy to see the land again that he boozed it up, went into his tent and raped his daughters.

Again, this is hardly the type of character we want our children to believe is actually our ancestor. I therefore propose that Noah's name be stricken from the Bible.

Fortunately, the Bible gets duller as it goes on. There's less sex but more violence, especially righteous violence. Therefore, by fundamentalist stand-

ards, there's less to cut out.

However, let us not forget about this one bearded, long-haired character who quit his well-paying job as a carpenter to wander around the countryside like a hippie. This is hardly the type of role model to present to our children.

Even worse, this bum always talked like a pinko subversive about peace and justice for the poor. In addition, he consorted with prostitutes, pimps and thieves and went about throwing things over and knocking people around in church.

Consequently, I propose that the name of Mr. J. Christ be deleted from the Bible.

Unfortunately, that book still contains yet another odious character whose name also needs to be excised.

I refer, of course, to that lecherous fellow who impregnated Joseph's wife-to-be, Mary. Do we really want our children to grow up believing in an adulterous God who deflowers helpless virgins?

If we don't, our course of action is clear. We must consign God — like we do Charles Darwin, Cain, Abel, Noah and Jesus Christ — to the garbage can of the fundamentalists.