

# Reagan's biggest feat is tightrope walking

Elections are our nation's safety valve. Social pressures which might become explosive are thus relieved. So I suppose we have never had an "unimportant" election.

## Paul Harvey

This next one, however, is particularly significant.

President Reagan is getting deserved credit for knocking some cents back into the American dollar.

Last year's shrinkage of our currency, 3.8 percent, was the least in 11 years.

Interest rates are half what they were when he took office. Two million new jobs have been added to our economy.

But President Reagan has managed

another accomplishment which a professional observer sees as even more miraculous: He has successfully walked the tight wire between left and right. While his performance to date reflects mostly conservative economic and political philosophy, he has created for himself a hybrid image as a pragmatic futurist.

His State of the Union message was an "onward and upward" speech, prescribing bold new strides into space, technology and diplomacy.

There is plenty of room for him to stub his toe between now and November.

Indeed, the Soviets will trip him if they can.

Howard Tyner, the Chicago Tribune's man in Moscow, says, "No other American president in recent years — perhaps none ever — has given Soviet leaders so many headaches."

Our next election has another, per-

haps transcendent, significance.

History, through a wide-angle lens, reveals that the men who will do most to shape our nation's future are not even on the ballot.

They are the men and/or women who will be appointed to the United States Supreme Court.

The average age of our Supreme Court justices is now 69. Five justices — a majority — are past 75.

On issues ranging from luggage and auto searches to the use of informants to the death penalty — the "Reagan

Court" has come out on the side of the cops. But barely.

On chaplains in legislatures and subsidies for church-run schools this court has come out on the side of religious liberty.

But barely.

The balance is sufficiently precarious so that even one more appointment can tip that crucial majority vote either way.

Whoever is president the next four years may make several.

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## Letters

### Headline misleading

I am writing in response to your editorial headlined "Women's Resource Center Ignoring Majority Needs," (Daily Nebraskan, Feb. 3) and in response to your apology which appeared Feb. 6.

As acknowledged in your apology, the Women's Resource Center is not "leading the campaign that could, if successful, keep the Nebraska Union from having a 24-hour student computer service" as implied in your editorial. What was not addressed was the inflammatory, derogatory headline, "Women's Resource Center Ignoring Majority Needs," when the content of your editorial was supposedly concerned with the issue of possibly converting the women's lounge on the first floor of the union into a computer terminal room. It became impossible to give you the benefit of the doubt about the intent of this headline when the first two lines of your editorial were, "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." I think an apology for these derogatory statements is in order for the women at the center. Whatever your personal feelings about any service organization, you have an obligation to represent them accurately and fairly.

You stated overtly in your editor's note what was implied in the editorial — that "this newspaper opposes the petition drive." You certainly have a right to take a position on this issue. You do not have a right to impose a position on the Women's Resource Center — either overtly or by implication. In reference to your statement, "DN believes that because the WRC allowed signatures to be collected in its office, it must accept responsibility for the content of the petitions," let's be clear. The WRC did have a responsibility to make sure that the content of the petition was within the guidelines of operating a service organization on this campus. Meeting this responsibility is not synonymous with endorsing the position taken in the petition. The center would have also housed a petition advocating the lounge be changed into a computer terminal room if we had been approached by a group of students advocating that position.

Vicki Nogle

Director

Women's Resource Center

### Column offensive

Perhaps Krishna Madan (Daily Nebraskan, Feb. 3) deliberately overstated his opinion to make his point obvious. Perhaps he truly believes in what he has written. Whatever his motives may be, his article must not go unanswered.

I personally found his suggestions offensive, his insinuations irreverent and his language inflammatory. As one who believes the Bible and its teach-

ings, I feel personally attacked and must protest to this newspaper.

How much better it would have been for Mr. Madan to have stated his opposition to the situation in Texas and then proceeded with some positive suggestions to help with this issue. A less inflammatory approach could have served his point well. One has to wonder if he is equally incensed that creationism is excluded from most textbooks, the very reason why fundamentalists are upset and fighting back.

For me, given the choice to follow either a self-professed secular humanist who, like Mr. Madan, daggers his opponents with his impious words, or Jesus, who instructed us not to hate our enemies and taught us love and forgiveness, I choose to follow Jesus and in so doing consign myself to the garbage can of the fundamentalists.

Keith D. Van Drew

junior

Teacher's College

### God loves Krishna

I have struggled for days concerning whether or not I should reply to Krishna Madan's flippant column (Daily Nebraskan, Feb. 3). I have decided that, while God needs no defending, Madan and those of the UNL campus do deserve to hear some alternative views.

Most of Madan's accusations concerning the biblical characters were essentially correct, albeit crude. However, Madan failed to mention one other disreputable figure mentioned in scripture: himself. That's right — God talks about Krishna! John 3:14-15 says, "The Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." This is followed in verse 18 by "Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe in him is condemned already." Madan (and everyone else around) is included in one of these two statements. Again, in 2 Peter 3:9, "God is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." No matter what we think about him, he cares for us.

Brother Madan, the criteria for making it into God's book have nothing to do with perfect moral character. There are only two requirements: You must be human — and you must be loved by God. I have not met you, but I trust you meet the first; I know you meet the second. Do a little more reading — God gives us more chances than we usually give him.

James F. Sennett

campus minister

College-Career Christian Fellowship

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Letters will be selected for publication on the basis of clarity, originality, timeliness and space available. The Daily Nebraskan retains the right to edit all material submitted.

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