

Editorial

Private business should not dive into Nebraska's funds

Nebraska lawmakers should not get into the business of bailing out failed private institutions. Unfortunately, they probably will soon be hearing a proposal that would do just that.

The State Claims Board Wednesday approved a plan to revive Commonwealth Savings Co. with \$60 million in state funds. The plan was in response to a class action tort claim filed on behalf of the institution's depositors. The Lancaster County District Court is reviewing the proposal and is expected to send it to the full Legislature soon.

In making the proposal, the claims board said there was a "strong possibility of some liability on the part of the state" for Commonwealth's failure.

Some state officials are making the incorrect assumption that, since the state regulates and investigates savings and loan institutions, it is responsible when one of them fails. Granted, the state made some serious errors of judgment in this case. From the evidence that was available, it should have closed Commonwealth a long time ago.

It also should not have allowed the Nebraska Depository Institution Guaranty Corp. to advertise that all accounts were insured up to \$30,000 when it did not have near enough money to back up that promise.

But the depositors, too, must accept

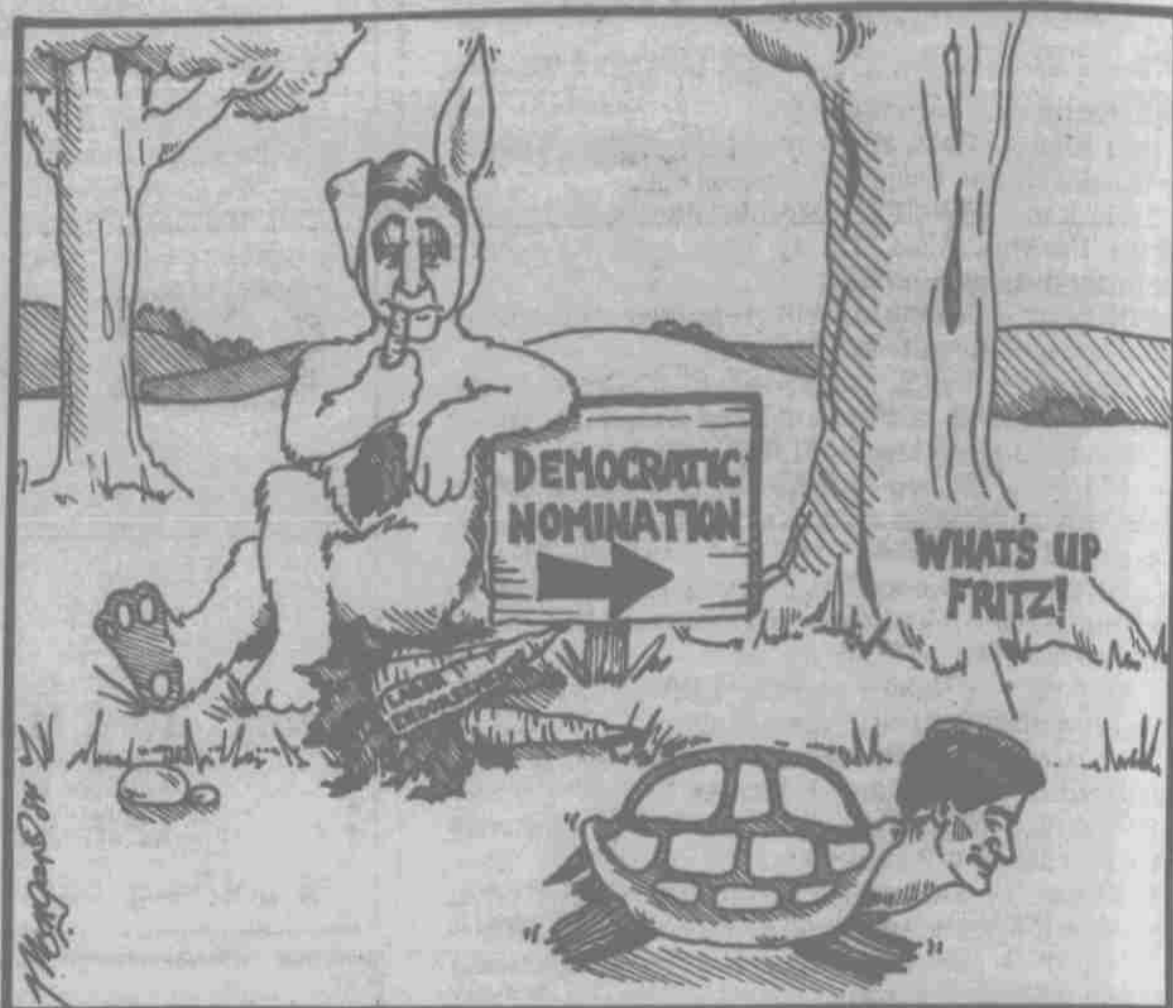
some of the responsibility for not investigating the industrial savings and loan they were putting their money into and how those deposits would be protected.

The state's role in the finance industry should be one of service. Through advice and legislation, it should do everything possible to protect its citizens. It has failed miserably in the Commonwealth case, but the bottom line is that this institution was privately owned and managed. Its failure should be blamed on the management, not the state.

In the end, senators should make a decision that is fair to all citizens. It is easy to be sympathetic with depositors who have lost their savings, but lawmakers also should be sympathetic with taxpayers who have been paying the price for a lot of mismanagement in the state's budget.

The budget finally is in order and, for the first time in a long time, officials are talking about lowering the state income tax rate. This is no time to prop up Nebraska's largest industrial savings and loan.

The state has a responsibility to continue investigating the matter and prosecute for any illegal acts that led to Commonwealth's downfall, but the Legislature should reject any proposal which call for large infusions of public funds.



Journalists turn deaf ears to special state school's merits

Norm Weverka, an independent living adviser at the League of Human Dignity, has a son who attends the Nebraska School for the Deaf in

Omaha. He is dismayed by the school's closing. Weverka, who also is deaf, is not dismayed solely by rumors of drug and sexual abuse at the school. He is not dismayed solely by allegations brought against school officials. He is concerned that recent media hype may result in lower enrollment at the school.



Kema Soderberg

Omaha. He is dismayed by the school's closing.

Weverka, who also is deaf, is not dismayed solely by rumors of drug and sexual abuse at the school. He is not dismayed solely by allegations brought against school officials. He is concerned that recent media hype may result in lower enrollment at the school.

"I just hope the students are not afraid to go back to the school," he said, "and that the parents won't keep children out even though they (the children) want to attend."

The Nebraska School for the Deaf is not the only school that has been

rumored to have problems with drug and sexual abuse. Almost every public school faces these monsters today. While the alleged problems at the school for the deaf shouldn't be rationalized by this fact, the public should realize this isn't the isolated problem the press has made it.

Weverka said recent allegations shouldn't overshadow the school's good points. "This is a good school," he said. "Without that school, deaf people would probably not be in the places they are now. If you are deaf and grow up in a deaf culture you become a leader for deaf people. If we did not have those people, we would not have what we have now."

Weverka said deaf leaders are cultivated in deaf schools because the student is given an opportunity to participate in sports or clubs that they would "probably never find in a public school." The students also have deaf role models they can look up to.

Continued on Page 5



Letters

Sports no laughing matter

I am writing in response to Craig Nelson and B.J. Aman's joke concerning Moe Iba, (Daily Nebraskan, March 2). I am not alone in my opinion of it being in extremely bad taste. It seems that anyone with the least bit of dignity or respect for their school would not lower themselves to degrade any facet of their institution.

As a supporter of all university sports programs, I have confidence in our players and our coaches. If not qualified, they would not hold the

positions that they do. I realize the intent of these jokes is not malicious, but how can we expect a team of winners without full support from their student body?

The joke was not only an attack on Moe Iba, but on the entire Nebraska basketball team. These jokes belong at home with the people who see their humor.

Mollie Moss
sophomore
journalism

Allenscopes: dawning of the age of herpes

What's your sign?
Hold on, I'm not trying to pick you up. I read my horoscope in the *Lincoln Star* Saturday. I found my place in the zodiac (Scorpio) and was told "You are due to break from restrictions, to gain greater independence and to dance to your own tune."



Bill Allen

Terrific. The last time I did that I spent the night in jail.

These horoscopes are crazy. In the first place, the things they say can usually apply to anyone, regardless of sign. Secondly, you get advice for a specific day that should apply to every day.

For example, if you are a Virgo, on Saturday it said "see others in a realistic manner and avoid self deception."

Are we to take it that the rest of the year you are to see others in a fantastic manner and welcome self deception?

Horoscopes always are nice. They give you false hope and never tell both sides of the story. My favorite was "Romance could flourish and you could be planning a trip."

I like the use of the word *could* there. In other words, romance *could* flourish, or it *could* give you the shaft. And you *could* be planning a trip, or you *could* be stuck at home watching All

My Children.

I know people who read their horoscopes every day and swear it is accurate. Actually they twist situations that happen to them to fit the horoscopes.

Most of us don't follow horoscopes and realize that the predictions are broad generalizations.

Let's face it, if I had opened the paper Saturday and read "You will wake up at 10 a.m. with a hangover and not be able to go back to sleep. You should play basketball to get over it. If girlfriend says she is going to braid hair, threaten to shave your beard," then I would have more faith in the stars. Because that's how Saturday went.

As it is, all I know is that "Aries, Taurus, Gemini persons play key roles."

As a kind of protest to horoscopes worldwide I've decided to write UNL's horoscopes for today.

These are horoscopes you'd like to read, but never will. And please, don't just read yours. You might find some of the others interesting, too.
Monday, March 5, 1984

Aries (March 21-April 19): You should start a diet today because you are starting to look like a fat pig. Stay away from hot, spicy foods, as the stars show diarrhea in your future and the two don't mix. A Moonie will play an important role in your sex life.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): ASUN will do nothing for you today. You will drop the wrong class, leaving you with ad-

vance calculus and a foreign teaching assistant you can't understand. A communist wearing a Wendy's uniform will force you to tell secrets.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Your car will be towed and you will find you owe the UNL police \$242 in parking fines. Could be a good day to call home and ask for money. ASUN will do nothing for you today. Moon positions highlights off dogs, children, and watermelon wine.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): You will flunk three tests, forget about a crucial paper, and mistake your boyfriend for someone else, making him suspicious. ASUN will do nothing for you today. Stay away from lighted firecrackers and look both ways before crossing the street. You will probably eat lunch.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): You and a "sister" will both fall in love with the same Delt. Your only hope is a new outfit and Ultrabrite. Charge it. Be sure to stock up on hairspray, makeup. AXO, FIJI, SAE play key roles.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The Women's Resource Center will elect you Woman of the Month. This will entitle you to a free can of mace and a sterling silver whistle (engraved). Watch for "normal" looking males who are secretly out to get you.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You could get lost in the stacks of Love Library. ASUN will do something for you today. A flat tire could aid your romance. A warm Coors plays a key role in your

future happiness. The rabbit will die.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale will use you as a specific example of what's wrong with the educational system. Tuition will go up, and ASUN will tell you what they did to prevent the increase. A close friend will tell you he never really liked you. A computer will erase your transcripts.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put emphasis on exercise, study, relationships and take Geritol! Be wary of booths in the union offering free breast examinations. ASUN will do nothing for you today.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): ASUN will do nothing for you today. Hemorrhoids reach crucial stage, causing numerous problems in school, sports and sex life. Moon positions suggest a religious cult will steal a loved one.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will be elected to ASUN senate. Resume looking better. If possible, focus on self awareness, honesty, independence, success, sense of humor, diplomacy, responsibility, and self improvement. Things are looking great today. A herpes test will be positive.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): You will get a "dear John" personal. Christ accepts you as his personal saviour. You attend a university play and actually enjoy it, then find out it wasn't supposed to be a comedy. And, oh, by the way, ASUN will do nothing for you today.