

Cards & Letters

Cartoon 'sexist, racist'

Do the editors of the Daily Nebraskan think domestic violence is something to laugh at? Obviously you do since you devoted one-third of your Arts & Entertainment section (March 5) to a tasteless cartoon depicting a man throwing a woman out of a window — to kill her.

The fact that over 50 percent of all American couples experience spouse abuse — that is 4.7 million badly beaten women, some to the point of death — is NOT something to trivialize.

Cartoons such as this cannot be dismissed as merely a bad joke. This is exactly the type of medium that perpetuates slack attitudes and misinformation about violence against women.

Not only was the cartoon a literal slap in the face to all women, it was undeniably racist. How dare you present such a degrading caricature of an ethnic group, apparently Mexican judging from the stereotypical sombrero and cactus, to a readership of 17,000. You owe an apology not only to women and Hispanic people, but to all people who were unfor-

tunate to read such insensitive and thoughtless journalism.

Janet Ward
Junior
English
and five others

Entertainment Editor's Reply:

The preceding letter is one of several written and spoken communiques the Daily Nebraskan has received on a cartoon that ran in last week's Serendipity column.

The decision to run the cartoon was mine. In retrospect I realize that decision was a bad one. There was no malicious intent on the part of the cartoonist or myself. Unfortunately, not all forms of bias are characterized by intent. I apologize to those who took offense at the cartoon. The mistake will not be repeated.

...

The Arts and Entertainment page welcomes all comments on material which appears on its pages. Please address correspondences to Arts and Entertainment Editor, 34 Nebraska Union, Lincoln, Neb., 68588.

Letters will be selected for publication on the basis of clarity, originality, timeliness and available space. We reserve the right to edit all material.

Against All Odds . . .

Continued from Page 10

The corruption in the movie should leave a bad taste in the mouth, if it weren't for the fact that these people are rich. That's what everyone wants to be, right? This kind of film sells just like *Dallas* and *Dynasty*; it doesn't matter what you do as long as you're rich and getting richer. The director even injects a little music video by Kid Creole and the Coconuts ala MTV for good measure. While it uses the familiar power, passion and violence format, *Against All Odds* does do it better than most due to a sharp

cast.

The love triangle of Ward, Bridges and Woods seems to be the central theme: love ruined by avarice. This is not entirely unbelievable because of the vicious maneuvering and the continuing struggle for power. Woods' sincere, pitiful act is boring and drags the scenes. He is much more exciting and convincing as the ruthless bookie and underling of Widmark.

Against All Odds is a visual feat with lots of steamy sex (rivaling *Body Heat*, right down to Bridge's greased back hair and forward mannerisms)

and bloody violence set in glamorous locales. The actors and actresses are convincing as the soap opera stereotypes of greed and lust. With some good twists and a few double crosses the plot is fine. It falters when the actors are out of character by being too nice and understanding.

It's a ruthless world, especially when playing for high stakes. Lust overcomes love, an idea which *Against All Odds* expresses again and again with its cynical and superficial look at the rich and those aspiring to power.

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The Daily Nebraskan is accepting applications until 4 p.m., Tuesday, March 20 for Editor-In-Chief for fall semester. The Editor-In-Chief formulates editorial policy, oversees newsroom operations, determines editorial page content and reports to the Publications Board. Applicants must have one year newspaper experience and be a student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Applications can be obtained from Dan Shattil, Room 34, Nebraska Union.

Daily Nebraskan

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