

Editorial

Slip should open legislators' eyes

As of April 9, sexism, hunger, poverty, unemployment, racial discrimination and "Parson E. Sileven" were done away with in Nebraska. And it was all done with one ingenious legislative stroke.

A resolution was passed by the Legislature. The sponsor was Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers. Surprisingly, the resolution met no opposition and was passed unanimously, according to a Thursday *Omaha World-Herald* article.

Chambers' resolution says the Legislature should emulate the Reagan administration. Reagan and his staff have, at various times, denied the existence of hunger, poverty and the "gender gap," and have denied a job shortage by indicating the number of positions available in the want ads of the *Washington Post* and *New York Times*.

Chambers' said in the resolution that the Legislature should "learn from and emulate the Reagan administration's ingenuity and creativity," and de-

clare Nebraska's major problems solved.

The reason Chambers' resolution slipped through the Legislature with such amazing ease was that no one read it.

The resolution passed with a group of other resolutions adopted en masse in the waning minutes of the 1984 session.

It's fitting that the Legislature should pass resolutions and bills without reading them in this Orwellian year.

The resolution should serve as a reminder to all the senators who did not read it. I'm sure they were embarrassed if they read the paper last week.

If they did read it, they should realize how stupid it is to pass laws and resolutions without reading them. It's dangerous. This resolution was harmless satire. Another might not be.

One hopes the senators do not pass all legislation

on hearsay and deal-making. It can't be denied that the massive number of bills and resolutions make it hard for senators to read everything they vote on. But isn't that what senators are there for?

The fact that senators often don't read bills is not made up for in any way by a bill's "final reading."

The Clerk of the Legislature "reads" each bill aloud before the senators pass it into law or vote to kill it.

Read aloud quickly, it sounds like this: "Ibiddiviresatiinto law bedashbat stappa foredgjbn." Final reading is a waste of our Legislature's valuable time.

Our senators deserve more money and more time so they can devote themselves to studying the laws they pass for the people of this state. But even without more funds or a longer session, our senators owe us the courtesy of reading what they vote on.

— Chris Welsch

U.S. tyranny hurts

It hurts to see the land of freedom I've been taught to love since childhood impose tyranny on another nation.

It hurts to see the home of the brave, reeling from red paranoia, throwing vast amounts of its resources into nuclear death devices while its tired, its hungry, its poor sleep rag-clad in the streets and eat from rubbish cans.



Christopher Burbach

It hurts to see the land of liberty and justice for all lace lead-shod boots onto bloody ogres determined to tread on pursuers of those principles.

It hurts to hear American guns rattle and see innocent children's blood leap at the noise.

It hurts to see a nation forged from a colony which knew well the pain of servitude to imperialism strap onto bony backs in its own colonies, the very yoke it once shod.

It hurts to see a people who wrenched their freedom from foreign dictatorship and built themselves and their children a home employ rank terrorism to shatter another people's effort at home-building.

It hurts to see the great melting-pot become a forge for shackles, balls and chains, bayonets and bullets, taskmasters' iron rods.

It hurts to see the shining champion of peace become a mere pawn in the blackguard forces of war.

It hurts to feel the heart-swelling pride of my fathers turn to gut-wrenching shame in myself.

America, once a beacon of hope, now deals despair. The principles our nation was built on are crumbling — a time may come when only dusty words remain. How can the ideals of liberty and equality, freedom and justice, honor and freedom, survive the abominations we are committing in their names, in the Third World? How can a marriage with peace survive a reckless affair with military might?

Beware. We cannot blatantly disregard the freedom and human rights of Salvadorans, Nicaraguans and other peoples without threatening our own freedom. We cannot lose a bloody flood of oppression on foreign lands without eroding bastions of liberty at home.

Tanks, missiles and territories purchased with the blood and sweat of poor people are not stone on which to lay a foundation for peace; they are weights pulling a people and a world into a murky pool of violence and destruction. Unless we the American people, dedicate ourselves to the principles we claim and force our rulers to conform to our will, we will drown along with our victims.

The price of American military voyeurism in Central America and elsewhere is not just \$61 million, or any sum. It is not just the loss of the respect of fellow wealthy nations and continued hatred of poor nations. What is at peril today is our dignity, our principles, our hope.

Will we be the people that save the world or the leeches that bleed it?



Greek music 'gross'

This is an open letter to those in the UNL Greek system.

It is easy to tell when spring arrives on campus by the behavior of those residing in fraternities and sororities. While most of your actions are fine, there is one thing that you do that annoys me.

Now it is cool, awesome and tubular that you guys hang around your house shirtless, yelling at the passing women. It's groovy that you girls put on bikinis and grill yourselves in the sun. It's even okay, great, fantastic that you get drunk and play frisbee in the streets. But the music is not cool. Not that I mind music, mind you, but you all have your stereos cranked real loud to different radio stations and/or albums. I mean, it's really gross to hear Bruce Springsteen on one side of the street and Barry Manilow on the other, or to hear Pat Benatar clash with The Clash. This has to stop.

I suggest that you get together and pick one radio station to play. That way, our whole campus will be united by the same music.

Arnold Grinvalds
junior
English

Women categorized

Murder, rape and swindling old people have been going on for thousands of years. Should we expect one society to attempt to break such traditions? Sexist advertising has prevailed through the years because nobody attempted to prevent or rectify it. Women are not sexual toys, mere appendages or

domestic slaves. They are whole beings and should be portrayed as such in every aspect of life, including advertising. This is what we are fighting for. Perhaps those women who believe such portrayal should be allowed to continue need to examine how they are categorizing themselves.

We do not ask for baseball (a man's game), hot dogs (they cause cancer), or Mom's apple pie (so why didn't dad bake it?). We simply want women to be portrayed as vital, essential, contributing members of society. Is that nonsense?

Sherrie Hanneman
senior
advertising
Cindy Douglas
freshman
English

Letters

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

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.

Readers also are welcome to submit material as guest opinions. Whether material should run as a letter or guest opinion, or not run, is left to the editor's discretion.

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

Anonymous submissions will not be considered for publication. Letters should include the author's name, year in school, major and group affiliation, if any. Requests to withhold names from publication will not be granted.

Submit material to the Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448.