

# Panel says language can lift, deflate esteem

By Suzanne Teten  
Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

People, especially teachers, must become more aware of how they use language, said Karen Ellis, an art teacher at Randolph Elementary School and coordinator of a panel discussion about sexist and racist language last week.

Ellis said self-esteem can be lifted or deflated depending on how language is used.

Ruth Lyness, a Lincoln Public Schools consultant, said textbook authors often substitute some words for others that may be more acceptable. Writers may

have a hard time getting their books published because publishers are "dancing" between special interest groups, she said.

Gloria Reifenrath of the Mexican-American Commission said teachers shouldn't worry about interest groups. Rather, they should think about human respect and dignity. Textbooks instill models for children, she said. The books used to offer only the "typical" Dick, Jane and Spot stories for children.

Textbook editors and writers didn't write about real situations, Reifenrath said, asking the teachers how many of them grew up in families like Dick and Jane's.

Both language and attitudes about language constantly change. Lyness said stories published earlier deal with subjects differently than they do today. One such example is Mark Twain's "Huckleberry Finn."

Lyness said she wondered whether such a novel should be taught in the classroom, even though it may demean some racial groups. She said the book is important because it is a satire against slavery. Teachers must point that fact out to children when they read the novel.

Irving Curtis, a UNL graduate student in psychology, said family and social problems can be taught without tying certain

problems to specific racial groups. Difficult issues don't have to be excluded, he said.

Curtis said students "build on" what they have. Their language is tied to their identities and cultures. When black children enter the school system, he said, they can choose to do several things: They can refuse to cooperate, withdraw or "coat-switch". Coat-switching is using different languages in different situations. Black students may use one language at home and another language at school, he said.

Lyness said teachers often face a difficult situation when they try to teach correct or proper English without demeaning a child's "home" language.

## Accident . . .

Continued from Page 1

Niemeyer said the accident occurred about 7:15 a.m. The Cortland Fire Department was notified of the accident by a passing motorist at 7:33 a.m. and arrived at the scene about five minutes later. He said the highway was clear all the way to the accident except for the "freak" stretch where the snow blew across the road, melted and froze, forming a sheet of ice. "You couldn't even stand up on it," Niemeyer said.

When rescuers arrived at the scene, Niemeyer said some passengers of a chartered bus headed for the NU-Kansas game were giving first aid. Some of the

passengers apparently were nurses, he said, because they began cardiopulmonary resuscitation on three of the victims. CPR was continued until the victims arrived at Lincoln General.

Coleman said the three victims were pronounced dead on arrival at Lincoln General.

According to the Omaha World-Herald, Ben Maaske, an investigator with the Lancaster County Sheriff's Department, said the Ortmeier car traveled about 200 to 300 yards on the ice patch before the accident occurred.

The trooper said none of the passengers was wearing a seatbelt.

## Shorts

"The Other Half of the Sky: A China Memoir," a film about the roles of women in China, will be shown Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

The film is being sponsored by Women's Studies and the Women's Resource Center.

...

Larry Frahm and Susan Scott, two professional consultants, will team up Tuesday through Thursday to offer "Management — Maximizing Your Potential."

The workshop, at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, 33rd and Hol-

drege streets, is sponsored by the leaders' consultancy firms and the UNL department of conferences and institutes.

Workshop session topics will include how groups work and how to lead groups, effective communication, decision making, problem solving and goal setting.

For more information contact Larry Hammer at 472-2844.

...

A public hearing on the possibility of statewide governing board for Nebraska's colleges and universities will be Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. at the Nebraska Wesleyan Elder Theatre Center.

## Burbach...

Continued from Page 4

Speakes: You're on the trail, sir — keep going. Read us the one that explains why we buddy up with the Chinese Communists but we hate the Russians.

Ron (flustered, flipping furiously): Well, Larry, we don't have one for that yet — better get the boys on it. And we don't have one for this manual mess either.

Speakes: I have to tell them something, sir.

Ron: I don't know, I ...

A crash of glass is heard as an arrow

flies through the window. There is a note on the arrow demanding a statement on the manual.

Ron breaks a window with his oatmeal spoon.

Ron (loudly): It ain't against the law!

Speakes: Yippee!

Nancy (scribbling in the Quote Book): Way to go, Daddy!

Ron: I ain't done yet. Tell 'em there ain't room on this hemisphere for the two of us, so they better be outta here by sunrise.

Nancy: That's sunset, Daddy.

# WE MAKE STUDENT LOANS!

14 DAYS NORMAL PROCESSING TIME  
FREE PARKING NORTH OF BANK

6 BLOCKS SOUTH  
OF THE STUDENT UNION!



**City Bank**

City Bank & Trust Company of Lincoln  
14th and M Streets  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508  
Phone: 477-4481  
Member F.D.I.C.

Thanks to you...  
it works...  
for ALL OF US



TACO OUT  
at  
TACO INN

13th & R  
and  
311 N. Cotner

SAVE  
with your Taco Pursuit  
COUPONS!

*Election '84*  
*a symposium*

*major presentation*

Tuesday, November 13  
— 8:00 p.m. — Nebraska Union Centennial Room  
"A National Media Perspective on the 1984 Elections" with  
**JEFF GREENFIELD**  
Analyst, ABC News Nightline

Free with UNL identification; general public, \$2.00

*morning forum*

Thursday, November 8  
— 10:30 a.m. — Union Regency Suite  
"Post-Election Analysis" with  
Dr. Dennis Bormann,  
Dept. of Speech Communication — Moderator  
Dr. Jack Kay, Dept of Speech Communication  
Dr. Roger Riefler, Dept. of Economics  
Dr. Robert Sittig, Dept. of Political Science  
Dr. William Avery, Dept. of Political Science

sponsored by  
**UPC TALKS & TOPICS**