



Letters

Dahl philosophies conflict with Bible

After reading the same article twice in the Daily Nebraskan concerning Mel Dahl's gay church here in Lincoln, I thought it would help to try and clarify the issues involved, for everyone's sake. Dahl was misleading when he remarked that he started the gay church to "teach that the love of God extends to everybody — without prejudice." In this sense, "prejudice" is applied universally to the moral aspect of men. The Bible also clearly confronts the issue of prejudice, but in a different manner. The Apostle Peter, leader of the New Testament church stated, "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right," — Acts 10:34,35 (NIV). Here, in the same passage, we see that God does not show ethnic favoritism, but he is concerned with their moral conduct. (See also Romans 2:12.)

The Bible is also crystal clear on the moral issue of gayness, if the verses addressing homosexuality are studied in context and with a minimal amount of care. This is true whether one is of the liberal or conservative persuasion. If one chooses to deny this, he is replacing Biblical opinion with his own. This is what Mel Dahl has done.

Therefore, for one who claims to know and believe the Bible as he does, the issue is actually one of personal rights and outright disobedience. Jesus was quite clear in revealing what it meant to be his disciple. "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." This refers to a total abandonment of one's own personal rights and aspirations for those of Christ's. That applies to personal purity as well as career goals. Mel's problem could be homosexuality, another's might be pre-marital sex. Both are wrong, Biblically speaking. Starting a church that cultivates such practices

characterizes a lack of love for God (I John 2:3-6.) and a choosing of one's personal preferences over God's. Moreover, it is a flat rejection of the power of God to enable one to be freed to live the lifestyle he demands.

Mike Patterson
senior
history

Cable television informs viewers

Cable television has become the most popular medium of communication in the world, and we as students are being denied the enjoyment and entertainment that has been supplied to over half the people of the United States.

Students always are facing increasing costs for university housing and tuition and the coming year will be no exception. There has been an estimated increase of \$100 during the 1985-86 school year for increased cost of living. There also are other proposals that would increase tuition costs for next year, and cable is one of them. Too many increases may cancel the cable television proposal.

Surveys now are being randomly sent to students of all residence halls to determine whether students would be in favor of paying extra money for certain services such as cable television.

Many people want cable television installed in the residence halls. Many do not, however, and it has become a major issue. If cable was installed, it would have to be installed in every room whether they wanted it or not, otherwise it would become costly to other students who wanted the service. They feel that if they do not want cable, they should not have to pay for it.

Cable could be installed at a minimal cost in the residence halls, as compared to regular customers, and the package plan would be quite inexpensive for the

services received. The channels that could be received are not yet definite, but it probably would include about four to six extra channels, besides those that we already receive. It also would help existing televisions get a better reception.

Many students think cable television will detour students from their studies. If it causes a problem, then students should set their priorities, because many students can maintain their grades and still enjoy cable television.

Cable television is not for all of us. Many of us would rather read or do something else. But for those of us who have the time to watch cable television, then we should be able to do so. Not having time or saying the price is too high are not legitimate excuses. Time is a personal matter and the price is grossly inexpensive.

In my opinion, cable television can no longer be considered a luxury. It fits today's lifestyle. It is informational and precise. Today, many people are on the run and they enjoy the services cable television can provide as opposed to network television. I feel rejected about not being able to receive the service. Cable is for those who want to be informed, therefore, cable is for college students. If college students did not want to be informed, then why are they attending college?

Kelly Richardson

Student supports church for gays

In the November issue of the Sower, you ran an article about Mel Dahl and his gay church. In that article, a local pastor, Kenneth Baker, was quoted as saying, "I think it's a disgrace . . . I think it's a perversion of everything that's right." In the same article, Father Peter Gadiant said, "Why would they want to have a church? We can work with these people in other ways to help their problem."

I personally am agnostic (agnostics

don't believe that you can define God, if He exists, in such concrete terms as those used by churches). The gays I know who are interested in religion come as close, if not closer, to the "Christian" ideal as the straight (non-gay) Christians I know. Furthermore, I do not consider being gay as a "problem" as it was referred to by Father Gadiant. I have good relationships with members of both sexes, and I enjoy the comfortable feeling of accepting myself, and others, as they are.

I only hope that straight people will realize there is no need to be uncomfortable around gays — we're human too, and are capable of being as friendly, supportive, and helpful as you are willing to allow us to be.

William M. Richman II
junior
electrical engineering

Mother commends child-care center

I would like to publicly thank the entire staff of the University Child Care Project for the wonderful care my daughter has received and the support given our entire family.

Quite often my daughter is complimented on her speech and motor development. I believe they have enhanced her development of these skills. I feel they have also helped me as a parent by extending a sympathetic ear as well as their helpful suggestions.

As a nontraditional student returning to UNL, knowing my daughter is well cared for allows me the freedom to pursue my academic studies. I have examined other alternatives, and for my needs, the UCCP is unique and irreplaceable.

Janell L. Meier
freshman
teachers college

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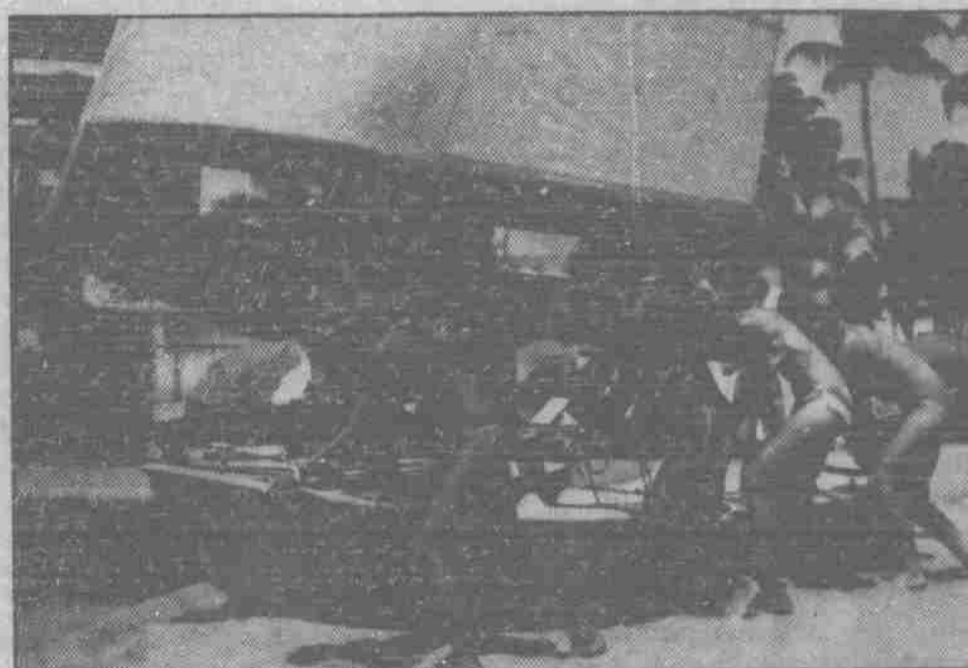
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