

Editorial

Policy changes to make DN a better "Rag"

Salutations! Welcome to the pages of the Daily Nebraskan, commonly known as "The Rag."

The DN is your newspaper, and in response to comments and criticisms made in the past, we've made some changes to improve.

One of the most often heard complaints about the DN is the lack of conservative viewpoint on the editorial page. Last semester only one student who considered himself a conservative applied to be a columnist. He was hired. This semester, a wider variety of columnists, including some conservatives besides George Will and Jim Rogers, applied and will appear on the editorial page.

An editorial board has been created to set the tone and content of the daily unsigned editorials. Previously, the editor in chief set the policy for the whole paper. Now, the editor, Chris Welsch; the editorial page editor Chris Burbach; the editorial writer Vicki Ruhga; the news editor Michela Thuman; and a DN employee not on the editorial staff, Kelly Mangan, will discuss topics chosen by the editor and the editorial page editor and vote on a policy for each topic. We hope this will bring more balance to the daily editorials, which will always be in column one, running down the left side of the editorial page.

Before the semester ended last year, we included a cut-out survey for DN readers to make comments about their opinions of the paper. Out of about 24,000 readers, 20 responded. Most of those requested more campus coverage.

The news desk has been reorganized in the hopes that we can generate more campus news. Lauri Hopple will be the DN's first campus editor — her task will be to coordinate and generate campus stories.

Our efforts to improve can only do so much. Readers, you can affect the way this paper presents the news. The DN is your paper. We welcome your input.

If you know of a newsworthy person or event, let us know — the newsline number is 472-1763. Chances are we'll run a story about your idea. If you have an announcement of a group meeting or campus happening, we almost always have room for it in our "Shorts" column.

And if you disagree with an article or editorial, don't just complain about it — write a letter to the editor. We welcome letters — pro or con — and although we sometimes don't have enough space, we run most of the letters we receive. When we get too many, we run the best and, if necessary, the shortest.

If there's a mistake in any article in the paper, please report it to the news desk (472-1763) so we can correct it in our "Setting It Straight" column.

The semester ahead is full of happenings and issues affecting the campus community. Among them are the new budget for NU, faculty salaries, tuition increases, ASUN elections, basketball and gymnastics, Walpurgisnacht and mud volleyball. We're here to let you know what's going on.

Daily Nebraskan

EDITOR	Chris Welsch, 472-1766
GENERAL MANAGER	Daniel Shattil
PRODUCTION MANAGER	Katherine Policky
ADVERTISING MANAGER	Tom Byrns
ASSISTANT	
ADVERTISING MANAGER	Kelly Mangan
CIRCULATION MANAGER	Steve Meyer
NEWS EDITOR	Michela Thuman
CAMPUS EDITOR	Lauri Hopple
WIRE EDITOR	Judi Nygren
COPY DESK CHIEF	Vicki Ruhga
EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR	Christopher Burbach
SPORTS EDITOR	Ward W. Triplett III
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT	
EDITOR	Stacie Thomas
NIGHT NEWS EDITORS	Julie Jordan Hendricks
	Ad Hudler
	Gah Y. Huey
ART DIRECTOR	Lou Anne Zacek
PHOTO CHIEF	Joel Sartore
ASSISTANT PHOTO CHIEF	Mark Davis
PUBLICATIONS BOARD	
CHAIRPERSON	Chris Choate 472-8787
PROFESSIONAL ADVISER	Don Walton, 473-7301

The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board Monday through Friday in the fall and spring semesters and Tuesdays and Fridays in the summer sessions, except during vacations.

Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by phoning 472-1763 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The public also has access to the Publications Board. For information, call Chris Choate 472-8787.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448. Second class postage paid at Lincoln, NE 68510.

ALL MATERIAL COPYRIGHT 1985 DAILY NEBRASKAN

Legalization anniversary nears

Misunderstandings about abortion issues continue

As Jan. 22 approaches, Americans will once again be reminded that abortion is an issue that simply will not go away. Pro-life activities will be planned around that date, the anniversary of the Supreme Court's 1973 decision which legalized abortion.

**Todd
Knobel**

In spite of the literally unending amount of publicity, misunderstandings about the abortion issue continue.

One of the greatest mistakes is that abortion is solely a moral decision and therefore, should be dealt with outside of public policy.

For those who continue to espouse this belief, I and many others would like to know *exactly* what is and what is not a moral issue. Is slavery immoral? If not, then slavery must be a moral thing or is simply amoral. If slavery is immoral, then it is a moral issue and according to the previous argument, the issue should never have become a matter of public concern.

The truth is that abortion is just as much a human rights issue as it is a moral issue. Since rights of human beings are the essence of law, it only seems logical that this issue be debated as other human rights issues have been dealt with in the past.

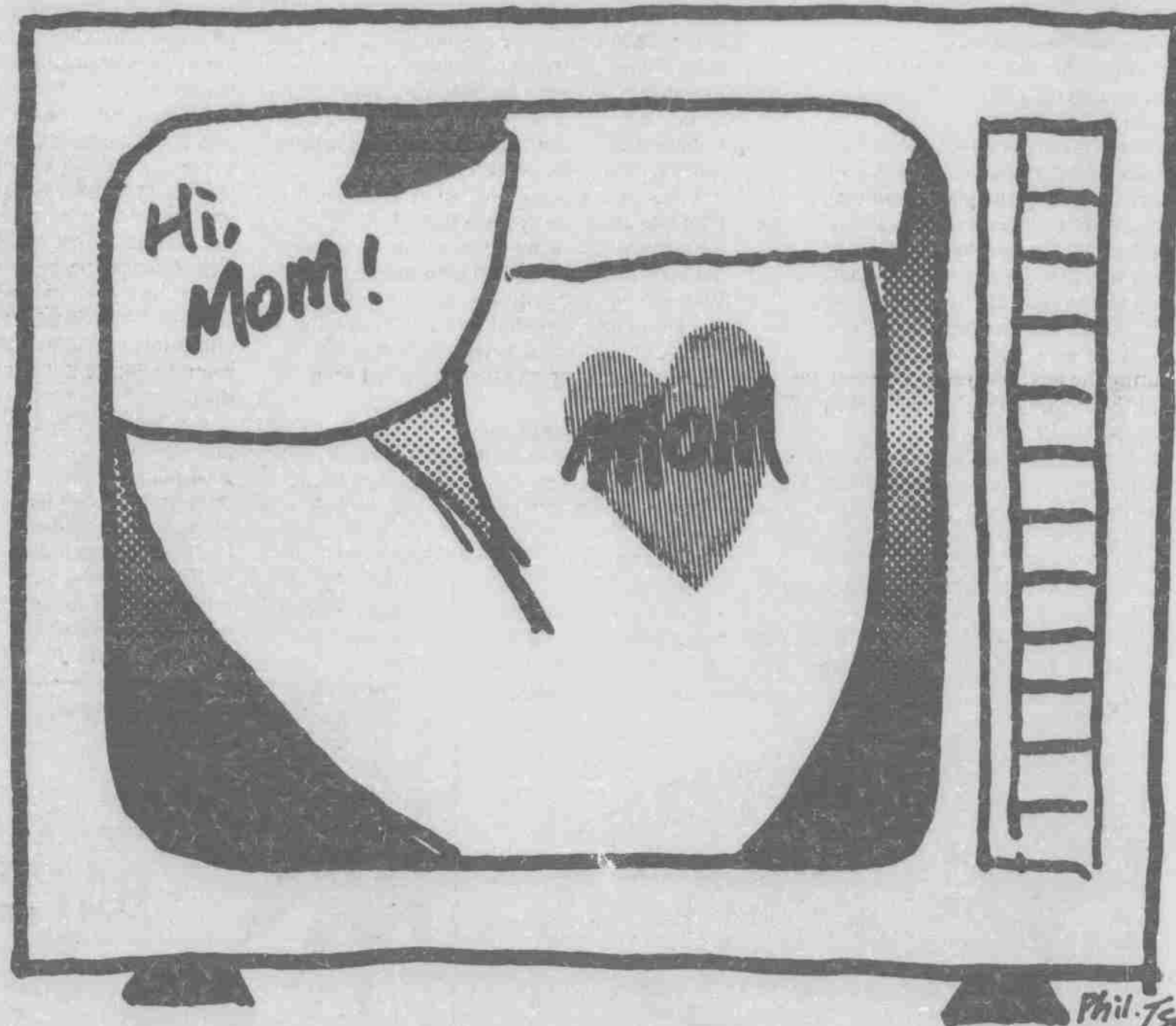
Another misunderstanding is that abortions cannot be performed in the last trimester of pregnancy, except if the life of the mother is endangered. This is not what the Supreme Court decision stated. The decision said that the state could not prohibit third trimester abortions deemed necessary to protect the mother's health from harm and this harm can include "distress." In other words, abortion can occur any time during pregnancy.

Perhaps the greatest misunderstanding is that in order to be in favor of women's equality, one has to be pro-abortion. Although groups like the National Organization for Women and the Women's Resource Center promote this belief, it is incorrect. I am living proof of this false thinking. In fact, according to a Lincoln Sunday Journal-Star poll, women in Nebraska favor a constitutional amendment further restricting abortions by even a greater margin than men do.

This poll also pointed out another astonishing phenomenon. Nebraskans in the 18 to 25 age group favored a constitutional amendment further restricting abortions by an overwhelming 63 percent majority.

What has caused this shift in thinking? Perhaps young people believe that 1.5 million abortions a year is simply too many. Perhaps they have come to realize that an unborn child is very much a human life. Or maybe they are just tired of the liberal sect's lack of respect for life in general.

Whatever the reason, Jan. 22 gives people the opportunity to rethink and peacefully demonstrate their beliefs about the importance of life — the essence of living.



Winning one for mom, not the Gipper, would solve the world's problems

A 6-year-old boy, his nose bloodied, runs to his mother. He's crying in deep sobs — real grief.

"Mommy," he cries as he stretches out his arms toward her.

The woman turns her livid double chin away from the boy, then turns to face him. Her eyes flash contempt.



**Chris
Burbach**

"Quit your bawling, boy," she snarls. "You deserved to lose."

Her T-shirt says, "I'm a wrestling mother, and proud of it." During her boy's matches, Mrs. X crouches on the edge of the mat on her hands and knees, screeching, squawking and pounding the mat in support of her little champion as he does battle for her. She is his damsel in distress.

I've seen more than one Mrs. X do a damsel in distress act at my younger brother's wrestling tournaments. She's in the minority, mind you — most wrestling mothers, like most mothers, are dear, sweet, kind supportive souls. Mrs. X is a hyperbolic over-dramatization of the maternal matrix of every athlete's competitive

drive. From a 6-year-old pink-cheeked grappler to a hoary, bearded veteran National Football League linebacker, these fellas are out there to win one for mom — not for the Gipper, or the Scarlet and Cream, or even the Big Money. The Chicago Bears played for Papa Bear, for their daily porridge and for their several Goldilocks; but, more importantly, they played for Mama Bear.

Who do football players wave to when the television cameras capture them in a personal moment on the sidelines? Mom. What person connected with Nebraska football received the second most publicity of any Big Red trooper during Mike Rozier's Heisman season? Rozier's mom. He even gave her the trophy.

In athletics, the tradition of doing your best to make mom proud survives. It's a tradition we could stand to revive elsewhere — in business, politics and Cold War. Workers toiling for mom would surely increase their productivity, politicians doing their mothers proud would work harder and prevaricate less. And a strong appeal to the Soviets' respect for motherhood would make moot the question of arms control treaty verification. Why, just last year I saw Konstantin Chernenko mouth a "Hi-mom" on television as he reviewed his troops.

Who's number one? Not BYU, or the United States, but mom, double chin and all.