

DN police article 'bad' press

The editorial "Soviet Union realizes value of universities" (Daily Nebraskan, Oct. 3) questioned the type of articles being published in state and local newspapers about the activities at UNL.

I think an excellent example of this is the article concerning a dispute between a police officer and several residents of Selleck Quadrangle ("Selleck students protest officer's use of profanity," DN, Oct. 4). There should have been something more constructive to put on the front page than a "slam" against the UNL police department.

I would also like to know why the cruiser radios bother a residence hall student, yet several residents within

the building yelling out obscenities at the officers did not. What if the officers had turned down their cruiser radios, then because of that did not hear a call for aid from a fellow officer?

Who should feel responsible if someone gets hurt as a direct result? Should it be the officers or should it be the student, who was bothered by a cruiser radio and not by yelling residents?

I am by no means condoning what happened, but maybe a view should be included by someone other than a residence hall student.

Jeanette Whalen
junior
criminal justice/psychology

Evidence indicates rule broken

It is too bad the Daily Nebraskan reported that NU basketball coach Moe Iba is possibly violating NCAA rules by conducting practices before Oct. 15. Too bad for Iba, that is.

Iba proclaims everything was strictly legal. If so, why were towels over the gymnasium windows? And who was saying, "Handle the ball, take your time, get a good shot" and sounding so much like Iba on the tape recorder.

No, Iba, you weren't coaching during that pickup game at Mable Lee. The

question is not whether these early "running drills" will help our team, but if Iba is violating NCAA rules. Evidence supports he is.

It is no wonder that Bob Devaney, UNL athletic director, thinks the DN handled the story inappropriately.

Now "mum" is no longer the word. Eventually something positive will happen to Nebraska basketball.

Mike Hendrickson
senior
political science

'Big' farms spell trouble

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Considering Welsch's criterion of being big in order to be successful, spells trouble. The other extreme of farmers who are being sold out are those that invested in "big" machinery and "big" land, while incurring "big" debts because there wasn't a "big" price for their products. These farmers have been labeled as "bad" managers, and it is my perception that they have been out of business for several months and even years.

In his column, Welsch uses the term "big" as being equivalent to "corporate." He failed to conclude that "big" land, machinery and money leads to "big" production, which he points out as agriculture's number one problem.

Welsch's solution to this problem is "fewer farmers producing less food" and agriculture must take the free market approach.

Yet how can U.S. agriculture compete on the open market as long as other country's subsidize their farmers?

Does the open market exist when the retailer reaps over half the profit made from the consumer? And how can the supply (X number of farmers producing X amount of food) exactly meet the demand in theory, but must farmers have to wait until starvation sets in to establish a fair and profitable price?

Concentrated farming in the hands of a few would be disastrous to the entire country. Larger farms will be less responsive to the market in that they lack diversity in production, which in effect leads to surplus production.

To solve a complex problem, such as the agriculture crisis, one must carefully examine and weigh the facts of cause and effect. Agriculture's surplus is the effect of a greater cause-lack of price. If farmers were given a price, there would be no surplus production and prosperity would return to agriculture.

Barb Meister
chairwoman
Farm Action Concerns
Tomorrow's Society

Diversify, says ag official

By Karen Shoemaker and Kim Vavrina
Staff Reporters

Agriculture is both the cause and the solution for Nebraska's economic problems, the director of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture said Tuesday night.

Chuck Schroeder told a group of UNL agricultural economics and agribusiness students that because Nebraska's economy is based on agriculture it has been adversely affected by the agricultural crisis, but improvement in the economy also must come from agriculture.

East Coast economists say Nebraska's economy is tied too tightly to agriculture and the state should diversify to improve the situation, Schroeder said.

"If those economists would look at Nebraska from the air or from the window of a car, they must conclude that our resource base, our technological ability and our economical opportunities are in agriculture," he said.

"The cure from the economic hang-

over is a bit of the hair of the dog that bit us — agriculture," Schroeder said. Agriculture supports Nebraska's economy but the old problems need new solutions, he said.

"In Nebraska, agriculture is the base upon which we grow the entire economy," Schroeder said.

He said 32 percent of Nebraskans rely directly on agriculture for their livelihood. That percentage is the highest in the nation. Schroeder, agriculture director since March, said an even greater percentage rely indirectly on agriculture.

Agriculture needs innovations from the "brightest, most creative and aggressive people if we are to make progress in this state," he said.

Without new ideas, Nebraska could face a serious population decrease, Schroeder said.

Between 1970 and 1982, the number of farms decreased by 14 percent, and about 18,000 people left the state, he said.

"That is the equivalent of a good-sized town in Nebraska," Schroeder said. "This is not in the best interest of the state."

"We have been terrified to ask ourselves, 'Do we want to retain a dynamic

rural society?'" Schroeder said.

A decision must be made, he said. If the answer is no, then Nebraska must prepare itself to restructure society, for a population decrease.

Schroeder cited a report that said 76 percent of Nebraska's incorporated towns and villages have less than 900 people. These towns will be threatened with extinction if the state continues with the same policies, he said.

If the state wants to keep a rural society, tax policies must be established that do not destroy the small farmer and something must be done to improve food prices, he said.

"Bigger is better" has been the rule for farm size, Schroeder said. The idea was right for agriculture and for America but it is time to re-evaluate rather than to blindly follow old cures, he said.

Schroeder said students who are going into agriculture, no matter how they apply it, must know that it is not going to be "business as usual."

"You can't dig out 40-year-old textbooks and hammer today's problems into solutions of the past," he said.

"You must combine education with innovation" in agriculture to solve the crisis the state faces, he said.

Leadership topic of conference

By Jody Beem
Staff Reporter

The first All-Campus Leadership Conference will be on Sunday, said Lyn Jakobsen, a conference coordinator.

The conference is intended for current UNL leaders and potential leaders, Jakobsen said. A potential leader is anyone who is interested in holding an elected position, whether they belong to the organization or not.

Conference organizers are looking for people who were leaders in high school and haven't gotten involved at the university yet.

Jakobsen said the conference should help people assess their leadership abilities in communication, decision-

making and motivating people to work together.

"I think it's important that the groups start working together," she said. "I would like to see the organizations befriending each other instead of

maintaining the normal detachment people often see."

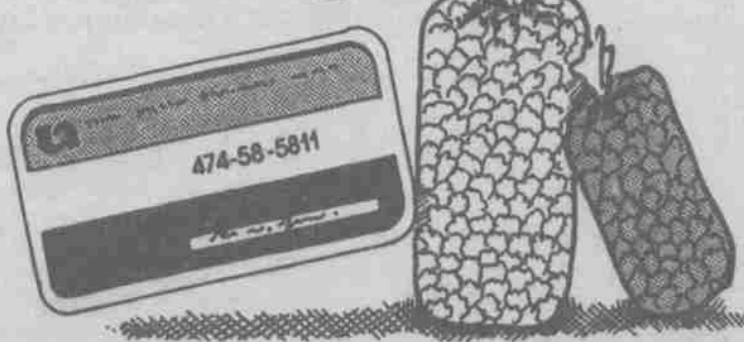
Forty spots are open to all students. Registration for those spots is Oct. 7-11. Jakobsen said she expects almost all the spots to be filled.

Setting it Straight

An article titled "Students can still get financial aid for 1985-86 in Wednesday's Daily Nebraskan incorrectly said students can apply for Guaranteed Student Loans and Pell Grants for the academic year until the last class day of the semester in which the student wants to receive aid. It should have said students who want to apply for a GSL for first semester only should

submit their GSL application to the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aids no later than Nov. 7, 1985. If a student wants to apply for a GSL for first and second semester or for second semester only, they should apply by March 27, 1986. Students applying for a PELL Grant must apply in time to be able to submit a valid Student Aid Report to the office by the last day of class.

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