

# Editorial

## UNL action against Iba appropriate

UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale and Athletic Director Bob Devaney's decision to ban basketball coach Moe Iba and his assistants from five days of practices and require a public apology is expedient and appropriate.

The university issued a press release Friday that stated UNL reported to the Big Eight Conference that a violation of the NCAA pre-season basketball practice rule did occur.

Rather than wait for possible NCAA or Big Eight Conference punitive action, the university took the initiative to deal with the rule violation after receiving the results of an in-house investigation.

The university's prompt response to the coaching staff's infraction is commendable.

Iba and his staff were penalized for a university investigation of a basketball practice that took place before Oct. 15, the date set by the NCAA on which basketball practice can start.

Much of the embarrassment and damage done to the university's reputation could have been avoided if Iba would have immediately admitted that he made a mistake. Instead, Iba took a stance that later contradicted the facts.

Here's what Iba said before the university investigation:

- "We know the rules," Iba told Daily Nebraskan reporters. "I just walked in, stayed there for a few minutes and left."
- Iba told the Omaha World-Herald, "I feel we're in the right, so I'm not upset (about the Daily Nebraskan article)."
- About the existence of a tape recording of the practice, Iba said, "I'll deny that, I don't know where they got that tape."
- According to a Lincoln Star article, Iba reportedly told Devaney "that he did not supervise practice."

Yet last Friday, Iba issued the following statement:

"I made a mistake. It was poor judgment on my part. I apologize to the University of Nebraska community and to our supporters, and now I hope we can put this behind us and all get together in support of our basketball team this year."

Iba's apology is appropriate, but Nebraska's reputation for playing fair has been tarnished — it will take a while to regain it. That other schools cheat to win — in any sport — does not make Iba's mistake any less serious.

The administration told Iba and his assistants they will be asked to resign if they violate NCAA rules again. That shows NU won't tolerate cheating, and it should act as a deterrent for other sports programs.

### The Daily Nebraskan

34 Nebraska Union  
1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448

EDITOR Vicki Ruhga, 472-1766  
NEWS EDITOR Ad Hudler  
CAMPUS EDITOR Suzanne Teten  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR Kathleen Green  
EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR Jonathan Taylor  
WIRE EDITOR Michela Thuman  
COPY DESK CHIEFS Lauri Hoppe  
Chris Welsch  
Bob Asmussen

SPORTS EDITOR Bill Allen  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR David Creamer  
PHOTO CHIEF Mark Davis  
ASSISTANT PHOTO CHIEF Gene Gentrup  
NIGHT NEWS EDITOR  
ASSOCIATE NIGHT NEWS EDITORS Richard Wright  
Michelle Kubik  
Kurt Eberhardt  
Phil Teal  
Daniel Shattil  
Katherine Policky

ART DIRECTOR Barb Brande  
ASSISTANT ART DIRECTOR Sandi Stuewe  
GENERAL MANAGER Mary Hupf  
PRODUCTION MANAGER Brian Hoplund  
ASSISTANT PRODUCTION MANAGER  
ADVERTISING MANAGER  
ASSISTANT ADVERTISING MANAGER  
CIRCULATION MANAGER  
PUBLICATIONS BOARD CHAIRPERSON Joe Thomsen  
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, contact Joe Thomsen.

Subscription price is \$35 for one year. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448. Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, NE 68510.

ALL MATERIAL COPYRIGHT 1985 DAILY NEBRASKAN



## 'HSS-scram' well-handled

### NSSA bill would ensure student input on building changes

This is the stuff of student government at its best: righting wrongs, protecting student rights and doing it with dignity, albeit not without some justified outrage.

The Harper-Schramm-Smith Senate, with the help and support of the Residence Hall Association, managed to get a new study lounge after a Smith Hall common area was made into a study lounge for women athletes. The HSS Senate, led by Mike Baacke and Sydney Warner, set a precedent that will encourage other student governments to fight for rights. In the process, the senate assured that the administration will be more careful about getting student input.



Chris Welsch

HSS-scram, as I like to call it, started when the NU athletic department found itself in hot water. Many people were mad that male athletes had the new Hewitt Training Table, complete with computers and a study lounge, while women were excluded and didn't have a comparable study area.

The Legislature was grumbling about taking action, so the administration found a place for a women's study lounge. Unfortunately, the people who lived in Smith Hall and used the area complained.

The HSS Senate protested the construction to UNL Housing Director Doug Zatechka. He said he would have consulted student government, but the decision occurred in the summer, and students weren't around. RHA members noted it in a letter to the Daily Nebraskan that they were available — RHA members worked with housing staff in Seaton Hall during the summer.

The decision was made improperly.

It violated HSS residents' landlord/tenant contract. Nebraska State Ombudsman Marshall Lux told RHA executives that RHA had grounds to press charges against the administration. Graciously, I think, RHA didn't.

The issue was brought to the attention of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska, which had a special session on the topic. Vice Chancellor Rudy Lewis said at the session that ASUN shouldn't get involved. Zatechka told the senators he would work with HSS residents to find a new study area for Smith Hall. The debate was closed.

ASUN President Gerard Keating said he felt the issue had been solved at that time. In some ways, it was. Zatechka said he should have contacted students before he made the move, and he promised to correct the situation. But ASUN could have looked at the larger issue of student rights. However, Keating said he already had reached an informal agreement with Zatechka that in the future students would be consulted before similar construction decisions are made. That's good, but it isn't quite enough.

HSS has a written agreement with Zatechka that says he has to consult hall leaders before any construction in common areas, or other changes, are made. It says Zatechka must consult the senate before the study area can be expanded and has to examine other possibilities. The agreement says procedures will be set up to get student input on all housing renovation and major policy changes.

But a campuswide policy on such matters is needed. That's where this weekend's Nebraska State Student Association conference comes in.

UNL's delegation to the NSSA conference introduced a bill (which was passed) that will have NSSA chapters meet with their respective campus administrations to create procedure to ensure student input on all construction — especially construction on all bond-funded buildings used by stu-

dents, such as the University Health Center and student unions.

Keating said he will be involved in negotiating such a policy with UNL administrators. Student leaders and UNL administrators should make haste in setting up the policy — with luck it will prevent similar snafus in the future.

Zatechka signed the agreement with the HSS Senate Thursday. Although Zatechka refused to sign an agreement never to expand the women athletes' study area in Smith Hall, HSS executive Baacke said he is satisfied with the agreement.

HSS deserves kudos, as does RHA. They have shown what responsible student government is capable of. Although the administration made this mess, it deserves thanks for dealing with student concerns respectfully. The administration could have just ignored the complaints, but it didn't. ASUN senators who supported the HSS senate deserve applause, as does Keating for supporting the NSSA assembly bill. The UNL delegation and NSSA deserve thanks, too.

This story has a happy ending for HSS residents. Zatechka agreed to let the HSS Senate plan and have built a new study area for all HSS residents. Baacke said it will be in the basement of Smith Hall. From looking at the plans, the women athletes probably will prefer the new lounge to the one assigned them. The deal is even sweeter because the money for the area will come from outside the housing office, presumably from the athletic department.

Still, the ending is not entirely happy. Women athletes still have unequal facilities. The NU Foundation probably will continue to take donations earmarked by gender. Accepting money donated to one sport, or one type of athlete, is one thing. But a facility like the Hewitt Center should not be limited to one sex. After all, I doubt very much the foundation would fund a training table strictly for white athletes.

## Letters

Brief letters are preferred, and longer letters may be edited. Writer's address and phone number are needed for verification.

### Remedial courses limited, not drain on university

In response to the editorial on admission standards (Daily Nebraskan, Oct. 17), I would like to see some facts or figures on the remedial courses issue. For instance, how many departments offer remedial courses? The only ones I know of are the ones in the mathematics and physics departments, which offer a couple of remedial courses.

If it is just these two departments, I don't see that many "professors and

educational resources" are averted, which brings me to my next point.

Aren't the remedial courses taught by graduate students, whom it would not hurt to receive some teaching experience?

I do not disagree with more stringent admissions standards, which would eliminate the need for remedial courses, but I do not see where these remedial courses, at present, are draining the

university of a lot of money and time.

The few students who do take these courses pay for them just like any other student, which should take part of the cost off the university.

I would think the editorial staff would use some facts about remedial courses to better inform the reader.

Pete Soukup  
junior  
political science