

# Editorial

**Daily Nebraskan**

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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## Commitment NU talent moves east

In April 1982, gubernatorial candidate Bob Kerrey told UNL students and faculty that, if elected, he would "go to the people and say, 'If you want excellence at the university, this is what it would cost.'" Kerrey seems to have forgotten the search for excellence. But some NU administrators have not. They are pursuing excellence — in Pennsylvania.

David DeCoster, former UNL dean of students, resigned Oct. 4 to become an administrator at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Suzanne Brown, former assistant to the vice chancellor of student affairs, resigned in December

to become Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs with the Pennsylvania System for Higher Education.

Lowell Satterlee, director of the UNL Food Processing Center, quit in early December to assume a similar position at Pennsylvania State University. Satterlee cited the NU budget cut as a reason for leaving and said Pennsylvania's food science programs would be "high priority."

None of the UNL vacancies have been filled.

Maybe Pennsylvania has something Nebraska doesn't — a commitment to education.

## Driver's education The state pays a painful price

In the last special session, Nebraska senators passed a bill eliminating all state funding — about \$1.2 million — from drivers' education programs in public schools.

This session, some officials hope a bill will be introduced to repeal that decision. The repeal should be introduced and approved.

About 16,000 Nebraska teenagers take drivers' education every year — that's about 90 percent of all teens, said Rudy Stoehr, a drivers' education instructor at Lincoln East High. State funding used to pay \$80 per student — a major part of every school's drivers' education budget.

Since state laws say Nebraska public school districts can't charge fees for regular semester classes, the districts will have to absorb those cuts. This might result in smaller districts eliminating their programs because they no longer can afford them.

Larger school districts might have to pare down their programs. Some larger schools would have to eliminate class sessions and decrease driving time for students.

Even in summer courses — where fees can be charged — students will have to pay \$150 for the course rather than \$50. The price is too steep.

Drivers' education classes are worthwhile. They not only teach students the mechanics and rules of driving, but also teach the responsibilities that accompany it.

Many programs include films that show actual car accidents, complete with mangled bodies. It shows students how dangerous a car can be.

Reasons for supporting a drivers' education program are many:

- Drivers' education classes stress defensive driving techniques, which make Nebraska's highways a little safer.
- Many students don't have access to a family car and don't have the opportunity to practice or learn how to drive.
- Students don't have to take a drivers' education course. It is an option for those who want to learn how to drive. And since state funding is allocated according to the number of students who take the course, monetary waste is minimal.

Anyone can drive. But learning to drive safely and defensively takes practice, even training. A drivers' education course provides that training.

If legislators fail to restore money for the program, Nebraskans and their children will pay the price — in money and lives.

## \$4.9 million needed Faculty salary increases overdue

NU administrators took a step forward Tuesday when they decided to seek an additional \$4.9 million for faculty salary increases.

If the proposal is approved by the Legislature, NU faculty would receive 4.6 percent increases that are long overdue.

Although NU instructors received a 3 percent salary increase last year, as did all state workers, NU salaries are still about 12 percent behind those at peer institutions.

NU needs the extra money. The proposed 1986-87 budget increase is only 2.3 percent — not enough for pay increases.

After years of failing to improve

pay, state legislators now owe it to NU faculty members and Nebraskans to try to find the money.

If legislators fail to allot the \$4.9 million, at least NU administrators would prove that they are trying — at least in spirit — to help instructors.

If money for the pay raise is denied, administrators should call on the NU Foundation and NU Student Foundation to help raise money.

It's time for the foundation to send flyers asking for donations to improve faculty pay, rather than for the Lied Center for the Performing Arts or for two huge clocks for the campus.

## Editorial policy

Unsigned editorials represent official policy of the spring 1985 Daily Nebraskan.

Editorials do not necessarily reflect the views of the university, its employees, the students or the NU

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The Daily Nebraskan's publishers are the regents, who established the UNL Publications Board to supervise the daily production of the paper.



## The ins and outs of 'in'

Conform! It's easy, fun and saves time

"But everybody's doing it!" It probably hasn't been long since you appealed to that age-old rationale. We seem to be in a period where such defense carries much more weight than it once did. Ours is an incredibly imitative age.



James Sennett

The rule of the day appears to be "primate see; primate do." So, in the interest of those who may be new to our campus this semester, or for those of us who are constantly desirous to know what everyone else is up to, I begin this semester with a list of some of the most important "in" things. If you want to be "one of the crowd," if you want to "keep up with the Joneses," if you want to obey a thousand other pedantic cliches, here is what you must do:

- Run for governor.** If there ever was an activity to which "Everybody's doing it!" applies, this is it. Ever since the boy governor announced his non-intentions last fall, people we never even heard of are suddenly appearing on the scene, telling us how much they have accomplished for the state.

I never knew Nebraska had so many dedicated patrons. It makes you wonder how the state could possibly have any problems at all. If you have ever voted, paid tax, picked up a piece of litter from the sidewalk or defended the

Cornhuskers against an irate Oklahoma fan, then you have all the makings of a serious gubernatorial candidate. Give the statehouse a call today!

- Criticize McCathorn Clayton.** Really, those irate Okies don't need to criticize the Cornhuskers — we're doing enough of that ourselves. And it all centers on our dear sophomore quarterback we had not even heard of a year ago. Remember one thing — no matter what happens this season, it's Mac's fault. Forget the fact that the team was 9-2 in games that he started. Forget all the cheers we were raising earlier in the season. And, for goodness sake, forget that we ever compared him to the immortal Turner Gill. (One wonders with fear just how long that inevitable comparison is going to be around) Big Mac served us well when we needed a hero. Now that we need a scapegoat, it seems he fits the bill, too. Thank God for loyal fans.
- Form an opinion on the Lied Center.** It doesn't matter what opinion, but must be vehemently on one side or the other.

This campus will not tolerate a "maybe yes; maybe no" wishy-washiness on this one. You can be middle of the road about abortion, homosexuality, university budget cuts, or any of those other peripherals, but there are only two camps in the battle of the building. Choose your weapon and prepare for war.

- Apply for the College of Business Administration.** I understand that the only thing longer than their student roster over there is their waiting list. Everybody's wanting to do the corporate ladder shuffle when they

get out of school, and the MBA is the only dance card available. So lay aside those childhood dreams of aesthetic and humanitarian fulfillment, and go for the gold. After all, no one ever formed a "Starving Accountants" league.

- Cross 16th Street wherever you like.** If this is to be done properly, you must never, never, look for traffic. Remember this: There is nothing more uncool than crossing at corners or waiting for oncoming cars. The word is out on the streets — college students have no common courtesy and even less common sense. Whatever we do, we must not damage that reputation for which we have worked so hard.

Of course there are many more categories of total conformity of which the addicted mime must constantly be aware.

For instance, the back pack goes over only one shoulder. Only bike riders and total nerds wear it over both. And this is just the tip of the iceberg. Compliance immersion is a full-time profession and knowledge in the field is increasing at an alarming rate.

But it must be mastered. The only alternative is the formulation of genuine and well-thought-out opinions in the context of self-confidence. But such paths are terribly lonely, and a lot of hard work to boot.

For most of us, the only alternative appears to be the chameleon syndrome. So brush up, and keep your eyes open. You never know when you'll encounter yet another bandwagon to jump on.

Sennett is a UNL graduate student in philosophy and campus minister of the College-Career Christian Fellowship.

## When the big game is forgotten the overzealous are remembered

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Mike Royko is on vacation. We are reprinting some of his best columns from the past 22 years. This first appeared on Sept. 20, 1966, and appears in his collection, "Like I Was Sayin' ..."



Mike Royko

My favorite modern folk hero is the fan who runs on the field during the big game. He is even more wonderful than the dog that runs on the field during the big game.

Sometimes he just lopes around the bases, sliding into home plate. Sometimes he tries to hug Mickey Mantle. Sometimes he tries to punch a referee.

The cops always drag him away, and the TV announcer makes some smart crack, like: "Well, that's the end of his

game, ha, ha."

But nobody ever asks these wonderful free spirits who they are or why they must do it.

Last Friday, a skinny youth ran onto the field during the tense final minutes of the Bears-Rams game in Los Angeles. While more than 50,000 fans cheered and 8 million people watched on TV, the youth sped down the field, his head held high, the wind in his face.

Then Mike Ditka (now the Bears' head coach) stepped from the huddle and slammed him. The fans booed Ditka, but that was wrong. Ditka has been trained since high school to knock down everything that moves. The young man flew into the air. He was limp when he landed and shaky when the police led him away.

More people saw that kid knocked down than saw all of Joe Louis' fights.

When the game is forgotten, that kid will be remembered.

This is a nation of people who are always asking each other questions.

Where were you till 3 a.m.? Why did you go through a red light? How will you vote in November? Did you like your mother when you were three? What's up?

But nobody bothered to ask the young man who he was or why he did this daring thing: They just kicked him out of the stadium.

Well, let it be known that Felix Carbajal, 19, of Lomita, Calif., is of Mexican ancestry, and he is a laborer in a chemical factory.

He was sleeping when I called, having worked the Sunday night shift. His father, who has a broad accent, said he didn't know about what his son had done.

"I didn't even know he played football," Felix Sr. said.

Felix's mother said: "I know about it. I guess it was something he felt he had to do. Wait, I'll wake him up."

"Hello?"

Please see ROYKO on 6