

# Editorial

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Jeff Korbelik, Editor, 472-1766  
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## Sports betting

Last week the Lincoln Journal published a small article buried in legislative news on an inside page about a bill to allow betting on sporting events. The bill was moved to the full Legislature by the General Affairs Committee on a 7-1 vote.

LB757, sponsored by Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha, would legalize bets placed with bookmakers who are licensed by the state.

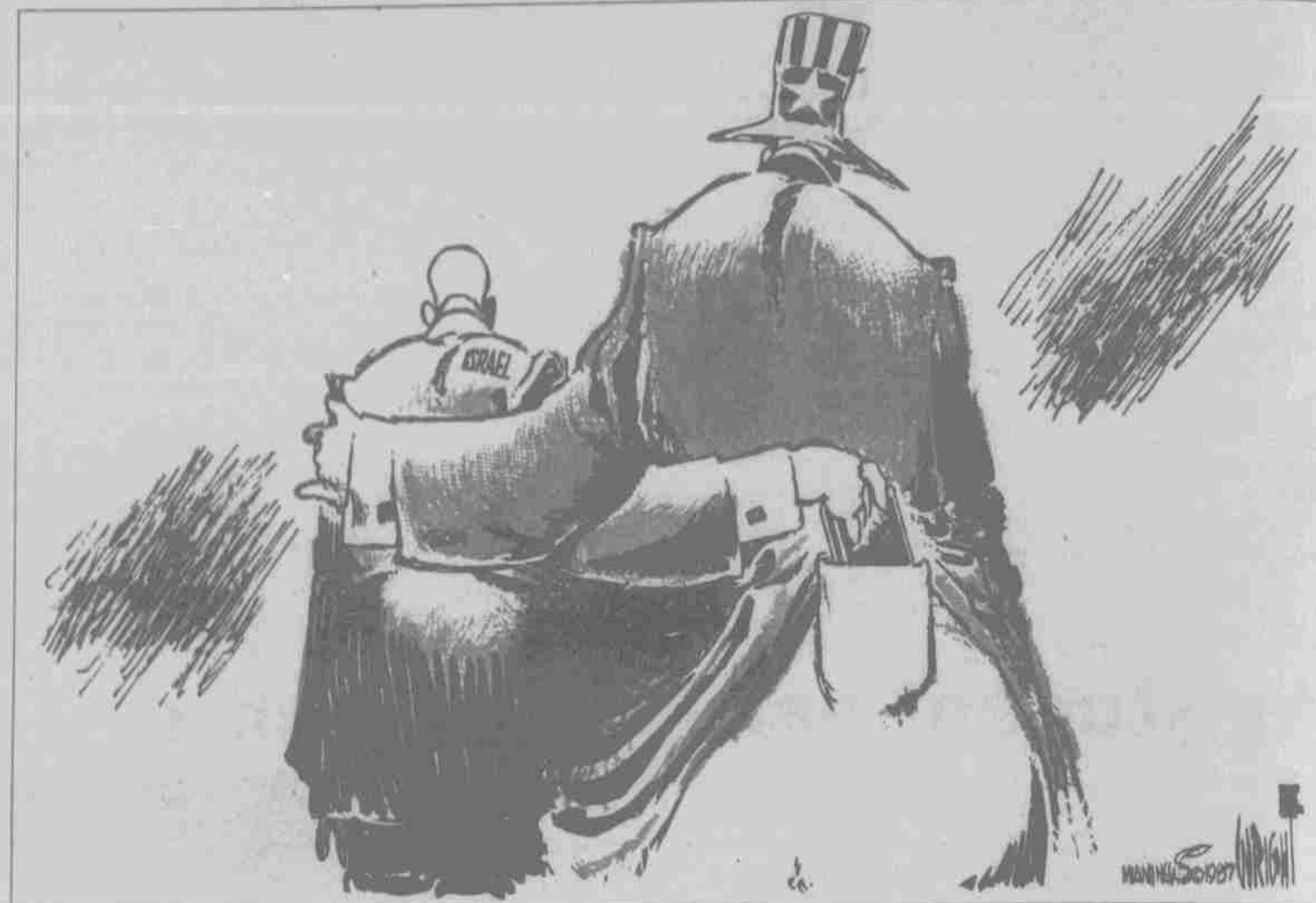
Oh my! No more sneaking around dark alleys to place bets on football, basketball, boxing and whatever. That's only if the legislature passes the bill into

legislation. And though it may seem like a farfetched idea, it isn't a bad one.

Anyone familiar with betting through a bookmaker knows its common practice anymore. It really is. Look at the UNL campus.

Legalizing bookmaking would ease the enforcing of an already impossible task, and give the state a chance to set its own rules.

The state already allows horse-racing and bingo. Let's add betting on sporting events to the list.



## Letters

### NUdeal endorses Ardis for run-off

I'm writing this letter to thank everyone who supported NUdeal candidates on March 11 and to congratulate the winners. But when it became apparent that Michelle Ardis (AIM) and John Bergmeyer (Unite) were locked in a run-off election, NUdeal party members wanted to throw our support behind one of the remaining candidates.

It was important to us that ASUN's next second vice president be able to present himself/herself in a professional manner and that he/she have more than just a superficial understanding of important issues. Other

qualities important to our decision were the ability to bring unique perspectives into student government and the desire to implement key planks of NUdeal's platform into his/her agenda. (Specifically the job and scholarship-matching services).

After much discussion, NUdeal party members chose to endorse Michelle Ardis (AIM) for ASUN second vice president. NUdeal urges everyone who voted for us to vote for her and encourages everyone else to support her also.

Richard Burke  
presidential candidate  
NUdeal

### Condoms are only 'plugging the leak'

It would seem to me that condom advertising is to AIDS as a germ-infected bandage is to a bone-deep laceration. As with so many of our society's problems, media, politicians and special-interest groups (such as condom manufacturers and Planned Parenthood) seek a cure or a concealment to mere symptoms. These treatments usually worsen the condition. The ailment under consideration is much deeper and considerably more serious than teen pregnancies, venereal disease and AIDS.

Nature's laws react to our actions. If, for example, we insist on cutting down all of our trees, the patterns of wildlife will be adversely changed. Polluting the water sources of the world will imbalance the ecology, to our long-term detriment. By the same token, nature teaches us that sex is not a recreational activity as the "sex liberator" of the '60s would have us believe. Sex represents a wonderful, life-long, bonding commitment between a husband and his wife.

Nature has reacted to our irresponsible behavior and the only cure, difficult as it may seem, is to stop and reverse the behavioral patterns. Otherwise we shall have to accept the con-

sequences of our misbehavior, as is the case with many today. Sex education in high school has not helped. In fact, evidence and common sense tells a different story. Responsible sex is present under one and only one condition: marriage. It is time the entertainment industry accepts a major portion of the blame and reverses its portrayal of "cheap sex" of the last two decades. There is no such thing as cheap or harmless sex outside the permanent bond of marriage. AIDS is one evidence of that.

It may be possible to "plug this or that," but the dam is breaking up; the foundations of moral behavior are crumbling. While I do not advocate federal statutes that specify what people may or may not do with their own lives, neither should the government be responsible to repair what the public has chosen to break repeatedly, namely the laws of nature and common sense. If any public money is to be spent on these problems, it should be for the dissemination of information concerning the preventive life style, monogamy.

Victor Issa  
graduate student  
art

### Red buttons show support for nursing

"Save Our College... Support Nursing!"

Have you noticed the red buttons on the backpacks and coats of concerned students? I have because I have one. I'm concerned. The new motto of our university is "The University of Nebraska... Working for Nebraska." This is a fallacy! Budget-cutting time is here and NU President Ronald Roskens and the Board of Regents have out their axes. They want to cut nursing! They want to deprive more than 175 students from an education in nursing. Where is the logic?

Do they not realize that our state now faces a nursing shortage? We need to educate more young men and women to become nurses at a state-supported

university. If we want nurses to stay in our state, we need to educate them in our state. It is unfair to say that nursing students attending UNL can transfer to UNMC because these two fine institutions are not the same and for many of the students this is not an option.

I urge each and everyone of you to wake up to this madness. What would happen if some day you had a heart attack and there was no nurse around to help? The time is now to act! Contact your regents. Let them know that you want to live; let them know you want nursing here on this campus. I hope tomorrow the red buttons will be everywhere.

Jill Durbin  
teachers college  
sophomore

## Off-the-wall commentary

### Sennett's game of life pits racquetballers against handballers

Well, I've decided that I am just a racquetball kind of guy in a handball world. I play racquetball three times a week at Schulte Field House, and I have been quite amused to observe the marked difference between those who ascend the steps with racquet in hand and those who come armed only with a pair of thick gloves. Allow me to elucidate.

First, you have to understand that racquetballers are definitely second-class citizens. The handballer is quick to inform you (and probably rightly so) that such reckless wallbanging is the most proletarian of exercises. There is comparatively little skill involved, and the grunting, slipping and yelling accompanying good and bad shot alike cannot help but reflect on the level of culture aspired to by the participant. Besides, any sport that you can be playing within fifteen minutes can't really be worth the trouble.

Handball, on the other hand, is pure finesse. Here is no hint of Neanderthal behavior. Here is the grace and technique of which human competition should be composed. Behold the sheer beauty of the athlete, which has for millennia taken its proper superior place, outshining the barbaric displays of the gladiator.

And such a contrast is borne out by the evidence. The presence or absence of nylon webbing is not the only distinguishing mark. Wallbangers dress in whatever they can find — faded green football jerseys and gym shorts (with the elastic worn out) that are washed twice a semester whether they need it or not, two pairs of holier-than-thou sweat socks and court shoes that have seen better courts. Handball enthusiasts all dress alike. They have coordinated gray T-shirts and shorts, wear a new pair of socks every day, and don the Nikes and Reeboks that racquetballers only dream about.

Racquetball people are all too short or too tall, too old or too young, too thin or too fat. Handball people are all 6-1 and weigh 195 pounds, not an ounce of which is flab. The former sweat like pigs the minute the ball comes off the front wall. The latter wouldn't work up a bead of perspiration if they entered the ironman competitions.

Peek through the viewing window at any racquetball game, and you will see jiggling bodies bouncing off walls and tearing front and back with mindless abandon. You will hear screams and swearings, anguished cries and joyous shrieks. Observe a handball match and you see four stately people standing in

quietballer appearance and hope that many will take an opportunity to look beyond the coffee-stained tie to the gold-plated heart. I will probably always be a registered Democrat who shops at K-Mart and lives from paycheck to paycheck. I occasionally take a glimpse at the finer things, but my TV is on CBS more than PBS, and I'm not particularly ashamed of it.

There are, in fact, advantages to the less-cultured life. It is less expensive, and the Jones's aren't particularly hard to keep up with. You can do it with one car, one television and no property tax. You learn 10 creative things to do with hamburger, find out that parks are loads of fun and learn to build significant human relationships without the latest insider info on parenting, friend-ing or significant-othering.

But perhaps the greatest advantage is that the culture is still available to you, but you have the right to be selective and discriminating. If you think the latest avant-garde craze is last week's garbage, or that New Age music is more boring than water polo, you can say so without fear of ruining a reputation you don't have anyway. On the other hand, if the Brandenburg Concertos or fine wines are your thing, you are free to hobnob with the best of them — only remember to begin with the outside fork and work your way in.

So, boors of the world unite. It's OK to play racquetball. It's OK to prefer cotton denim to Italian weave. And it's OK to stay that way. If you never own a house, never join a country club, never drive a Mercedes, it says no more about you than you want it to say. Of course, I think I have to draw the line at the Beastie Boys...

Sennett is a graduate student in philosophy and campus minister with College-Career Christian Fellowship, and carries his lunch to work every day in a brown bag with a drawstring.

James  
Sennett



a row, calmly staring at the wall and occasionally bending — ever so slightly — to return the sphere to its appointed destination. Yet they must really be exercising, because they are all in such great shape.

There really is a point to all this meandering. All my life I have found myself on the racquetball side of the Great Human Divide. I wear sweats and tennies, and the world shows up in three-piece suits. I'd just as soon eat fried chicken as broiled lobster, and football tickets mean more to me than anything happening down at Westbrook and Kimball.

Don't get me wrong. My radio stays on KUCV, and I'm planning to take a classical Greek reading course this fall. But no matter how hard I try, I keep coming out smelling like chopped liver. I have resigned myself to the rac-

## Paradox has hardliners favoring, moderates opposing missile treaty

Strange bedfellows. It is not often that you will see the Reagan administration and the Soviet government on the same side of a nuclear debate. It's even rarer to see them arrayed together against a representative (albeit speaking for himself) of the quintessentially moderate Council on Foreign Relations, home of what used to be called the Eastern Establishment. But there they were on "Nightline" last week. In this corner, a tag team: the director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (Kenneth Adelman) and the first secretary of the Soviet Embassy in Washington (Vitaly Churkin). And in the other corner, William Hyland, former Kis-

singer aide and editor of Foreign Affairs, the Council's magazine.

The issue was Euromissiles. Last week Gorbachev offered Reagan what

(INF) from Europe. They take out their SS-20s. We take out our Pershing 2 and cruise missiles.

Gorbachev's announcement was dramatic because he had been holding an INF agreement hostage to some Reagan concession on strategic defense (SDI or "Star Wars"). Reagan refused. Last week, Gorbachev announced that he was "delinking" the two issues. You proposed the zero option, said Gorbachev. We accept. Will you take yes for an answer?

The Western reaction is a fascinating study in the nuclear politics. Officially, Western European governments have wel-

Charles  
Krauthammer



was originally a U.S. proposal: the "zero option," under which the Soviet Union and the United States withdrew all their intermediate-range nuclear forces

See KRAUT on 5