

Daily Nebraskan

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'Lunch with who?'

Governor should be more well-informed

Who's Adolfo Calero? Nebraska's esteemed governor asked.

He's only a leader in the Nicaraguan Resistance, only a supporter of the Contras, those "freedom fighters" who commit human rights atrocities daily.

Calero had been scheduled for a luncheon Friday in the basement of the governor's mansion. Orr was not aware who the man was or even that a luncheon, which would serve as a fundraiser for Nebraska Young Americans for Freedom and the Conservative Education Foundation, had been scheduled.

The occasion was brought to Orr's attention when a reporter queried her during a press conference. Orr said the rumor was "interesting," according to an Omaha World-Herald article.

Bob Cochrane, Orr's communications director, said administration officials did some checking and found Calero was the guest of a group that had received permission from mansion staff to use the basement for a luncheon. The event was then called off, he said.

Terrell Cannon, a Lincoln attorney and sponsor for the event, argues that the governor, who canceled the \$25-a-plate luncheon, "was afraid of controversy." He received a call Friday from the governor's office informing

him the luncheon had been canceled.

The date was rejected because officials in the governor's office feared there would be demonstrations, Cannon said. He said he was "appalled by the timidity."

"Nobody involved is very likely to make it in a book, 'Profiles in Courage, Part II,'" Cannon said. Cannon said he is involved in a number of "patriotic causes."

Cochrane said a "staff snafu" led to a misunderstanding over the luncheon. Officials in the administration did not realize it had been scheduled until questions were asked during the press conference.

Cochrane also said the mansion basement is often made available to non-profit groups for functions. The governor rarely attends the events, he said.

"It was not brought up that it was going to be a fund-raising event," Cochrane said. "The staff at the mansion had not been told that."

Orr made the right decision. Calero does not belong on the agenda, nor does any profit-raising occasion need service in the governor's mansion. But it is discomforting that the governor of the state is not aware who might be lurking in her basement. To the discredit of her staff and on her own behalf, she should have been more well-informed.

HUMPTY DUMPTY TOOK A RIDE...
MOTORCYCLE HELMET BACK INSIDE...
THE LEGISLATURE DIDN'T PASS THE BILL...
POOR HUMPTY, TOOK A SPILL.



They're over! They're over!

Four more years until media machine again descends on Iowa

THEY'RE OVER! THEY'RE OVER! THE IOWA CAUCUSES ARE OVER! Now we here in the Midwest can relax for another four years before the Washington-based, totally-out-of-touch-with-reality political media machine descends on Sleepy Town, USA, to gawk in wonder once more at the primitive surroundings that are the real America. The politicians can once again retreat to their ivory towers, having paid their quadrennial down-home dues. No more hip boots, no more county fairs, no more pretending not to have an accent.

The people who wear plaid shirts and drive American-made cars have spoken. Once again a mere quarter-million rural types have set the course for American presidential politics, and we can all relax and watch what has deteriorated into little more than a six-month stretch run. Now if we can only survive the next two weeks, with the New Hampshire primary and the dreaded "Super Tuesday" Southern regional showdown, we can really take things easy until the conventions pre-empt all our favorite shows late this summer. Of course, maybe the networks will decide the parties have nothing new to say and won't air the conventions this year.

Little else has been in the news these past couple of days except reports, analyses and wild guesses about what the Iowa results mean for the rest of the primary and caucus season. Well, given that futurological voyeurism is a pervasive disease of our time, I will not attempt to buck the tide, but offer herein my own "take it for what it's worth" interpretation of the all-but-significant tallies from our neighbors to the east.

Of course, the big story is Pat Robertson, who surprised all but the aware with his strong showing. It fries the brains of the bi-coastal, big city, farmland-immune national news media that some people actually do think issues of traditional morality count in a presidential election. Even after two Reagan land-slides, there are still those who believe that the huge Democratic voter registration in this country is anything but illusory. Robertson is closer to the hearts of millions of Americans

than any of the good-ole-person league want to imagine.

There are many who still believe that they will one day wake up from this nightmare of Americana to find out that Franklin Roosevelt is still alive and has just been named immortal king of Vespucci-land, and we won't have to worry about the conservative boogeyman any more.

James Sennett



Robertson still does not seem electable, but — like George Wallace in 1968 — he may potentially be the most important figure in the entire process outside of the one finally chosen. Republicans are already calculating the possible effects on the platform of a large Robertson delegation at the convention. And, given that the Democrats have a better chance of putting a candidate on the moon than in the White House, this voice crying in the wilderness may be heard for years to come in the policies of this nation. I'm not sure I like that idea, but I refuse to pretend this isn't likely to happen.

Of course, the good news about Robertson's finishing second is that George Bush finished third. Dole expected a big win against Bush, but not even his wildest fans expected a 2-to-1 margin. It seems that the Robertson showing was at Bush's expense, rather than at Dole's, as I would have expected. If this trend carries over to New Hampshire and the South, the results for Bush could be tragic. At the start of this week, he was the front-runner, for whom a strong second-place finish in Iowa, a win in New Hampshire and a fair percentage of firsts in the South would have sent all but Dole to the showers. But less than 150,000 Republicans in the Corn Belt changed all that. Bush must now win big in New Hampshire, and significant losses in the South will tell against his tattered aura.

Despite the continued popularity

of Reagan, Bush may find out the hard way that you don't get elected just by saying, "Hey, I was in the same building when he did all those things you liked so well!" Bush cannot shake the rumor that he is a wimp for the same reason that Jesse Jackson cannot shake the image that he is a reverend. But the vice president has learned nothing at all as his campaign moves into New Hampshire, where his slogan is, "I was born and raised in this part of the country — that ought to count for something."

On the donkey side, Richard Gephardt finished first, which surprised no one, but did not finish well ahead of the pack, which surprised some. The near photo finish, with Gephardt, Paul Simon and Mike Dukakis all making good showings, is parabolic of the turmoil that has become the Democratic Party. I doubt that this situation will resolve itself in the near future.

With a Dukakis win in New Hampshire and the return of Jackson and Albert Gore in the South, we are likely to emerge from the crucial first three weeks without a clear front-runner — a situation that could carry all the way to the convention. Armed with a loathing of compromise that rivals that of historic Protestantism, the Democrats probably will run several ballots, finally nominating a person around whom the party will fail to rally, causing huge numbers of them to sit at home in November and allowing the Republicans to coast to their third presidential win in a row and the fifth in six tries since 1968.

The Democratic front-runners include a populist, a main-liner and a technocrat. The Republican front-runners include a conservative, a conservative and a conservative. The potential for monolithic support of a given candidate is strong in the latter case, non-existent in the former. The Iowa caucuses have told us what we have known all along and tried our best not to believe. Don't dust off your New Deal buttons just yet — the Reagan White House is likely to outlive its namesake.

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

Letters

Kudos to Cather residents' condom sense

My compliments to Greg Keuter, Susannah England and Gail Hadwiger for the Cather 7 program on condoms. Whether the intention is to avoid sexually transmitted disease or pregnancy, both goals are accomplished with consistent use of this much-maligned, but useful invention.

From what I have read in the Daily Nebraskan (Feb. 8), the organization

of the program seems creative and thorough with a welcome emphasis on upbeat participation by anyone interested. I am particularly happy with the open discussion format of the Sunday floor meeting... for the ability to honestly communicate and genuinely understand may be the greatest safeguard of all.

Julie Myers
alumnus

Cather residents should discover morality

I would like to comment on the article on Cather Hall students teaching "condom sense" (Daily Nebraskan, Feb. 8). The article stated, "Residents of Cather 7 are teaching themselves and other University of Nebraska-Lincoln students to use their condom sense." Let's hope this is not what common sense is — to publicize using condoms by wearing shirts with a condom message, as if it's a game. What exactly are they teaching themselves? I think they need to be taught a lesson in morality.

And don't tell me that things have changed — that this is the 1980s. I realize that and know things have changed, but there's a time when liberalism goes a bit too far and makes the stomach churn. It's hard for me to believe that Cather 7 funds will be allowed to be used to buy condoms.

It's too bad they can't think of any other sort of entertainment to use their money for. Greg Keuter, Cather 7 student assistant, said he decided to start the program the week before Valentine's Day because everyone's thoughts turn to love. It's hard to imagine it being real love. Sex abused is called "lust." Sex is sacred. It is not meant to be abused or flaunted.

One more thing about Cather 7 residents: If you think you're "macho" with your condom sense ideas, then you're far from impressing everyone. You need to realize that sex controlled makes a man. It's too bad you can't think of a different way to make Cather 7 known on campus.

Sandy Panowicz
sophomore
undeclared

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