

Daily Nebraskan
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Quibbles and Bits

Survey shows students want to be rich

• More college freshman than ever before place a high priority on being rich and in charge of others at work, according to the 22nd annual Survey of College Freshmen.

Conducted by the American Council on Education and the University of California at Los Angeles' Higher Education Research Institute, the survey of 290,00 freshmen reported that 75 percent identify financial success as being one of their essential goals in life. In contrast, only 39 percent of freshmen in 1970 ranked wealth as a priority.

Also, 71 percent said their reason for attending college was to make more money eventually.

• Thousands of paper milk containers were recalled last week in Wichita, Kan., because individually wrapped condoms were found inside four cartons, officials said in a United Press International report.

"This is so ludicrous it stretches the imagination," said Bob Moody, spokesman for the State Health and Environmental Department in Topeka.

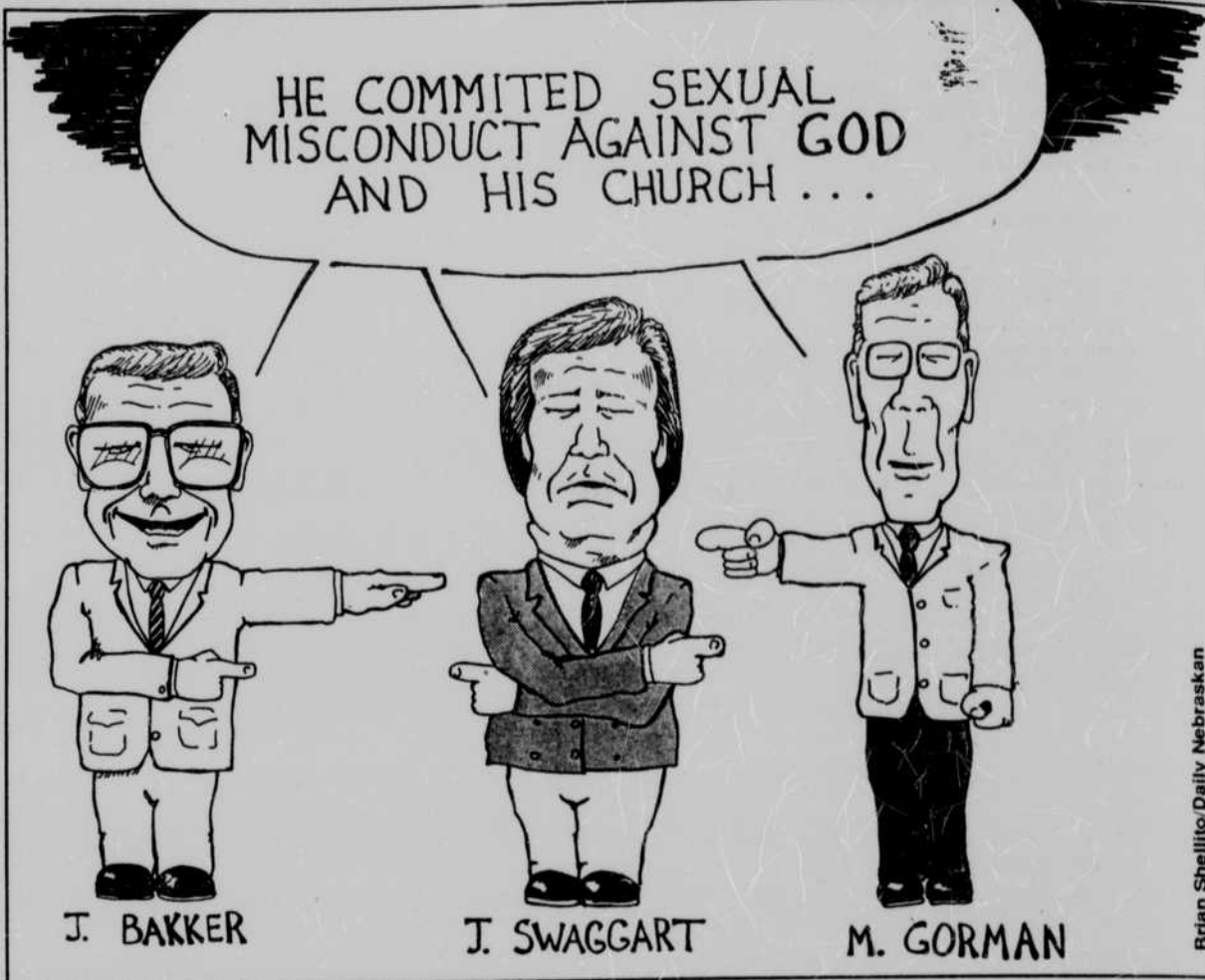
• Dating abuse including ridiculing, withholding approval

and affection, public or private humiliation and acting jealous or angry because of a friendship with the opposite sex — can be as damaging as physical abuse says a University of Kansas professor who's studying the subject. Emotional abuse, he said in a National On-Campus Report, isn't always visually evident, but the scars are just as traumatic. In his study, the professor found that female freshmen were at the highest risk for dating abuse, and those who were emotionally and physically abused as children were more likely to abuse their partners.

• A "condom for women" scheduled for U.S. testing next month could become a weapon against sexually transmitted diseases like AIDS, its developers said in an Associated Press report.

The disposable contraceptive made of polyurethane resembles a condom but is worn by women, researchers say.

The device, known in Europe as a "fem-shield" or vaginal shield, isn't sold anywhere yet, but testing has begun in Europe and is to start in the United States next month.



Friend's success story silent

Fraternity brother becomes hero passing up fame to aid charity

To almost everyone, knowing someone famous or successful is a big deal. However, it is an even greater thrill if one has had a personal relationship with that person before his fame and fortune.

I have always wanted to turn on the television and say with amazement, "Hey, I went to college with this guy. We even shared a lab table!"

Sooner or later, one of my collegiate friends will make it big and reporters from Esquire and the Washington Post will be knocking on my door. I will have a script ready to tell them what it was like to cram for finals with the Chief Executive Officer of a Fortune 500 company or sneak into the top floor of a sorority with an Oscar nominee.

Yet, my first brush with greatness came differently than planned. While paging through a local newspaper, I ran across a story of a Nebraskan who has helped the homeless in New York and AIDS victims in Washington, D.C. It didn't take me long to realize that the Nebraskan was my pledge brother, Tom, whom I had seen only twice since graduation.

This was my first opportunity to witness someone who I knew well in college get recognized by the media. Somehow, the glitz of bragging about Tom's success didn't quite turn out the way I had expected.

After I carefully prepared a script

in anticipation of the media calls, my phone only rang once and that was someone calling to sell me insurance. No one called to ask me questions about Tom's social or study habits.

Still, Tom's story is a great jewel for the media to pick up, but only one newspaper has reported it.

those suffering from advanced stages of AIDS.

Tom now works for Catholic Charities, a fund-raising effort in Washington. He still returns to help the nuns once a week.

Since no one will call me about Tom's rise to fame, my script seems to be a big waste of time.

But, imagine these remarks printed in some magazine article reporting Tom's success.

"It is people like Tom who I am proud to say I knew in college. You really have to respect someone who trades in a guaranteed career in engineering for a life of public service."

"Tom has the heart of Texas and gives a piece of Dallas and Houston to everyone he meets. A lot of social problems could be solved with a few more people like Tom in the world."

Somehow, my canned remarks are not as impressive as Tom's story is. His work for the homeless and AIDS victims doesn't need my couch-potato accolades, but rather just my respect.

Perhaps I should save my public remarks until I have a friend who makes it big in Hollywood or Wall Street.

At least Tom's story made headlines for one day — make that two. Good job, Tom.

Carlson is a third-year law student.



Joel Carlson

Tom came from a small Nebraska town and studied industrial engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He bypassed interviews with Hewlett Packard and IBM to work at a Catholic supported shelter, deep in the heart of the Bronx.

His daily routine included feeding the homeless and putting them to rest at night. Tom's bed was in the same room as those the shelter aided. He volunteered at the shelter and worked in a restaurant one night a week to earn spending money.

After six-months at the shelter, Tom moved to Washington, D.C. to join some nuns who were caring for AIDS victims. His around-the-clock duties included feeding and bathing

Letters

Columnist assumes life begins after birth

Lee Rood, in her column (Daily Nebraskan Feb. 9), made the same erroneous assumption that most pro-abortionists do, in not acknowledging that life begins before birth.

By saying there are two arguable sides to abortion, she is assuming that life does not begin until after birth. Rood, how can you believe that at one moment the baby (zygote, embryo, fetus or whatever you want to call him or her) is not alive, but once born, the child is alive? How far back in the development cycle do we have to go?

A few years ago in Omaha, there was an abortion performed resulting in a baby being left on a table where he cried for two hours until he died. Obviously the baby was alive, right Rood?

Perhaps you have taken the position that most pro-abortionists have taken when faced with the evident truth that life begins before birth. That is: when life begins is a moot argument. Rather, we should consider the individual's rights. The question then becomes does the quality of one's life

supersede that of another? History is filled with horrid examples of this false thinking and it takes little thought to know that this should not be the case. It is sad when our society becomes "bored" or apathetic to this issue, while millions of babies are killed each year.

What if the mother's life is in danger? Less than three percent of all abortions performed in the United States are the result of the mother's in danger or pregnancy due to incest or rape. So 97 percent of all abortions are not the hard case you describe in your column.

You mentioned that "until God speaks out there will always be two sides to abortion." I believe that God has spoken on this issue and that is "Thou shall not kill." Unfortunately, until people listen to what God has said and realize that abortion kills babies, for this reason in itself, there will always be two sides to abortion.

David A. Volkman
graduate student

Proud, black female refutes Wilhite's letter

I have two strikes against me, according to society. I am a female, but more proudly, I am black. I also would like to respond to the "educational" letter by Scott Wilhite (Feb. 23). You know, Wilhite, until that day, I was fooled into believing I was born and raised in Omaha. Are you trying to tell me otherwise? I take it you know something the rest of us blacks don't. I'm sure they did not know this either. Thanks so much.

I am appalled that a college student could still walk into a classroom

every day knowing what a letter could do to us "plantation occupants."

But before sending us "back" — where that may be — you should be aware, my friend, that you are largely outnumbered. Because we blacks do not die — we multiply. We are black by popular demand!

Gayla J. Gullie
sophomore
criminal law

Editorial Policy

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

The Daily Nebraskan's publishers are the regents, who established the

UNL Publications Board to supervise the daily production of the paper.

According to policy set by the regents, responsibility for the editorial content of the newspaper lies solely in the hands of its student editors.

Letters

Philosophy professor says gays are moral

Two letters published in the Daily Nebraskan (Feb. 23) asked for discussion of the morality of homosexuality, and insist that homosexuality is immoral because the Christian God forbids it.

There are two problems with these arguments.

First, the Christian Bible does not clearly condemn homosexuality. Recent research suggests that what is condemned may be not homosexuality in general, but pederastic homosexual prostitution. We can all agree that sexual acts — homosexual or heterosexual — inflicted on children are immoral, but this does not imply that homosexuality is immoral, any more than it implies that heterosexuality is immoral.

The second problem is that (as has been known for several thousand years) theists should not claim that

God's forbidding something makes it wrong — unless their God acts on a whim, without reasons for her actions. If God has reasons for forbidding something, those reasons make it wrong, not God's pronouncement. The debate about homosexuality, therefore, should focus on what reasons there are for claiming that homosexuality is immoral, not on whether a god forbids it (this focus also has the advantage of being relevant to those who do not believe in the Christian God). And I see no reason to claim that homosexual intercourse between consenting adults is immoral.

Harry A. Ide
assistant professor
philosophy

Gay acts are sinful, according to the Bible

In response to James Holloway's

guest opinion (Daily Nebraskan, Feb. 26) entitled "Sexual morality not a choice of orientation, but behavior," I would like to know where are these facts, logic and reasons that he bases his point on? It is not perceptions and logic that Gene Wiggins (DN, Feb. 23) based his argument, but on the faith God has put into us.

We, as Christians, know in our hearts that the Bible is the word of God, our creator. The Bible specifically says that homosexual acts are sins. It's not a question of faulty perceptions or logic, but the faith which God has instilled in us. If you are a Christian, you know that it's wrong. If you're not, you should learn what you are damning before you do — even if you don't agree with it.

James Smits
junior
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