

Bigots, Greeks and smoke incense readers

Letters

Senator calls criticism of joke bills unfounded

In response to the "A-SUN-blocked" editorial (Daily Nebraskan, Feb. 25): As the author of the "Sun" and "Psyched" bills, I found a few points unfounded. For instance, that some senators are not serious due to "joke bills." I have worked extensively on the issue of the tuition surcharge for the engineering college by writing letters to the governor, state senators, the Daily Nebraskan, the Lincoln Star and Journal, and spoken with deans and vice chancellors, as well as at the two regents' meetings addressing the issue. I am still involved in the matter through my position on the Equipment Committee in the mechanical engineering department. I wonder if all that will fit on my resume?

I also found it surprising that none of the "joke bills" discussed in the editorial has ever made it to the floor of the Senate and has therefore never been "discussed and passed" as stated in the editorial.

True, the bills were written as jokes, but were never intended to be taken seriously or reflect that the Associated Students of the University of Nebraska is not a responsible organization and is able to address many topics effectively. They were mainly written as entertainment for the senators and staff of ASUN.

By the way, I am looking forward to April 1 and the next edition of the "Daily Halfasskan" and some truly serious journalism.

Joe Wurtz
senior
engineering senator

Condemners of gays have 'shallow' beliefs

In response to the alleged Christians and others who seem to be so offended by homosexuals: If you have nothing more to worry about than someone else's lifestyle and/or sexual preference, I would like to change places with you.

On the other hand, you seem to have such a shallow perception of what's important in others, in yourselves and in life itself, that I'm more than happy to stay where I am.

Cid Donnelly
graduate student
anthropology

Christ didn't condemn gays, reader contends

It's disheartening to see Christ's teachings, based on a philosophy of love, continually used to justify persecution. This philosophy is summarized in the parable of the good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37). I also would like to point out that nowhere does Christ condemn homosexuality or homosexuals.

I would suggest that those of you who use God to justify fear, hate or anger (and thereby justify its effects) please look beyond those justifications to see if you are truly acting out of love. Know thyself, and we shall know you by the fruit that you bear. Hopefully, it won't be bitter.

Pat Tetreault
post-doctoral fellow
psychology/law program

Reader faults letter but understands point

In response to Scott Wilhite's letter (Daily Nebraskan, Feb. 23), I felt his sarcasm was degrading. My first response was anger. I did as Kimberly Randle and other letter-writers. I took offense because I am a black female. When I read Wilhite's letter again, I understood the point being made.

The point is, you can't lock people in the closet because they are different. You must accept them, whether you like them or not, and learn to live with them.

I do criticize Wilhite. The comment he made could have been inter-

preted in many different ways. I had to read it twice to come to some conclusion. I think the best way to get a point across is to make it clear so that everyone has an understanding. By doing so, no one will be hurt. I don't think Wilhite used good judgment when he responded, and it's obvious that he didn't have the audience in mind. If Wilhite meant to be offensive by his comment, then it's obvious that his thinking is outdated, and he is living in an unrealistic world.

Jannette Bush
freshman
news-editorial

ASUN senator lauded for fee-reduction bill

I would like to congratulate Sen. Steve Henning of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska for having the "insight" to the views of the general population of University of Nebraska-Lincoln students and to have the guts to introduce a bill to reduce student fees. Henning has shown that not all ASUN senators are irresponsible, carefree spenders. Students should keep this issue in mind when they vote in the upcoming ASUN elections.

Lewis Coulter
sophomore
finance

Greeks take top spots in ASUN, Boldt says

After listening to all the rhetoric surrounding the current Association of Students of the University of Nebraska campaign, I find it rather ironic that the major issue raised by both Voice and Action campaigns is non-Greek representation, or should I say "lack thereof."

I am the first and only non-Greek executive in six years, and with this campaign, that streak will extend to seven. Until ASUN parties include non-Greeks in their executive slate, I fail to see how either can cast the proverbial first stone.

Curtis Bright
junior
teachers college

Let's drop the charade of "concern over equal representation" and find a solution. Both parties are squandering too much time on a dead issue. If the executive candidates are true leaders, I challenge them to stop focusing on the problem — and start concentrating on answers and solutions.

After all, true representation exists on all levels of an organization, not only lower levels.

Shawn M. Boldt
ASUN first vice president
resident of Abel 7

Non-smoker refreshed by UNL smoking ban

I would like to applaud the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's new policy to ban smoking in the halls, classrooms and labs. This news is literally a breath of fresh air for this non-smoker. I have been irritated to no end by outraged smokers who insist that they have some inalienable right to poison the air, leave butts anywhere and make life generally unpleasant for me.

Well, my cancerous companions, please review the Bill of Rights, Articles of Confederation, Magna Charta, Ten Commandments or any other respected collection of human rights and obligations. Nowhere will you find it written that I must endure your doggy breath which just so happens to endanger my health and well-being.

In my opinion, it takes a hell of a lot of nerve for smokers to complain that their rights are being violated when they have shown so very little regard for mine. Not only have I had to suffer from their smoke in the halls and at the Nebraska Union, but I have also had the displeasure to breathe their foul air in classrooms while classes were in session.

I see the UNL plan as a solid step toward a more pleasant atmosphere in which to study and enjoy the company of stimulating individuals.

Reader says ASUN should change course

The first part of this letter is in response to a letter by Eric Peterson. Peterson, I know that the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska does not have the final authority over which student fees are refundable and which are not. I did not state nor imply in my last letter that I thought that was the case. I merely stated that I felt that if ASUN really wanted to do something positive for the students, then they should work at getting Fund B fees refundable. You should take your own advice and not criticize without knowing what you are talking about.

The second part of this letter is again about ASUN. After my last letter, I had a long talk with my own ASUN senator. He assured me that none of the senators want their college costs to rise. I suppose it would be a bit ridiculous to think that anyone wants to pay more for college. However, when ASUN had a chance to vote on a bill that would lower student fees by 10 percent, they voted it down. John Bergmeyer, I assure you that many, if not most, students would have welcomed a change of direction by ASUN. ASUN would

not have been running scared if they had voted for the decrease after just approving an increase, they would have finally been taking a stand to support the students. After all, who is ASUN supposed to be supporting, the students, or James Griesen, who felt it would be a "knee-jerk" reaction to approve the bill. Of course, Griesen probably would not approve the decrease anyway, but it might have been a good try.

Brent Boettcher
freshman
ag honors

Letter Policy

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Letters will be selected for publication on the basis of clarity, originality, timeliness and space available. The Daily Nebraskan retains the right to edit all material submitted.

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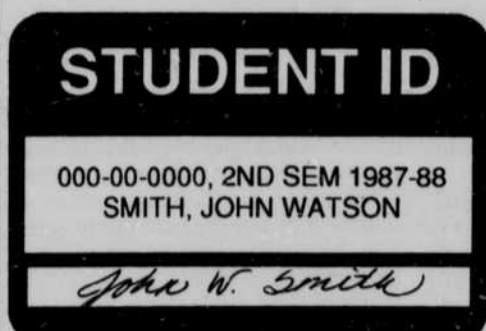
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