

Daily Nebraskan
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Mike Reilly, Editor, 472-1766
Diana Johnson, Editorial Page Editor
Jen Deselms, Managing Editor
Curt Wagner, Associate News Editor
Chris Anderson, Associate News Editor
Joan Rezac, Copy Desk Chief
Joel Carlson, Columnist

Pay for players

Chambers' good intentions miss mark

State Sen. Emie Chambers of Omaha has missed the mark with his bill to pay Nebraska football players, but he has unearthed some problems that college athletes face today.

Chambers' bill, LB1226, would treat scholarship football players at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as employees of the university and allow them to be paid for their efforts on the field. An amendment was added to the bill requiring four of the other five Big Eight schools' states to enact similar legislation for the bill to take effect.

Chambers argues that football players are being "exploited" because they generate big bucks for the university, while receiving no compensation. But Chambers needs to remember that these players aren't being forced to play football. No one held a gun to their heads and made them sign that letter of intent to play football at Nebraska. They're here because they want to be.

Granted, the university rakes in thousands of dollars from TV contracts, ticket sales and other revenue generated from football. That money finances UNL's "non-revenue" sports such as volleyball, track and women's basketball. Football and men's basketball are the only money-making sports at UNL.

If the football revenue were to be reinvested in the football program to pay players, the other sports would suffer. Programs would eventually be cut, and UNL would lose quality student-

athletes to other universities. Nebraska Athletic Director Bob Devaney also brought up an interesting point. If UNL were to pay its players and other universities didn't, UNL would have no one to play. Nebraska's players would be considered professionals and would be ineligible for NCAA-sanctioned games.

And that's something UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale doesn't want.

"If this bill revolves around the professionalization of amateur athletes, our supporting it would send out the wrong signal," Massengale said. "It would give the appearance that we're emphasizing athletics more than we should."

And it's not as if college football players are starving. They already have two sources of income.

Although they can't work during the school year, they can hold summer jobs. Scholarship players also can qualify for up to \$1,400 a year in Pell Grants. The NCAA raised the Pell Grant amount for athletes from \$900 to \$1,400 last January.

Over the years Chambers has had good intentions with his legislation concerning UNL athletics. A few years ago he pushed a bill to guarantee scholarships to athletes who were injured.

And Chambers is again looking out for the interests of college athletes with his "pay the players" bill. Unfortunately, the proposal, if passed, would sack UNL and its athletic department for a big loss.



"THAT'S RIGHT, MADAM, IT'LL COST YOU 25¢ TO MAIL THAT LETTER... NOW, WOULD YOU ALSO LIKE IT DELIVERED?"

What you see is what you get

Dressing for success is an uncomfortable societal institution

You might have seen it — that stylish shampoo commercial being run on the airwaves lately. This attractive young woman is talking to her handsome boyfriend, trying to convince him to use the shampoo. She says something like: "You may never get a second chance for a first impression."

What she said is true. The first time we see someone makes a big difference as to how we perceive that person later. If a person has, God forbid, dandruff, we may never again look at him or her in the same light.

This also holds true for clothes and hair styles. The trend of cosmetic plastic surgery is now even being advertised. I guess everybody wants to be like Michael Jackson. Some people just have to be in style; they have to make a certain statement with the image they create for themselves.

And then there are the people who create the fashions for the workplace. A second edition of the best-selling book "Dress for Success" has recently hit the bookstores, telling people how certain colors work best to give one the proper image for the office. According to the book, this will, in the long run, help people be successful. It's dress for success, so to say.

An image is being created solely for one's success. People seem to be more concerned about the facade of their appearance than the performance of their work.

But who am I to talk about style? I'm the kind of guy who worships Oscar Madison, that slob sports writer on "The Odd Couple." My roommate can attest that I pattern my style after Oscar. So can my mother.

I buy a lot of my clothes at used clothing stores, and what I get isn't fashionable. Nor can I dress up with them. All ties do is choke me. I don't want to meet my end with a piece of cloth.

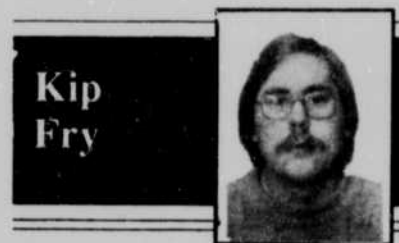
I like to follow the advice of Henry David Thoreau, who in his book "Walden" declared that clothes are designed to keep a person warm and nothing else.

But just looking around campus, I see a great many people who are influenced by present fashions. I

don't read Gentleman's Quarterly, so I can't name the fashions. However, I can identify them.

Personally, I would be happy if on just one day everybody from the top levels of administration to the lowest student would come to school and work wearing what they were most comfortable in.

Why not this Friday? People who follow the current styles are primarily looking for an image, something a little bit different than themselves — something that shows they are not totally happy with themselves.



Kip Fry

But image doesn't necessarily have to be an individualistic statement in the style of clothing. Anything can have an image. While people will have some sort of image no matter what kind of efforts they put into it, too often their image is manufactured.

The same is true of numerous universities across the South that have turned down the opportunity to have a major motion picture shot on their campuses. Newsweek On Campus recently reported that the upcoming movie "Everybody's All-American" was turned down at North Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama. Finally, Louisiana State University allowed film crews on its campus.

The film, which deals in part with the racial tensions that pervaded the South during the 1950s and 1960s, was turned down by those universities because they didn't want to hurt the image they had worked so long to build and maintain.

"Everybody is real careful about image these days. We've worked very hard to overcome the effects of past discrimination," said Steve Frankel, special assistant to the president of the

University of Georgia, according to the magazine.

I'm glad they've worked so hard to fight their racial problems. But that image they've worked so hard to maintain is not what is important. What is important is what they have actually accomplished. Maybe there is not as much racism as there once was. But we can't be sure of that because the image says so. Images can be misleading.

Maintaining that image so stringently may only foster further discrimination and racial tension. It is almost as if they are embarrassed about any gains they might have made since that time and do not want to show the difference. It could be that they don't want people to see how racist they still are.

But no matter what their image may be now, those schools cannot erase the past by merely denying a movie to be shot in their midsts. Filming "Everybody's All-American" isn't going to make them appear racist any more than they might deserve to be by any of their actions.

If the pride Frankel has for the University of Georgia is so deserved, then it should be willing to allow such a production. There is nothing to be feared any longer with such a stand.

People and institutions seem too concerned about their images. A person doesn't have to follow the latest fashions from GQ or Vogue. The same is true with something as large as a university. Image, therefore, should not be that important.

But try telling that to most people today. Being successful, for many, is crucial to a happy life. Subsequently, they think they have to be able to "dress for success."

Success shouldn't be measured by the way one looks. Or the way an institution appears. It is measured by what is done underneath those looks.

When we don't worry so much about image, only then can we defeat those things we so much like to say we disdain.

Fry is a graduate student in news-editorial and is the editor of The Sower magazine.

Letter

Reader: Bible does not demean women

I have never attended a Brown Bag Lunch at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and if Professor Elaine Kruse is a typical example of the kind of speakers at these events, I plan not to attend one in the future. A March 18 Daily Nebraskan story shows Kruse's anti-Bible predisposition toward investigating the role of women.

Kruse gave many examples of "religious" perversions and also said that the Bible demeans women. I can't deny that some lunatics in the past, and no doubt today, have missed the entire message of the Bible and have created their own methodology and hokey rituals for "worshipping" God. But to attribute these perversions to God or His Word is going much too far.

The bizarre actions Kruse discussed are not based on the Bible, but rather on cult-like devotion to pseudo-Christian themes. If Kruse tries to equate the Bible and human philosophy of religion, she will find that the two are incompatible. To choose human religious philosophy over the Bible as the norm is a fallacy.

The Bible doesn't say that women are to be "pus suckers" or anything of the kind. The Bible has many ex-

amples of women who followed God's leading and contributed a great deal to the real universal church — the one that is composed of persons who, regardless of what denomination, are followers of the teachings of Jesus and the apostles. Even in the Old Testament, there are examples of women who were leaders and heroines.

This is not to say that the Bible doesn't differentiate the role of women and men. The one who made man and woman is well aware of the differences he made in the two and has accordingly set up guidelines to help us know how we can be most useful to him. Those who refuse to accept that there are at least some differences between men and women will find themselves, so to speak, kicking against the goads.

We should be united against the human conventions that have prevented women from living up to their potential. But we shouldn't be fighting against God, who has thankfully made us different.

Gene Wiggins
senior
computer science

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.

Letter Policy

The Daily Nebraskan welcomes brief letters to the editor from all readers and interested others.

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.

Readers also are welcome to submit material as guest opinions. Whether material should run as a letter or guest opinion, or not run, is left to the editor's discretion.

Letters and guest opinions sent to the newspaper become property of the Daily Nebraskan and cannot be returned.

Anonymous submissions will not be considered for publication. Letter should include the author's name, year in school, major and group affiliation, if any. Requests to withhold names will not be granted.

Submit material to the Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448.