Daily Nebraskan
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Quibbles and bits

Students should hear different viewpoints

• Little by little, citizens of the United States are losing their personal freedoms.

According to The Associated Press, students attending schools in the Silver Valley Unified School District in Yermo, Calif., now will be required to salute the flag every morning.

The school board directed district administrators to remove a section of the state education code stating that a salute is not mandatory.

"Communism comes from liberalism," district board President Bob Woltman said, adding that he is "tired of liberalism in our schools."

It isn't hard to guess what political party this guy is affiliated with. Woltman seems to have something against liberalism, but gives no grounds for it. Being a liberal does not lead to becoming a communist.

His comment implies that communism is bad, yet he advocates taking away a basic personal freedom -- something conservatives say communist countries do.

He also feels that liberalism is not good in schools, yet many "liberal" ideas will create positive social reforms in schools and in society. What better place for liberalism than in schools?

Schools are designed for learning all aspects of life, having all ideas presented. School-aged citizens need to hear both liberal and conservative ideas so they can decide where they stand on issues.

Woltman and the school board's decision is wrong in one more way -- the mandatory salute is in direct violation of a 1943 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that the government cannot compel citizens to salute the flag.

• A change in the Dead Week Policy is now in the hands of the UNL Faculty Senate.

The Association of Students of the University of Nebraska recently submitted a survey of student opinion on how the policy should be changed to better accommodate students.

The survey showed that most students favor professors conducting classes Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of dead week, but not Thursday and Friday. The four-day weekend could be used to catch up on reading or any other work that needed to be completed before finals.

This personal time for the students could improve grades by alleviating the worry of moving to summer housing or finding a summer job. These tasks are an incredible hassle during finals week, and too important to put off until after finals.

Some members of the Faculty Senate have said the time would be used to party, which may be true. But many students will use the time wisely, and will celebrate after they've aced their finals.

•A computer virus that infected computers in the Interfraternity Council office two weeks ago has left questions concerning the importance of newspaper coverage of such an incident.

The IFC computers have been cured, but the attitude of one of the computer doctors must be addressed.

Rod Krogh, a former member of the IFC Executive Council, eradicated the virus with ASUN Sen. Michael Ho.

Krogh told a Daily Nebraskan reporter, "The situation has been solved, and they (students) don't need to know a damn thing."

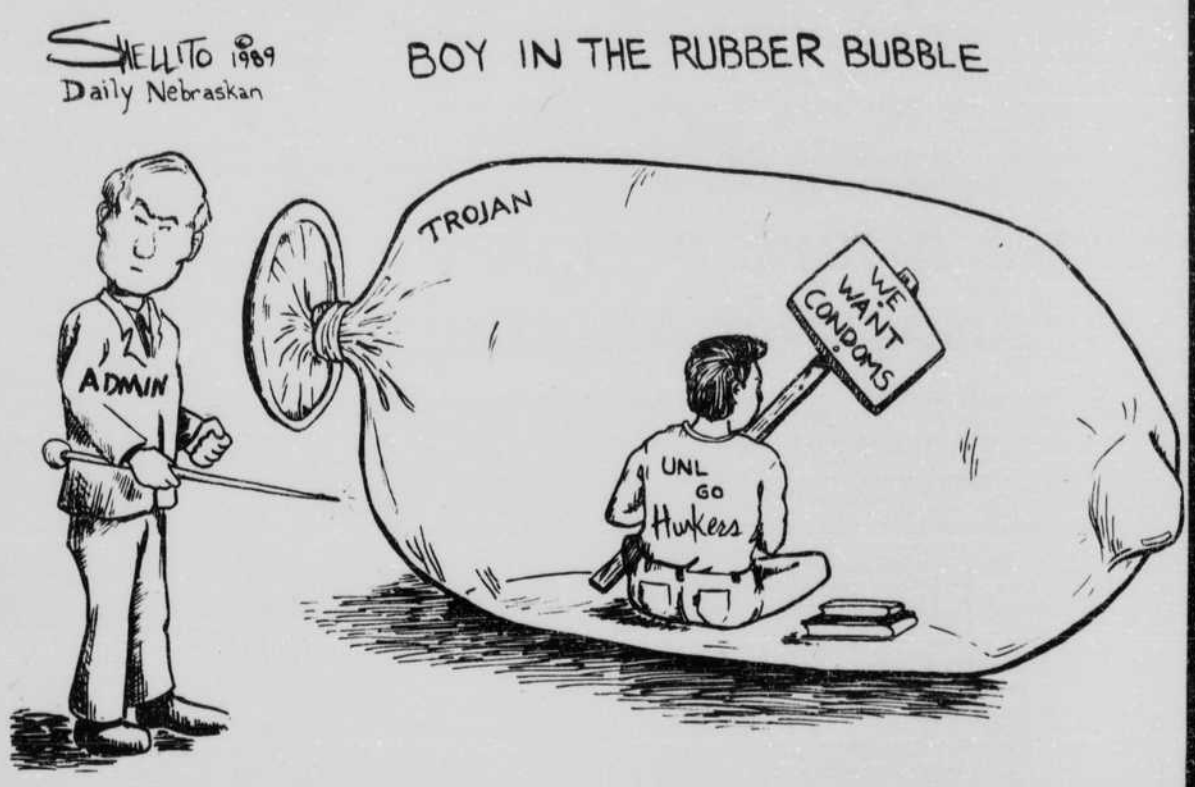
The DN begs to differ.

No. 1: The IFC computers store information important to some greek students, therefore it is important that they know what is going on with the computers.

No. 2: The IFC office is financed by fees from greek students, therefore they have the right to know for another reason.

No. 3: To prevent the virus from infecting other academic computers using the the same system as the IFC computers, users of those other computers must know about the virus.

-- Curt Wagner
for the Daily Nebraskan



Sand and beer may cure it all

The road to truth and happiness may pass through Southeast Texas

Hey, Bob, how hard are you gonna party next week? I'm gonna puke so many times my tongue falls off. Have you ever been to Padre? God it's great. Last year, I puked and puked and puked, and met some neat people. God, it's great. Lots of well-educated flesh baking in the south Texas sun. Bob, I'm gonna love it. The sun, the girls, the vomit. I'm just gonna love it. Southeast Texas, here I come. I'm all psyched. Where you goin' for Spring Break, Bob old buddy?"

"Southeast. . . Kinda towards Florida."

"Aww hell, Bob, Florida's great too. I went there two years ago and had a ball. It was great. I puked and puked and puked and met some neat people. God, Florida's great. You'll have a great time in Florida."

"I'm going to Falls City, Mike. Not Florida or Padre or paradise. I'm going to southeast Nebraska. I hate you and your 'I'm going here and I'm going there crap.' It's not where you go that matters, it's who you're with. I'm going with nobody to see my parents. It's not thousands of well-educated and oversexed young people. It's my parents.

Maybe I'll tan on the muddy beaches of the Nemaha. Maybe I'll see near-naked kneecaps and wrists. Maybe I'll vomit from the stench of a cattle yard. Oh, I'm gonna party reee-e-eeal hard, butthead."

"I think you're overreacting a bit, Bob. I'm sure you'll have a very relaxing break. What could be more relaxing than home sweet home? I envy you and your mundane life. I have some knitting books if you'd like to learn to knit while you're home."

"Look, pal, I have better things to spend my money on than a week of non-stop fun. I was thinking about getting some electricity and water for my house. I know I'm frivolous, but I love it when my lights work. Have you ever tried to study to candlelight? It hurts your eyes. Look, I like fun as much as the next guy. I just can't afford it."

"You're no poorer than me, Bob. Get a loan . . . sell heroin . . . kill somebody. Seriously, you've got your priorities screwed up. College is your last chance to really live. Pretty soon, you'll be mowing your lawn and kissing your wife and yelling at your kid. You'll regret ever being young because you tried to be responsible. Regret is a lot more than spending $150 on a vacation. Think of it as an investment in your future. Investments are responsible. Be responsible, Bob. Go to Padre."

"Mike, you've been watching too many '60s movies. Being in debt gives me a headache. Headaches are irresponsible. I've seen your type. 'Aw, man, you gotta live for today. Live fast, die young.' Well, you don't die young. You just sit and think about your debts and your toasted brain until you're reeeee-e-eal old. You've got that damn smoker's attitude. Smoke, smoke, smoke cause you 'don't feel like quitting.' Yeah, you'll wax real eloquent when half your lung is lying in some hospital garbage bin. It's the same thing as going into debt for a little fun. 'Live for today. Whoopee. Boy, this is great!' Mike, you've got to be economical with your life. You don't want to spend it all early."

"Now, Bob, you're being irrational. I'm not talking about joining a commune. I'm asking you to get away for a while. You're really stressed. You need fun. You don't even have to vomit or meet people. Just get away. For $150, you could blow off steam. You have a lot of steam to blow off, Bob. You just compared my smoking to Spring Break. That's a really bad analogy. I'm worried about you."

"OK, Mike, maybe I am taking my life and money too seriously. It's just that I have a fear of poverty and regret. I have this vision of me sitting in a tattered Lazy-boy, sifting through the documents of my youth saying 'Oh, those were the good old days. Boy, I sure had some great times then.' I have a fear of my life peaking too early, Mike. If I suffer through drudgery and boredom now, I'll be fired up about male menopause later. You're saying I'll regret not having fun. I say I'll reminisce myself to death. Not going to Padre is part of my master plan, Mike. I'm avoiding regret."

"You're pathetic, Bob. I'm not talking metaphysics here. I'm talking skin and sun. I'm talking alcohol. College has really screwed with your head. You're thinking too much. You need a beach. Only $150 and you can straighten out your life. Do it, Bob. . straighten out your life."

"I doubt that sand and beer is going to straighten out my life . . Would I have to drive?"

"No, Brad's driving. We're leaving Friday at noon."

"Does he have a tape player?"

"Yeah."

"I'll bring the Doritos."

Nelson is a junior news editorial major and a Daily Nebraskan associate news editor and editorial columnist.

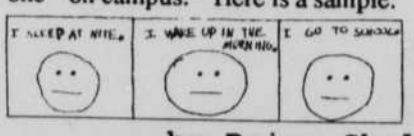
Reader damns Shellito's Campus Notes comic strip as predictable

After viewing Brian Shellito's Campus Notes "comic strip" for a semester-and-a-half, I have come to a conclusion that I must share with you:

PLEASE STOP NOW!

They are so predictably normal that I find myself more amused by staring at a blank wall.

If the question should arise, "Do you think you could do better?" the answer is hell yes, and so could anyone "on campus." Here is a sample:



Scott Parish
senior
biology

P.S. Your editorials are equally mundane.

Editor's Note: Check out today's edition of Campus Notes.

Editor's Note

by Brian Shellito and Curt Wagner