

Daily
Nebraskan
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Nightmare handled

Health Center officials to be commended

Kudos to the University Health Center officials. Last week had to be, as Director Gerald Fleischli put it, a health center director's worst nightmare.

But despite the ominous measles outbreak, UNL health officials handled the outbreak beautifully.

For most of the 13,000 students who had to be immunized, the process took only a few minutes.

At Kansas State University, according to the Kansas State Collegian, students were waiting in line for almost two hours to be vaccinated, after seven cases of measles had been reported.

UNL is not immune to more measles cases, and Fleischli said the third-generation cases may not be diagnosed until May 10.

But hopefully, the number of those cases has been kept to a minimum by the quick and complete planning of university, county and state health officials.

Officials can be proud as students raise their sore arms in salute.

-- Amy Edwards
for the Daily Nebraskan

What others think

Exxon to pass the buck on disaster

Has anyone else noticed how the price of gasoline has risen in the past three weeks? Has anyone noticed how the federal government has chipped in to bail the oil out of Prince William Sound? Has anyone noticed that Exxon's profits are expected to suffer little by causing the nation's largest oil spill?

Well, if you haven't, wise up.

Exxon may face criminal and civil fines of nearly \$1 billion on top of the costs of cleaning up the oil spill. So what? Exxon won't ever pay them -- we will.

Exxon had the gall to tell Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan that it wouldn't "make available" \$15 million to assist the government in setting up a council to study the long-term effects of the spill and to develop a plan to rehabilitate the wildlife habitat. Exxon's reason: they can't earn interest on the money if they give it to the government.

This is greed, kids. While there's nothing wrong with making money -- the business of America is still business -- profiting from a disaster should leave a sour taste in the mouths of even the most ardent capitalists. But in Exxon's case, the taste seems most pleasant.

Meanwhile, consumers are being fed a steady diet of the slop. There's only one way to make Exxon accountable for the damage they've done. Boycott Exxon products.

-- The Daily Iowan

UNL Good News gets laughs

An open letter to Nels Forde, publisher of The UNL Good News:

You can imagine my shock, after reading your tabloid for almost a year, that you are not a humorist. I had assumed these past few months that the UNL Good News is a publication striving for laughs, a goal which it frequently achieves. With me anyway. After all, I can always count on your flatulent editorials for a few chuckles no matter how foul a mood I'm feeling. Lines like "As Christians, we criticize the Daily Nebraskan's advocacy of condom distribution as encouraging fornication, which is sin against God" are absolute howlers. Who would have

thought such wonderfully wrought nonsense is meant seriously?

Unfortunately, a friend assured me today that you are sincere; you don't merely pretend to be a buffoon. He said it's sad but true that you and other "fundies" go through life with blinders, refusing to acknowledge reality and, instead, taking great pride in ignorance.

Ah, well. I suppose I can always find another source for amusement. Meanwhile, I'll relegate The UNL Good News to my wastebasket.

Jim McWilliams
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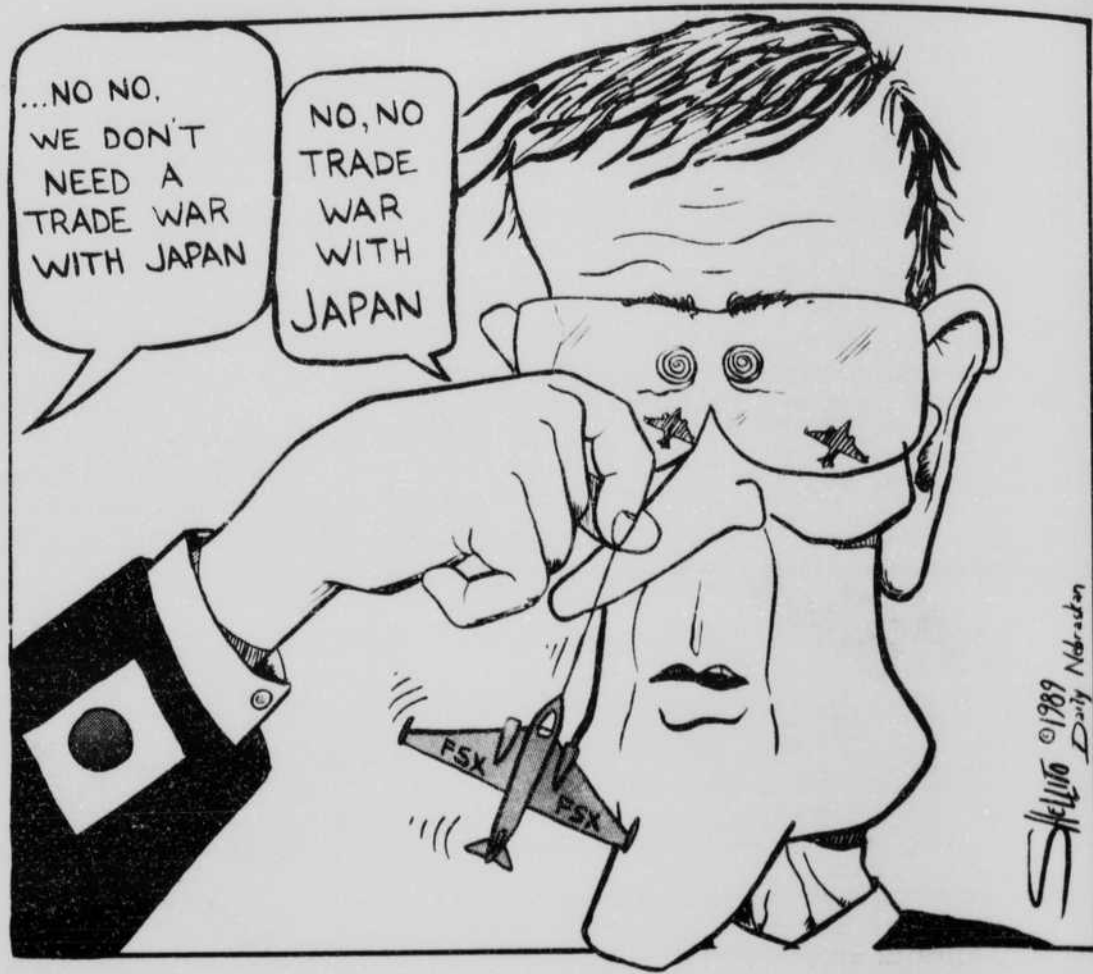
editorial

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

Letters and guest opinions sent to the newspaper become the property of

the Daily Nebraskan and cannot be returned.

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



God save the Daily Nebraskan

Forde's un-Christian attitudes don't impress Catholic columnist

I have finally seen the light! I have UNL Good News publisher Nels Forde to thank for that.

Thanks, big guy. Hallelujah!

In last week's issue of UNL Good News, Forde gave ASUN a big pat on the back for its decision to vote down the resolution to urge the NU Board of Regents to add sexual orientation to the non-discriminatory section of the NU Charter.

Fortunately, the ASUN senate passed a revised edition of their bill last Wednesday urging the board of regents to add not only sexual orientation, but marital status and physical disability not relating to job performance to the non-discriminatory clause.

Homosexuals, Forde's editorial in the issue said, don't deserve such special consideration because they are not legal minorities -- they aren't "born that way." Instead, he argues, they are conditioned.

They just wake up one morning, look in the mirror and decide to be different.

Right on, Nels. God is undoubtedly proud of you.

But the Daily Nebraskan, Forde wrote, is the true anti-Christ in the matter.

"The Daily Nebraskan's position on condom distribution in the ASUN office is irresponsible as well as sacrilegious," his editorial stated.

Forde went on to say that the DN's advocacy of condom distribution encourages fornication. Lighten up.

If a newspaper editorial drives students to fornication, society is a lot worse off than it seems.

Pssst! Hey, Nels. Don't spread this around, but... college students have sex now and then. So do high school and junior high students. It's 1989, Nels. Welcome to reality!

Unfortunately, in 1989, sex can kill. It can also sometimes wreck lives if adequate preparation -- birth

control -- isn't administered.

I happen to be the product of a private, Catholic education, and I was taught from the relative start that birth control is wrong. But in a world filled with starvation, neglect, child abuse and general ignorance and irresponsibility, birth control seems less "inhumane." When the choice is between an overcrowded world with more problems than solutions and prevention of conception, one has to ask: What's the bigger crime?

Forde goes on to say that DN Editor Curt Wagner was dead wrong when he wrote the editorial against ASUN's decision.



Chuck
Green

... the allegation in the DN that (ASUN Sen. Steve) Thomlison is diametrically opposed to the gay/lesbian movement is potentially libelous."

Way to go, Nels. You lucked out. Without the word "potentially" in that statement, you would have heard from our lawyers. Libel, ol' buddy. Libel.

Forde then called for a ASUN resolution to ban the DN and asked UNL students not to read the newspaper. All in the name of Christianity. And bigotry.

It never fails to amaze me how narrow-minded and intolerant some "Christians" are toward their fellow humans. They stand on a pedestal of superiority, telling people what God wants by interpreting Bible passages any way they see fit to acquire their desired result.

Kind of like the Nazis right before World War II.

Of course, these same people have a knack for throwing the blame back in someone else's face while pointing a critical finger all the while.

"Liberals must be deaf," Forde wrote of the DN. "They can never hear logical arguments against their prejudices."

Huh? Come again, Nels? Couldn't hear you.

It's amusing to read such an audacious statement about "logical arguments" from someone as bigoted as Forde.

People like Forde go against everything religion stands for. It's little wonder why society is becoming more and more atheistic. The newspapers are full of stories about abuses of religion.

Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker, Jimmy Swaggart... now you can add one more name to the list.

Forde maintains that homosexuality is an acquired status, rather than an ascribed one. "They," he says, are conditioned int. "their" status, making "their" own decisions as to which path to follow. Maybe. But that was the belief about epileptics and the mentally ill not so many years ago. It may still be for some people.

Forde and those like him have serious problems. Intolerance of minorities, or anyone who happens to be different, is a disease. It's sickening, but even more so when it is practiced in the name of God. Does Forde really believe that God wants homosexuals persecuted? Burn them at the stake, huh, Nels? How about Muslims? Hindus? Blacks, maybe?

If there is indeed a God, what he (she?) wants is something none of us can know -- yet. But we'll all find out someday.

And some people may be surprised at what they learn.

Green is a senior news-editorial and criminal justice major, and is a Daily Nebraskan sportswriter, sports and editorial columnist and the copy desk chief.

letter

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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.

Readers also are welcome to sub-

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Anonymous submissions will not

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

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