

Daily
Nebraskan
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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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EDITORIAL

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"The cursed criminal George Bush ended his ominous term today and departed for history's trash heap with his hands stained with the blood of people aspiring to freedom."

— Iraqi News Agency

"I felt like booing myself. The thing is, when we see ourselves playing like that, we've got to be strong enough to smack ourselves on the head a couple of times and say, 'Hey, we look awful.'"

— Nebraska basketball player Bruce Chubick, after fans booed the Cornhuskers in their game against Sacramento State.

"I have to type my own letters, for goodness' sake."

— University of Nebraska Regent Rosemary Skrupa

"I did not run for this job just to warm the seat. I desperately want to make a difference."

— President Bill Clinton

"I think we're getting to the point that we have so many areas that we have to have money, something needs to be done. I wonder whether the governor lacks the political courage needed to get that money for the university."

— ASUN President Andrew Sigerson

"The meeting happened a month ago, and I was told about it a week later. But that was so long ago I couldn't be sure what was said."

— NU Regent Rosemary Skrupa describing a Nov. 15 meeting of regents and outgoing NU President Martin Massengale.

"Nice mustache. I like that."

— President Bill Clinton greeting a White House visitor.

OTHERS' VIEW

It was supposed to be an open-and-shut case. Every pre-election poll indicated that Colorado voters would easily reject Amendment 2 to the state constitution. The amendment prohibits state, county and local governments from protecting homosexuals from discrimination. It also repeals existing gay rights ordinances.

However, the measure passed with 53 percent of the voters' support.

The reaction to the amendment was both immediate and far-reaching. Nationally, gay-rights activists proposed a boycott of the state of Colorado until the amendment is repealed.

Though a boycott appears to be a noble political statement, such action is actually a useless, if not counterproductive, gesture.

Punishing the entire state for the opinion of little more than half its voters is unreasonable. Instead of lashing out at all of Colorado, organizations would be better served by working with opponents of the measure. By working to rectify the situation rather than shunning the state of Colorado, groups would be more likely to see Amendment 2 overturned.

— University Daily Kansan
University of Kansas

EDITORIAL POLICY

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Fall 1992 Daily Nebraskan. Policy is set by the Daily Nebraskan Editorial Board. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the views of the university, its employees, the students or the NU Board of Regents. Editorial columns represent the opinion of the author. The regents publish the Daily Nebraskan. They establish 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 students.

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 or reject all material submitted. Readers also are welcome to submit material as guest opinions. The editor decides whether material should run as a guest opinion. Letters and guest opinions sent to the newspaper become the property of the Daily Nebraskan and cannot be returned. Anonymous submissions will not be published. Letters 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.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kepfield

I cannot believe that two and 1/2 months after the general election, Sam Kepfield is still sniveling about George Bush losing his bid at reelection. I guess that now he is out of a job talking about his idol, he has taken to giving last rites to a man who hasn't even been president for 48 hours.

I am sorry that you lost your reason for writing, Sam, but if you spent as much time talking about our problems instead of bitching that your guy lost, maybe some positive things could happen these next four years. To paraphrase a Lloyd Bentsen quote from the 1988 election, "Mr. Kepfield, you are no Rush Limbaugh." Quit trying to act like him.

Ted Fuller
sophomore
electrical engineering

Deep thoughts

There are three calories in the gummed adhesive on a letter-sized envelope. That means if I wrote the Daily Nebraskan 500 letters a day, I would only have to leave my room to urinate.

Kate Peistrup
freshman
arts and sciences

I saw an ad for Clairol hair dye which stated that gorgeous hair is the best revenge. But I think dismembering someone's family is the best revenge.

Kate Peistrup
freshman
arts and sciences

The Neihardt cafeteria serves creole beef cubes at least twice a week. I tried creole beef cubes once last October and I did not like them. When I am in line to obtain food, I never see anyone else take any creole beef cubes. Perhaps creole beef cubes could be better utilized, maybe in the feeding of Serbian war criminals or to stain J Crew outerwear to the point of destruction.

Kate Peistrup
freshman
arts and sciences

Music

On behalf of the music retailers of Lincoln, I'd like to set the record straight. In Wendy Mott's editorial "Music stores staffed by snobs" (DN, Jan. 18, 1993), music-store employees were referred to as "pretentious, offensive, grungy little snobs." Please excuse me for taking offense at this, but this seems to be an unfair generalization.

As for the staff of Pickles, where I am employed, about five retail employees even remotely fit this description or "alternative" lifestyle. The rest of us, more "normal" in appearance, make up the majority. I, for one, don't even own a flannel shirt.

Greeting the customers as they walk in is essential to any business in sales. All customers should assume the risk of interaction with a salesperson when they enter the store. You might be surprised how many people are completely lost in music stores and feel stupid asking for help.

You might also be surprised how many times a customer purchases an older album of an artist thinking it's the new one and becomes slightly infuriated after listening to it. When a retailer includes some bit of information about an artist during a transaction, it is called customer interaction. Would you rather we ask you about the weather? Or maybe a gruff "thank you" would be enough for you? As one of these sales "guys," I personally consider it an essential part of my job to talk to customers. I've probably learned more from them than they have from me.

the religious backgrounds of those pushing to keep prayer in these ceremonies.

The current reasoning of ASUN is that it should be up to the majority of students whether or not prayer at commencement takes place. This too is false. This is not an event exclusively designed for the students, but for the parents, family and friends of graduates. It is also the outcome of a learning experience in an institution that receives both state and federal tax dollars. As much as the proponents of prayer would like to believe, not everyone in America is a Christian. I also think that most people would be opposed to giving tax money to support religious organizations they do not belong to or disagree with.

Despite all this, I do believe that taking a moment of silence, as was done at December's commencement, is appropriate. It gives those who wish to dedicate their participation in the commencement to their own deity a chance to do so. This allows them their freedom of religion, while protecting the rights of those who believe differently.

James A. Zank
senior
art and English

Keri Spotanski
junior
history

Admissions

The recent debate over whether to increase admission standards at UNL is a good example of how reluctant older generations in this country are when it comes to shouldering the blame for our nation's decline.

I was disappointed, but not surprised, to hear the opposition to the increases. I, and I'm sure most of the generation now in school, have heard the lecture about how lazy and unmotivated this young generation is and how we are responsible for just about everything wrong in America today.

I used to consider this point semi-valid, that America's state of decline was very much the fault of myself and my peers. But then I started observing events like this recent one. Much of the opposition to the standards increase came from the very same generation that is continually telling us that we are falling behind the rest of the world.

So to those who opposed this measure, make up your mind. If you think that providing a college education for every single American who even thinks they want one is important, fine. But don't expect to find this country but falling farther and farther behind other nations who don't find it essential to provide such services.

Geoff Friesen
freshman
arts and sciences



David Badders/DN

Prayer

The controversy surrounding the exclusion of prayer at graduation is ridiculous. The amount of time that has been devoted to this issue by ASUN and the Academic Senate is time I consider wasted.

Many who I've spoken with who support the inclusion of prayer at these ceremonies claim that the prayers offered would be non-denominational. That makes no difference to me. I have no formal religion, no pastor who can be called upon to lead the gathering in prayer. Would there be non-Christian prayers at commencement? I believe this is unlikely, given