

Daily Nebraskan

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EDITORIAL

Nuclear world

Instability mounts despite Cold War end

Last weekend's summit between Bill Clinton and Boris Yeltsin was unique in that it was the first major summit between the United States and Russia that did not revolve around nuclear weapons.

The two nations have come far enough that they can now take the time for pressing economic and domestic issues.

But despite the progress the United States and the former Soviet Union have made, the world's nuclear stability is worse than it was during the Cold War. Although the two superpowers are reducing their nuclear stockpiles, other nations are letting the nuclear genie out of the bottle.

Tuesday, the Associated Press reported that Ukraine, an independent country that was once part of the Soviet Union, is edging ever closer to joining the world's six nuclear powers. Western and Soviet experts predicted Ukraine could gain nuclear capability in a few months to a few years.

North Korea has also recently been reported as approaching the ability to produce nuclear arms. During the Gulf War there was concern that Iraq might have been close to nuclear capability.

The world is a better place because the Cold War order of conflict between the former Soviet Union and the United States is over. But it is also in many ways more dangerous.

Now it is the responsibility of the United States, as the world's only remaining power, to ensure that nuclear proliferation does not endanger world security. This challenge is as difficult as any Bill Clinton must resolve.

OTHERS' VIEW

On March 11, the University Council voted unanimously to ban smoking from all campus buildings. Residence halls and privately owned buildings are the only exceptions.

An action long overdue, the proposed ban's final fate now rests in the hands of Ed Meyen, executive vice chancellor, who will make his decision soon after considering all other options.

Close to 30,000 students attend the University of Kansas, but only a small minority of that population smokes. It is appalling how adverse an effect smokers can have on the rest. To add to the already overwhelming evidence that points to second-hand smoke as a major health risk, a report by the Environmental Protection Agency released in January revealed even stronger evidence to reinforce the argument.

The report concluded that smoking contributes to 53,000 deaths a year. Clearly, when people choose to smoke in a campus building — whether it be in a hallway, lobby or stairwell — they are doing more than endangering their own health. They are also putting their fellow students and faculty members, who walk through these areas to and from classes, at risk.

The issue of smoking on campus has brought about many efforts to find some compromise. As it stands, smoking is allowed only with specially designated areas in campus buildings. But with the rise in complaints about second-hand smoke this year, it is obvious, even to a smoker on the Council, that the only viable solution is to ban smoking completely. The smoker proposed the ban.

With the increase in complaints of second-hand smoke, the overwhelming vote of the board in support of the ban and the already irrefutable evidence of the health risks involved, a clear message should be conveyed to all smokers regardless of Meyen's decision: if you do choose to smoke, please respect others and smoke outside.

— University Daily Kansan
University of Kansas

EDITORIAL POLICY

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Spring 1993 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.

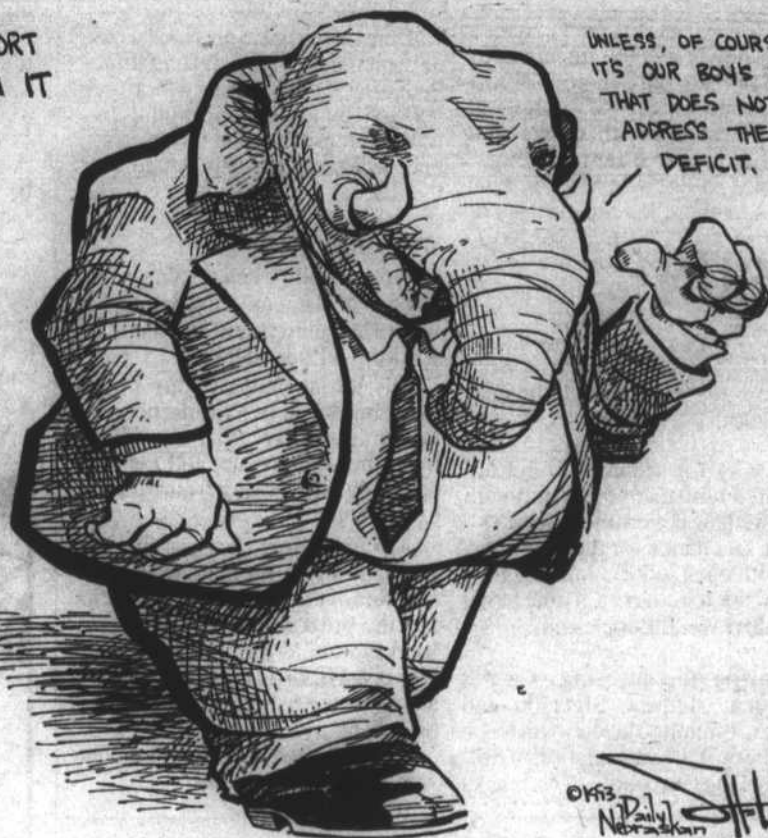
LETTER POLICY

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.

NO. WE CANNOT SUPPORT
THIS JOBS BILL WHEN IT
DOES NOT ADDRESS
THE DEFICIT.



UNLESS, OF COURSE,
IT'S OUR BOY'S PLAN
THAT DOES NOT
ADDRESS THE
DEFICIT.



DEB McADAMS

Spring anxieties in full bloom

I see tulips! I see green grass! I see robins! It's spring, ladies and gentlemen. Time to put away depression and bring out anxiety! Once again, students have a buffet of anxieties to choose from.

Basic freshman anxieties include returning to the bright lights of Theford after continual weekends of grunge bands, keg beer and endless parades of whichever magnetic gender.

You will have a curfew again when you get home. Your parents will treat you like some kind of child. You will be resentful and indignant. A universal chorus of parents will recite, "When you are paying your own bills..." etc., etc.

Stop for a moment before you stomp off in disgust and go wreck the car. Having someone else cover the lights, heat, rent, insurance, car payment, groceries, laundry and credit cards isn't exactly a living hell. I'd be sawing logs at 7 o'clock every night if it meant having my living expenses paid.

Another freshman quandary is whether or not to have sex before you spend the summer peddling tacos. Take it from one who did. Don't. There comes a point in life when the degree of one's desire to be recognized for his or her values is inversely related to one's former inability to maintain them.

Go to the gym and run until you drop. Relentless physical exertion doesn't cure hormone hysteria, it simply makes you sweaty, smelly, exhausted and otherwise unattractive.

Timely anxieties for seniors include, "If I graduate; i.e. if the paperwork is in order, if some remote requirement doesn't materialize, if I haven't somehow lost a \$300 library book, if I don't go insane during this last barrage of exams; then what will I do?"



You will have a curfew again when you get home. Your parents will treat you like some kind of a child.

Seniors notice a marked absence of potential employers beating a path to their doors. An endless summer of peddling tacos is a ghoulish prospect after four years of hard labor and Ramen noodles.

Seniors who are fortunate enough to find gainful employment may still have some ropes to negotiate. College doesn't seem to prepare people to select insurance coverage, purchase a mortgage, devise a retirement plan or have the oil changed every 3,000 miles. No number of hours in human behavior prepares anyone for a boss that turns out to be a repressed Nazi.

Some seniors who have managed to graduate without the debt of a small nation may be considering a master's degree. One young woman I spoke to was ambivalent about her decision to go to graduate school. She wondered if she was doing the "right thing."

The "right thing," as far as one's personal direction, is like one of those lizards that changes colors in different surroundings. It's elusive, and it changes. When you've taken a wrong road in life, you figure it out, and take another road.

Besides, making a wrong decision about graduate school takes fewer emotional scars to correct than, say, a wrong decision about marriage.

Marriage is a typical rite of spring. A lot of people reward themselves for graduation from college by getting married. The party is fun, the clothes are stunning, and the loot is unbelievable. But forever is a long time. It can be an eternity if you've tied your fate to someone who is physically or verbally abusive.

These behaviors don't end with marriage. They become more intense with familiarity. If you're hooked up with someone who is mean to you, don't get married. Get help.

Then again, there are those marriages that work. More power to those who take the chance. If you stay together long enough, you get to keep the loot.

Those of us not bedeviled with freshman or senior worries have our own middle-undergraduate crises to contend with. There are still four weeks of school left during a time when our biological instincts — always in contention with our social structure — tell us we should be sailing down a bike path or smiling at some dreamboat.

There's yet another year of the financial aid two-step and the Drop/Add cha-cha.

Some of us will be taking internships in cities where Mace is considered a condiment.

We will forget every word of the non-English language that some poor soul tried to drill into our heads.

Whatever your brand of anxiety in this season of fret, remember one thing. You own it. No one can take it away. You can't pay anyone enough.

McAdams is a sophomore news-editorial major and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Verdict

I would like to commend Gary Young on his article "Talk of trial full of racial biases" (DN, April 5, 1993). He has come out against political correctness. He has stated many facts about the Rodney King incident that many will not say because of feared backlash. Many civil rights leaders have suggested and even threatened violence if "justice is not served" (i.e. guilty verdict). They always call for fair trials when blacks are tried, but now that the situation has changed, they now want an unfair trial or a bias, if you will.

The point is that none of us are able

to judge this case. We are not there. We have not heard all the evidence. We should not judge without hearing the complete story. This concept is called having an open mind. I am not saying they are innocent. Not by a long shot. I'm saying nobody outside that court room has the right to judge the outcome of this case.

This brings me to the point I want to make about the first trial. How many people, if any, saw the footage of Rodney King getting off the ground and lunging at one of the officers? I never did, before or during the first trial. The media never thought this was relevant to show? They did not state the case would be hard to get a

conviction on. Same as the current case. It is not an easy case to prove, but the media will not say that.

I have to blame part of the riots on the media. They do not tell the whole story. The prosecution in the first trial was not trying to prove excessive force. They could have done that easily. They gambled with a more serious charge and South Central Los Angeles lost.

If the cops are convicted I hope it is on the merits of the prosecution and not for fear of riots.

Mark Bunnell
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