

KIM STOCK

Problems take back seat to glory

A recent photo, appearing in an April edition of "Time," symbolizes a sick display of inhumanity.

In this photo a young boy, under the age of 10, is sprawled out on a desert floor. He is so malnourished that his body consists of dark skin and sharp bones. His little face shows the pain of not only agony, but of hopelessness. Flooding around the boy, not more than four feet away, is a vulture carelessly watching the boy and obviously waiting for his next meal. Below the picture reads this caption, "A million southern Sudanese face starvation. Here a child falters en route to a feeding center while a vulture hovers."

Disturbing? Yes. Gross? To say the least. But, the worst thing about this photo is not the picture itself, but the photographer who took the picture.

Think about it. The first instinct of the photographer was not to help this starving boy get to the feeding center and prevent his death, but rather to set up his camera to take a picture. I'm not saying that the photographer didn't eventually help this boy. Maybe he did, but it was after he could capture the boy's moment of defeat.

What is wrong with us? We are so engrossed in pointing out the problem that we forget to come up with a solution. We would rather set up our video cameras, waiting for a tragedy to occur so we can tape it and then send it to ABC. We love to disturb, we love to cause commotion, but, when it comes to picking up the broken pieces, we run like scared bunnies.

Hmm. It's just like what comedian Bob Goldthwait said in one of his routines, "If you see me getting beat up by 10 police officers in the interstate, put down your damn video cam-



We are all scared of change. We all love to point our fingers at the problem, but we don't like solutions.

cra and help me." Pointing out the problem is one thing, solving it is quite another.

It's like the rappers you see on MTV who make money from phrasing rhymes about how bad it is in the ghetto. I'm not saying it isn't bad in South Central Los Angeles, but after the rappers are done in the studio, South Central is a world away from their cushy homes and BMW's. Of course Ice Cube says that for him, "Today's been a good day." He gets to put down his plastic gun, take off his costume blue flannel at the end of the day and relax on a bed made of satin. Yeah, we know how tough it is for you.

Isn't it ironic Dr. Dre, that after you're done with your performance where you pretend you're "putting the chrome to the dome of a white Sox hat," you get to sip Asti Spumanti, while the kids from Watts leave your concert and go home to what you were rapping about.

Then again, Oprah, Sally and Phil are guilty of the same crime. They invite their troubled guests to their shows, sit them in a semi-circle in front of their audiences, and probe

their troubles. After the guests have spilled out their guts on national television, audiences both in the studio and at home cry, the guests, of course, cry, and Oprah, while she sheds a few tears, gains some more weight and makes a nice 100 grand.

Has this all helped the troubled guest? Probably not. But, we at home are satisfied, because at least our life isn't as bad as the guest. Of course, Oprah is satisfied because she has more money to buy jelly doughnuts.

Here's the clincher. To be liberal is to want change. To be conservative is to oppose the changing of the status quo. However, in the end we're all the same.

All the liberals who work for Green Peace, sing about problems, and campaign for the big house on capital hill make money off of pointing out the problem. Yes, they disturb people. But, these liberals make a mint off of people's agony. How is that any different than Rush who goes after people's mistakes as if they were his prey? We're all scared of change.

I mean that, we are all scared of change. We all love to point our fingers at the problem, but we don't like solutions. Every one of us, me included. Have I done anything in this column but talk about the problem of pointing out the problem? Where's my solution? I want to disturb you, but help you? We're all running away.

By the way, the photographer who took the picture of the starving boy with the hovering vulture, won some photography award for it. Right now he's probably basking in the glory of respected status and a nice raise in his paycheck. As for the boy, who knows if he was half as lucky.

Stock is a sophomore secondary education major and a Summer Daily Nebraskan columnist.

WHAT DOES UNL THINK?

Do you think prayer should be reinstated into UNL's commencement ceremonies?

"I think that in a country that is founded on Christian principles, that prayer ought to be allowed."

Mark Larson
Junior
Psychology

"We have such diverse religious backgrounds, that it would be hard to make sure that everyone was satisfied with whoever was giving the prayer. It doesn't seem like, in that amount of time, they could represent everybody. A moment of silence gives everyone an opportunity to reflect in their own way. It seems the most fair."

Jeff Gorder
Senior
French

"I don't think they should. A college institution is where you go to get an education, and if you get an education, you should realize that most religions are just superstition. They can pray in church."

Troy Park
Senior
News-Editorial

—Compiled by Brian Sharp

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Great Plains films

Why did your paper give no coverage to the Great Plains Film Festival at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater during the last two weeks? I am an employee there, but some of our patrons have wondered the same thing. I know a newspaper is always getting grief from everyone under the sun to cover their events, but this festival was a major event taking place in this town and on this campus. During the last two weeks, the Film Festival showed some of the best new films of last year, some of which have not yet been shown anywhere else, as well as bringing several important artists to speak to Lincoln audiences. Appar-

ently, the DN found it more important to run reviews of mediocre films their readers had already heard too much about (do you really think nobody will hear of Hocus Pocus if you don't write about it?).

Not that there were no good articles, but why would you give an announcement of a local filmmaker's auditions if you refuse to cover the only venue for showing local filmmakers? Doesn't this seem rather backwards? Even if you had some aversion to local filmmakers, we invited internationally known film and literary artists like Michael Apted (director of Thunderheart and 7 Up series), Joy Harjo (Native American poet published in many college literature an-

thologies) and Joan Micklin Silver (director of Crossing Delancey). These are not unknown people, and their films were some of the most talked about in the years they were released. What rocks have your editors been hiding under?

Of course, I don't know why I am bothering to complain about this, everyone at UNL already knows that the DN is the Les Nesman of newspapers. This is just one more reason to give you the coveted Silver Sow Award, you guys deserve it.

Trevor McArthur
Senior
Teachers College

WALK THIS WAY...

to low prices, a huge selection and up to \$6 in trade for your old CD's.



Yes!

N EXPRESS LUBE

17th & N St.
No Appointments Necessary
476-9466

\$6.00 Off

Full Service Oil Change

Now For Only **\$18.95** (reg. \$24.95)

*We change oil, oil filter up to 5 quarts.
*We lubricate the chassis.
*We check and fill: Transmission fluid, brake fluid, battery fluid, power steering fluid, and washer fluid.
*We check anti freeze, air filter, wiper blades, tire pressure, vacuum interior, and wash your windows.

Best Service In Just 10 Minutes

Most brands available
Expires 9-30-93
Mon-Fri 8-6 Sat 8-4

A gift that will make your grad feel good long after it's opened.



Gift certificates available.

Imagine the look on your grad's face when they slip into a new pair of Birkenstocks.® With a contoured fit and shock absorbing sole, they're enough to make anyone smile.

Birkenstock

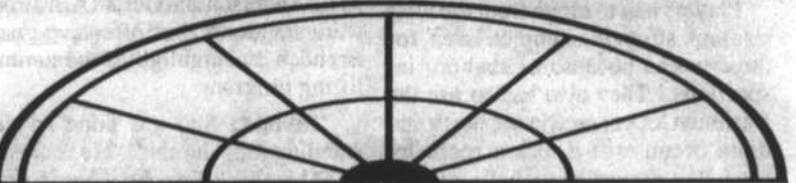
The original comfort shoe.™

Footloose & Fancy

1219 P Street

476-6119

©1993 Birkenstock is a registered trademark.



August Graduation

Personalized Graduation Announcements
(includes your name and degree)
\$28.00 package of 20

University of Nebraska - Lincoln
announces the Summer Commencement Session
and the awarding of the degrees of
Bachelor of Science
in Speech Communication
to
Kathy S. Nathan
Saturday evening, August fourteenth
Nebraska Assembly and ninety three
5:30 o'clock
Red Droversy Speech Center



Bachelor Gown, Cap & Tassle \$14.95

No return needed.
Save your cap and gown as a keepsake.

Big Red Department

NEBRASKA BOOKSTORE

Mon - Sat: 9 - 6
Sun: Noon - 5
Sat: till 8

13th & Q 476-0111