

Daily Nebraskan Editorial Board University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Jeremy Fitzpatrick Editor, 472-1766
Kathy Steinauer Opinion Page Editor
Wendy Mott Managing Editor
Todd Cooper Sports Editor
Chris Hopfensperger Copy Desk Chief
Kim Spurlock Sower Editor
Kiley Timperley Senior Photographer

EDITORIAL

Move along

NU presidential search takes too long

Outgoing NU president Martin Massengale has been named one of 10 finalists for the presidential position at Florida State University. His candidacy was announced in October. He will probably know by early 1994 if he has been chosen for the job.

The University of Nebraska presidential search committee began looking for Massengale's replacement last April, three months after his announcement that he would not seek a contract extension. The committee is expected to announce a list of four or five finalists Monday.

The selection of NU's next president is supposed to move quickly after the finalists have been selected. But it has taken nearly seven months for the search committee to prepare that list of candidates.

NU would be better served by a more rapid search process. The university has spent far too much time and money looking for a replacement for Massengale.

There are serious questions about whether NU even needs a president. The NU system has become top heavy and when a new president is selected his or her responsibilities will not be clear.

But if NU is going to have a president, the selection process should be reformed. Taking a year to select a president only distracts the university from significant issues like budget cuts.

The regents could help the situation by not delaying in choosing a new president when they get the list of finalists from the search committee. They should announce the new president as soon as possible so NU can move forward.

Let's wait

Iraq doesn't deserve world's trust yet

U.N. inspectors found no hidden Scud missiles or other weapons during a month-long search for possible storage sites in Iraq, The Associated Press reported Sunday.

U.S. and other intelligence reports claimed Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had hidden more than 200 Scud missiles and other weapons from U.N. inspectors. But no evidence of them was found during the search by 50 to 100 inspectors that was described by the team leader as thorough.

The failure to find any weapons could help Iraq. Iraqi Deputy Premier Tariq Aziz will go to New York next month to push for the lifting of the oil embargo imposed on Iraq after its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait, and the apparent lack of hidden weapons could bolster his position.

But the U.N. Special Commission said by its count some of the 800 long-range missiles provided to Iraq by the former Soviet Union are still unaccounted for. Iraq contends all the missiles have been destroyed.

The United States and the United Nations should wait before removing sanctions and embargoes against Iraq. If the U.N. Special Commission still feels there are weapons unaccounted for, despite the recent weapons search, the searches should continue.

The United States and United Nations should remember Iraq's hostile takeover of Kuwait before considering lifting any embargoes or sanctions of Iraq. Iraq should not be trusted until we can be sure they have learned their lessons from the Persian Gulf War.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Fall 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.

ACTION BEACON JOURNAL ©93



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Tolerance'

The Daily Nebraskan recently printed an editorial from the Minnesota Daily (DN, Oct. 27) in which the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America supposedly "championed" an acceptance of the homosexual lifestyle and masturbation in the name of "tolerance."

Thomas Eads (DN, Oct. 29) reacted negatively to such "acceptance" and criticized the Lutheran Church for not recognizing the importance of traditional ancestral family values. I would like to affirm to Mr. Eads and others that the ELCA has not abandoned family values and it has not championed the homosexual lifestyle.

What has happened is that the ELCA is studying the issue and a small committee within the ELCA has issued a draft statement on the matter. However, the ELCA has not yet acted upon the study and most ELCA churches have not even seen the study. The ELCA will not act on the study for quite some time, at least until the matter has been thoroughly debated.

Based upon comments I have read concerning the ELCA bishops' reactions, I seriously doubt the ELCA will support the study in its present form.

Paul Carlson president

First Lutheran Church ELCA

Lutheranism

I would like to make a clarification about the Others' View from the Minnesota Daily (DN, Oct. 26). The editorial stated that the Lutheran Church was making changes in its views on masturbation, homosexuality, birth control, etc. Unfortunately, the editorial failed to mention that this was the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, just one sect of Lutheranism. I, personally, belong to the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church, which is not associated with the ELCA. The views of the ELCA are the ELCA's only and do not reflect the views of all Lutherans or of the Missouri Synod.

It is sad to see a church cave in to pressure and make these kind of allowances to groups and ideas that have not been viewed as acceptable for centuries. The release by Pope John Paul II is a very good standard for moral and traditional living and should be looked at more closely by the Minnesota Daily, the Daily Nebraskan and Christians in general. The Bible does not support homosexuality. When Adam asked for a companion, God gave Adam the woman Eve, not another man. This alone stands as proof of God's disapproval of homosexuality, as well as many other passages in the Bible.

Jason A. Beineke junior English

Hat

There is a hat on this campus that has on it two breasts in a bikini top and under that bikini, the breasts have nipples.

Why is the person wearing this hat allowed to continue doing so? Doesn't he wonder or care if he's offending the people he passes?

You might say it's free speech and he has a right to, but his rights end where someone else's begin. We all have the right to walk around without having to see a pair of breasts on someone's cap.

I am a man. Under normal circumstances, I find women's breasts attractive. But to see them on the head of another man is ridiculous.

Some of my female friends have seen it and they are offended as well. They don't walk around with a penis on their caps. Would this man with the hat be insulted if they did?

Christopher Woerner sophomore integrated studies



James Mehaling/DN

Barney bashing

If you saw the first "Saturday Night Live" of the year, Charles Barkley played basketball against Barney. Charles crushed him, and Barney didn't bleed, he oozed stuffing. That's right, stuffing, because Barney's not real, he's a stuffed animal. And Charles and Barney left the game as friends.

I happen to like Snoopy. That little bird is always pushing him around, telling him what to do and kicking him off his dog house. But that's OK, Snoopy won't die, and he'll still be friends with Woodstock.

My point is compromise. Have a Barney Bash. Let Barney have a bad day like the rest of us, but make amends. Don't leave Barney lying in Broyhill Fountain. Let Barney go away from the bash knowing life will continue as normal for him. Let him know that he's "Good enough, smart enough, and by golly, people still like him."

The kids, that is, because after all, Barney's not real.

Jeff Bomberger junior actuarial science

NAFTA

The North American Free Trade Agreement would be a bonanza for multinational corporations and rich investors, but a disaster for working people throughout North America.

Even NAFTA's supporters admit U.S. workers would face short-term job loss, but the cost to American communities and to U.S. taxpayers has hardly been computed. As Congress grapples with various tax proposals to pay for NAFTA, it is becoming increasingly clear that this agreement is a major loser for this country.

The overwhelming majority of Americans realize they would see their standard of living eroded as the United States and Canada sought to integrate their economies with Mexico's. How could they expect anything else if the U.S. average manufacturing compensation of \$16.17 an hour suddenly was pitted against Mexico's \$2.35 an hour?

Faced with less disparity than that, the European Community carefully mapped out a 20-year plan to create a common market that helped to equalize standards of living with a development fund and to protect workers' rights with a social charter. Thus were Spain, Portugal and Greece able to join the EC in a constructive union.

NAFTA is loaded with trade-enforced protections for the property, patents and profits of multinational corporations, but without such protections for human beings. Under this agreement, workers are at the mercy of the profiteers in the unregulated marketplace.

The multinational beneficiaries of this agreement gain a plentiful and growing supply of badly paid labor in Mexico, where the one-party government keeps wages low as an incentive for foreign investment. Workers there do not have the right to freely associate, to bargain for higher wages and benefits, or to grieve unjust conditions of work.

For those who think U.S. employers would help raise the Mexican standard high enough to purchase U.S. goods, consider this: Mexicans who work in the high-productivity, American-dominated maquiladora sector along the border are paid, on average, \$1.64 an hour — 30 percent lower than Mexico's average overall manufacturing wage.

The labor movement believes expanded trade will provide more jobs for our communities, as well as economic and social progress for all. But this agreement is the wrong way to go about it. Let's scrap the whole thing, start over and do it right.

Gordon L. McDonald president Nebraska State AFL-CIO