

Daily
Nebraskan
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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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OTHERS' VIEW

Editor's note: The following is part of an editorial printed in the University of California-Irvine's student newspaper, addressed to the students of the University of Nebraska. See related story on page 1.

Congratulations!
We just wanted to drop you a brief note applauding your decision to offer the position of president of your university to our esteemed executive vice chancellor, L. Dennis Smith. Sure, L. Dennis is occasionally the butt of our jokes. But it is only with extreme respect and admiration that we mention him on our pages.
This is a brave man — a man not afraid to make unpopular decisions.

For instance: Some vice chancellors might have waffled at the prospect of selling off UC-owned, ecologically preserved land to the Transportation Corridor Agency. Some vice chancellors might have worried about the plight of the endangered gnatcatcher, the evaporation of open space in Orange County, or the protest of student groups such as Students Activists for the Environment.

Not our man, L. Dennis Smith. He was so enthusiastic, he even forgot to conduct the environmental impact report required by state law.

Yet if "resolve in the face of adversity" is not enough, you can add "resolve in the face of diversity" as well.

Last year, when students were protesting the lack of an Asian-American studies program here at UCI, L. Dennis exhibited an almost supernatural ability at avoiding contact with any of the many students who crowded his office in search of answers.

In any case, we are impressed that a vice chancellor would risk such widespread unpopularity through a seemingly blatant disregard and dismissal of the student body.

We are all sorry to see him go, but the students of UCI, as well as the California gnatcatcher, will just have to get along without him.

— New University
— University of California, Irvine

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"Although it doesn't bring our lovely Candice back to us, at least we know that justice prevailed."

— Stan Harms,
father of slain UNL student Candice Harms, reacting to the conviction of Roger Bjorklund for Candice's murder.

"Candi would probably tell me, 'Dad, I've told you all along God would handle this.' She'd probably tell me not to have any doubts — if our society doesn't get him, God would. And if I was him, that's who I'd be fearing."

— Harms,
on how he thought his daughter would have felt about the verdict.

"I went back to Brooklyn where everyone wants to handle the ball and everyone wants to shoot it and no one wants to play defense. I think that's how you can describe our team."

— Nebraska men's basketball coach Danny Nee.

"I haven't seen that much red in one place, ever."

— Newly appointed NU President Dennis Smith, describing the Nebraska-Iowa State football game.

"They're not just acts to get high to."

— Kevin Dochtermann, concert division vice president for Contemporary Presentations, talking about Cypress Hill.

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.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Coverage

I would like to say I'm more than glad the Candice Harms ordeal is finally over. I don't think anyone could imagine how it feels to lose someone to such brutal circumstances, and then to have it continually publicized in graphic details by the media, just to improve ratings and newspaper sales.

I think the Daily Nebraskan, along with the other newspapers and television stations, should grant the Harms family, along with their loved ones, a formal apology for using their grief as a way to make good news. There should be a line drawn in reporting the situations of certain individuals, out of respect for their families, and they didn't have to give the graphics of how she was mutilated just to prove a point.

In the future, I would hope to see a little more delicacy in respect to the victims of such incidents because reporting the news may require you to report all of it, but in the same token sometimes a suggestion is better than harsh words.

April Patrick
junior
international business, broadcasting

Benefits

Shawn Carlson, you wonder what the purpose of the greek system is (DN, Nov. 16). I cannot help but wonder if you know anyone in the greek system. What do you really know about it? Not much, I would wager.

The greek system, first and foremost, provides an opportunity for brother/sisterhood that can be found nowhere else. Through close academic, social and basic day-to-day interaction, a young man or woman will become incredibly close to his or her brothers or sisters, develop relationships that will last a lifetime and provide a basis for stable and comfortable adult social life.

To say that all greeks are "upper-middle class" is inaccurate. The only financial requirements of the greek houses are that you pay your rent and other house fees, which are very comparable to, if not lower than, what our esteemed residence halls charge.

Another primary objective is to preserve each person's individuality. Regardless of the stereotypes, we do not exclude those who drink very little or not at all. Carlson's insinuations regarding "dangerous sex lives" are equally unfounded. I know more greeks involved in monogamous or non-sexual relationships than people in the dorms, even though I have much more experience with residence halls.

Greg Anderson
sophomore
English, political science

Bashing

How interesting that an open-minded publications such as the Daily Nebraskan finds its responsibilities to include defining morality—right and wrong — when it comes to Roger Bjorklund and capital punishment (DN, Nov. 18). But since his future lies solely in the hands of one sentencing judge, perhaps as outsiders we can right a related wrong and kill a few birds with the same stone.

As 200 students bask in the afterglow of last week's frenzy, I suggest that UPC stage a Scott Barney Bash. It wouldn't be as "wrong" as the death penalty. It may send a message to anyone planning similar crimes.

Mark T. Voss
junior
business administration



'Whining'

I'm fed up with all the whining by members of the greek system over the stereotypical image people have of them. I'm sure most people are aware of the wonderful, good deeds some of the greek community has accomplished, just as people are aware of the elitist image propounded by the greek system of the past and present.

But really, why can't you just face up to the fact that you greeks have brought all the stereotypes upon yourselves. Just look at you, most of you look good and vice versa. I really think it's time you looked beyond your self-righteous attitude, climbed down off your mythical pedestal, rolled up your designer sleeves and change your image from the inside out.

As a system, you are responsible for the actions of all your members; if one of you looks good, all of you look good and vice versa. I really think it's time you looked beyond your self-righteous attitude, climbed down off your mythical pedestal, rolled up your designer sleeves and change your image from the inside out.

Jeff Lutkehus
sophomore
veterinary science

Agriculture

It has been brought to my attention that there are some people who feel an agriculturalist's primary goal is to rape and pillage the land and animals they own.

When will these people realize that nothing could be more incorrect? Agriculture is a business and a way of life. The land and the animals that are owned by the agriculturalist are considered investments and essential to the existence of the business. The mistreatment of these investments would create an inefficient and unhealthy product. In order to make a profit in any business, the investments require exceptional care. To relate to another type of business, if a trucking company did not take care of its trucks, how long would it be able to operate?

With the previous analogy in mind, why do people feel that agriculturalists have this desire to abuse the very thing that generates a profit, the land and animals?

It is important to understand the business and personal goals of an agriculturalist in order to make intelligent judgments regarding the entire agricultural industry as a whole. Without a basic understanding of agriculture, "intelligent judgments" are no more than emotionally heated ideas generated from observing an isolated incidence.

If there are still people out there who feel we, as agriculturalists, are raping for quick profit, consider this: If agriculture goes out of business, where will you get your food?

Wayne Choat
senior
mechanized systems management

Religion

In response to Robert J. Tobin's letter (DN, Nov. 11), I detect some confusion or ignorance in his reasoning about Galileo and the messiah. It was close-minded men who hassled Galileo when he was the one who believed in the messiah.

Doesn't history show us that people who stubbornly reject Jesus are the most dangerous? Conservative estimates report atheist Stalin guilty of 25 million killings. Atheist Hitler is guilty of killing six million Jews alone. Atheist Mao Tse-Tung killed tens of millions.

It has always been hard for man to accept new ideas. I hope Tobin is not like the men who opposed Galileo when a different way of thinking was offered. I agree with Plato as he is credited with saying, "We can forgive a child who is afraid of the dark, but the greatest tragedy in life is men who are afraid of the light."

Jay Yousting
pastor,
Harvest Community Church