

Daily
Nebraskan
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EDITORIAL

Cut loose

Lincoln teens should be allowed to dance

For those too young to participate in the city's bar scene, Lincoln is starting to feel a little like the town in the movie "Footloose."

The owner of AfterShock, a downtown dance club, was arrested Saturday night for obstructing a police officer who was at the club to investigate a repeated violation of a city ordinance.

The ordinance makes it unlawful for minors to participate in public dances without a parent or legal guardian present, with one exception: It does not apply to minors 14 years of age or over attending or participating in a teen-age public dance.

To summarize the legalese, minors cannot participate in a dance without a guardian, unless it is a dance expressly for minors.

A security guard said the club admits patrons between the ages of 17 to 25.

AfterShock, which does not serve alcohol, provides Lincolinites too young to go to the bars something to do that does not involve drinking. Lincoln ordinances make even that unlawful.

Lincoln officials should be grateful that someone opened a club that would give minors something fun to do besides drinking or cruising O Street. Past dance clubs open to minors have closed quickly; if AfterShock's owner wanted to make money, he could have opened another bar.

Alcohol is easy to get for minors who want it. City officials should focus on making it more difficult for minors to drink instead of taking away a place for them to have fun without alcohol.

Who shot JFK?

President's death should be no mystery

John F. Kennedy was killed 30 years ago in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

That is the only conclusive fact surrounding his murder that will likely ever be known.

According to an Associated Press poll released Sunday, only 12 percent of the American people believe they have been told the whole truth about Kennedy's death. Seven in 10 suspect a conspiracy.

Oliver Stone and other theorists have helped to spread the feeling that officials in the U.S. government were somehow involved in Kennedy's death. They have done a lot to raise interest in the assassination, but they have done little to uncover the truth.

What really happened in Dealey Plaza 30 years ago will likely never be known. As improbable as it seems, Lee Harvey Oswald probably fired the shots that killed Kennedy.

It is difficult to accept that a lone gunman took the life of the president of the United States with a mail-order rifle he bought for \$15. It is much easier to believe that a huge conspiracy acted against Kennedy.

But as attractive as conspiracy theories are, if they are not based in fact, they should be laid to rest. Kennedy will not be brought back by wild and unsubstantiated speculation about his death.

Kennedy is dead, and that is all we will probably ever know. If further evidence about his death exists, it should be brought forward. If it doesn't, then it is time for the United States to move on.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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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.



EARLY NAFTA VICTIM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Feminism

I am not directing this rebuttal toward all of mankind, just Patrick Hambrecht and the portion of society that adheres to a philosophy like his (DN, Nov. 16). His understanding of feminism is Neanderthal and disgusting. His search for self-evaluation at the expense of women not only is unjust, it also is the unsubstantiated gibberish of a cry baby.

Hambrecht, before you write more trash or utter any more garbage, I sincerely suggest you at least attempt a little research. Just a little thinking on your part might have saved us all from your senseless, childish nonsense. Your reasoning for hating women has no foundation in the real world; it is not based upon any known research except for a self-reflecting look at your life.

In fact, a number of studies have proven substantial discrepancies in learning based on gender that completely counters your argument. The Center for Research on Women at Wellesley College recently completed a study titled, "How schools short-change girls." Briefly, the publication is a compilation of all the scientific research addressing the difference in the treatment of young girls and boys in the classroom. Regardless of the teacher's gender, the study found your "sorority-like playpen of grade school" to actually benefit young boys more.

Although you are correct in assessing that the young girls are instructed as social models, the teacher caters to young boys. The findings determined that the teachers directed most of their focus of attention for learning toward the boys, while learning was not reinforced for the girls. The girls are expected to behave demurely and socially correct.

Women held positions in coal mines and sweat shops long before they could dream about going to college. Women are obtaining more powerful positions in today's society because we are proving that we are capable of doing the job. Women will not crawl back into the shadowy crevices where Hambrecht seems to think we belong. We will continue to prove our equality and fight for fair chances at the opportunity.

Michelle Freddolino
graduate student
unclassified

Art

I was appalled to see the cartoon by James Mehling (DN, Nov. 10). Not only is the cartoon furthering the misinterpretation of what happened at the Fiji house, it is helping to separate the university and greek system. I feel there was no consideration of Jeff Knoll's family or the Fiji house when producing this cartoon. Stereotypes of fraternity members are abundant in the cartoon, and until these images are

stopped, there will always be a division between the campus and the greek system.

I suggest the university faculty and students stop labeling each other, whether it be grecks, nerds or minorities. If we all step back and take a look at the stereotypes we are reinforcing, maybe then we can remove the many blemishes on the academic society.

Tia Trauernicht
junior
advertising



David Badders/DN

Priorities

I was impressed with the statistic of the dropout rate in fraternities printed in the letter (DN, Nov. 18). However, is it not true that members are in fact expelled or put on probation if their grades are not at or above average? This may in fact be why the statistic was so impressive.

I also have a friend who seems to have a list of parties with free beverages every weekend. She doesn't belong to a sorority or anything, but she is welcomed with open arms into every party, just like all of her friends. However, if a guy who does not belong were to try to attend this social gathering, he would be rudely asked to leave. Why is this? What are their goals? It seems to me that if I don't pay to be their friends, then they don't want to know me!

Finally, in response to the financial statement, I know what I pay every month to exist in Lincoln, and I also know what they pay to live in a shoebox-size room with another roommate. Let me just say we must have different priorities. I would much rather pay less, lead my own life and pick my own friends than have mine outlined by my chapter.

Don Bantam
senior
environmental studies

Facts

Women like April Patrick (DN, Nov. 19) should realize that they just as easily as Candice Harms could have been the victim. The papers were not using Candice for a "good news" story, as Patrick put it. These are the cold, hard facts. I further believe that they are a tool of education. Yes, the details are sickening, but they are also reality. Why should society continue to gloss them over and push them off to the side? Is it better to save you the pain of reading them, or the pain of being the next victim?

Jennifer Stevens
junior
psychology

Ratings

As a diehard Husker fan, I cannot believe the disrespect that the Associated Press voters have shown our team. It is a complete rip-off to have us sitting behind Florida State at this point in the season. I have two words: BYU and Alabama. These teams both won national championships on the heels of being undefeated. Alabama had a few scares last year, but that didn't mean they didn't deserve the votes! They set themselves up for a national title game by being undefeated and untied, as will the Huskers. Nebraska should go into the Orange Bowl undefeated and beat their opponent and win the title, simple as that.

I'm sick and tired of people constantly ragging on the Huskers saying they can't win the big one, they will just lose the bowl game by 35 points, blah, blah. It gets real old. I have the urge to slap these people when they constantly criticize the team. These are the same people who will go out and buy Big Red hats the day after they do win the "big game." I have a message for all those diehard Nebraska pessimists: Keep your worthless, whiny opinion to yourself.

Jon Herrera
senior
secondary education

Manipulation

What irony — a film critic who doesn't like to be manipulated by movies. It reminds me of an alcoholic who hates getting drunk.

After reading Anne Steyer's view of the film "My Life" (DN, Nov. 17), I sat trying to name the movies that failed to manipulate me in one way or another. It was a difficult undertaking, for if it was that bad I must have forgotten about its existence.

A movie that fails to manipulate its viewers is a failure, for that is the whole point of any art. A particular movie might have a terrible plot and horrendous acting, but if it gets viewers to respond, making them laugh, cry or boo, it's accomplishing its purpose.

Alan Green
junior
political science