

Daily Nebraskan  
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EDITORIAL

## All for one

### Don't use UNL money for Omaha college

A tale of two cities.  
Last August, a group of Omaha businessmen requested that the University of Nebraska establish an engineering college on its Omaha campus. They said it was inconvenient for their employees to take necessary day classes in Lincoln. The coalition offered to help defray most, but not all, of the \$2 to \$3 million it would take to establish a UNO college. But who would foot the rest of the bill?

A new college must not be established by reallocating resources from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Spending on engineering education in Nebraska already lags behind other states. Maintaining one strong program is more important than two weak ones 50 miles apart.

Regent Rosemary Skrupa of Omaha said money should not be as important as need. She said we should not put our finances before offering a quality education.

It would be nice if NU could routinely put needs before finances, but this is unrealistic. In a time when university budgets are routinely cut and criticized, need and money must walk hand in hand.

The debate has caused an unhealthy competition between campuses. This competition is inconsistent with NU Board of Regents Chairman Charles Wilson's one-university concept.

Now is not the time for intrauniversity squabbling. If NU can establish a new college without hurting the Lincoln campus, then fine. Certainly the generosity of the Omaha coalition should not be dismissed too quickly.

But if a new college weakens the university as a whole, then the idea should be dropped, as should rivalry between the two cities.

OTHERS' VIEW

It used to be executed publicly on a lawn or up on campus, but today it is shrouded in secrecy and often denied by its participants. Each year it claims the lives of unsuspecting victims such as Texas Tech student Jed Halverson, who lost his life in early January, and rivets repugnance in the public.

It is called hazing.  
The real question is why it has persisted in the face of national fraternity and sorority restrictions against it and a public repulsed by it. Initiation and hazing occur annually at KU, especially at the beginning of the spring semester, just as it does at many other universities.

Inevitably, the argument is made that "the house that hazes together stays together." It may be justified if one considers that initiation and hazing pledges are the events that have the largest turnout among fraternity and sorority members. But what is the value of members as brothers and sisters if the only events they truly can be counted on to attend are ones in which they humiliate new members?

The threat of hazing has turned more than a few qualified candidates and quality people away from joining a greek chapter. Young men and women choose instead to live in a scholarship hall or volunteer for a community service organization, things greek chapters strive to ingrain in their members. Hazing deters many of the achievers greeks seek to fill their ranks. If you look at the people that are sacrificed for hazing, it makes little sense to support its proliferation or existence.

— The University Daily Kansan  
— University of Kansas

EDITORIAL POLICY

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Spring 1994 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

### 'Wake-up call'

On Nov. 3, 1993, when Jeff Knoll suffered injuries from a fall at Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity, a wake-up call should have been given to the entire greek system.

The underlying problem that evening and a problem that faces the entire greek system is the ongoing abuse of alcohol. We encourage the leaders of other fraternities to proceed with caution. The entire greek system at UNL is important to us and, at this time, in need of change. Change is never easy, but when you can determine your own courses of action, rather than having changes imposed upon you, those changes are a lot easier to accept. Do not fall prey to the belief that it cannot happen to you.

Accidents happen, but when alcohol is involved, accidents appear to occur more frequently. The greek system here at UNL has been very fortunate that more accidents have not occurred. No one feels worse about Nov. 3 than the members of Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity. Sanctions have been implemented on our fraternity, but no sanctions are going to make us more aware of what Jeff Knoll and his family have gone through.

Our thoughts have always been with Jeff and his family. He is a part of our fraternity and always will be. We have shared a lot of good times with Jeff and hope he will always accept our friendship.

The members of Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity

intelligence. We're all adults now, and we don't need university-appointed patrolmen to tell us how to behave.

C. Aaron Hall  
senior  
electrical engineering

### Quake

A story in the Jan. 26 DN about the earthquake that occurred in Nebraska Monday caught my eye. Nebraska, and Lincoln in particular, is more vulnerable to earthquakes than people realize. About two weeks ago, the Conservation and Survey Division at UNL issued an updated report on earthquakes in Nebraska, and I picked up a copy of it for kicks. I learned:

- We had a quake that measured 3.3 on the Richter scale Monday.
  - We had a 4.0 in February 1989 in Cherry County.
  - Nebraska's first recorded quake was in 1867, the year it became a state. It was a Class IV, which means it measured between 3.0 and 3.5.
  - No earthquakes have been measured in Lancaster, Douglas or Sarpy counties, but there have been quakes in neighboring counties Saunders and Gage.
  - Lincoln is a Zone 2 earthquake risk area. A Zone 2 area can get quakes that measure 5.0 on the Richter scale. Los Angeles and most of western California are Zone 3. All major buildings in Lincoln are designed to survive quakes of about 5.0. But no one seems to know if the Capitol was built with earthquakes in mind.
  - A fault line runs straight through Lincoln, apparently right down O Street.
- Sleep tight tonight, and make sure you buy your earthquake insurance.

Wayne Schlitt  
junior  
computer science



Chris McMasters/DN

### Conservative view

There has been much talk about the proposal to restrict areas of campus from bicycles and forcing those that do ride to register their bicycles with the university. I am fiercely opposed to this proposal.

Although I do, in fact, enjoy riding my bicycle to my classes, I am not opposed to this for personal reasons. I feel the university does not need to be bogged down further with additional legislation and regulation.

Being a bit of a conservative, I generally oppose government regulation. Instead I call for action from those truly involved. The statement that most accidents could be avoided if both stroller and biker would pay more attention is generally true. It is not in the best interest of the bicyclist to try to ride at top speed through the middle of crowds during "rush" traffic times on campus, as a potential accident would be as detrimental to the bicyclist as the pedestrian.

In closing, the idea of legislation forcing bicyclists to pay to have someone watch to make sure they don't misbehave is an insult to everyone's

### Bicycle lanes

I have been riding a bicycle to campus now for almost 20 years. I have never been involved in an accident on campus, and my bicycle has never been stolen. Therefore, I am surprised by the concerns expressed recently by the Parking Advisory Committee.

Ours is a big campus, and a bicycle is an excellent mode of transportation for getting around on campus. A no-ride zone, like the one proposed by the committee, does not seem like a good idea to me. A better solution would be to have bicycle lanes, which can be easily accommodated by the fairly wide sidewalks on campus.

Finally, all bicycles are supposed to be registered with the city. This gives the bicycle an identification number, which can be used to trace its owner. I do not see how a \$5 campus fee would make a bicycle more theft-proof.

I hope the Parking Advisory Committee is not just looking for a way to make money.

Sitaram Jaswal  
professor  
physics and astronomy

### 'Hypocrisy'

The hypocrisy of my generation frightens me. In response to Tisha Smith's letter (DN, Jan. 26), I must disagree with her statement, "It is selfish and irresponsible to bring a child into this world without having the resources to support it and give it opportunities." This is America, not Ethiopia. Where there is a will, there is a way.

Smith also wrote, "We need to start our children on the right foot and at least give them a fair chance at being successful in the future." When a child is aborted, you are not starting its life, you are ending it.

I ask, what "chance" does the aborted "issue mass" have due to your "loving decision?" And where is his or her future? Smith also mentioned the "logical and realistic" — not loving — decision of the parents. I can agree with that statement, in that the parents chose to have sex.

I challenge you to start our children on the right foot and at least give them a fair chance at being successful in the future. Let's not hold the innocent children responsible for our actions.

Aaron Zimmer  
sophomore  
architecture