

PAUL KOESTER

# Regents could use wake-up call

The regents have disappointed me once again. My first disappointment was July 31, 1989, when the regents elected to fire University of Nebraska President Ronald Roskens in a closed meeting. Although Roskens was paid his annual salary of \$250,000 until June 30, 1991, the public was never given an explanation for the firing. To this day we still wonder not only why, but how the regents got away with throwing around the university's money like that.



The latest disappointment came this week when I learned that those \$3.5 million video screens the university plans to install in Memorial Stadium will be purchased from the Mitsubishi corporation.

My next major disappointment came in 1990, when I found that the university had millions of dollars wrapped up in companies doing business in South Africa. Much of the rest of the world was boycotting those companies to protest apartheid, but not our fine institution. Even when confronted with the issue, divestment was strongly avoided by the regents.

Although I have made the best of my education at the university, and I have had many teachers for whom I am grateful, this regent-operated school has disappointed me in many other ways. In too many classes, the emphasis is on getting those grades and that piece of paper called a degree, not on learning and gaining appreciation of the subject matter.

Through my university education, I have been repeatedly taught about global warming, deforestation, waste reduction and food chain inefficiencies. Ironically, the university's actions are contrary to what it teaches. Although I was taught about the waste and pollution caused by modern animal-based agricultural techniques, I was taught to adapt to the system, not to fight to change it.

It took years of pushing by environmentally conscious people to get the university to take significant steps to recycle, a movement it should have been leading, not just talking about. Through many majors such as business, students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln are taught to make a lot of money. But we have no envi-

ronmental education requirement. In chemistry lab, chemicals are used like they are going out of style, and the environmental implications of these habits are not addressed. Just last year, the university was again fined by the Environmental Protection Agency for illegal waste storage and disposal practices.

Even the lives of our fellow creatures are treated with total disrespect at the university. More than 20,000 animals were experimented on in 1993. Most are simply killed when the experimenters are done with them. Imagine the slaughter that will take place when the Beadle Center for Genetic and Biochemical Research is completed.

The latest disappointment came this week when I learned that those \$3.5 million video screens the university plans to install in Memorial Stadium will be purchased from the Mitsubishi corporation.

Mitsubishi, through its stockholdings and subsidiaries, is the second largest destroyer of rain forests worldwide and possibly the No. 1 destroyer of all forests. There is a boycott against Mitsubishi in protest of its destructive practices.

Four other companies manufacture large video screens. The regents need to pull out of their agreement with Mitsubishi and practice what their school preaches. This is a perfect opportunity for our school to make a big statement. Mitsubishi will feel the loss of \$3.5 million. Action by the regents might have an effect on the

way the corporation treats the earth and the peoples and creatures that depend on the forests.

Large logging companies do not care about the rain forests. They go in with large saws, bulldozers and tractors and take what they want. They leave the barren soil to its own demise and give nothing to the indigenous peoples whose lands they rob. Not only are people forced off their land, but it is not uncommon to hear about lumbering companies literally murdering groups of these people. Large corporations like Mitsubishi know they can take advantage of financially strapped nations, so they do. The regents have supported these practices with their purchase.

It is in each of our interests to do our part to protect the world's forests by protesting the regents' purchase. Forests convert carbon dioxide to oxygen and store carbon, keeping it out of the atmosphere and decreasing the global warming effect. Millions of species depend on these unique habitats, and millions of fellow human beings live there as well. Things will not change if we as individuals do not stand up and let our voices be heard.

So please, write some letters or come to the protest following the regents' meeting this Saturday between 11 a.m. and noon. It will be at Varner Hall, and demonstrators will speak at the meeting around 10 a.m. Mark those calendars.

Koester is a senior soil science major and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.

PAULA LAVIGNE

# Labels don't give 'Total' picture

Welcome to an environmentally safe, fat-free, liberal, vitamin-packed, alternative and emission-checked message from a member of Generation X.

In this cozy, capitalistic democracy we like to call America, we are obsessed with labeling. No longer can we accept anything for what it is. It is our solemn, God-fearing duty to stick everything into a category.

For those of you who have been too disillusioned and "labelified" to realize this is a communist takeover of our free will, we'll focus on an elementary ideal — breakfast cereals.

There are O's, stacks, flakes, puffs, gravel and cartoon characters. It's not just stuff you put in a bowl with milk every morning. Your individual breakfast cereal is part of a great breakdown of shapes, sizes and television programs.

You can't just go buy any breakfast cereal without being drawn to the label that tells you how much fat, iron, calcium, sugar, calories and rodent parts are in your bowl of milk either.

Beyond the issue of breakfast cereals is music. An innocent singer gathers a few of his buddies together to form a band, and then Mr. Industry swoops down and whisks them off to a record deal, and they are immediately thrown into a big bin of musicians labeled "alternative." Alternative to what?

When all these new musicians started popping up in the early '90s, people were just bewildered and confused. It was complete lyrical anarchy, and listeners wouldn't stand for it. How dare music be free of form and function. No, the great musical gods must give it a name — alternative.

Actually, there is no more music. Going to a music store is like shopping for Jell-O. Everything has a color and a mold. It's either rap, rock, classical, New Age, gospel, techno-dance, country, jazz, blues or the dreaded alternative.

In America, radio stations all have formats adhering to one of the afore-



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mentioned musical labels because we think we have to pledge allegiance to one musical genre and one only or be forced to listen to William Shatner sing his version of "Mr. Tambourine Man" on high speed for the rest of our lives.

Our friends overseas have not fallen into this marketable music trap. A format-free radio station, such as those that exist in France, could play Pearl Jam's "Even Flow," follow it with Beethoven's Fifth Symphony and then play "Love Shack" by the B-52's. It's all one big amorphous blob of pure, unfiltered sound.

Of course, France only has three cereals — puffed rice, cornflakes and bran.

The greatest label crime we commit as Americans occurs in that feared institution of politics. Supposedly, if labels truly expressed the contents of their packages, every liberal Democrat would house spotted owls, and every conservative Republican would be a member of the National Rifle Association.

The liberal and conservative labels have been proven to fail, but never fear. We have New and Improved labels such as neoliberal, radical conservative and neoneoliberal-Christian conservative. Bill Clinton couldn't be labeled as "liberal," so all his little press aides went into a think tank and came out with "middle-of-the-road" liberal.

It's not possible to just vote for the

best woman or man for the job. You vote for the best label or the best hair, whichever it happens to be.

People do not exist as people. We exist as labels. We're white, black, Midwestern, Southern, feminist, chauvinist, nerd, jock, tree hugger or anarchist.

If this fixation continues, we'll become a walking society of Chiquita bananas with labels affixed to our tummies.

Now, peel this, if the rebellious types say they don't want to be categorized because they're their own person, they are immediately called deviant or "Generation X" — yet another label.

Labels create stereotypes, generalizations and general misconceptions in every aspect of our lives. Bill Clinton and Bob Kerrey are both Democrats, but they're not prototypes.

Pearl Jam and the Cranberries are both alternative, but God help us if Eddie Vedder sings in Irish brogue.

And, in the early morning hours, an eagerly awaiting bowl of milk knows there is a difference between Total and Frosted Flakes.

In order to move to higher entropy, we must start from the bottom up. Take a big bowl. Buy a few boxes of Lucky Charms, Grape Nuts, Shredded Wheat and Special K. Dump them into the same bowl, grab a spoon and start a revolution.

Lavigne is a freshman news-editorial major and a Daily Nebraskan senior reporter.

## CAMPUS RECREATION SUMMER MEMBERSHIPS

Did You Know?

Students who were enrolled Spring Semester or students enrolled in any of the summer sessions are eligible to purchase Summer Memberships for the Campus Recreation Center. The following is the Summer Fee Schedule for Students:



Students	3wks	5wks	8wks	10wks	13wks
	\$7.31	\$12.18	\$19.49	\$24.36	\$31.67

For Spouse, Dependent, and Family fee information, please call the Office of Campus Recreation at 472-3467.

For more information, call 472-3467.

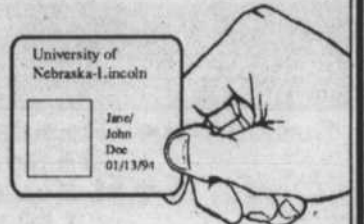
# 1 out of 3

Every third resident is coming back to live in the residence halls next year. Join your friends, earn higher grades, and take advantage of the conveniences on-campus housing offers. You can receive a \$150 discount for next year.

**UNL RESIDENCE HALLS**  
A great place to be.

University Housing  
1100 Seaton Hall  
472-3561

## NEW! UNL I.D. Gets You Money Back.



Bring your student I.D. to the following places & receive the following specials.

- CHESTERFIELD'S: 1/2 price appetizer or \$1 off any regularly priced pitcher of beer or pop
- BARBERETTES: 10 Tanis-\$19.95, complete set of nails-\$29.95 (next to Ken's Kegs)
- GOLDEN CUTTERS: 15% off any haircare product -201 Capitol Beach Blvd #2
- MAX TAN: 10% off any tanning package -201 Capitol Beach Blvd #2
- NORTHBRIDGE PHOTO CENTER: FREE second set of 3x5 prints -14th & Superior
- ARBY'S: 1 Regular Roast Beef Sandwich, Bag of Fries, & 16 oz. Soft Drink only \$1.99
- DOMINO'S: Large one topping pizza \$5.99, Medium \$4.99, Two small one toppings \$7.99
- DA VINCI'S: \$2 Mini, \$4 Medium, \$6 Large Cheese Pizza. Four 6" Hoagies for \$8. -13th & O
- RECYCLED SOUNDS: 25% off all used cassettes -824 P St.
- CHARTROOSE CABOOSE: Buy 8" steak sandwich, get 2nd for 1/2 price (save \$1.75)
- METROPOLITAN BANK: Open a student checking account, receive a \$10 deposit
- T.O. HAAS: \$12.95 for lube, oil, filter change- 24th & O, 13th & South, 3 others
- SUITE 9: \$1 off pitcher of beer Mon.-Fri., 9pm to midnight -2137 Cornhusker Highway
- RESUMES BY ANN: Second cover letter FREE with resume packet (\$15 value)
- DESERT FLAIR: 10% off unique southwestern apparel for women -56th & Highway 2
- D.J.'S SUNTANNING: One month unlimited for \$37 or 10% off any packet (call for appt.)
- PARTY MAKERS: 10% off entire stock -233 N. 48th - Eastview Plaza
- JAZZERISE: 12 sessions for \$25 -5500 Old Cheney Road
- HARMAN'S CAMERA: 15% off for students -1422 O St. 474-2402 -70th & A 489-5533
- INTERNATIONAL BEAD TRADER: 10% off purchase -16th & W in the ReUnion Building
- SARTOR HAMANN: 20% off any jewelry - Gateway, Downtown at 12th & O
- DULING OPTICAL: 20% off contacts, 50% full-prescription frames - the Atrium, 12th & N

Offers expire July 15, 1994