

OPINION

Friday, September 2, 1994

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Daily
Nebraskan
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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"Now, the UPS man can smell my house from three blocks away."

— Diana Lynch,
owner of The Flicker Shoppe,
a store specializing in candles

"We showed the nation that Nebraska has a pretty good defense, and we can stay on the porch with the big dog."

— Doug Colman,
Nebraska linebacker

"Our church lives according to the Bible. We do make a stand on what the Bible says, and sometimes that doesn't go over with other people."

— David Casey,
Lincoln Christian Church minister

"I suddenly woke up and realized how much control they had taken over my life. They make all this seem so innocent, but really you're giving up your rights to make your own decisions."

— Mark Larson,
former church member

"Sometimes students will challenge me and they have more energy, but experience really counts for a lot in this game. It's what you have in your head."

— Graham Spanier,
UNL Chancellor, on playing racquetball

"When it comes time to execute someone, it's truly a damnable debate. It's an emotional issue more than anything else. It's the cutting edge of human emotion."

— Chris Eskridge,
UNL professor of criminal justice

"I don't see any reason for a game in Dallas over a game in Kansas City or Oklahoma City. The people down there joined the Big Eight. The way I understood it, they were going to take the Big Eight rules."

— Tom Osborne,
Nebraska head football coach, on a Big Twelve championship game

"I just don't see your leadership, Ben. If I were in your shoes, I would have trouble looking people in the eye."

— Gene Spence,
Republican gubernatorial candidate,
to Governor Ben Nelson

Editor's Note:

The Daily Nebraskan editorial board apologizes to readers who may have been offended by a drawing of Harold Lamont Otey in Thursday's opinion page. The drawing was inappropriate and in poor taste. The Daily Nebraskan regrets the error.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Fall 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

History lesson

Regarding Jamie Karl's column "Reunion of American lowlife" (DN, Aug. 26, 1994): You are a sad, scary child.

I must congratulate you, however, for obviously you are a man who knows the answer to everything. How uncommon for an adolescent college student.

What you need to understand, though, is that Woodstock (1969) was a rock concert. Nothing more, nothing less. That it has been canonized into something more than a rock concert only reflects the intellectual bankruptcy of those in your line of "work."

If you and other so-called journalists actually had an original thought, you could be writing something useful rather than spitting out the same old ridiculous right-wing diatribes. Was it really the hippies and rock 'n' roll that destroyed America?

Your premise that "the radicals of the '60s and the Woodstock generation forever changed America and her societal standards" is so stupid it's laughable. (Do you not have any entrance requirements for the University of Nebraska?) I'm sure there must be a history professor or two on your campus. You might make an appointment with one and ask them about Watergate, Vietnam or Kent State.

The fabric of our society was indeed destroyed in the '60s, as Richard Nixon proved to us that American politicians and the "system" were as corrupt as any other in the world.

You mock the spirit of the '60s counterculture, yet your understanding of the era has all of the intellectual sophistication of Rush Limbaugh. If nothing else, the counterculture in the '60s believed that love, peace and harmony were reasonable, attainable pursuits. While these so-called "lowlives" may be written off for their naivete, is there really something wrong with wanting love and peace? Or are you a neophyte Nazi, frightened by the idea of equality for the races and an end to war?

Try to learn something while you are still in college. You might start by reading a copy of Howard Zinn's "A People's History of the United States." No doubt it will surprise you to learn that since 1492, America has always been a corrupt society that preys on the lower classes. (Did you ever hear the one about slavery?)

If, in spite of your ignorance, you

somehow really do learn something, you might become a journalist who has something useful to say.

If all else fails, get yourself one of those "marijuana pipes." You are going to need something to console yourself 20 years from now (when you are the one with "wrinkles, flab and all") as you sit and read yet another article by an intellectually lightweight 20-year-old asshole explaining to you how every decent thing you believe in is a canard.

Charles Lilly
Chicago



James Mehling/DN

Pro-life

This is in response to Lori Lyn Arthur's editorial "Test gives birth to option" (DN, Aug. 30, 1994). Ms. Arthur makes many generalizations about the pro-life movement that I would like to clear up.

First, she states that the pro-life movement's answer to every unwanted pregnancy is adoption. This is not true. Right to Life is eager to work with the woman and find an option other than abortion for the woman and her child. This is sometimes adoption, but it also can be the woman keeping her child and finding support from others in the community. There are people who will help a woman through her pregnancy and afterward so that the woman can keep her child and yet also make a good life for them both.

As for the statement that only healthy white babies are wanted, this also is untrue. There are more than 3 million singles and couples on waiting lists for adoption, many of whom would be thrilled to adopt any baby, even the ones with special

needs.

It is just a matter of getting in touch with the right resources. For those who do choose adoption, there is always open adoption, so the mother can know what happened to her child.

Ms. Arthur says she is not for abortion but wants women to have this choice. But the choice comes when contemplating sex. This is where the choice is, not after. The pro-life movement believes that in most cases the woman made her choice when she decided to have sex. Now she should deal with her choice, not kill it.

If she's not ready to be a mother, maybe she's not ready to have sex.

Mary Baye
senior
secondary education

Death penalty

This is in response to Debi Schneider and Sheila Whitmore's letter concerning the death penalty (DN, Aug. 30, 1994). I understand that everyone has the right to stand up for what they believe in, but as hard as I try, I can't understand the reasoning for your bleeding hearts.

Do you enjoy spending your tax dollars so Otey can get a free education plus cable? Why should we cater to these sick bastards when they should pay for their crimes? I'm so tired of everyone standing up for convicted killers like they're some kind of heroes.

Then there are the people who think the electric chair is too cruel. Well, heaven forbid we hurt our precious Harold. Do you think he thought that striking his victim in the head with a hammer was too cruel?

I personally think they should let Bjorklund sit on Otey's lap on Friday morning. But as we all know, Bjorklund will have a long and prosperous life at the state penitentiary.

Speaking of Bjorklund, rumor has it he wants to change his name; maybe he should consider Harold Lamont Otey — there might be an opening.

I don't live too far from the prison, and it wouldn't bother me at all if my lights dimmed at 12:01 a.m., because I'll already be grinning from ear to ear knowing justice has been served.

Jeff Carroll
junior
construction management

Robert Powell
senior
construction management