

SIYANE TUCKER

Leftist hunters prey on right

In watching the 2nd District Congressional debate Sunday evening, I was subjected to what has apparently become a common tactic among the hodgepodge of leftist drivel prevalent in today's political landscape.

In a slovenly attempt at misdirection, misrepresentation and general character assassination, the incumbent Democrat Peter "Gimme' some pork" Hoagland tried to stigmatize his Republican challenger Jon Christensen with the label "extremist."

Veteran mudslinger "Hogland" apparently felt Christensen's views on abortion warranted this outlandish label. Ironically enough, Christensen's pro-life views are no different than that of Nebraska's Democratic governor, Ben Nelson.

Would Hoagland characterize Nelson as an "extremist?" Obviously not.

The difference, you see, is that Ben's a Democrat and Christensen is a Republican. The conventional wisdom (or lack thereof) among tax-hiking Clintonites like Hoagland is that Republican proliferators are "extreme" whereas Democratic pro-lifers are "mainstream."

The problem runs much deeper than "take the money and run" Washingtonians like Hoagland, however. There is an unfortunate movement in our country to misrepresent the political right as a fanatical and intemperate fringe-group.

The best place to view this sort of nonsense, besides Hoagland's campaign headquarters, is on MTV. When watching one of Kurt Loder's pathetic attempts at objective broadcast journalism this weekend, I saw political misrepresentation in rare form.

When "investigating" a story on racist, Nazi, skinhead types, Loder repeatedly referred to the human



MTV, like most of their friends in the media, has no qualms with deliberately misrepresenting the right in an attempt to categorize them with loonies and extremists.

scum as "right-wingers."

In his fanciful story, Loder made sure the race-baiters weren't confused with peace-and-harmony skinhead types, but no such attempt was made to distinguish the hairless fecal matter from American conservatism, which is also allotted the label "right-wing."

Never mind the objectives of fascism are statist, politically much closer to the left than the right. Never mind the rich history of racially oppressive policies among Democrats and their lefty buddies (Can you say slavery? How about welfare?).

MTV, like most of their friends in the media, has no qualms with deliberately misrepresenting the right in an attempt to categorize them with loonies and extremists. Brent Bozell of the Creators Syndicate provides another example.

When comparing the media coverage of two different political organizations, the Christian Coalition and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, he found some very different results.

Of 317 newspaper articles that mentioned the Christian Coalition between 1991 and June of 1994, the organization was labeled as "far-right" or "hard-right" 150 times. The NAACP, on the other hand, was described as "liberal" only eight times among 2,697 newspaper stories. That's only 0.3 percent,

folks.

This new wave of political intolerance seeks to redefine conservatism as a small sect of religious bigots, out of step with the American mainstream. By making middle-of-the-road beliefs appear "extreme," Hoagland and his loony left hope to shift the political spectrum a little closer to their territory.

This strategy is a variation of the former "campaign like a conservative, vote like a socialist" strategy used by Nebraska Sen. Bob Kerrey (who says: government's bad, unless it's good, and then it's not too bad, but it's not too good). Fortunately, Hoagland's use of misdirection is not nearly as effective as Kerrey's. (Nobody can babble like Bob.)

Hopefully the silent majority remains unswayed by the libelous character defamation used by Hoagland and today's left. Even amidst gross exaggeration, most people can detect seeds of truth, something liberalism's newest ploy lacks.

But that doesn't mean we haven't seen the last of Hoagland's brand of negativity. Come '96 when Billy Boy's campaigning like the "moderate" Democrat he isn't, you can bet the left will have a slew of attacks against their mainstream opposition. And they'll be just as false then as they are now.

Tucker is a senior biology major and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.

DEB McADAMS

Rising tuition drowns students

Nebraska University students have again been reminded what a good deal they get for their education dollar.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln made the first U.S. News & World Report's top 20 best-buy list, and an article in the Lincoln Journal declared, "State's collegians pay less actual education costs than peers."

That's probably a great comfort to people who have to make one package of Ramen noodles last for three days before payday.

UNL has made an annual trend of raising tuition 5 to 6 percent. Students are expected to appreciate this hosing because other universities are soaking their students for more. It certainly makes one wonder how those students get by when students at this "best buy" university have to sell their blood to make ends meet.

The 5 to 6 percent increase doesn't look bad in the peer institution comparison format. Tuition at the University of Missouri jumped 10 percent last year.

The UNL increase for 1994-95 was 6.2 percent — a few small steps above the inflation rate, and a giant leap beyond financial aid increases and wages for part-time jobs.

What does the university say to these people when they are priced out of an education? That it was a difficult decision, but we must maintain competitive salaries to continue attracting talented faculty?

Those salaries are a matter of public record. According to the Chronicle of Higher Education Almanac Issue, Nebraska ranks 14th in average pay for full-time faculty among four-year public universities in the 50 states. That ranking would probably be slightly offset by the substantial number of people who teach for their dinner in order to finish a doctorate.

The point is, most professional



UNL has made an annual trend of raising tuition 5 to 6 percent. Students are expected to appreciate this hosing because other universities are soaking their students for more.

salaries at the university appear to be competitive, including administrative salaries.

NU President Dennis Smith received a 3-year contract with an annual salary of \$165,000 when he came here in December 1993. The Chronicle lists the median salary of chief executives as \$116,907 for comprehensive university systems, and \$155,000 for doctoral institutions.

Chancellor Graham Spanier's salary for 1994-95 is \$151,050, compared to \$108,170 for the chief executive of a single, comprehensive institution, and \$149,000 for doctoral institutions, according to The Chronicle.

Our executives are surviving university budget cuts rather sportingly. They will continue to have access to salary increases, which is fine as long as students continue to have access to an education.

At the chancellor's installation in April 1992, Dr. Samuel Procter of Rutgers University spoke about "accessibility." He said that, above all, education should be accessible to everyone.

When you make over \$100,000 a year, it's probably damn near impossible to comprehend what a \$20 increase here and a \$20 increase there means to someone making \$5 an hour. It could mean the difference between access to a university education and a lifetime on an assembly line.

Most people go to college to get better jobs: 82 percent, according to The Chronicle. President Smith, however, said the university was not a "vocational" school, and that people should come here in pursuit of education for edification. Why, even his own daughter changed majors several times before she settled on a professional goal, he said in an interview earlier this year. The experience enhanced her education more than her ability to get a job, he said.

Unfortunately, not everyone has a cash cow to bankroll a trip to enlightenment. Does that mean enlightenment is reserved for the wealthy?

Smith also said low tuition rates subsidized the wealthy. Theoretically, the wealthy pay a higher percentage of the taxes that support the university. Low tuition rates may actually subsidize the poor, who need education to get better jobs, not to go to nirvana.

For them, the university represents opportunity. It represents a chance to gain skills and get off public assistance. Those people are willing to work hard and make sacrifices, but Ramen and blood only go so far.

The justifications behind tuition increases will seem more genuine when university officials begin to make some sacrifices themselves.

McAdams is a junior news-editorial major and the Daily Nebraskan wire editor and columnist.



Free Computer Classes!

The Computing Resource Center is offering free microcomputer classes to UNL students. The classes will feature an introduction to Microsoft Word for the Macintosh. No reservations are required. Seats are available on a first come, first served basis.

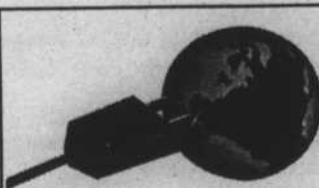
Introduction to Microsoft Word for Macintosh

Thursday, September 29 11:30 - 12:20 p.m. Andrews 17

Wednesday, October 6 11:00 - 11:50 a.m. Andrews 17

Intermediate Microsoft Word for Macintosh

Tuesday, October 4 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Andrews 17



Plug Into the World with FREE Herbie Classes

Now that you have your computer account you can discover how to tap into the resources available to you on the internet. These classes are free and no reservations are required. Seats are available on a first come, first served basis.

E-Mail

Wednesday, September 28 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. Bancroft Hall, 239

Monday, October 3 11:00 - 12:30 p.m. Bancroft Hall, 239

Gopher

Thursday, September 29 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. Bancroft Hall, 239

Electronic News

Tuesday, September 27 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. Bancroft Hall, 239

Wednesday, September 28 11:00 - 12:30 p.m. Bancroft Hall, 239

Thursday, October 6 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. Bancroft Hall, 239

Finger/Talk

Wednesday, September 28 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Bancroft Hall, 239

Monday, October 3 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Bancroft Hall, 239

Advanced E-Mail

Tuesday, October 4 10:30 - 12:00 p.m. Bancroft Hall, 239

Wednesday, October 5 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. Bancroft Hall, 239

File Transfer Protocol

Wednesday, October 5 11:00 - 12:30 p.m. Bancroft Hall, 239

Thursday, October 6 10:30 - 12:00 p.m. Bancroft Hall, 239



INSTITUTE FOR STUDY ABROAD BUTLER UNIVERSITY

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES IN
GREAT BRITAIN
AUSTRALIA
IRELAND
NEW ZEALAND

Fully integrated study at British, Irish, New Zealand and Australian universities

FALL OR SPRING SEMESTER • FULL YEAR
INSTEP • SUMMER PROGRAM • INTERNSHIPS

Study Abroad Information Session

Representative: Steve Seaworth

Date: Tues., September 27

Location: 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
1237 R Street

For further information please contact: Your Study Abroad Office on campus or the Institute for Study Abroad, Butler University, 4600 Sunset Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46208, Tel: 317/283-9336 or 1/800-858-0229.