

OPINION

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Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"I don't think this report is relevant at all. It appears to be one man's opinion."

— NU Regent Rosemary Skrupa of Omaha on an engineering report released by Creighton Professor Robert F. Allen.

"I'm not religious about it. God, \$95 million — that's incredible."

— David Jones of Lincoln after he bought five Powerball tickets on Tuesday, hoping to win the big jackpot.

"We will practice and grade them and then have an evaluation to decide who will start."

— NU coach Tom Osborne on deciding between Brook Berringer and Tommie Frazier for the Orange Bowl quarterback position.

"These kids, it seems, are taking on too much debt. They're taking the maximum debt they can get. They're never going to get out of debt."

— Commissioner John Emery of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education on the debt college students face.

"They just sold out — bing, bing, bing."

— Velma Lassen of AAA Travel Agency in Lincoln on the sale of Orange Bowl travel packages.

"Everything constructs love as a romantic fairy tale, and being the cynic that I am, I don't believe in happy endings. This play kind of destroys that."

— Director Jeanne Long on this weekend's Theatre production of "Savage/Love."

"Had there been any question of this being a care taker role, I wouldn't have been interested at all."

— John Goebel on his appointment as the dean of CBA.

"It's going to cost students more money to pay off their loans. And it may ultimately discourage some students from pursuing an education."

— John Beacon, UNL director of scholarships and financial aid, on a GOP plan to end in-school interest subsidies on student loans.

"We look at the issues very quickly regarding sexual harassment. We will handle the problem that day if the situation warrants that."

— Ronald Ross, associate director of Affirmative Action, on how his office handles sexual harassment complaints.

"I began to see what I and my colleagues had been doing in Latin America for the CIA ... was nothing more than a continuation of — at that time — nearly 500 years of genocide, exploitation and political repression."

— Former CIA agent Phillip Agee, speaking at UNL, on his resignation from the agency.

"I'm going to kill you and drink your blood."

— Daniel Sterling, jailed on attempted murder charges after seeing

"Oh, my God! My son! How could this happen?"

— Jeffrey Dahmer's mother, Joyce Flint, when "Hard Copy" informed her of his death.

"The Postal Service clearly established its need for additional revenues."

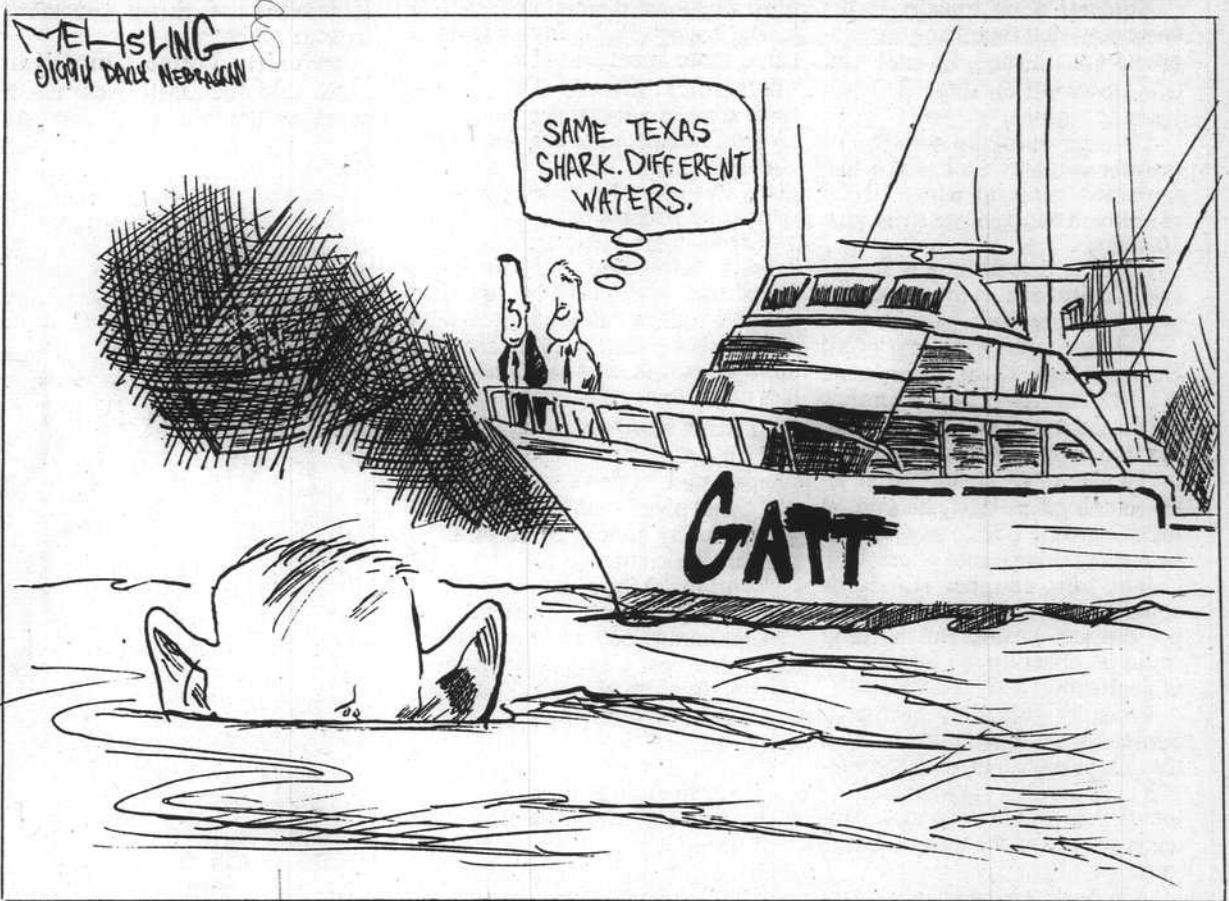
— Rate Commission Chairman Edward Gleiman on the January postage stamp price increase.

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

Petitions

This letter is generated out of concern for the state's initiative and referendum processes. As many of you are aware, the right to petition has been put out of reach for the average Nebraskan. The Legislature and the Nebraska Supreme Court have taken action that resulted in a dramatic increase in the number of signatures needed to put an issue on the ballot.

To correct this legislative error, a task force was formed to make recommendations. As a member of this task force, I feel obligated to hold up a red flag of caution concerning the recommendation it has made to the Legislature.

Ignoring U.S. Supreme Court rulings, the task force, chaired by Lincoln senator DiAnna Schimek, is recommending a two-tier system of calculating signature requirements. One standard would be used for all-volunteer petition drives and a much higher standard would be used for petition drives using paid circulators (like the term limit petition).

Although this idea of a two-tier system sounds good on the surface, it is in direct conflict with several court decisions protecting the use of paid circulators. Unfortunately, there are no easy answers to the question of out-of-state money being used to put measures on the ballot in our state.

Just as unfortunate are those that would propose constitutionally unsafe legislation that will put your vote at risk of being overturned in court. This is exactly what will happen. The first successful petition that is required to use this method will be thrown out in court. Another vote of the people will have to be sacrificed to test this new two-tier system.

The Committee of Concerned Citizens is working with other organizations to simply restore the citizens' right to petition. We want the petition process restored to the standard that has worked for 82 years.

It's your right, so it's your responsibility to protect it.

Kent Bernbeck
Lincoln

Prop. 187

As an immigrant myself and a legal U.S. citizen, I found it necessary to respond to the "Tragic implications" editorial in Tuesday's Daily Nebraskan.



Amy Schmidt/DN

Although it doesn't surprise me that our gifted but very liberal editorial staff would be anti-Proposition 187, it does make me raise an eyebrow that you and some other liberal news organizations would actually blame a child's death on Proposition 187.

I can't imagine a parent that would allow a child to become deathly ill just because he or she was afraid of being deported. Most parents I know would do anything to help their sick child, including risking deportation. Most parents would travel to Timbuktu if it meant helping their sick child get care.

I find it very upsetting when you blame Proposition 187 without even mentioning the possibility of negligence on the parents' part. Obviously they waited too long before attempting to obtain care for the boy.

I want to emphasize the point that these people in California are ILLEGAL, not legal, citizens who pay taxes and help support our schools. There are ways to legally immigrate into the United States, and those should be used. But to blame a child's death upon U.S. law is ridiculous and a travesty!

Your second point, that you don't see Canadian illegals being deported and deprived of care, is a mute point. When is the last time you heard of a Canadian gang

shooting up a neighborhood in L.A. or heard about the prisons being filled up with illegal Canadians arrested for drug crimes.

The fact of the matter is that you don't hear about it, because the problems with Canadians don't exist except in rare circumstances. I'm sure if the Canadians were committing crimes and breaking the budget, you would hear a backlash from the citizens of California to get them removed as well.

Greg Buchta
junior
marketing

Editor's note: In October, columnist Jamie Karl cited statistics about homosexual lifestyles that he attributed to the Family Research Council. Robert Knight of the Family Research Council quoted the statistics, but he got them from the Family Research Institute. Paul Cameron, chairman of the Family Research Institute, did the research behind the statistics. A spokesman for the Family Research Institute said the council frequently cited the institute's research.

Family Research Council

On Oct. 7, Jamie Karl wrote an article opposing homosexuality and cited statistics from the Family Research Council. The following week, several people wrote replies condemning Karl and the Family Research Council. Most of the criticism centered on Paul Cameron, the supposed chairman of the Family Research Council. Scott Roewer in particular made several serious accusations against Mr. Cameron in his letter to the editor (DN, Oct. 14, 1994).

Because I am familiar with and support the Family Research Council, I was shocked and wanted to find out if these accusations were true. I never found out if they were true or not, because Paul Cameron is not the chairman of the Family Research Council. He is chairman of the Family Research Institute, which is not connected to the council.

Brian Backstrom
senior
physical education