

OPINION

Thursday, March 16, 1995

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Daily
Nebraskan
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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Grade A

Academic Senators do the right thing

Forty members of the Academic Senate did the right thing Tuesday by voting to defeat the tiring proposal to add minuses to university grade cards.

The Academic Senate should be praised for listening to students' concerns on this issue. A 40-28 vote demonstrates a strong showing that professors listened to student input.

Much of that input came from an often-quiet entity — the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska.

ASUN finally used its lobbying power on something worthwhile to the entire student body. The senators, who were required to speak with professors who hadn't made up their minds about the grading proposal, finally did work for their constituency.

Gargi Sodowsky, an educational psychology professor, summed it up perfectly.

"Just a year ago, this motion failed," Sodowsky said. "I don't understand why we brought it back again."

The Daily Nebraskan doesn't understand either.

It is refreshing to see that the Academic Senate wasn't swayed by similar proposals already passed by the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Good faith

Adams' visit sign of hope for Irish peace

What a difference a year makes.

It wasn't too long ago that Gerry Adams, the leader of Sinn Fein, the political arm of the Irish Republican Army, was kept out of the United States, because of who he was.

Now, Adams is being welcome in the United States for who he is.

Nothing has changed about Adams; instead the United States now regards Sinn Fein more favorably, especially since many steps have been taken by the organization toward peace in Northern Ireland.

Since he landed in the United States, Adams has been rubbing elbows with a good share of government officials, and has a St. Patrick's Day meeting planned with President Clinton.

On Tuesday, he opened a Washington office for Sinn Fein. On Wednesday, he attended a \$200-a-plate fund raiser for his organization. It is estimated that the event raised \$80,000, none of which, Adams said, would be used to purchase weapons.

Only after the U.S. government had its changed of heart could such an event take place.

That was a good decision.

The wounds run deep in the Northern Ireland conflict, and the peace process will be a long run. Sinn Fein and the IRA have taken legitimate steps to initiate and keep the cease-fire.

Adams hopes his U.S. trip would help to spread Sinn Fein's political message both inside and outside the United States.

But we must not forget the most important part of this story: the chance for peace.

The peace process must be preserved at any cost, and a close eye should be kept on Sinn Fein and the IRA.

Sooner or later, the conflict will end. The sooner it does, the less people will die.

Editorial policy

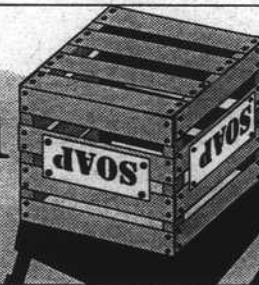
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verification.

Basketball article

I would like to respond to Jeff Shuey's letter (March 14) about DeDra Janssen's article on Cambridge High School's basketball team.

In case Shuey didn't notice, Lincoln was extremely busy for the last two weekends because of state high school basketball tournaments (girls' and boys'). The revenue alone that these two activities bring to Lincoln shows how important high school basketball is, not to mention the exposure to the university that the students receive.

When you come from a school that has a winning season, it's one of the best feelings you, your school, and the community can have. High school athletics is an important part of the closeness found in rural communities.

I attended some of the games at the Devaney Center last weekend. There were times the crowd was so loud you couldn't even hear the person next to you. And it wasn't just people from the school's playing; it was other spectators cheering for the teams, even if they didn't know anyone from there. Believe me, the emotion in that building was electrifying. I believe the announcer on television said the attendance record was broken (that means revenue for Lincoln).

Why not read about a bunch of high schoolers? Shuey was one not so long ago! Has he grown up so much that he can't remember how certain things excited him? When students from areas of the state that aren't near Lincoln or a larger city have a chance to shop at the mall, it is a big deal! Heck, I'm an adult and I enjoy going to Omaha to shop! So why not the cheerleaders?

Last but not least, the topic of the photo layout. I thought it was excellent. If you couldn't feel the emotion from reading the article (which I could), you certainly could feel it from the pictures.

Arlyce Koerner
staff
international programs



Bret Gottschall/DN

Rednecks

This is in response to the article "Redneck humor to hit Lincoln" (March 10) about Jeff Foxworthy. The article begins well in describing Foxworthy's humor, but some students have been misinformed as to what exactly a redneck is.

Take it from me: I grew up on a farm near Denton, and all of my relatives have at some point been on the farm. If you have heard of "Alabama Clay" by Garth Brooks, you will have an idea.

First off, one does not wear Wranglers baggy. Haven't you heard of the Wrangler butt? They fit tight up there and allow enough space at the bottom for a good ol' pair of boots.

Where the term "redneck" comes from is the people who work outside in the open. When one spends many hours bent over in the sun, one will soon find that their neck is sun-burned. Thus, "redneck."

Thank you for hearing this farm girl out.

Julie Paschold
freshman
agronomy

DN praised

First, let's pause in a moment of silence for what may have been the best Daily Nebraskan (March 14) this year. I was extremely impressed by the entire issue, except that it lacked the ever-popular "Strip Pool" ad.

There are several things I would like to comment on. First is the superb coverage of the Huskers in Washington. The articles by Jeff Zeleny deserve an award for diversity. He covered all aspects of the event. Although I am one of those all-out, crazed fans, these sets of articles would appeal even to those who complain about the Husker hype.

A 16-point rifle salute to Zeleny, and to Jeff Haller, for the coverage is in order. The photos were momentous and real — not just ordinary, still-posed handshake photos. A sincere thank you for delivering good journalism.

My other remark concerns the honorable Beau Finley and his right-hand man (gerbil), Mookie. Finley has an angle that many don't possess. Every article is down-right intriguing with a touch of sensitivity. All right, but I can exaggerate, too.

Along with the king of journalism, Zeleny, he makes the Daily Nebraskan a newspaper to mess with. He makes it more than just something to potty-train the puppy on. I want to thank him for writing about sports and not getting caught up in the "Commentary" crowd. Smart move, this way he stays out of the ridicule that Jamie Karl finds himself in — all just for being good writers.

Oh yeah, I have a lady gerbil, Isabel, that dreams of Mookie in all hours of the night. Is he free?

That concludes my comments on the first remarkable issue of the Daily Nebraskan. I hope that there will be many to come.

Wade Bosworth
freshman
physics