

OPINION

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Daily
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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Leader lottery

Committee should use in-depth search

Let the games begin — the University of Nebraska will soon be starting another search for a top administrator.

Lately, searches at the University of Nebraska have gone rather smoothly. Chancellors Graham Spanier, Carol Aschenbrenner, Gladys Styles Johnston and NU President Dennis Smith were hired without much controversy.

But we cannot — and should not — forget the previous infamous search that turned into a fiasco.

The controversy began when Ronald Roskens was fired in 1989 by the NU Board of Regents. It heightened in 1990 when the time came to find his replacement.

A field of four candidates dropped out of the race when they learned that then-UNL Chancellor and Interim President Martin Massengale was being considered for the spot.

That entire incident put a black mark on the university. "I strongly feel those crazy, dubious days are behind us," said NU Regents Chairwoman Nancy O'Brien.

We hope they are, too. If President Smith or the yet-to-be-named search committee have any intention of hiring an internal candidate for the UNL chancellor position, they should say so up front.

But the Daily Nebraskan supports a nationwide search. While that type of effort is more time-consuming and expensive, it will net the best candidate.

As the search for the next chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln begins, let us not forget those 'crazy, dubious' days.

Stifled liberty

Arrest is against American principles

Last week, one of Lincoln's most famous residents was arrested in Denmark.

Gary "Gerhard" Lauck, a neo-Nazi who had set up shop in town years ago, had been wanted by German authorities for two decades. They finally got their man.

As head of the National Socialist German Workers Party — Overseas Organization, Lauck has been the largest supplier of Nazi propaganda to German fascists for years.

He is being held in Denmark, while Germany is requesting extradition.

Many Nebraska leaders have had ear-to-ear grins since the news of Lauck's arrest.

The Daily Nebraskan is watching with mixed emotions. We're glad that Lauck finally is out of the state for good. He has long been an embarrassment to Lincoln.

But we're disturbed about why Lauck was arrested. Distributing Nazi propaganda and symbols and encouraging racial hatred is illegal in Germany, as is the organization that Lauck heads.

But a government banning an ideology goes against the American high principle of freedom of speech, even if it is the disgusting Nazi view.

We should not ignore a stifled liberty even if we approve of its results, like less Nazi propaganda and hate.

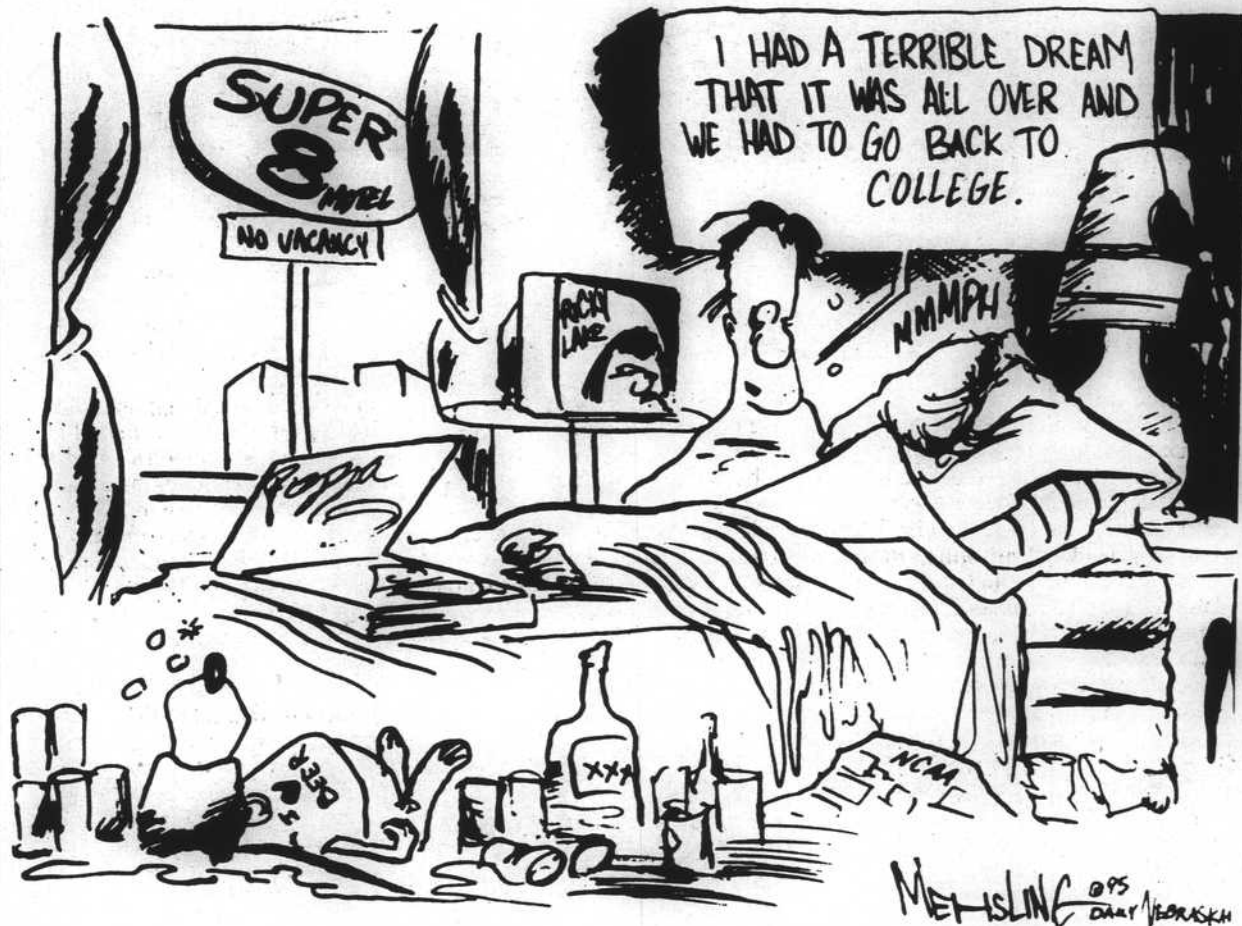
There's a reason why our First Amendment is the one that guarantees freedom of speech. It is one of our highest ideals and we should support it at all costs.

Editorial policy

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Spring 1995. 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.



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Lincoln High

As a respected student of Lincoln High School, it can be assumed that I have a personal bias against the comments of Jamie Karl (March 16).

The school that Karl proposes would foster lookism, or appearance discrimination. Lincoln High, like any other high school, has its fair share of problems, but a general acceptance of diverse appearances prevails. That means that just because I may not be "all decked out in black leather, complete with chains and spiked wristbands" like Lisette, I respect her right to wear those clothes and visually express her individuality — just as Lisette respects my right to wear what I want to wear.

Yet the diversity of Lincoln High does not end with clothes. Every facet of the demography of our high school is diverse — ethnically, socioeconomically, linguistically, geographically and ideologically. As Lincoln High possesses many different students of different backgrounds who have different needs, naturally Lincoln High must provide many different programs to meet these special requirements, such as the English as a Second Language program and the Teen Parenting unit.

Karl attempted to belittle the diversity of Lincoln High by renaming it "Subculture Central." I think if Karl were to come down to Lincoln High and talk with some of its students, he would discover how proud we are to be "Subculture Central." I am different than Lisette, Marcus, Nata, Taura, Dion, Sarah, Alex, Falla and Principal Kathryn Piller.

So I am a member of a subculture in "Subculture Central." And because I am different I have



Amy Schmidt/DN

different views. Only in a diverse environment where I am free to be different can I truly be free. It is freedom that will create the socially responsible student who feels comfortable accepting others for who they are and how they dress, correcting his or her own ignorances and prejudices and demonstrating Karl's all-important character.

Neither Karl nor his educational institution can reasonably expect students to build this character until they provide them with the ability to accept all people as individuals who are distinct and worthy of respect.

Eric E. Crump
senior
Lincoln High School

Easy way out

I am a teacher of English as a Second Language at Lincoln High School. I'd like to respond to Jamie Karl's comments (March 16) regarding a recent article in Seventeen magazine that supposedly represents LHS.

First, had I not read Karl's comments regarding the Seventeen

article as well as other editorials he has written during the school year, I would have assumed a greater degree of knowledge, perception and even sophistication of one who is a journalism major and a night news editor at the Daily Nebraskan.

I don't know what Karl's background is, but I might guess that it has been and remains rather sheltered and lacking in exposure to diverse cultures and points of view. Simply accepting at face value what he has read in the Seventeen magazine article indicates to me that perhaps his own education is lacking in teaching him to seek out the truth and to question what is reported in the media.

I would also have expected a staff member of the Daily Nebraskan to have understood that the true picture is often distorted in the media, and that copy is often written specifically to appeal to certain audiences in order to achieve financial gain and/or power.

Second, I find Karl's apparent need to use sarcastic and elitist commentary in place of real communication sad. What is the point in sarcastically stating that a large ESL program and an in-house day care program will "surely have transfer students beating down the doors"? Is it for Karl to appeal to other UNL students who are perhaps just as narrow-minded and judgmental as he?

Finally, I want to tell Karl that taking pot shots from the outside is easy; getting involved and truly trying to understand is difficult, although infinitely more rewarding. My hope for Karl and for those he may somehow influence is that he will at some point in his life choose the more difficult path.

Constance C. Kingston
staff
Lincoln High School