

OPINION

Thursday, September 7, 1995

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Daily
Nebraskan

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Cross-town

Lincoln's streets crowded, inefficient

Lincoln has one of the best systems of bike trails and one of the worst systems of streets.

A leisurely bike ride on Lincoln's well-maintained trails can take one all across the city.

But has anyone tried to drive across the city lately?

Lincoln's streets are an endless matrix of stoplights and cramped thoroughfares.

That's why so many Lincoln motorists run red lights. It's frustrating to travel across town at 35 mph trying to hit every stoplight just right.

The 1994 Lincoln City-Lancaster County comprehensive plan points out one of Lincoln's big problems: "Most of Lincoln's functional arterial streets pass through established residential neighborhoods.

"Traffic volumes may suggest a need for a major widening to for through lanes. However, such a widening would remove tree cover, reduce front yards, and have a negative effect on the residential environment."

And efforts to widen streets have met strong resistance by Lincoln residents.

But as our city grows, the need for efficient cross-town travel increases.

Omaha has a freeway system that is more than adequate. Motorists can hop on one of Omaha's freeways and cruise across town going twice as far in half the time they can on Lincoln streets.

Lincoln city planners can only dream of an efficient freeway system. Instead, their challenge must be to come up with a way to effectively channel Lincoln's growing population.

And that's going to require sacrifices by homeowners, businesses and the Lincoln community as a whole.

Forget pledge

Politics have changed in 12 months

Let the political fodder begin.

The bickering. Whining. The finger-pointing. The name calling.

After 9:30 a.m. today, the airwaves and newspapers will be filled for 14 months with pure, raw, political smack.

In all likelihood, Gov. Ben Nelson will announce he is going to run for the U.S. Senate. If Nelson chooses to throw his hat into the race, he had better prepare to have it stepped on.

Even before Nelson's intentions were made known, the state Republican Party reminded Nebraskans of the impromptu pledge signed during last year's State Fair.

The GOP will try to make every Nebraskan know that Nelson went back on his word by running for the Senate. Throughout the upcoming campaign season, Nelson's signature is sure to be seen next to Gene Spence's on television commercials.

They will say Nelson betrayed his fellow Nebraskans.

A lot has happened in twelve months.

When U.S. Senator Jim Exon announced he would not seek reelection, everything changed. The Democratic party — as well as the state of Nebraska — needed a strong candidate.

And it appears that E. Benjamin Nelson will fill the bid.

We don't think the GOP should be too critical of Nelson's decision.

After all, aren't Senate Republicans constantly in need of a Democratic swing vote?

Editorial policy

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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: Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St. Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Saint Osborne

There are, in my opinion, two distinct views regarding Cornhusker football. One side believes that Tom Osborne is some fantastic god and his players shining deities.

The other believes that the entire team has just gotten a little too big for its britches.

To think that any crazed Husker fanatic would go to the trouble of painting his entire body red and wear a domed corn cob "hat" would be swayed toward the latter is laughable. It takes more than a political cartoon to hold back those loons.

I can understand Mr. Osborne's need to protect his players. In fact, I find that quite admirable. But Tom, please just calm down, take a nice cleansing breath, count to ten, quit the blah, blah, blah, and concentrate on your job: winning football games.

And while you're at it, let the DN do its job, which is to report the news.

We're all big enough to form our own opinions, whether you like it or not.

Michael R. Lehr
Senior
Journalism News-Editorial

The Bible hour

I would like to clarify a few of the mis-statements made by Dr. Pearlstein (Letters, Sept. 6).

These mis-statements came either from quoting an archaic version (i.e. King James Version) of the Bible, or from failing to follow the context.

First, I would like to address the quotation of Genesis 3:16.

In the New International Version, this reads, "With pain you will give birth to children," which is more descriptive than the KJV's "In sorrow" This is stating what is to us a fact of life. My own mother spent 26 hours learning that fact because of me.

Second, Dr. Pearlstein had mentioned the story of Abraham nearly killing Isaac (Gen. 22).

It would seem, since Abraham followed God all the way in this story and Isaac was not killed, that God did not intend for Isaac to die that day.

Rather, He was testing Abraham's



James Mehlsing/DN

obedience by asking him to give up what God had promised him.

Third, John 2:4 is taken somewhat out of context.

Jesus asks Mary at Cana, "Dear woman, why do you involve me? My time has not yet come (NIV)." This was asking his mother not to ask him for miracles yet, not insulting her. Consider that after the disagreement, Jesus went and did as Mary told him to anyway (John 2:1-10).

As these examples point out, the Bible is not anti-family as some believe.

Brad Garbers
Junior
Civil Engineering
via e-mail

Young Herbie fan

I'm writing in response to the recent Herbie Husker stories.

Herbie is there to entertain us, not to insult us.

If farmers are insulted that's because they have no sense of humor. I'm in high school and am glad to have Herbie for a mascot. He has made me laugh at every game since I was little.

If Herbie dies, then a little part of a lot of people will die with him.

I'm proud to be a Husker, but not without Herbie.

Destiny A. Noble
Age 15
Grade 10
Lincoln High School

The Bible minute

The Bible anti-family? Come on! Anyone who has ever read the Bible would agree that that's a load of crap. When taken out of context, anything can be said of a single line or paragraph.

Time after time — when the Bible is taken out of context — letters, columns and even books are created to play on weak-minded readers who will either take it as truth and become cult members or simply live with a newfound loss of direction — or find out for themselves by reading the entire Bible, not lines here and there, and find out that it is actually a very moral, pro-family piece of literature. Which is more than can be said for Professor Pearlstein's letter or the book he makes reference to.

Even Hitler turned the words of the Bible around enough to see the killing of the Jews as righteous.

Jonnie Andersen
Sophomore
Art

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