

OPINION

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Page 4

Daily
Nebraskan
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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"Attending our practices is a privilege, not a right. I felt that the cartoons were very inappropriate, and for this reason, the Daily Nebraskan will no longer be welcome at our practices this year."

Tom Osborne, Monday, on two Daily Nebraskan editorial cartoons

"Your reporters can do what they want but I have to go to a radio show."

Osborne, Wednesday, lifting the ban

"Tonight I stand here, overwhelmed, as my name is linked with the great and courageous Lou Gehrig."

Cal Ripken on besting the Iron Horse's 2,130 consecutive games

"It's like a blind date. The faculty member met the dean during the interview process within a very small amount of time they spent together."

David Lou, chairman of the mechanical engineering department, on the change of deans

"I loved it."

Freshman Britt Anderson on pledge week

"We'll go into a situation where there may or may not be communication. There may or may not be any electricity. The first week after a hurricane is pretty primitive."

Robert Fairbank of the Red Cross

"I didn't want someone to be tried without all the information, and I thought that there might be some reason that they need to know that Mark Fuhrman said these things to me."

Kathleen Bell, acquaintance of Fuhrman who testified to his expressions of racism

"I have to go."

4-year-old William Schlesinger just before urinating in Central Park

"Tom Hanks is a closet astronaut."

Jim Lovell, whom Hanks plays in the movie "Apollo 13"

"When we installed it in our computer it didn't work, so we tried to uninstall it with the disks they gave us to do that. It crashed my computer."

Chris Wilg on Windows 95

"I'm so far in debt, and now they've raised my credit limit."

Andrew Annotte, credit card holder

"We had been struggling to overcome problems but the problems ended up overcoming us. That's probably the simplest way I could put it."

Ben Kushner, guitarist for the Millions, on the band's breakup

Editorial policy

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Fall 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: Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St. Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448.

MEHLSING OF THE DAILY NEBRASKAN



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A shot in the dark

As a coach, Tom Osborne not only has the lawful right and authority to ban the Daily Nebraskan (or anybody else) from practices, he has the responsibility to do so.

If a coach is not willing to protect his players, he is not worthy of the title.

Now, we can honestly debate the fairness—or lack thereof—in your editorial stance. But coach Osborne is in charge of his football team, period!

You can write, criticize, protest or lead rallies for his ouster. Just not at his practices.

Say anything you want. But don't whine about a lack of opportunity in coverage. You shoot yourself in the foot.

**Don Jacobson
Lincoln**

Dangerous precedent

What do Tom Osborne and Oakland Raider owner Al Davis have in common? Not much, until Monday, when Osborne borrowed a page right out of Davis' media-relations playbook.

Two years ago, Davis banned Raider beat writer Eric Noland of the Los Angeles Daily News from team practices and games for what the owner thought was overly critical coverage.

Los Angeles Times sports editor Bill Dwyre encouraged local papers, TV and radio stations to pull coverage in support of Noland. Davis' ban didn't last long. Dwyre challenged Davis, the Raider owner gave in and Noland went back to work.

What does that have to do with Osborne and the Nebraska media? Everything.

What an example the Nebraska media could have followed.

Why didn't they call Osborne's bluff and institute a boycott of Nebraska football coverage until the DN reporters were allowed fair and equal access to practices, games, players and coaches?

Instead, the Nebraska media stood by and allowed Osborne to single out and punish one media outlet, thus setting a dangerous precedent.

The issue was not whether it was fair to publish a cartoon of Washington, who has been charged, but not convicted, of a crime. The issue wasn't whether the DN can criticize Phillips, who is being investigated by the NCAA.

The issue was media access and a football coach's rub with a student



Roger Fesse

newspaper. Not a good mix. But it was Osborne who was out of line.

**Mike Reilley
Former Daily Nebraskan editor
Los Angeles Times investigative reporter**

Fry day

Once again, Jamie Karl has shown us his inhumane way of thinking. Jamie, your opinion on the death penalty (Death penalty brings justice, Aug. 30) is not only wrong, but inconsistent.

First of all, capital punishment is not "an ugly necessity of a civilized state. ..."

It is rather, a horrible act of an unjust system.

Tell me, Jamie, how can the government commit the very act that it condemns? The law says that killing is wrong. Does that mean that only the lawmakers can kill?

Another point to consider is the fact that since 1900, 23 people in the U.S. have been wrongfully executed. That number does not sound like a lot, but think of 23 members of your family. Then that is a big number.

What I wish you could understand is that the death penalty is not justice.

The death penalty only adds more violence to a world already drowning in it. Revenge is only for the weak-hearted. Please remember the words from Ezekiel 33:11, "As I live, says the Lord God, I swear I take no plea-

sure in the death of the wicked man, but rather in the wicked man's conversion, that he may live."

**Jeff Vincent
Senior
Environmental Studies
via email**

Bleeding hearts

This is in response to Professor Frances Kaye (letters, Aug. 31.)

She states that the key concept in justice is evenhandedness. This is true. That is why the death penalty is the ultimate justice in crimes such as murder, rape and drug selling.

Then the professor states that the death penalty does not provide such evenhandedness when administered by the United States.

This is also true but for one reason only.

Because of bleeding hearts who sit around in their dorm rooms and living rooms complaining about the problem of crime—but when the justice system tries to enact some form of justice, such as the death penalty, these liberals complain.

The only problem that I see with the death penalty is that they do not execute enough of these criminals.

The government should limit the number of appeals that a death row inmate can have.

This way the taxpayers do not have to support such worthless criminals.

Send the four jolts of 2400 volts of electricity into every death row inmate and that will solve the overcrowding problem.

It will also make the death penalty the deterrence that it was supposed to be in the first place.

**Richard Gilson
Junior
Social Sciences**

P.S.

Write Back!

Send your brief letters to: Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588, or Fax to (402)472-1762, or E-Mail dn@unlinfo.unl.edu. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification.