

OPINION

Thursday, September 21, 1995

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Daily Nebraskan

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James Mehsling/DN

Something new

Variety needed in downtown projects

The Downtown Association and the city of Lincoln have done some good work in reviving our downtown area.

They have helped reverse a national trend that threatened to leave downtown areas desolate ghost towns with soaped over windows and plywood facades.

Our own downtown has made a remarkable comeback.

Of course, a great deal of the credit goes to students who support the music outlets, coffeehouses and — of course — the bars, just off campus.

The Dry Campus policy itself has probably done more to energize downtown bars than any single city action.

And young, college-aged entrepreneurs have contributed more than their share to the downtown renaissance.

But there is still more to do.

We'd like to see more diversity downtown:

More retail outlets, more — and more diverse — shopping, more choices.

A grocery store would do nicely, for starters.

A garage wouldn't hurt.

And services in high demand — a bicycle repair shop, a laundromat, maybe even a massage center — might thrive in the shadow of campus.

To whatever extent the city can make incentives for more diverse businesses, it would certainly be appreciated.

Why not offer tax breaks and licensing deals for businesses offering something new — something not already available in the downtown area?

For many students, Lincoln's downtown is practically home.

It wouldn't hurt to make it homey.

Editorial policy

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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 Anonymous submissions will not be published.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.

Mehsling BY THE DAILY NEBRASKAN



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Elephant walk

The true beliefs of top Democrats are revealed by Carter Van Pelt, executive director of the Lancaster County Democratic Party, in a guest column in the Daily Nebraskan (Democratic Party needs definite goals, Sept. 18).

He said he wants to "rejoice" as the "flight of moderates" from the Democratic Party continues because that means that the "shift to the left" of the Democrats will continue.

Van Pelt should be given credit for his candor.

Unlike other leading Nebraska Democrats, he is willing to say what he believes in, while the governor and lieutenant governor appear to want to avoid discussing specific issues during the Senate campaign.

It is healthy for the process to have the top Lancaster County Democrat explain where their party stands.

Chuck Seigerson
State Chairman
Nebraska Republican Party

Mother Mary comes to me

Extensive debate is taking place regarding the use of the atomic bombs against Japan in World War II. There would not have been a second World War if humanity had responded to the gentle counsels of the mother of Christ at Fatima, Portugal on Oct. 13, 1917.

The blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three peasant children and stated that a war worse than WW I would come if her counsels were not listened to.

These instructions included the daily prayer of Rosary, the specific consecration of Russia to her immaculate heart, participation in the sacrifice of Mass on five consecutive first Saturdays of the month, and a counsel called "the



Secret of Fatima" — which pertains to apostasy within the catholic church and to a terrible chastisement.

The secret was to be made publicly known in 1960. It was never revealed by the Vatican.

The deployment of the atomic bombs caused horrible death and destruction, but unless the world finally responds to the urgent requests of Our Lady of Fatima, thermonuclear instruments of devastation may be used again — perhaps against this country.

Joseph E. Valley
Third Order Franciscan
Connecticut

Amerika uber alles

Mr. Van Pelt's column regarding the strategy of the Democratic Party is alarming, considering he identifies himself as the director of the Lancaster County Democratic Party.

He wrote, "Let the Republicans have the presidency for eight years, let them have the Congress. Let's see how far they're willing to go."

Do you give matches or loaded firearms to children, Mr. Van Pelt, to see how far they will go?

Seventeen of our last 25 presidents have been Republicans and largely under their leadership the federal government became the

"military industrial complex."

Recently the Republican Party was coopted by a peculiar diumvirate: the Christian Coalition and the National Rifle Association — both of whom desire the dismantling of the federal government, supposedly favoring states' rights.

Could it be that both the CC and the NRA stand to gain by a weakened Federal Authority?

I put it to you that the goal of the CC is nothing less than declaring the United States a Christian country, with all that that implies.

My own people, the Jews, have been the unwilling beneficiaries of Christian "lovingkindness" for almost two millennia. I wouldn't wish it on anyone.

The NRA has changed character in the last decade. There is a strong element of anarchism and racism in their leadership now. One thing is certain: they are all armed.

We are doomed to live in "interesting times." Let me suggest that the answer does not lie in capitulating to the Republicans "to see how far they will go."

My people went along with such logic once.

Many of us went to Auschwitz.

Robert Tobin
Graduate Student
Geology



...to the

Daily Nebraskan

Send your brief letters to:
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