

OPINION

Tuesday, October 3, 1995

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Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Slipping by

Whaddya do when the truth hurts?

In the movies, a peel is slippery.

You know, like when the characters don't see the banana skin lying just where a foot is about to fall... You snicker. It's an old joke.

In the O.J. Simpson trial, it's the potential appeal that's slippery: well greased by scrupulous lawyers.

The appeals process for O.J. has been slickered by legal eagles intent on winning, not this little battle, but the war.

Put yourselves in their shoes: The evidence against your client is overwhelming. Men have been hanged or — in our little 50th of the country — sent to the electric chair under less incriminating circumstances.

So whaddya gonna do?

The judge won't play footsie. He consistently bars your consistently inadmissible evidence from the court room.

You're gonna lose, is what. It's a done deal.

So you oil the way for your appeals process.



James Mehlsing/DN

It says no Fuhrman tapes will be played to this jury. They don't have any bearing on the case.

So you play them for the country — for the world. Knowing all the time that the jury you gotta sell is not those 12 hapless bookpeddlers you got stashed away in L.A. — but the larger jury of public opinion.

When the time for appeals come around you won't have to get your second-hand circumstantial evidence of crackpot conspiracy theories across a principled judge's bench.

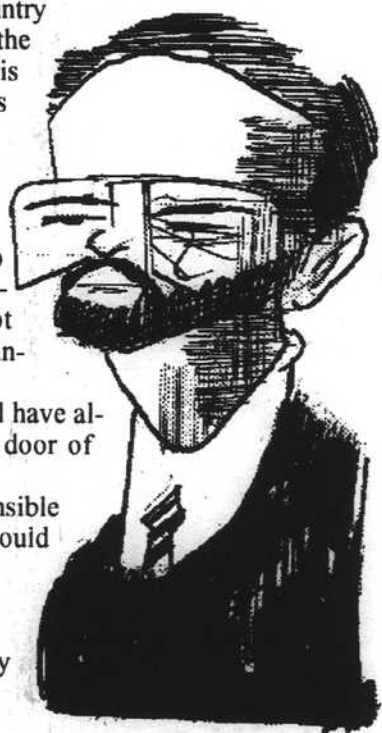
If O.J. is found guilty, it will have already been slipped under the door of CNN.

It could be argued that no sensible jury shown the real evidence could possibly acquit your client.

It's the perfect set up.

It's smart.

It's how you could get away with murder.



Editorial policy

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DN Online

Congratulations to the Daily Nebraskan for its on-line offerings. It's obvious the staff has listened and learned well about newspapers on the net.

You're now providing a great service to "Nebraskans Removed" while continuing to show that Nebraska is synonymous with worldclass journalism.

George Tuck
Professor
College of Journalism and Mass
Communications
via e-mail

Kabooms

A recent article ("On the rocks," Sept. 29) concerned Kabooms and what a "problem" it was for the downtown area.

I felt a rebuttal was necessary. Despite the opinion of some of the hierarchy of the Lincoln Police Department and possibly some of the public, Kabooms is not a cesspool of sin and debauchery.

It was said in the article that Kabooms had made police calls 256 times since September 1995. This is very true. But I recently paid a visit to the police station to see exactly what those calls were. Probably 20 percent were of a necessary nature. The rest were minor attempts, which means we received a fake ID — as we do more than any other Lincoln bar.

There were several trespassing calls, which means that someone wouldn't leave when asked to. And the rest were simply general assistance calls that we didn't have to make, but felt it necessary to inform police of what was going on. Not every call from a bar means there is some nut with a gun randomly picking off people waiting for a drink.

One officer told me that anyone who makes as many calls as we do must be on their toes.

What people don't realize is that if you call the police you're at risk of receiving a tavern violation —



James Mehlsing/DN

but if you don't call the police you're at risk of the very same thing.

It's a Catch 22 situation. However, you're much better off calling the police, as we do.

Kabooms has had only four tavern violations in the last year and about seven since we've been open.

Pat Doering
Kabooms Manager

Unsung victims

I came across an article ("Protesters stand up for victims," Oct. 2) about the protest held by NOW and the University of Nebraska's Women's Center before the football game Saturday.

Although the intent behind the protest is valid, I believe that by this type of action the public is lead to believe that because these men play football they are more inclined to commit acts of violence toward women.

This is a dangerous stereotype, as is any unfairly judging a group as a whole and failing to recognize the countless other attacks on women throughout the city that do not reach the headlines.

If these individuals wish to

protest this type of violence, might I suggest including all women who have been a victim of violence and not just the ones who happen to make the papers.

Doug Alexander
Senior
Criminal Justice

Babble capital

I couldn't believe my eyes when I read "English needed to Unite States" (Sept. 27).

In Mr. Karl's desire for a completely homogenous nation, he must have forgotten that there would be no United States if our ancestors hadn't come here from all the countries of the world.

Cultural differences of dress, food and, yes, language that the people of the world bring to the United States make our country rich in all respects.

We are the most diverse country in the world and this doesn't serve to divide us.

Jennifer Moss
Sophomore
Spanish/Sociology



...to the

Daily
Nebraskan

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