

# OPINION

Monday, October 23, 1995

Page 4

## Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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## Common ground Greenspace a fun forum

Greenspace.

The very word cried controversy just a short two years ago. Replacing the parking lot north of Broyhill Fountain with lawn and curvy sidewalks seemed like lunacy to some people then. It represented, they thought, a step backwards in the parking problem.

But free city bus tickets and lots of green later, the idea seems like a darn good one — why didn't we think of this sooner?

It eliminates an eyesore and makes hanging out at the fountain — for those of us eager to do that while we still can this fall — just that much nicer.

Visitors to our campus are greeted with a view that fails to contradict the beauty of other, more decorous parts of what is really, after all, a very pretty campus.

And greenspace offers a perfect forum for a frisbee fling or, as ASUN proved just this Friday, a wonderful place for a carnival. And it should be used more, and for more exotic purposes.

The Campus Socialists and Jews for Jesus should find, in the greenspace, a natural home.

Cheer squads and Tai Chi practitioners should practice side by side.

This is a university, after all, and for once we have a place near the union for a lot of things to happen all at once.

Come spring, let us see barefoot guitarists and mad prophets of Jehova in equal numbers.

Let there be lemonade and lawn chairs trotted over from stuffy dorm rooms.

May there be bagpipes.

And novice jugglers.

This is our park, we are students — the two go together like hippies and sandals.

Greenspace should be a place to speak, to play, to collapse in the middle of a hot day and rest in the sun.

Let it be a theater, a forum and a place to lie down — all three and a half months of the school year we can actually stand to be outside.

### 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.



### E-MAIL TO THE EDITOR

#### Bible minute

Krista Schwarting.

If you feel like you will be damned every time you enter a church or do something, ("Religion detached from reality," Oct. 20) I suggest you examine your relationship to our savior. I assume from your column that you believe in Jesus Christ. He died once and for all, to cover all our sins. I hope you realize how much He loves you and everyone.

I think you have made the choice to believe, have you made the choice to follow?

Kevin Reid  
UNL Alumnus

#### Bible second

In reading Krista Schwarting's column I saw some of my own experiences and opinions regarding Catholicism expressed really well.

I also had wondered why the Church should have reason to be so threatened by Chiburis' photos, and I wish they would put their energy into more worthwhile causes.

Claire Larson  
Junior  
Geology

#### Smells like...

In response to Jessica Kennedy's column, ("Smells Like...," Oct. 19) I'd like to share my own story involving cologne.

One day I was walking around campus with my girlfriend and one of our friends. A guy walked by and my girlfriend commented, "He smelled good! Why don't you ever wear that cologne I bought you for graduation?"

I guess I've learned my lesson. For every guy out there, if you want to meet a girl, wear cologne. It works!

Neil Watson  
Freshman  
Pre-Architecture

#### Spanish lesson

Muy estimado Sr. Aaron McKain:  
I believe that what you meant to say



Jason Gildow/DN

when you advised us not to make excuses, was: "Have the cojones to say..."

It's not the "drawers" (cajones) we're interested in, but rather what's in them!

Colleen R. Baade  
Spanish Lecturer

#### Animal lover

I am thoroughly upset about Congress wanting to cut back The Endangered Species Act. All creatures from fish, to birds, to mammals, to even plants have just as much of a right to live here on Earth as do people.

The Endangered Species Act was set up to protect all animals in this respect. To want to cut back on it is just plain ignorant. There are two main cutbacks that I have concern over:

First of all, Congress wants to cut out the protection of habitat of these animals. By doing so, Congress is basically saying to animals that either you live where there is no money, or you die. I must ask why. Is it so that another millionaire can buy himself or herself another Mercedes? This just

seems wrong to me. Would you like it if someone told you that you could no longer live in your warm house and had to fend for yourself in the wild? I think not.

Secondly, Congress wants to change the Act so that an animal does not have to be fully endangered to be taken off the list. Am I the only one who sees the fault in logic here? The animal was obviously put on the list because it was in danger of being lost forever, but now if someone feels like it, the animal can be taken off the list at any time regardless as to whether or not it is back in full.

James Rabiola  
Freshman  
Veterinary Science

#### Gay right

The media, reporting that the Supreme Court is hearing arguments about the constitutionality of Colorado's anti-gay Amendment 2, has repeatedly used the term "gay rights."

This has the effect of playing up the false notion that gays and lesbians are asking for "special rights." In reality, any ordinance which outlaws discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation provides protection for heterosexuals and homosexuals equally.

I understand why the media uses such a short-cut phrase as "gay rights," because the question of equal standing for gay people is the crux of the political dispute.

There is rarely a need to assure the sexual orientation rights of heterosexuals. However, there have been such cases. Not long ago I read about a man who wanted to turn the bar he owned into a gay bar, so he fired the heterosexual employees to replace them with gay ones, and promptly ran afoul of an ordinance prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Equal opportunity is not a special right — it is a fundamental right.

William C. Stosine  
Iowa City, Iowa



...to the

Daily  
Nebraskan

Send your brief letters to:  
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