

# OPINION

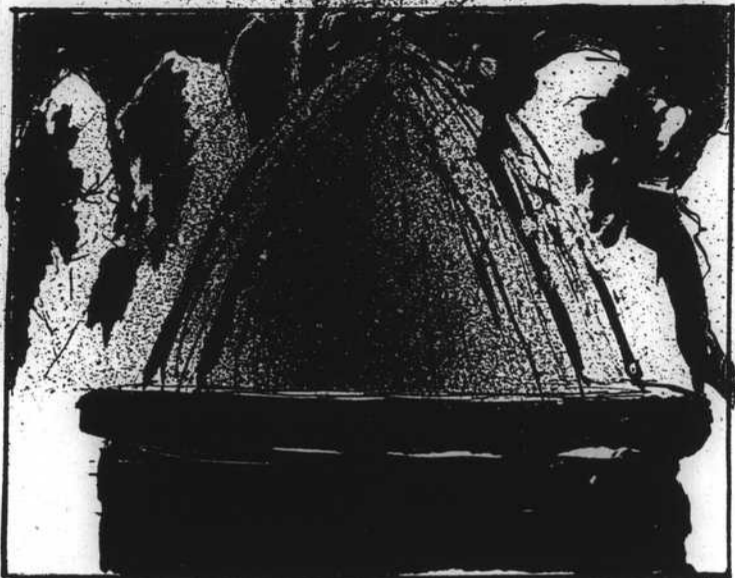
Tuesday, January 30, 1996

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## Daily Nebraskan

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Bret Gottschall/DN

## Waterworld

*New sculpture will outplash Broyhill*

It isn't easy to say goodbye.

Broyhill fountain is a spot where memories have been made, and some students are upset, understandably, about its looming destruction.

But preliminary design plans released last week for the new union plaza are encouraging.

Fond memories aside, it seems that future University of Nebraska-Lincoln students will have something even better than Broyhill fountain.

They'll have something that is useful — and attractive — year-round.

Something that draws people to the green space, and encourages them to enjoy it.

Something with a permanent stage, for more concerts or just for hanging out.

And, let's not forget, something that works as it should and may even run all year long.

Kim Todd, campus landscape architect and interim director of physical campus planning, presented three design plans last week to different student groups.

The first of the designs is a circular fountain with jets shooting water into the center. The second is a bed of rocks interspersed with jets. The third is a more uniform bed of rocks, again interspersed with water jets, that could possibly extend the width of the Nebraska Union.

But these plans aren't set in stone, not yet anyway. Todd and her associates seem to be asking for feedback, and listening to it.

And they have all their bases covered.

Like seating, in the winter and the summer. And what kind of noise the fountain will make. And how the stage will fit in.

Beyond that, they're looking at the bigger picture. They're thinking about what the fountain will look like when approached from different directions.

Calling Broyhill's replacement a "water sculpture" isn't just a '90s way of saying fountain. The new design will be part of a complete, well-planned union plaza, with water as the centerpiece.

The day Broyhill is torn down will be sad indeed. But, if plans continue as presented, the next generation of UNL students will have a more practical place to make memories, all year long.

### Editorial policy

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Spring 1996 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.



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### sNOW kidding

In response to your article printed Monday entitled "Snow Daze," I agree that the lack of response from both the city and UNL in cleanup after last Friday's snow storm is both upsetting and frustrating. I am more concerned with the school's apathy toward the safety of its students. Most elementary schools' classes are canceled not because of snow, but because of the horrible wind chill factors and the danger of the children walking in them. Just because we are no longer children does not mean that we are not just as affected by walking to our classes in minus 50 degree wind chills. It may not even be so bad to walk in after the snow has stopped, if a good job of snow and ice removal followed. Even walking to classes today posed a threat to the well-being of the students. Both the school and sorority/fraternity houses need to do much better jobs of making the sidewalks safer to use.

I believe that class cancellations should be looked at a little more closely, and that a quick return to the classrooms be made by simply making the job of getting there a little less risky.

Leigh Ramert  
freshman  
mechanical engineering  
via e-mail

#### Gambling debate hypocritical

I find the current discussion regarding the expansion of gambling in Nebraska somewhat confusing and not just a little hypocritical.

How can one be "opposed" to gambling, and not take a stand on eliminating ALL gambling in the State? Of course, that would mean the end of the horse racing industry, pickle cards for a variety of benefits, and the keno parlors that seem to be sprouting up all over. And it would also eliminate the sale of the instant winner games, as well as the Nebraska and multi-state lotteries. Not a particularly popular position, considering the current tax structure, and good old human greed.

When all is said and done, isn't the current discussion about gambling centered on convenience? Is it more convenient for Nebraskans to gamble in Nebraska (with the state benefiting from a percent-

age of the take), or having Nebraskans travel to South Dakota and Iowa, and leaving their money there?

Of course, taking the high moral road for the sake of political expediency, while choosing to ignore the existing problems has always been a popular position for politicians.

Jerry Frobom  
associate professor  
University Libraries  
via e-mail



Bret Gottschall/DN

#### Bible used as crutch

Amy Rager, chairwoman of the College Republicans, said that she opposed legal recognition of gay marriages because "I believe in the values of the Bible, and I think it's wrong according to God's standards."

The fastest-growing Christian denomination in the world is the mostly gay Metropolitan Community Church. These people, as do many other Christians and Jews, don't see gay marriage as "wrong."

The two most fundamental principles of the Bible are to love God and your neighbor with all of your heart, soul and energy. To deny any group of people basic civil rights is certainly not very loving — even if you think the people are "wrong." God did not intend on the Bible to be used as a weapon against any of his people. It's time to stop using the Bible as a crutch for homophobia.

Aren't Republicans the ones who are sick of being limited by the

government? Remember, this is supposed to be a free country.

Andy Bosselman  
junior  
advertising  
via e-mail

#### An Aggie on Phillips

This letter is in response to Amanda Hiner's letter to the editor concerning Lawrence Phillips, and the disciplinary actions taken toward him. Ms. Hiner writes that "if he was a regular student, he would have been expelled." Now I ask you, if Lawrence Phillips was a regular student, would the issue have received the coverage that it did? Would he have been publicly vilified, and held up as a symbol of what's wrong with collegiate athletes? No.

Before the college football season began, Sports Illustrated's new division, Sports Illustrated Presents, published a college football preview. In it, a feature article on Mr. Phillips. After the incident with his ex-girlfriend, I went back and read that article. In it, Mr. Phillips talks about his "need to learn to control his anger" and how football saved him from trouble as a youngster. Given the events that have taken place since, that article is sadly almost prophetic.

A final note: This is my first time perusing the on-line edition of your newspaper, and I like what I see. Keep up the good work.

James Taglienti  
freshman  
journalism  
Texas A&M University  
via e-mail

#### Stargazer

I would like to add to Professor Martin Gaskell's response to Kasey Kerber's article about the Astronomy 103 class. I was enrolled in Professor Gaskell's class as a freshman, along with two of my friends. We learned a lot in the class, and Professor Gaskell was always available to help us whenever we had a question. I will be graduating in May, and I feel that Astronomy 103 was one of the most enjoyable classes I have taken at UNL.

Jenny Plager  
senior  
accounting