

OPINION

Friday, April 12, 1996

Page 4

Daily
Nebraskan
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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"You never get the money by killing somebody. If somebody owes me money, I don't want to send flowers to the family. I want the cash."

— "Bobby Jay", former Chicago mobster, on his life in the mob, during an anti-gambling speech Monday.

"The airport has been destroyed, if you can really say that an airport already could be even more destroyed."

— Paul Koulen, deputy representative of the U.N. Development program in Monrovia, Liberia.

"Grafteroo."

— Donna Dees, "Late Show" spokesperson, on what it will take for David Letterman to select Wahoo as his next home office.

"I don't think they'd want me out here if I wasn't going to come out and play and make an impact."

— Former Nebraska basketball player Erick Strickland, on practicing with the football team.

"Most kids born in the last 30 years saw pornographic photos before they could perform algebra."

— Arts and Entertainment writer Patrick Hambrecht, in Tuesday's "Cyberscape" column.

"Students can't expect to walk in here next fall and get tickets."

— Cindy Bell, NU ticket office manager, on the increased demand for student football tickets this year.

"It costs as much to go to the state pen as it costs to go to Penn State."

— Gov. Ben Nelson, on the cost of housing prisoners.

"My job would be a lot better if everyone sought to balance the budget, not just the governor."

— Nelson, responding to the Legislature's passage of the main budget bill Wednesday.

"I want to say to you, my friend, just one last time, thank you. If it weren't for you, I wouldn't be here."

— President Clinton, eulogizing his friend and commerce secretary, Ron Brown.

"The biggest problem I see for next year is that I want everyone to like me, which is not easy when you've become head of the appointments board."

— Curt Ruwe, ASUN senator, after being elected speaker of the senate.

"I don't know why people think that 'gay' and 'sports' don't go together, but they do."

— Greg Louganis, Olympic gold-medalist diver, in a speech to UNL students Wednesday.

"I don't believe there is a downside to Lawrence Phillips."

— Dick Haley, New York Jets personnel director.

"He could come from Mars, and if he's got talent, I don't really care about where he's from or his past problems."

— John Becker, St. Louis Rams college scouting coordinator, on Lawrence Phillips.

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.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We couldn't refuse

I would just like to know who sponsored the phoney mob dude. He was an anti-casino lobbyist, not an ex-mobster. First of all, he would not have his picture taken if he was in fear of the mafia nor would he be talking to a group of students only 500 miles away from where the mafia are located. A bookie or ex-bookie would not be against casinos because they did not open in the Chicago area until 1993, three years after his supposed mob run ended. I just think that it is a shame that some group would try to bring some phoney here to give someone's political agenda. It just doesn't make any sense.

Andris Dellinger
senior
geography

Editor's note: William Jahoda's speech was sponsored by Gambling with the Good Life, a nonprofit, anti-gambling organization. Because of an editing error, that information was inadvertently cut from the story.

An offer

The article "On the Money" by Erin Schulte (April 9) states that "Jay, who spent three years in the witness protection program, spoke under a fake name for fear of mafia repercussions." If this is the case, why did you put a picture of him in the Daily Nebraskan? I understand that he is out of the protection program, but if he is worried about the mafia recognizing his name, is it not a safe bet that they would recognize his face and profile as well?

Why don't we just send a lost and found ad to the Chicago newspapers? I can see it now: Found, one ex-mafia bookie. Disappeared 3



James Mehsling/DN

years ago. If he sounds like yours, please send for picture and enclose the finder's reward. I'm sure the Chicago papers have Internet sites; this should be no problem. In fact, we might as well have them check out your Web site because his picture is on there, too.

On the other hand, I had it pointed out to me that the talk about changing his name for fear of his life could simply be a promotional gimmick. I am told that it is normal practice of the protection agency to disallow pictures of their witnesses. Is this all an elaborate joke a week too late for April Fools' Day?

Either way, the DN made a mistake. If it is a gimmick, lies and fake facts were printed. Otherwise, they might have endangered a man's life, if, indeed, the DN is correct on its information that the mafia is still searching for him. Neither option is very complimentary for the Daily Nebraskan.

Sandra Lord
senior
computer science

Adoption

I agree totally with Mark Baldridge's column in the April 5 Daily Nebraskan (up to the last sentence, that is). I can't understand all the TV shows, the newspaper and magazine articles about adoptees trying desperately to find their birth parents, and vice versa. I was adopted at 18 months. I'm an "oldie" and at the time of my adoption, the birth parents' names were on the adoption papers. My birth mother lived in Hastings, Neb., and I could have sought to contact her, had I chosen to do so. Call me unnatural, call me abnormal, I don't care. My parents were the ones who sat up nights with me when I was sick, who made sure I studied when I was supposed to, who sacrificed to send me to the university. Perhaps if I had been adopted into a dysfunctional family, I might have felt differently. But I was lucky — my adoptive parents were wonderful.

I thank my birth mother for giving me life and having had the courage to give me up.

Marj Scidel
Lincoln

Send your brief letters to:
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Lincoln, Neb. 68588, or Fax to
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