

New crop of columnists has harvest of fresh ideas



MARK

Mark Albracht

"Right now I'm in my college era, which is known as the jaded years or sometimes 'The Age of Insolence,' which I'm hoping lasts quite a while because the next era is known as 'The Age of Get-a-Job.'

"I'm a philosophy major. My favorite color is green. I own a Styrofoam alien head. I have a pet piranha named Mr. Blonde. And I look forward to all of your scathing letters to the editor."

Wendy Biss

"I was born to a used-car salesman and his lovely wife, in the abyss of Nebraska—a place fondly referred to on maps as North Platte. I am currently a sophomore studying psychology at UNL. I keep myself busy by emotionally terrorizing my cat and watching 'Saved by the Bell' reruns.

"Lately, I've developed a penchant for nihilistic cyber crap and have joined the ranks of the cynical self-absorbed. I also find myself being drawn to divadom. Yes, I love drag queens. I can't explain it, but for some reason these darlings of drama just make me tingle."

Sonia Hollimon

"I am really looking forward to being a columnist this fall—it's my big chance to share my thoughts with the world. At least the part of the world UNL occupies.

"My specialty is pushing buttons. My goal is to make people think; I hope in the process of writing I'll learn something and so will the reader.

"After my five years in the broadcasting program, the light at the end of the tunnel is finally getting brighter. After I graduate, I plan to run away and become a dancer in Greenwich Village... or maybe a tortured writer—whichever experiences more angst."

Kasey Kerber

"I'll start by saying that I like writing biographies about as much as I like gargling with Drano.

"I was born. I drooled a lot. I learned to walk. I broke lots of things around the house. I started going to school. I confused lots of teachers. I discovered writing and joined the high school newspaper. I destroyed it, causing the adviser to retire. I graduated and moved from Florida to Antarctica (also known as Nebraska).

"Then I joined the staff of the Daily Nebraskan. I haven't managed to destroy it yet, but hey, I'm working on it."

Heather Lampe

"Writing this biography reminds me a lot of being on a first date. As the date begins, you attempt to sound attractive... only to find out later that throughout the entire dinner conversation you had a chunk of black olive stuck between your teeth. So give me some olives, here goes the brief chronicle of my life:

"I'm a news-editorial and English major, and a fifth-year senior. I will be forced to graduate this year, because I

think 'sixth-year senior' sounds too pathetic.

"When I'm not at school, I'm trying to pay for it by selling shoes. There is nothing like touching feet for a living to make a person yearn for a degree."

Anthony Nguyen

"I am a senior biochemistry and philosophy major, so I cannot be considered sane. I was born in Saigon, Vietnam, and currently call Omaha home. I attended Boston University for two years where too much partying and too little studying forced me home.

"My ambition in life is to help others in life, but deep down I want to be all-powerful in order to crush my enemies. You know who you are."

Brent Pope

"I am a senior broadcasting major. I look back at my UNL years and think, 'I've been here way too long!'

"I took off two years in the midst of my college career to join the U.S. Navy, where I was constantly bossed around by 'the man.'

"After I graduate, I plan to move to New York to write and perform for Saturday Night Live in some capacity. (If it's still on the air).

"I currently dabble in poetry and stand-up comedy—and I have rejection letters to prove it.

"I also have a cat named Scoops who sleeps on my head when it's really cold outside."

Steve Willey

"I, Steve Willey, a Gemini, am a senior originally from Natchez, Mississippi. The third son of Tom and Ralph Willey, I pursued a variety of majors, including tricycle mechanics, before settling on news-editorial journalism in 1995.

"I have been a columnist for the DN for the past year and I realize that most readers will use my columns for 'lavatory purposes only.'

"My accolades include failing Chem 109 three times and being one of only two people to not vomit while watching the Republican National Convention."

Nick Wiltgen

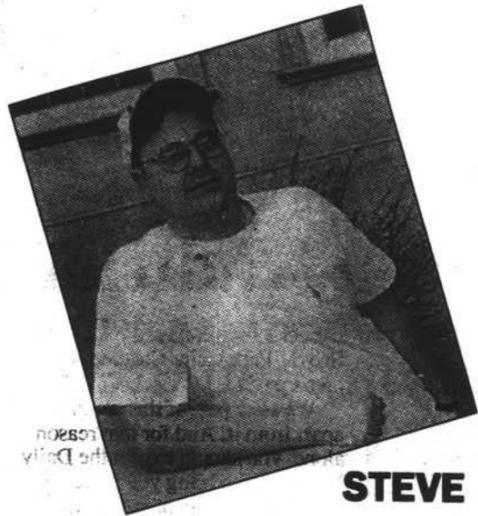
"My parents thought I would grow up to be a big quarterback. They were a little off. Physically, I'm of below-average strength because the only 'muscle' I've ever wanted to exercise has been my mind.

"I have never really been a normal person. I've always wanted to be different. In the past, I wanted to be different for the sake of being different. Now I'm different because I'm openly repulsed by today's mainstream American attitude.

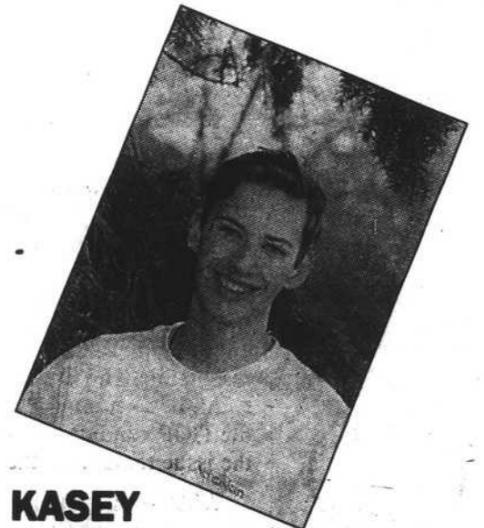
"I am atheist, pro-capitalist, individualist, libertarian and Objectivist. I look forward to tackling some very controversial issues with a no-holds-barred approach this year."



BRENT



STEVE



KASEY



HEATHER



WENDY



ANTHONY



NICK



SONIA