

OPINION PACKAGES

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"I thought Bill (Byrne) was crazy."
— Chancellor James Moeser on UNL's plans to sponsor a NASCAR team

"I've been raising rabbits since I was 5 and really didn't think of it at all when I went in for Playboy. Now I guess it's sort of ironic."

— UNL junior Tami Unger on her appearance in Playboy magazine's "Girls of the Big 12" issue

"It was not my intent to be malicious during the interview."

— ESPN broadcaster Roy Firestone on his recent interview with NU Football Coach Tom Osborne

"You will have more free time than any time since you were in kindergarten."

— Chancellor James Moeser speaking at a convocation for new students

"We're loading up the '76 Ford Chateau now."

— Garth Johnson, lead singer of Plastik Trumpet, on the band's plans to travel to New York for the College Music Journal festival

"People asked me if I've tried other ways of living besides with God. Yes, I've tried other ways."

— Pastor Tom Short preaching to students on the Nebraska Union plaza

"We were certainly bad. We were pitiful. We got clobbered. Hopefully, it was good for us."

— Florida Football Coach Steve Spurrier on the Fiesta Bowl and his team's chances for a winning season

"You have to assume that anyone left holding a newspaper is intelligent."

— "Non Sequitur" author Wiley on the editorial level of his comic strip

"Early to bed, early to rise, work like hell and organize."

— Vice President Al Gore to New York delegates at the Democratic National Convention

"If they agree with me on everything, why shouldn't I be president?"

— Presidential candidate Bob Dole on the Clinton campaign's use of "GOP themes"

"Now I'm not very good at arithmetic, but there is a correlation about who you play and how many games you win. It looks to me like we got our tail to the heater."

— Texas Tech Football Coach Spike Dykes on the Big 12 Conference

"I just made up my mind that I wasn't going to be one of those guys who wasn't going to go out without a fight."

— Husker Damon Benning on the race for the starting I-back position

MEHSLING'S VIEW

KEEP THROWING IT IN THERE BOY... YOU WANT TO GRADUATE DONT YOU?



MEHSLING © 1996 DAILY NEBRASKAN

Steve WILLEY

Sensational stuff Summer was pretty full of it

The summer of 1996 will, in my opinion, be forever remembered as one of the most historic ever witnessed. If you take a second to review its spectacular and sometimes unfortunate moments, it's hard not to concur.

For example, in early August, scientists revealed for the first time substantial proof that life indeed exists on other planets. By analyzing a meteorite from Mars, experts detected organic compounds that could have only come from biological activity. Finally the world has been given concrete evidence of life other than that found on Earth.

Personally, I have never doubted that life exists outside our realm. As a matter of fact, I have living proof of aliens at my very own home. I happen to have a roommate who, after eating tacos and cottage cheese, is able to make every toilet in my house explode with such furious anger that twice now the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms has responded.

Since no Earth human could be capable of such horrible destruction, I have deduced that my roommate hails from the planet Fartron where deafening flatulence is merely a means of greeting each other.

Unfortunately, this summer also held several historic yet tragic terroristic events. Numerous bombings, along with the people responsible for nationally televising the Republican National Convention, shook the foundation of American safety.

I pray they catch the trashy people responsible for their attacks against my fellow Americans. If I had my way — and judging from my repeated failure in chemistry, I DO NOT, but if I did — I'd make them go without mayonnaise for the rest of their lives, on top of the court's punishment.

I'm not a cruel man, but some things warrant rough punishments.



(EDITOR'S NOTE: This threat only terrifies Steve. In fact, according to officials at the University Health Center, after Steve wrote that line, the thought of going without mayonnaise made him convulse and swallow his tongue.)

Reports indicate that he was later beaten and arrested after he tried to swallow a doctor's tongue.)

Another historic event this summer was the '96 Olympics, where we were awed by an inspirational, yet visibly nervous (did you see how bad he was shaking?) Muhammad Ali. (Tasteless joke, belly boy. You're fired -ED) The world fell in love with the courageous gymnast Kerri Strug as she nailed a perfect landing — despite losing her eyesight and ability to carry a tune — to snatch America's gold medal from Russia.

OK, her victory may not have been so intense, but with Bob Costas constantly bombarding us with those special "Olympic Moments," how could you not remember the games that way?

Every five seconds he told some story about this half-lizard armless boy from Botswana who beat all odds by winning the 200 meter breaststroke using only his tongue for propulsion. This after his entire family, including their pet cat, was pinched to death by a hot dog vendor during the '92 Olympics in Barcelona.

But that's what Mr. Costas is good at. You could have the most pathetic life (i.e. mine) and he could tell you

story in such a manner that would cause even the stoic Tom Osborne to run nude down O Street.

If I had the money, I'd pay Mr. Costas to follow me around with a megaphone announcing to the world my heartening story.

COSTAS: (Inspirational music wafts softly in the background.) "Steve Willey was not your average child. (Camera flashes still photos of Steve telling booger jokes to his appalled mother.) And like many his age, Steve had a dream. It wasn't an average dream, quite frankly, it was a down-right gruesome dream — a dream of squatting up to his navel in ground parsley.

"He did whatever it took to raise money for the expensive herb and grinder. He allowed his roommates to give him a dollar to bathe daily, and on Cornhusker football Saturdays, he let visitors outside the stadium break golf irons over his head for a quarter.

"Last Sunday, Steve Willey accomplished what no one else had ever done, or perhaps, was ever retarded enough to try. Let's watch this special — (Costas sighs) — 'Idiotic Moment'."

The camera shows an obese, nude 22-year-old easing his way into a tub of ground parsley, to the applause and delight of no one but himself...

There were other historic events, but to me, none exemplify the summer of '96 better than those I've discussed: the long-standing tradition of the Olympics; the immense future of possible discovery and insight; and, yes, even the horror of the Republican National Convention. They all just give me a historic, tingly feeling.

But more likely than not, it's probably just embedded parsley.

Willey is a senior news-editorial major and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.

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