

# OPINION PAGES

## QUOTES OF THE WEEK

**"We're trying to put responsibility on men whose fathers, sons, brothers, uncles, teammates and friends are domestically violent."**

— Don McPherson, director of Mentors in Violence Prevention, on public service announcements that will air on HuskerVision, calling for an end to relationship violence

**"You guys need a quarterback. That Frost guy sucks. The win Saturday is the first step to our national title."**

— Kansas State University junior Phil Freeland, on the Wildcats' prospects for a win against the Huskers

**"I'm told that rape was almost predictable in terms of the behavior taking place in (the Sigma Nu) house that night."**

— Chancellor James Moeser, on the alleged rape of a UNL student during a fraternity party

**"Damon may look all hard and tough on the outside. But inside, he's the sweetest person in the whole world."**

— Tanya Franck, junior co-captain on the NU soccer team, on her boyfriend of 1½ years, Damon Benning, senior co-captain on the Husker football team

**"The state is on the move. We're doing more than husking corn."**

— Gov. Ben Nelson, encouraging UNL students to stay in Nebraska after graduating

**"She asked if my husband would please stop going to Omaha and killing those beautiful babies."**

— Millicent Crabb, on the harassment she has faced from members of Rescue the Heartland because her husband, Dr. Winston Crabb, performs abortions

**"I think a lot of people were worried that we forgot how to play football."**

— Husker rush end Grant Wistrom, on fan reactions to the team's shutout loss to Arizona State University

**"(Nebraska) is going to be undefeated the rest of the way, and you can quote me on that."**

— Texas A&M Soccer Coach G. Guerrieri, on the quality of Nebraska's soccer team

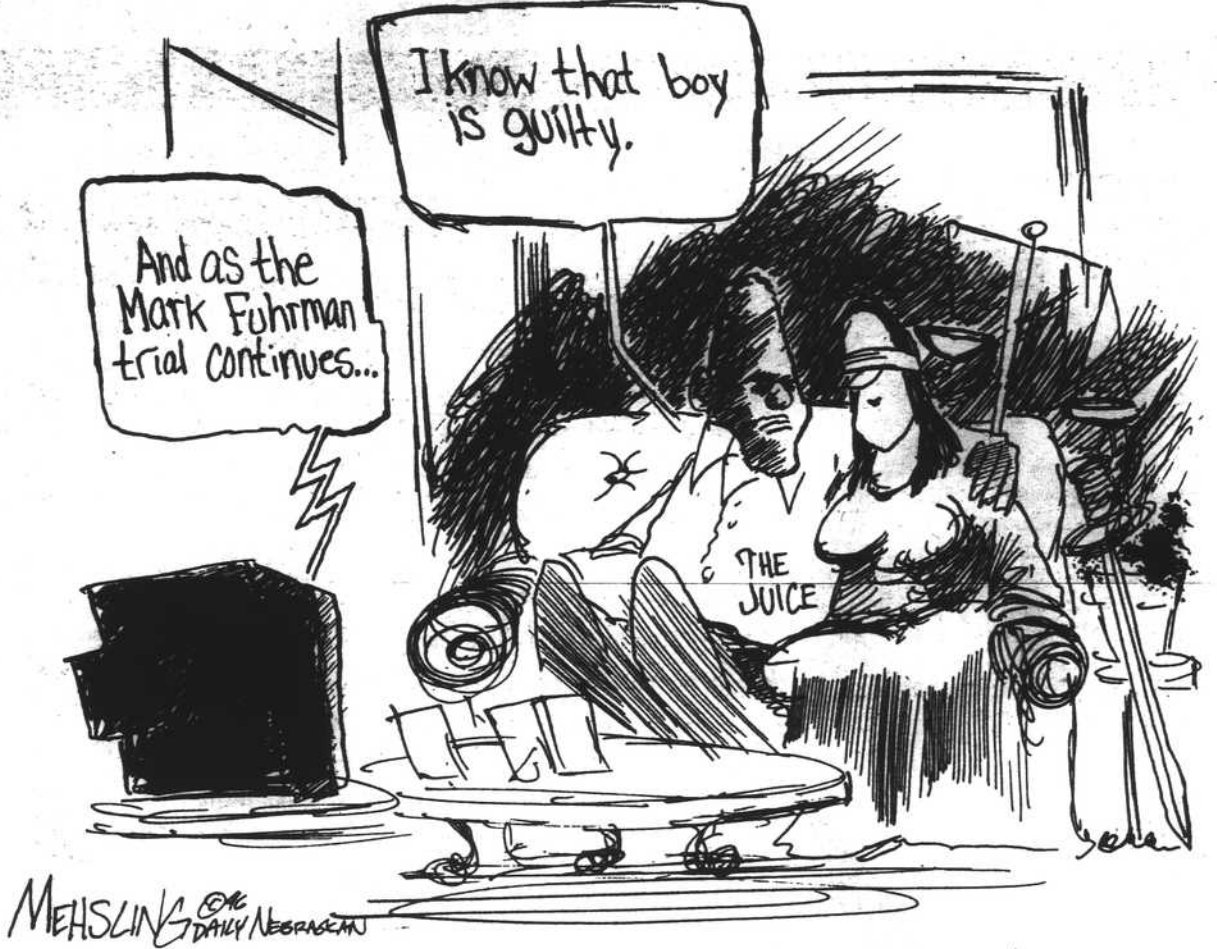
**"No human being should treat another one the way he (Phillips) allegedly treated her, and no respectable university should be condoning this kind of behavior. I mean, this matter should result in a substantial investigation into the University of Nebraska as to how they — what are they in the business of doing up there?"**

— Chief U.S. District Judge Brook Bartlett, on the alleged assault of UNL junior Kate McEwen by her ex-boyfriend, former Nebraska football star Lawrence Phillips

**"It's like going back to your second-grade reading book and reading about the tree-lined streets and friendly people."**

— Charles Bethea, on Lincoln, after being named executive director for the Lied Center for Performing Arts

## MEHSLING'S VIEW



## LETTERS

### OUT OF CONTEXT

In response to the article, "Faculty talks to Moeser on diversity" (DN 10/2/96), I must comment on one of the quotes used by Ann Mari May. She stated that this year, one male professor complained to students about "all these bitches taking away our jobs."

I happen to remember being in that professor's class, and I certainly remember the context in which it was said. Our professor had been speaking on the lack of equality of women. As an example, he paraphrased what many of his male acquaintances have said on the subject. He continued to add that he did not share the same feelings, but a female student — you know who you are — chose to accuse him of this sentiment.

The professor apologized for offending anyone, once again stating that he did not share the same feelings as those men he had quoted, not once but over two class periods.

I personally feel sorry for this student choosing to take this comment way out of context, which is what many people do today, period. Everybody is looking for someone to blame for his or her troubles or even misinformation.

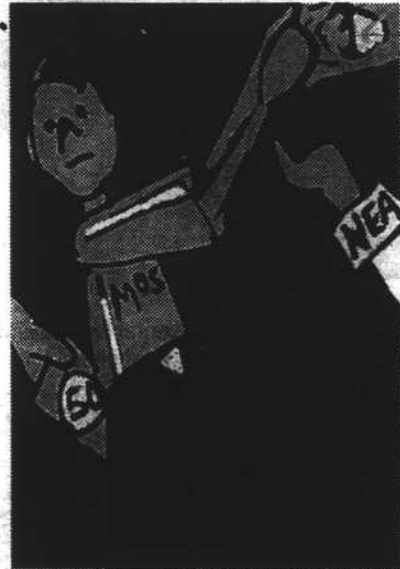
The fact is that a professor who was genuinely unbiased is being accused of saying something that he didn't. That is not fair.

I know that many people who read this will remember that class and will agree with me, that he and many other professors are merely sharing the sentiments of others, not necessarily speaking their own minds in order to offend a particular group in the audience.

I'm not saying that it does not go on elsewhere on campus, because I know it does. But before anyone accuses another person of saying something harmful, they must think about the comment and in which context it was used. Otherwise, their argument is invalid, as in this article.

Marcia Alonso  
senior  
anthropology and sociology

### RACE FOR POWER



### ARE YOU KIDDING?

Dear Nick Wilten:  
Thanks for the hilariously satirical column about government support for PBS and the NEA — I especially loved the part where you claimed that you would rather have the TV dinner than a year of Sesame Street.

Except for the fact that it is probably not possible to buy a TV dinner for \$1.12 (or 64 cents, or even \$1.76 for that matter) this is the best dig at the federal government I've read in the DN all year.

Can you believe there are actually some people who get sore about that measly \$1.76 expenditure to foster some thoughtful cultural activity that doesn't exist solely to sell mass-produced product?

Consumer culture is freaky enough as it is — do you know that some people actually shell out 30 or 40 bucks for the privilege of advertising Tommy Hilfiger or Mossimo on a cheeseball \$5.98 T-shirt? Boy, I'm glad my kids (when I have 'em) are going to be able to develop some identity and self-worth that will be independent of their ability to purchase consumer goods.

Lauri Morris  
graduate student  
art

Dear Mr. Harris: I don't have an argument against the major premise behind your reply to Cliff Hicks; I just have a problem with some of the things you say to make your point.

First of all, concerning the immigrants being told to "give up their language, folkways, and everything else"; I don't think this is an accurate statement. This is not to say that there wasn't discrimination and some persecution even, but they did not have to give up all their possessions to become American.

In addition, if I were to move to another country permanently wouldn't I have to learn the language and customs of the new country and adapt in order to survive?

I also disagree that racism is about power and privilege; power and privilege allow one to discriminate on the basis of race, but a person can be racist without having the power to discriminate.

I would assert that your statement "...think how much greater it (our country) would be if not for the racism, discrimination, and oppression of people that look like you" has a racist element to it. I assume that you mean white people in this statement.

I am sure that you would tell me that not all African-Americans are gang members, and car thieves, or even great ball players even though they look like you; this is a statement I would heartily agree with.

If I were to say that I disagreed with that statement I would be labeled a racist because I unfairly grouped people into a category by what they looked like.

Now, reread the closing statement of your letter and explain to me how that is NOT racist. Although I can never know what it feels like to be in your shoes, I do know what it's like to be judged on the basis of what I look like.

William Clarke  
graduate student  
chemistry

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