

OPINION PAGES

DN Quotes OF THE WEEK

"If the public understands what's happening, they'll be up in arms."
 — North Platte Police Chief Martin Gutschrenritter, on LB465, which would legalize concealed firearms

"It's good to be home."
 — UNL professor Harish Gupta, returning from being trapped in war-torn Albania for three days after most Americans had left

"The ideal family consists of one man, one woman and children."
 — Sen. Jim Jensen of Omaha, on LB280, a bill that would outlaw same-sex marriages in Nebraska

"The best thing we could do to curtail the spread of AIDS is to encourage monogamy."
 — Sen. Chris Beutler of Lincoln, stating a reason for opposing LB280

"This is kind of how we felt last year."
 — Tyronn Luē, NU point guard, speaking before Nebraska beat Nevada 78-68 to advance to the quarterfinal round of the NIT

"The people who are challenging this law are ignoring the previous legislation preventing minors from getting to pornography."
 — Former Sen. James Exon, who wrote the Communications Decency Act now being reviewed by the Supreme Court

"At the end of the day, nobody does anybody any good if you get somebody in a home they can't heat."
 — Robert Zoellick, executive vice-president of Fannie Mae, the company that recently formed a \$2 billion partnership with the state of Nebraska to build 25,000 homes for middle- and low-income Nebraskans

"I hate to say it, but we were starting to lose faith that this day would come."
 — Richard Ligenza, father of Tamara Ligenza, on the arraignment date set for his daughter's accused killer, Clifford Davlin

"We have to take it one game at a time and we have to extend it through this week."
 — Todd Sears, NU first baseman, two days before the UNL baseball team won six straight games

"Deity is a personal concept. Some people use the Greek gods, some the Native American gods; it's a very personal thing."
 — Rev. Linda Harris, of Lincoln's Challice Circle, a group studying Wicca and other religions

"It hurt my heart."
 — Shelly Bartlett, senior UNL gymnast, on her final home meet, where she broke the Nebraska all-around record with a 39.5

Mehsling's VIEW

GRADUATION PROCESS AT UNL



DN LETTERS

Ignoring Gender

I am writing in response to Anne Hjersman's column "Mothering a mission" (DN, Friday) regarding the university's failure to "support the Women's Studies program financially or otherwise."

As a woman, I am shocked every day to hear women discussing how "oppressed" or "overlooked" they are. I do not feel oppressed, overlooked or degraded by men or society.

I was completely unaware that we, as women, need to "reverse the mentality that has belittled or altogether ignored women's contributions." I would like someone to show me this mentality, because frankly, I have no experience with it.

I am honestly thankful the university does not contribute more to Women's Studies. I do not want any of my tuition money going to support a program built on imaginary "injustices."

There are so many departments and programs on campus that need money for faculty, scholarships and equipment for student education. I would like to commend the "powers that be" for ignoring Women's Studies, and encourage UNL students to do the same.

Women, get your degree, face the real world and quit blaming everyone else for how "ignored" and "belittled" you feel. Society does not look down on you because you are a woman; they will only look down on you if you are not assertive and self-respecting. You need to work on gaining respect as a human being and not worry as much about gender!

Erin Logan
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 music/pre-med



military not only recruits on campus but that it also funds the education of many of UNL's students.

Openly lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered students do not have access to this "resource," and obviously many closeted individuals also do not without the fear of a witch hunt-like investigation of their private lives.

A few years ago, the Academic Senate had the moral fortitude to stand up against the Armed Forces on this policy, but decided to take a "wait-and-see" approach when President Clinton unveiled his compromise "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" policy.

As Mr. Fulwider cites in his column, there has been a 42-percent increase in the number of homosexuals discharged (a number that the Pentagon has not disputed but has said they don't see as significant).

This indicates that the situation has gotten worse, not better, for homosexuals in the U.S. military; I can't imagine that 42 percent more people are "telling" but it would be consistent that perhaps 42 percent more people are being "asked" or, worse, "pursued." It's time for UNL to re-evaluate its policy towards ROTC programs, in specific, and its relationship with the military in general.

On a final note, I'd like to commend Mr. Fulwider for not only approaching a sensitive topic, but for using sensitive language when doing so.

Robert W. Anderson
 graduate student
 unclassified

Purged Patriots?

Kudos to John Fulwider on his column "Uncle Sam wants you?" (DN, Wednesday) for covering a very sensitive topic: teens and lesbian/gay issues!

Especially for covering the topic of transgendered persons, lesbians, bisexuals and gay men in the military. Hopefully, it won't take John McCall long to convince Lincoln Public Schools that it needs a specific policy to prevent discrimination against gay, bisexual, transgendered and lesbians students.

I'd like to point out, however, that the University of Nebraska-Lincoln does have a specific policy against discriminating against bisexual, lesbian, gay and transgendered students, staff and faculty. Yet the university has also chosen to ignore the fact that the

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