

OPINION/PAGES

Our VIEW

Up 100 percent Standing students deserve proper support

Bill Byrne, University of Nebraska athletic director, is out to do it once again.

The students just cannot learn to sit down and behave during football games, he has said. On the south side of Memorial Stadium, the standing students annoy those quieter, gentler ticket holders whose seats lie behind student seats.

As a result, Byrne has told university students and officials that, unless students sit down, something will have to be done.

And we agree with Byrne. Students standing and cheering in support of their fellow classmates during their university's football game on their university's campus, well — that's just plain out of line.

Maybe students, those students, who can't sit down should get tickets somewhere else. Somewhere they'll be less conspicuous and out of the way of other ticket holders. Somewhere like East Stadium.

If students were allotted seats on the bottom deck of East Stadium, there would be no one stuck behind them to complain.

Then students could rightly feel they were appreciated as important figures on the university campus. (That is, if Byrne agrees with other administrators that students are central to the university.)

Perhaps most importantly, students could be loud and spirited as they stand in celebration of the glory that is Nebraska football.

Or maybe football players want their fans to sit and be docile at their games. Maybe they don't like students to stand, because standing is a physical motion conducive to loud cheering and hollering.

Perhaps, when they emerge from that tunnel, with the awe-inspiring "Sirius" blaring from the speakers, they want all the students to just sit there with "Yes, sir, Mr. Byrne. We'll be good." grins on their faces.

Not standing, just sitting there with all the excitement of an 8:30 a.m. 101-level class. That would sure motivate the team to victory.

Now, luckily, Byrne can no longer bump student seating further from the playing field without the signature of Chancellor James Moeser.

And, in the years since that condition was adopted, Moeser has not OK'd another bump.

But to even suggest that students are a nuisance because of their shining school spirit is ridiculous.

At Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas, students sit on one entire side of the stadium. They all stand for the entire football game, and any student who sits is a "two percenter" — a despicable student who will only give 2 percent for his or her alma mater.

So, Mr. Byrne, are you a 2-percent Cornhusker? Or do you show 100 percent of your pride in this university and its brilliant athletic programs?

We think you're 100 percent, so why can't students be allowed the same privilege?

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DN LETTERS

If You Got 'Em

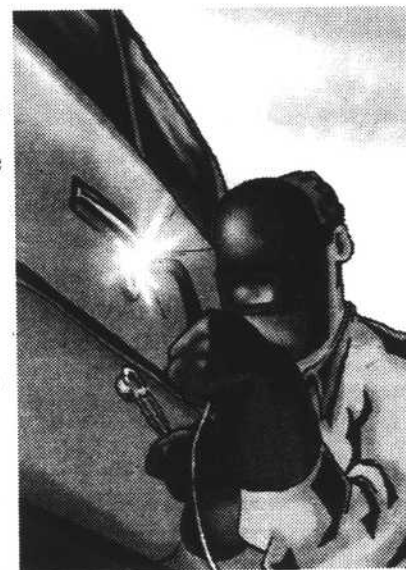
Mr. Donley's column "Smoke and Mirrors" (DN, Wednesday) has some good ideas, but is also misdirected. His comment about people being free to smoke while tobacco companies are free from lawsuits does make sense to me.

After all, unless you started smoking before 1980, you surely knew there was a risk involved with this activity. That blurb from the surgeon general on your pack is there for a reason and it is not just decorative.

It is true that the FDA should regulate things that are harmful to us. However, if we regulate tobacco that much or leave the industry open to every lawsuit known to man, don't we have to do the same to the alcohol and caffeine industries? In other words, Budweiser and Coke could be in trouble fast, too.

Don't forget, by the way, these industries worth \$300 billion also give people jobs. What effect will that have on our economy if they're all unemployed? These are things we need to keep in mind.

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AARON STECKELBERG/DN

signed a waiver, they are not responsible.

A couple hundred dollars later, my car is back to normal. WARNING: If you lock your keys in your car on campus, don't call campus security!!!

Mary K. McDonald
Omaha

Signed away

Recently while visiting my son at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, I locked my keys in the car. The first thought that came to my mind was to call campus security, which I did. They promptly came to my rescue — only they couldn't get my doors unlocked.

After at least an hour of trying, it was suggested I call a locksmith. When the locksmith arrived, he said he couldn't unlock the doors either because a plate inside the door had been broken. I would have to have my car towed.

I was asked by the locksmith if the university had me sign a waiver on damages. I said they had. He told me this happens very often, that either security can't unlock the door or they break the locks, but since you've

Biased Notes

It is my hope that I will be proven wrong upon writing this message. Lately I have seen what appears to be evidence of bias in the reporting of Daily Nebraskan.

As a specific example, I point to the recent information centered on the implementation of Lotus Notes on this campus. As readers, we have seen several articles and commentaries in support of Notes while the opposite side of the issue appears to have been ignored.

There are many of us here on campus who do not agree that Notes will be a favorable addition to UNL's technological repertoire, but I have yet to see any representation of this point of view.

I am sure that this is not because

of lack of material. I am aware of several letters to the editor that have been written by myself and others. If the manner in which we have expressed our opinions has not been eloquent enough to merit publication, certainly those letters at least serve to point out a "newsworthy" issue.

Although the articles in the DN regarding the impending arrival of Lotus Notes suggests that its use will be favorable, I believe that you will find evidence to the contrary.

First of all, we have a fully functional standard e-mail system intact already. Why fix something that isn't broken? The only complaint I have heard about servers such as bigred is that their high volume of users results in slowness. If this is the case, how will using a bulky, resource-hungry mail-reader like Notes improve the situation?

Maybe the answer to this question is that accessibility of e-mail will be reduced. If the number of computers currently in use on campus that would not be able to handle Notes is an indication, this reduction of accessibility is inevitable.

We have a large number of such computers available for accessing e-mail all across campus. Why would we want to adopt a "more-advanced" e-mail system if it will render a large portion of our current resources useless?

When we look to the IBM lab in Sandoz Residence Hall as an example, we will find computers that take several minutes just to load Windows, which then runs very slowly. Does it really make sense to use anything other than a text-based mail-reader with these computers?

I am not convinced that the adoption of Lotus Notes is a favorable action, nor am I sure that the arguments against its implementation have been given any consideration. In the name of serving student interests, I would like to see the DN address the other side of the Lotus Notes issue.

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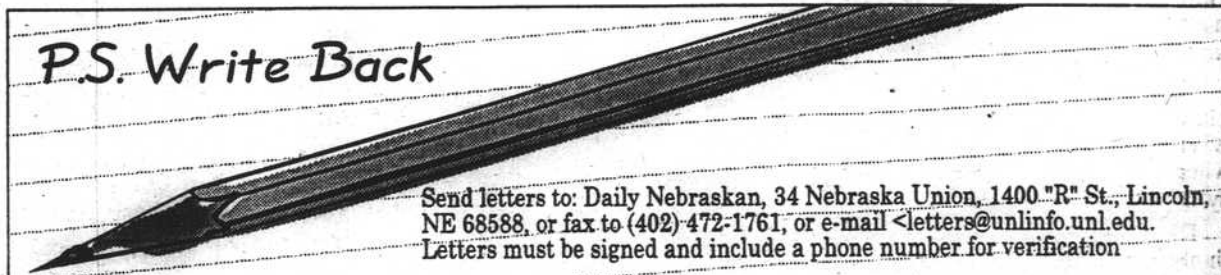
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