

# OPINION PACES

## Quotes OF THE WEEK

**"There's nothing you can do. You just stand and wait to see if the building is going to blow up or not."**

— John Klein, owner of an apartment building in which a bomb was found

**"I've had to grit my teeth for a long time. When I get back on the field, everyone will sense my hunger."**

— DeAngelo Evans on the prospect of returning from a string of injuries

**"I talked to thousands of people, and they were anxious to know what's on my mind."**

— Lincoln Mayor Mike Johanns on his gubernatorial campaign's progress

**"The most important part of leadership is followership."**

— ROTC cadet Stephanie Artz

**"Our native culture is fading. Some (Cherokees) have never danced or never sung. We put a lot of effort into teaching boys and girls native song and dance."**

— Tommy Wildcat, Cherokee Dancer of Fire, on educating Native American youth

**"I can't poop like that!!!"**

— UNL sophomore Jerry Ridell in a letter to the editor about the lack of bathroom stall doors in the Nebraska Union.

**"Nebraska has speed at every position, and they're physical."**

— Texas Tech soccer coach Felix Oskam on the Huskers

**"It's always easy and satisfying to please the public. It's very difficult, but crucial, to inform them."**

— Veteran journalist Bill Moyers while speaking to journalism students Monday

**"Of course the pinnacle for any female volleyball player in this country is playing on the U.S. Olympic Team. The way I understand it, (Weston) may be their most stable player. I don't know that we've had anybody who's done more for Nebraska volleyball than Allison."**

— NU volleyball coach Terry Pettit on the return of ex-Husker Allison Weston

**"It's good to see we're not cashing in the chips on this season."**

— NU cross country coach Jay Dirksen

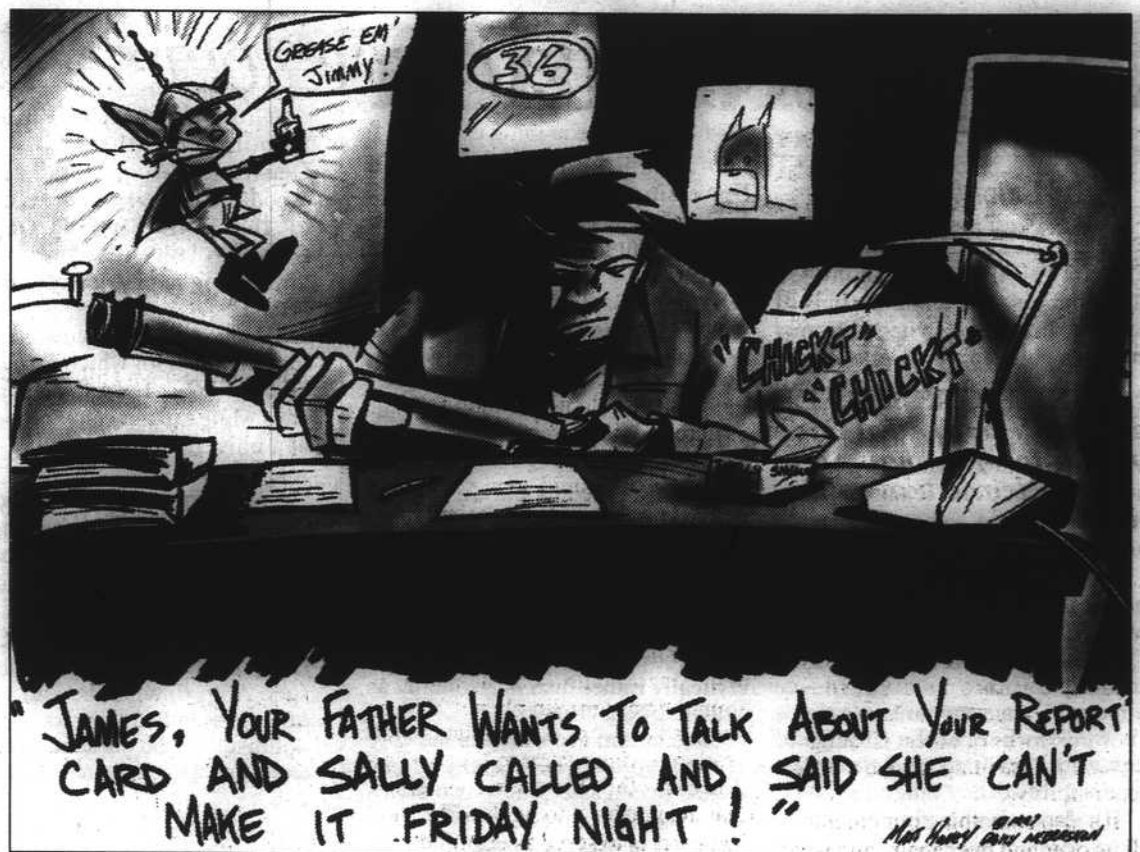
**"Basically, the race for governor should be a discussion about the values we share as Nebraskans."**

— Democratic gubernatorial candidate Bill Hoppner

**"If somebody doesn't want to play you, there's not much you can do to make them play."**

— NU coach Tom Osborne after Houston dropped scheduled games with Nebraska

## Haney's VIEW



## DN LETTERS

### Pray hard

I am sorry to see the cartoon that was published in the Thursday edition of the paper. As an active member of the Roman Catholic Church I feel it is my duty to respond to the content of the editorial cartoon.

As a journalism student, I also realize that as an opinion, an editorial cartoon is protected under the First Amendment, but what about ethics and morals?

If you have no morals — and this is not saying that you don't — ethics would clearly restrict this cartoon. It contains false information, or misconception, if you prefer a more delicate term. The Catholic Church has not recently changed any of its teachings on homosexuality or any other issue. The church has always believed in rejecting the sin and not the sinner. It is my belief and should be the belief of every Catholic that misuse of the gift of sexuality is a grave sin. This includes not only homosexuality but sex out of marriage, the use of birth control, abortion and masturbation. Although the sin itself is evil and wrong, Catholics believe that every sin can be forgiven by God, and it is God alone who can judge.

For these same reasons — the truth behind the misconception — the moral decision would be not to allow the printing of malicious and untrue content. God is the only judge. A topic such as this one does not deserve to be discussed in an editorial cartoon. If this particular teaching of the church, or any teaching for that matter, is bothering you, my suggestion to you would be: pray, pray hard.

Nikki Oligmueller  
junior  
journalism

### Banning everything

It was inevitable that someone would soon desire to expand the U.S. government's war against the tobacco industry (and those free farmers that keep voting Republican), by including the alcohol industry. But if we really want to pursue this brand of totalitarianism, let us also ban automobiles. A lot of kids get injured, and some killed, in bicycle accidents — let's ban those too. Matter of fact we should ban everything except land mines (because they are smart, now). It just occurred to me — everybody born ends up dying, so let's ban childbirth.

Less facetiously, if one looks at the 1700-year history of enslavement, mass murder and genocide of

Christians — since the Roman Emperor Constantine — well, that is something that genuinely deserves to be banned.

S. Duane England  
graduate student  
biology

### What's perfect?

Why do you (Barb Churchill) continually refer to yourself as not being the "perfect size"? What is the perfect size? And what criteria did you use to make this determination? What makes you think there is a perfect size?

I would like to see people accept that there is no "perfect size." There are larger and smaller, neither being "perfect." I would also like to point out that 10-to-12-year-olds are trying hard to find where they fit in and will try to make fun of anyone who is not just like them. If they don't use weight they will go after language, clothing, height and hair color. I'm not saying this is good, but lighten up. It's just a bunch of kids who don't know any better.

Jo Strinz  
graduate student  
mechanical engineering

### Special face

Wednesday I was saddened to read that Webster Robbins had died. I only had him for one class during my sophomore year, yet he managed to make a very large impression on me. His method of talking with students as human beings is a quality that many other members of the faculty and staff lack. There should be more instructors who don't let their arrogance cloud the real reason why they are here — to teach students what they need to know, and encourage them to want to learn.

Mr. Robbins was an outstanding teacher who made us want to learn. He took the time to know your name and had a genuine interest in the well-being of all his students. We weren't just numbers to him. As a result, I had a greater desire to learn. Maybe others should take a page from Webster Robbins' book. He will be missed.

Josh Salestrom  
senior  
history

### Econ lesson

The column titled "Billionaire benefactors could prevent poverty" attempted to address one of the

world's lingering issues — poverty. The article suggests that by giving the wealth of the rich to the poor, half of all the world problems will be solved. The article alludes to drug use, crime, poverty, violence, unemployment, teen-age sex, obesity and other social ills as somehow linked to the amount of money a certain group has.

The column is flawed in many ways. But there are a few things that are particularly troublesome. The first is the idea that money solves everyone's problems. This, of course, is not true. Assume your basic needs are not being met, which of the before-mentioned social ills are you going to carry out? You would not have enough money for drugs, obesity is probably out, and you may or may not be employed. Some may argue that you may be driven to steal or to violence. The connection may be present, yet theft and violence is at all economic levels in our society.

The author also took the liberty of deciding how much money was enough. He decided who to take money from and who to give it to. He is a social planner. A power-hungry bureaucrat who desires nothing more than to distribute what is not his to whoever or whatever project he fancies at the moment. Can you see how dangerous this is? We have a choice to purchase Microsoft products or buy Geico Insurance. These actions will enrich the two richest people in America. Well if I want to use better software and have lower insurance rates, I should have that right. And I am willing to compensate those who offer me services so that they will continue to offer me services.

The last item is the ludicrous statement about the economy being a zero-sum game, i.e. that there is a specific amount of wealth, and some will increase their wealth and others will experience an equal and opposite decrease in wealth. If Einstein Jr. develops a new technology that can be used effectively to generate electricity from the sun, Einstein Jr. has just contributed to the wealth of the entire world. He or she could not possibly capture all of the benefits in the form of money from the sale of that power. This same idea holds for a new software package created by Mr. Gates or a cheaper way of offering car insurance by Mr. Buffet.

Anthony Clarke  
graduate student  
finance

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