

# OPINION PACKETS

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**Guest VIEW**

## Quality education

*Learning three R's just isn't enough*

Kentucky Kernel  
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LEXINGTON, Ky. (U-Wire) — Reading, writing and arithmetic have served as the foundation for the traditional American education for generations. The skills provided by a solid grounding in these subjects were as essential in 1776 as they are today.

Unfortunately, the quality of an American elementary education consistently ranks below that of other modern, industrialized nations.

However, signs of improvement have begun to appear, but it's difficult to say if they are momentary blips on the radar or true signs of success in the classroom.

If we are to continue making progress, we must continue to look for innovative and effective means to ground students in the basics.

In addition, we must also begin to integrate new skills into the curriculum that are fast becoming a necessity for students of the next century.

This is where the debate begins.

What subject areas are so essential to future success as to be ranked up there with the three R's?

Most likely, the one skill everyone can agree upon involves computers, and efforts are being made across the country to provide computer access and instruction in every classroom.

But what about other subject areas?

We've seen debates flare up through the years about sex education, evolution versus creationism and now diversity education.

This past week President Clinton issued a national call to implement diversity education across the country. It's a call we sympathize with but cannot wholeheartedly endorse.

We fully support diversity education that fosters understanding among a diversified population; however, any mandatory implementation of such a program would turn the classroom into a political battlefield with students caught in the crossfire.

Such a requirement would have competing political interests debating the inclusion of cultural relativism, political ideology and religion, along with the degree to which such topics should be explored and in what light they should be presented.

Admittedly such discussions have the potential to benefit society, but there are enough problems in providing a superior elementary education without adding a new burden that will only stretch precious resources even thinner.

**Haney's VIEW**



## Sports shuffle

*Changes imagined in pro lineups*



**AARON COOPER is a junior English major and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.**

“What would really be the icing on the cake is to see a big fat Macho Man Randy Savage at a world billiard tournament.”

from San Francisco's finest.

Can you say "Bird sandwich?"

Maybe fencing is more up his alley.

Even better, let's dig deep into the tennis world and pick out someone who we can really have fun with — Monica Seles.

I have sympathy for what the lady's been through, but man does she pack a grunt. I wonder how well that grunting bit would sit with the members of the LPGA Tour.

Monica watches as a rookie sets up for a putt, pulls her club face back and "HAW-EE!!" She might take a beating or two, but it would make for some damn good TV.

But we can't just leave the tennis men out of things.

I'd pull Andre Agassi out of the French Open (which he's not going to win anyway) and throw him into Ping-Pong.

Let's see how the Chinese do with the Grand Master of Returns! While we're at it, let's grow you some hair back, Andre. How can Brooke sleep at night with the god of peach fuzz? And whatever happened to those cool shirts? Guess image *isn't* everything, hey Andre?

Don't think for a minute I'm going to forget about the prodigal son of Nike. Nope, he's got basketball under his wing and I'll grant him the effort put forth in baseball.

But that's too easy.

I want to see Michael Jordan, in the ugliest faded green-and-red shoes we can find, standing at the beginning of his approach as he attempts to knock down ten pins on the bowling alley.

Tell you what, Mike. I don't

think you need your share of Nike anymore — I'll bowl you for it. Winner takes all.

Now that we've got a partial foundation laid for the facelift of the century in professional sports, let's put Tanya Harding in there just for kicks.

But where should we put her? Who would want her?

I know. Let's see how Tanya does against a Nomo fastball. Just try to make it to first base without crying, I dare you!

What would really be the icing on the cake is to see a big fat Macho Man Randy Savage at a world billiard tournament. Let's see how he fares against the "Miz" or Ewa Mataya, the queen of the mässä.

But someone better quickly explain the concept of "breaking" in pool to our Macho Man, otherwise we're gonna have 911 on the phone before the end of the opening rack.

Now I bet you're thinking, What about those golfers? Right. Can't let them get off too easy.

I'm gonna take Payne Stewart (because you got to love those socks!) and let him get in the ring with Mike Tyson.

OK, that's just plain cruel.

How about John McEnroe? McEnroe. TKO by complaining!

On that note, I'd like to bring this session to a close with an observation from America's most prominent and highly respected sports analyst, George Carlin.

"Undisputed Heavyweight Champion of the World. Well if it's undisputed, what's all the fighting about?"

For you, George ... bullfighting.

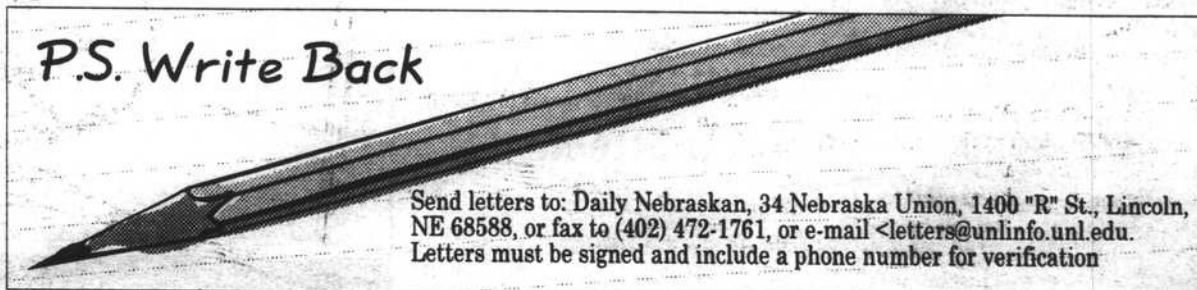
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