

OPINION PACES

Our VIEW

Showdown in D.C.

Clinton can settle score in NU-Michigan debate

Today in the Rose Garden, President Clinton can solve what the bowls did not. He can settle a debate involving an issue closer to Nebraskans' hearts than taxes, farm subsidies and Monica Lewinsky.

He has the chance to publicly say what we have been saying all along: The Nebraska Cornhuskers – not the Michigan Wolverines – are the true 1997 NCAA football champions.

Clinton plans to honor both the Wolverines and the Huskers during a South Lawn ceremony. But a true decision-maker should take a stronger stance.

Presidents have always admonished the idea of shared world domination. Remember the Cold War? We didn't want to share with those commies in the Soviet Union.

Well, the idea doesn't work with the Big Red here either.

Thus, it's time to break the détente.

It makes sense for Clinton to declare Nebraska the true national champion. Michigan is so far north it might as well be in Canada. Nebraska, on the other hand, is in the center of the United States, which makes it basically America's Team.

And Clinton, the figurehead of the U.S. government – he who cherishes the simple things in life like football, apple pies, farming, steaks and Big Mac's – should no doubt find solace in cheering for America's Team.

We think even Chelsea would be a Husker fan once she decides to leave Stanford for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. NU Quarterback Scott Frost did! And look where it got him.

Geographically, it makes sense for Clinton to declare Nebraska the true national champion. The president is from the South. Nebraska is south of Michigan. Heck, it's practically right next to Arkansas.

Clinton already has met some members of the team when they visited after the 1994 championship, and he's practically best buds with Tom Osborne.

If we don't win by coercive diplomacy, it's time for war.

Clinton blows a whistle and the guys loosen their ties, take off their coats and play a short pickup game. We'll call it the Beltway Bowl.

Sure some players will get their nice blue suits dirty rolling around in Buddy's little presents. Sure Bob Griese's son – what's his name – will try to pick a fight with Scott Frost. And sure Charles Woodson will finally admit to Ahman Green that Green should have won the Heisman Trophy.

The important thing is that by day's end, the leader of our great nation can finally settle the score, and ease our minds, by naming Nebraska – America's Team – the true NCAA football champions.

Besides, who else should the Lincoln Bedroom be for?

Haney's VIEW

STARR EXPRESS



Matt Haney © 1998 Daily Nebraskan

DN LETTERS

Judging Jonesboro

I would just like to take the time to respond to the Lori Robison's column written Monday about juvenile offenders – in particular, the Jonesboro, Ark., boys.

In my opinion, "if you do the crime, you do the time."

I'm sure a lot of people would agree with me on this. I am sick and tired of the public defending these two boys. I do realize that they are in fact "kids," but that does not excuse either of them for their behavior.

I completely disagree with the fact that they are being tried as juveniles. They should get what's coming to them; they should be tried in adult court.

If they knew how to get access to the weapons, ammunition, a vehicle to get to the scene and have a plan all worked out, then they had INTENT.

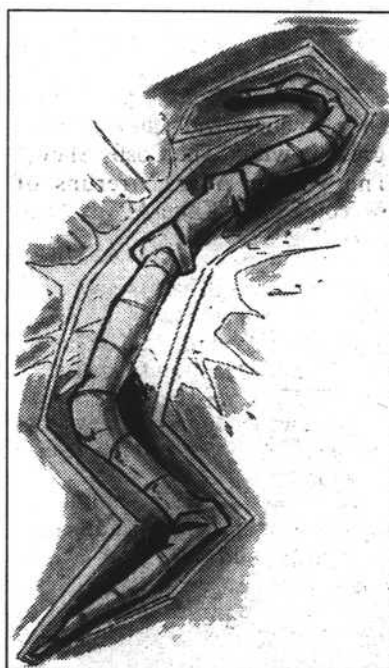
This was a premeditated plan to brutally kill, and the thing that separates the juvenile court system from the adult court system is the ability to form intent. These boys knew what they were doing, got caught, and now we're supposed to feel sorry for them because they're "kids"?

I think we should take a long hard look at what our "kids" are capable of doing and then decide if juvenile court is the best choice.

Johnna Hargens
sophomore
criminal psychology

Rape is never a "decision"

Klaus Marre's column on drinking was, for the most part, excellent. I have a great deal of admiration for



MATT HANEY/DN

people who stick to their principles in the face of peer pressure.

However, I feel I must take issue with one of his statements: that an intoxicated woman who is raped "should have kept (her) guard up and stayed sober."

Knowing Klaus is a fair-minded individual, I was surprised to see this remark coming from him.

Yes, a woman may choose to drink, but she is never given a choice in a rape situation.

By stating that an intoxicated rape victim should have remained sober, the blame is removed from the rapist and placed squarely on the shoulders of the victim.

A woman is not raped

BECAUSE she is drunk, but rather because the rapist, stepping outside the bounds of human decency, decides he needs to have sex at the cost of the victim's emotional stability and well-being.

This is about power, not about alcohol and personal responsibility on the part of women.

I thank Klaus for his column, but I must ask him – and others who share this misconception – to rethink their views on such situations.

Alison Knudsen
English and women's studies

A gruesome massacre

I am appalled by the inhumanity of the administration for holding classes on Tuesday.

This blatantly arrogant act caused the trampling death of thousands of innocent worms that were merely trying to save their own lives by abandoning their flooded homes.

The failure of the director of Landscape Services to save the lives of his little invertebrate landscaping friends also appalls me.

Without worms UNL would be a lifeless slab of rock instead of the lovely green place it is.

And finally, I am greatly disturbed by all of the students of UNL who heartlessly stomped on worms all day.

Tuesday will be forever known as: "The Great UNL Worm Massacre of 1998."

Steve Schanbacher,
sophomore
computer engineering

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The Daily Nebraskan welcomes brief letters to the editor and guest columns, but does not guarantee their publication. The Daily Nebraskan retains the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Submitted material becomes property of the Daily Nebraskan and cannot be returned. Anonymous submissions will not be published. Those who submit letters must identify themselves by name, year in school, major and/or group affiliation, if any. Submit material to: Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St. Lincoln, NE. 68588-0448. E-mail: letters@unlinfo.unl.edu.

Be a Columnist!

The application deadline for fall columnists has been extended until Tuesday at 5 p.m. Pick up an application at the Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union. Fall columnists will be hired April 17.

P.S. Write Back

Send letters to: Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 "R" St., Lincoln, NE 68588, or fax to (402) 472-1761, or e-mail <letters@unlinfo.unl.edu>. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification.

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