

OPINION PACKAGES

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Quotes OF THE WEEK

"I cried, I'm not ashamed of it. I didn't see the actors; I saw the faces of my men."
WWII veteran Solomon Harris, on viewing "Saving Private Ryan"

"I think it shows we are right on the cuff between the second and third tiers."
Chancellor James Moeser, regarding UNL's falling a tier in the U.S. News and World Report undergraduate school rankings

"Some people have expressed their objections to the homeless population."
Nebraska Unions Director Daryl Swanson, regarding a possible restrictive policy for the Nebraska Union

"ASUN is heavily dominated by the Greeks. Student government needs representation from every place."
ASUN President Sara Russell, on her idea of creating a new student assembly

"I've studied their players, and I think they're good players, but I think I'm just a better player than they are."
Louisiana Tech wide receiver Troy Edwards, regarding the Cornhuskers

"We're not ready to say that we can't be a very good football team, but we haven't shown that we're a very good football team yet."
Husker Coach Frank Solich, about the team's performance in scrimmages

"I'm acutely aware of the capacity for being pretentious in music, (but) as one guy said, I would rather hear a pretentious album than a bad album."
Actionslacks front man Tim Scanlan, about the complexities of the music industry

"There is no substitute for being there."
UNL junior Mike Garcia, regarding his experience in the study abroad program

"A lot of commercial theaters feel the need to stay away from that kind of material, because they feel they might offend an audience. The Futz was not afraid to explore any of those shows."
Robin Mc Kercher, artistic director at the Lincoln Community Playhouse, about the controversial material the now-defunct Futz Theatre would show

"I'm just a coach, and we play whoever is scheduled. There are a lot of ways to skin a cat, but you have to do what's best for your team."
Texas Tech Coach Spike Dykes, on his hands-off policy to the team's scheduling

"We looked at Lawrence in the same light we look at every player."
Kansas City Chiefs Coach Marty Schottenheimer, on his decision not to sign former NU player Lawrence Phillips

"I think people have a bad tendency ... not to concentrate on where they're going."
Jake Riggins, an employee at Footloose & Fancy Birkenstock, regarding possible problems with the redirection of P Street traffic

Mook's VIEW



A Queen of Hearts Diana will be remembered as the People's Princess



LESLIE OWUSU is a sophomore broadcasting major and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.

A year ago, one of the world's most photographed and most celebrated personalities entered the last week-end of her life - a life that would be cut tragically short.

For many British people, including myself, Princess Diana's memory will live forever.

Though Princess Diana touched people worldwide, to the British she was a symbol of hope; despite her royal background, she represented ordinary, working-class people.

The questions of why, how and what really happened that fatal night of Aug. 31 are no longer relevant. The simple fact is that Great Britain and all the world lost a woman who dedicated her life to helping and caring for others.

The mystery of Diana's death disturbs me to this day, for Diana was a woman I deeply admired and respected.

I was in London preparing to come to Nebraska on the day the tragic accident happened.

I felt extremely distraught and saddened when my mother awoke me in the early hours of the morning to inform me that Diana had been involved in a very serious car accident.

At first, I didn't really believe it. Hours later, it was all over the radio and television news that Princess Diana had been killed in an accident in Paris.

My immediate response was that it was a sick joke, and that it couldn't possibly be real.

All I kept saying to myself was people like Princess Diana just don't die like that - so suddenly with no logical explanation.

When I realized she had been killed in an accident with her boyfriend, Dodi al Fayed, I was completely baffled.

That day the whole of England was at a standstill and in deep mourning.

I felt tremendous loss and pain for a woman whom I never personally knew. But I think the reason the whole nation felt a massive loss was because Diana was like a friend to everyone who loved and admired her.

She was like a sister, a mother and a companion to whom we could all relate. She represented real people and treated people equally. This is why we loved her so much.

Diana was different than other members of the royal family. She broke barriers no other royal had broken before.

The other royals wore gloves, but Diana did not. She wanted to make direct contact with human flesh.

People across the globe, including those in America, felt devastated about Diana's death because her important life was so quickly ended. Diana had so much more living to do, and as a mother, she had so much to live for.

Her remarkable and lovely personality will live with us forever.

Her brilliant smile lit up our lives from the moment she stepped onto the world stage for her fairy-tale wedding.

She enhanced us as people by sharing her beauty and her shy charm - the brightest stars could never outshine Diana.

The young and old, the ambassadors and the statesmen, the sick and the dying all warmed to her compassion and kindness.

All were touched by the tragedy. Just a touch or a word could lift the gloom and misery for those she met, and her smile could melt the hardest of hearts.

Her beauty was more than skin-deep, and her emotional soul touched the entire world. The tributes made by fans and supporters, as millions paid their last respects, showed just how much Diana was loved.

I admired Diana because of work she did for many charities. Diana devoted her life to giving to others who were less fortunate.

She helped the sick, the poor and the homeless, among others. Diana traveled around the world to the poorest of the poor towns in Africa and India, comforting those who needed her support.

She never turned her back on anyone to whom she could offer her aid and love.

She touched children, men and women with diseases such as leprosy and AIDS. She felt it was important for the needy to know someone loved them.

Diana's last project was working to

eradicate the land mines in Angola and Bosnia, where thousands of innocent people had been killed and maimed.

But, despite her good intentions, Diana was constantly mobbed by the media, and she often received bad press about her personal and private life. The British and American media seemed more concerned at times about Diana's wardrobe, diet and love life than her work helping others and changing and influencing people's attitudes.

Also, Diana was never given a chance by the royal family. And she stood out because she was different.

She took her children to places like McDonald's and the public parks. She wanted to raise them in a "normal" environment, unlike her former husband Prince Charles, who grew up in a castle, secluded from the rest of the world.

Diana gave her sons, Prince William and Prince Harry, all the affection any mother could give to her children.

Many people often argue that Diana was the Princess of Publicity or the Queen of Hearts. Diana's natural beauty, charisma, style, elegance and grace captured every photographer - that gave Diana the popularity and publicity.

I will always remember Diana as a Queen of Hearts and as the People's Princess because of her love for others. She was never selfish. I'm sure she was not perfect, but none of us are.

Some say that only the good die young, and certainly 36 years is a young life.

Perhaps the world will never know what happened the night of her death.

Maybe it was Diana's time to go and teach the world a lesson, or maybe Diana was murdered by those who envied her because of her crusade against the use of land mines.

But what we all will learn from Diana's death is that human life is very precious and extremely short.

Diana lived a positive life and was a role model for many of us. Her early death ensures her fame forever.

Her work and all she symbolized will continue though Diana now is resting in peace.

Though our continued sadness and shock at her death will fade as time goes by, our memories of Diana will never grow dim.

She brought magic into our lives, and we loved her for it.

She always will remain what she wanted to be: the Queen of Hearts.

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