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Our
VIEW

Lame new world

Privacy decreases as technology advances

It used to be as simple as closing a door. A simple flick of the wrist would cut a person off from the outside world. People would set foot in their houses, and they were free to do as they chose, without people poking their head in to see if everything met with their standards. Morality was self-imposed.

It was a time when neighbors knew each other on a first-name basis and, while people would talk about what happened behind the safety of a person's closed door, they never knew exactly what was going on back there.

That's privacy. Today, technology is bringing us closer and closer together while pushing us further and further apart. Most people don't know the names of their neighbors, but they know intimate details about people they've never met.

Phones can be tapped and, if the government has its way, e-mail will be as well. Satellites can zoom in and read license plates. Videophones will probably be commonplace in less than 10 years. The Internet will be hooked up to houses like cable. Cellular phones will replace home phones.

Every minute of every day, people will be accessible.

We're going to be connected in ways we've never imagined, and yet...we're growing apart.

A certain paranoia is growing inside America, and people are watching everyone with suspicion. All those people are being watched by the government, under the guise of our "safety."

Our politics were personal, our families were personal, our sex lives were personal. What happened inside our houses was our business, and it's a shame things are moving away from that.

America has seen this paranoia before. In the 1950s, Sen. Joseph McCarthy attempted to root out Communism in the United States wherever it hid, or wherever he thought it did. In regards to decency, Sen. McCarthy asked, "How dare you, sir?" Well, how dare you?

Privacy has its place in any society, and it always will. There comes a time to close the door, lower the shades and keep something to yourself. No one has the right to know everything, because not everything is someone's business.

When the door closes, what happens beyond is none of your, or our, business. If that sanctuary we call home falls, what then will shelter us from our antagonists? What then will give us the place to regroup and rethink our arguments?

What will the word "home" mean anymore?

Mook's
VIEW



Another perfect season Huskers will be champions again



MATTHEW EICKMAN is a senior finance and economics major and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.

The Nebraska football team will win this year's national championship. A full weekend of football has left me with this clear realization.

So, for those of you who don't like to read about politics, bums, horseball, a union that will never be done or Jerry Springer, I offer you this sports opinion column.

Whether you're a sports nut or just bored in your marketing class, this column is for you.

If someone asked me to describe the last two weekends, I'd fall just short of calling them "heaven." Three-day weekend last week, college football all day Saturday, and the NFL on Sunday.

The last two full Saturdays of football allowed me to reach the pinnacle of happiness — too many awesome football games to watch.

So, despite the overload, I took advantage of humankind's greatest innovation, the remote control, and I sucked it all in.

I saw teams suck (i.e. Michigan), and I saw teams surprise (i.e. Iowa State). I saw good teams play other good teams while Nebraska played UAB (laugh quietly, so your professor doesn't hear you) and then California.

Two weeks of football and I already think NU will win the title? No, I know the Huskers will win it.

I've figured out that other teams will choke, knock each other off or lose to Nebraska. This leaves one undefeated team: the Nebraska Cornhuskers.

To look at these teams, let's divide the country into three major groups: the money-generators (read: Kansas State's nonconference schedule), the pretenders and the contenders.

Money Generators

OK, so we've started out with two of these. The advantage to Nebraska is that our doormats will prepare us for serious opponents down the road. We'll know what to do when a quarterback and receiver go nutty or when a team

uses new formations and schemes.

But the others? We headed to California to face the Bears — make sure the bands stay off the field, nice weather you have here, we win, thanks for the check, goodbye.

How do you describe the Kansas football team? If it has to force ticket buyers to buy a ticket to an additional game just to attend the Nebraska game they have to fall into the money-generators category.

What about the Oklahoma State Cowboys? They don't even want to play a home game because they can make more money in Kansas City, Mo. Iowa State? Tim Floyd and Michael Jordan couldn't even make that team a winner.

Pretenders

The pretenders include teams in the top 25 with no real chance of competing with the big dogs.

Michigan followed up a national championship by getting stomped by Notre Dame. Apparently ABC and ESPN can get you a title and a Heisman Trophy, but they can't help you beat NBC. They followed that rout with another against Syracuse.

Notre Dame pretended it was contenders until they were stomped by Michigan State. Next thing you know, the Irish assistant coaches will be beating up opposing players.

Sure, Florida State is more mature behind center than Florida. More mature by nearly 20 years to be exact. Unfortunately, the emotion of Jimmy V. allowed the Wolfpack to send Florida State back to the Tallahassee, Fla., Nursing Home.

Penn State won't have the help of an extended sideline, and therefore has no chance of surviving the Big 10, much less get a chance to lose to Nebraska.

Colorado made a strong move into the pretenders group, but has no chance of further promotion. A lack of spiritual support from ex-coach Bill McCartney will leave the Buffaloes ready to fold.

Syracuse? Thanks Tennessee. North Carolina? Thanks Miami of Ohio. Arizona State? Thanks Washington.

Missouri? It won't take the foot of Wiggins this year. The only foot the Tigers will feel will be our defense kicking them backwards.

Yes, we do play Texas and Texas A&M from the dangerous (not) Big 12 South. Texas did actually learn not to lose by 63 but it still gave up 36 points to New Mexico State in the first game. Texas A&M must figure out that

they could have at least shown up for the Big 12 Championship Game last year.

Contenders

To show respect for an unnamed Daily Nebraskan sports staff writer, we'll acknowledge that only a few teams in the top 10 matter.

The contenders are all good teams that could win the national championship. Of course, they could win the championship if Nebraska felt guilty about its recent near-monopolization on the championship trophies.

Tennessee showed in the Orange Bowl that it does not have the strong horses or speed demons to keep up with the Huskers.

Washington escaped Arizona State with a strong win, but will face difficulties in Lincoln this year. Maybe quarterback Brock Huard will decide not to cry the whole game this year, but I doubt it. The Huskies have too much inexperience and they will soon slip back with the pretenders.

Florida will find too many problems with their six-headed quarterback scheme. A lack of consistency behind center will lead to a few regular season losses.

UCLA has no defense to support an outstanding offense. Huskers win 72-71. Enough said.

The currently No. 1-ranked Ohio State Buckeyes have a nice team. It will remain nice until the Michigan band breaks out in "Hail to the Victors" and John Cooper gets scared.

Last, but definitely not least, the Huskers must face Kansas State. Because Kansas State has a steady offense, a strong defense and a great coach, it has drawn the respect of the Huskers.

Kansas State may only lose one game this year, but it will be on November 14 to a Nebraska team that is slightly stronger.

So, there you have it. A floor plan to a perfect 14-0 national championship season. Not only will other teams shoot themselves in the feet, but the Huskers will beat them with a multi-faceted offense, a speedy defense and the most brilliant coaches in the nation.

If the Huskers slip up along the way, so be it. I'll still be a loyal Husker fan, and we'll still be champs in my eyes.

Enjoy the weekend of football, and while sitting on your couch watching the game, hum the fight song each time the Huskers score.

Now, back to lecture.

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