

OPINION PAGES

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Our
VIEW

Abuse of power

Web site crosses line of First Amendment right

Freedom of speech. It's a right we take very seriously in the newspaper business. The dissemination of information is crucial to a democratic form of government.

But what happens when freedom of speech is abused?

Tuesday a federal jury ruled that the authors of an Internet site called "The Nuremberg Files" must pay more than \$100 million in damages to plaintiffs who have said the site puts their lives in jeopardy.

"Since the site has been constructed, three doctors have been killed. Their names were promptly crossed off the list."

The authors say their freedom of speech has been violated.

The jury ruled the information on the site amounted to death threats, and under the 1994 Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act, it is illegal to incite violence against people who perform and obtain abortions.

The site lists the names and addresses of doctors who perform abortions throughout the nation. However, this is no telephone directory. It also lists the names of the doctors' children and spouses, as well as physical descriptions and photos.

The authors encourage visitors of the site to send information that can be used to identify an "abortionist," which according to the authors is a doctor or anyone else who works at an abortion clinic or supports abortion rights. This information includes photos, videotape, names and birth dates of family members and friends, license plate numbers and descriptions of cars, Social Security numbers and fingerprints.

The site's authors claim they need this information to prepare for the day when abortion is illegal and people who perform abortions will be tried in a court of law for child killing.

But the threatening tactics used by the authors don't suggest they are willing to wait for that day.

When "abortionists" are killed their names are crossed off. Those who have been wounded are listed in a gray typeface.

And since the site has been constructed, three doctors have been killed. Their names were promptly crossed off the list.

Although the site does not explicitly say kill "abortionists," the message seems pretty clear.

"The Nuremberg Files" thinly masked threats are nothing short of terrorism.

Lupo's
VIEW



DN LETTERS

I pledge allegiance ...

I just had to write a quick note congratulating David Baker on an outstanding letter. It could not have been said better.

Yes, the United States has an incredible history of oppressive warfare, both internally and in foreign affairs. It also has an equally incredible, and sadly ingenious, system of indoctrination that convinces its citizens that the unjust wars waged by the state are, in fact, righteous and just.

We must be especially skeptical of that wonderful phrase "defending our national interests," which usually involves invading and systematically oppressing defenseless people.

individuals in a community, "growing up" into accepting others and helping one another succeed.

If we are to talk about diversity and segregation, it should not include someone's GPA.

Stephen Kroening
senior
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Whitney Sykes
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Representatives

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Without honor

Upon reading the article printed on the front page of Monday's DN, and Mr. Brian Opplinger's letter (Tuesday), we believe it warrants a response from the "non-honors" community, those of us not privileged enough for free books every semester or for special bragging rights and buildings.

With a campus so devoted to creating diversity, it is the attitudes of many honor students, including Brian, who feel that their non-honors counterparts should be eliminated from their community altogether, one such place being the Neihardt Residence Center.

We question whether these honor students are acting honorably at all. Pointing fingers, you're not as smart as us, you don't have our "label," get out.

Our response would be: Grow up! What is to say that honors students can't live elsewhere?

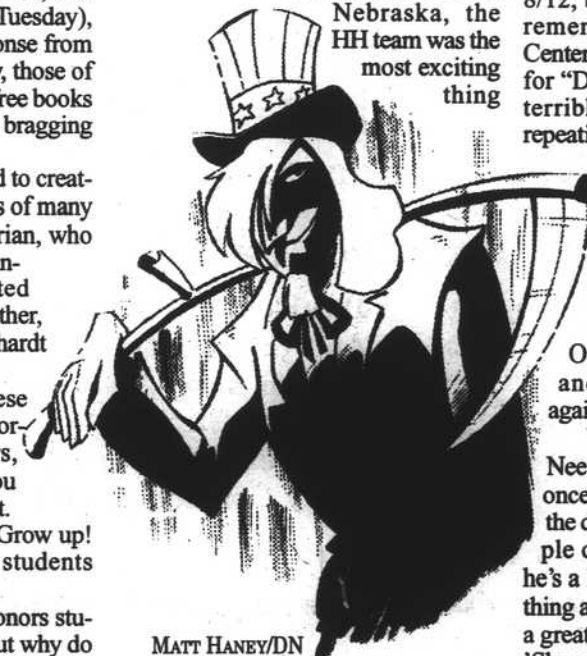
We realize that a lot of honors students study very diligently, but why do they need a special dorm for this? There are plenty of honors students currently living elsewhere who do just as well maintaining their caliber of academic devotion.

As far as the greater portion of NON-honors students goes, the university is dishing out thousands of dollars into the honors program enhancement.

We, as a campus of all students, should not allow this academic segregation to continue. We come here to learn from one another and to grow as

Still true to his school
I was disappointed to read Adam Klinker's article, "Low attendance at Devaney causes significant concerns," (DN, 1/27/98) regarding the loss of student fan support for the Husker Hoops team. When I was at

Nebraska, the HH team was the most exciting thing



MATT HANEY/DN

going (even better than my stint as a DN opinion columnist). Sure, they didn't win every game, like Touchdown Tommie and Eddie Stewart seemed to do, but you couldn't ask for a better way to spend a measly \$3.50. To me, Husker Hoops is about four things:

Nebraska is Tradition: In 1990-91, the Miracle Team of Clifford Scales and Beau Ried shocked the country, rising as high as No. 7 in the polls.

Since then, the "Skers have been to

the NCAA tourney six times, won the NIT once and even won the very last Big 8 tournament EVER. Kansas couldn't win in Lincoln - if it was Jamar Johnson killing the Jayhawks one year, it was the Polish Rifle the next year. Rock-Chalk-Dead Duck!

Nebraska is Players: To name a few Husker Heroes: Clifford Scales, Beau Ried, Dupries "Double Zero" Owens (also on cover of the Wall Street Journal in 1997 - no lie!), Eric Piatkowski, Jamar "Ice Cold" Johnson, Derick "D.C., the Honeybee" Chandler, Bru-u-u-uce Chubick, Tom Best, Eric Strickland, Terrance Badgett, Tyrann "Laker" Lue and my favorite all-time 'Skers, Melvin "The Jokeman" Brooks. Today, Venson "Big Man" Hamilton (a favorite of mine since his frosh year) could win the Big 12 player of the year award, and Cary "Future Man" Cochran looks like the franchise.

Nebraska is Fans: We may not have had the loudest or most fans in the Big 8/12, but the 'Skers have had fans. I remember waiting in the Devaney Center all day before a Creighton game for "Dinner with Danny Nee" (and a terrible T-shirt, later replaced) and repeating the ordeal the next year for a Burger King/"Husker Stalker" T-shirt. I remember "The Ref Guys," some student superfans who wore referee T-shirts and basketball helmets (probably still there for all I know).

I remember harassing Greg Ostertag, one of the best-natured and funniest guys ever to play against the 'Skers.

Nebraska is Danny "The Dean" Nee: OK, he's not The Dean yet, but once Norm Stewart retires, he will be the dean of the Big 12. How can people complain about Danny? Yeah, he's a loudmouth who says the wrong thing at the wrong time, but he's funny, a great recruiter and the best coach the 'Skers have had.

So, kudos for the big Kansas win - you haven't won one of those since I went to school there. Great job recruiting for next year. And most importantly, good luck in the Big 12 tourney - you can win it! - and best wishes in the NCAAs - you'll be there. As for everyone else - GO TO THE GAMES!!!

Christopher Banks
Class of December 1994
Washington, D.C.

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