

# OPINION PAGES

## Our VIEW

### Death of a legend

*Hussein remembered for stable leadership*

Today, the country of Jordan will shut down for three days of formal mourning over the death of King Hussein Ibn Talal Al-Hashem of Jordan.

The world, too, will mourn – even those little pieces of the world tucked onto this campus and into the Daily Nebraskan basement.

Mourners worldwide know King Hussein's legendary leadership did not die with the 63-year-old Sunday in Amman, Jordan's capital.

His leadership, defined by his stable character, discipline and hard work, will guarantee his place in political and historical annals.

His fame arose from his ability to survive as a powerful leader amid struggles, his ability to promote peace in a tumultuous land, and the respect he garnered from all nations' leaders – even when his politics infuriated them.

He was born Nov. 14, 1935, in Jordan, 13 years before Israel was created, and while European powers held fast in the Middle East.

He became king at age 16 after his schizophrenic father had ruled for one year and then abdicated the throne. One year prior, he had witnessed the assassination of his grandfather.

Hussein later would survive about 11 assassination attempts on his own life and several attempted coups. The largest potential coup came when military officials opposed his moderate policies in 1956.

He survived and held to the moderate, cautious political stance that would mark his reign. He was only 20, and his greatest struggles still lay before him.

His country would lose the West Bank and Jerusalem to Israel in 1967 after he overruled his own generals to enter the Six-Day War. He would weather "Black September" in 1970, when his army would put down a Palestinian uprising demanding his resignation.

In the midst of constant tumult, Hussein was described as cordial and genteel – a brilliant diplomat whose power didn't corrode his thoughtfulness. Followers heralded his self-confidence and calm demeanor.

His continuous making and breaking of alliances, including with Palestinians, Iraq and the West, never soiled his reputation for acting with caution and careful evaluation.

For example, he riled American leaders by siding with Iraq in the Iran-Iraq war of the 1980s, and by not backing the West in the Gulf War. Three years later, while he ailed from cancer in 1994, he came to the United States to pursue a successful peace treaty with Israel.

He was welcomed on U.S. soil. Four U.S. presidents will attend his funeral in Jordan today.

They will attend because his modest leadership never wavered. He kept an air of calm and respect for his country, the Middle East and perhaps all people, through all things.

As a result, people will respect him and his legacy of leadership after their mourning ends.

## Telnaes' VIEW



## DN LETTERS

### Accentuate the positive

When I read the paper on Tuesday (Feb. 2), staring me in the face in large bold print was "Sophomore falls from Chi Phi window." On Thursday, I was again reading the paper and tucked away on page 3 in small print was "Student cited for drug use." Why was it not on the front page in large bold print? Because it happened in a residence hall, that's why.

If something good happens in the greek system (incidentally, good things happen weekly) it is hidden (if printed) on page 7 next to the advertisements. The opposite seems to be true for the residence halls. Good things go on the front page in large bold print, bad things hidden away if printed. I find this unacceptable.

Unfortunately a bad thing happened to the greek system. But nowhere in the article of "drunken sophomore falls from greek house" was it mentioned that the person who fell lived in the residence halls. This event is unfortunate, and hopefully will not happen again, anywhere.

Instead of smearing the greek systems image with bad publicity, why not cover (on the front page) our successes. How about "Fraternity and Sorority raise thousands for the American Heart Association"? Every greek house has a philanthropy it does yearly and donates the money raised to charity. I don't recall counting 38 stories covering all these philanthropies last year. I think it is time for a change.

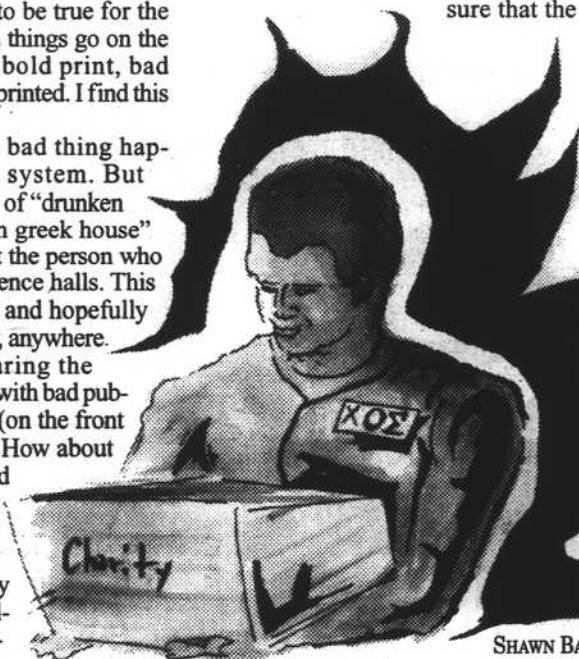
**Michael Consbruck**  
senior  
agronomy  
Interfraternity Council  
President

### Honor differences

I live on Earth. I am a human being. I am a female. I am a part of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln community. I am a student. I am a freshman. I am an English major. I am a participant in the honors program. I am a Pepsi Service Scholar. I am a volunteer at Cedars Youth Services. I am proud of each of the titles I have just written.

Along with these titles are ones that also define who I am. For instance, I collect pigs. I write short stories. I am a daughter, a sister, a girlfriend, a cousin, a granddaughter and a friend. I like to travel and have seen many places and learned many things. I am religious. My list of titles could continue on and on. Each title defines a part of who I am and what I believe in.

Everyone has a similar list of titles. Some things I have in common with some people. I'm sure most are from Earth and are human. I am sure fair amounts are women. And I am fairly sure that the



SHAWN BALLARIN/DN

into the honors program.

I enjoy being in the honors program. The honors program encourages me to maintain high grades to keep my scholarships, allows me to take my classes that have fewer people and are described as being more in-depth than other courses, and gives me the opportunity to write a thesis and graduate with honors.

Honors housing is not meant to segregate the honors students from the non-honors students. Rather, it is meant to provide a learning community by having people with similar interests and goals live together. These learning communities allow you to live with others who are taking the same classes as you so that you can study with them, develop relationships with those who have similar interests, and participate in programs geared towards your interests.

This does not mean that students being segregated. It simply means that the university is trying to provide a wide array of housing experiences to assure that students are comfortable. My choosing to live in honors housing does not mean that I do not like non-honors students or think that I am smarter than they are.

But this means that I do not live with very many non-honors students. Members of the University of Nebraska community, more specifically the students, view this as segregation. And perhaps they are right.

Perhaps the learning community housing that is meant to enrich a student's educational experience instead is segregating that student.

But this is the way that the world works. Humans are not simply humans. We identify ourselves by our titles.

I identify myself as being a student at this university, majoring in English, participating in the honors program and as a Pepsi Service Scholar, volunteering, and countless other things. I apologize if, because I am identifying myself as being an honors student, I am offending someone. It is not my intent to offend, segregate, or claim myself as more intelligent or honorable.

**Giuli Chingren**  
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English

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