

# OPINION PAGES

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## Quotes OF THE WEEK

**"I heard a voice say to me 'I want you to preach the gospel'; that's exactly what I heard."**

*Rev. Charlene Morris-Quarells, the first black woman pastor in Lincoln*

**"I think everyone is as fired up as I am. It's been a long time coming."**

*NU gymnast Jason Hardabura, on the NCAA gymnastics championship*

**"Tell me how long your salary will handle a \$300-a-day habit."**

*Capt. Duaine Bullock, Lincoln narcotics officer, on the link between robberies and burglaries and drug use*

**"... Getting woken up at 2 or 3 in the morning and told how I kicked butt that night did get old."**

*Lincoln resident Michael Jordan, on calls he receives regarding his famous namesake*

**"My professors read this so I'm not going to say how many drinks I've had tonight."**

*Ryan Reuter, a senior agriculture major, on Lincoln's bar scene and drinking*

**"I didn't believe in myself. Now I know I can beat anybody."**

*Jorge Abos-Sanchez, NU tennis player*

**"In New York, if you're kind of good, (the audience) can't be bothered. You have to be great."**

*Lincoln native Tim Coleman, on the rap scene in the Midwest*

**"They are jerks. They are really strange, but I've never seen them do anything violent."**

*Jason Greer, Columbine High School (Littleton, Colo.) student, on the two gunmen who killed 13 in a gun rampage then killed themselves*

**"If it is nice to come here every day knowing this is going to be fun, not a punishment."**

*NU gymnast Heather Brink, on gymnastics practice*

**"I'm not convinced that you can stop incidents like this one that occurred from happening. But there are things we always need to look for and be aware of in student behavior."**

*Becky Wild, Lincoln Public Schools director of student services, on the Colorado shootings*

**"When you have the No. 1 offense out there, you expect everything to be perfect, but it's tough."**

*NU football player Eric Crouch, on the Red-White Spring Game*

**"People, who have messed up, see themselves as damaged, as not repairable. But anyone can be put back together."**

*Pastor Bill Steinbauer of the UNL Lutheran Center, on students' behavior and campus ministries*

### Editorial Policy

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## Hitch's VIEW



## DN LETTERS

### Colorado and Kosovo

The horror of Colorado, which shocked the nation on Tuesday, perpetuated my intense support for the troops in Kosovo. The underlying racial hate, which those two young men harbored, was fueled by a notorious war criminal whose atrocities of WWII still have ever lasting effects on people two generations later.

It just goes to show how important it is that we, as a leading nation of the world, must support destruction of ethnic cleansing and racial hatred. I do agree that there are many other factors that contributed to the demented minds of those two boys. However, it was their fascist beliefs, influenced by Adolf Hitler, which killed those 13 innocent people.

We, the future generation of the world, must take a stand against these outrageous beliefs. If you're going to have a family, listen to your children, give a damn about what is going on in their lives - if not for the sake of their own well-being, then do it for the well-being of the rest of us.

**Brett Howey**  
senior  
geology

### All men aren't bad

Here at work, I sometimes get bored, so I hop on the good old Weird Wild Web and read the DN (since I'm stuck 3½ hours away until this fall). I was perusing the series that I picked up in the middle on the archives (Sex, Drugs, and Saving Souls) and I read something that broke my heart in the April 14 article on unplanned pregnancies.

When Tara Christiansen said, "He played a really important role, which, you know, most of the time, fathers don't stay around," it made my breath catch for a moment. Where have we gone as a nation and a culture, when a young single girl has this impression of the men in her, and others', life.

Not that I don't think that fathers don't run off, it's just so sad when someone has had such a bad impression regarding the men in our culture's sexual responsibility that she truly believes that most men who father children are

not going to take responsibility.

I come from a single-parent home, and I know what can happen when one parent must bear the load of two. So, to Mr. Kurt Gonnerman, I say kudos, please continue to set a good example for the rest of us and show that we are NOT made up of a collection of bums and losers that shirk their responsibilities, and I wish you nothing but the best of luck.

**Eric Rost**  
sophomore  
mechanical engineering

### Parents need to be assertive

Jessica Flanagan gets an A for her piece on education in our public schools. I fought for two years to have my daughter tested for a learning disability.

The objection from the school was that she was so socially well-adjusted she couldn't possibly be having problems. Of course she was well-adjusted, her parents had seen to that. That's our responsibility, after all. We are equipped to help her become a functioning part of society. We aren't equipped to meet her educational needs. That's why we send her to school every day.

Well, she was having problems reading and testing revealed that she was performing well below grade level. My objective was not to have my

daughter categorized, but getting her labeled qualified her for the assistance she needed outside the classroom.

She had been part of a failed experiment in "whole-language" reading, which purports to teach children to understand the words by looking for "context clues." The poor child was forced to guess at words, because she didn't have any basic reading skills to unlock the code. Once she began receiving additional assistance she quickly caught up with her classmates. Simple phonics instruction a few days a week made all the difference.

Our daughter is a success story of parents using the maze of infrastructure erected by bureaucrats to our child's advantage. I fear for the education of children whose parents aren't as assertive.

Jessica, I hope you will become a public school teacher who will fight for the basics. Our kids desperately need your voice sounding the alarm.

**Kris Beckenbach**  
project assistant  
UNMC College of Dentistry

