

OPINION PAGES

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Quotes OF THE WEEK

The tribal members believe (their ancestors) can't have final rest until the spirit and bones are where they are supposed to be.
Phillip Wendzillo, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act representative

I'm not even going to go down that road.
RoseAnn Shannon, news director, KETV, when asked what controversy National Coming Out Day might cause

This isn't my first gift, and it won't be my last.
Microsoft vice president Jeff Raikes, who gave UNL a \$500,000 gift

They are mind-boggling when you watch the tapes. I would forget. It's amazing how many different things those kids have to recall.
Milt Tenopir, NU offensive line coach, on how his boys play ball

My advice to you is: If you can't afford it, don't buy it.
Warren Buffet, Omaha billionaire

It's been a long time coming!
Deanna Zaffke, in response to Mayor Don Wesely's proclamation recognizing Monday as Coming Out Day

So yeah, it was really funny feeding it pizza while you're drunk walking home from the game.
Kari Stofer, Sheldon preparator, on the defacing of the sculpture "Fallen Dreamer" by person or persons unknown

We did not anticipate a performance of this nature.
From the apologetic e-mail of NU Athletic Director Bill Byrne and ASUN Homecoming Committee Chairwoman Chris Linder after comedian Tom Green had his way with Rick Schweiger, the Scarlet dancers and Lil' Red

A 13-year-old friend isn't the best source of sex information.
Bonnie Coffey, executive director of the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission

There are about five women I can think of I could have married.
The late, great Wilt Chamberlain, who admitted in his autobiography to having sex with 20,000 women

I do not expect people to believe me, but people seem to appreciate the fact that I can document all of my statements with data.
Robert Hastings, a member of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, on his UFO information

One just has to look into a crystal ball and think of the possibilities that could occur.
Marsha R. Torr, vice chancellor for research, on the Y2K bug

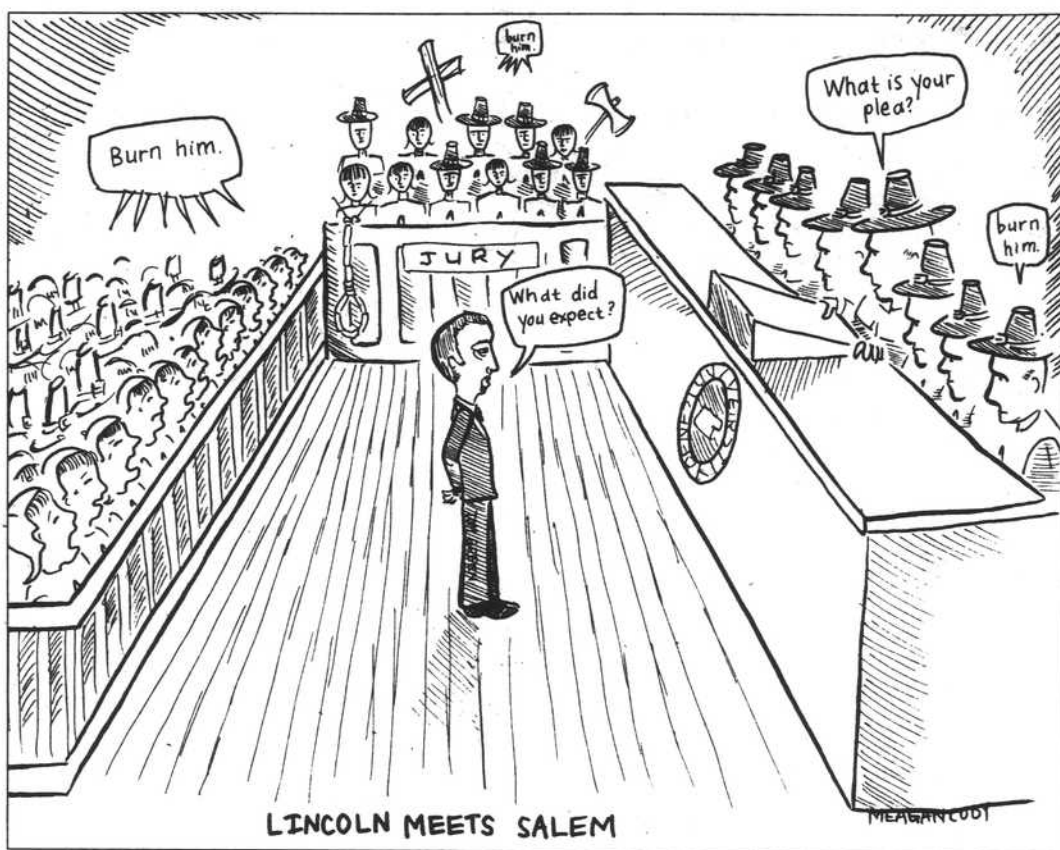
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Cody's VIEW



DN LETTERS

Colombia, Take it Away

Attorney General Janet Reno (DN, Thursday) speaking about the capture of yet another drug lord of the Colombian drug cartel, refers to Colombia as a "poor Andean nation (with) a rich tradition of criminal enterprise."

I would like to know where this "tradition" comes from because Colombian drug traffic only started, in full scale, in the early '80s, although guerrillas have been around since the '60s.

Although the capture of yet another drug lord is good news, the real problem lies in the guerrillas that still exist in Colombia, for they now have the power over all illicit drug trafficking from Colombia.

The two big guerrilla groups are the ELN (Ejercito de Liberación Nacional) and the FARC (Fuerzas Armadas de Colombia), and they are both preparing to have peace talks with the government.

On Colombia being a "poor Andean country," it is not totally true.

Although Colombia is going through a period of economic instability due to various reasons, Colombia is not poor.

Colombia is a nation that is going through a phase in which it has many adjustments to make and barriers to overcome and is getting to where it wants to go, slowly but surely, thanks to its people who strive to become better and make the country better.

Cesar Delgado
freshman
biology
Colombian citizen

Darkest Ignorance

Like Bell Solefack, (DN Letters, Tuesday) I, too, was born and raised in Africa, so I can relate when he says that we are the ones who have to live "with the repercussions."

Except he's wrong when he says many African countries are successfully fighting the AIDS battle.

True, Uganda has turned the situ-

ation around with the incidences of AIDS falling in that country. It, however, is the exception.

He talks about Zimbabwe's success. Well, last year the government denied reports that as many as 700 people died each week from AIDS, only to admit this April that in fact 1,200 are dying weekly.

And with an HIV incidence rate of 25 percent and growing, I've yet to hear anyone mention the word success when discussing Zimbabwe's efforts.

The AIDS congress? Well, it was a failure, with not a single head of state, not even President Chiluba of Zambia, the host country, putting in an appearance.

Poverty causing ill health? Sure. Poverty causing AIDS? Give me a break. Poverty has nothing to do with unprotected sex, the primary cause of the spread of AIDS in Africa.

Wealth will get you good treatment but will do nothing to prevent it.

His letter succinctly laid bare for us all the very ignorance and blithe lack of concern that characterizes the disease in Africa.

How did it go? "There is no darkness like ignorance?"

Daniel Hochstrasser
freshman
CBA

Language in the Laboratory

Cliff Hicks' column, (DN, Oct. 4) to say the least, set the modern language department buzzing.

I am not writing to agree or disagree with him, but there is something about that department that makes me curious and frustrated, and it seems no one can answer my question.

I keep forking over \$10 or \$20 for each language class (usually Spanish) for "special fees," which I assume are for the language lab. I have not set foot in our language lab to actually use it since early 1997, when it was still in Andrews Hall.

Why am I paying each semester

for facilities I and my classmates never use?

Perhaps Harriet Turner, our beloved DMLL chair and Spanish teacher herself (though, mind you, only one class a semester), could answer this question for the dozens of us in the limbo that is the intermediate language level: WHY ON GOD'S GREEN EARTH DO WE KEEP SHELLING OUT MONEY FOR THIS POSH LAB WE NEVER USE?

Ann Kontor
senior
French major, Spanish minor
and about \$20 bucks back this semester

Overview

While I have enjoyed Obermeyer's View all semester and even chuckled at some readers' inability to pick up on Neal's insight, with his NUtudo.com "cartoon" (DN, Oct. 8), I finally noticed his major flaw.

From advertising in Memorial Stadium, the sororities' new alcohol policies and the new opportunities for the baseball team to the new NUtudo.com Web site, there is never a solution suggested in his cartoons.

Obermeyer takes every opportunity to tear down other people's hard work without giving anything a chance to succeed.

Before the new Web site was eight hours old, he had already attacked it, saying that you'll "never get any good out of NUtudo.com."

Well, Mr. Obermeyer, while you're sitting at home complaining about how there's "nothing to do in Lincoln," I just might be out trying something new that I learned about by being a "chronic Internet junkie" and actually taking five minutes to look at NUtudo.com.

Shaun Williams
sophomore
Project CARE

P.S. Write Back

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