

## NU on Wheels true to its word

*Service over breaks something  
to consider for the future*

NU on Wheels may have hit a bump in the road. It was called St. Patrick's Day.

Apparently when the founders of the program conceived NU on Wheels, they decided not to provide rides to inebriated college students when school isn't in session. St. Patrick's and New Year's—two of the biggest holidays for drinking—happen to fall during vacation times.

Oops.

They figured most students wouldn't be around during the break. And while most were probably partying like rock stars in Padre or Panama Beach, the bars were still packed last Friday night.

Because NU on Wheels closed up shop for Spring Break, hundreds or even thousands of students got drunk and had to drive themselves home. People all across the city feared for their lives, as intoxicated college students were raging around town without consequence. These drunks flew down residential streets, ripping children from their Big Wheels and the elderly from their walkers. Cats and dogs living together—mass hysteria!

Well, at least that's what some may have us think.

Chances are NU on Wheels' sabbatical didn't cause interanimal habitation, and panic did not ensue. But more intoxicated drivers were probably on the street because the program took the week off. However, we shouldn't point the finger at the program—the coordinators explicitly stated (and advertised in the DN) that NU on Wheels wouldn't run during vacations. It didn't break any promises by offering no rides last week.

In fact, the program is doing more than hoped for. In the beginning, coordinators budgeted for 45 rides per week. They average more than eighty right now. In fact, they are \$9000 over budget. NU on Wheels is far exceeding our expectations, and they deserve a pat on the back—not a public outcry for those who want to ride the tipsy train.

But it's obvious what they should do next year.

NU needs to be on its Wheels for the big drinking days. It needs to run more days for longer hours. And it needs a bigger budget. These are all areas that the coordinators have said they'll take into consideration for their sophomore performance.

But perhaps the biggest lesson learned is that, in a few short months, this is a program that people depend on. So keep making more suggestions on what should be changed next year.

But don't complain because you couldn't get drunk last weekend. Maybe that's the point NU on Wheels is trying to make.

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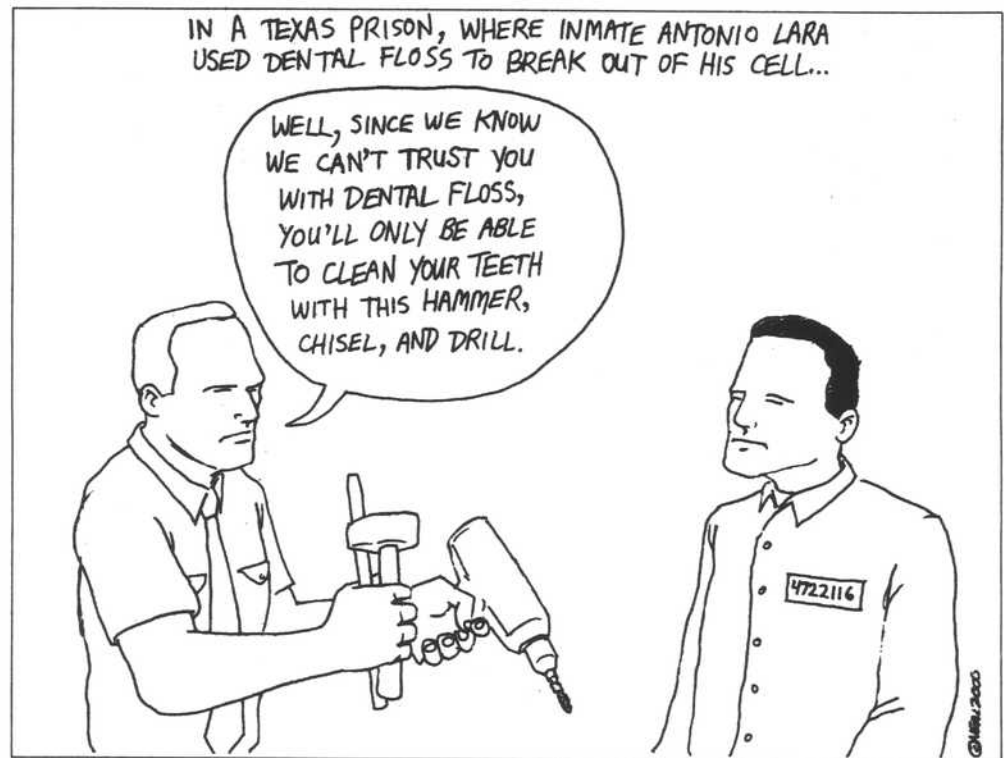
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### Obermeyer's VIEW



### Letters to the EDITOR

#### Clinton demo derby

If you watch the news on any given night, you might assume that gun violence is at an all-time high. But if you read actual FBI Uniform Crime Report statistics, you will learn that gun violence is at a 10-year low.

Why the discrepancy? The national media has an anti-gun agenda. So what's new?

The Clinton administration refuses to enforce gun control laws that are currently on the books, while demanding a never-ending plethora of new laws. The goal here is for the gun-control crowd eventually to say, "Look, these gun laws just aren't working. We need to ban guns."

Don't be fooled. This is a slow and relentless erosion of rights. It is nothing new to the Clinton regime.

You may ask, "Hey, who cares? I don't even own a gun." But what rights are you willing to sacrifice next? Because this Bill Clinton Freedom Demolition Derby just has begun. Smokers already know this. Drinkers? Meat-eaters? Violent-movie-watchers?

You are all in his sights.

**Tom Eads**  
computer labs manager  
Information Services

#### Aussie stats

I'm tired of hearing that gun control is the answer to all of our crime problems in America. It is time for some real facts about the gun-control issue.

It has now been 12 months since gun owners in Australia were forced to surrender 640,381 personal firearms to be destroyed, a program costing the government more than \$500 million.

Now the results are in: In Australia overall, homicides are up

3.2 percent, assaults are up 8.6 percent and armed robberies are up 44 percent (yes, 44.0 percent). In the State of Victoria, homicides with firearms are up 300 percent. Figures over the past 25 years show a steady decrease in armed robbery with firearms (changed drastically in the past 12 months). There has been a dramatic increase in break-ins and assaults of the elderly.

Australian politicians are at a loss to explain how no improvement in "safety" has been observed after such a monumental effort and expense was expended in ridding society of guns. I'm willing to bet you won't see this data on the evening news or hear your governor or members of the state Legislature disseminating this information.

It's time to state it plainly: Guns in the hands of honest citizens save lives and property and, yes, gun-control laws only affect the law-abiding citizens.

**Matt Glenn**  
senior  
chemical engineering

#### Union to Brooklyn

Regarding the indecent depiction of Mary in the Brooklyn Museum of "Art," (the one decorated with elephant dung and images of female genitalia), I must say we seem to be a numb generation that has been desensitized to the point that we just stand around and watch as others do unmentionable filth.

I remember as a young man still in school at Union College, a small Christian liberal arts college in Lincoln, the school had an extremely liberal art department. Our art department was going to open an exhibit in the Administration Building. Our college's maintenance supervisor, where I worked during the afternoons, said

the show included some nude drawings and paintings.

Many of us were incredulous! "Here on a Christian campus, where you can't even hold hands or kiss in public?" We were aghast! I asked him if he had a couple of cans of chocolate brown paint so I could take care of the problem. He discouraged any rash action, but after I went to look at the paintings I was sickened. Yes, there they were, nude paintings and drawings. What sickened me even further was the picture of a little nude boy sitting on his nude father's lap. It haunted me the rest of the day as to what to do.

That night at my job as night watchman, I placed a large garbage can in the middle of the art exhibit showroom. I promptly placed each desecrating unmentionable in the garbage can. I didn't smash the trash, I didn't bust it to bits, I didn't even soak it with chocolate brown paint. I just made a statement and placed the offensive articles where I felt they were better suited.

The next morning there was quite a stir. I was questioned as to whether I saw anyone suspicious there during the night when I made my rounds. I said, "No, no one suspicious." (Hey, I'm not the suspicious-looking type.) I felt kind of bad to be so misleading. But I just wanted to make an artistic expression of what I thought of that particular kind of art, particularly in an art exhibit at my Christian college. They never did figure out just who it was who placed the nudes in the garbage.

And it's probably good I don't live closer to Brooklyn. I might get a little insensitive myself. And this time, I think I'd opt for the chocolate brown paint.

**Ron Reese**  
Canton, N.C.

### P.S. Write Back

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