

Quotes of the WEEK

"He represents the integrity, the commitment to values that I think we want to have at this university."
Chancellor James Moeser, on the attributes of new Basketball Coach Barry Collier.

"Anybody but Danny Nee is a pretty big step up for Nebraska."
Junior communications major Adam Holle on the move to select Collier as coach.

"I don't care if we play fast or slow. We're going to play in such a way that gives us the best chance to win."
Collier on the style of play that the Husker men's basketball team will adopt next season.

"I'm not seeking to leave this university."
Chancellor James Moeser, on his status in Nebraska. Moeser will make a trip this month to interview for the presidency at the University of Florida.

"We're going to stand with him through thick and thin."
Gov. Mike Johanns, on his son's hospitalization following his drinking alcohol and taking more than his prescribed amount of Ritalin.

"Usually trash is dirty, but sometimes it comes out white."
Columnist David Baker, from an old family motto.

"The governor stabbed me with the red pen."
Sen. LaVon Crosby, after Johanns vetoed a legislative bill she introduced appropriating nearly \$1 million to the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery.

"I do not favor any kind of discrimination, but we are in danger, as a culture, of blurring lines that have been clearly defined."
Congressional candidate Tom Osborne on his opposition to same-sex unions.

"Some people in this race are going into a four-corners offense and stalling. That doesn't prepare the Republican nominee for November."
Secretary of State Scott Moore, a candidate for Nebraska's Senate seat, at a forum with other senatorial candidates in Kearney.

"This senate did a lot of things that would be considered risky, especially since Nebraska is a pretty conservative state."
Arts and Sciences Senator Urrvano Gamez, on the past ASUN administration.

"There's so much stuff going on up there."
Amateur astronomer Victor Humlicek.

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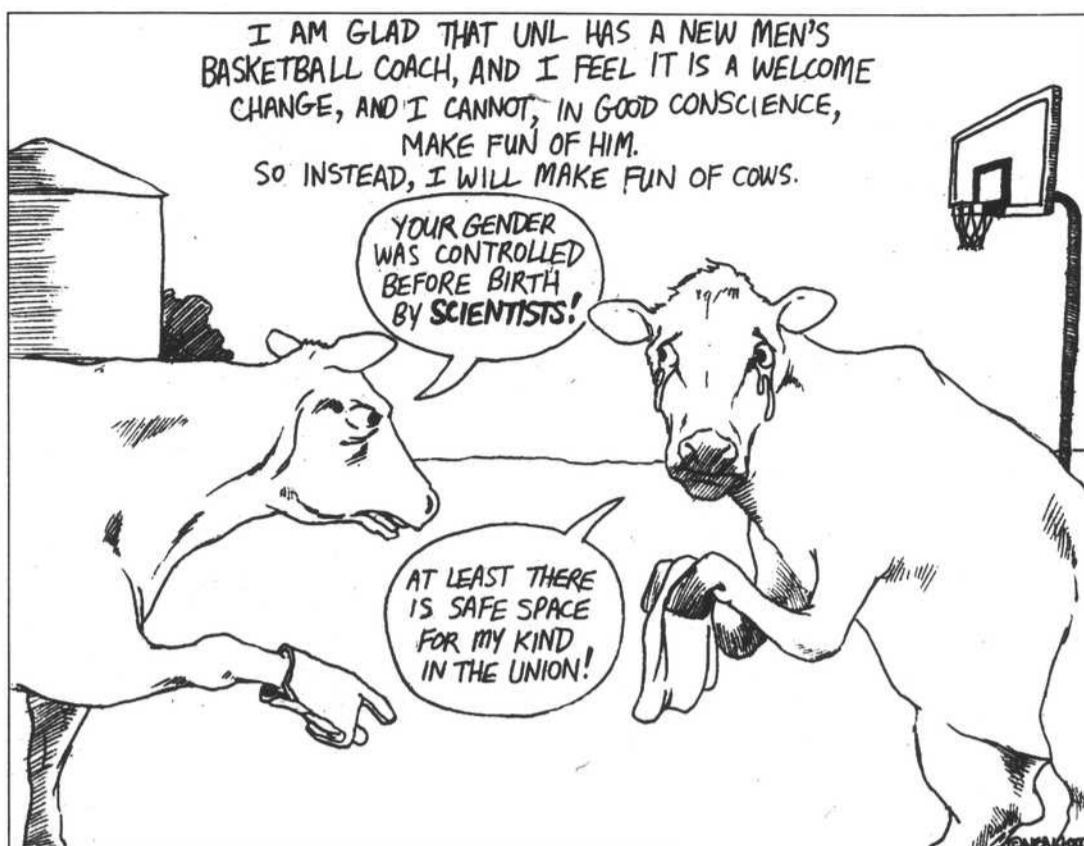
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Obermeyer's VIEW



Florida: The good life?

The Sunshine State has a variety of attractions



Reminisce with us for a moment, if you will.

You're 12 years old, you've just been on vacation with your family and you're 45 minutes into the thirteen-hour long car ride home. As your dad sets the cruise for 10 mph under the speed limit, you can only think of one thing: The Nebraska state line.

Visions of wild flowers and shoddily mowed ditches dance through your impressionable little head. A line of shredded candy-bar wrappers and beer cans lead to the beautiful, gleaming marker that you've been waiting so eagerly to see. Standing about 8 feet tall and 3½ feet wide, with a few .22-caliber bullet holes riddled across it, the faded monument reads, "Nebraska: The Good Life."

Fast-forward seven or eight years. You sit in your room, attempting to prepare for multiple tests, as you are continually distracted by the bitterly cold air that seeps through your window panes.

We too have been there. We've lost our cars in October to unexpected snow. But we now see the light. We know of a warmer place, a better place.

We think that life would be a lot better, for everyone, in Florida.

Like us, most of you probably haven't spent much time in Florida. During the innumerable crippling Nebraska blizzards that have been wrought upon you, you may have spent a minute or two daydreaming about the sunny beaches of Key West or the unnecessary, yet enjoyable, complimentary electric blankets provided at every Motel 6 in Florida. Beyond what you've seen on Disney World commercials, you may very well know nothing about this glorious state.

That, my fickle friends, is about to change.

Something recently grabbed a

hold of us both and has refused to let go. We like to call that little something the Florida Bug. We're not sure why it was so attracted to us, and, as far as we can tell, it has yet to strike the majority of this campus. That's why we're here — to get you infected.

During our recent exposure, we decided to conduct minutes upon minutes of painstaking research on "The Sunshine State." We discovered a fine land where the oranges grow as large as silicone-implanted breasts. Prepare to be informed.

Our first area of research was the Florida music scene. If you were to talk to Jahja Ling, musical director of the Florida Orchestra, he would be more than happy to tell you about the exciting schedule it has this fall, which includes Rhapsodies in Motion and Happy 100th Birthday for Aaron Copland. If you are the president of a Florida college, such as the University of Florida-Gainesville, you get in free of charge. You also get a free drink at the bar during intermission, guaranteed.

The Floridians are a very progressive and innovative people. In fact, Florida is the first state to have Organ Bars, open to anyone who wishes to walk in and play the organ. They also have old, black men who massage your feet after you get done playing one of those "foot-organ songs." You don't even have to tip them. (But don't worry, Floridians love diversity and pay them \$100 an hour.)

After a long day of playing the organ, many people retire to one of Florida's many restaurants for a tasty meal. Our personal favorite was the Orlando Ale House (not affiliated with Orlando). The great food and excellent service really typified the supremacy of the state. Before we paid homage to this establishment, we were unaware that the O.A.H.'s Zingers (lobster stuffed with tacos) were 'N Sync's favorite food. And it was obvious why they are.

In a state such as Nebraska, it is difficult to find fresh and entertaining activities to partake in after eating. When the night is still young, there's nothing worse than knowing that your only options are watching "Snow Day" at the Star Ship 9 movie theater or going home and plucking your unibrow. You'll never have these restric-

tions in Florida.

One highly recommended option would be to head down to the Florida Clogging Council and whip out \$15 for membership. Benefits include a discount at the State Clogging Convention and other clogging events and supplemental health insurance in case of injury while attending a clogging function.

Now, we realize that clogging isn't for everyone. Morbidly obese and uncoordinated individuals just can't pull it off. In these cases, we couldn't find anything better to do than to make a stop at some of Gainesville's flamboyant museums.

The Florida Museum of Natural History is located on the campus of the University of Florida. According to the museum's Web site, it is dedicated to understanding and preserving biological diversity and cultural heritage. Several other worthy museums include the Harn Museum of Art and the Kanapaha Botanical Gardens.

At the start of our research we had a hunch that Florida was pretty dang diverse. But, just to be sure, we dug deeper. Check out the South Florida Fun travel guide. It includes calendar events, hotels, bars, dining and more. But the kicker: Heterosexuals need not apply; it's for gay people only.

We like to think that Florida is all about freedom. I mean, just look at all of the free Cubans who wash up on its shores every day.

Considering that you don't actually have the opportunity to raft into Florida, we would recommend expressing your freedom by taking off all of your clothes. The Florida Association for Nude Recreation Inc. is the number one organization of clubs that promote the concept of social nudism.

We're sure by now that you are all extremely interested in finding out more about Florida. We hope too that we've convinced at least one person to break his or her affiliations with the University of Nebraska and move there. As for us, we're not quite ready to pack our bags and make the trek to freedom. For the time being, we have written a little song. It goes a little something like this:

"Florida, Florida, we pledge you our true loyalty. Florida, Florida, the good life for you and for me."

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