

DN editorial draws fire from Kearney residents

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The Antelope is planning an editorial of its own, Harms said. It will appear in the paper Thursday.

The Kearney Hub, Kearney's city newspaper, reprinted the Daily Nebraskan editorial in its Friday edition. The Hub's headline read, "UNL Editorialist Rakes Kearney."

Mike Konz, managing editor of the Hub, said the paper ran the editorial to give Kearney residents a taste of what others in the state are saying.

"It's always interesting to view yourself through other people's eyes," Konz said. "When you run a local newspaper, it's cool to give people a glimpse of themselves."

Konz said the opinion in the Daily Nebraskan confirmed how some Kearney residents think people view their city of about 28,000.

The sweeping reaction in the city had not yet reached Konz when he decided to reprint the DN editorial. He said a reader gave him a copy of the editorial, and he thought people might be interested in it.

Ryan Samuelson, UNK student body president, said a lot of UNK students were upset about the tone of the editorial.

"I feel it was inappropriate," said Samuelson, who spoke about the editorial on the Kearney radio station KGFV 1340 AM on Monday morning.

Samuelson said he thought most students didn't like the way the editorial referred to the Great Platte River Road Archway Monument, which Clinton will visit.

The editorial calls the arch, which spans Interstate 80, a "monstrosity" that "has been decried by architects as ugly and insignificant and rebuked by history buffs as tourist-trap fodder."

Those were some harsh hits, Samuelson said.

"(Students) like Kearney," he said. "They're just being kind of defensive about it. I'm glad students are protective of their campus and town."

Samuelson said most students feel

they don't get a fair shake in the university system. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is always the heavy-weight, and the Daily Nebraskan editorial simply entrenched that view.

A lot of things in the editorial were stereotypical, he said. A lot of people from Lincoln haven't even been to Kearney, he said.

"Obviously, Mr. Clinton picked the place," Samuelson said. "He's not going to Lincoln. It's not like we paid him off or anything."

Staci Sohl, a senior advertising major at UNK, said the Daily Nebraskan editorial implied Lincoln was superior to the rest of the state.

"The article called us small-town hicks, and that was offensive," Sohl said.

Lincoln is made up of people from all over the state, including Kearney, she said. It is not exempt from "small-town hicks."

One of the paragraphs in the editorial that apparently was most offensive stated: "While we don't blame Clinton

for keeping his distance from a state that has been disproportionately unfriendly to him at the ballot box, now that he's finally visiting, it'd be nice if he could see more of the state than Kearney - a town that, when emblazoned on the television sets of millions of people, will further ingrain the stereotype that Nebraskans are small-town hicks."

Sohl said she was saddened by the assertion that people in Kearney were hicks.

The word "hick" implies ignorance, she said.

Sohl also was disheartened with the lack of support from UNL.

"We thought UNL would be happy for us, and they weren't," she said. "That's frustrating. This shouldn't be 'Yay, Kearney.' It should be 'Yay, University of Nebraska.'"

Even as tempers flare in Kearney, some are happy that Clinton is taking the time to experience a couple different parts of the state.

Lormong Lo, vice president of the

Omaha City Council, said though it was unfortunate Clinton couldn't visit every city in the state, Omaha was a good choice.

"We have a great town," Lo said. "It's a great city. I wish he would come here more often than one time."

Lo said he hoped Clinton would visit the Henry Doorly Zoo to see the Lied Jungle and the IMAX theater.

The urban development evident in the Old Market also would be good for the president to see, Lo said.

"Omaha will be good," he said. "He can see urban life and rural life. Omaha does have both of these features."

The editorial, while it has sparked response in Kearney, has also caught the attention of the national media.

A reporter from the Christian Science Monitor contacted the Daily Nebraskan late Monday to gather information about the editorial and discuss its effects on Kearney and the state.

Posts to the Daily Nebraskan's Web site regarding the newspaper's editorial can be found at www.dailyneb.com.

Gore's hopes of White House fade

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anonymity.

Gore, Bush, lawmakers in Florida, congressmen in Washington and scores of judges presiding over the more than 40 lawsuits are focused on two deadlines: Dec. 12, when state electors are chosen, and Dec. 18, when the Electoral College meets.

Without a clear resolution, the Constitution throws the election in the lap of a divided Congress.

"I think whoever wins at the Florida Supreme Court, we'll accept that," Boies said - setting an end date on the long-count election.

Democrats were glum, though they seemed to be heeding Gore's request to stay by his side until the Florida Supreme Court rules.

"I think we're down but not out," said Sen. Barbara Mikulski of Maryland. "This was a punch that knocked him down, but it didn't

knock him out."

Sen. Robert Torricelli, D-N.J., said the case is "a legal issue that, at some point, becomes an issue of time."

Republicans were in a hurry to hear the bell toll for Gore.

"How many defeats are enough?" said Rep. J.C. Watts, R-Okla., the fourth-ranking member of the House. "The time has come for the vice president to admit defeat."

"Al Gore is facing the longest week of his political life," said Scott Reed, a GOP operative who ran Bob Dole's failed 1996 presidential campaign. "Time has run out, but he won't give up."

Just three days after hearing historic arguments, the U.S. Supreme Court invited Florida's top court to clarify its reasons for extending the deadline for hand-counted ballots in some Democratic counties. A spokesman for the state high court said briefs were due on

that case this afternoon.

Bush called the Supreme Court ruling "a very strong statement on our behalf."

While posing for pictures in front of a garland-strung hearth, Bush told reporters he was dispatching running mate Dick Cheney to Capitol Hill to meet with GOP leaders to continue making plans for a presumptive Bush presidency.

Hours later, Sauls ruled that Gore "failed to carry the requisite burden of proof" in the unprecedented legal challenge to Bush's 537-vote certified victory.

Florida's seven justices, all appointed by Democratic governors, had ordered Secretary of State Katherine Harris, a Republican, to accept recount totals for several days after the state's Nov. 14 deadline. Bush appealed, but the Supreme Court did not rule on the merits of his filing.

By passing the case back to Florida, the nation's highest court leaves in doubt

gains made by Gore through manual recounts after Nov. 14. Those totals trimmed Bush's lead from 930 votes to 537 out of 6 million cast.

In Florida, the state legislature, dominated by Republicans, appeared to slow down its plans for a special session to choose presidential electors. Bush's political operatives signaled they preferred a go-slow approach, fearing backlash from voters under an intense public relations campaign by Democrats.

Bush himself urged caution, telling reporters who asked about the legislative fight: "We ought to take this process one day at a time."

A Washington Post-ABC News survey said 56 percent of Americans want the Legislature to leave the unsettled election alone. Equal numbers want Congress to butt out, though the U.S. Constitution gives state and federal lawmakers a role in the Electoral College process.

UNL plans events after Mohr upset

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In February, an "extraordinist" will perform, featuring audience participation in different mind tricks, she said.

A pair of comedians, Spanky and Craig Karmean, also will perform in February.

In March, there will be UPCWeek, with different events every night.

Comedian Daniel Tosh, who is working on a new MTV talk show, will perform his stand-up act, Wendt said.

UPC members attended a National Association for College Activities, where they saw Tosh's performance.

"He really fit the college audience," she said. The Mohr fiasco has been frustrating, but Wendt said members of UPC aren't going to dwell on it.

"We're just going to put it behind us," Wendt said.



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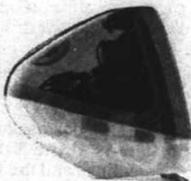
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