| Gajette |  |
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| An independent newspaper established in 1883 | John Robertson, Managing Editor Art Heusinkveld, Editor of Editorial Pages |

## GAZETTE EDITORIALS

## NCAA's flawed plan

nd athletics" at America's institutions of higher learning, the NCAA is considering a proposal to reduce the number of athletic scholarships a college or
university may award. In theory, it's a good idea. But the specific plan before the NCAA contains an obnoxious flaw: It would disproportionately reduce
scholarships available to female athletes.
Christine Grant, the director of women's athletics at the
University of lowa, opposes the plan and says the U of I will cast a vote against it. Other NCAA schools should

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\author{
The NCAA plan to cut athletic department expendi-
tures puts an undue bur- \\ den on women's programs.
}

Track and field scholarships provide a prime example of how the proposed cuts would adversely affect women.
Currently, NCAA schools annually offer 16 track and field Currently, NCAA schoois annually offer 16 track and field
scholarships to women; 14 to men. Under the new rules, the schools will be able to offer only 13 scholarships to women and 13 to men, That's a net loss of three
scholarships for women and one for men. scholarships for women and one for men.
Some may view that as equitable, since the women star off with two more track scholarships than men. But there is one very good reason for that difference: College
football. Women don't qualify for any of the 95 football football. Women don't qualify for any of the 95 footbal
scholarships awarded by a university. No women's sport program awards anywhere near that number of scholar program awards anywhere near that number of scholar-
ships. So, the two extra track scholarships for women combined with other measures, insure that school distribute scholarships in rough proportion to the male

\section*{female athletic participation}

Not all universities offer the same mix of sports, so the
proposed NCAA rules would not affect every school alike proposed NCAA rules would not affect every school alike
But uniformly, women's programs will be hurt the worst According to figures supplied by the Womens Sports Foundation, the University of Iowa will lose six male athletic scholarships ( 3.4 percent of the male total) and nine female athletic scholarships ( 8.5 percent of female total). The disparity is even more pronounced in th
Southeastern Conference, where a typical school will los three male scholarships ( 1.9 percent of the male total) and eight female scholarships (10 percent of the female total). Christine Grant's crusade against the new rules is
commendable. Already twice as many scholarships are available to male athletes than female athletes. There i no need to aggravate that disproportion by adopting the NCAA proposal. Although it seems desirable to reduce
athletic department expenditures, the NCAA should athietic department expenditures, the NCAA should go
back to the drawing board. As a matter of fairness, the organization should defeat this proposal at its special
convention June \(29-30\) in Dallas.

\section*{Disaster-tape tale}

THE LATEST small development in an endless saga of people's right to know vs. governments
propensity to hide finds the courts giving open
ormation a helpful nod. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration must make public an audio tape of space shuttle challenger crew conversation on the flight to doom in January, 1986, a federal judge in Washington
ruled last week. Earth-shaking principles were ruled last week. Earth-shaking principles were no
involved, but it is good to see this contest come out right.
What triggered the forthcoming disclosure was a New York Times lawsuit seeking the Challenger tape's release
under the Freedom of Information Act. NASA had refused, contending that it would invade the astronauts' families' privacy; these oral tapings were a privileged
"personnel record," offficials maintained. The Times "personnel record," officials maintained. The Times
disputed any "privacy" contention in a much more
realistic view of the flight: These were public employees realistic view of the flight: These were public employees
doing work for pay from public funds in a highly public doing work for pay from public funds in a highly public
program and an indisputably public event. A further purpose of exposing fully certain safety aspects of the shuttle program and of answering the sponsors' (taxpay-
ing public's) questions about all this added weight to the ing public's) q
tell-it-all side.
Judge Norma H. Johinson solldly ruted for divitgence. "It is an undisputed matter of record that the tape at issue here contains no information about the personal lives of
the astronauts or any of their family members, but only the comments, observations and communications of certain of the Challenger astronauts concerning the launching and flight \(\ldots\), , she observed. Hence no
exemption to a publicizing and no valid reason for the exemption to a publicizing and no
government to hold things back.
Assuming all this holds up through a possible appeal, NASA's ultimate disclosure also will show whether what had been revealed earlier as a "verbatim transcript" of the
tape in question was entirely what NASA represented it to be. When governments shortchange the public on these kinds of items, usually the reason is to dodge deserved
embarrassment. Let's hope no element of that was present embarrassment. Let's hope no element of that was present
here. But when it proves to be the case, the net result is here. But when it proves to be the case, the net result is
often far more damaging emmbarrassment than early often far more damaging
candor might have caused.
Beyond the added information helping everybody understand the score, a reinforcing of this would be another welcome dividend from diligence in prying out the truth.


LETTERS TO THE GAZETTE No Shepherd 150th Knowing each other
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline settling of Cedar Rapids. & A foreign student-exchange program as ours at St. Jude's School can bring about e peace among all the countries of the world. \\
\hline amily priorities, my health, my job and ious volunteer commitments to the DownPromotion Committee have not allowed to make the phone calls, write the letters otherwise organize any special activities to brate Osgood Shepherd's arrival and building abin on the banks of the Cedar. & oung persons who attend school in another try have the opportunity to learn about their country's way of life, including people's oms, religious beliefs, traditional foods and s of entertainment. This learning experience hes each student to better understand why people of that country respond the way they and to realize that everyone has similar ngs and dreams despite our differences. \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l}
to help in some way. (The Cedar Rapids Public
Library summer reading program has a Cedar \\
Rapids history theme.) But I have not been able \\
to locate anyone to accept the main responsibili- \\
y of organizing a community-wide celebration.
\end{tabular} & By educating the young people - who are the future of the world - through such valuable programs, we hopefully will be able to live in peace with each other one day. I hope everyone supports these exchange programs and keeps teaching others about the need for peace. Young \\
\hline I'm sorry we won't be celebrating the 150th anniversary of the first settler to Cedar Rapids. I hope this community doesn't miss the chance in 1996 to hold a 150th anniversary of the city's charter. (I have a good-sized file of ideas and information to share.) & Brett Michener Auburn Dr. SW \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l}
Florence W. Robertson 904 American Bldg. \\
-Mentally ill succeed \\
I recently heard a presentation about two businesses in Moline that employ only individu-
\end{tabular} & Peace can bring about a unity and understanding between nations. We can't have peace until we stop competing and start communicating with other countries. I believe that if U.S. citizens and Soviets could talk, our ideas about war and peace would be about the same. \\
\hline created about three years ago by Frank Ware, executive director of the Alliance for the Mentally Ill in Moline. Both businesses are so successful that expansion into other business ventures is imminent. & Soviets must be as afraid of nuclear war as our people are. I hope they are not just sitting over there waiting for the world to blow up. saying, "What our leaders decide to do in the end will turn out to be the best." They're not stupid. Just like us, they know what the consequences of nuclear war will be. \\
\hline lliness. Society the accepted the limitations mposed by a physical disability and makes an effort to accommodate those individuals in the & The United States alone has enough weapons to blow up the world 13 times. Why do we need all these weapons? Why do we keep building more? So that we can brag about having more weapons than the Soviet Union, or vice versa? \\
\hline & \\
\hline But both the restaurant and the lawn care rvice have taken into consideration the pabilities and needs of their employees. And oth the businesses are thriving, successful aterprises. & \begin{tabular}{l}
other nations maybe we could figure out a way to make peace. At least, we've got to try or our beautiful world could be destroyed. \\
Amy Elbert 917 Belmont Pkwy. NW
\end{tabular} \\
\hline  & E \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l}
ntal Health Advocates at 364-6305. \\
Nan Schroeder 810 First Ave. NE \\
ough go
\end{tabular} & "Should we have bombs?" "Should we keep our armies in foreign countries?" "Is war really solving our problems?" There should only have
to be one answer, and that is "no.". \\
\hline The excitement that many of us felt at the opening of the drop-in center for the homeless has turned to absolute disgust. It is being run by persons who need to fill their lives with causes. They are people who cannot make decisions; but when they must (when the roof threatens to cave in), the decisions are not sound. & Peace can't be brought about through fear; we can't scare peope into loving each other. We've got enough nuclear bombs to blow up the world again and again. Even if it didn't instantly kill us all, the radiation would. Many people would be deformed, and it isn't a fit punishment for anyone. Yet we have to live in the constant fear that all we have accomplished may, in one sec- \\
\hline & ond, go up in smoke. Everything we've achieved throughout human history could vanish instantly. \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l}
chaos became obvious, volunteers turned away. \\
Jeff Stack, with an air of superiority, acknowledges serving "the drunks." The meal is rarely on time. Moldy bread is served. Fights are frequent. Drinking is done on the premises.
\end{tabular} & stop making bombs and other nuclear weapon (no matter how cool they look, they're going to blow up the same). We need to see the good in everybody and start communicating. You see, what people's governments want may not be what the people want. We have to remember how \\
\hline The faulty attitude and management of this project doom it. But the need for one good meal a day, access to a telephone and shower facilities and a gathering place for the homeless does exist, and there must be groups in the community who can meet these needs. & \begin{tabular}{l}
much destruction and violence have been caused in the past, because a nuclear war would be much more. \\
It's a one-way street to freedom, and through love and peace we can find the path.
\end{tabular} \\
\hline & Roxbury Dr. NW \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

WRITE RIGHT/CARL KANE

\section*{Something new in 'martial' arts}


\section*{OUTLOOKS \\  \\ Modern life is composed of trade-ofís}

\author{
on the East Coast, I'll make more money; but
} phace, the commuter hassles?) Should I tell my friend what I really think about his latest adventure? (I can't condone it, but should I risk our
newfound friendship by telling him so? I can't newound friendship by telling him so?) I cant
seem to stop smoking, but do I really want to Everyday decisions, right? The stuff life is
made of. But there's a more basic trade-off that we often fail to consider because its effects are not always as immediate or as apparent. It's the
trade-off between civilization and nature. let me try to explain what I mean. The tradeoff, as I see it, involves what, for lack of a better
word, IIll characterize as "connectedness." Here's word, II characterize as connectedness. "Here's
an example. In answer to the question "Where
does water come from?" many children (some addoes water come from?"' many children (some ad
ults as well) will
cetotomatically respond "If "the faufaucet to its ultimate source, however, we end u
taking about natural phenomena such a
chemical bonds, evaporation, condensation, per chemical bonds, evaporation, condensation, per-
colation and so on. We've crossed from the realm
of civilization (plumbing, an invention of humankind) to the realm of nature. As modern human cultures on our planet
become more "ivilized, they remove them-
selves by degrees from the basic processes of selves by degrees from the basic processes of
nature. The crucial importance of the link
between those processes and the continued adween those of processes and the continued
its continued survival - becomes increasingly its continued survival - becomes increasingly
blurred. It's just in recent years, for example,
that we've really become aware of the connection hetween our sophisticated way of conte and
bvironmental limpact. Ground water only the latest in a long litany of environmental
concerns that have sharpened our awareness of the trade-offs we're reaily making to maintain
and "advance" our way of life. W're slowly but surely beginning to see the
price we've paid so far for the fragile veneer we like to call "modern life." We're gradually com-
ing to the realization that if we don't do something soon, the water that comes out of that fau-
cet will no longer be drinkable - or worse yet.
no water will flow when we tum the faucet on. Actually, the reminders of that fragility I just
mentioned have always been with us. They have mentioned have always been with us. They have
come primarily in the form of "natural disaster Tormadoes swoop down from clouds, ignoring the
sophisticated veneer, to pulverize our civilized
landscape with indiscriminate fury. Lightning crackles, thunder booms, and our lights go out.
When they come back on, we may discover that
our TV no longer works or that our expensive our TV no longer works or that our expensive
stereo equipment has been ruined by a powerful
electrical surge fueled by a stray lightning bolt. or on the dramatic intervention of natural phenomena. The concept of connectedness and t
increasing vulnerability of humankind as connections become less apparent are apar and and
parcel of our existence. Take the computer as another example. I'm writing these words on that
modern miracle called a word processor. Used to be, in that now old-faashoned era of the mechani
cal typewriter, that when I struck a particular
key, I could instanty key, I could instantly make the connection be
tween the keystroke and the letter that appeared on my paper as a ressilt of my tap. I could actu
ally see the mechanical arm bearing the charac ter as it struck the ribbon and made the imprint.
But when I strike a key on my computer
keyboard, an incredible series of transparent keyboard, an incredible series of transparent
events takes place. An electronic signal is
generated which travels at mind-boggling speed
tren through cables and circuits, resulting in a display
on a cathode ray tube of the character on that key
I struck. If something goes wrong, and the 1 struck. If something goes wrong, and th
character doesntt appear on my screen, I can simply check to see whether perhaps the ribbon
is bad or whether there is some mechanical failure of the typing mechanism.
In choosing to use my word processor, rive
become thousands of times more vulnerable to become thousands of times more vulnerable to
failure than I was with my old Underwood. The ome from? - the outlet in the wall, the Amana
Society Service Co., IE, nuclear fuel, cool,
lectrons. electrons. ...) some electronic component
could fail or - since PI ma actually hooked up to a
central computer - there cuild be human error ont
on the part of those who staff the computing
center. The success of my keystroke, in short, depends on literally thousands of human being
and man-made elements responsible for suppt capability. I can' somply look at my machine and appear." Taik about layers of veneert!
The point here is not to denigrate modern
civilization nor to advocate a back-to-nature
movement. I wish only to call novement. I wish only to call attention to a very
important trade off we make as contemporary
Tesidents of this planet. The accoutrements of modern life are great. But they come with a pric read the fine print on the other side.~~~

