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TOP STORY SPOTLIGHT TOPICAL

Readers sound off on E15, insulin, UNL loyalty and more.

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Senate should pass year-round E15

Last week, I had the opportunity to attend the Federal Legislative Summit in Ashland and hear directly from members of Nebraska's congressional delegation about the issues facing our state. One issue that was central to the discussion surrounding the Farm Bill was the need to finally secure nationwide, year-round access to E15.

That matters for Nebraska families. E15, commonly sold as Unleaded 88, is often as much as 30 cents per gallon cheaper than traditional gasoline. For families driving to work, farmers operating equipment, and small businesses managing transportation costs, those savings add up quickly.

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Unfortunately, outdated federal regulations continue to restrict E15 sales during the summer months, forcing federal regulators to rely on temporary waivers just so consumers can continue purchasing a lower-cost fuel option.

Permanent year-round E15 would give consumers more choice while strengthening Nebraska agriculture by increasing demand for corn, supporting ethanol jobs and keeping more energy dollars in rural communities.

The House has already acted, and President Trump has called on Congress to finish the job. Sen. Deb Fischer has been a strong leader on year-round E15, and Sen. Pete Ricketts has also made clear the importance of biofuels to Nebraska's economy and energy independence.

The message at the summit was clear: year-round E15 remains a priority for Nebraska. Now the Senate needs to deliver.

Mark Schoenrock, Diller

Cap the cost of insulin

I have lived with diabetes for 16 years, and insulin is essential to keeping me alive. Even with excellent health insurance, the cost remains significant. The last insulin prescription I filled cost \$188.90, on top of the glucose monitors, supplies and two types of insulin I use daily.

Many people face even harder decisions. I frequently hear stories of people rationing insulin so they can also afford food, rent, utilities or other necessities. Taking less insulin than prescribed is not a sustainable way to manage budgets; insulin is non-negotiable and rationing it can have serious consequences

The bipartisan Improving Needed Safeguards for Users of Lifesaving Insulin Now Act of 2026 offers a practical solution. It would cap monthly out-of-pocket insulin costs at \$35 for people with private insurance. It would also create a five-year pilot program

helping participating states provide low-cost insulin to uninsured patients.

I urge Sens. Pete Ricketts and Deb Fischer and Rep. Mike Flood to support and help pass the INSULIN Act. Nebraskans should be able to manage diabetes without wondering whether they can afford the medication that keeps them alive.

Mark Feit, Lincoln

Get out the vote

As the November elections approach, we are reminded that democracy depends on active participation. Voting is one of the most important ways citizens can make their voices heard and help shape the future of our country. But civic engagement should not stop at casting of our own ballots. Each of us can play an important role in motivating others to vote as well.

An effective way to do this is by sending postcards out to registered voters who don't always participate in elections. An easy way to do this is by using Activate America to send postcards to prospective voters.

The Activate America website (<https://activateamerica.vote>) provides free lists of names and addresses of prospective voters to send postcards to, and a short script to write on the postcards that encourages the receiver of the postcards to vote for candidates that will put the people of our country first, not corporations and the wealthy.

We all benefit when more citizens take part in the democratic process. Higher voter participation strengthens our communities and ensures that a broader range of voices are represented.

This November, let us encourage one another to stay informed, participate respectfully and make voting a shared civic responsibility. Democracy works best when everyone has a chance to be heard.

Becky Conners, Lincoln

Loyalty not rewarded at UNL

We have had our football tickets for 59 years. At the beginning we belonged to the Beef Club and when that ended we continued to financially donate to the football program. Yes, we went through the "glory years" but over the past 25 years we have been waiting for a winning season.

A few years ago they informed us that they were raising our seats up four rows so they could provide for handicapped seating. We were in row 52 and were moved to row 66. Ten rows higher than we were told.

We have been men's basketball ticket holders for over 30 years and have donated to that program every year.

We have had volleyball tickets since they moved to the Devaney Center. We met with a representative of the university when we were notified about the reseat plan. We donated an additional \$1,000 thinking that would help us keep our seats in the C section in Row 8.

When we met with them for our reseating appointment we were told that all the lower seats were taken and we could only get tickets in Row 12 or higher. We ended up with seats in Row 13 since there were only three seats together in Row 12 which they wouldn't separate.

We have been loyal donating fans for the last 59 years, helping the athletic programs we were involved with during that time. We have not seen much appreciation for those years of support and donations from the University of Nebraska.

Linda and Gary Gill, Friend

Title IX: Success or failure?

As you settle in this fall to enjoy women's volleyball, professional basketball and other competitive sports now common among the "gentler" sex, keep in mind a recent report by The Heritage Foundation. The report claims Title IX was pushed into law by the feminist movement, though few women actually want to do these types of physical activity. Rather, the report claims women prefer "broader, recreational, or less competitive activities."

Stating the obvious, since Title IX, thousands of women have proven that women do indeed want to participate in physically challenging activities. If not true, there would be no Nebraska volleyball, softball, basketball or other female sports. Another obvious is the economic value women's sports bring to this state. People will undeniably pay money to support female athletes.

So, if you think where women athletes are found today is where they should be, when you see anti-Title IX proposals being made, please voice your support that girls, teens and women should have the opportunity to play whatever sport they want. Over the past 50 plus years, we've certainly shown that we can!

Theresa Pella, Lincoln

The week in political cartoons



















