

## Silly artists, Treflon men — a year's injustice on parade

All good things must come to an end. Everything put together falls apart. Easy come, easy go.

The last column of another semester, another year, is traditionally a chance to reflect, sum up, and make your thank-yous. Being the devout traditionalist I am, I think I'll just babble. Like Andy Rooney or maybe Paul Harvey.



**Billy Shaffer**

I don't like a lot of things. (See? just like Andy Rooney!) I don't like the way that banality and conformity are rewarded and true creativity is frowned upon. It happens in music when groups like Judas Priest are zillionaires and Robert Fripp gets a van and a couple grand for a national tour, if that. It happens in art when someone like Dan Howard wins another purchase award for something that has for its main attributes being "pleasing on the eyes" or just plain silly, and non-traditional artists continue to scrape to survive. It happens in dance when people pay millions for "Flashdance" and the real dancers are the guys "breakin'" in the street.

I don't like leaky Bics and weak Xerox machines. I don't like cover charges that are called "donations" and bus drivers that prey on bicyclists.

Not being able to afford cable, I see a lot of commercials. I hate it when they run the same one twice in a row, and during planting season I've dreamed of putting out a contract on the "Treflon" man.

I don't like houses that smell like

cats (a pet peeve). And speaking of houses, I think landlords should have X's tattooed on their foreheads and be forced to wear coats made out of shag carpeting.

I find most bodily functions rather disgusting. People who slurp their coffee can either die or move to Kearney, as far as I'm concerned. Concerts and movies should never be made more than two hours, and most should be considerably less.

I hate it when people laugh too loud, long, or easily, and if someone throws something at me it had better be either lethal or a pack of matches.

I don't like people who are 100 percent honest or poor liars. And you can throw people that use words like "ambiance" and "intelligentsia" into a hole and fill it up, too.

Just to keep from coming off as a real Scrooge, there are a few things I do like I like it when someone else slips and falls on the ice. I like lopsided victories. I like to listen to people who can type really fast.

I like to make my cat beg for her food. I like to open doors for little old ladies. I like to ring doorbells and run. I like old TV shows and new music.

Enough of the babble. Now for the thank-yous. I'd like to thank my editor for excusing deadlines and paying me such huge sums for so little work. Thanks to my staff of secretaries for their countless romps around the desk and their good coffee. And thanks to you, my faithful readers, for the hundreds of letters I've received praising my excellent journalistic skills.

After a semester of (purportedly) covering the Lincoln art scene, it appears that there still is one. Keep those eyes peeled, all you "art cops," and have a merry Christmas.

## Cards & Letters

### Factory slur

Jeff Willcox's article in the Daily Nebraskan "Another unpleasant surprise from NBC," Dec. 13) ranked me. Overall, I found the article quite agreeable. But the slur about factory workers was uncalled for.

After his put down of uneducated factory workers, he went on to say that he found it lifting to hear news about jogging turkeys and about Iggy the Pig's hernia. I think maybe the real difference between factory workers and Willcox is that they watch the news to become informed and he watches the news to be entertained. He said as much:

Eddie L. Vaughn  
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## Student film competition announced

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and the Academy Foundation has announced its 11th Annual Student Film Awards competition, according to Elaine Richard, program coordinator.

The Student Film Awards were established to recognize and encourage outstanding achievement in film production by college and university students.

Students from Nebraska are eligible to enter an 11-state regional competition. Cash grants and trophies will be awarded for outstanding achievement in four categories: animation, documentary, dramatic and experimental film.

To be eligible, films must have been completed after April 1, 1983, in a student-teacher classroom relationship within the curriculum of an accredited school.

After the regional selections are made, semifinalists will compete against films chosen in the six other regions. They will be judged by the Motion Picture Academy's voting membership. Winners will be flown to Los Angeles for a June 10, 1984, ceremony.

For more details on how to enter in the regional contest, contact Dan Ladely, director of the Sheldon Film Theatre, 472-2461.

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