



Ward Williams/Daily Nebraskan
Husker marching band

Student discovers 'Hail Varsity' lyrics following long search on UNL campus

By Libby York
Staff Reporter

The marching band plays the familiar tune week in and week out. By the end of football season, you could hum it in your sleep. For many University of Nebraska-Lincoln students, however, there is just one small problem . . . they don't know the words!

Is Nebraska Dull?

The Nebraska fight song, "Hail Varsity," was written by UNL grads Wilbur Chenoweth and Joyce Ayres and was presented to the university for the first time on Nov. 21, 1936. The

song was emphatically embraced by the student body and soon regarded on the same level as "There Is No Place Like Nebraska," which was written in 1910.

As a UNL student and the offspring of two UNL alums, I can't help but feel a little embarrassed that when the band strikes up I can't sing along. I tried asking other students what the lyrics are, but the reply was always the same: "Nobody knows."

Well, I knew somebody had to know and finally decided to draw upon my most obvious source.

After nearly 25 years, my mother was still able to recall the lyrics and sing them out with touching nostalgia. Soon my father joined in and the two embarked into a duet that would have shamed even Donny and Marie.

So, here they are . . . the lyrics that have caused me so much agitation:

*"Hail Varsity"
Hail to the team!
The stadium rings,
As everyone sings
To the scarlet and cream.
Fight on to victory;
Echo our loyalty,
So, on, mighty men.
The eyes of the land
Upon every hand
Are looking at you.
Fight on to victory . . .
Hail the men of Nebraska U!*

So, go ahead and learn the words, and don't be surprised if when you sing them out at the next football game, you see a teary-eyed alum singing right along with you.

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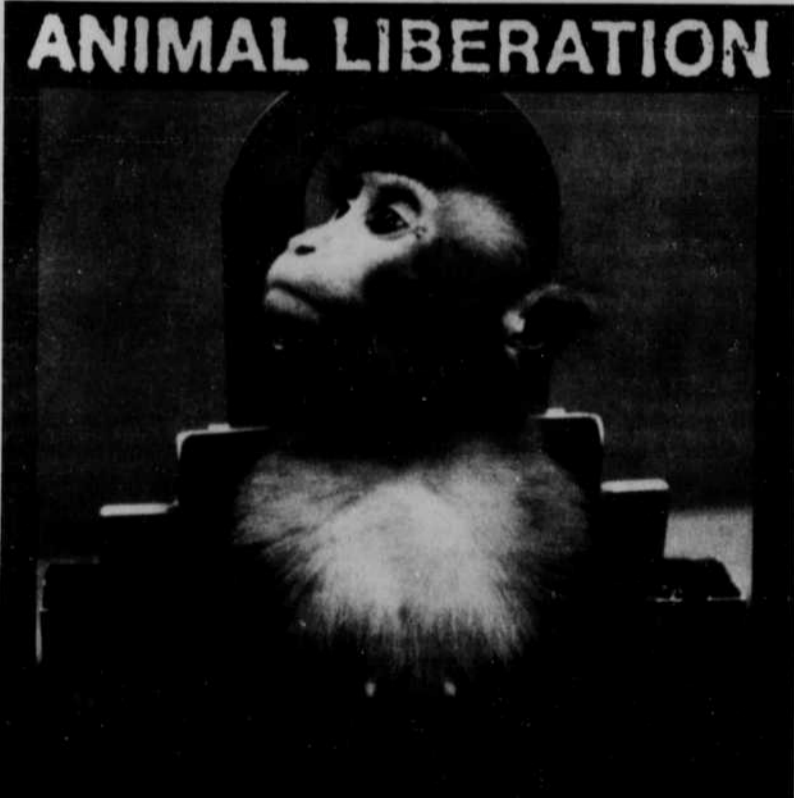
of misery/Ending in shock."

The musicians can lobby for anti-vivisection causes, but they're not going to extinguish the meat and fur industries, a fact these songs prove they can't accept.

As each song ends, you're left feeling that you've just participated in

a form of melodic propaganda with a noble cause. That's why many will find this LP mere hippy-dippy liberalism, too caught up in its own biases to convince.

Since the animal rights movement begins with your next meal choice, carnivores are going to find it difficult to agree if they delve beneath the "Animal Liberation" polemical rhythm machine.



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