

opinion READER

Headbangers respond to letters; boos ring

Student; DN letter offensive, lacks tact

This letter is in response to the letter by Tim Siedell and Benjamin Zink (DN, Oct. 31).

How can you stereotype letterwriters Wendy Koller and Theresa Lubischer (DN, Oct. 25) based on one music group they like? I love Def Leppard and I attended the concert (an incredible show). What's in danger here is not "heavy-metal" concerts, but concerts in general.

You have no right to judge others on their musical tastes. Just because others like Def Leppard does not mean they are drug addicts or promiscuous. I found your letter highly offensive and lacking tact.

It seems that you are deliberately trying to hurt these girls, not trying to express an opinion. Music is music. Stereotypes and categories are two big obstacles that everyone must overcome.

James Ingles freshman

drugs and alcohol. Leather accessories cost more than \$20. How stupid of me to be comfortable in jeans and a T-shirt at a concert.

I will assume I am the same age as Siedell and Zink, but I can't believe anyone 20 years old can be so immature. I think most of us stopped picking on others because they are different when we were in grade school. I know some people don't like "my" music, and that's fine, but you can't tell me it's trash because that's your opinion.

The Def Leppard concert problems occurred because of a difference of opinion between the road crew and Bob Devaney Sports Center management. The problems are now over — everyone needs to get on with their lives — and the problems hopefully will not surface again. It's just too bad it had to happen to the greatest band in the world, Def Leppard.

That's my opinion. Take it or leave it.

Michelle Jespersen freshman

Leppard viciously, wrongly attacked

This is in response to the letter by Tim Siedell and Benjamin Zink about Def Leppard (DN, Oct. 31).

It was a very informative letter. I learned many things. I had no idea there were such narrow-minded bigots in our beautiful state. They viciously and wrongly attacked heavy metal music and those who enjoy it. I have listened to this type of music for years and no one has ever told me I was an "inconvenience to society."

First of all, Def Leppard is not "heavy" metal, it's rock 'n' roll. If you want heavy metal, listen to Iron Maiden or Motorhead. Secondly, I resent the list of reparations in the letter; some of them are not true. Not all headbangers smoke and use illegal

Letter stereotypes heavy metal fans

After reading the letter by Tim Siedell and Benjamin Zink (DN, Oct. 31), I felt that I needed to defend heavy metal music and its fans. It is unfortunate that there are people out there that find this area of entertainment "a great inconvenience to society."

It sounds to me like these guys have a very narrow vision and stereotype of heavy metal listeners. In the last five years I've been to about 30 concerts, most of them the hard rock/heavy metal variety. You gentlemen would be amazed at the amount of fans at these concerts that actually don't wear leather accessories, don't smoke or take drugs and actually have short hair and are clean-cut. Of

course, exceptions exist, but they're in a minority compared to the rest of the crowd. I've also seen these kind of exceptions at pop and rock concerts.

Also, my life doesn't revolve around heavy metal music and is not shut-in as you imply toward this group. I get good grades, I will graduate in May, and I constantly listen to hard rock/heavy metal music. Who knows, this music may have helped me keep my sanity as I approach graduation with a respectable GPA (grade point average).

I've also heard of people saying they wouldn't dare go into places like the Royal Grove or Fat Jak's for fear of their lives. Give me a break. People go there for the music. If you want trouble, you can find it just as easily at a country bar or a grocery store as you can at a heavy metal bar.

Another stereotype is that heavy metal songs consist of really nasty words and favor worship. Again, give me a break. Read the words on an album cover and then listen to some country and pop songs and you'll see that the latter can be just as "nasty" if not worse. There's an AC/DC song that hits on this stereotype and stresses on one very realistic fact to heavy metalists: It's only rock 'n' roll.

Jim Keating senior marketing

Senate biography trivial, student says

I am truly sorry to hear that the Daily Nebraskan is hung on which candidate to endorse for U.S. Senate (DN, Nov. 1). But with your help, I definitely now know the issue that separates the candidates apart.

Thanks to your ingenious computer graphic of the candidates astrological signs, I will be able to "clip and save" the DN candidate biogra-

phy and channel myself into the voting booth and psychically cast my vote according to the stars.

Now if only you would have printed the candidate's favorite snack food, daytime soap opera, polka band, birth control method . . .

Ted Smidberg junior broadcast major

Editor's note: Those statistics on the U.S. senatorial candidates were unavailable, but the DN has learned that Michael Dukakis' favorite food is cabbage casserole and George Bush's favorite TV show is "Monday Night Football."

Sennett left facts; came close to lies

I would like to respond to James Sennett's column (DN, Oct. 26) entitled "Heat surges in political kitchen." He seems to have left out a few facts.

I have nothing against Sennett personally; we've never met. However, he writes columns, calls himself a "columnist," and sometimes they seem to float awfully high above the rest of us idiot savants as their words are magically transformed into movable type beside that little picture they always have. (Just read William F. Buckley or Pat Buchanan's articles to see what I mean).

I'm not saying Sennett is another Buckley or Buchanan, but he is certainly a cut from the same far-right mold.

Boston Harbor may very well be the "sewage capital of the world," as Sennett put it. But I highly doubt any University of Nebraska-Lincoln student has seen enough of the world, let alone the United States, to make such an allegation. The fact remains that the cleaning of Boston Harbor and similar bodies of water throughout

the United States is both a state and a national problem. What Sennett did not report is that Michael Dukakis was prepared to clean it years ago, but lacked sufficient funds from the national level to do so, namely from the Clean Water Act. George Bush voted to cut funds from this program. By insinuating that Dukakis is solely responsible for failing to clean up Boston Harbor, Sennett comes as close to lying, by his own definition, as I can think of.

Concerning the Willie Horton issue. True, it has been an issue since before the summer conventions. Why has Dukakis just now decided it is racial? Because in the many months that it has been an issue there was never one picture of Horton, nor of any of the other furloughed prisoners discussed. Until the political pamphlet was published last week.

If the color of a man's skin has no correlation on whether he is more or less prone to commit an act of violence, if crime is truly an equal opportunity employer, then why did Bush run the picture after all these months? Why did he take the risk?

The truth is he had no prior knowledge of the ad. It was printed by one of Bush's thousands of supporters, far removed from him personally.

When he heard about it, Bush expressed remorse that it was published and immediately called for its halt. So in effect Bush agreed with Dukakis that the ad was in poor taste; and subsequently had racial overtones.

I agree with Sennett when he says that nothing is dirtier than politics. But when the issues and the candidates behind them are misrepresented, when the truth is not reported, then it only adds to the public's confusion, and creates more mud to be slung.

T.E. Graham freshman pre-med

Boo!

Students gripe about fans, ASUN's apology

Student complains to faculty fans

I would like to address this letter to a number of people of different factions, but of a single issue — that of the conduct of the so-called Nebraska Cornhusker fans.

I am a University of Nebraska-Lincoln student who attends home football games like thousands of other students do. My seats in Memorial Stadium during my years as a student have been generally good ones.

However, my seat this year happens to be in the last row of the student section and just in front of a faculty section.

It didn't bother me at first because I figured the faculty at UNL that had tickets were avid Husker fans. This assumption turned out to be false. As this season has progressed it seems a few of the faculty members and/or their guests believe they can dictate what is acceptable student conduct, and expect a different standard to apply to themselves. Especially if they have a vice mascot on their side.

Here's the scenario: Missouri had just recovered a Nebraska fumble on the five yard line. As the defense takes the field, I, along with several thousand others, stand up to give the players encouragement. Shortly after I read the play, it was blown by a UNL professor. I am around to say hello for the free cup and the lady crudely yells at me to sit down.

Since the student fans in front of me remain standing, I, in order to

see, also had to stand to see the goal line stand and applauded the defense as it returned to the sideline after giving up only 2 yards and a chip-shot field goal.

I then turned around to discuss the situation with the woman, who earlier threatened to have me removed from the game for standing up. I asked a police officer to talk with the woman, but he suggested that I leave instead, even though he saw her throw the cups. He told me that a vice chancellor had received complaints about our section.

Fortunately, I got to stay and watch the game. The lady and the professor left before the game was over.

I'm concerned with who is in the wrong here. Should I be banned from a game because I am vocal in my support? If so, then shouldn't cheerleaders be banned along with the coaches and players who wave their arms to get the crowd going so a few people can witness the game as they would a movie or ballet?

As for those of you who are content to just sit there and watch, I might suggest watching the Tom Osborne Show on Tuesday nights. That way you can see the whole game and not have to worry about seeing over a "real fan" or becoming tired of standing.

For the rest of the students at the game, I suggest that you sit down. You can see the game just as well by sitting and cheering until the end of the game.

Jon DeLeon

Butt out ASUN stop apologizing

In response to the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska senators who think we should apologize for the crowd's behavior at the halftime of the Nebraska-Oklahoma State game: "Stop kissing #@S."

Sen. Libby York of the College of Journalism said, "We are not their mothers . . . and I don't think we should be brown-nosing to the higher-ups."

Gov. Kay Orr and Chancellor Martin Massengale are not royalty, they are public officials. As public officials, they are accountable to their constituents, not the other way around.

The people who booed (and not all were students) were exercising their right to voice an opinion to their public officials. They were utilizing the right of free speech, not committing a crime. There is no reason to apologize for the feelings of the Cornhusker spectators.

ASUN should retract its apology to the governor and chancellor. It is extremely paternalistic (or maternalistic) for ASUN to speak for the students when the students haven't asked the senate to do so. The people expressed their own personal feelings.

James Finley freshman

David Cassidy senior

Peter L. Sarafkin sophomore

Edward Bushbark

PIZZA SHUTTLE advertisement with menu items, prices, and contact information. Includes sections for 'NO COUPON SPECIAL' and '\$.50 OFF Any pizza'.