

Daily  
**Nebraskan**  
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## Time to cut losses

*Society should let Indian artifacts rest*

**P**lease James Hanson, please, please stop. Once again the director of the Nebraska State Historical Society has sounded off on the injustices he feels have been unduly inflicted on the society pertaining to the reburial of Indian artifacts.

The Sunday Lincoln Journal/Star reported that Hanson was upset about the fact that the society is forced to return artifacts it has had for several years in accordance with a bill passed last year by the Nebraska Legislature.

In an address to the society, Hanson accused state government of censorship and said a dangerous precedent had been set, the article said.

"When next we meet, those impressive collections will no longer exist," Hanson said of the artifacts.

Hanson also was quoted in his annual report which stated: "Nebraska thus becomes the first state to censor museum collections in order to avoid offending religious beliefs of individuals or groups."

Who's censoring whom, Hanson?

By refusing to return the artifacts and Indian remains, the society had, in fact, censored Native Americans' religious and tribal beliefs. No museum in the world should have the right to keep and display the identifiable possessions -- or the bodies -- of individuals without the consent of that individual or that individual's family.

Nebraska's Attorney General Robert Spire already has ruled that Indians' First Amendment rights prevail over the rights of scientists. And the Nebraska Legislature already has passed LB340, requiring that the artifacts be returned.

Hanson, it's time to cut your losses and let the issue rest in peace.

By passing LB340, the state of Nebraska gave a courageous, progressive and morally correct example to the rest of the country. Even the Smithsonian Institute, the nation's most prestigious museum, has agreed to return its own collection of Native American remains. Yet you continue to babble on . . .

At the society's annual meeting Saturday, members of its executive board also hired two lobbyists in hopes of improving its stature among the public and state government and to protect itself from further legislation that the society fears would erode its operation, according to the Journal article.

Much of the bad rap the society has received in recent times from the press, the community and the Legislature comes from Hanson's irrational logic, inhumane attitude and intolerant behavior.

If the society is looking to improve its image, perhaps it should start with its leader.

-- Lee Rood  
for the Daily Nebraskan

## Students plan Fremont retreat

Last year, students, faculty and staff from across the campus met in Gretna to provide a forum of action and planning for continual attention to diversity at UNL. In addition to this, the retreat's objectives listed improving communication among minority and majority groups as well as discussing strategies for change. Also included were discussions on racism and the exclusion of minorities by whites.

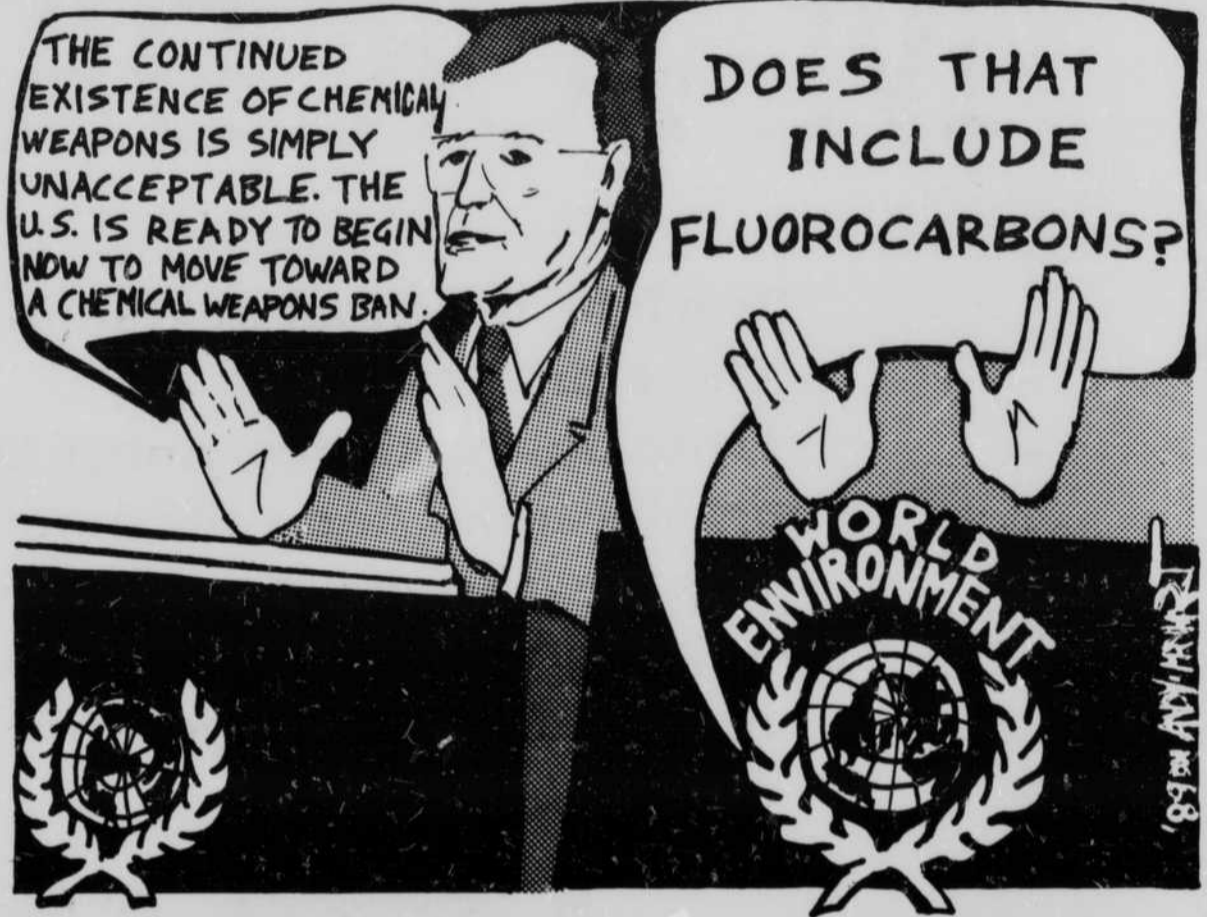
This year, a group of committed students from various students' organizations have been meeting to continue to focus on this very important topic. With the aid of the Student Affairs Office, we have planned a retreat called Breaking Through Racial Barriers which will take place on Oct. 14 and 15 in Fremont. The goals of the retreat include increasing knowledge and appreciation of other cultures, creating a better understanding of racism, and building plans for continual programs in this area.

Student participation in this retreat is crucial. Letters have been sent to various student organizations on

campus requesting their involvement in this program. Opportunity for students at large is also possible. Applications are located at the offices of Campus Activities and Programs, Multicultural Affairs, and Student Affairs. These applications are due on Sept. 28 and retreat participants will be selected. I would encourage those students interested to apply. This is the perfect opportunity for you to get involved in an issue which affects the entire university. Recognizing and appreciating the diversity in others can only enhance our campus as well as influence you in other aspects of your life. This is your chance to make a difference, to be an agent for change and to significantly affect the environment at the university.

If there are any questions regarding the retreat, please call the Student Affairs Office at 472-3755.

Jennifer L. Johnson  
senior international affairs  
Cultural Diversity Planning Committee



## Issue isn't 'us' against 'them'

*Columnist comments on inherent flaws in his manhood, feminists*

Here's all I know about the parking issue. This will take only a few seconds.

If there isn't a riot, there will be task forces, committees, studies, hearings, conferences, discussions, seminars and debates in which students will say "the parking sucks" and so-called officials from different useless branches of the administration and student government will say "we'll get right on it" and, by the time something is finally accomplished, we'll all be more concerned with emptying our colostomy bags and winning the nursing home's weekly Bingo-Rama than with the gala opening of the university's new 23-stall parking garage.

Until then, I'll ride my bike. Enough said.

But although I don't know much about the parking issue, I do know a lot about other editorial-page issues, namely the flaws inherent in my manhood.

You see, if you read Monday's ed page, you would know as much as I do about the exploitation of women by the Daily Nebraskan, by condom makers and, to be a little more general, by "the male species."

Carol Grell, a "concerned parent," wrote a letter to the editor Monday in which she blasted the DN for helping to exploit women by printing a story about a female condom currently being tested by the Food and Drug Administration (DN Sept. 21).

She said that the female condom once again is a case of males placing the responsibility for contraception and disease prevention on the female.

"Why is it," she asked, "that society is constantly making concessions to men; allowing them to abdicate responsibility for their own sexual conduct?"

She also said, "You state in your article that 'people often think condoms for males interrupt spontaneity.'

"Perhaps," she said, "this is a value of the condom for males. This 'interruption' should give men a moment to think about their actions, take control of their hormones and accept responsibility for contraception and disease control."

"Or," she asked, "is this lack of control an inherent flaw in the male species?"



Bob Nelson

For some reason I thought the Sept. 21 article was about a company developing a device for women that allows them not only to protect themselves from pregnancy, but also from disease. A nice new bit of equality. Men have condoms, women have condoms.

Besides that, test results cited in the article show the female condom to be seven times less likely to have or develop defects. Sounds like an incredibly effective method of preventing unwanted pregnancy and the spread of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. Wrong. It's sexist. My mistake.

One other tidbit. Grell attacks the DN for perpetuating the double standard because she had never read in the paper "an equally graphic description of the use of a condom for men."

Grell must believe the DN described how the condom works so men could read erotic words like vagina and labia and then masturbate.

Or is she, for whatever reason, just assuming the DN wouldn't print male sex organs if we ran a story on how a male condom works?

We already know this Carol, but the male condom fits over the penis.

Whoopdeedo. Calm down ladies.

OK, enough fun. I'm afraid jerking Carol's letter is a case of shooting fish in a barrel. It's not real sport attacking arguments like hers. It's too easy to pick at the extremes. Anyone could do it. I apologize.

The problem is that this brand of "conspiracy feminism" can hurt the real battle for sexual equality. It cheapens the rational arguments.

It also makes the whole issue "us" against "them." Grell, like many other feminists, has divided the human race into two conflicting genders, the very thing she claims men have done. She seems to see this gender battle in every local or national issue. Everything becomes a battle with men.

I'll be a little sexist here. Men love to battle. Men will fight just for the sake of fighting. This column is proof of that. Grell uses male traits she hates to incite the same detestable male trait. That's not good diplomacy.

Now I've begun to sound like a conspiracy nut. I think it's all this labeling crap. Carol's a woman, I'm a man. She's a feminist, I'm sexist. She's a man-hater, I'm a sexmonger. And so on. We're both guilty of name-calling and stereotypes.

I suppose when she stops believing I'm a sexist sexmonger, I'll stop believing she's a man-hating feminist.

Or maybe it's the other way around. I don't think I'd mind being the first to apologize.

Until then, I can only beg that Carol Grell and the few women who believe all men are monsters do everyone a favor and keep their opinion to themselves.

Without fear of sounding like a hippy: Make love, Carol, not war. Both men and women would be a lot better off.

Bob Nelson is a senior news-editorial major and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.

## editorial

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