

# Lied, veal, renovations fill letters

## Vegetarians should get a real cause, get off veal wagon

I would like to congratulate Mr. Erickson on his article (letter to the editor, Daily Nebraskan, Nov. 7). Good job, ol' boy.

I, too, have been keeping up with the rash of articles on veal and the treatment of veal calves, and although Mr. Erickson voiced much of my own opinion, I felt I should elaborate further.

First, in response to those vegetarians out there, I should hope that none of you own one thing made out of leather, suede, a feather pillow, or any kind of fur. Don't forget that real vegetarians do not eat any animal by-product — no milk, cheese, eggs, or anything made or containing these things. Looks like a lot of tofu dishes for you. I hope you all are taking a stand against the sport of football too. Yes, that's right, football. Because they use a ball made from pig's skin. "Those poor, trusting," pigs. I bet they do not appreciate being told to become a vegetarian. That is a choice that you made and that I and everyone else can make without your input or help. How would you feel if someone forced a fat, juicy steak down your throat? Oh, by the way, I am a vegetarian, but I am all for enterprise, leather jackets and dairy products.

Second, I would like to ask all of you who wrote in why you are going to college. Could it be to get an education so that you can get a job and make money?

Well, why shouldn't farmers be allowed to make money? Killing animals for meat has been around since the dawn of man. Farmers and ranchers have just made a money-making business out of it. I live on an acreage in a bedroom community north of Lincoln, and I have had my share of animals to deal with. I also have friends that farm. I like the animals we raise but to put them on the same level as human beings is absurd. Cows, for one, are dumb and although calves are cute to begin with, they grow up, gain weight and are used for their intended purpose — food. I do know for a fact that while they are alive they are in loving, caring hands. We take good care of our animals and so does every farmer I know. My friends even show their livestock in 4-H clubs.

I know that there is always another side to the story. Mr. Koester also brought up some very good points in the Nov. 7 Daily Nebraskan. I understand that being more intelligent does not give humans the right to be cruel to animals. I also understand that raising livestock uses a lot of grain and water, but won't they be drinking and eating no matter what the final outcome to their lives are? I also understand that you can get protein from plants as well as meat. Mr. Koester, when talking of eating meat himself and asking why he should, said "because it tastes good?" Well, Mr. Koester, have you ever ate candy or drank a soda? Do you know what that does to your body? I do, but I eat it "because it tastes good."

Mr. Koester also pointed out that we do have carnivorous teeth. Aside from God giving us those for a reason, he also gave us the knowledge to domesticate animals and to raise them in vast numbers. It has been happening forever. If the creator of all mankind gave me the knowledge to cure cancer, I would. So why not use all of the knowledge that he has given us?

Besides, aren't there better things to be worried about than the veal industry. How about the commercial chicken industry. Do all of you know what happens on chicken farms?

Besides, aren't there better things to be worried about than the veal industry? My brother used to work at a chicken ranch that supplied a local chicken restaurant. I used to love his stories about throwing live chickens into the shredder. Of course, this practice was not limited to just chickens, any small animal — especially cats and kittens — that could be found was subject for execution. How does that grab the "animal rights activists?" How about fur ranches? Have any of you actually seen what they do to the fox or rabbits so that some rich

lady can have a fur coat? What about killing dolphins and whales? These animals are not only smarter than cows but they are much prettier to watch and to look at. Not only these animals but sea lions, seals, eagles . . . the list goes on forever. Gorillas are another interesting topic. The gorilla population, as well as the rhino and elephant populations, has dramatically decreased over the last few years. Why? Because some rich person is willing and wanting to buy a piece of ivory or a gorilla hand ash tray. Speaking of taking a baby away from its mother right after birth, ever seen one of those channel 12 documentaries on seal poaching? You know, the ones where a man clubs a baby seal, skins it alive and leaves it to die while its mother calls for it. And what about the murder of our own mother, planet Earth? But I don't suppose any of you righteous people use plastic or anything like that.

I suppose all I have to say to all of the concerned people out there is, "Get A Real Cause."

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freshman  
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## Hall's bad condition clearly warrants major renovation

As part of the Department of Art, I am quite concerned about the condition of Richards Hall. It is in need of a major renovation and it needs to occur soon. The Richards condition causes technical problems and undermines the attitude of those who learn and teach in it.

There are problems of some sort with almost every building in the NU system, but there are some very fundamental problems with Richards Hall. The most pressing problem that Richards Hall presents is that it is inaccessible for the physically handicapped. If the University intends to promote itself as being nondiscriminatory against minorities, then Richards needs to be modified to allow all students to use its facilities. In some cases in the past, when handicapped students wanted to take art courses that met in Richards, the class was simply moved.

This should not have had to happen — maybe as a temporary solution, but not a final solution. Richards Hall has more to offer than just art classes, it also houses the department gallery, faculty and graduate student offices, as well as the second floor auditorium that is used to teach several history classes. The auditorium provides some of the best audio-visual classroom facilities on the UNL City Campus. Access to all these facilities is denied to the rapidly growing population of handicapped students attending UNL.

There are 220 art majors attending UNL. If half (if not more) of these people are women, Richards Hall doesn't provide proper facilities for them. There is one toilet for women in Richards Hall. This is clearly a bias born of another era, since Richards Hall was built in 1908 and initially housed the College of Mechanical Engineering. In those less than enlightened times, perhaps a single toilet was all that was needed for the female population of this building, but this is 1990. This serves to emphasize the fact that Richards has never been fully renovated.

Although art students spend six hours or more a week in their classrooms, the condition of Richards only serves to make this time unpleasant in many ways. Richards provides inconsistent heat in the winter, alternately frigid in some parts of the building and sauna-like in others, while the summer and the lack of air conditioning allows students and faculty alike to broil inside while attempting to continue the process of education. Temperature alone is not the only means by which Richards' condition allows the elements to wreak havoc on its occupants. There has already been a case this semester in which a drawing class had its still life ruined due to the roof leaking.

This doesn't inspire much confidence in students who are forced by practicality to leave their art work in this building. The security in Richards is a joke, despite the best attempts of

the art department's faculty. There are just too many doors and windows that don't close properly for it to be too much of a challenge for anyone to enter Richards anytime they please. It is sad that the attempts at securing the building by imposing building hours only serves to prevent students from using their spare time to work on their individual projects while doing nothing to protect those projects.

In the last 20 years Richards has only undergone two major improvements. The installation of a fire sprinkler system, mandated by the fire marshal, and the installation of a limited ventilation system, required to meet standards of environmental safety.

These are just some of the most pressing problems facing students who use Richards Hall. There are many more, such as lack of equipment, lack of space for classes and graduate students offices, a need for adequate lighting. I just couldn't list all the problems in a single letter.

Richards Hall currently ranks eleventh on the NU Board of Regents construction priority list. This building was slated for demolition on a 1967 master plan, but the administration decided to keep it about five years ago. In making this decision surely they analyzed the availability of funds for its much needed renovation? In this same five year time frame the construction and renovation of the Coliseum and Cook Pavilion occurred, the Lied Center was built, the Alumni Center was finished, new buildings were added to East Campus. Yet Richards Hall remains unchanged. In this school year I've heard of plans to expand CBA, talk of expansions for Love Library and the Nebraska Union. Funds have been available for other construction projects, so why is Richards Hall in this condition? The Art Department's students and faculty deserve better than this. Richards Hall had better be placed higher on the Regents Construction Priority List, before the building deteriorates — along with the enrollment of art majors.

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## Lied Center culture makes student glad he attends UNL

I would like, if I may, to address this to Mr. Hanna, who, in his infinite wisdom, wrote his final assault on the Lied Center for Performing Arts (Daily Nebraskan, Nov. 19, 1990). I truly

hope that he keeps his promise of never bringing it up again, because his whining makes me nauseous. His desperate attempts to rally the student body against the Lied Center infuriates me. I, for one, am very proud to have such an arena to showcase such internationally recognized shows as Cats and The Kirov Ballet as well as performing artists like Bradford Marsalis, Crystal Gayle and Steven Wright. Coming from western Nebraska, high culture such as this was out of my reach. I was starved of performances such as these. Then I received a catalog showing me the many wonderful performances available to me at a discounted price when I became a student.

I was so thrilled when the information on how to order tickets arrived. I will admit the prices do seem high for a show that I will only see once. But I would rather pay \$54 for a series containing "Cats" than \$49 for a season ticket to the folly that has become Husker football. To me, it makes more sense to sit in the beautiful Lied Center watching well-known performers enrich my life, than to sit out in the blistering sun watching the Huskers annihilate some unranked team with no real existence in college football. To me, Mr. Hanna, the Lied Center has more of an educational effect on students than Memorial Stadium.

Western Nebraska is isolated from the cultural center that is the university, and I consider it a blessing to have the opportunity to attend such productions. And by the way, since when is a trap mandatory on stage? I think you've been watching too many Scooby Doo cartoons.

Russel Geist  
freshman  
psychology

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