Gulf crisis, meat consumption addressed

Reader presents top five reasons for eating meat

I don't mean to beat this vegetarian issue to death, but after reading the plethora of pro-vegetarian responses to my last letter I see that many facts of the issue have been twisted completely out of order. To straighten this out, I have put together my top five list of reasons to eat meat. And stay tuned, after the top five, I'll have lots of entertaining cut downs. But now, from the home office in Stegall, Neb., it's Lar's top five reasons for eating meat:

■ It's healthy for you. I can hear you laughing already, but beef provides several essential parts of a balanced diet. Sandy Burnham, (letter to the editor, DN, Nov. 30) I wouldn't be too sure that any heart specialist will argue that point, since the American Heart Association endorsed this year's edition of the Nebraska Cow-Belles Beef Cookbook.

• It tastes better, I can sympathize with the people who don't like the taste of meat, but many people do like it. I just can't imagine myself drooling with ecstasy over a bean burger or a T-bean steak.

 Meat production utilizes land that would have no other use. I'm not referring to forest land, and I'm strongly opposed to deforestation for livestock production. But the harvested crop land and wide open ranges of the west are a vast resource for livestock producers and suffer no damage from well-managed grazing.

• Meat production has many other

benefits. By-products include leather, pet food, medical supplies, and dairy products. These are things that plants cannot provide for us. Every part of the animal has a use, something the majority of meat-beaters are too ignorant to acknowledge in their zeal to save the planet. And you can't play football with a "beanskin" either.

 Meat is good for our economy. The meat industry is an important part of many communities because of the jobs it provides and the money it puts in to local economies. Before the vege-terrorists get so concerned about the horrors of the "factory farming" of beef, maybe they should look into the conditions of migrant workers in lettuce and soybean "factory farming." I hope you can taste the pain of exploitation in your next salad.

And now, the only reasons for reading these letters — Lar's top five cutdowns:

 I have studied basic compositional techniques, Lean Miller (letter to the editor, DN, Nov. 30), but the person who typed my first letter obviously hasn't and that is why some sentences didn't make sense. Your

letter is correct grammatically, unfortunately your ideals don't make

sense to me.

• According to Sandy Burnham, my meat-eating friends and I will be dead in 40 years. This may be so, but eating meat is not going to kill us. We stand a greater chance of dying in a blimp accident.

Fran Thompson says (letter to the editor, DN, Dec. 3) I'm "... ignorant of what really goes on in meat production..." I guess living on a ranch for 20 years isn't enough qualification. I only wish I had grown up in the city and visited the country a couple of times to know the "real" truth about meat production.

That's a nice life Fran. I'm glad you've got the time to spend seven or eight years right here learning." Most of us get out in four or five and DO something with our lives instead of writing letters to the Daily

• In my first letter, I made the mistake of telling vegetarians to "get a life." I apologize to those vegetarians who can understand the value of meat production. Instead, I wish to address those radicals heading the anti-meat movement. In your zeal to discredit the meat industry you are shooting yourselves in the foot. If I remember correctly, the environmental movement of the 1960s became "Who Cares?" during the '70s because people went too far. In the '90s we will see a backlash against the green movement of the '80s because you have gone too far. Zip it. And here's a message to all you neo-hippie, eco-freak, beef-bashing, granola loser, left-wing lunatic, "Diet for a New America" people —

> Matt Larsen junior broadcasting

Columnist praised for objectiveness about Sen. Kerrey

Mark Fahleson's editorial column about Sen. Bob Kerrey (DN, Nov. 30) is the first objective, unemotional piece ever written about the senator. The article exposes the Kerrey mystique for what it really is -- a mystique and nothing more. Are Nebraskans so starved for recognition that they are willing to vote for a president based simply on personality and not on substance? I applaud Fahleson on his clear-thinking journalism and question how someone with his objectivity ever got a job with the Daily Nebraskan.

> Lewis Coulter senior finance

Loss to Oklahoma crisis started the frequency of such not good reason to replace Osborne

Chuck, Chuck, Chuck! Sure you were disappointed with Oklahoma's 45-10 trouncing of Nebraska, most true fans were, but replace Tom

Osborne? Get a grip! You wrote (column, DN, Nov. 27) about the schedule change as if it were a unilateral decision, which it couldn't have been because it takes two to lambada, Chuck. The patsies of five years ago may not be the patsies of today. (Look at Georgia Tech.) Maybe Texas and Arkansas didn't want to play Nebraska. Who took Nebraska's place on their schedules? Maybe Utah State and Colorado State wanted to play Nebraska. Who were they going to play instead? You're a news-editorial major, Chuck, try doing some research.

You wore about replacing Osborne with Barry Alvarez of Wisconsin, which finished in the cellar of the Big Ten, Is Dick Sheridan and North Carolina State going to a bowl this time? Who's next on your list, Chuck Fairbanks?

"The players aren't to blame." Give me a break! Tom Osborne didn't fumble or throw an interception during the Noy. 23 game. His blocking and tackling didn't break down against Colorado. As good of talent as Nebraska has and continues to have, there is no way that any coach can stop players from making mental errors that lose games.

No. you wouldn't be a better coach than Tom Osborne, Chuck, but at least you realize that. But did you realize that maybe he could easily take your place at the Daily Nebras-kan? Your job is easy, Chuck. It's just a simple matter of second-guessing, which coaches dare not do lest they lose their jobs. Here's a prediction for you, Chuck: Tom Osborne will win at least one national championship more than the Pulitzer Prize you will never win. That's what you call a cinch bet!

William Messman

These are some of the pleasantries being showered around by some uneducated Americans. Since the gulf quotes has increased every days that goes by.

I was born in Saudi Arabia and spent a major part of my youth in the country, and though a Pakistani by nationality, nowhere on the face of this earth does it say that the combination makes you an Iraqi. In the past few weeks my friends, most of them from Pakistan, have been the target of such cheap and disgusting remarks, reflecting how broad-minded these guys are. Maybe they need to expand their horizons beyond the "big red Cornhuskers.'

I hope no one takes this letter as a cry of help, because believe me we have some answers for these "kids." The whole point is the general knowledge of the people in America. It really is ironic to hear such remarks. Most of these guys don't even know where Iraq is. I wish before these "patriotic" Americans open their big mouth, they look into their own past and find from what corner of the

world they come from.

Ail I have to say in the end is "go back to your history and geography

> Amer Sheikh computer science

Reader questions the 'if' and 'when' of gulf activities

Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait all seem so far away, but every newscast or newspaper article brings them one step closer to me. I, being an 18-year-old female college student, will not have to even think of going anywhere near Saudi Arabia, but that is not the case for everyone. It is very frightening to think that one of my best friends could soon be sent there. Some soldiers may be ready, but many are being sent not waming to go. What I take as being boring and routine at times, my daily life of classes and homework would become a luxury to many of the men and women over

Through both junior and senior high I was taught about the wars fought throughout our American history. Now, it seems as if another war may have to be added to the list, but should another war have to be added to this list?

With Thanksgiving leftovers still around and Christmas coming very soon, there are many families that are feeling the absences of a son, daughter, friend, or spouse. President Bush did his good deed by having Thanksgiving dinner with some of the troops. But the president gets to come back to the United States, the troops don't. And what about O.J. Simpson broadcasting the Thanksgiving Day football games over in Saudi Arabia, chatting with the soldiers? Is that really what they need, a visit from the president and a few football games? I think they need to come home

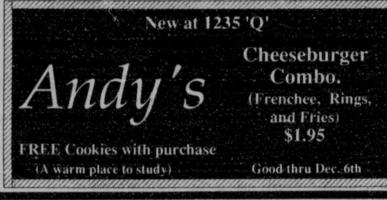
The U.S. standard of living is one of the highest in the world. I'm certainly not ready for any drastic change, but much could be done to put more efficiency into many of our products and factories. Much of the oil we use could be conserved. I believe in looking out for our best interests, but should oil be such a high priority?
According to The Omaha World-Herald the United States imports 290 million barrels of oil from Iraq and Kuwait each year. It continues to say that this amount of oil could be saved if auto efficiency standards were in-creased 2.75 miles per gallon. Yes, I agree that would cost money to do, but how much is it costing us in defense over in Saudi Arabia, and how do you put a price on the life of a human being?

The deadline for the U.N. Security Council resolution of Jan. 15 may be more than a month away, but it will come sooner than I want. This deadline doesn't seem to give enough time to let economic sanctions really be felt. It seems to be a question on when military action will officially take place, rather than if military action should take place. I still wonder about

Sherry Zeilinger

Americans need education before making comments

"Go back to your f-ing country." "Go back to Iraq."



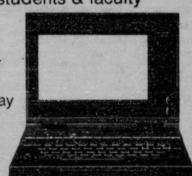
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