

Daily  
Nebraskan  
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## EDITORIAL

## Law named Brady

*Bill first step to reducing illegal gun use*

The United States won a small victory Tuesday when President Clinton signed the Brady Bill into law. The handgun control bill requires a five-day waiting period and background check on handgun buyers. It will take effect in 90 days.

The new law will not mean the end of violence. It will not take handguns away from criminals who already have them. It will not even stop all criminals from getting handguns.

But it is a beginning. The United States desperately needs to do something about the devastation caused each year by firearms. People being killed with guns has become commonplace in our society.

Critics of the Brady Bill have said the law should not have been passed because it will not solve all crime overnight. They argue that since some criminals will still be able to obtain handguns, the bill is pointless.

While it is true that the Brady legislation will not stop all criminals from buying handguns, the law will mean fewer weapons will be bought illegally. And fewer weapons on the streets will mean fewer weapons in the hands of criminals.

The National Rifle Association and other lobbying groups opposed the Brady Bill, as they have opposed any form of firearm regulation. But the overwhelming support of the American people for this law shows they are ready for laws to stop the blood that is being shed on our streets.

The Brady Bill is no miracle. It is only a first step in a long battle to stop violence in the United States. The law alone cannot stop violence. But it can be the beginning of a larger effort to do so.

## Caveat no more

*AMA should rethink finding on implants*

Wednesday's edition of the Journal of the American Medical Association will report their finding that women should be able to have silicone breast implants for cosmetic reasons once they are informed of the hazards involved in the procedure. The association reports there is no convincing evidence that implants cause disease.

The journal also printed a retort from David A. Kessler, Federal Drug Administration commissioner, which says, "Congress has made clear that caveat emptor (let the buyer beware) is not the accepted standard for medical products marketed in this country."

In January 1992, Kessler called for a moratorium on the use of silicone breast implants because of unanswered safety questions about them. The FDA has received 41,112 reports of problems with implants since 1992.

Kessler is right to protest these findings. Silicone breast implants serve no medical purpose — they are purely cosmetic. Although it is understandable for women who have had mastectomies to want them for reconstructive surgery, their use is foolish considering the other medical problems they can cause.

More than 1 million American women have had the implants, so even if only 5 percent of those are dangerous, about 75,000 women will be affected. The medical world should be conscientious of the danger the implants pose and not encourage their use.

Women should also think twice about society's ridiculous beauty standards that suggest that large breasts are desirable. These standards are causing thousands of women to endanger their lives with silicone implants.

## EDITORIAL POLICY

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Fall 1993 Daily Nebraskan. Policy is set by the Daily Nebraskan Editorial Board. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the views of the university, its employees, the students or the NU Board of Regents. Editorial columns represent the opinion of the author. The regents publish the Daily Nebraskan. They establish the UNL Publications Board to supervise the daily production of the paper. According to policy set by the regents, responsibility for the editorial content of the newspaper lies solely in the hands of its students.

## LETTER POLICY

The Daily Nebraskan welcomes brief letters to the editor from all readers and interested others. Letters will be selected for publication on the basis of clarity, originality, timeliness and space available. The Daily Nebraskan retains the right to edit or reject all material submitted. Readers also are welcome to submit material as guest opinions. The editor decides whether material should run as a guest opinion. Letters and guest opinions sent to the newspaper become the property of the Daily Nebraskan and cannot be returned. Anonymous submissions will not be published. Letters should include the author's name, year in school, major and group affiliation, if any. Requests to withhold names will not be granted. Submit material to the Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Sidewalks

I would just like to point out another perfect example of the sick minds that are responsible for UNL's administration. I'm certain many students will begin to notice the build-up of snow and ice on many of the campus walkways. Well, the reason for this build-up is that there is no money available to pay for snow and ice removal on all of the sidewalks.

Perhaps our esteemed chancellor, Graham Spanier, would like to explain why there is no money to use for sidewalk cleaning, while there is plenty of unused cash lying around to be spent on "green space." If Mr. Spanier is so concerned with improving the campus, why can't he use the same zeal that he has for parking lot removal to scrounge up funds for sidewalk maintenance?

I am really beginning to believe that Mr. Spanier, along with the rest of university administration, really could care less what the average student has to say about how this "public institution" is run, and I'm getting tired of it!

Jeff Lutkehus  
sophomore  
veterinary science

need to politically cover themselves.  
Mark O. Schlegel  
alumnus



David Badders/DN

### Football

Kathy Steinauer, do you really hate the game of football (DN, Nov. 23) or are you just frustrated because you don't understand it? It sounds to me like that's exactly your problem.

As a member of the UNL Flag Line, I care about football. The game gives us, as well as the band, cheerleaders and dance team, a chance to showcase our talents. To us, the games mean more than just polls and rankings. It's a chance to represent UNL and show our school spirit.

You were stereotypical when you said you didn't know any women as indulged in football as much as men are. Just because I'm a woman, does that mean I have to stay in the kitchen while the men watch the game?

In case you haven't noticed, women are finally getting the attention they deserve in all aspects of sports. It's people like you that keep women in the dark ages when it comes to getting jobs related to athletics.

As for your comment about football not being real, what do you think it is? These guys aren't actors. Sure, they practice, and they even have to memorize plays. However, what goes on down on the field is definitely real. It is not just a bunch of men putting on pads and helmets lining up over and over again. They do have reasons for throwing the ball and kicking it. If you would just take five minutes, say during halftime, to ask your boyfriend a few questions about the game, you could then form an educated opinion about football. He could tell you the difference between the punter and the placekicker, a wide receiver and a tailback, and a linebacker and a lineman.

Granted, it's a dangerous game, and these players realize that. But this is their God-given talent. This is what

they want to do with their lives. This doesn't mean they don't want to get an education. If so many players forget to get an education, then why do we have the most Academic All-Americans in Division I? This information was courtesy of the side of a cup I got at a football game.

No one said you had to like football. The least you could do is respect it.

Danielle Browne  
freshman  
broadcasting

### Dairy

The new Bovine Growth Hormone for cows is a crock! Haven't dairy cows had enough? They're already producing more than 20 times what a normal cow would. Growth hormones used by the animal exploitation industry are presently suspected for the very early ages of menarche girls are experiencing in this country. This makes me question the use of hormones.

The dairy industry, cruel and money-hungry as it is, is only responding to the demand. More than 200 million people in this country want to eat meat and dairy products daily. We have no respect for animals unless they are our pets.

False advertising has become the norm for the dairy industry, with slogans like "Everybody needs milk" and "Does the body good." This first statement was declared false, deceptive and misleading by the Federal Trade Commission. This industry also has the nerve to tell the people that milk builds strong bones and teeth. Lies! The largest consumers of dairy products in the world, Sweden and the United States, have the highest rates of osteoporosis, while countries like India and China, who eat very little dairy, have virtually no incidence of this bone-thinning disease.

The dairy industry even gets away with lying to the public through public-service announcements on the university radio station, KRNU, pushing the four food groups. This comes as no surprise since the university teaches students how to enslave, inject, genetically alter and artificially inseminate these animals for maximum output.

Dairy products are unhealthy, linked with heart disease, breast and prostate cancer, obesity, etc. Although the industry tells me milk will give me great muscle tone and healthy skin, I quit. My allergies have reduced substantially, my digestive system works better, and I feel a lot healthier. My muscle tone and skin tone have even improved.

I know it is not the norm, but I think we should think about making care for the environment, animals and our personal health socially acceptable. The world cannot sustainably revolve around the human species.

Paul Koester  
senior  
soil science