

# OPINION PAGES

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## Quotes OF THE WEEK

**"I was just plain not prepared for what happened Friday."**

*Randy Thomas, American Indian rights representative, on the recent discovery of more remains in Bessey Hall*

**"I can confirm bones were found in the room overlooked in previous clearances."**

*Karl Reinhard, anthropology professor, on the bones finding*

**"Nothing's surprising anymore. I'm becoming immune to the disrespect."**

*Collette Mast, Northern Cheyenne tribe member, on the Bessey Hall discovery*

**"There's a real culture of not being confrontational (in the Midwest)."**

*Jeff Raz, artist-in-residence, in reaction to some of the work he's done in diversity workshops at UNL*

**"We looked like we look on the road sometimes."**

*Paul Sanderford, NU women's basketball coach, on the team's loss to Baylor*

**"Typically, a person will look at something hanging on the wall for 10 or 20 seconds. I try to force them into staying longer, keeping them as a prisoner of sorts."**

*Artist Tad Lauritzen-Wright*

**"Right now, you're talking to a coach that's pretty ticked off."**

*Roy Williams, Kansas men's basketball coach, on NU's upset defeat of Kansas*

**"Our kids never quit. We didn't win pretty, but we found a way to win."**

*Danny Nee, NU men's basketball coach, on the Huskers' defeat of KU*

**"We know the female athlete is not fragile, and will not buckle under pressure."**

*Christy Johnson, a two-time Nebraska volleyball All-American*

**"It's normally a pretty safe sport — unless planes come crashing in."**

*Dan Williams, golf professional at Highlands Golf Course, on golfing and the crash of a Bonanza plane*

**"We need to teach children more than reading, writing and arithmetic. We need to teach them how to be healthy."**

*Jocelyn Elders, former U.S. surgeon general, during a speech in Omaha*

**"We're trying to go back, pick up the pieces and make amends as soon as possible."**

*Michael Consbruck, Interfraternity Council president, in reaction to Kara Bliven's fall from a Chi Phi Fraternity window*

**"Even the sky is crying."**

*Jordanian television announcer on the death of King Hussein from lymphatic cancer*

### Editorial Policy

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## Duffy's VIEW



## DN LETTERS

### Tag it all

So Mr. Harder, ... why are you so afraid of the truth? What makes you so uneasy about knowing what really goes on around you? In your column, "Tagging Along" (Wed., Feb. 10), you attacked a group of people who are attempting to make consumers more aware of what it is they may be purchasing.

By being educated on the history of a product, people can then make a more intelligent and conscious decision about what to purchase and what not to. I thought choice was what you were all about.

Using terms like "wackos" and "liberal hooligans" to describe individuals who are advocating responsible use of one's choice contradicts many of your past columns.

It scares me how disconnected we as humans have become from the bigger picture of things, how out of touch we are with those things that sustain us. Is this what you're advocating? Ignorance? I hope not, because the dangers related to this are too great to ignore.

In the case of furs and meat, why shouldn't people be made more aware of where they come from, and how the animals were treated? I think your idea about tagging all "meat" with "not only how it was killed, but every detail associated with the process" is a wonderful idea.

What is so wrong with knowing exactly how your food came to be on your plate? Don't you want to know what was put into your food, and what you may be putting into your body?

As citizens of the United States, we probably suffer from this disconnectedness more than most other people in the world.

I mean, what do you think the majority of the responses would be if you asked the average urban resident where her or his food comes from.

I bet you most people would simply answer "the supermarket." With a hint or two you could probably goad them into saying "a farm," "a factory," or "a ranch."

If you pressed them for even more details though, it would probably be a waste of your

time, because most people don't really know. Do they care? It's hard to say.

In this day and age of rural crisis and hardships, the gap between urban and rural folks has resulted in misunderstanding and a lack of empathy about what people in the country are going through.

You may read about it in the paper and wonder why all the fuss, but until you meet the farmers who provide us with the bulk of our food you will probably never understand. That is why something like Lincoln's summer Farmer's Market is so important.

I also believe that we should adopt your idea to label every consumer good with its history.

I for one think you should know the name of the young woman who sewed your Nike tennis shoes together and under what conditions she did so.

I think you should know what effects the extraction of fossil fuels from your automobile have on the surrounding ecosystem.

And finally, I think you should know what some person in a white lab coat did to the corn that is in your morning bowl of Cornflakes. Or are you just afraid of what an educated public might do!

So J.J., what are you going to choose? To live ignorantly, not knowing where things come from or what impacts they have had on other people or the world around you? Or, to take control of your life by making conscious, intelligent decisions that minimize negative

impacts? Remember it all comes down to connections. Everything is interconnected.

As for your excuse about how "the Bible tells us we have dominion over the animals of the Earth," I thought we had all matured beyond that attitude.

**Tony White**  
junior  
environmental sociology

### Animal kindness

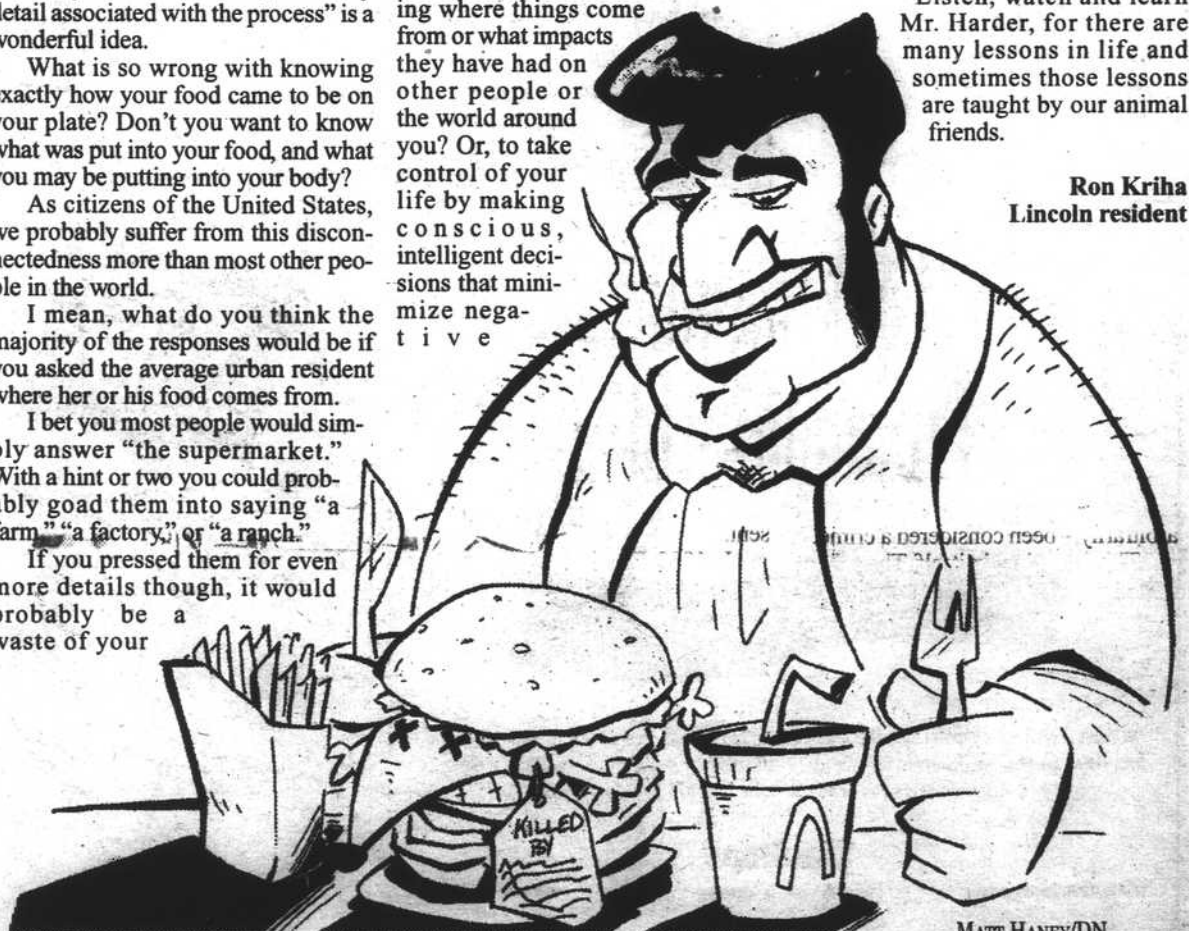
I am responding to J.J. Harder's column titled "Tagging along." It seems that in Mr. Harder's world, cruelty to animals is an acceptable practice, and those who do not find such cruelty acceptable are flaming "wackos."

He cites the Bible and infers that humans have dominion over animals. Hence in his small mind, that means that those who do what they want with animals are right, and the cheesy animal lovers are wrong.

I challenge Mr. Harder to study the issue in greater depth to learn what is really happening out there. To satisfy the materialistic greed prevalent in our society, humans are going way beyond what biblical writers envisioned when they made the inference of our superiority.

Listen, watch and learn Mr. Harder, for there are many lessons in life and sometimes those lessons are taught by our animal friends.

**Ron Kriha**  
Lincoln resident



MATT HANEY/DN