

Unethical practice

Daily Nebraskan editorial policy is the product of an editorial board consisting of Editor-in-chief Jim Gray, Managing Editor Tom Lansworth and News Editor Randy Beam. Individual editorials represent the views of the writer but not necessarily those of all editorial board members.

Some readers of the state's daily newspapers were probably surprised to find, when they opened their papers this weekend, an article taken directly from the Daily Nebraskan.

Unfortunately, so were we.

The article, a column by John Vihstadt, was reprinted exactly as it appeared in the Daily Nebraskan Oct. 18—in a political advertisement paid for by 15 Nebraska college and university students. The advertisement clearly identified the article, which lambasted Senatorial candidate Terry Carpenter, as having appeared in the Daily Nebraskan.

The most unfortunate part of the article's reprinting is that those involved presented a rather one-sided picture of the Daily Nebraskan's view of a multi-faceted race. In the form it was printed, the advertisement indicated the attitude expressed in the article was that of the Daily Nebraskan and, by implication, the entire student body.

This is not the case. Vihstadt's column, as all other editorial columns, appears only to offer readers a many-sided view of issues. The views expressed in these columns have no direct connection with the editorial policy of this newspaper, expressed in the editorial which appears in this space daily. The columnists express only their own viewpoints, while editorials represent the views of the paper.

Most often, Vihstadt's views are exact opposites of the editorial opinion of this newspaper. By presenting Vihstadt's article as the apparent opinion of the paper, those paying for the ad have perpetrated a gross injustice on the Daily Nebraskan as well as on the citizens of this state.

The legality of the advertising is questionable. While the people sponsoring the ad did obtain Vihstadt's permission for use, they failed to obtain permission to use the paper's name. This is, most likely, an illegal appropriation of the Nebraskan's name.

Not questionable at all, however, is the fact that such usage is totally unethical as a campaign practice. Those who placed the article had no interest in presenting a true idea of the Daily Nebraskan's editorial policy, but only in maliciously slanting the picture and misrepresenting the facts. (In actuality, the Daily Nebraskan has stated editorially that Carpenter's opponent Sen. Carl Curtis is equally obnoxious, and that neither deserves a single vote.)

Even with legal and ethical considerations aside, some questions still remain, however. One can't help but wonder why the students involved didn't solicit the Daily Nebraskan's approval (perhaps they knew they wouldn't receive it).

One also can't help but wonder where 15 college students obtained enough money to

place a large advertisement in virtually every daily paper in the state.

And if it wasn't their own money, why were the 15 presented as publishers? What connection, if any, does Sen. Curtis' re-election organization have with the ad's placement?

These questions need answers, and soon. If no answers are provided, one can only assume the worst—that the ad's publication was even more illicit than was originally believed. And there are remedies for unfair and illegal campaign practices.

The advertisement was clearly one of the most obnoxious breaches of ethics in recent months. One would hope that University students would be more conscious of their responsibilities in this area. Evidently some aren't.

The only hope in this instance is that people of the state are wise enough not to believe that John Vihstadt's column represents the view of the newspaper and the student body. And that's a slim hope.

Jim Gray



25th District voters have clear choices

Today *Different Drummer* completes its endorsements of candidates and issues for the Nov. 7 general election.

Beginning with the State Legislature, 26 of the 49 Unicameral districts are up this year—all 25 odd-numbered districts, plus one even-numbered seat for an unexpired term. Right here in Lancaster County the voters are fortunate enough to have excellent candidates representing clear-cut choices.

In the rural Lancaster County 25th District (also including the western fringes of Cass and Otoe and the southern edge of Saunders), State Senator Jerome Warner of Waverly deserves re-election. Serving on the City-County Planning Commission and a member of the Legislature's strategic revenue committee, Warner has been a consistent friend of his alma mater, the University of Nebraska.

The 27th District, covering west and southwest Lincoln, pits Steve Fowler against incumbent William F. Swanson. Swanson's experience, moderate approach to the issues and steadfast support of the University make him the better candidate.

Southeast Lincoln voters are faced with a very difficult choice in filling their 29th District seat. The capable and qualified incumbent Fern Orme is being challenged by the equally able Shirley Marsh, a social caseworker and member of the Nebraska Welfare Association.

Marsh is a strong champion of environmental and conservation safeguards and perceives the necessity for penal and tax reform, plus an overhaul of the current welfare structure to, in her words, "more adequately meet citizen needs." For these reasons, plus the fact that the advanced incumbent is nearing 70 years of age, we must give the edge to Shirley Marsh.

Turning towards other races of concern to Lincoln and Lancaster County voters, probably the most significant race is that of Lancaster County Commissioner. I strongly endorse Jan Gauger without qualification.

The chore of picking the best candidates for Lancaster County Judge is more difficult, what with 10 attorneys running for only two positions. Four men seem to stand above the remainder of the pack, however, and voters can feel confident by voting for any two of them: incumbent judge Ralph Slocum, Lincoln City Council president Dick Hartssock and young lawyers John Stevens Berry and Jeffre Chevront.

While only Omaha voters will be able to vote in the 2nd District Regents race, the need for the re-election of Kermit

Hansen cannot be overemphasized. His selection is imperative if the University system is to strive for uniform excellence and if the tax-paying citizens of this state desire their true money's worth from a great institution of higher education.

Getting back to legislative races outside our immediate environs, 1st Legislative District voters in Nemaha, Pawnee, and Richardson Counties are urged to re-elect Falls City farmer Iving Wiltse, but 3rd District voters of Sarpy county must replace the ineffective Orval Keyes with Raymond Lemke of Papillion.

Likewise, Omaha attorney James C. Hart is the man to supplant the obnoxious Ernest Chambers of the 11th District. 13th District voters might as well re-elect State Senator George Syas, but in the other Omaha districts—the 5th, 7th, and 9th, there doesn't seem to be a decent candidate running. For the vacant 16th District seat up in Thurston, Burt, and Washington counties, Ray Brown of Blair deserves the nod, as does John Murphy of South Sioux City in the 17th District of Dixon, Dakota, and Wayne counties.

I see no candidates worthy of support in the 15th, 21st and 23rd Districts, but Ms. Lamp of Valley is the logical candidate in the 31st District, comprising rural Douglas county. Ralph Kelley is recommended over incumbent Don Elrod for 35th District voters out in Grand Island, and Kearney, Franklin, and Webster county voters are urged to mark their ballots for Gary Anderson of Axtell in the 37th District race.

Herbert Duis of Gothenburg is deserving of re-election in the 39th, representing Dawson and Phelps counties, and 41st District voters (Loup, Garfield, Wheeler, Valley, Greely, Sherman, and Howard counties) should choose rancher Dennis Rasmussen.

Sandhills people of the vast 43rd have a superior candidate in incumbent Otho Kime of Valentine. 45th District voters of the new Bellevue seat will find educator Frank Lewis in tune to their needs, and south Panhandle citizens are requested to send back incumbent Robert Clark of Sidney. State Senator Leslie Stull of Alliance merits return by Sioux, Daves, Box Butte, Sheridan, and Grant county voters in the 49th District.

Constitutional Amendments may be unglamorous, but the 16 we will vote on next week deserve our scrutiny. A yes vote on Amendments 2 through 16 is recommended, but a no vote on Amendment 1, raising the age requirements for state senators, must be cast. For those registered in Lancaster County, we endorse the City Charter Amendment to increase compensation for City Council members.

Now get out and vote!

john
vihstadt
different
drummer