

# editorial / opinion

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Stewart

## innocent bystander Lone voter draws crowd of hopefuls

By Arthur Hoppe

There's nothing more exciting in presidential campaigns than the traditional airport rally. We had a great one on my arrival in Washington D.C.

As I stepped from the plane, a crowd of Democratic presidential candidates, conservatively estimated at "more than 500," was waiting to greet me under a banner reading, "Welcome Voter!"

Naturally, I thought I had to deliver the customary short speech from the boarding ramp. "I want to thank all of you next Presidents of the United States for coming out here today," I said, which drew a roar of approval.

"Who says people are politically apathetic? This magnificent turnout proves conclusively that any voter can draw a crowd of presidential candidates these days."

When the cheers had subsided, I was forced to go through the required routine of crowd plunging. This is very hard on us voters.

I kept looking for a familiar face. There were none. And in the din it was very hard to hear their names.

"Moe, you doll," shouted one, grabbing my hand. I thought that was so nice, I autographed his backpack. Then I met either Jimmy Sanford and Terry Carter or vice versa.

A tanned fellow who said he was a sergeant asked if I wanted to buy a heritage. But I could not think of what I would do with one. And an Ed or Fred Harris wished to know if I would care to share the wealth. "Sorry," I said apologetically, "I'm a little on the shorts myself."

It was enough to make a strong man cry. His name was Ed. "Hi. 'Bye," said another. "Bye," I said politely, wondering if he knew whether he was coming or going. "No," he said, "bye, B-a-y-h." Who cares whether presidents can spell?

A nice guy named Hubert had been telling me all along about his childhood. I do not know why. "Scoop!" cried a short, intense man, extending his hand. But I never discovered what his scoop was because I mysteriously dozed off.

I seem to remember a Texan named Lloyd or Floyd who wanted to give me a ride downtown in his limousine—and his limousine, too. But the moon had come out by then.

Suddenly, I thought I recognized someone. He was standing off to one side under the wings, arms folded and smiling inscrutably. "Isn't that Teddy..." I started to ask. But the crowd had abruptly rushed off in 500 different directions.

That was too bad. I love motorcades and I had expected to lead one into Washington aboard the airport bus. Yet it was encouraging to see that politics can still draw a crowd, no matter how motley it may be.

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## to the editor



Dear editor,

The S1 freedom deprivation bill proposed by former President Nixon is a complete atrocity. The bill is another attempt to ignore reality on the part of national lawmakers.

Depriving criminals of freedom, or people selected as criminals, or people selected to become criminals through a process of prejudice, personal hatreds and social-cultural genocide is not a real answer to the American crime problem. S1 is an outright refusal to face the crime problem openly and honestly.

Law plus order equals totalitarian fascism.

S1 provides a launching pad for totalitarian political action and would serve as a method to destroy true democracy.

S1 is another lie to the American people by its lawmakers, a lie which says, in essence, that poor housing, rats, unemployment and poverty have no relationship to crime.

S1 does not provide for destroying the ghetto through education, decent housing for all, good medical care for all and effective improved social services.

S1 does provide for building a Great Wall around the ghetto and for the creation of a new class of slaves in the United States.

Dear editor,

The Oct. 24 Daily Nebraskan carried an article on a student organization, (the Young Americans for Freedom), that is opposed to sales of computers by the IBM Corp. It showed concern for the freedom of mankind around the globe. But the ironic thing about the article was the accusations lodged against IBM as being "capitalistic" in its dealings.

Why is this "peace loving organization" sitting on its hands when the government of the U.S.A. conducts its foreign policy in an even more capitalistic nature?

A perfect example is the conduct of Congress toward Turkey. Because Turkey used the weapons it purchased and paid for from the U.S.A. to defend her peoples, an embargo was put on further delivery of its weapons.

When Turkey closed or threatened to close U.S. spy stations in eastern Turkey, the cost of this action was evaluated against the benefits of the embargo to the U.S.A. The results were obvious: the U.S. would rather have the conflict in Cyprus rather than lose its watch over Russia. So the embargo is lifted.

But Libya and her Colonel Muammer al-Qaddafi did not fare so well against Henry Kissinger. A purchased squadron of KC-135 tankers will never be delivered to Libya until maybe a change of government takes place.

So, IBM is not to blame for its sale of computers to Russia, no matter what use they will be put to. It is your system of "sale to the highest bidder" that is to blame. It is your foreign policy that is at fault.

George Rubagumya

The Daily Nebraskan welcomes letters to the editor and guest opinions. Choices of material published will be based on timeliness and originality. Letters must be accompanied by the writer's name, but may be published under a pen name if requested.

Guest opinions should be typed, triple-spaced, on nonerasable paper. They should be accompanied by the author's name, class standing and major, or occupation. All material submitted to these pages is subject to editing and condensation, and cannot be returned to the writer.

A.D.W.

**RALPH**

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