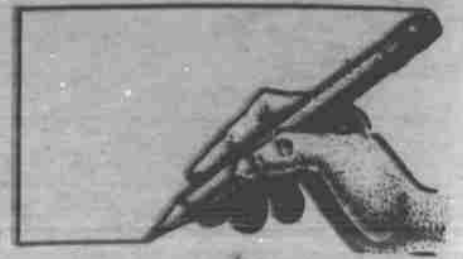


# opinion



## Election of Carter to White House will change course of U.S. politics

By L. Kent Wolgamott

The New Deal has returned to the Democratic Party. In the words of George McGovern, the party has "come home." That same coalition which has given us other Democratic presidents—a coalition made up of Southerners, blacks, urban dwellers, Catholics and Jews—also put Jimmy Carter into office.

Carter's ability to unify a factionalized party first became evident this summer in New York as he and his staff conducted the Democratic Convention with abso-

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Carter's choice of Walter Mondale was part of the strategy which won him the mandate. Mondale was a liberal of the old school, a contrast to outsider Carter. Campaigning in traditional Democratic areas Mondale proved a great asset to the Carter cause. The Carter strategy was complete with his choice of issues and the way he chose to run his campaign.

Deciding to emphasize "people" issues rather than such things as stopping inflation and by choosing to run a campaign not attacking Ford, Carter appealed to those who are directly affected by our economic difficulties—the same groups Franklin Roosevelt attracted in 1932.

### Mother Nature decided

Carter appealed to the coalition but it was left to Mother Nature to decide who would be elected President. With good weather a high turnout could be expected and Carter would benefit; poor weather, holding down voter turnout, would have benefited Ford. The good weather last Tuesday sealed Ford's doom as record numbers of voters went to the polls.

As the returns came in it became apparent that Carter had held a solid South due mostly to the black vote and that he would win the necessary populous urban states. When New York fell it was only a matter of time. The West came in solidly for the President—a result of Carter writing off a majority of those states rather than decisive regionalism for Ford.

Carter's win should not be interpreted as a rejection of Ford. Ford received nearly 50 per cent of the vote and the electoral vote count was the closest in recent history. Ford was not rejected rather, the voters opted for a change, a change in domestic economic policy, a change in the handling of foreign affairs and a change to the country of the last ghosts of Watergate. It is not as though Ford has done something disastrously wrong, but that he has done nothing outstandingly right. Ford and Carter are decent human beings both capable of serving as President. The choice on Tuesday reflected the type of leadership this country wants.

### Quiet leadership

Ford himself characterized his leadership as "quiet"—a building process. Carter projected a more dynamic, active leadership.

Carter will be a dynamic president. He will move to implement the programs he has promised us. Within the first few weeks of his term he will initiate programs to change the tax code and to ease unemployment. He will pardon the draft resisters.

Look for Carter to be a leader who proposed much social legislation to Congress in the fashion of Lyndon Johnson. Look for him to be his own Secretary of State and to be a very visible President.

This election has turned the course of American politics for the next four years and probably further into the future. We again have a President and a Congress of the same party—a combination capable of widespread reform and innovation.

I cannot predict the future but I can safely say that the election of 1976 has provided the country with a change. I only hope that the change will be positive. With our input, it will be.

## Winning fosters disinterest

I read Pete Wegman's Oct. 29 column with great interest. I do not disagree with the contention that at times the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) uses its power over member schools in an unfair manner. I feel the NCAA also can be faulted for its role in the fight with the AAU for control of amateur athletics in this country. Again, it is schools and athletes who are punished for rather hard to define reasons. We seem to have in common a concern for people being able to compete.

However, I must disagree with you about the effect the NCAA restrictions are having on college football. You feel that they are destroying interest in the sport by ruining the hold traditional powers have on winning and that they are making the game mediocre in quality. This position is ill-considered at best and stupid and selfish at worst.

Granted, interest is high at schools like Nebraska, Ohio State, Notre Dame and Southern California. Granted, it is law at places such as TCU, Rice, and Duke. I feel that reflects current records more than any need for traditional powers lose, fans lose interest. Therefore, game at the University of Nebraska in the fifties or early sixties? I did. Where was the interest then? Of those four schools you named, I know at least three of them had teams good enough to play in major bowls during those Nebraska "down" years. I bet they had interest then. I would guess that the rise in interest at Nebraska has helped offset the loss at the other schools. Winning creates interest, losing doesn't. It doesn't disappear when some schools have bad years.

If we take your argument to its logical conclusion we wind up with a paradox. Teams that are bad can't do anything right. The TCU's, Miami's, and Kansas States of college football must win to draw fans and create interest. However, when they win some of the Nebraskas, Penn States, and USC's start to lose. According to you, when traditional powers lose, fans lose interest. Therefore, the down schools have to lose to have a chance of increasing interest because if they don't then nobody will be interested in coming to college football games anymore. I don't think it works that way and I don't think you do either if you would stop to think about it. If it did we wouldn't need to bother with K-State every year. We could play Wesleyan for a much smaller guarantee.

Now, try this idea. Interest in college football will decline if the same teams win all the time. If Nebraska goes 10-1 every year and Iowa State, Kansas, and K-State can't even stay on the field with them not only will fans at those schools not go to games but Nebraska fans will stop coming (Maybe not all Nebraska fans. They seem to have an unquenchable thirst for runaway stomping of other teams) because the games will be meaningless. It's not fun to win a foot race against a quadriplegic. Similarly, beating the Wildcats every year 50-3 wears thin after awhile.

In the past few years Nebraska has had a three or four game season. Oklahoma, plus two games from the group of Oklahoma State, Missouri, Kansas or Colorado depending whether or not one of the non-conference foes is any good.

That's why people are dissatisfied with season records of 8-3 and 8-2-1. When you start out 7-0 winning only one more game is a bad year.

This season is more exciting. Now for the second point. Don't confuse competition and mediocrity. And don't blame scholarship and coaching staff restrictions for the latter if it indeed exists. Any staff of eight which can't find 22 good starters out of 95 scholarship athletes is incompetent. They don't need more bodies to win. The old limit of 45 per year and 120 total didn't provide more than one or two more good players who could play. It merely allowed the powerful schools to stash them away. Eventually they quit or were cut. Now they play at other schools. Nebraska football is at worst 90 per cent of what it used to be. If that is mediocre, then it was mediocre to start with. Other teams have been able to raise their quality of play.

If your answer is that the NCAA should have stated this was the reason for the restrictions rather than cutting costs, I agree with you. I don't think the people who voted on the matter were fooled for a minute. Also, it wasn't just the Hofstras and Long Beach States who favored the restrictions. In general, the Big 10, Pac-8, and ACC were in favor. The Big 8, SWC, and SEC were against them. It wasn't just the little guys trying to drag down the big ones.

I feel that you might be just a little too involved in this to be impartial. Who wouldn't be though, as they see a guaranteed trip to New Orleans, Miami or Dallas slip away with all the annual easy wins. Your self-interest may have gotten in the way of objective reporting.

Marion Griffing

Editor's note: Since the Sugar Bowl, Orange Bowl and Cotton Bowl are played during the break between semesters no Daily Nebraskan staff members cover any of those games.



## Politicians worth a lot to Korea

By Arthur Hoppe

Every American can hold his or her head a bit higher this week. South Korea, it is now reported, is buying a million dollars worth of our Congressmen annually.

For years, we've been buying foreign politicians—Italian, Japanese, Arabic, even a Dutchman of royal blood. But this international commerce was a one-way street.

While foreigners were all too eager to buy our planes, tanks and guns, they wouldn't touch our politicians with a ten-foot pole. Naturally, this made us uneasy.

Oh, we'd pass it off by saying our politicians were too expensive for these underdeveloped countries. But deep

"After all," he explained, "the reason South Korea wishes to buy our Congressmen is so that our Congressmen will vote more economic aid to South Korea which will enable South Korea to buy more Congressmen who will then vote more economic aid to South Korea and so on. I think we're in on the start of something big."

Boodle reluctantly admitted that the South Koreans had made no direct offer as yet to buy him. "But they did buy Mrs. Boodle," he said. "Our friend, the lobbyist, Danton Park, handed her an envelope containing \$10,000 and told her to buy some shoes for the kids."

"She didn't tell me about it because she didn't want to make me jealous. I only found out last week when I asked her where she got the Rolls Royce she's been driving the past four years."

"In all due modesty, though, I feel he thought he was buying me. You know how it is: we all look alike to them."

Boodle, with considerable foresight, plans to tack a "Buy American" label to next year's foreign aid bill requiring all nations to follow South Korea's example.

The only threat to the burgeoning trade is a proposal that bought politicians be shipped immediately to the countries purchasing them. "There are some purchases you make that you would never dream of bringing home," protested one foreign diplomat, "such as most cheap hookers and all American Politicians."

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down we were worried. Had we at last produced a product no one wanted? The shame of it all!

So the news that our politicians were worth something, at least to South Korea, was jubilantly received in Washington.

The only carping was by a few cynics who claimed that, seeing we have given the South Koreans more than \$5 billion in economic aid to date, they are buying our politicians with our money.

Congressman Bagley Boodle, for one, put a quick stop to that kind of negative talk. "The point is they could have bought any kind of politician they wanted, but they chose ours," he said. "I think this proves our politicians can compete on an equal footing in the international market place."

Boodle conceded that \$1 million worth of politicians was "only a drop in the bucket." But he said he looked on these initial purchases as merely "seed money."

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 unruled 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.