



Letters

**Public has right to give candidates thorough scrutiny**

I was startled by the intensity of the invective in Jeff Browne's editorial in the Thursday Daily Nebraskan ("Republican witch hunt burns Ferraro, not adviser"). His description of "Republican

rats" ranks with Hitler's "Jewish swine" and similar epithets used by segregationists in the South 20 years ago. Fortunately, student journalists who stoop to demagogic language never make it in the real world, being consigned to writing obituaries and stories of chamber of commerce meetings in county weeklies.

Then I thought perhaps Browne

had a perfectly legitimate reason for his name-calling and bitterness, so I finished reading the piece, in which he decried the publicity surrounding vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro and points out the shortcomings of Schlafly. If I remember correctly, after Ferraro was nominated as a candidate for vice president, it was the press, and not the Republican Party, that started a "witch hunt" concerning her income taxes and inexperience in public office.

Browne never showed precisely what qualifications Ferraro has for the vice presidency, but instead assailed the character of Schlafly. Perhaps without realizing it, he used a method of rationalization unsuccessfully tried by

the Republicans to explain Watergate — "Sure, we did it, but look at the other guys — they were just as bad." Shades of Richard Nixon, digging up dirt on John Kennedy to justify his own wiretaps.

I have no great love for Schlafly (but I do know several women who vote Democratic who do), and as long as she is not a candidate for a national office, I am not going to worry about her. Ferraro, however, is in a position where she might become vice president and perhaps even president, and so it is only natural that the public get a closer view of her and her background.

I detect the scent of sour grapes in Browne's editorial. The Mondale-Ferraro ticket is going to

lose badly in November, and he knows it. The ploy to portray the astute, business-like multimillionaire Ferraro as a frumpy, working-class housewife from Queens failed miserably. The first female vice president or president is going to come from the ranks of the Republican Party, which has provided this country with nearly all of the female senators, the only Black senator, the first Asian senator, most of the female cabinet officers and the first female Supreme Court justice. None of them even faintly resemble Schlafly, and fortunately all of them were (and are) more qualified for public office than Ferraro.

Fred Grady  
senior  
undeclared

**UNL assistant housing director misquoted in letter to editor**

In the letter I wrote in Friday's Daily Nebraskan (Page 5), I inadvertently attributed a quote to the wrong person. The quote

should have been attributed to Guriana Wittstruck, also assistant director of housing. I regret any misunderstanding it may have

caused.  
Janet H. Chu  
senior  
business administration

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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 all material submitted.

Readers also are welcome to submit material as guest opinions. Whether material should run as a letter or guest opinion, or not run, is left to the editor's discretion.

Letters and guest opinions sent to the newspaper become property of the Daily Nebraskan and cannot be returned.

Anonymous submissions will not be considered for publication. Letters should include the author's name, year in school, major and group affiliation, if any. Requests to withhold names from publication will not be granted.

Submit material to the Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448.



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Anderson...

Continued from Page 4  
Most of the people surveyed were from the Washington, D.C. area.

**No help from Mexico** — Mexico continues to be a major conduit of illegal drugs smuggled into the United States and, according to a confidential cable from the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City, "corruption and mismanagement" among Mexican officials are partly responsible for the problem.

In addition, the U.S. diplomats concluded, Mexican officials have not guarded the border with the United States as closely as they should have. Mexican officials concede, according to the cable, that they "had perhaps focused too much on interior matters and hadn't given the border due attention."