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Nebraskan**  
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## Bush should lead

*President's stand on deficit isn't clear*

Since Congress began working on a deficit reduction compromise in May, it has been weighing spending cuts and tax increases.

As the summer moved along and the end of the fiscal year approached, President Bush said Congress needed to quit hemming and hawing and come up with a proposal by the end of the fiscal year, Sept. 30.

So in August, Congress took a vacation.

They came back, September passed and legislators and the president failed to push through a compromise as the fiscal year expired.

So, it's back to Square One. But this time, the president is the one who needs to be admonished.

At a press conference Tuesday, the president said he would consider a tax hike on upper-income families in return for democratic support of a cut in the capital gains tax rate. That has been the stumbling block from the beginning of the negotiations. Later that day, after talking with some GOP cronies, Bush decided he didn't like the deal after all.

When reporters asked Bush to dispel the confusion over his stance on the tax issue, he was flippant and noncommittal. His response:

"Confusion?"

Bush was asked if he was giving up on a capital gains tax cut, the item the Democrats supposedly were to trade for his support of higher income taxes on the wealthy.

"Read my hips," Bush said, pointing at them as he jogged by.

"Let Congress clear it (the confusion) up."

Perhaps Bush doesn't know that prolonging the political tug-of-war is costing time and voters' patience.

On Saturday, Bush was taking this budget thing pretty seriously. He vetoed Congress' stop-gap measure to keep the government temporarily afloat. He tried to place blame for the confusion on Congress.

But Congress can't draw up a budget proposal and expect it to pass unless Bush makes up his mind.

The deficit reduction budget needs to be addressed in a serious manner — immediately. Hypocritical behavior from the nation's leader simply slows congressional efforts to work on the budget.

Unless Bush begins heeding his earlier advice, no one's going to read his lips or his hips.

— Lisa Donovan  
for the Daily Nebraskan

## Number of Bugle Boys poor measure of support

Well, National Coming Out Day came around again. As usual, much of the student body knew nothing about it. What's worse is this crap about wearing blue jeans for support. It's not the event but this show of support that really bothers me.

Who is the person that came up with this blue jean idea? Does anybody know just how many pairs of jeans are worn everyday, especially here on campus? Jeans are a part of our culture. Why should those who don't support gays/lesbians go out of their way and not be able to wear their favorite pair of Bugle Boys, or SOI's. Those who support the activity should go out of their way. Isn't that what support is all about? For example, wear armbands or a certain T-shirt. Support is making oneself known and blue jeans are too popular for this, or is this what the supporters want? They can show their support, but yet remain hidden in the crowd. Something to make you say "Hm."

I can just imagine how many of you out there are calling me homophobic. Well, you're wrong. What reason do I have to be afraid? AIDS. Well, I have to tell you that I've gotten the facts on AIDS, and I'll be the first to admit it's not always gotten from sexual contact. I had to get the facts since I have a friend whose brother has AIDS. How he got the disease is beside the point. In order to talk to my buddy, I had to get information on the disease. I'm glad I did.

In closing, I'm not against gays or lesbians. It's a free country and they can do whatever they want. I accept this. I have to, for there isn't much I can do about it. I just feel that if support is going to be shown, do it in a way that doesn't involve the general population and boost the statistics on support falsely.

Dave Hintz  
senior  
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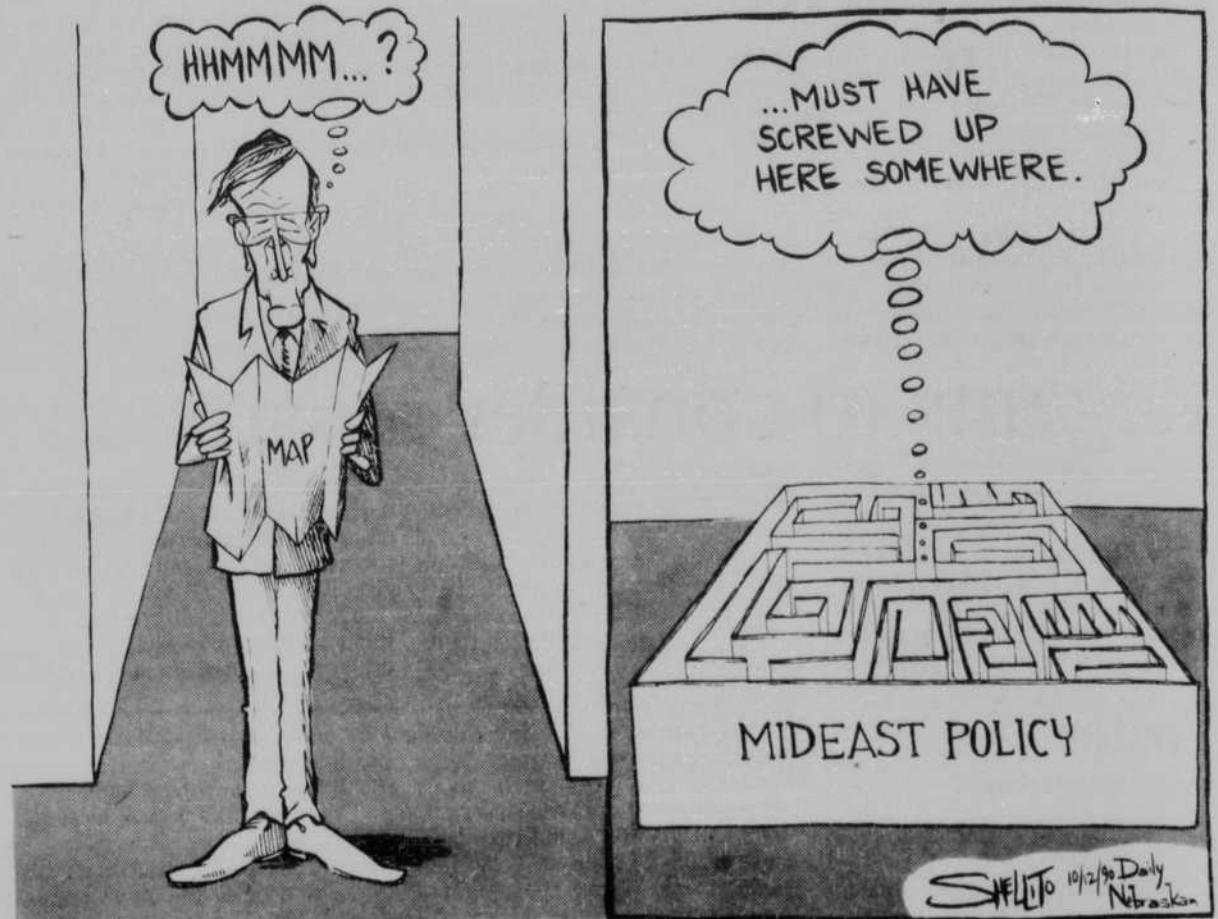
## editorial

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braskan's publishers are the regents, who established the UNL Publications Board to supervise the daily production of the paper.

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## Some T.H.R.O.-ing is needed

*Replacing old congressmen with new faces eliminates waste*

His name is Jack Gargan. After learning about who he is and what he stands for, I have arrived at one conclusion.

I like Jack Gargan.

Gargan, a retired financial analyst, is like millions of Americans. He is concerned about the future of this great nation. And he is simply fed up with an incompetent and corrupt Congress.

Sure, many of us complain about those whom we elected to the Senate and House of Representatives. We complain about the ever-increasing, largely ignored \$3 trillion national debt. We complain about Congress' reluctance to perform even its minimal duty of passing a federal budget, balanced or not. We complain about the 51 percent salary increase for its members that it tried to push through without a roll-call vote. We complain that the members of Congress are better representatives of special interest groups than the people who elected them.

Yet, this is where most of us end our bellyaching. And year after year, term after term, we continue to reelect these same members back to their isolated, cushy lifestyles in Washington, D.C.

Not Jack Gargan.

You see, Gargan believes in this political system we call a democracy. He believes we should have a government by the people, for the people. And that is precisely why he started an organization called T.H.R.O. Inc.

Throw the Hypocritical Rascals Out.

Gargan created T.H.R.O. in an attempt to do a little bit of house cleaning in Washington. His organization advocates voting against all incumbents in the House and Senate and voting only for new candidates who pledge to strictly limit the term

of office and to prohibit deficit spending.

Gargan used \$45,000 of his own savings to start T.H.R.O. and to begin running advertisements in more than 100 major newspapers throughout the country.

Why would someone want to go to all this trouble?

The great thing about Gargan is



Mark  
Fahleson

that he tells us why. "I'm mad as h!\*& and I'm not going to take it anymore!"

No messy phrases. No political mumbo jumbo. No runaround. Gargan shoots straight from the hip.

He says that he is "outraged" that Congress even talks about further raises in our taxes while totally ignoring the \$180 billion in sheer government waste documented in the Grace Commission Report.

Gargan says he is tired of all of the money pouring into incumbents from political action committees. He's tired of paying for the franking privileges and printing costs used by incumbents as "blatant advertising disguised as newsletters." He's incensed about standing in checkout lines behind people in "designer jeans and \$100 sneakers who pay their bills with food stamps."

Go get 'em Jack. More! More!

Gargan said he is insulted that Congress has set up its own pension plan that will pay a congressman in six years what the average American under social security must work a

lifetime for. He's upset that 14 convicted felons currently draw from these pensions.

Gargan has a point. Our system of government has evolved from one in which members of the House and the Senate were citizens who went to Washington for a few months each year into a system in which these members are professional bureaucrats. It seems as if the only things they are interested in are eternal tenure, high salaries and one of the most generous pensions in the world.

And once they get to the nation's capitol, they stay. Congressman Dan Rostenkowski of Illinois was elected to the House in 1958. He has been an elected bureaucrat longer than I have been living.

In the 1986 and 1988 elections, 98 percent of incumbent members of the House seeking re-election were returned to office. Certainly James Madison, John Jay and the rest of our founding fathers never envisioned that Congress would one day become a retirement home.

Gargan has recognized that there is a need for change. Whether that means voting every incumbent out of office or simply limiting the terms of our congressional delegates, something must be done. And Gargan is trying.

Perhaps the best thing about Gargan is that he neither represents nor endorses a political party. The only party Gargan said he is for is "the huge party this nation is going to throw on election day when we throw those arrogant bums out on their collective butts!"

Name the time and place, Jack. I'll be there.

Fahleson is a second-year law student and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.

## letter

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 sub-

mit material as guest opinions. Whether material should run as a letter or guest opinion, or not to run, is left to the editor's discretion.

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

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 will not be granted.

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