

Daily Nebraskan
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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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EDITORIAL

Vote Clinton

President needed to solve domestic ills

Four years ago, President Bush said, "Read my lips, no new taxes." He lied to us. Bush called himself the education president. He failed us.

This year's incumbent even told Americans that he would be the environmental president. And he burned us.

Now, Americans should make Bush the ex-president. Bill Clinton — as often as he has said it — is right. The United States wants, needs and deserves change.

Americans are looking for a government that can work together to solve their problems — not the same president who has ignored the nation's needs for four years.

Throughout his first term, Bush virtually ignored domestic issues. Americans have not forgotten.



Brian Shellito/DN

People want to improve the economy. People want health care reforms. People want change.

In fact, people want change so badly that a large number of Americans are looking away from the two major-party candidates in search of the next president.

Ross Perot's candidacy is a direct result of the spirit of dissatisfaction with American government. People all across the country have come together to support Perot because of the widespread desire

to end the inaction in Washington. But Perot would not make a good leader.

His influence should not be ignored. His candidacy has ensured that Bush and Clinton would not be able to avoid the issue of the floundering economy. But Perot is an extremist, not a president.

Bush has the makings of a president. But he is the leader of a Cold-War world; that era is over.

Americans need a leader who is in touch with problems close to home. Americans need a president who will admit the United States needs to make changes.

Throughout the campaign, Bush has tooted America's horn while the engine has fallen apart. Saying, "Hey, we're the United States" is not good enough anymore. Americans want a president, not a cheerleader.

Clinton knows the United States needs work. He admits there are problems with the economy, education and health care.

Most importantly, Clinton has come up with a plan for making improvements without making promises he can't keep.

Clinton has listened to the people. He knows what Americans want, and he has committed himself to rebuilding the United States.

Clinton lacks the experience Bush has acquired dealing with global issues, but that's not reason enough to vote against the democrat. Twelve years ago Americans elected a man who had little political experience at all, much less experience abroad.

The United States deserves a president and a congress that can work together to solve the problems America faces.

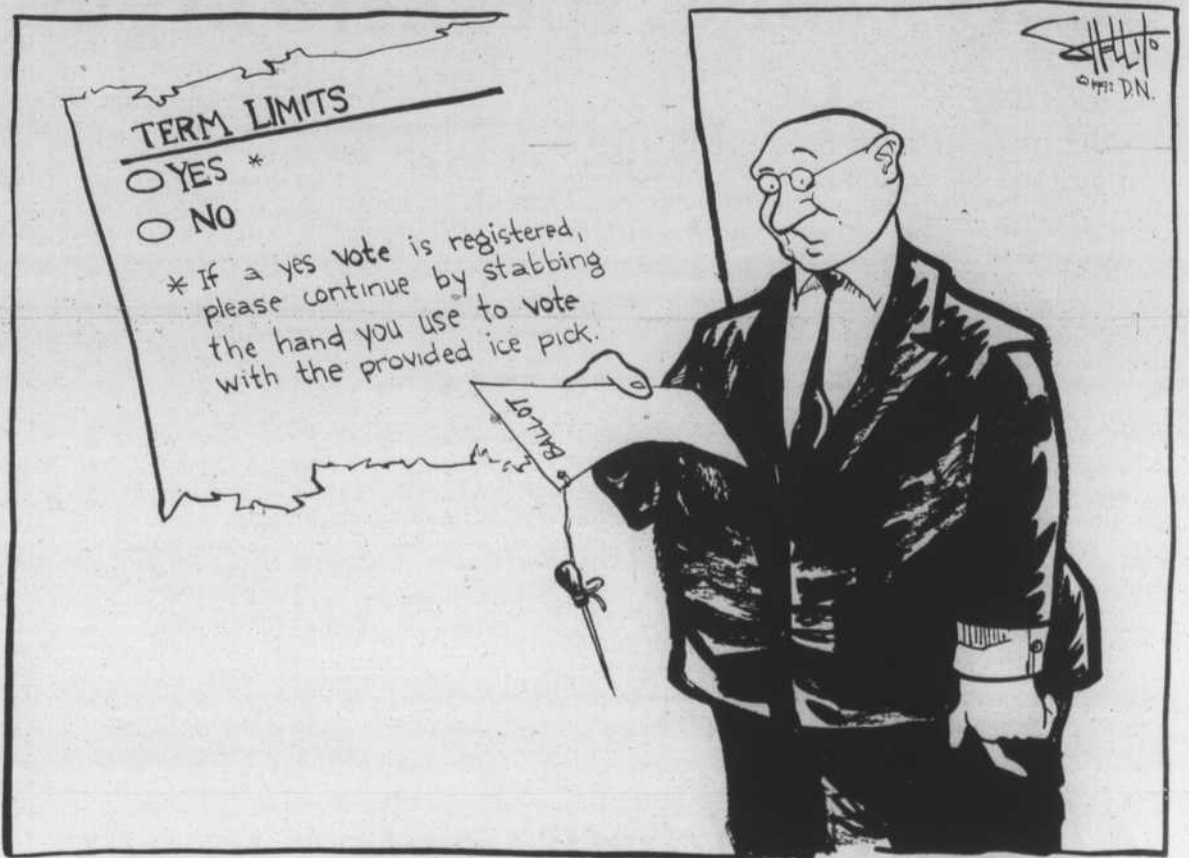
The United States needs Bill Clinton.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Fall 1992 Daily Nebraskan. Policy is set by the Daily Nebraskan Editorial Board. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the views of the university, its employees, the students or the NU Board of Regents. Editorial columns represent the opinion of the author. The regents publish the Daily Nebraskan. They establish the UNL Publications Board to supervise the daily production of the paper. According to policy set by the regents, responsibility for the editorial content of the newspaper lies solely in the hands of its students.

LETTER POLICY

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 or reject all material submitted. Readers also are welcome to submit material as guest opinions. The editor decides whether material should run as a guest opinion. Letters and guest opinions sent to the newspaper become the property of the Daily Nebraskan and cannot be returned. Anonymous submissions will not be published. 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.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bereuter better

"Representative Doug Bereuter can be characterized by a number of positive adjectives: effective, moderate, responsive, certainly hard-working and well informed. (Lincoln Star, Oct. 29)."

This is but one example of what other well-established and respected newspapers throughout the First Congressional District have been saying about Doug Bereuter, while the Daily Nebraskan has once again displayed its ignorance and extreme partisanship in endorsing Gerry Finnegan.

In its editorial, the Daily Nebraskan stated that Finnegan is dedicated to reducing the federal deficit, while "Bereuter and other long-term professional politicians have presided over the problems for years, with little result."

Let's get the facts straight. Bereuter has supported a balanced budget amendment since his first days in office. He also supports a presidential line-item veto to remove the last-minute pork barrel spending items that get added to legislation, usually by committee chairmen (i.e., members of the Democrat leadership). It is this same Democrat majority leadership that has prevented the congressional reforms supported by Bereuter and other House Republicans.

Yes, the American people have a right to be angry that nothing has been accomplished on this matter. But it doesn't follow logic or reason to suggest that adding another novice Democrat (who would be easy prey for the leadership) to the House of Representatives would solve anything.

Obviously, the Daily Nebraskan also failed to do its homework on Doug Bereuter's support of higher education. Bereuter is a graduate of UNL and taught part time in the College of Architecture for several years. While a member of the state Legislature, Bereuter sponsored legislation that added 45 full-time professors to this university to reduce the size of undergraduate classes. Many of them are still here and are known as "Bereuter professors." Ask around, many of you are probably taking a class from one.

Change can be good, but not when sought merely for its own sake. Doug Bereuter has demonstrated his commitment to the people he represents by his hands-on approach and by actively working to keep touch with them.

One last note to the Daily Nebraskan: I'm sure you'll find the poll results of Tuesday's selection will back up this analysis.

Perre Neilan
junior
political science

Senator wrong

In the spring of 1989 I worked as a custodian in the State Capitol Building. One night while working, members of the Capitol's security team led Lincoln Police to a room where I was working. The purpose of the visit was quickly evident. I was questioned in connection with an assault that had occurred earlier that evening, because I happened to match the description of the assailant, a white male, approximately 5 feet 7 inches tall, with longish hair, a beard, wearing a striped shirt and tennis shoes. After a brief questioning, the officer asked to take my picture and I agreed. After several days of worry on my part, another contact with the officer affirmed that the victim had seen my picture and had determined I was not her assailant.

Now, I will admit that this whole incident cause me a lot of stress,

... Sen. Chambers is charging in with the cry of racism, and frankly, I am unconvinced.

including failing a German test during those days of waiting. As I look back now, I understand that my own discomfort was short-lived, and the greater good to the community was being served by following all leads in a serious crime.

Now this incident concerning Phil Bates has been brought to the attention of the community and Sen. Chambers is charging in with the cry of racism, and frankly, I am unconvinced.

First off, questioning of the four African-Americans was not done with an assumption of guilt; rather it was due to reports that an African-American man had been talking to Harms the day before her disappearance.

Sen. Chambers claims that UNL police had no business making "such an outrageous, racist call" to Bates. Bates, according to Chambers, was implicated "solely on his race." Chambers claims this was inappropriate and unprofessional. I find this a fallacy of reasoning. Bates was implicated not solely due to his race, but also due to his proximity to being in the same class as Harms.

As to "insulting, heavy-handed police procedure," I fail to understand that claim at all, senator. I hardly consider a phone call requesting an interview "heavy-handed." Now, going to the class, arresting the four African-American men, THAT would be heavy-handed. That is not what occurred.

I have a great deal of admiration for Sen. Chambers. In the past I have

seen him stand up against societal injustices, and he has worked hard to improve life in Nebraska for those members of society who don't have much political voice. However, in this instance, the senator has rushed headlong into this situation without looking at it logically. Such reactionary tactics don't serve to improve the community. Rather they serve to fuel already high racial tensions at UNL as well as hinder the process of investigating the disappearance of Candice Harms.

James A. Zank
senior
art and English

Sleepout

As a UNL student who participated in the Great Plains Winter Sleepout, I feel I must clear up the skewed and uninformed view of this event Jeff Hankins presented in his column, "Sleepouts don't help homeless (DN, Oct. 29)." My participation in this event was voluntary, not forced on me, or spurred by a guilty conscience. I went to this solemn event understanding the seriousness of the problem of the homeless in Lincoln and nationwide. There I tried to keep in mind the primary goals of the event, which were: to raise funds for local agencies who work with the homeless population daily, to raise awareness of the problem in our community and to show that the problem of homelessness in Lincoln has many faces.

If Mr. Hankins had done some background research, or bothered to pick up a pamphlet describing the sleepout, he would have known the money raised went to the Lincoln Homeless Coalition. This coalition is made up of many local agencies that provide services to people who are homeless. The coalition will distribute money to these various agencies to be used in direct services.

If the agency I work for only advocated for "those who are ready and willing to help themselves," we would never reach the children who must leave their home because of violence, or people living with AIDS who can no longer work to provide for their basic needs. I have never met a person who has asked for help from this agency who was somehow not working toward a better, safer and more productive life.

Finally, Mr. Hankins, your trying to minimize my experiences as a sleepout participant has only brought to light the ignorance of one individual who cannot be allowed to represent the student body of UNL.

Keith Cruise
senior
psychology