

## Daily Nebraskan

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### EDITORIAL

## A new Congress

Republican control is a step backward

Campaign '94 ended historically Tuesday. Voters in the traditionally conservative state of Nebraska turned toward the Democrats. Nebraska voters re-elected a Democratic governor to a second term for the first time in 20 years.



Bret Gottshall/DN

night.

"Not since 1952 have Republicans controlled the United States Congress," Dole told The Associated Press. "That's when Eisenhower was elected president, the Dodgers were still in Brooklyn and a postage stamp cost 3 cents."

This spells not only gridlock, but deadlock in Washington. Worse, it spells a return to "good ol' boy" politics with an emphasis on the GOP's severely flawed "Contract with America."

The contract sounds great, promising tax breaks and smaller government. Yet it offers no definitive spending cuts and unrealistic tax reliefs for the affluent.

At best, it is a huge step backwards. It is an old plan that had 12 years to work and failed.

Much of rest of the world has expressed wonder as to why Americans oppose their president who has held inflation, decreased unemployment and made a dent — though slight — in the deficit.

We have made progress in two years, despite America's sour attitude about politics, but we have a long way to go.

Don't expect miracles in the next two years of political stagnation. We'll understand what real gridlock is. We'll see Newt Gingrich in action.

Watch for cuts in social programming, in education, in environmental cleanup, in health care reform and in the progress we have made toward a more egalitarian nation — steps that had begun to heal and strengthen the hearts and souls of our nation.

Our responsibility does not end in voting for a partisan standoff. We have to work together to secure a better future for all Americans, not just for a few.

The '50s are long gone, the Dodgers are on strike, postage stamps have increased in price tenfold, and Bob, we're not in Kansas anymore.

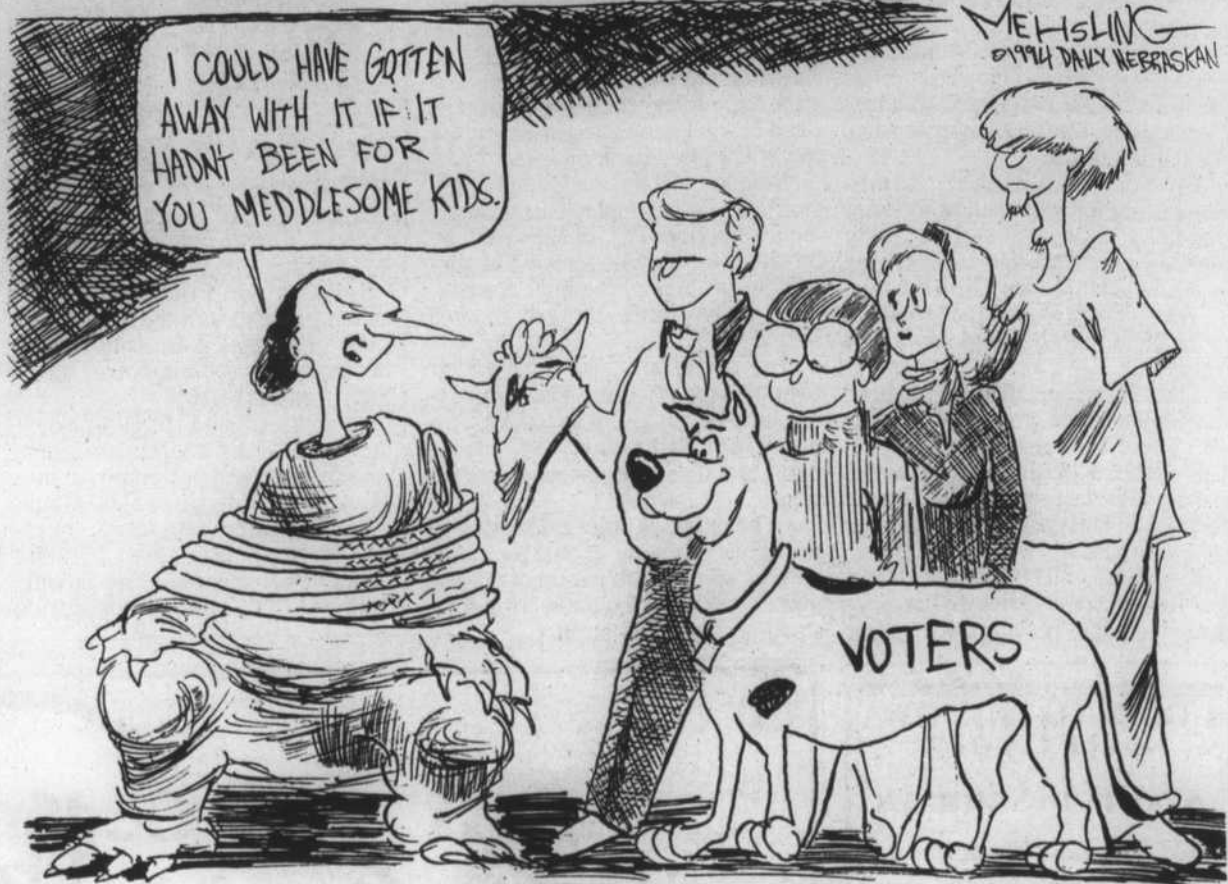
We have a lot to worry about today.

And a vicious U.S. Senate race in Nebraska ended in a Democratic victory with a polite concession and a call for unity.

But nationally, voters showed they are angry and distrust the Democratic party.

For the first time in 40 years, Republicans will control both the House of Representatives and the Senate. This is a sign of pure dissatisfaction with President Bill Clinton.

Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.), the Senate's new majority leader, was all smiles Tuesday



MEHSLING  
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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### No respect

As a Cornhusker fan, I would like to congratulate the Nebraska football team on a job well done. Your performance was outstanding, and I enjoyed watching every minute of the game.

However, as a member of the Cornhusker Marching Band flag line, things did not go as well. It was the last home show for many of the band members, and it took many long hours to perfect.

Unfortunately, our hard work went mostly unnoticed. During the final strains of "America the Beautiful," the NU Spirit Squad came barreling through the band, while Tom Osborne thoughtfully directed his troops around us.

Not only did the squad run through the band, they ran over the American flag. They also grabbed flags and ran into members of the flag line. What kind of childish behavior is this?

One comment made was: "Don't worry, it's only the band." Only the band! Sure, HuskerVision may have stolen some of our spotlight, but you won't find HuskerVision in the Orange Bowl. I'd like to see the spirit squad pump up a Nebraska crowd, in a sea of Miami or Florida State fans, by themselves.

I respect the spirit squad's grace and athletic ability. What I no longer respect is their attitude. We are all from the same school, cheering for the same team. Let's show each other a little respect and remember why we are here. School Spirit.

Dani Browne  
sophomore  
broadcasting, advertising

individuals? Both women have expressed that this discrimination is based on nongreek affiliation, not race or ethnicity.

But once again, those uneducated about the situation turn the conflict into a black-white issue, undermining the credibility of two who only want what has been wrong for so very long to be corrected.

Mr. Karl stated that if everyone were conservative like he was, then we wouldn't always be basing things on race. Then why is he saying that all these BLACK students, as opposed to just students, want a free ride? Why should it be any more of a grievance if those protesting the selec-



Bret Gottshall/DN

tion process were Caucasian?

How can a committee that doesn't even partially represent the populace of this university select a royalty court that is supposed to represent the "Best of the Best?" Jake Kirkland Jr. was right in saying a committee that is comprised from a specific group of people will more than likely choose others that reflect themselves.

So as to not have this grievance occur for another year, the entire homecoming selection should be remodeled. This committee should be made up of the major groups existing on this campus: greeks, nongreeks, residence hall residents, all ethnic and racial group members, the physically challenged, off-campus and nontraditional students, as well as faculty and staff members.

It is not enough for the commit-

tee to have only one member to represent a single racial or ethnic group to claim that it is multicultural and unbiased. Multiculturalism is defined not only by skin color but by many things which many people seem to forget. If this multicultural committee chose mostly greek students, then there wouldn't be a problem.

Also, I have a very hard time understanding why the committee cannot tell the difference between UNL-affiliated activities and UNL-related activities. Fraternities and sororities are not related to UNL; they are affiliated. Not everyone can participate as members in their activities. They also exist on about every college and university campus across the United States. But these affiliations were considered to be qualifications for the court, while according to the application, they are not.

I find it difficult to accept that neither Ms. Stewart nor Ms. Boykins were considered qualified to represent our university. Ms. Stewart was nominated for "Top 6," a national award based on academics and athletics, for which each Division I school can choose two representatives, and from all of those there are ONLY SIX finalists (last year Trev Alberts was one of these recipients), by using the same application used for homecoming. Yet, she could not be chosen for the FIRST of two interviews by a panel of her peers for not one but two consecutive years. Now, I would find that personally insulting.

Dr. Griesen was right in saying that both women were disappointed. Who wouldn't be? It's a natural human tendency for people to be disappointed if something doesn't go their way. But do not attribute their actions as that of whining, insufferable, uppity black students who want a break wherever they can and expect to get it.

All that was asked was that some action be taken before next year's celebration. I suggest — no, I dare — the committee to take up the challenge of doing what they have claimed to be doing all this time. I believe they owe it to us — to all of us regardless of color. I would like to know that if I were to apply sometime in the future that I would be given the same consideration as any other person.

Jacqueline Baez-Thompson  
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### EDITORIAL POLICY

Staff editorials represent the official policy of the Fall 1994 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

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#### Homecoming

I am writing in regard to Jamie Karl's column (DN, Oct. 28, 1994) and any other questions concerning Kwani Stewart and Ayanna Boykins' protest to the Homecoming Selection Committee.

I am immensely insulted by Mr. Karl, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs James Griesen and others' indifference to this annual grievance.

The homecoming event is supposed to be one of celebration; that is a given. And those who are upset with the royalty selection process have not forgotten that. Does this mean we should blindly accept, year after year, an event that openly discriminates against