

OPINION PAGES

Campaign '96 ENDORSEMENTS

Vote Bereuter Congressman's dedication needed in Washington

Many politicians promise to be independent voices in Washington, to work on behalf of their constituents and not be beholden to party leaders or special interest groups.

Few succeed as Nebraska Rep. Doug Bereuter has.

In his nine terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, the 1st District Republican has carved out his niche as a hard worker who simply gets the job done.

Bereuter is a strong voice of fiscal responsibility. He voted with the House in favor of the balanced budget amendment, an issue he says is of particular importance to students.

He understands the importance of higher education and has been active in keeping student loan programs off the budget-cut chopping block and seeking increases in individual loan amounts and federal Pell grants.

Bereuter has also been an advocate of helping colleges invest more resources in upgrading technology — something that "needs to be a priority if we're to have things like (UNL's) Beadle Center," he said.

A leader in foreign policy decisions, Bereuter's place on the House International Relations Committee and his chairmanship of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific translates into direct benefits for Nebraska in the form of agricultural trade agreements.

Nebraskans can be proud to have Doug Bereuter working for them in Washington. The Daily Nebraskan endorses him in his bid for a 10th term.

In 2nd, vote Davis

Rep. Jon Christensen ran for Congress in 1994 as an outsider who would not be taken in by Washington.

But when the election took a sharp Republican turn, the newly elected Christensen was quickly inside the beltway.

In two short years, he has nestled himself securely under the wing of the Republican leadership and has become a full-fledged "insider," enjoying the benefits from special interest groups and party leaders.

Omaha voted against that in 1994.

From his seat on the House Ways and Means Committee, Christensen indeed has clout. But the way he went about obtaining it leaves a sour taste in our mouths.

The Daily Nebraskan reluctantly endorses Democrat James Martin Davis in Nebraska's 2nd District.

In 3rd, vote Barrett

In his three terms in the U.S. House, Rep. Bill Barrett has been a strong voice for Western Nebraska. On the House Committee on Agriculture, he has worked to reduce federal intervention and allow Nebraska farmers greater control over their business affairs, and his work on the education committee should be of importance to students. The Daily Nebraskan endorses Republican Bill Barrett for a fourth term in Congress.

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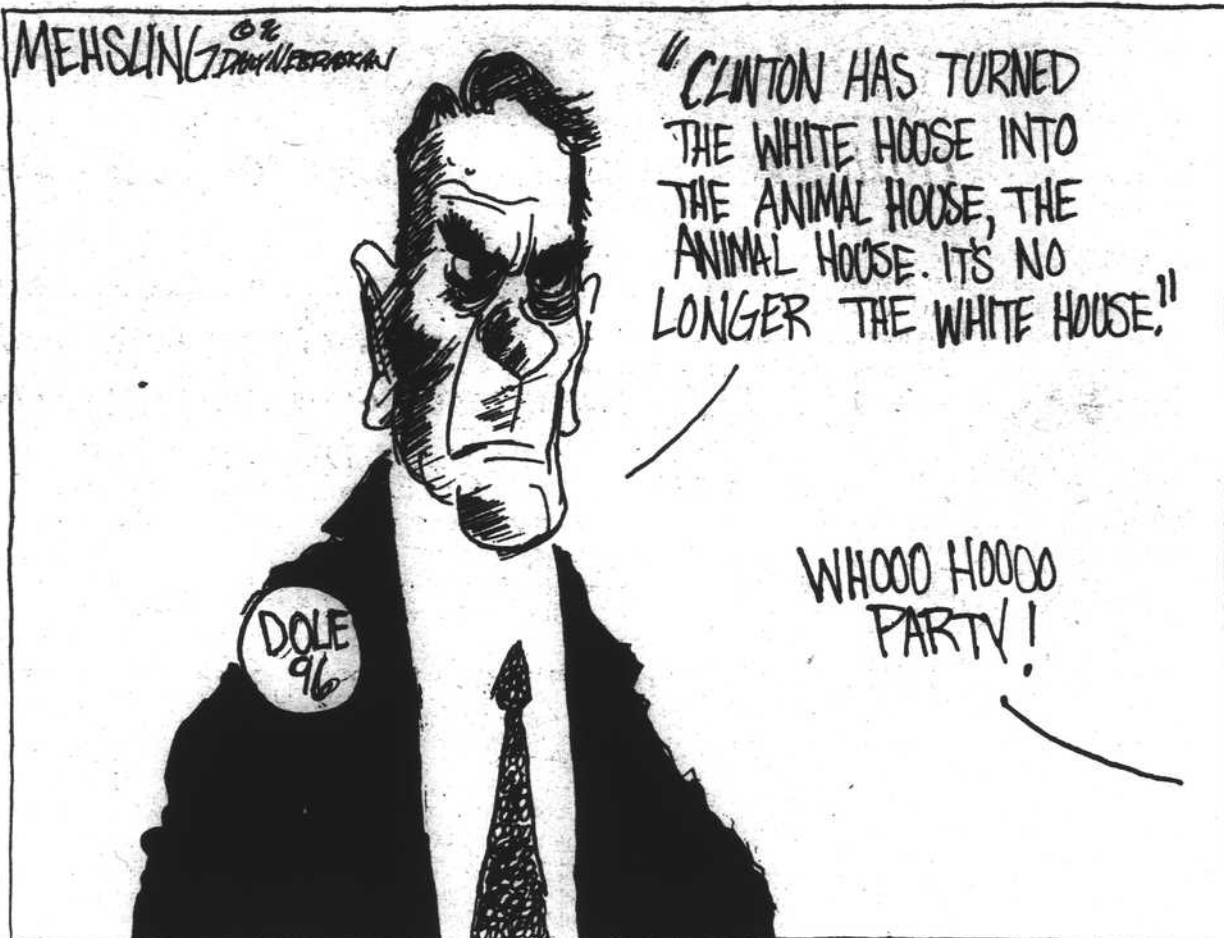
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MEHSLING'S VIEW



Jessica
KENNEDY

The waiting game Confidential survey is no solution

Some days you just can't win. I knew that direct mail lists were getting good, but this was absolutely unbelievable.

After all, I haven't been single all that long...

But last week, I, along with thousands of other selected area residents, received an exclusive invitation to "meet the kind of people you want to meet" through a personalized introduction service.

I almost pitched the Confidential Personal Survey along with this week's supermarket circulars. Instead, my warped curiosity compelled me to read on.

And because I'm neurotic, I, uh, actually filled out the survey.

"Are you in a dead-end relationship or in a relationship of convenience?"

That depends. Define "relationship."

"Are you tired of trying to figure out where quality people go to meet one another?"

Actually, yeah, but Cosmo said the best place to meet men is working on a political campaign. But the election is in a week. Then what?

"Are you tired of having your intelligence insulted by the games you have to play to meet someone special?"

Hell yes!

"Are you frustrated with all the wrong men approaching you, and you having to say 'no thank you,' while the man you would like to meet never approaches?"

Duh ... and it's been that way since high school. I'm beginning to suspect it'll never change.

Those questions were easy. Deciding what kind of person I wanted to meet was not.

I mean, how do you cram a lifetime of likes and dislikes into a few yes/no questions?

Do you want to meet someone with children? What minimum



"Men (and vice versa for women) can be fascinating entities if you just shut up and enjoy their company for what it is."

educational background do you prefer? Are you interested in someone who smokes? What height range do you prefer?

Or how about: What areas of compatibility would you like to share with someone? Competitive sports, outdoor pursuits, cultural activities, dancing, music, or other.

The most important question had 2½ very short lines on which to answer. I could have written a lengthy essay.

Who can do their standards justice in that amount of space?

You answer the question, "What qualities do you look for in a person you'd like to meet?" — in eight words or less!

And that's precisely why I don't like these things.

Seriously, how can you quantify the qualities you need in a partner?

Computer dating services or introduction services can weed out a few potential nightmares, but a computer can't factor in chemistry, intuition or gut reaction.

Can the computer measure intelligence, selflessness, maturity, playfulness or independence?

Will the computer select for me a romantic or sensitive guy? Or a man who likes to discuss politics, social issues and philosophy?

The flier promises to help me search for a special individual. But there's no guarantee that I won't be subjected to a string of nice, yet incompatible, men.

So I'll proclaim for all the world to hear: I'm single and not ashamed of it.

I am not desperate, either.

Because I don't feel the need to "hunt" men, I just trust that at the right time, the right thing will happen. Sure, that attitude may be naive. But I've learned that the more I try to force things, the less likely it is that they will happen.

In the meantime, I'm having a great time with guy-friends. Men are a lot more fun when you're not trying to decide if they're "Mr." potential or not.

My advice? Instead of being hell-bent on finding a relationship, chill and listen.

Men (and vice versa for women) can be fascinating entities if you just shut up and enjoy their company for what it is.

Stop scheming and playing games. You'll learn more about yourself and the opposite sex.

I'm tossing out the Confidential Personal Survey.

The right person could be waiting for me anytime and anywhere. I am convinced that I don't need an introduction service to help me.

Kennedy is a senior advertising and broadcasting major and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.

P.S. Write
Back

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