

OPINION PAGES

Campaign '96 ENDORSEMENTS

Vote Hagel *Republican will fight for stronger policies*

The race for U.S. Senate is essentially a win-win situation for Nebraska voters. Republican Chuck Hagel and Democratic Gov. Ben Nelson are both attractive candidates, and either is bound to make a good senator.

But Nelson made a pledge in 1994 to finish out his term as governor, and Nebraska voters took him at his word. This election year, he should keep it. He should finish his term and set his sights on Washington when he has fulfilled his responsibilities as governor.

The state will be best served with Nelson in the governor's mansion and Chuck Hagel — a man who can commit to the Senate with fewer strings attached — in Washington.

Hagel is a man of honor. A war hero. A down-home politician.

In this campaign, he has used his small-town upbringing and work ethic to face challenges head-on. He understands the concerns of eastern Nebraska and has immersed himself in the small communities that make up much of the state's culture. His has been a grass-roots campaign; he understands voters' concerns.

He looks to the future with great optimism, saying America's "Golden Age" is yet to come — and that he will be a force in moving the country forward.

His smile is as broad as his appeal, his handshake as firm as his beliefs.

As Nebraska's junior senator, he will help work toward fundamental government improvement, including balancing the federal budget, downsizing the federal bureaucracy and shifting more power and responsibility to the states.

He will work for real change in welfare and healthcare programs, returning control to the states and to the private sector, respectively. He understands that Social Security and Medicare must be protected and preserved, but must also be drastically reformed.

He will push for an end to parole for violent criminals, three-strikes-you're-out legislation and mandatory sentences for criminals who commit violent crimes with a firearm.

He will focus first on cutting spending and then on lower taxes and a complete overhaul of the tax system, encouraging incentive savings and investment.

He will use his firsthand military knowledge and experience to help develop a national defense that will shift the focus from policing the world to protecting America's interests.

And he will work to put the decision-making in education where it belongs — with parents, educators and local school boards.

For his stalwart stances, Chuck Hagel deserves respect. For his political polish, he deserves your vote. The Daily Nebraskan endorses him for the U.S. Senate.

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MEHSLING'S VIEW



LETTERS

OTHER OPTIONS

Congratulations!! You put together a great voter guide. It's too bad that established third parties such as the Libertarians, Socialists, Communists, etc. were not included.

Maybe if people were aware of some of these parties before they went to vote, they could make more informed decisions instead of thinking they only have two parties to choose from.

If space is an issue, why not limit the "feature" type articles and run only the candidates' names, party affiliations and where they stand on certain issues?

I hope in the future you will accommodate these third parties.

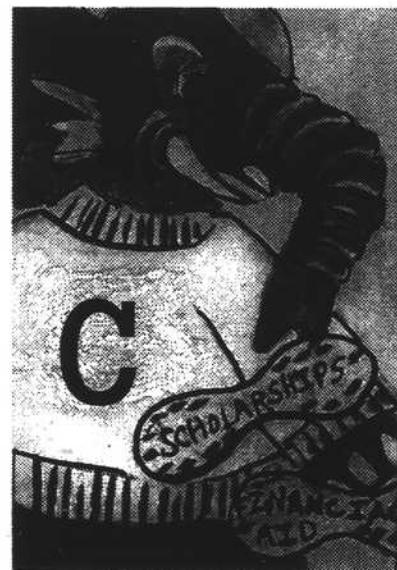
R.C. Koeckeritz
Lincoln

BIG DECISION

The Daily Nebraskan did a great job interviewing and showcasing the two candidates for the U.S. Senate. Governor Nelson says he will be an "independent" senator in Washington.

A message to my fellow students: Don't be fooled.

Retired Sen. Carl Curtis, who served this state for 40 years in the U.S. Congress, once told me that the



NATALIE LINSTROM/DN

most important vote he cast every year was his first one: the vote for the leadership of the U.S. Senate.

Ben Nelson, if he is elected, will be voting for Ted Kennedy and other extremely liberal Democrats to lead the United States Senate. Chuck Hagel will vote for Senate leaders who share our Nebraskan values. I hope students join me in casting a vote for Chuck Hagel. Remember, a vote for Ben Nelson is a vote for Bill Clinton and his allies.

Andrew Loudon
second-year law student

IRONIC SIGNS

What irony — as we enter the Nebraska Union, a giant banner from College Republicans flies above our heads to endorse several candidates. The irony lies in positioning: the position of the banner on a public institution of higher education and the political positions of the candidates.

Many of the candidates endorsed by College Republicans want to obliterate the Department of Education. They also want to make it tougher for people to go to college by recklessly cutting spending on important programs. Rep. Jon Christensen voted to end the program that made it possible for him to go to college — and he's still repaying loans it provided.

College Republicans use a public educational facility to endorse blatantly anti-education candidates. This exposes the hypocrisy, economic injustice and greedy self-interest preserved by conservative politics.

Anyone who understands the importance of education will choose their candidates carefully. We will not be influenced by groups that don't understand the pernicious implications of their audacious endorsements.

Andy Bosselman
senior
advertising

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