

OPINION PAGES

Our VIEW

Unwanted candidate

Western Nebraska has no need for 'dim bulb'

Jon Christensen, once dubbed "the dimmest bulb" in Congress, may want western Nebraska to give him a ticket back to the House.

The former four-year representative from Omaha seems to have his eye on Rep. Bill Barrett's spot in western Nebraska's third district, which will open when the veteran lawmaker retires next year.

Last week Christensen hopped a plane and jetted to Capitol Hill to "talk to them about the third district," according to the Omaha World-Herald.

Even Republican Barrett is apprehensive, saying "I think there might be some resentment there from some people."

We agree: Carpetbaggers need not apply for that position.

Christensen can tout his agricultural voting record and the fact that he was born and raised on a farm in central Nebraska's St. Paul.

But that doesn't cut it.

Christensen may have been born and raised on a farm, but he ain't no farmer.

Christensen may not have to be a farmer to fit the spot, but it would be nice if he at least established residency in the third district.

Christensen represents Omaha and its big business way of life.

So our advice for Christensen is to stay away from a district he can't understand or represent effectively.

As Barrett pointed out, the district probably doesn't want him anyway.

Not that western Nebraskans don't care about Christensen's pet issues — abortion, the death penalty and homosexual marriage — but they probably care more about wheat prices, how an early freeze could kill the year's crops and how to stave off their towns' economic deaths.

And another thing — the state doesn't need another dirty campaign.

Christensen's campaign, which he won against incumbent Rep. Peter Hoagland in 1994, was ugly.

And last year, after pimping the virgin values of his then-fiancee, Tara Dawn, and condemning then-Lincoln Mayor Mike Johanns for allowing "obscene" television (translation: public access), he sunk miserably in the primaries.

So we are asking Christensen to not plague the third district with his representation just because he wants to get back to being the dimmest bulb.

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Obermeyer's VIEW



Abortapatch

New ways to end pregnancies more fun than old contraception techniques

Reckless Banter

with J.J. Harder

Contraception in America sure has been difficult.

We weren't satisfied with the condom, so we came up with the female condom. The diaphragm wasn't enough, so scientists devised the birth control pill and the Norplant system.

Apparently women couldn't remember to take the pill before they had sex, so doctors came up with the morning-after pill. It's just a high dose of the birth control medicine taken within 72 hours after sex.

Preven, the name brand of the morning-after pill, is prescribed in two sets of two pills in that three-day time frame. But the medicine seemed to have some nasty side effects, including headaches, vomiting and an irregular menstrual cycle.

So not only do the ladies have to take the pills twice, but they don't always feel the best after taking them.

Now Planned Parenthood in New York has come up with a more likable form of the morning-after pill called Plan B. You have to take pills only once, and the side effects aren't as harsh.

I think our reaction can only be described with one word: finally!

No more things to wear during sex, implants in arms or pills planned weeks ahead of time. Just a one-time pop after the deed, without the tummy aches and boo-boos.

Now we are free to be as promiscuous as we want. Woo-hoo!

Our little ladies can just waltz right down to Planned Parenthood within three days and it's Bye-Bye Baby. It couldn't get any easier.

Or could it?

The women do have to go to a clinic to get the pills, and that's kind of annoying. Maybe we could just get it

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Now we are free to be as promiscuous as we want. Woo-hoo!

over the counter — you know, on a shelf at Walgreens next to the chapstick and Ginkgo Biloba.

Attention shoppers: blue light special on Baby Stopper 2000. I think it would probably go in the aisle with the Nicotine patch.

Really, preventing pregnancy is nothing more than overcoming a medical problem, like an addiction to tobacco.

So maybe we could just crush up the pills and rig something like the nicotine patch — we'll call it the Abortapatch. Slap it on after sex, and wave goodbye to the kiddies!

The reality is that, in the late 1990s, sex isn't about expressing love in marriage and reproduction. It's about enjoyment and fun on the weekends.

And thanks to the Abortapatch, it's definitely not about children.

How about we get away from the whole medicine idea? Pills, patches, whatever. It's all too pharmaceutical for me. Let's make eliminating pregnancy fun.

We could make the medicine a liquid, so you can drink it as a shake. And not the Tommy Lasorda Ultra-Slim Fast kind of shake. More like a shake that you get at a health store.

Think about it. You get done working out one Saturday morning, you're sore and exhausted and thirsty. You go to the Juice Stop and deliberate as to what kind of drink to get.

Suddenly, you remember that you had unprotected sex the night before — just order the Plan B Shake. Not only can you eliminate pregnancy, but you can do it with an enjoyable strawberry-banana flavor in your mouth. Yummy.

Add some protein and carbs, and not only can a woman rid herself of that annoying baby, but she can build

up muscle mass too. Order a Plan B Creatine Shake. Or a Metabolift Anti-Baby Pro-Body Health Drink. Available at GNC and other fine health stores.

That's much more enjoyable but maybe not pleasing enough. I bet our scientific research could come up with a way that we could really get satisfaction while we stop the process.

Imagine an anti-baby skin lotion or tanning liquid. Even better, a contraceptive bubble bath. Just pour it in the tub, drift to a dreamy world, and let the bubbles end the pregnancy.

Plan B, take me away!

The only problem with these new, more pleasurable ways to stop conception is that the medicine doesn't always work. Preven only has about a 75 percent success rate because it can stop only conception. If the baby has already begun to grow, then you're out of luck.

But don't fret, you damsels in distress! Earlier this year, the FDA approved testing of RU 486 — a real abortion pill.

It can be taken up to nine weeks after the child starts growing and will end the child's life. All for under a thousand dollars!

And I'm sure we could still make aborting the baby easy with the RU 486 pill — patches, shakes, lotions and whatnot.

Forget about doctor visits or checkups or counseling. Make it quick and easy. The contraception health drink is sure to become a favorite at the Rec Center on the weekends.

Many girls will start taking RU 486 bubble baths on Sunday nights.

Bottom line is, we deserve to end those lives as quickly and as efficiently as we can. And hopefully enjoy it, too.

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