

Fuerst sworn in as president

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"Never forget those people," he said.

Before turning the reigns of ASUN to new senators, the old senate kicked back and passed two light-hearted bills.

The senate voted to name the moose head that hangs in the ASUN president's office. The moose was named "Nusa (ASUN backward) the Moosa."

A resolution was also passed that recommends more desks for left-handed students are installed in classrooms at UNL.

The senate approved Bylaw E, which requires all presidential appointments to student government committees be approved by the ASUN senate.

After all the business was finished, the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska adjourned and the new members were inducted.

Fuerst was sworn in as ASUN President. Jessica Lopez was sworn in as first vice president and Nick Fitch was sworn in as second vice president.

Fuerst said that his administration is looking forward to the next year.

Fuerst said he will immedi-

ately get started on helping the new senators transition into their new roles.

The new senators are already off to a good start, Fuerst said.

"It's encouraging to see senators ready to present legislation," he said.

Fuerst said he wants to start passing legislation that expires at the end of each term. Only bylaws stay on the books after a new senate takes over. Fuerst said that he will look at the last three years of legislation for ideas on what bills to debate.

Fuerst said he is excited to get to work, but he won't forget who made his job a little easier.

"Joel has opened a lot of doors this year that needed to be opened for us to get done what we want to accomplish," he said.

In other news:

Angela Clements was nominated Outstanding ASUN senator by the senate.

Schafer said that Clements served as an inspiration to him.

"She pushed me and always made me remember what I came into office for," he said.

The Outstanding Educator Awards, chosen by students during the February ASUN elections, went to Ross Thompson, a

psychology professor, for a large class; and Keith Gilster, a livestock professor, for a small class.

Students were asked to identify an outstanding professor from a class of more than 60 and fewer than 60.

The Laura Cockson Memorial Scholarship, administered through ASUN, went to Angie Child, a senior biochemistry major.

Cockson was a university student that was killed by a drunken driver on March 14, 1998 in a car accident. The scholarship was awarded by the parents of the deceased student.

Child is the education coordinator of Project Care, an anti-drinking organization, and a board member and volunteer for the Nebraska Council to Prevent Drug and Alcohol Abuse.

Eva Cockson, Laura's mother, said that presenting the award was important to her.

"I can't tell you how much it means to honor Laura every year in the form of a scholarship," she said.

Eva Cockson wept as she reflected on her daughter's life.

"There's always someone missing at family celebrations."

Sales tax could help teachers

TAX from page 1

Revenue Committee, said if the plan is implemented Oct. 1, it should raise about \$32 million for teacher pay by June 30, 2002.

For a full fiscal year, it could bring \$40 million to \$70 million in additional dollars to the state, he said.

If passed, teachers could see salary increases by September, Wickersham said.

The amount of the pay increase would be determined by the schools, he said.

The increase would fund a teacher-pay plan developed by the Education Committee, which would provide \$2,000 for every teacher who has four years of experience or less during the bill's first year.

During the plan's second year, the state would provide \$41 million to schools to boost salaries.

Wickersham said while the sales-tax plan is projected to bring in more money than the \$41 million, it's important the state saves the excess money for the future.

A plethora of bills relating to teacher pay flooded the Education Committee this year, and Wickersham said he thought the committees were making progress by passing the sales-tax increase.

"I think this is a process that has to be taken step by step," Wickersham said.

Napoliello wins RHA election

ELECTION from page 1

goals.

"We tried to study our goals to make sure they were feasible," he said.

Brown said he will finish out his terms as the speaker of the RHA senate and Cather Hall president and then might work on the local government level.

"I think (the results are) what the residents wanted, and that's what they're going to get," Brown

said. "I give congratulations to Bill, and I hope everything goes well for them next year. I think they'll try their best."

Vision Party member Heidi Puckett won the secretarial race against 4U's Joshua Pluta with 319 votes; Pluta received 208 votes.

Puckett said she was happy to win.

"RHA has been one of the greatest organizations I've been involved in since I came to the university," she said.

Puckett said as secretary, she would like to make sure residents are well-represented. She said she plans to create a "comment box," where residents can drop complaints or other comments.

4U's treasurer candidate, Rebecca Overgaard - the only treasurer candidate on the ballot - won with 471 votes.

Overgaard said she wants to carry on some of the goals her party won't get to and be a part of a "cooperative team."

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Legislative Notebook

College savings plan popular

Nebraskans interested in setting money aside for college will have more options if a proposed bill passes through the Legislature.

The bill, introduced by Sen. Don Pederson of North Platte, amends the college savings plan, which was passed last year and implemented Jan. 1.

Pederson's bill passed the first round of floor debate Wednesday. The plan allows anyone to invest money in a college savings account.

The money invested is tax-deductible and earns interest over time, Pederson said.

Originally, the plan said the account must be set up by the time the participant is 18 years old and the money must be withdrawn by the time the participant is 30.

Pederson's bill removes those boundaries, so anyone can start or finish an account at any time.

Pederson's bill also removes the stipulation that said the account must be started with a minimum of \$300.

In its first few months, \$3.5 million has been invested and

more than 1,500 people are participating, Pederson said.

"It's really a great plan," Pederson said. "It's very popular."

Gubernatorial candidates would be elected together

A constitutional amendment passed by the voters in Nebraska last year will have more definite guidelines if a proposed bill is approved by the Legislature.

The bill, introduced by Sen. Ed Schrock of Elm Creek, would make changes to an amendment that states gubernatorial candidates can choose their lieutenant governor candidates, rather than running separately.

Schrock's bill states the gubernatorial candidates must choose their lieutenant governor candidates within 60 days of the primary election.

Schrock's bill passed through the first round of floor debate Wednesday.

"I thought there had to be some sort of deadline - it's the same sort of position that presidential candidates face," Schrock said.

Compiled by Jill Zeman

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