

New councilman Steinman claims city will improve

By Tom Prentiss

Tuesday UNL political science professor Mike Steinman was a member of the Faculty Senate. Wednesday he was a member of the Lincoln City Council.

Steinman defeated incumbent Arlyss Brown for the southeast district council seat in Tuesday's city elections. He outpolled Brown, who was appointed to the council in November, by some 910 votes winning forty out of fifty precincts.

Steinman came to UNL in the fall of 1970. He received his doctorate in 1971 from the University of Chicago. He will be in charge of the political science graduate assistants for the next three years, he said.

His wife Linda is a detective in the Lincoln police department. They have one child, Jonathan, a second grader at the Sheridan School.

It's simple

His reason for running was simple.

"I didn't think the incumbent really knew the interests of the area," said the 36-year-old Steinman adding that, "I think the election results proved that."

He said running was something he has always wanted to do and felt that the time was right because of the "surly behavior" of many of the incumbents.

In Tuesday's election, incumbents Brown, Steve Cook, and City Council chairman Bob Sikyta were all defeated.

Going into the election, he said the Steinman campaign was "pretty confident" about the outcome.

"We had been getting good reports from all over the district," he said. Looking at results Wednesday, he said it showed him winning 70 percent of the vote in some precincts.

Few exceptions

"In some areas we did remarkably well with the exception of some country club areas and the Knolls," Steinman said.

The new district election format was very important in the election, he said.

"People wanted a representative in their district who would speak for them," he said.

Lincoln voters, he added, are discriminating and "about 99 percent of them have a sense of fair play."

"The incumbent did not display that fair play," he stated.

The reason the incumbents were not re-elected Steinman said was because of the council's "arrogant nature." He said there had been a lot of problems caused by the council's actions.

"It's apparent from the election result that the people felt the hassles between the mayor and the council were coming from the council."

He agreed with that analysis and said there wouldn't be similar behavior by the new council.

Council change

With four new council members, the direction of the council is expected to change. His election won't have any real change for UNL, he said.

"I guess the university would want a strong downtown," he said, "but everyone wants that."

He described himself as "just a foot soldier here, a teacher, not a big administrator."

He said the new council won't be anti-business or anti-growth as councilman Leo Scherer indicated. He also said that theories that the new members will vote in a bloc and approve all of the mayor's proposals are wrong.

"The city is going to receive tremendous benefits from the new council," he said. "It will be a constructive council, but we won't vote in a bloc."

He explained that he has worked with Mayor Boosalis on many issues before and has only agreed with her half of the time.

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calendar

12 noon - 8 p.m.—Times Mirror (Southwestern Company) Job Interviews, Room 343


12:30 p.m.—Engineering Mechanics, Room 242

12:45 p.m.—Alcott School-Hastings, North Conference Room

1 p.m.—Muslim Student Association, Room 232

6:30 p.m.—Muslim Student Association, Room 232

7 p.m.—Department of Modern Language, Room 242-243



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