The Daily Nebraskan

Wednesday, May 8, 1968

Outstanding Nebraskan Schrekinger leader of youth suffrage movement



John Schrekinger (third from left), Outstanding Nebraskan Student, meets with the coordinating committee of Nebraskans for Young Adult Suffrage, including Tom Morgan, Jane Ross, Dave Piester, Margo McMaster, Mike Gottschalk, and Bob Beckman.

by Jan Parks Senior Staff Writer

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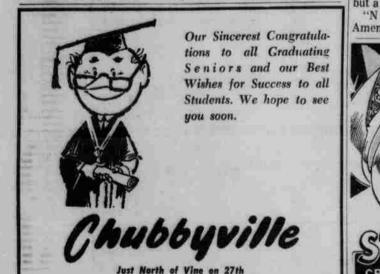
John Schrekinger, a young man who deserves much of the credit for the State Legislature's approval of lowering the voting age, is the Out-standing Nebraskan under-graduate selection.

Classifying himself as a "behind the scenes man," **Research** chairman

Schrekinger was one of the The NCCY appointed accomplis. originators of the Nebraska Schrekinger chairman of are explained. for Young Adult Sufferage research committee on loworganization

"I like to help in the plan- was given permission to pre- he explained, and will be on "which was sent to Missippi week's stay, Schrekinger said, ing and in being an organi-zation's consultant," he said. Legislature during the fall of "The issue has broad su While Schrekinger is not us- 1968," he said.

ually in the limelight, he has made many speeches promot- the originator of the idea or the passage of Amendment I Schrekinger explained that situation in Mississippi. ing Amendment I (lowering not," he said, "because many by Nebraskans in November, four University students the voting age in Nebraska). people in Nebraska started "I'm enough of a 'ham' thinking about lowering the



Schrekinger explained that plained that the original goal nified issue." action toward lowering the to lower Nebraska's voting During his freshman and explaining registration provoting age began in May two to age 18 was amended to sophomore year Schrekinger cedures, and assuring them years ago when he presented age 19 by the legislature. the idea to the Nebraska "Action for lowering " Committee for Children and voting age really started in Committee, serving as treas-Youth. the fall of 1966 when we join- urer his sophomore year.

ering the voting age, "and I passed by a vote of 37 to 11, sophomore," he explained, homes of Negroes for their

port," he continued, as he freedom schools to educate the people there and we got "I don't really know if I'm justified his optimism about Negroes about citizenship." a small glimpse of the real He pointed out that the is-sue is not a partisan issue, enberg, Jo Ellen Williams active part in racial probbut a personal issue.

"Next fall we will give break in Jackson, Mississippi thing that happens in this Amendment I our big push," in 1966 working on a voter country is everyone's prob-



to enjoy making speeches," he voting age at the same time." he explained. "It will be a rebistration drive." noted. The research chairman ex- dignified campaign for a dig-"We went door to door encouraging Negroes to register,

"Action for lowering the Non-Violent Coordinating sed," he explained. The Mississippie trip sponsored by the Young Women's

ed forces with Senator Eu-gene Mahoney who was plan- Power." Schrekinger said. "one of the most valuable edning to introduce a bill to "Black Power confused me ucational experiences I have The NCCY appointed accomplish this purpose," he and I didn't understand it." ever had," he said. "The organization collect-| Explaining that the Univer-

The final legislative vote ed over \$1200 when I was a sity students lived in the to help support various proj- "We didn't change the world. "The issue has broad sup- ects in voter registration and but we were appreciated by

em

Asked whether he felt that and himself spent their spring lems, S. arekinger said, "Any-

> The pre-medical student said that he agrees with Rabbi Ragan who, at a memorial service for Martin Luther King, contended that the Constitution and Declaration of Independence contain only goals to strive for, not descriptive facts of the American system of government. Schrekinger, a member of

> Farmhouse fraternity, said that fraternities "are missing the boat by not pledging all kinds of people - including people of other races and other cultural backgrounds.'

> "It's important for a man to meet as many kinds of peo

nior explained that "grades college," he said. provide an incentive and a reward for studying."

'It's important to learn by the University." reading," he added, "but al-

as Bob Ginn, who is working pointed as an associate jus- the future. on projects promoting open tice again this year. housing laws, are using activities as a valuable educational experience.

Explaining that decision apportionment for college sen- men's honorary. making, on an individual ba- ators to Student Senate, he sis, should also be a part of said. the University's educational program, Schrekinger said, 'I think every student — ex-one of the two students sent occasional columns for the cept maybe freshmen-should by the University to a politic- Daily Nebraskan. be free to decide where they al science conference, the anwant to live.

"Students, by the time they fairs, at West Point, N.Y., honorary, and is a member of sophomore year Schrekinger cedures, and assuring them was a member of the Student that they would not be haras-enough, and should be as free "All aspects of U.S. foreign orary."

study, the first semester se- as students who are not in affairs were discussed by students from colleges all over

versity's financial problems," He stressed the importance Schrekinger said, "but it's Point Military Academy fiof having a good balance be sad if student's freedom of nanced a large part of his tween stuyding and activities. choice has to be cramped by traveling expense, as he ex-

of the ASUN Student Court as trips to this conference and so to learn by doing." of the ASUN Student Court as trips to this conference and He said that students such a sophomore, and was ap-

"I can understand the Uni- tre country," he said. Schrekinger noted that West

pressed his hope that the Uni-Schrekinger was a member versity would sponsor student

Schrekinger, who holds an The main accomplishment upper class Regents scholar-of the court has been to ini- ship, served as president of tiate a more fair way of re- Phi Eta Sigma, a freshman

Active in church work, he served as president and vice A pre-med and political sci- president of Student Religious

He has been initiated into nual conference on U.S. af- Delta Phi Alpha, a German Theta Nu. a pre-medical hon-

ple as possible," he said, "because that's the way the world is."

The Greek system by nature is selective, Schrekinger said, but discrimination by race or any other than a personal basis is wrong.

"The Greek system must act fast to keep in the step with the times or it may die," Schrekinger predicted. Speaking on possible

gressive changes in the University's educational system, he said, "I don't go so far as to say that grades should be abolished."

Remarking that he likes to

Outstanding Nebraskan, John Schrekinger, senior member of Farmhouse, is a pre-med and political science major.



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