

Regents race

Enfranchisement brings, for the first time, an opportunity for students to help temper the ideological steel of the Board of Regents. Two of the eight board members are attempting to hold onto their seats for six more years.

Board chairman Ed Schwartzkopf of Lincoln is both deserving and assured of re-election in November. He is unopposed. But in Omaha, fellow incumbent Kermit

Hansen faces the proverbial rocky election path. Hansen is wrangling over the second district regent seat with former state senator and arch conservative Clifton Batchelder.

Throughout the campaign, Batchelder has promised to mold the University into exactly what it shouldn't be. He has promised that it will no longer serve as a place where distasteful or unpopular ideas can be discussed. Batchelder opposed last fall's Time Out Conference on Human Sexuality because homosexuals participated. He took a similar stand on the spring World in Revolution

Conference on Justice in America. Noting the program included what he called "known revolutionaries," Batchelder neglected the fact that it had been judged as balanced by an arbitration board established by the regents.

"I do not think the taxpayers of this state want this kind of influence on campus," Batchelder said, typically unmindful of First Amendment guarantees to free speech.

Batchelder also sided with those who contended a booklet on birth control shouldn't have been distributed on campus last spring.

And if he had his way, the University would become little more than a high-level vocational school with a goal of producing only components for the employment roles of the nation's industries.

While Hansen's record isn't unblemished, his stands reflect a more moderate and sensitive approach to governing a university.

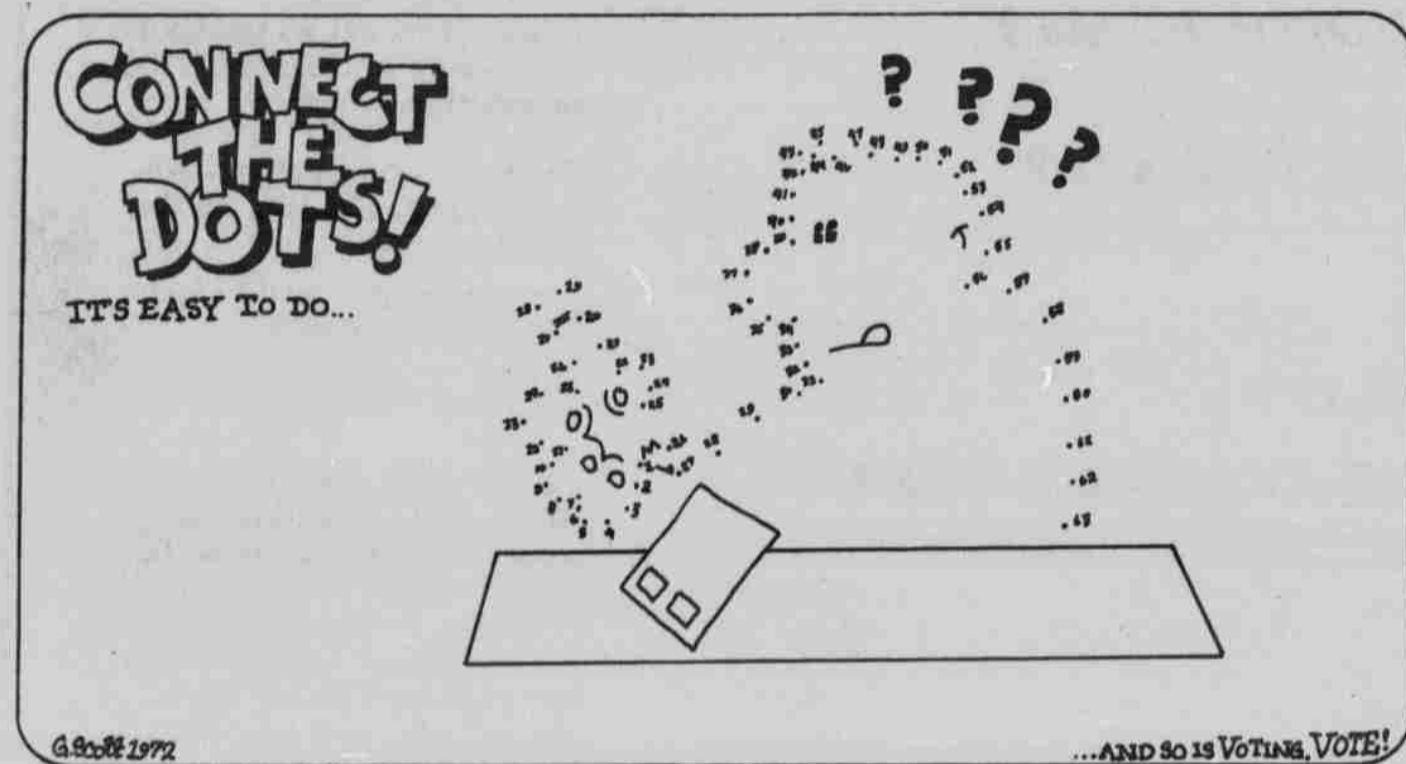
Although he engineered the \$2 million cut in the University's budget request for next year, he generally has supported efforts to upgrade educational quality at the institution.

Hansen stood with five other board members when dormitory coed visitation rules were loosened last year.

Hansen always has backed efforts to make the University of Nebraska at Omaha an equal partner in the University system.

Students registered in Omaha's second regent district should not hesitate to vote for him.

Randy Beam



Pastor Peter Pureheart peeks at politics

Editor's note: Tom Barnett is a student at the Saint Paul School of Theology (Methodist) in Kansas City, Mo. The following article is reprinted from The Epistle, a student publication at the school.

by Tom Barnett

Note: Everyone knows this is an election year in Nebraska. Coach Bob Devinely of the Nebraska Cornfritters is retiring at the end of the current season, and a new commander-in-chief must be chosen. The two leading candidates for the post, George McCoach and Richard Penthouse Trickson, offer dramatically different approaches to coaching. That keen journalist, Pastor Peter Pureheart, has interviewed the two candidates. A brief comparison of the positions of the two on the most pressing issues before the Nebraska public is presented below.

The war in the Big Eight

Trickson: "If we unilaterally withdraw from the Big Eight, those Oklahoma Reds will run roughshod over the rest of the teams in the conference, and Nebraska can never allow that kind of bloodbath to take place.

"Coach Devinely finally ended the 'no win' policy at Nebraska, and we must not go back on his commitment to victory. I will not be the first Nebraska coach in history to permit a losing season!"

McCoach: Trickson wants to continue Devinely's policy of bombing teams like Army and Northwest Idaho A & B (that is, Northwest Idaho State College of Agriculture and Bible) into oblivion. Nebraska is creating the biggest bloodbath in the Big Eight's history, and look at the high price Nebraskans are having to pay: young men with fractured bones, torn ligaments, separated shoulders—all because big business wants to test-market products like AstroTurf and Gatorade. Most young men who are drafted spend four-year hitches of their lives in the jungles of Nebraska and can't even get a job in professional football when they get out.

"I believe with the prophet Isaiah that we must beat our goal posts into hay racks and our sports complexes into cow barns.

Offense and defense

Trickson: "McCoach wants to reduce the number of athletic scholarships, the number of players on the team, the number of plays in the playbook and on and on. In short, if McCoach is elected, he would cut the heart out of the offensive and defensive capabilities of Nebraska.

"Let me make this one thing perfectly clear: Nebraska will never initiate any aggressive football so long as I am the coach. Even if we win the toss of the coin, we will let the other team have the football. But we cannot let Nebraska become a second-rated football team. We must negotiate from a position of strength and not weakness. That's the only kind of negotiation Oklahoma understands.

"We're number one! We're number one! We're number one! We're number one!"

guest opinion

McCoach: I will never allow Nebraska to lose its No. 1 rating, but that is not the issue in cutting back the waste in the Athletic Department. On the Nebraska roster there are 50 players, and every schoolperson (Eleanor broke me of saying 'schoolboy') knows that only 11 can play at one time. And for those 50 players, Nebraska has 86 helmets, 112 jockstraps, tons and tons of weights, 438 cleats and more.

On the offensive team alone, Nebraska has 12 blockers blocking, 11 guards a-guarding, 10 sprinters sprinting, 9 punters punting, 8 centers centering, 7 passers passing, 6 ends a-catching, 5 pulling guards, four running backs, three split ends, 2 personal fouls and a 15 yard penalty.

"And that's not all. Nebraska has 17 team

physicians, 23 water boys, 32 press agents and countless cheerleaders spread out all over America. A poor guy or gal (as the case may be) goes to some remote place like Kansas City with the hope that he won't have to hear about Nebraska, and he runs into one of those thousands of loudmouth Cornshuckers. It just is not fair. I say, 'Come home, Nebraska, come home.'"

Welfare

Trickson: "I believe that everyone who wants to play for Nebraska should be given an opportunity to do so. I believe in the American dream. A player who is 5'9" tall and weighs 140 pounds can play for Nebraska if he will just try hard enough. I am completely opposed to that inflationary idea of McCoach's to give full scholarships to every member of the student body regardless of whether they make the team or not. That is simply un-Nebraskan!"

McCoach: "How many Chinese Americans play for Nebraska? How many women play for Nebraska? How many people over 65 play for Nebraska? I believe the coaches have to provide jobs for those who can't make the team—in concession stands and ticket booths—whatever must be done to see that no one has to go through life without ever having been a Cornsilkeer."

Summary statements

Trickson: "Nebraska may make a few fumbles; they may get a few off-sides penalties; they may miss an extra point now and then. But I have seen a lot of football teams in my life, and there is none better anywhere than the Cornsuckers of Nebraska. It's high time we stopped talking about what's wrong with Nebraska and started talking about what's right with Nebraska."

McCoach: "We have been behind in the polls before. The UPI had my team rated 63rd when we upset Edmund Musty Tech and Humpty Dumpty U. I believe the people of Nebraska will realize that I stand in the great tradition of democratic coaches—like Bud Wilkinson, Knute Rockne, Vince Lombardi, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. So remember those immortal words of Grantlin Rice: 'It's not how you play the game, but whether you win or lose.' Come home, Nebraska!"