Super poll shows UNL students favor Nixon

by Steve Arvanette

President Nixon is favored by students on the UNL campus to win another four-year term in office, and U.S. Senator Carl Curtis holds a nine per cent lead over his opponent in that race, according to results of the Daily Nebraskan Super Poll.

Of the 243 respondents to the random poll who said they were registered or intended to be registered for Tuesday's general election, Nixon was favored by 56.5 per cent to McGovern's 40.5 per cent. Only one per cent of those planning to vote were undecided at the time the poll was taken.

Although only Nixon and McGovern's names will appear on the Nebraska ballot, two per cent of those planning to vote said they would vote for another candidate.

According to the poll, independents favored Nixon by a 56-44 per cent margin. Republicans backed the president 90-9 per cent with one per cent undecided.

Registered Democrats supported their party's nominee by a two-to-one margin (64-32 per cent). One per cent of the Democrats were undecided. Three per cent favored another candidate.

All of those interviewed were asked to rate Nixon's performance as President. Nine per cent rated him as doing an excellent job, 36 per cent as good, 33 per cent fair, 10 per cent poor, 11 per cent unacceptable and one per cent undecided.

When asked to rate the qualifications of McGovern, eight per cent said he was very qualified, 23 per cent said qualified, 26 per cent said competent, 28 per cent said poorly qualified, 10 per cent said unqualified, and five per cent were undecided on the South Dakota Democrat.

In the race for the U.S. Senate, which has incumbent Curtis facing Democrat Terry Carpenter, a large block of students who intended to be registered in time to vote were undecided.



Curtis was favored over Carpenter by 31-23 per cent. However, 33 per cent said they were undecided and 12 per cent did not intend to vote in that race.

University professor Wally Peterson, an unsuccessful candidate for the Democratic Senate nomination, received "write in" support from one per cent of those interviewed.

Curtis gained support from 51 per cent of the Republicans. Six per cent of the Republicans favored Carpenter with 37 per cent yet undecided. Six per cent of the Republicans plannted to not vote in that race.

On the Democratic side, 39 per cent favored Carpenter, 21 per cent Curtis, and 27 per cent were undecided. Two per cent said they would write in Peterson's name and 11 per cent had decided to not vote on the race. Independents favored Curtis by a 22-19 split. A large block of 42 per cent were undecided with 17 per cent not planning to vote for U.S. Senator.

When asked to rate Curtis' performance as senator, one per cent said excellent, 12 per cent good, 27 per cent fair, 24 per cent poor, 20 per cent unacceptable, and 16 per cent were undecided on his performance in Washington.

On how qualified Carpenter was for the job, two per cent said very qualified, 12 per cent said qualified, 22 per cent said competent, 31 per cent said poorly qualified, 15 per cent said unqualified, and 17 per cent were undecided about his qualifications.

Of the 84 per cent who said they were registered to vote when the survey was completed, 49 per cent said they were Democrats.

Republicans comprised 34 per cent with 17 per cent independent.

A similar poll taken in the spring of 1971 by the Daily Nebraskan shows that Democrats have increased their registration lead among students over the past 18 months.

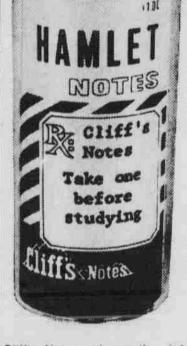
The Super Poll in the spring of 1971 showed students registered Democratic over Republican by a 42-37 per cent margin. Twenty-one per cent claimed registration as independents.

Of the 16 per cent who said they were not registered at the time this year's poll was taken, over half said they would be registered in time to vote in the Nov. 7 election.

Those registered to vote in this year's poll were asked if they were registered in Lincoln or at some other address. Just over half, 52 per cent, said they were registered outside of Lincoln.

The Daily Nebraskan Super Poll explores students' attitudes toward the University Monday.





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