

NU Board of Regents candidates

Two to be chosen for six-year unsalaried terms

By Mary Kay Roth

Four candidates will have left long campaign trails behind them in Nebraska by the time the Nov. 5 election arrives, as they are seeking seats on the NU Board of Regents in two of the largest Nebraska districts.

Two will be chosen by western and central Nebraskans to serve for unsalaried six-year terms.

In the 6th District, which stretches across 32 counties in northern and western Nebraska, Robert G. Simmons Jr. of Scottsbluff confronts John P. Olson of Alliance.

They are seeking the position Camille Elliott of Scottsbluff now holds. She was appointed to finish the term of her husband, John G. Elliott who died in April.

Speaking on campus issues, Olson and Simmons agree students are adults and should be treated accordingly. However, they are both reluctant to allow alcohol on campus. Olson said alcohol is used on campus whether legal or not. He said it was,

therefore, not necessary to pass legislation, since students ignored present laws.

Redundant measure

Both Olson and Simmons said the first amendment in the Nov. 5 election, which proposes to put a nonvoting NU student on the Board of Regents, is a redundant measure. Olson said he sees no purpose in passing the amendment since any student can attend the sessions already.

Simmons also said the amendment did not offer anything new, but said encouraging student participation was a positive move.

He said the amendment won't help but won't hurt either.

Simmons, a 55-year-old attorney, has served on the State Board of Education and the Scottsbluff Board of Education. He was the only Hiram Scott College board member to vote against closing the private school. Although NU has now acquired the school for agricultural programs, Simmons said the college hasn't been given a chance to stand on its own.

He said he worried about the many other "empty classrooms between Lincoln and Wyoming."

"The Board of Regents is not aggressive enough," Simmons said. He said it appeared they agree with the administration the majority of the time.

'Stir things up'

"I wouldn't be another automatic assenting vote," he said, "I like to stir things up."

Although issues are important, Simmons said it comes down to who will be the best regent. He said farmers should have representation, and as an attorney he has represented all the people. He added he thought his opponent can not empathize as well with the farmer.

His opponent, Olson, who operates the Prairie States Cattle Feeding Co., said in a large operation one must farm and feed just like anyone else and so he can also empathize with his constituents.

"I'll compare losses in cattle with anyone else," he said.

Olson advocated expansion in agricultural research at the University. Possibilities include new crop varieties to survive the short growing season and new cattle vaccines to combat diseases.

A newcomer, Harold W. Kay of North Platte, will face incumbent Robert L. Raun of Minden in the November general election for the 7th district. This district spreads over an area in south-central and southwest Nebraska.

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Welsch sole campaigner for weed post

It might not be next Tuesday's most hotly contested election. Nor will it be the best financed campaign. In fact, three of the four men running for Lancaster County Weed Commission aren't campaigning at all.

Only UNL assistant English professor Roger Welsch is campaigning in his battle to unseat incumbents C.V. Keller and Leslie L. Myers Sr. and to defeat fellow challenger Robert A. Weigel.

The commission does much more than decide which weeds to pull, according to Myers who is seeking his second term on the commission.

"Most of the problems we encounter deal with the dispensing of funds and the price we'll charge for our services (of spraying weeds)."

Seed cleaning

Keller said that in addition to the contract spraying for farmers and a current "seed cleaning" program which separates dirt and weed seeds from crop seeds, the commission hopes to start a re-seeding program.

Welsch's campaign includes yard signs according to Weigel, a Lincoln attorney who says he has "not really done anything like he (Welsch) has been doing" in the way of campaigning. To get elected, Weigel says he is relying on friends and contacts he's established in his years in the real estate business.

Keller and Myers are also depending on the low-key campaign to bring them success. "You just can't afford to spend money on a job that doesn't pay," according to Keller. Welsch was unavailable for comment.

Five members

The commission has five members, three from rural areas and two from urban sites, elected in alternating two years.

Keller is running because "you've got to keep interested in something when you're retired." He retired from the penal complex after serving "about 25 years" in a variety of jobs including his final position as superintendent of the complex.

Myers, who has been "very happy with the way things have been run the last four years," is running because he's "naturally interested in county government as most citizens are." He is currently an electronic data processor for an insurance firm and raises livestock.

Weigel, a 1962 NU Law School graduate, said that although he could "sympathize with those who feel that all weeds are good weeds, you've got to control them. Otherwise they'll eat up the countryside."

Welsch said that he disapproved of indiscriminate weed spraying used throughout the state according to a Sept. 25 Daily Nebraskan article.

\$1,000 offered for Forycki clues

The parents of Debra Forycki, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Forycki of Omaha, Monday offered a \$1,000 reward for any information leading to their daughter's recovery.

"We're hoping for any kind of information that the police department can follow up on," Forycki said.

Debra Forycki disappeared Oct. 3 and police investigations have turned up nothing, Forycki said.

Police said Ms. Forycki had planned a lunch date a 11:30 a.m. Neighbors told police they thought they heard Ms. Forycki leave her apartment at 11 a.m. Ms. Forycki did not show up for her luncheon engagement or for work that afternoon, police said.

Forycki's wife Lorraine said her daughter had paid tuition and rent and had not picked up her paycheck from Brandeis before her disappearance. Her daughter would have picked up the money if she had planned to leave, Mrs. Forycki said.

Forycki said without stimulating public interest in the case people will forget about it and police won't find any new clues.

"We don't think she left voluntarily," Forycki said. "We think someone abducted her."

Police investigation had checked out all leads, according to Forycki, so he and his wife decided to offer the reward.

"We have no other course," Forycki said. The longer she says lost, the less chance she's alive."

Police Capt. Lowell Sellmeyer said police have established no connection between the disappearances of Ms. Forycki and Patricia Folley, 23, who disappeared last September.

Sellmeyer said Folley left her two-year-old child with a babysitter and did not return. "Quite strange circumstances" surround the case, according to Sellmeyer.

"It's rather unusual for a woman to leave her child with a babysitter, whom she knew quite well, and not call back," he said.

Although Sellmeyer said police suspect foul play in both incidents, no evidence has confirmed those suspicions.

The Lincoln Police Dept. is asking persons with information relevant to the Forycki case to contact the police department.



Absentee ballots

Students who need absentee ballots for the Nov. 5 election have until Nov. 1 to send a letter of request to the county clerk in their home county.

The letter should include the student's current address, home address and signature.

Absentee ballots must be cast by 8 p.m. on Nov. 5 and be received by the county clerk by 10 p.m. the following night.