



## guest opinion | Losers' sour grape attitude proves voters chose wisely

By Todd Patterson

Having been an ardent reader of the Daily Nebraskan for nearly four years now, I have never been stirred to a point that would warrant writing to the editor. That state has been altered after reading comments made by unsuccessful presidential candidates in the March 17 ASUN election. Statements that make reference to the "fucking Greeks", the incompetency of Bill Mueller, and the purported practice of Greeks voting along living unit lines, cannot go unanswered.

I am a member of the Greek system. I was an ASUN senator and a member of the Executive Board in 1973. During the entirety of my term of office my fraternal affiliation never unduly affected my decision-making capacity. For although I am a part of the Greek system, I am foremost a student of UNL.

It is unfortunate that this status is all too often neglected. An ASUN member belonging to a fraternity or sorority is equally affected by the issues of alcohol on campus, tuition increases and the ultimate use of student fees.

As far as Mr. Mueller's incompetency is concerned, that will have to be proven by time. Having been a senator I can state that an ASUN senator or officer need not have any previous experience or extensive knowledge of the organization to assume office. In fact, past performance would seem to indicate that experience and concretized opinions only shackled the Senate with entrenched view-

points and limited flexibility.

Rhetorical barbs that declare that Greeks vote along fraternal lines challenges my intelligence, as well as the intelligence of other Greek electorates. Obviously, the decisiveness of the victories illustrate that many independents supported the newly elected candidates.

Finally, those losing individuals that cite the Daily Nebraskan publicity as a tool to the Greek slate's success should re-examine their stance.

I congratulate the handling of the election by the newspaper staff. When I ran for office, the paper daily contained blatant endorsements of individuals and parties. During this election the practice was minimal.

As a matter of fact, I believed that the newspaper attention to the Greek slate would prove to be politically fatal to the group. Logically, I assumed that a strong counter wave of independent disgust and apprehension would shatter the slate. Happily, I was proven wrong. I commend the independent voters that voted their conscience rather than automatically condemning Greek candidates to an untimely election defeat. I believe that the caustic and irresponsible remarks made by the rejected candidates serve well to indicate an objective and intelligent choice of future ASUN members. I congratulate you and your embryonic Senate and wish you the best of luck.

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## rarefied air | Legislature braces itself for mighty veto onslaught

By Dick Piersol

As the Nebraska Legislature enters the final four days of the 1976 session, the senators' concerns turn to hurried passage of those bills which must be passed. First, they will finish the work on budget matters and then, those bills most important to them.

They also prepare the cadres for what is sure to be a wealth of vetoes from the governor's office. Gov. J. James Exon has pledged to hold the line on taxes, perhaps reduce them, and intends to use his line-item veto power liberally.

The line-item veto is a peculiar power. The governor may reduce appropriations by any amount he wishes. He may not increase an appropriation.

The senators may restore an appropriation with 30 vetoes. But to override a line-item veto in a given bill, they must override all vetoes in that bill. That makes it a lot tougher to get the 30 vetoes required, especially when almost all appropriations are contained in a few bills. This year most state agencies' appropriations are in LB691, with higher education appropriations in LB690.

### Power pendulum

In an attempt to swing the power pendulum the other way, the senators voted last session to submit a constitutional amendment to the voters in the November general election. That amendment would permit the senators to override individual line-item vetoes in a bill, while letting others stand.

The senators meet three days this week and will return for one day next week to consider the governor's vetoes.

Time caught up with the Legislature, as usual, this year. The final chapter of what they accomplished is yet to be written, but because of the time limitations, we know what they apparently considered priorities. Those are the bills left on general file to die of neglect. Some of them will be revived in the next session, some never will be seen again.

Some of the items left behind include the entire revised

Nebraska Criminal Code. This legislation most certainly will be revived next January. Along with the code revision, LB702, Omaha Sen. Ernest Chambers' bill to abolish the death penalty, subsequently amended by the Judiciary Committee to require capital punishment in certain cases, cannot pass. It is doubtful Sen. Chambers will cease his efforts to outlaw capital punishment.

### Nebraska Coordinating Commission

Also left on general file is a bill to establish a Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Higher Education. Everyone seems to agree legislation is needed in that area, but practically no one agrees on how to go about it.

Other sacrificed legislation includes: establishment of county civil service commissions; uniform and cleaning allowances for state patrolmen; guaranteed privacy for a student's school records; requirements that polling places be accessible to handicapped voters and provisions for voter registration by mail; increased exemptions from inheritance taxes to \$300,000; provision for state recreational trails and a Nebraska Trails Council; an allowance for pharmacists to sell drugs by generic rather than commercial names (at a cost savings to customers); specifications for limited life of state agencies and legislative review thereof; requirements that those receiving unemployment compensation accept public service employment; the American Indian Arts and Craft Act prohibiting false labeling and sales; and an act permitting voluntary recitation of the Lord's prayer and the pledge of allegiance in elementary schools.

Some of those bills may deserve their oblivion, others failed for no good reason except time or someone's failure to pull the right strings at the right time.

One bill remaining on general file that most senators wish would go away forever requires the Legislature, rather than the State Board of Equalization, to set sales and income tax rates.

The senators appropriate the money. They should also be directly responsible for raising it.

## letters to the editor

In response to several letters in the editorial section of the Daily Nebraskan of March 17 concerning minorities, I have something to say. Minorities are minorities because the Anglo majority makes them minorities. So you, the Anglo majority, have nothing to say since you are the cause of why the minorities are what they are today. As long as you, the majority, put down the minority you caused, you will always get reactions from them.

Chicana

### Krig a valid candidate

I was shocked by both the attitude and logic expressed in a letter to the editor on Wednesday, March 17 that criticized UNL student, Charlie Krig's candidacy for UNL regent. The attitude of "let's let our elders take control" does not even attempt to veil the underlying implication that UNL students are infantile and naive. This is precisely the attitude that has prevented those students who are mature adults from gaining the respect and responsibility that is the right of all people.

This attitude leads to the kind of faulty logic, stereotyped concepts, and ridiculous questions like "What does a UNL sophomore know about being a regent?" The question should be, what does a regent know about UNL?

Being an NU student would be a definite asset for a regent to be sensitive to student, faculty members and administrative needs, and be available for input from these sources.

Steve L. Osborn

### Efficient organization

I would like to take this opportunity to tell Mr. Paul Morrison that I feel he had become a victim of the more efficient so called "Greek slate," and its organization to get voters to vote. As far as the common student can tell, your campaign didn't reach many people in the sense of appealing to your photograph. So motivating people through friends and living units, as Bill Mueller did, seems to be far more effective. It's a shame for you to be so bitter since there was at least 96 per cent of the student body that you could have appealed to in trying to defeat Mueller, since he only received about 4 per cent of the support of the students. The resources were there, but the organization was poor.

For as far as not knowing what the ASUN Senate does, as Bill Mueller claims he does not, may I ask who really does know? In the three years I've attended UNL it seems that no one can get it to work at all. I've yet to see a major issue pass that affects the average student.

Neal Dunning

### Real issues ignored

Okay, so the Greeks are back after an absence of a few years—so big deal, (Got your ire up?)

Look at this election from the outside, from the majority of students who are not in the ASUN Senate or on one of the committees. From out there, the ASUN Senate looked like a lot of people with an inflated picture of their group importance. We see seemingly trivial and petty bickering over straws in the wind from a group so insecure it can't be open-minded enough to tolerate a little dissent. The ASUN vs. CSL controversy, because of a little "Wrongspeak", conjured up visions of the Red Queen screaming "off with their heads." At the very least, the ASUN Senate did a very poor job of looking important, effective or even necessary.

And this election-wow! The campaigns were blah, at least for those of us who work and missed the "big debate." The posted material and the sophomoric quotes in the Daily Nebraskan all sounded like "Tweedle Dum vs. Tweedle Dee vs. the Boogie Man."

There are some real issues, some real problems, some things that do need work. From here (i.e.: a non-in-crowder) it looks like some key considerations were being largely ignored.

The Stupid Americans Party was the only one that did anything different—a bit of comic relief that helped the otherwise murky and mundane UNL version of a Romper Room circus.

Let's give 'em a chance before casting the first stones. It may be that previous noninvolvement on the part of Mueller will provide a fresh perspective, a much needed fresh perspective.

Don Sutton

### Rezoning tactic

On March 17, a hearing was scheduled before the City Planning Commission concerning the rezoning of the property at 1325 and 1319 R St. McDonald's Restaurants will complete the contract to buy this land from Nebraska Bookstore Co. if it is rezoned for business.

At the hearing I was told that it had been postponed until April because the person representing the applicant for rezoning was ill. This may be true; but if the hearings stretch out into the summer, interested student groups will not be able to attend. I hope this is not a tactic to make concerned people lose interest.

A publicly scheduled hearing should be held as planned. The applicant should have sent a substitute representative.

Paula Surmann