

Expensive primary campaigns may pay off Tuesday

Analysis by L. Kent Wolgamott

The most expensive primary campaign in the state's history will come to a close next Tuesday when voters go to the polls to choose their party's nominees for the fall campaign.

The race contributing most to the record spending is in the Republican campaign for governor.

The leading spender in the race is Stan Juelfs, a Kimball oilman, who pledged to spend enough of his own money — more than \$200,000 — to make his name known across the state.

His strategy seems to be working, as recent polls show him in second place.

Former North Platte mayor, Robert Phares, has spent more than \$150,000 to expand his strong base in the third Congressional district.

Phares' support in western Nebraska

and among younger voters has him running virtually even with Juelfs.

The leader in the race is 1st district Rep. Charles Thone, who is leaving a "safe" seat in Congress to run for governor.

Thone's eight years in the House and long time involvement with the Republican Party have provided him with a high degree of recognition and a rather comfortable lead in the polls.

Thone has spent nearly the same amount of money as Phares.

The fourth major contender for the GOP nomination for governor, former Wesleyan University President Vance Rogers, has dropped from his early second place position in the polls.

On the democratic side of the ticket, Lt. Governor Gerald Whelan faces only token opposition from Robert Hansen and will face the Republican nominee in

November.

The only major contest on the Democratic party is the race for Thone's Congressional seat.

Lincolnites Hess Dyas and Bruce Hamilton are competing with Allen O'Donnell of Wayne for the democratic nomination.

Dyas, the 1974 nominee for the seat he currently is seeking and a 1976 candidate for the democratic nomination for the U.S. Senate, has a very large lead.

Running against Dyas is "almost like running against an incumbent," according to Hamilton, who is second in the polls.

O'Donnell, a Wayne State College professor and former Democratic National Committeeman, is running behind Dyas and Hamilton because of their Lincoln bases and recognition from earlier campaigns.

Two Republicans hope to succeed Thone and keep the seat in GOP hands.

They are State Sens. Douglas Bereuter and Loran Schmit.

This race is characterized by the greatest ideological split of any race between the conservative Schmit and the more moderate Bereuter.

The latest polls have shown Schmit leading, but the race is still too close to call.

In the 2nd District, incumbent John Cavanaugh faces only token opposition from John McCourt and will probably meet Hal Daub, the probable Republican nominee in the general election this fall.

The race for the U.S. Senate in the general election will pit Gov. J. James Exon, who is unopposed in the primary against Don Shasteen, former administrative assistant to retiring Sen. Carl Curtis.

In the 3rd Congressional District, both incumbent Virginia Smith and her democratic challenger Marilyn Fowler are unopposed and will run in the fall.



Kelly Combs and Diana Schleiger enjoy a nice spring afternoon before the perils of finals week.

Photo by Mark Billingsley

Union Board mix-up opens door of closed session

By Georgene Cetak

Contrary to a vote taken at the last Nebraska Union Board meeting, the May 3 board meeting will be open to the public.

A misunderstanding at a closed portion of the April 26 meeting led to a vote to close a special May 3 board meeting, according to Nebraska Unions Director Al Bennett and Union Board executives.

About a half hour of the April 26 meeting was closed, as requested by Bennett. Bennett left after the closed portion of the meeting and in open session

the board voted almost unanimously to close the May 3 meeting.

"Bennett asked for a special session (May 3). Somehow 'special session' became 'closed session,'" said Vance Colling, Union Board vice president.

The May 3 meeting will deal with two agenda items from the April 26 meeting. The meeting will include discussion on by-law and Union Program Council changes and a task force proposal dealing with assessment of Union services.

Executive board officers said the closed portion of the April 26 meeting was called because of internal board problems.

Board member Clay Statmore said the closed portion of the meeting dealt with Bennett's concern for his professional reputation and "perhaps the reputation of an individual not on the Union Board."

Bennett confirmed there had been a misunderstanding about closing the May 3 meeting and that the April 26 meeting was closed because of internal board problems and because he was concerned about his reputation as Union director. Bennett also confirmed that he had had ongoing conflicts with UNL graduate students Frank Thompson and Bob Simonson.

Simonson and Thompson spoke out

against Union renovations at one of three open hearings. The open hearings concerned Union renovations that would include a possible delicatessen, plant shop, travel agency, variety store and candy and ice cream store.

The officers said the closed portion of the meeting dealt indirectly with people not on the board.

"It's been an ongoing thing. . . It's the third account of this slight problem. It has been dealt with openly before," said Mark Knobel, Union Board president.

"There are not that many people on the board involved," Colling said.

Knobel said he had no objection to closing the April 26 meeting.

"If the problem escalates, the public will find out about it," Colling added.

But Knobel said he was satisfied the problem was solved.

Knobel described the "political atmosphere" surrounding the Union Board in the last month as "shaky and electrical, concerning things that happened at open hearings."

"Bennett wanted to air out some problems. Nobody responded," Statmore said.

Bennett was concerned with problems

facing the board which would reduce his effectiveness with it, Statmore said.

Bennett was looking for allegations from the board but found none, according to Statmore.

Bennett would not elaborate on the purpose of the closed meeting.

"It is my career that I'm concerned about, as well as the future of the Union. The purpose of the closed session was served," Bennett said.

wednesday

'Aisle' leave U

All graduating seniors must inform the office of records today whether or not they are attending commencement ceremonies.

Because students will be receiving their degrees on stage, the office of records must have the names to organize and alphabetize them.

Students can give the information by stopping at the office of records, Administration Building 208, or by calling 472-3636.

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