

Thone promises new era of progress as governor

By L. Kent Wolgamott

Charles Thone was elected the 34th governor of the state of Nebraska Tuesday evening in a race which was not as close as some had expected.

Thone, who defeated Democratic Lt. Gov. Gerald Whelan, was leading by 27,074 at 1:30 a.m. according to Associated Press.

The Thone victory was called by United Press International at 9:20, but following political tradition, Thone delayed his acceptance statement until after Whelan had conceded defeat.

Raising his arms in the traditional victory sign to supporters at the Lincoln Hotel, Thone said he hoped a new era of progress would begin in Nebraska, progress through the widest possible participation in state government, progress through the advancement of what is best for all the people in the state of Nebraska.

"All you people want a guy who is decent, a guy who is honest, and I pledge to recommit myself tonight to the pledge I made when I entered the race on January 4th.

"We pledge ourselves to economy and efficiency in government, honesty and integrity in government, listening to all of you people and to all of the people in the state of Nebraska to make this life in Nebraska a better life."

"I want to repeat a strong statement in which I believe so firmly. You heard me talk about it in '59, '60 and I meant it then and I mean it now and the polls reconfirm this 'we're for Charley Thone.'" Thone told his cheering supporters.

"We're for his policy and principles, we're not against anyone."

Whelan, conceding defeat to Charles Thone at about midnight over Omaha's KETV, said he felt he had the responsibility to "call the shots the way they are." If we lose votes, we lose votes. But I don't feel too badly about it."

"You're looking at a proud candidate. If we're beat, we're beat, but I don't feel bad a bit."

Whelan said he felt proud because he had gotten across his message that he was an open, accessible candidate. He said even though some of his views were not popular, he is glad the issues were brought before Nebraskans.

Whelan said he did not get as many Douglas County votes as he expected because there was a "big Republican get-out-and-vote-campaign" in Omaha.

"I don't look back. I am a strong person and have a strong family," he said. "I am a gracious loser, but would have been a fine governor for this state."

Whelan said he looks forward to practicing law again. But, he added, my main concern now is that we beat those damn Okies on Saturday."

State Sen. Roland Luedtke, Thone's running mate, agreed the heavy vote for the Republican candidates in Omaha aided their candidacy, but he said they could have trailed the Democrats in Omaha by a small margin and still won the race.

Luedtke said they will be "working on the entire gamut of problems of transition of administration" between now and January.

"In the midst of all this I will stand ready to assist the governor elect in anyway I can.

"This will be a real team effort, it was a team victory, we will work as a team, a whole new approach with a strong lieutenant governor leading up to strong government."

Thone and Luedtke both turn 55 on Jan. 4, inauguration day.

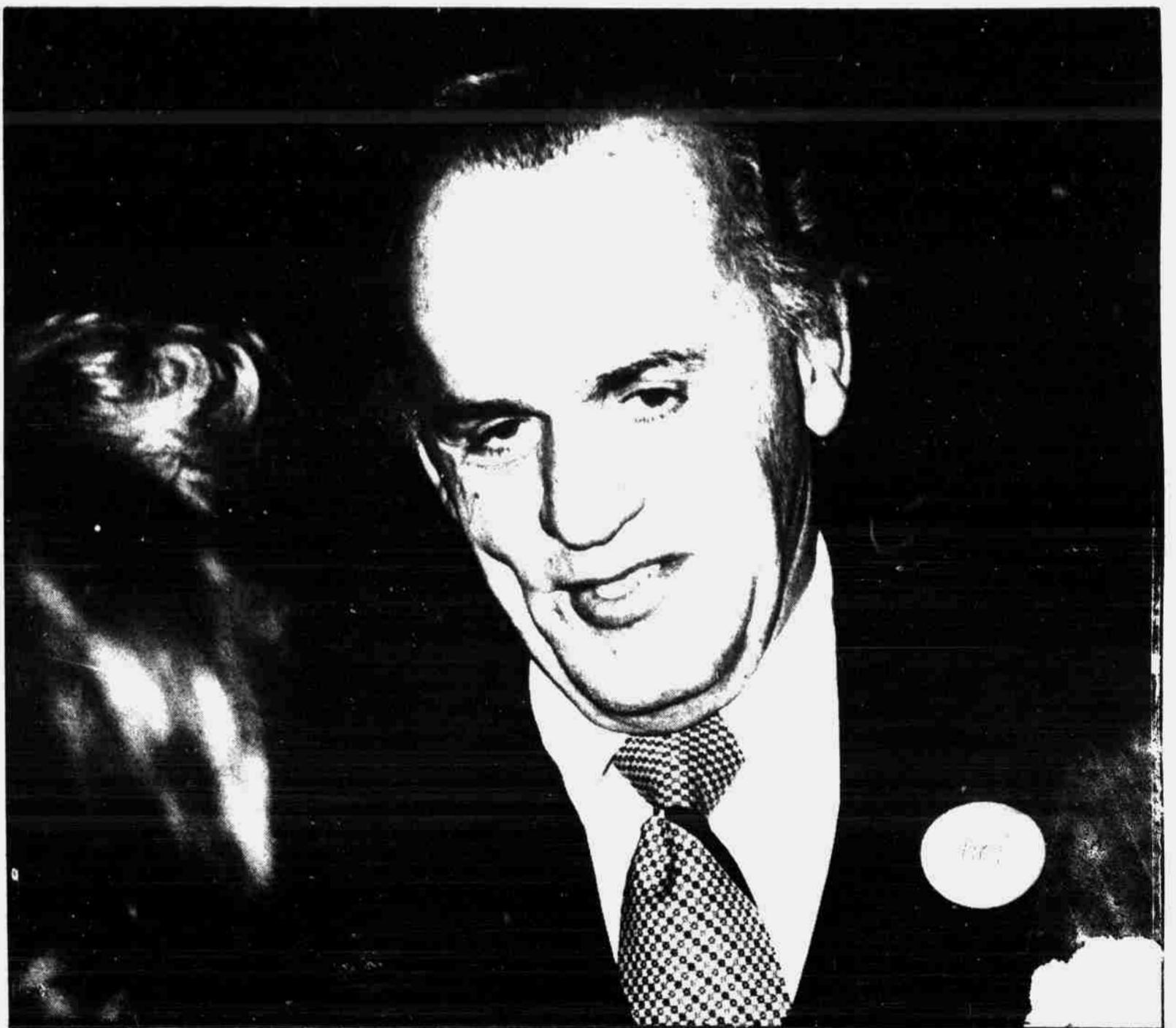


Photo by Ted Kirk

Governor-elect Charles Thone receives congratulations from well-wishers following his election over former Democratic Lt. Gov. Gerald Whelan of Hastings. Thone had served in the House of Representatives since 1970 before being elected governor.

C
B
P

Wednesday Ladies' Night

4:30 - Closing

45¢ lbs. of beer for Ladies.

Highball
Drinks
for Ladies **50¢**

at the bar

The new lights are
on at C, B, & P's Disco,
The Yacht Club.

Chesterfield

Bottomsley

Potts

Public House, Ltd.

Gunny's 13th & Q 475-8007

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the ride!

Get to know your Profs!

At the
UNL Marketing Club
and
Delta Sigma Pi
Student-Faculty Mixer

Thursday, Nov. 9
3:30-5:30
Chesterfield's-Yacht Club

PUT YOUR
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Air Force Engineering team arrives from San Antonio, Texas, November 15. Interviews will be conducted with Junior and Senior engineering students at the Placement Office, second floor, Student Union, 10 until 5. Bring transcripts.