

Chambers says racists oppose D.C. representation

By Barb Richardson and Gordon Johnson

Many people and senators in Nebraska are racists, according to State Sen. Ernie Chambers, and that is the reason an amendment giving the District of Columbia representation in Congress is not supported by most state senators.

The Nebraska resolution, LR 30, rejects a proposed amendment to the U.S. Constitution allowing the District of Columbia voting representation in Congress. The proposed amendment, giving the district two senators and at least one representative in Congress, passed Congress Aug. 22, 1978. Thirty-eight states must ratify the resolution before 1985.

According to Sen. Rex Haberman, Nebraska Sens. Ed Zorinsky and James Exon and Reps. Virginia Smith and Doug Bereuter are against giving the district representation. Rep. John Cavanaugh favors the amendment.

States ratifying the amendment include New Jersey, Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, Massachusetts and Connecticut. New Mexico and Idaho passed resolutions rejecting the amendment.

Haberman introduced LR 30 with the signatures of 30 senators in March 1979. The resolution was referred to the Government, Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee on May 21 for a public hearing, which was Friday.

Sen. Dave Landis of Lincoln, agrees with Chambers, saying that Nebraskans are against the amendment because the district has a large population of black democrats.

Sen. Don Dworak of Columbus said that nine out of 10 people in the district are democrats. It is the only area that George McGovern carried in the 1972 presidential election.

"IF THIS AREA were outside Arizona and populated

by very conservative people, people would be lining up on different sides," Landis said.

"My primary objection is that some people in Nebraska are saying 'let's put these people in their place,'" Chambers said.

"Racism is worse in this state than its probably ever been," Chambers said. Federal lawsuits against police departments, fire departments and the Omaha school district are examples of the racism, he said.

"I see the largest university of the state practicing racism," Chambers said. He added that UNL's football program, cheerleading and administration are examples of the university's racist nature because the programs dehumanize people.

"I believe without any doubt in my mind that racism is behind this opposition," Chambers said.

Dworak said he opposed the constitutional amendment because it gives the district similar rights as states without making it a state.

"CONGRESS HAS feathered a nest for themselves," he said. Congress wants to give the district representation, but does not want to make it a state because Congress will lose some of their power, Dworak said.

"I am opposed to the amendment, but we want to send a message to the Potomac loud and clear," Dworak said.

Sen. Vard Johnson of Omaha questioned the need to address the issue now because the Legislature has until 1985 to decide on the Amendment.

Sen. Shirley Marsh of Lincoln, also said that there is time to look at the amendment. She added that more research should be done on it.

However, Haberman said he wants the issue to be decided soon because it is an issue that he campaigned on.

"I DON'T WANT Nebraska to be caught in the same position it was caught in several years back in the equal rights amendment," Sen. Orval Keyes of Springfield said.

He said he was worried that if the Legislature made a decision now, it might not be able to change its decision if senators changed their minds.

Virginia Luke, representing the League of Women Voters of Nebraska, said that Washington, D.C. residents are taxed and should be given the right to vote.

"They pay more federal taxes than 11 states," she said. "They pay higher per capita federal taxes than all but Alaska."

"And a fact that concerns many, we know the representatives of the District of Columbia are not always going to vote the way we would like. But even our own Nebraska representatives often don't vote together on an issue so why should we expect otherwise from D.C.?" she asked.

Luke said that she thinks that Congress does not want to make the district a state because it will lose some of its power in the area.

"The real issue is that there are still people that will want to dominate over the people in D.C.," Chambers said.

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sports shorts

Chris Haas placed 13th and the Nebraska women's team finished fifth in the six-team Husker Cross Country Invitational Friday at Pioneers Park.

Janel LeValley of Kansas State won the meet with a time of 19:10 to lead the Wildcats to the team title with 36 points.

Kearney State's Mary Torson placed second at 19:12 to help the Antelopes to a fourth place finish.

Haas ran the course in 19:51 for UNL's highest finish. Other Nebraska points came from Nancy Popken, 21:37 (28th); Cindy Vickers, 22:13 (32th); Sally Sneller, 22:48 (34th); Rhonda Seymour, 22:51 (35th).

Following Kansas State in team scoring were Missouri 47, Kansas 59, Kearney State 103, Nebraska 142 and UNO 145.

Women win tennis dual

Nebraska's top five singles players won matches Friday to lead the women's tennis team to an 8-1 trouncing of Southwest Missouri State.

Husker JVs top Jayhawks

Ricky Simmons returned the opening kickoff 99 yards for a touchdown to spark the Nebraska junior varsity to a 17-8 victory over the Kansas reserves Friday afternoon at Memorial Stadium.

Nebraska, which led 15-0 at the half, also scored on a two-yard run by I-back Dennis Rogan in the first quarter. The extra point attempt after both touchdowns failed. Just three seconds into the second quarter Mark Hagerman kicked a 27-yard field goal to end the Huskers offensive scoring for the contest.

Kansas sliced the NU lead in the third quarter on a 15-yard pass from quarterback Steve Smith to Skip Holmes. Smith also ran for the two point conversion to put KU within reach of a victory.

However, the Husker defense, which swarmed the Jayhawk offense for most of the afternoon, gave Nebraska a more comfortable lead when defensive end Todd Spratte slammed into Smith and pulled him down for a safety.

The Nebraska defense so bothered Kansas in the second half that the Jayhawks had a net loss of 23 yards and had only two first downs. KU also punted 11 times in the contest.

NU, now 4-2 on the season, will host Kansas State at 3 p.m. Friday in a dual match.

Huskers split with KU

Freshman Linda Mizener hurled a five-hitter in the second game of the UNL softball team's doubleheader with Kansas, enabling the Huskers to take a split in a doubleheader against the defending regional titlists.

The 3-1 Nebraska win came after Kansas won the first game.

In the second game, Julie Uryasz slammed a triple with Laura Lowe on first as the Huskers took a 1-0 first-inning lead.

After KU tied the score in the second inning, Kathy Foley scored on Lowe's sacrifice fly to give the Huskers all the runs they needed.

In the fifth inning, the Huskers added an insurance run. Candy Hoffman, who singled, moved to third, then scored on Alison Bodley's single.

For the afternoon, Kansas had only 115 yards of total offense, 90 through the air and 25 on the ground.

Nebraska, which had only one first down in the second half, had 133 yards rushing and 108 passing. The Huskers fumbled nine times and lost it six times, including three in the final three minutes.

Roger Craig had accounted for most of NU's yardage with 105 yards on 16 carries. Doug Wilkening finished with 32 yards on five carries.

Quarterback Nate Mason completed only two passes in five tries but they went for 44 yards to Tim Alberico and 64 yards to Tony Ochsner.

First-year freshman coach Frank Solich was pleased with the defensive play of the Huskers and the fact that his team, with only one non-freshman, played well against a group of upperclassmen.

The Kansas roster consisted of 31 non-freshman of the 54 who suited up. On offense Kansas started two seniors and three juniors, while the defense included four sophomores and a junior.

Nebraska, now 3-0 on the season, next travels to Missouri on Nov. 2. The junior varsity closes out the season Nov. 9 at Kansas State.

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