

# Volunteer service helps non-traditional students

By Kent Warneke

For the more than 2,000 non-traditional students at UNL, a new program called Volunteers in University Education has been started to provide educational information through a telephone help-line, the program's coordinator said.

Irene Johnson, college counselor for the Division of Continuing Studies, said there are many people in school, especially older adults, who need a support system. This program is designed to help, Johnson said.

"When adults come back to school, they're out of their common ground and it's a rather frightening experience," Johnson said. "They're older and so everyone expects them to be in control and command of everything, but that's not always the situation."

The VUE program has 10 regular volunteer workers to staff the telephone line, 472-6265. The line is on the air during the noon hour Monday through Thursday and during the dinner hour Tuesday and Wednesday.

The volunteers have information about classes, program policies and university personnel for a student to receive help in getting admitted, registered or advised, Johnson said.

Another important part of the VUE program is a support system with other students who have had experiences or problems like those of the person calling in, she said.

"The student volunteer will always refer a caller to the Division of Continuing Studies if so requested and then we'll try and set something up with a counselor or other students. Hopefully their problems or concerns will be solved," Johnson said.

Johnson said that many adult students are the only non-traditional students in many classes. He said it is a good experience for two older people to be able to get together and help each other.

Johnson also said that as an outgrowth of the help-line a "lunch with friends" is being started. They will

try and meet the first Friday of every month to visit, eat lunch and share concerns with all adults or non-traditional students.

Johnson said she felt VUE was a great additional service for non-traditional students and that it gave them a feeling that someone does care and is there to help them with any problems they may have.

# UNL presidential campaigns gear up

By Tom Prentiss

UNL students interested in working on presidential campaigns have three recognized groups to choose from.

Records in the Campus Activities and Programs office show that groups have been formed to support Republican candidates Ronald Reagan and John Connally and Democratic candidate Edward Kennedy.

Glenn Maloney, CAP program consultant, said each group has filed a letter of intent with the CAP office. Those letters must be followed by a constitution within 60 days of the letter, so the group may remain recognized and be allowed to use UNL premises, Maloney said.

Maloney said groups on file are the UNL Students for Reagan, Connally for President Youth Committee and UNL Students for Kennedy.

Leaders of each group said they expect strong student support for their candidate.

Brad Ross, a journalism and English major, is head of UNL Students for Reagan, which was organized in September. He said the biggest problem his group has had is finding a sponsor for the conservative Reagan from what he called a "fairly liberal faculty."

Susan Welch, political science chairperson became the sponsor recently, Ross said. She does not support Reagan

politically, but is serving as sponsor so the group may be recognized.

### CAP compromise

Because it took so long to find a sponsor, Ross said some compromises may have to be made by the CAP office.

"A student organization should not be penalized because the faculty wasn't interested," Ross said.

He said he expects to have the required constitution in by the end of this week.

Ross estimated that about 50 people are working for Reagan on campus. But, if Reagan were to make an appearance on campus, Ross said he would draw more than 500 students.

Reagan's loss to George Bush in the Iowa caucuses were proof that Reagan won't be able to "campaign as an incumbent," Ross explained.

People want candidates to debate in the 1980 election and Ross said he thinks Reagan will be able to do so without splitting the party.

He said he doesn't expect Reagan to win the New Hampshire primary on Feb. 26 because his support is weak in the East.

"I think he'll probably tie or lose by a slim margin," Ross said.

### Connally group

Karen Elaine Smith, head of the Connally group, said she expects her candidate to do "extremely well" in New Hampshire.

Smith, a junior interior design major, said the Connally committee has been organized since December.

She estimated more than 100 students are working for Connally on campus and in Omaha.

Like the sponsor of the Reagan group, the Connally faculty sponsor does not support the candidate but is doing so to allow the group to proceed with activities, she said. She said the Connally sponsor asked to be unidentified.

Overall, the Connally campaign is "doing very well," Smith said.

Support is growing in Nebraska and she said Connally already has the support of former governor Norbert Tiemann and former Sen. Carl T. Curtis.

People should watch the results of the South Carolina primary in early March as a show of Connally strength, Smith said.

UNL Students for Kennedy is headed by sophomore Debyi Rotschafer, a political science major. The Kennedy group filed in late January, she said.

### Faculty support

Rotschafer said the group is trying to recruit volunteers. Five people are involved in the group now, but she said that number soon will increase.

"Right now, we are trying to come up with places for Kennedy to speak on campus," she said.

John Peters, political science professor, is the faculty adviser, she said. Other UNL faculty members supporting Kennedy include English professors Donald Gregory and Hugh Luke, she added.

Gregory is the statewide chairman and Luke is the state press coordinator.

Rotschafer said she doesn't think President Carter will knock Kennedy out of the race early.

"I think Kennedy will take it all the way," she said.

She said Kennedy's loss to Carter in the Iowa caucuses meant nothing and added that Carter's whole candidacy is riding on what is happening in Iran and Afghanistan.

About the recurring question of Chappaquiddick, she said that many people are concerned about it but she thought the press had "overblown it."

Kennedy's major policy address at Georgetown University last month showed the American people that Kennedy is a stronger leader with a better domestic policy than Carter, Rotschafer said.

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