## New Jersey senator: Demos need new ideas

By Pat Higgins

Hastings - The Democratic Party has to come up with a new agenda of ideas to govern the country rather than merely run for re-election, Sen. Bill Bradley, D-N.J., said Saturday.

In an interview before giving a fund-raising speech for Sen. Edward Zorinsky, Bradley said that his agenda of ideas includes his "fair tax" proposal that is now being

considered in Congress.

The "fair tax" plan would retain a progressive income tax system while closing loopholes for high-income brackets and would raise additional revenue.

"The most significant outcome of the Democratic mini-convention, besides the unity show, was the endorsement of the Bradley-Gephardt fair tax plan," Bradley said. Rep. Richard Gephardt, D.-Mo., is sponsor of the bill in the House.

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Bradley said the battle in the next few years will be over the fair tax plan as opposed to the flat tax rate being proposed by many Republicans.

Interest groups get too many special deals in the tax

code now, Bradley said. "There is widespread opinion among the public that the tax system has to be overhauled. Lou Harris called me the other day and said that a poll he has just taken shows a 58 percent majority in favor of the 'fair tax' plan," Bradley said.

In a cover story a few months ago in Esquire magazine. Bradley was called one of the leaders of the neoliberal wings of the Democratic Party. However, Bradley said he did not appreciate the term.

"If I were to label myself, I would say that I'm a Democratic realist," Bradley said.

On a subject of particular concern to students, Bradley said cuts in student loans and aid to education are shortsighted. Student aid is an investment in human capital. he said.

"I think the cuts in student aid strike at one of the best things about this country, upward mobility. Education has always been the way that people could improve themselves. By cutting education aid, a big chunk of the American dream is being torpedoed," Bradley said.

The recession is caused by the Republican policies enacted in 1980 and 1981, Bradley said. Unemployment is at its highest point since the Great Depression and interest rates have been at their peak since the end of World War II, he said.

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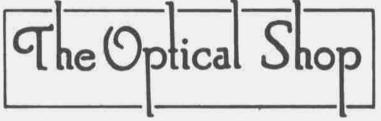
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Staff Photo by Dave Bentz David Brooks

Chemistry course renovator, Brooks, vying for award

By Kathleen Green

Chemistry 109 students taught by Professor David Brooks are not dealing with an average instructor.

Brooks was one of six teachers to be recognized as a 1982 professor of the year finalist at the annual convention held by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education in Toronto.

CASE will announce the winner, who will receive \$5,000, during National Higher Education Week, Oct. 2 through 9.

"The biggest thing that makes Brooks such an outstanding educator at UNL is the dramatic renovation of Chemistry 109," said James Carr, assistant chariman of the chemistry department.

Recently all material for this course was changed by Brooks, he said. At the start of this semester, a large amount of material written by Brooks will be presented, such as films and slides.

"He also oversaw the production of the video and slide shows, which is a big job in itself," Carr said. Brooks has done a great deal of study and research to find out how students learn, he said.

To become a better than average teacher, Brooks said he believes one should "spend a lot of time with the stu-

dents and also organize content." Brooks began teaching at UNL in 1973, Since then he has taught Chemistry 109, 110, 113 and 114, and teaches five sections of 109 in the fall and two sections in the spring. Each section is open to almost 200 students, and sometimes more.

Brooks said he tries to reach out to all his students and make them feel more comfortable by learning all of their

In addition to teaching Chemistry 109, he is the freshman chemistry coordinator. He is responsible for laboratory programs, registration of almost 3,000 freshmen, supervision of three non-faculty members involved in lab and lecture, choosing textbooks and running the research laboratory, Carr said.