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Budget concerns 8th District regent candidates

Jackson against lump-sum budget for NU system

By Linda Liekhus

Regent candidate Sharon Donnermeyer Jackson's involvement with the university system and her "gaining interest" in the administration of the university prompted her to run as a candidate for the 8th District, she said.

Jackson has spent many of the past several years directly involved with the university system either as a student or as an adviser to the Advisory Council

could have made wiser decisions." If elected, she would be a "much more accessible regent than some of the current regents," she said.

By being an accessible regent, Jackson said, she would promote a "good interchange between the different campuses" because she believes there isn't a "feeling of communion or union" among the students of the three NU campuses.

Another area Jackson is concerned with is the NU budget. Jackson favors formula budgeting because it provides information concerning where the money goes, she said. This form of budgeting will allow more information concerning the university to go back to the taxpayers. Taxpayers should be concerned about how their tax dollars are spent in the university system, she said.

Jackson opposes a lump-sum budget for the university because it does not let people know what is going on within the university system.

Students also should be concerned with the money to enhance each campus's mission to its students, she said. Jackson is concerned about the separate campuses receiving "equal support for equal programs," or parity.

"Student input is valued greatly, she said, and so she supports the idea of a voting student regent. Student regents "haven't been given much dignity lately," she said. The regent candidate also favors student regents receiving a salary "if the student senate votes for it."

Moylan favors administrators controlling funds

James H. Moylan is running for a seat on the NU Board of Regents because he has enjoyed serving the state and because he believes he "has a good handle on the university system," he said.

Moylan currently is serving his second six-year term as the board's 8th District representative.

During the past 12 years, Moylan has worked for attaining minimum course requirements and an increased budget, he said. He also was involved in the study that recommended the division of the three Nebraska campuses.

This background and experience will allow him to prevail in this election, he said. This is the major issue of Moylan's campaign platform. This also is an important issue because the 8th District needs someone who is "capable of serving the university, the taxpayers and the state," he said.

Moylan also is concerned about educational services at the university. He supports "maintaining a quality education for the students of Nebraska," he said. Selecting administrators is "half

the secret," of maintaining that quality, he said. The other half of the secret is providing students with a good, strong faculty because the present students will be responsible for "educating the next generation."

Students should be concerned about "obtaining a good solid education" while at the university, he said. Students should take their education seriously and take advantage of it while they have the opportunity." Students are "very fortunate to attend a quality education institution like UNL."

Although Moylan supports quality education, he opposes allowing the student regents a vote on the board. Many responsible students would make excellent student regents, he said, but to have a vote they should be elected by the whole state. Moylan also opposes permitting student regents or student body presidents to receive a salary.

Moylan is, however, in favor of a state low-interest student loan program. He supports forms of financial aid because there are "a lot of students in need of financial aid," he said.

Moylan also favors a lump-sum budget, but the administration of this budget should be the responsibility of the administrators, he said. Moylan doesn't see a lump-sum budget for the university in the near future. He also supports budget increases with emphasis on agriculture and agricultural research.



for the Special Education and Counselor Education programs at UNO. Jackson is also on the board of directors for the Meyer Children Rehabilitation Institute at NU Medical Center.

But besides being interested in the university system, Jackson said she believes there have been "areas and choices the regents have taken (in which) we

Polls predict farm amendment vote will be close

By Pat Higgins

Recent polls predict that Tuesday's vote on Initiative 300 will be close. The controversial amendment to the state constitution has aroused much media attention and public comment. The amendment is designed to limit future acquisition and operation of farms and ranches by non-family corporations.

Drew Samuelson of the Nebraska Farmers Union, which supports the initiative, said corporate ownership of farmland has three negative effects. It drives down the prices of grain and livestock and drives up the price of land for sale, he said.

"Farm families typically aren't in a high income tax bracket, so they can afford to pay only what the

Insurance Cos. has contributed \$30,000, and Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. has added \$25,000. The total raised by opponents of the initiative through Oct. 18 was \$243,000. Samuelson said proponents of Initiative 300 have raised \$30,000.

'Close race'

"I think it's going to be a close race, but I think we'll win, Samuelson said. "I (the opponents) would say that they are trying to buy the election. As far as not belonging in the constitution, I would say that is unadulterated crap. If we have room in the constitution for horse racing and bingo, we have room for family

farm protection."

Cavanaugh said he is opposed to the concept of insurance companies controlling large portions of farmland. He said corporate ownership should be restricted by the Legislature.

"As far as special interests are concerned, this initiative was written with certain exceptions that favor poultry interests over egg producers. Alfalfa is favored over hay, also," he said.

Cavanaugh said Initiative 300 has been seriously misrepresented as the solution to corporate ownership. He said the magnitude of the initiative hasn't been appreciated.



land is worth. Lawyers and doctors in the 50-percent tax bracket buy land to use it as a tax shelter," Samuelson said.

Previous proposals have included changing the federal tax code to protect the family farm and legislative bills. Samuelson said it is virtually impossible to change the tax code. He also said legislative efforts have been unsuccessful because the attorney general has stated that the constitution would have to be altered.

Too detailed

Opponents of Initiative 300 have said the amendment is too detailed to belong in the constitution. John Cavanaugh, former state senator and congressman from Omaha, has been a spokesman for those opposed.

"When I was in the Legislature, I supported a limitation on corporate land ownership, Cavanaugh said. "However, when I read the 1,100 words that make up the proposal which provide for a number of exceptions that are too finely detailed, I decided to oppose this initiative."

The initiative has stricter restrictions than similar measures in other states. Cavanaugh said the initiative would prohibit two non-related people from forming a corporation to purchase land. Such a corporation is frequently formed to decrease liability and provide tax benefits, he said.

"This provision is excessive. It could possibly preclude ownership to only those already living on the land," Cavanaugh said.

The Prudential Insurance Company of America, which has purchased 34,000 acres in the state, has contributed \$125,000 to defeat Initiative 300. Travelers



Four Theta Xi fraternity members face the unenviable task of clearing the house grounds of leaves. The workers are, from left, Dan Clark, a sophomore business major, Jack Denker, a junior journalism major, Chris Sweetman, a junior business major, and Devin Tejral, a sophomore broadcasting major.

Staff Photo by Craig Andresen