

Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Weather: After a cold morning, look for partly sunny skies, windy and warmer with a high of about 50. Wednesday night not as cold with a slight chance of showers, low about 42. Thursday, mostly cloudy, showers moving into the area again with a high of about 55.

Bob Brubacher/Daily Nebraskan

Washington Huskies lead AP poll...Page 10

Turner plays with confidence...Page 10

Bauer provides figures on Bereuter's ag record

By Gah Y. Huey
Daily Nebraskan Senior Reporter

Using an empty chair to represent an absent Republican Rep. Doug Bereuter, Democratic congressional challenger Monica Bauer made light of the incumbent's insistent refusal to debate with her.

"He (Bereuter) has refused all opportunities to debate with me," Bauer told an audience in the Nebraska Union Tuesday. If Bereuter decided to come, Bauer said she would reserve the chair for him.

The candidate for the First Congressional District said she challenges Bereuter because "his record for Nebraska leaves a lot to be desired." As a minister for the United Church of Christ in Crete, Bauer said she has heard and seen the plight of family farmers.

More and more farmers are losing their farms because there isn't any money in agriculture, she said. Meanwhile, Bereuter has done little to help the family farmer, she said.

Bereuter doesn't even sit in the house of agriculture committee, an important

committee since agriculture is a staple of Nebraska, Bauer said.

Instead, Bereuter chooses to sit in the foreign affairs committee — a committee which he calls powerful, although it discusses agriculture only 25 percent of the time, she said.

Bereuter claims to have a "flawless" record in agriculture, Bauer said. Accord-

Election

ing to numbers from the National Farmers Union, she said, Bereuter voted against farmers 59 percent of the time in 1983, 70 percent of the time in 1982 and 50 percent of the time in 1981.

Bauer said Bereuter also has done little to help senior citizens. Bereuter claims to help senior citizens, she said; however, the National Council of Senior Citizens said he voted against them 80 percent of the time in 1983, 83 percent of the time in 1982 and 100 percent of the time in 1981.

"That's a disgrace," Bauer said. "That's something we should be ashamed of, not proud of."

Bereuter has made a career of taking three sides of every issue, Bauer said. In contrast, Bauer said she was not "middle-of-the-road" or "wishy-washy," and that the public will always know where she stands.

In providing a solution for the struggling farmers, Bauer said, she advocates higher commodity prices, better price supports and lower interest rates on loans.

The parity for commodities now stands at about 55 percent, she said. Farmers would be helped by a parity of about 90 percent, she said.

Bauer said the country should never have another Payment in Kind program. The program, rather than helping family farmers, paid out checks to people who didn't need them, she said. Instead, a program should be formed to pay out farmers on the basis of need rather than a generalized program, she said.

led by the resource teams. Ideas concerning agriculture in Nebraska and the world will be exchanged, she said.

According to Stuhr, the seminars will cover topics including the world food supply and its economic significance, world hunger, the use of food by diverse cultures and the contribution of women in meeting food needs worldwide.

Volunteers are being trained and the first seminar is scheduled for January, she said.

Nebraska volunteers include members from the nine sponsoring organizations and foreign volunteers include women international students and international students' wives, she said.

The program is administered through the Foundation for Agricultural Education and Development, Inc., of Sidney, and is partially funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Stuhr said she hopes Nebraskans will use and benefit from this "exciting, educational program."



Joel Sartore/Daily Nebraskan

Winds take toll

Monday's high winds and pounding rain took their toll on umbrellas, and Rich Metteer's was no exception. "It kind of got carried away by the wind," Metteer, a senior English major, said. "But it's enough to cover you, at least until you get home."

Report says technical fields discriminate against women

By Lisa Nutting
Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

Lois Morton wakes up about 6:30 a.m. every day. She makes breakfast for her two sons, ages 4 and 9, gets ready for work, and on the way to the office, leaves the kids with the babysitter. By 8 a.m. she is at work and ready to begin her day.

Morton is a wife, mother — and a professional. She is the Data Processing Operations Supervisor at the Lincoln Telephone Company. She directly supervises four people. She is in charge of computer hardware analysis. She checks the computer system to be sure nothing goes wrong. And Morton says she is just as capable as any man.

"One thing to remember — between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., I'm a person — a professional," Morton said.

A report written by Elizabeth Broman, a Princeton math student, says the underrepresentation of women in technical fields is a problem in Nebraska.

"Much of the discrimination comes from the attitudes that both women and men have about what is appropriate for each gender," Broman said in her report.

Roy Keller, UNL chairman and professor of computer science, said times have changed with respect to computer science.

Keller said the ratio of women to men is higher in computer science than in most traditionally male fields. He approximated that one-third of computer science students are women.

"There is probably still a hang-on that science is for men, home-ec for women," Keller said. "But by the time the current group (grade-schoolers) comes through, I think it'll be completely gone."

Because computer science is a relatively new field, its door is open to both men and women, Keller said. He also predicts that in the next five years, the computer science field will expand rapidly taking anyone who is qualified and supplying them with jobs.

And Keller said he sees no difference in

respect to academic achievement — women do just as well as men.

Most people in the computer science field can't afford to worry about such things, Keller said. If someone can do it, we put them to it.

Broman's report also says that "these attitudes have been socialized into generations of boys and girls, beginning at birth."

UNL Chemistry professor Margarie Langell agrees.

"Cues are given to little girls to play with dolls," she said. "Boys are more aggressive."

Langell also believes there is a math anxiety which keeps women away from technical fields.

"Women are taught that they are not supposed to like to do some things," Langell said. "They seem to not do them because they tell themselves they can't."

Langell suggests that these attitude changes need to begin in grade school — where sex roles begin.

Broman's report also says that although more women are working in technical fields than were 10 years ago, there still is a greatly unequal representation of women in these fields. Her report states that only 4.4 percent of engineers in Nebraska are women.

Rodney Soukup, UNL dean of electrical engineering, said each year the number of women in electrical engineering increases.

"I don't think the stereotype role holds anymore," Soukup said.

Although electrical engineering enrolls the least number of women of all engineering programs — 20 out of 500 — this number is increasing.

"There weren't any in my day," Soukup said.

"We don't have many women, but most of them are very good students," he said.

Soukup said he doesn't think there's a problem of too few women because "it's a choice anyone can make."

Morton said she's seeing more and more women in technical fields but there is still a long way to go.



Dave Wesely/Daily Nebraskan

Monica Bauer speaks to students in the Nebraska Union about her campaign for the First Congressional District representative seat. She would like to debate her opponent, Doug Bereuter, but he has refused, she said.

Nebraska seminars explore women's role in agriculture

By Kevin Warneke
Daily Nebraskan Senior Editor

Efforts to increase information on the perceptions of women in agriculture are being made by the Nebraska in the World program.

According to Elaine Stuhr, president of Nebraska Women in Farm Economics, the program is aimed at increasing awareness of women's roles in agriculture throughout the state, the nation and world.

Ten to 15 seminars are scheduled throughout the state during the coming year, said Stuhr, who introduced the program at World Fair Day on Tuesday. The seminars will be led by resource teams of four or five women from Nebraska and foreign countries, she said.

The seminars will be held throughout the state and are scheduled for Alliance, Sidney, York and Beatrice. Other cities have yet to be determined, she said.

The seminars will include discussions