

Never too late

# UNL senior campaigns for regent seat

By Ann Rasmussen  
Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

A UNL senior has shown it's never too late to run for public office, even if you begin campaigning the day of the election.

Tom Plotts, a speech communications major, began his rally for support as a write-in candidate for an NU Board of Regents seat Tuesday, by soliciting votes from passers-by. Simple flyers and

hand-printed stickers were distributed as part of his "spur of the moment, low budget campaign."

"I don't believe in the use of any significant amounts of money for campaigning," Plotts said. "The poorest people in the political sector should be allowed to campaign."

Plotts said the fact that he has been in school 21 years should qualify him for a spot on the board.

"My platform, if elected, would be to propose minimum qualification requirements for members of the board," he said. "These requirements would include either five years experience in the school system or a master's degree in education."

Plotts said that within the regent system, he would like to see the focus taken away from the business arena and put into a pragmatic situation with the criteria centering on what would

better education.

Although he does not expect to win the election, Plotts said, the purpose is to show people there are other options to consider when going to the polls, besides incumbency and power.

"Our goal is to get enough votes to get people thinking," he said. "All students and faculty should take more seriously the education system in Nebraska. We have been too complacent for too long."



Andres Hoy/Daily Nebraskan  
Tom Plotts

## Reagan re-elected...

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"A few minutes ago, I called the president and congratulated him... He has won. We are all Americans. He is our president and we honor him tonight."

The crowd in a packed hotel ballroom booed the reference to the president but Mondale hushed them and said: "Although I would have rather won, tonight we rejoice in our democracy... We accept the verdict."

In a quavering voice, he told his

followers: "Do not despair" and added: "With every defeat can be found the seeds of victory. Let us fight on. My loss tonight does not in any way diminish the worth or importance of our struggle. The America we want to build is just as important today as it was yesterday... Let us continue to seek an America that is just and fair... I am at peace with the knowledge that I gave it everything I got."

The Democrat then exited to cheers. Democratic vice-presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro, 48, took the news of her defeat in

stride. She smiled and joked with her family in a New York hotel suite as TV sets with the volume turned up relayed reports of the Reagan landslide.

Her husband, businessman John Zaccaro, made the only comment to reporters allowed in for a few minutes. "Geraldine Ferraro is the winner," he said, clapping his hands.

Later, before an emotional crowd in the ballroom of a New York hotel, she officially conceded

victory to Reagan. Bounding to the podium for her last hurrahs of her three-month campaign, she said Mondale was the first presidential candidate in U.S. history to choose a woman for running mate. "He opened a door which will never be closed again," she said. "That is a victory of which every American can be proud. My candidacy has said the days of discrimination are numbered. American women will never again be second class citizens."

Reagan's victory was one of the most impressive in U.S. history.

At 73, he became the first president since Richard Nixon to win a second term and his victory meant the Democrats have lost three of the last four presidential elections by landslides.

Industrial states like New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania fell like ninepins to Reagan. He easily swept the South, even taking Georgia, which he lost in 1980 to native son Jimmy Carter. ABC TV interviews with voters as they left polling places showed Reagan winning a majority of support from virtually every income, age and ethnic group.

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**And the winner is...**  
Nebraska Secretary of State Allen Beermann explains election results on Tuesday to Long Xiang Zhang, left, of China, and several Moroccan governors who all were in Nebraska since Sunday to observe state and national elections. Long is the president of Peking University.

Dan Dulany/Daily Nebraskan

**Reagan touch...**  
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In another important race, Helms, an arch-conservative Republican, defeated moderate Democratic Gov. Hunt in a close race in North Carolina where both sides together spent a record \$21 million.  
The Helms victory was important because, if coupled with a possible loss by Illinois Republican Sen. Charles Percy, Helms would be in line to be chairman of the powerful Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The Percy contest with Democratic Rep. Paul Simon was too close to call early today.  
Democrats also held onto their seats in Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Louisiana, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Montana and Nebraska.  
In a hotly contested race in Michigan, Democrat Rep. Carl Levin defeated former astronaut Jack Lousma.  
Democratic Gov. Jay Rockefeller won a seat vacated in West Virginia by veteran Democratic Sen. Jennings Randolph.  
In Massachusetts, former anti-Vietnam War activist John Kerry defeated conservative Republican businessman Raymond Shamie for the U.S. Senate seat of retiring Democrat Paul Tsongas.  
Republicans held onto Senate seats in Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, New Hampshire, South Carolina, Virginia, South Dakota, Minnesota, New Mexico, Wyoming, Oregon and Colorado.  
In Texas, former Democratic Rep. Phil Gramm, who turned Republican two years ago, defeated Democrat Lloyd Doggett for the seat being left vacant by retiring Republican Sen. John Tower, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

**Non-network...**  
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In Darien, Conn., which is an overwhelming pro-Reagan area, two lonely Democrats turned up to vote about an hour after the polls opened. A registrar said they were the seventh and eighth Democrats to turn up. Some 1,200 Early-rising Republicans already had been there. The two exchanged "horror" stories about pinstripe-suited thieves who tore Mondale-Ferraro bumper stickers from their cars.  
At Chuckles, a woman's boutique in midtown New York, slickly printed window signs proclaimed: "Election Day Sale — Landslide Savings."  
Clear skies ruled across most of the nation and that turned some polling places into miniature street fairs. Campaigning is illegal within 75 feet of polling stations but outside that ring, hawkers were out in force, begging for last minute votes and selling everything from pastries to peanuts.