Bereuter supporters agree

He has experience, can cut through red tape, they say

By Merry Hayes Staff Reporter

Experience and effectiveness were touted as Congressman Doug Bereuter's major assets by a confident crowd of supporters at his post-election party Tuesday. Bereuter defeated his opponent, Lincoln lawyer Steve Burns, 38, with 121,145 votes, or 64 percent, to Burns' 67,080 votes, or 36 percent.

Bereuter, 47, told the crowd he he's there and that he's listening.' would be "proud and pleased" to serve his fifth term in the House of Representatives "with as much energy and effect push important legislation in the House. tiveness as I can." when any great most ar

tinued support if he decides to run for .. bring things back to the district." statewide office in 1988 or 1990.

Supporters said that in Bereuter's eight years as Nebraska's 1st District representative, he has obtained powerful positions on key committees to help Nebraska.

Jeff Porter, UNL junior construction management major, said Bereuter is effective because he is well-respected in Washington.

"When Doug is for or against something, people listen," Porter said. "Just by taking a stand or speaking on an issue, he will have an effect on the outcome."

Bereuter's campaign manager, Mary Johnsons, said "Doug's background and experience have given him seniority in the House. He has been effective, and effectiveness is the key."

Lincoln City Council member Dick Johnson said Bereuter has the ability to get through governmental red tape. He said an example of this is the "tremendous amount of federal money that has come into the district."

"Being on city council, I have particular admiration for some of the federal money he has managed to bring into the city," he said.

Troy Butler, UNL sophomore and

Gender gap played role in election

Tuesday's governor's race may have been decided with the largest gender gap in Nebraska history, according to Susan Welch, political analyst and Regents professor of political science at UNL.

Based on pre-election polls, Welch said more women than men preferred Helen Boosalis and more men than women preferred Kay Orr. This gap may be as large as 10 percent, she said.

Only the 1980 presidential race came close to this difference, Welch said. And, of course, those candidates were not women.

In Nebraska and across the country,

more women generally vote Democratic, Welch said. And, she said, Boosalis "had become known for her work with women's business and professional groups throughout the state."

However, Orr's role as state treasurer may have appealed to male voters with financial concerns, says Welch.

Still, Welch thinks the fact that the candidates were women didn't concern Nebraskans much.

"I think the election is based on the issues of economic development, agriculture and leadership, which, in my opinion, would have been important issues had there been two male candidates," she said.

Welch said Tuesday's election is part of a national trend which shows "it isn't just a man's world anymore."

"That it happened in Nebraska first is happenstance," she adds.

Welch's national research on women's issues in campaigns indicates that most potential barriers for women candidates have disappeared.

Welch is author of a new book, "Women: Elections and Representation," which will be published in January.

secretary/treasurer of UNL's Collegiate Republicans, said, "Doug has done more for this district than any other congressman in history."

Butler cited discretionary funds brought in by Bereuter to build the new bridge across the Missouri River in Nebraska City, the airport in Norfolk, and the North 27th Street overpass in Lincoln.

Supporters of Bereuter said he has been effective in helping agriculture in Nebraska. Bereuter supported the 1985 Farm Bill, which Johnson said is a team effort that is needed for Nebraska

Mary Johnson said, "People know

She said Bereuter would continue to: keep in touch with his district and

"I think you will see more of the He said he would need their con- same," she said, "He will continue to



Ward Williams/Dally Nebraskan

Congressman Doug Bereuter at his re-election victory celebration Tuesday

form anatomistic originations of the formation.

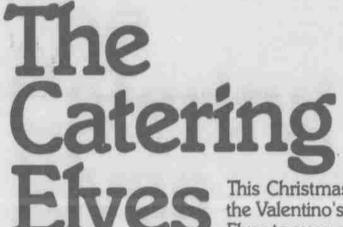
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