

ASUN veterans look back fondly

By Jen Deselms
Senior Reporter

Successes, frustrations and trips into women's bathrooms in search of illegal election posters are a few of the memories ASUN leaders will take with them as they leave office next week.

Among the highlights of the year for Doug Weems, speaker of the senate, were restructuring the Committee for Fees Allocation to include more off-campus students, creating undergraduate academic advising awards and including gay students in ASUN's non-discrimination clause. Although the clause is not binding on UNL organizations, it sets an example for other groups, Weems said.

Weems said one frustration he experienced was the failure of every constitutional amendment on this year's ballot. He said that he wished more emphasis had been put on them before the election.

One of the strangest memories Weems said he will take with him occurred this year on election night, when Weems and first vice-president Dan Hofmeister spent the night looking for election violations. The two accidentally stumbled into a women's bathroom in a residence hall and found some illegally placed posters, Weems said. They then went back and searched the rest of the women's bathrooms in the residence hall.

Hofmeister said the search was necessary to keep the elections fair. He and Weems found more than 30 violations.

Hofmeister, looking back on his year as first vice-president, described the job as intense.

Now that he's leaving office, Hofmeister said, "Roloids is going to go out out of business." Moments later he popped a Tums into his mouth.

Despite the intensity, Hofmeister said, he couldn't think of any major frustrations. Every program that he wanted considered like the rec center and night bus service to East Campus, ASUN took action on.

But Hofmeister said he wished the senate could have been stronger on some issues, like the controversial videotaped classes in the College of Business Administration.

While Weems and Hofmeister will graduate in May and are on their way to law school, former speaker of the senate Senator Jerry Roemer will be staying here. Roemer will be stepping off the senate but not out of student issues. He plans to serve on the student court next year and work on teacher-evaluation booklets.

Roemer said he was pleased with many of the things the senate accomplished this year, including the planned expansion of the Government Liaison Committee into UNL's only student lobbying group. Roemer said the senate planned at first to give the Nebraska State Student Association, a statewide lobbying group for students, one more year to prove itself, but was disappointed in its performance.

For Tim Geisert, ASUN's second vice-president, the end of his term means an advertising internship and, he hopes,

an end to the "Twister" jokes.

The "Twister" jokes started when Chris Scudder, ASUN president, asked Geisert and a committee to research a fund-raising project. The plan was to have a giant Twister game to raise money for the rec center. Geisert said the committee worked on getting information for the game for a few weeks and found that it would be too expensive and that the profit margin would be small.

The high costs ended the project, but Geisert said he still has had to put up with a lot of twisted Twister comments.

Geisert said he felt good about getting more people involved in student issues this year. Geisert said the many different groups at the rec center hearing shows that students are getting involved.

He said there were frustrations when things he wanted to see passed were not, but called them minor disappointments.

Although Geisert will be at UNL next year, he said he doesn't plan to remain in student government. It's time to let the younger people govern, he said.



Hofmeister



Geisert

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