

Runoff to decide leaders of ASUN

By Victoria Ayotte
and Emily Rosenbaum
Senior Reporters
and Matt Herek
Staff Reporter

After learning there will be a runoff election for ASUN executive positions Wednesday, VISION and TODAY candidates said they plan to heighten the campaign's intensity.

Supporters of the parties were looking forward to the campaign's end, but said Wednesday night they want to keep up their motivation as they plan for next week's runoff.

VISION presidential and first vice presidential candidates led Wednesday night's Association of Students of the University of Nebraska elections by 34 votes over TODAY's 1,405 votes. STAND candidates had 646 votes.

Candidates need a majority of 10 percent to win.

Phil Gosch, VISION presidential candidate, said his 1 percent lead was a victory over the current ASUN establishment, which he said supported the TODAY party.

Deb Fiddelke, TODAY's presidential candidate, was not so sure of Gosch's assertions.

Fiddelke said she is confident about her party's chances in a runoff.



Butch Ireland/Daily Nebraskan

Deb Fiddelke, TODAY presidential candidate, and reporter Thomas Meola, senior criminal justice major, examine the results of Wednesday election.

"It's been a really long campaign," she said. "It's going to take a lot of motivation."

About 50 TODAY supporters, including Fiddelke and second vice presidential candidate Yolanda Scott, gathered at the Villager Motor Inn,

5200 O St., to wait for the results. After waiting for the election results at the Gas 'n Shop at 400 W. Cornhusker Highway, Gosch came into the Cherry Hut with a somber look.

"As of tonight, our fight to make



Al Schaben/Daily Nebraskan

VISION presidential candidate Phil Gosch is hugged by Abbie Arneson, Teachers College senate candidate, after Gosch told his supporters to prepare for another week of campaigning.

ASUN what it should be must continue for another week," Gosch told supporters.

Gosch held up a trash bag, saying the old student government "will be burned" in it next week.

Gosch said something in the elec-

tions "deserves to be changed."

That is the "grooming and planned turnover of the ASUN executive positions," he said.

Fiddelke is chairman of the Gov-

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| Thursday, windy with rain likely, becoming mixed with snow later, then changing to wet snow, high in the lower 40s, north wind 20-30 miles an hour and gusty, 70 percent chance of precipitation. Thursday night, snow diminishing to flurries with decreasing winds, low around 30. Friday, becoming partly cloudy with a high in the mid- to low-40s. | News 2 Editorial 4 Diversions 5 Sports 13 Classifieds 14 |

Regents encouraged by election turnout

By Jerry Guenther
Staff Reporter

Two student leaders and two members of the NU Board of Regents on Wednesday night said they were encouraged by a 39.3 percent increase in voters in student government elections.

Of 22,065 eligible University of Nebraska-Lincoln students, 3,596, or 16.3 percent, voted in the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska election Wednesday.

Last year, 11.7 percent, or 2,466 of 21,047 eligible students, voted. Regent Kermit Hansen of Elkhorn said he was pleased with the turnout.

"I know that (ASUN president) Bryan (Hill) and others had been working hard to increase interest and participation, so I'm not surprised," Hansen said. "I'm happy to see it."

The increase could help sway lawmakers' perceptions of student interest in political issues, Hansen said.

At least six businesses, including two bars, offered discounts or specials for students who voted in the election.

Hansen said he wasn't aware of the discounts, but he didn't think they had much of an impact on student turnout.

Regents Chairman Don Blank said he thinks the increase was substantial.

"Obviously, something created more interest and more turnout," Blank said. "I hope it continues."

Blank said he thinks the increase probably had little to do with the discounts.

He said he is unsure what kind of impact the turnout will have on regents' perceptions of students.

Some regents were discouraged by low voter turnouts in past elec-

tions, Blank said.

ASUN President Bryan Hill said he wasn't surprised by the increase.

"The reason I thought there would be a higher than usual voter turnout was because there were more people running, and it was a lot closer race," Hill said. "That always brings more students out to the polls."

The broader base of students represented by this year's candidates caused most of the increase, he said.

Former ASUN President Jeff Petersen said he is encouraged by the increase because regents and state senators often use voter turnout as a "petty excuse" to ignore students.

Petersen, president in 1988-89, said he hopes the increase will show lawmakers that more students are interested in issues affecting them.

Hill said that although voter turnout is important, it shouldn't be used to measure student interest.

National and state elections often have higher voter turnouts than student elections, Hill said, but the pool of eligible voters in those elections is smaller than what it could be.

Not everyone eligible for national and state elections is registered, inflating turnout percentages, he said.

Hill said the number of voters was impressive because they were casting votes for a "watchdog group" that only can make recommendations.

"When you have a group that is advisory in nature," Hill said, "turnout was very high."

If students had an actual regent vote, Hill said, he thinks more students would vote.

Both Hill and Petersen said they think that the discounts had little effect on increasing student interest.

Amendment to tuition assistance bill bans discrimination against athletes

By Sara Bauder
Staff Reporter

An amendment passed Wednesday in the Nebraska Legislature would allow college athletes to receive need-based aid.

Two state-financed programs of tuition assistance in the emergency deficit budget bill were amended to add language to prohibit discrimination against athletes. Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha offered the amendment, which passed 26-2.

The tuition programs were added to the bill Tuesday. "My amendment won't cost the state any money," Chambers said. "It deals only with intent language."

Chambers said the Legislature created the tuition assistance programs so students with financial need could attend college, and those funds should not be denied to needy students who participate in athletics.

"To say anyone is eligible for this aid unless they play football or basketball is wrong," Chambers said.

Sen. Tim Hall of Omaha said the amendment will show the governing bodies of collegiate athletics how the Legislature feels about discrimination.

Fees receive student approval

Students vote against yearbook

By Jennifer O'Clarka
Staff Reporter

Students overwhelmingly voted against a student yearbook Wednesday night, while supporting student fees allocations.

As part of Association of Students of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln ballot, students were asked whether they thought a student yearbook would be beneficial. More than 45 percent of voters said "no," while

Chambers said groups such as the NCAA have made it difficult for many athletes to attend college, but the amendment would do something to correct that.

"If they don't qualify for the aid, they don't get it," Chambers said. "If they do need it, there shouldn't be any artificial barriers put up by an athletic department."

Sen. Jerome Warner of Waverly said the amendment could cause athletes to lose their eligibility because of NCAA rules.

Under NCAA rules, athletes not on scholarship may not receive financial aid.

But if the University of Nebraska-Lincoln protects eligibility by not allowing athletes to receive aid, the school might not get any funds from the assistance programs.

Legislators also approved an amendment, reintroduced after being defeated Tuesday, that would appropriate money to complete renovations of 22 greenhouses on East Campus.

The amendment, sponsored by Sen. George Coordsen of Hebron, would allocate \$900,000 to the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources so renovations begun last year can be finished.

Coordsen said the amendment is important because the greenhouses are used for agricultural research and as a teaching facility.

Coordsen said Nebraska's money comes from agriculture, and if agriculture is going to stay competitive and keep supporting the state, agricultural research is needed.

"There have been a lot of amendments passed to the bill that have added considerable money to 'people programs,'" Coordsen said. "That is very good, but we have to remember where the money is coming from in this state."

Renovations of the greenhouses are 14th on the NU Board of Regents' priority list of construction projects. Sen. Ron Withem of Papillion criticized Coordsen's amendment because it went against the regents' list of priorities.

Coordsen said the Legislature should give advice to regents and other decision makers.

"If the university is not able to establish their priorities, we should give them guidance," Coordsen said.

The Legislature appropriated \$1 million to the renovation project last year, which was enough to renovate 11 or 12 of the greenhouses, Coordsen said. He said it would make sense to appropriate enough to finish the project this year.

Sen. Scott Moore of Seward said if the university thinks the project is important, it should find the money to finance it.

The Legislature will continue debate on the bill today.

34.6 percent students voted for the yearbook and 19.6 percent were undecided.

More than half -- 58.6 percent -- of voters indicated they would not pay \$25 for a yearbook. About 27 percent said they would, and 14 percent were undecided.

Almost 18 percent of students indicated they would buy a yearbook each year of their college career, while 31.8 percent said they would buy one yearbook and 50.2 percent were un-

decided.

Jon Bruning, ASUN second vice president, said he thinks the yearbook figures are positive. Bruning, who said he will continue to be involved with the yearbook after he leaves office, said other Big Eight schools sell yearbooks to less than 20 percent of the student body.

"If 27.1 percent said they'd pay for a yearbook, that is more than

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