

1992 ELECTION RESULTS

Bush, Perot supporters express concerns

President's loss, Clinton's victory dismays students

By Jeff Zeleny
Staff Reporter

Trent Steele is scared and concerned for the United States.

After watching presidential election results at Lincoln's Republican election night headquarters, Rock 'n Roll Runza, Steele said he was disappointed with President Bush's final campaign results.

Nationally, Bush was defeated by Democratic challenger Bill Clinton. In Nebraska, with 99 percent of the precincts reporting, Bush won 314,599 votes, or 47 percent of the popular vote.

Steele, a junior education major, said he wasn't sure what President-elect Bill Clinton

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Steele,
president, UNL College Republicans

would do for the country. Steele speculated that a Clinton-run White House would produce more spending and push the economy down.

“I hope we can withstand four years of liberals in the White House,” he said.

Doug Bereuter, Republican 2nd District representative echoed Steele's concern for the United States, but he said Clinton's performance in the White House depended on which senators and representatives were elected.

If more liberal democrats are elected, the House of Representatives would be more liberal than Clinton would like on most issues, Bereuter said.

Bereuter warned that Clinton would be “bad news” for most Nebraskans as president.

“We don't know about the democratic posi-

‘United We Stand’ members intend to keep dreams alive

By Susie Arth
Senior Reporter

As the hopes of electing Ross Perot to the presidency came to an abrupt end, his supporters in Nebraska kept their dreams alive Tuesday night.

“United We Stand” is still very much alive,” said Matt Wickless, the Nebraska state director of the Perot campaign, referring to the national Perot movement. “We sent a message to Washington.”

With 99 percent of Nebraska's precincts reporting, the Texas Billionaire picked up 24 percent of the vote. In Lancaster County, Perot won 20.8 percent of the vote.

A crowd of about 60 Perot supporters gathered at the Villager Motor Inn, 5200 O St., to watch the results of the election come in and hope the impossible would come true.

John Hiffeman, a volunteer for Students for Perot, said Perot's integrity separated him from the other candidates.

“I believed in him, and I still believe in him,” he said. “(Perot) meant it when he said he wanted to change our country.”

Hiffeman said he believed the United States missed out on an opportunity to elect a truly unique man to the presidency.

“Ross Perot would have been one of the most dynamic presidents in the history of our country,” he said. “We would have seen action in Washington.”

Hiffeman said he believed Perot would have been effective in foreign policy and lowering the national debt.

“The Germans and the Japanese would have shuddered coming to the debating table with Perot,” he said.

Cristen Hiffeman, John's wife and another volunteer of Students for Perot, said she was pleased with the efforts of the Perot campaign.

“It's a feat in itself that this whole move-



Michelle Paulman/DN

Kim VanEngen, far left, watches election results with other UNL students at the Republican Party's election rally Tuesday night at Rock 'n Roll Runza, 14th and P streets.

tion on agriculture — there's no platform,” Bereuter said. “He's a novice with agriculture.”

Cara Catlett, a UNL College Republican and junior political science major, said she thought Bush was closing the gap in the polls and was surprised with the results. She said the economic situation probably would not improve when Clinton takes office in January.

Small businesses slowly will be eliminated because of payroll taxes and health insurance, Catlett said. The job market will shrink and it will be harder for college students to find jobs after graduation, she said.

Kristine Hubka, a senior political science major and state vice president of the College Republicans, said UNL College Republicans had been gearing up for the election all semester and had seen student membership double.

Students have been actively involved in the election, she said. In October, 60 College Republicans went to St. Louis to watch the first presidential debate. During the past week, students have handed out stickers at home Nebraska football games and have done volunteer phone work.

Hubka said she was disappointed with Bush's

early showing. But she was pleased with Nebraska results and the local youth effort.

Bush praised the nation's youth during his concession speech in Houston.

“Do not be deterred by the smoke and fire of the campaign year,” he said.

Catlett said she was heartened by Bush's statement.

“He encouraged young people to get involved,” she said. “It's a challenge to our generation.”

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Hiffeman
volunteer for Students for Perot

ment happened,” she said.

John said he was fearful for the country with Clinton as president.

Clinton, he said, is a politician who cares little for the welfare of the American people. “I hope I'm wrong, though — I really do — for the sake of our country,” he said.

Keith Chambers, coordinator of the Perot campaign in Nebraska's 1st District, said he was pleased with the results of Perot's campaign.

“Some people might think we're losers, but we're not,” he said. “I think we won all 50 states.”

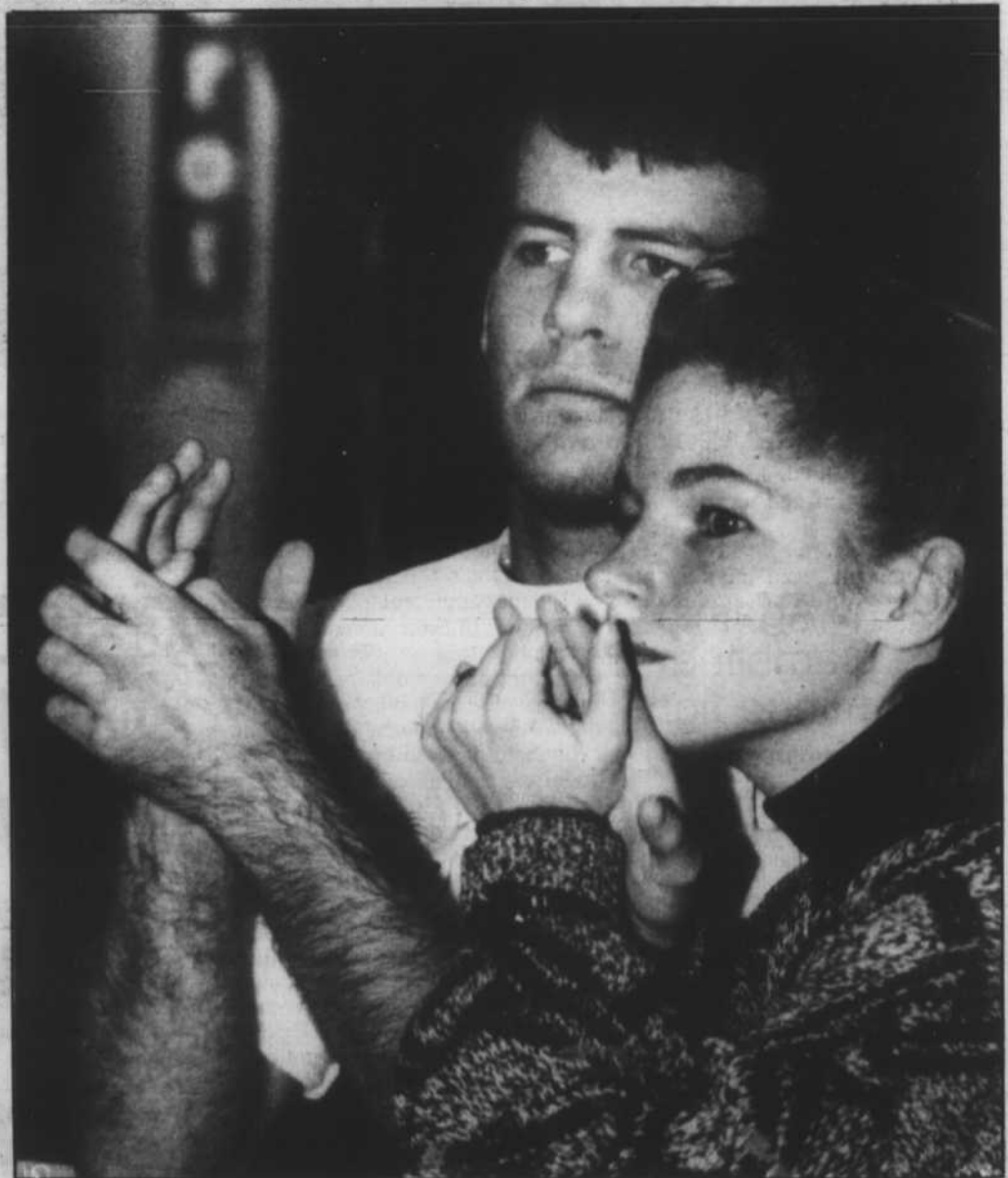
“Our biggest challenge is going to be to stay on Bill Clinton and the Democratic Congress' back and get what we want,” he said.

Norman Ough, coordinator of the Perot campaign in Nebraska's 3rd District, told supporters he believed there was enough support for Perot's cause to keep the momentum going.

“We've got a big job ahead of us,” he said. “I depend on you to help keep this thing going.”

Wickless said he believed the Perot campaign could change the belief that Americans must subscribe to the policies of one of the two parties.

Perot, he said, gave Americans the opportunity to speak out against the Democrats and the Republicans.



Robin Trimarchi/DN

UNL students Kristen and John Hiffeman, both volunteers for Students for Perot, watch the Texas billionaire speak to supporters at a televised rally in Dallas Tuesday night.