

# ASUN president spends summer in Washington, D.C.

**Editor's note:** This is the third in a five-part series on how UNL students spent their summers.

**By Julie Sobczyk**  
Staff Reporter

Brushing shoulders with some of the nation's most influential politicians was all in a day's work this summer for ASUN President Andrew Loudon.

Loudon, a senior political science major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, was selected to take part in the Lyndon B. Johnson internship program in Washington, D.C. The internship required him to work for five weeks in the office of U.S. Rep. Doug Bereuter, R-Neb.

"This was definitely the most educational thing I could have done," he said. "I fulfilled college credit and childhood dreams at the same time. I love Washington and politics, and the excitement of being there never wore off."

Loudon's typical day on the job included researching political issues for both the environmental and agricultural legislative assistants and writing responses to constituent mail Bereuter received.

"I constantly did constituent mail," he said. "Bereuter gets hundreds of mail every day. People wrote about everything from pesticides to their gas prices rising."

Running into famous politicians was not uncommon for Loudon.

"I'd walk through halls and see the famous people we see on TV," Loudon said. "I could walk by and see people like Sen. Ted Kennedy."

Listening to experienced politicians speak, such as Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen and Vice President Al Gore, was educational, Loudon said.

Loudon said his hectic schedule left him little time for the usual Washington sightseeing.

"We worked 9 to 6 every day, and we'd stay late a lot of the time," he said. "I realized how hard the congressional staffers work."

But the highlight of his internship was writing a speech that Bereuter delivered on the floor of the House of Representatives.

"The neat thing is that it's in the House records, and they were my words," he said.

The speech dealt with risk assessment, or how the government assigns the risk involved in a given situation.

Loudon said the internship changed his views about Washington.

"Before I left, I was very awestruck about meeting famous people," he said. "But I came away with a more cynical attitude about the federal government and how big it is. Washington spends way too much money."

Loudon also said the politics of Washington were not like the politics of the Association of Students of



Shaun Sartin/DN

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the University of Nebraska.

"Here the issues are fun most of the time. I like dealing with the students, and we get to see results right away," he said. "In Washing-

ton, we don't see the results as quickly."

Looking back on the five-week experience, Loudon said he enjoyed the closer look at government opera-

tions.

"Even though I missed Nebraska, my girlfriend, family and friends," he said, "I have to admit I wasn't quite ready to come home."

## 2 men arrested after shooting incident

From Staff Reports

Officers intending to arrest a Lincoln man Monday night ended up also arresting his roommate after a shot was fired, Lincoln police reported.

Police arrested Arthur Rutherford, 21, on charges of discharging a firearm, carrying a concealed weapon and possessing a defaced firearm.

Officers heard a shot Monday night from the apartment of 24-year-old Calvin Brown, whom they had planned to arrest on a warrant for disturbing the peace after he failed to appear in court.

When the four officers arrived at Brown's apartment, 877 N. 26th St., the windows were open, and they heard people talking inside.

Officers had been standing outside

for five minutes when they heard the gunshot, which was fired from a .380 semiautomatic gun, the police report said.

The door then flew open, and police found Brown inside, the report said.

The bullet went into the kitchen floor, the report said, and there was no apparent reason for the shot. No one was injured.

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