

Group informs voters about candidates

By Jeff Randall
Staff Reporter

People who don't vote because they say they can't trust the candidates now have another place to turn.

Project Vote Smart, a national nonprofit organization, is providing voters with the information they need to make choices on Election Day. The project has its headquarters at Oregon State University in Corvallis and Northeastern University in Boston.

Adelaide Elm is the project's founding board member. She said the organization, founded in 1988 by a group of private citizens, tried to give the public information it needed about candidates without having to go through the candidates themselves.

Elm, who also is director of public information for the group, said the services Project Vote Smart provided were designed to encourage people to vote and to vote responsibly.

Project Vote Smart distributes candidate information in two ways, Elm said. The group sponsors a toll-free voter research hotline and a 75-page booklet entitled "The Voter Self-Defense Manual."

The program was tested first in the 1990 Senate races in Nebraska and North Carolina. The test results were overwhelmingly positive, she said.

"The whole project was just a great success," Elm said. "Everyone was very positive, and we received a lot of good feedback from everyone who had heard about us and used our service."

Elm said several retired and active politicians were involved in the project, including former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford and former presidential candidates Barry Goldwater and George McGovern.

The information hotline is staffed by student interns and other volunteers who answered callers' questions, Elm said. She said the volunteers had immediate access to the organization's database that stored information about candidates nationwide. The hotline number is 1-800-622-SMART.

"The Voter Self-Defense Manual" is being distributed on the local level by social service groups and student organizations on college campuses, Elm said.

The manual contains general information on several candidates, background about Project Vote Smart and a copy of a questionnaire that candidates complete for the organization.

The questionnaire was given to all gubernatorial and congressional candidates, Elm said. It covers 18 different topics that candidates would have to address if elected, and it is designed to reveal numerous aspects of candidates' characters and platforms.

Project Vote Smart also collects information on candidates' voting records and campaign financing, Elm said.

"We want to get people involved," Elm said, "and we think giving them this much available information will help them do so."

UNL fraternity will sponsor Renteria benefit

From Staff Reports

A benefit party for Francisco Renteria will be held on Thursday night at Montigo Bay, 14th and O streets.

The benefit: "Solidarity ... By Any Means Necessary," is being sponsored by the brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and Redwood Productions and will last from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Renteria, 29, died on Oct. 1 after a struggle with university and Lincoln police. The U.S. Justice Department is investigating the incident.

Receipts from the door will be donated to the Francisco Renteria-funeral fund.

Disc jockey Miss Vicki and J.D. will provide music during the event. Food and drink specials will be available all night.

Forum

Continued from Page 1

he favored campaign finance reform. But lack of money won't stop him, Combs said.

"We've been running this campaign ... on shoe leather and hard work," Combs said. "I'm not going to out-spend this guy. I'm going to out work him."

"It's easy for me to say that because I have no money."

On crime, Bereuter said he voted against the \$30 billion crime package recently passed Congress because the bill was too expensive.

Bereuter said the original bill would have cost between \$6 billion and \$8 billion. When the bill came to the floor for debate, it grew to more than \$30 billion.

Bereuter said he voted to pass an assault weapons ban, which was later included in the crime bill.

"It's about drawing a line," he said. "It's not about violating the Second Amendment."

Combs said he supported the crime bill and the assault weapons ban. The bill tried to keep "grenade launchers and Uzis" off the street, he said.

On the individual campaigns, Bereuter said preparation to serve

and credibility separated himself from Combs.

Bereuter defended himself from other campaign criticisms from Combs. Because he served two years in the military and spent seven years in business, Bereuter said he had not been a bureaucrat all his life.

Bereuter said Combs wanted change, but change needed to be looked at before enacted.

Combs said he wanted to run for the right reasons. He said he wanted to add another voice to the growing number of people who wanted the system changed.

However, Combs said that if he was elected he would not be naive and think he could change everything.

People are tired of a government that spent \$1.50 for every dollar collected in taxes, Combs said. Washington needs to change its ideas on taxes and spending because the current thinking is flawed, he said.

"If it moves, tax it," he said. "If it moves again, regulate it. And if it stops, subsidize it."

Retention

Continued from Page 1

ness of the program in retaining freshmen.

• Supplemental instruction, funded by Griesen and Joan Leitzel, UNL vice chancellor for academic affairs. This supplemental instruction is offered in one section of each of six freshmen courses: history, political science, psychology, biology, chemistry and sociology.

Supplemental instruction has a top student in each of the areas helping other students with the course by offering tips and strategies in 50-minute sessions three times a week.

"This isn't only for new students, but for anyone who wants to do better in a course," Griesen said.

"We need to stress the importance of involvement in all areas of the university," he said. "We need to help give students a sense of belonging and make them feel at home. These are a few of the ways we do that."

* Batman * Complete Costumes * Accessories *
 * Power Rangers * Lion King * "The Mask" *
 Hundreds of Masks * Great Wigs * Ninja *
 * Looney Tunes * Harem * Theatrical Make-up *

FOR WHATEVER YOU WANT TO BE!

Thingsville

466-4488
Sears Wing Gateway Mall



"I knew I'd found the right woman. Her face showed I'd also found the right diamond."



If you're even thinking about getting engaged, you should not miss this event. Nebraska's largest engagement ring show will literally have thousands of engagement rings at factory direct prices and special financing will be available.

October 21, 22 & 23.
 Fri. 10am-9pm, Sat. 10am-6pm
 Sun. 12pm-5pm

The Quality You Can Expect
 At Prices You Can Afford.

Santor Humana
 JEWELERS

1150 "O" St.

Gateway Mall

THERE'S STILL TIME



Huskers

1994-95
 Student
 Basketball
 Season Tickets
 are on
 sale now!

Just \$3.50 a game

You won't want to miss the
 1994 Big Eight
 Tournament Champions in action.
 NU Ticket Office - 117 South Stadium
 Only full-time enrolled students are eligible.