

Nelson says education is priority

NELSON from page 1

Nelson spent an hour talking to about 50 UNL students in the cafeteria of Selleck Residence Hall Monday night.

He answered questions about his plans for financial aid, his balanced budget and party divisions.

Nelson said he had high regard for education and would protect financial aid. Hagel, though, has said he will cut the U.S. Department of Education, starting with a 31 percent budget cut.

But Hagel has not specified where the cuts would come from, Nelson said, aside from 1.4 percent from administration and 1.6 percent from Goals 2000.

"I don't think my opponent is a bad guy, I just disagree with him about the value of education," Nelson said.

Nelson supported Congress' recent decision to add \$2 million to the Department of Education's budget, he said.

Nelson said he wouldn't fall into pressure from the Democratic party while in the Senate.

"They know they have to earn my vote," Nelson said.

Nelson said he could vote on the Republican side as easily as voting on the Democrat side because the party doesn't matter; the issue does.

"I don't tell anyone, 'I'm in your pocket. You can count on me,'" Nelson said.

"I don't owe anyone in Washington; I don't owe them a thing."

Hagel, Nelson still trading shots after Sunday debate

BY MATTHEW WAITE
Senior Reporter

A day after the most rough-and-tumble debate of the campaign season, both senate candidates were at it again Monday — one claiming the other was afraid of him, the other saying his opponent was being disingenuous.

Democratic Gov. Ben Nelson and Republican businessman Chuck Hagel were both campaigning in Lincoln Monday.

Hagel spent part of the day at a senior center, the rest fund-raising. Nelson spoke to students in Selleck Hall Monday night.

Both candidates are vying for retiring Democratic Sen. James Exon's seat.

The debate Sunday night was filled with interruptions and plain arguments. The disagreements Sunday night — which were so extensive the candidates couldn't even agree on a handshake at the end of the debate — sparked more disagreements Tuesday.

In any debate, Hagel said, there are going to be natural differences. He said, however, that his differences with the governor run deep.

Hagel called a press conference in Omaha Monday morning to criticize Nelson's balanced budget plan, saying it didn't add up. He said in Lincoln that he and the governor parted ways on several budgetary issues, such as national defense and tax breaks.

A common theme of Hagel's has been that he wants more debates and more talk on issues.

Hagel said he has agreed to every debate planned and said the governor has declined more debates.

"Obviously, the governor is running away from me," Hagel said. "Obviously, the governor doesn't want to be on the same stage as me."

Nelson said that was being disingenuous. He said he had agreed to a meeting to be televised on KETV in Omaha earlier this month, but Hagel declined.

The governor criticized Hagel's performance at the debate and other debates, saying no more meetings were necessary because Hagel wouldn't answer direct questions.

"Debate what?" Nelson said. "He didn't answer either of the moderator's questions (Sunday night). There isn't any reason to debate."

Family dedicates replica of East Campus porch

BY TASHA E. KELTER
Staff Reporter

The descendants of the first family to provide housing for agricultural students on UNL's East Campus gathered to dedicate a replica of the house's old porch Monday afternoon.

S.W. Perin lived and worked on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's East Campus with his wife Laura from 1889 to 1923. He was the superintendent of the East (formerly called Farm) Campus.

"He took care of everything," said nursery assistant Emily Levine, who was one of the people primarily responsible for the rebuilding of the porch at 37th and Holdrege streets.

Perin's granddaughter, Edna Reeder Emerson, spoke at the dedication and shared her memories of the Perin family.

Emerson was the only one of the granddaughters able to attend. Her sisters, Courtney Reeder Jones of Santa Fe, N.M., and Marian Reeder Prentice of Columbus, could not

make the trip.

Great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren also came to the dedication.

Emerson said seeing the porch reminded her of visits to her grandparents.

"It makes me think of the way I felt when I was a child," she said. "It really is lovely."

Levine, who researched the plans for the porch with Wilbur Dasenbrock and Kevin Herr of the UNL Botanical Garden and Arboretum, said she looked at old files and photographs in Love Library to get a good idea of what the original porch looked like.

"I went everywhere I could," Levine said.

The porch is a two-sided structure, somewhat like a bandstand.

"It's just for people to sit," Levine said. "It's free standing but it doesn't look out of place."

Emerson said the porch was

where the Perin family and friends gathered to talk, eat and socialize.

She said the dedication of the porch "gives the whole community a chance to know why it's there."

Lincoln gynecologist makes request for protection order

BY CHAD LORENZ
Senior Reporter

A Lincoln gynecologist who performs abortions in Lincoln and Omaha asked a district court judge Monday to grant a protection order against a group of anti-abortion rights protesters.

Winston Crabb and his wife, Millicent Crabb, filed for the order earlier this month after members of Rescue the Heartland allegedly harassed him throughout the summer.

During the hearing in front of District Judge Paul Merritt, the attorney for the Crabbs, Virginia Johnson, asked the couple to describe their encounters with the protesters.

Millicent Crabb spoke softly from the witness stand when she described how members of Rescue the Heartland approached her at work and home.

In June, a handful of the protesters came to Heart's Content, the needlepoint shop where Millicent Crabb worked, she said.

That morning, two of them came in the store and asked for Millicent Crabb. When she identified herself, one of the protesters, Larry Donlan of Omaha, pulled out a camera, and took a photograph of her face, she said.

Another protestor, Sharon McKee of Omaha, started speaking to her about her husband.

Millicent Crabb said she fled into the back store, abandoning a customer she was helping.

Later that afternoon, another protestor came in the store and harassed her, Millicent Crabb said.

"She asked if my husband would please stop going to Omaha and killing those beautiful babies."

The store manager asked the woman, Melissa Abbink of Omaha, to leave. When more protestors arrived outside, Millicent Crabb became nervous, she said.

"I said, 'Lock the door. I'm really afraid of these people.'"

Similar encounters at her work and home continued throughout the summer, she said.

"It's very distressing to me. I feel frightened myself. I feel frightened of what they might do."

"I think the events of the summer are ruining my life."

The encounters have left her with

health problems as well, she said, including weight loss and sores in her mouth.

"I have trouble sleeping. I have a lot of systematic reactions — bowels upset, headaches," Millicent Crabb said.

Protestors who testified described the incidents in almost the same way, but said they never threatened or harassed Winston or Millicent Crabb.

All three said they only were trying to speak with the couple about Winston Crabb's practice and to convince him it was wrong.

While Winston Crabb was on the stand, he recalled times when Donlan, McKee and Abbink have followed him into restaurants and to bank ATMs and tried to talk to him while driving.

Winston Crabb said he was worried the protesters would resort to serious measures to stop him from performing abortions.

"It's apparent that what they're doing to persuade me is not working."

One statement specifically led Winston Crabb to believe the protesters may physically hurt him.

"They say, 'There's still time for you to repent.' The implication — I wonder how long until my time runs out," Winston Crabb said. He referred to past shootings of abortion doctors in the south.

Gene Summerlin, attorney for Rescue the Heartland, asked Winston Crabb if the protesters might have possibly been referring to judgement day.

Winston Crabb said he would not speculate on what they meant, but agreed with Summerlin that he had no factual evidence that they would become violent.

Summerlin asked him the difference between the non-violent protesters of Martin Luther King, Jr. and those of Rescue the Heartland members.

Winston Crabb said the Rescue the Heartland members were different from civil rights protesters and other abortion protesters because they specifically harassed him.

"They're not protesting abortion, they're protesting me."

If Judge Merritt grants the protection order for the Crabbs, the three protestors and future members of Rescue the Heartland will have to stay a certain distance away from the Crabbs and their places of business.



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