



## SPORTS

### What a catch

NU senior Jenny Smith is looking to go down as one of the best catchers in Husker softball history both behind the plate and at the plate. **PAGE 10**



## A & E

### Pizza and paintings

Club 1427 recently added art shows to its seemingly ever-expanding repertoire, and local artist Bret Gottschall is the latest artist on display. **PAGE 12**

## WEDNESDAY

March 12, 1998

### We Vote For Spring

Partly cloudy, high 22. Cloudy tonight, low 10.

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ASUN Election 1998

## COMMIT to govern with VISION



ASUN PRESIDENT-ELECT SARA RUSSELL celebrates her victory at Main Street Café Wednesday night. COMMIT's Russell and First Vice President-elect Kelly Hoffschneider will be joined in office by VISION's Eddie Brown, who defeated Chris Linder in the second vice presidential race.

### COMMIT candidates take top two spots; VISION's Brown gets 2nd vice president

By JESSICA FARGEN  
Assignment Reporter

Bittersweet.

That's how members of COMMIT described their split victory in Wednesday's ASUN elections.

The three executive candidates — Sara Russell, Kelly Hoffschneider and Chris Linder — were forced to split up as VISION's second vice presidential candidate Eddie Brown defeated Linder by 53 votes, according to unofficial results. Claiming 48 percent of the vote, Russell became the new ASUN president while Hoffschneider will take over as first vice president.

Brown's victory resulted in the first split ASUN vote in eight years.

"It is a bittersweet moment," Russell said of the split vote. "Chris worked 20 times harder for so many people. It's difficult."

About 150 people wearing red COMMIT T-shirts clapped and shouted "Speech! Speech!" as the trio walked into the crowded Main Street Café, 1325 O St., around 10 p.m.

Linder had tears in her eyes as she recalled becoming best friends with Russell and Hoffschneider during the campaigns.

She called the three a team and said that despite her loss, she was happy her team had won.

Hoffschneider stood next to Linder as Billy

Joel's "Piano Man" played in the bar, and he said Linder would still be a part of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska.

"Linder is still going to help us," Hoffschneider said. "She'll become our third vice president if we can have it."

Linder said she had just as much experience and drive as Brown did, but that he knew more people.

Having a second vice president from the opposing party might throw a few kinks into the ASUN chain, Russell said, but members will work with the challenge.

One of the biggest differences between the two parties was COMMIT's proposed Campus Coalition, with representatives from every student organization, and VISION's proposed president's cabinet, made up of about 30 to 40 student organization presidents.

But that was not the only difference, she said. A sincere concern for the student body, original ideas such as the Campus Coalition and NU Week, hard work and experience were the deciding factors, Russell said.

"We have a past dedication to student government, and I think it showed through," Russell said. "We weren't going for an office, we were going to help out this university."

Russell said she thought VISION candidates were just not as genuinely concerned about the university and that COMMIT was more

approachable and more real.

As the three candidates walked in to the bar, they split up to give hugs and shake some hands.

Russell hugged her mom, Carol, who gave Russell a small gold charm — a gavel — to symbolize Russell's victory. Her mom said she would have just kept the charm in her pocket if her daughter had not won.

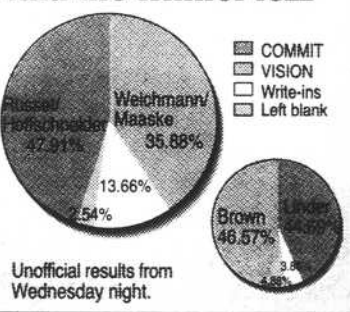
Because she did, the new student body president said the first project she would like to get started on was the Campus Coalition.

Hoffschneider said he wanted to concentrate on the new senator orientation, where senators will be educated on the ASUN bylaws, constitution and parliamentary procedure.

Linder wished her former running mates well during their time in ASUN.

"They will do awesome," she said. "They're the best people for the job because they're honest, hard-working, and they know how to get things done."

### And the winner is...



JON FRANK/DN

## 13.5 percent participate in election

By IEVA AUGSTUMS  
Assignment Reporter

ASUN elections this year produced unusual results in more ways than just a split victory — there also was higher voter turnout.

More than 2,800 students — or 13.5 percent of the student body — turned out Wednesday in the best showing since 1993. It was the third-highest percentage in the last 10 years.

With 1,354 votes (47.91 percent), COMMIT's Sara Russell and Kelly Hoffschneider won the presidential and first vice presidential candidacies, respectively. VISION's Eddie Brown won the second vice presidency with 1,316 votes (46.57 percent).

VISION's presidential candidate John Wiechmann and first vice presidential candidate Jill Maaske received 1,014 votes (35.88 percent). COMMIT's second vice presidential candidate Chris Linder received 1,263 (44.69 percent).

Write-in presidential and first vice presi-

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ASUN

## Visiting teacher inspires plea at ASUN meeting

■ The chemistry instructor's contract has not been renewed by university officials.

By AMANDA SCHINDLER  
Staff Reporter

Fifty students and colleagues amassed at the ASUN meeting Wednesday evening asking for its help to keep a beloved visiting chemistry instructor at UNL.

The university has denied Bill McLaughlin a contract renewal in the department of general chemistry that would keep him here beyond his original one-year visitation.

University officials have said the university does not have the money to extend McLaughlin's contract.

He has less than a week to decide whether or not to return to his former high school teaching job in St. Joseph, Mo.

However, none of those officials were on hand at the weekly Association of Students of the University of Nebraska meeting to answer students' pleas.

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