

# OPINIONPACKETS

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## Our VIEW

### Mixed success

*Split-victory will lead to a stronger ASUN*

Candidates who vowed to work for campus unity during ASUN debates may have to perfect that goal even before they officially take office.

The unofficial Association of Students of the University of Nebraska election results showed a split victory late Wednesday. The election was a victory for COMMIT presidential candidate Sara Russell and first vice presidential candidate Kelly Hoffschneider as well as a victory for VISION second vice presidential candidate Eddie Brown.

If these results stand, they present ASUN candidates-elect with excellent opportunities to be role models for the entire university. They can seize the opportunity to bring their ideas together and work on their common goals using individual strengths.

*“(The split victory) proves that partisan politics cannot overcome individual merit.”*

Though the Daily Nebraskan endorsed the COMMIT party Wednesday, Brown's ability to speak about diversity – in the scope of race and other traits – promises to bring further understanding of communication issues and student differences.

His initiative combined with the experience of the top candidates of the COMMIT party makes for a very solid slate.

It was easy to see that the voters also felt a combination of Russell, Hoffschneider and Brown would be the best for campus leadership.

This student statement should be an indication to abolish parties from the ASUN election system. It proves that partisan politics cannot overcome individual merit.

That statement should speak well for Russell, since she emphasized personal relationships as a key to building student trust and involvement. It also means she has a chance to hold on to those students who supported her opposition.

The split victory may lead to more debates within the senate, forcing senators to craft and research their proposals knowing they may be scrutinized and challenged. This kind of debate and strategy can only mean a stronger ASUN in the end.

While the results may seem a win-lose situation to the parties, the conclusion is a win-win situation for the students in what could be the first challenge overcome in the pursuit of campus unity.

## Haney's VIEW



## DN LETTERS

### Find a way

Today I heard a startling bit of information. This school, which recently stressed its desire to increase academic rigor and increase its national reputation, turned a nationally honored professor down when he asked for a job.

Why? Not because he was in the habit of sending e-mails filled with racist comments. Not because he tried to seduce a student or two. Not because he wasn't qualified for the job. Why was he turned down? Because the university didn't have a spare \$30,000 to \$40,000 to pay him.

Since when didn't this institution have a spare 40 grand? We had enough to give the football coach \$200,000. So why can we not give an excellent instructor, who is a bargain for the money, a fraction of that amount? This is not a question of where the money comes from, this is a question of priorities. If this university ever wants to be known as a respectable, challenging and academically stimulating institution, it has to take the initiative.

We as students cannot discover the secrets of the universe ourselves. We'll try if we have the right guidance, but we cannot if we just get told to do it. So here is a bit of guidance to the university: We as students want Dr. McLaughlin here. You figure out how.

**Joe Schulz**  
sophomore  
biology

### Watch what you say

Mr. Munson, contrary to what you may "think," there are many of us students who KNOW how rich and vivid the cultures of Europe are. Cultures are not to be compared and rated, but rather studied and celebrated.

Despite the description of being lame, you would be amazed at how



MATT HANEY/DN

much culture has come out of the countries you so eloquently trashed. Music, language, food, dance and history are but a few of things that have come to influence modern Western culture.

Much of Nebraska is populated by people whose relatives are Czech, Swedish and Austrian. On Sundays, polka programs can still be found on the radio, and many festivals are held. In fact, UNL is one of only 10 universities in the United States to teach the Czech language.

Many of us are proud of our different, central European heritage. We know that there is much more to our "lame" cultures than the term "European" implies. Perhaps you should take second look at your heritage before you dismiss it.

**Don Trouba**  
junior  
broadcasting  
Komensky Club president

### With apologies

In Tuesday's edition of the DN, I read in the Law and Order section an article titled "Alleged rapist at large"

that caught my attention because it involved one of my friends.

I noticed that the article contained some false information pertaining to the events that lead up to the actual crime. In the article it said that "the victim removed her clothes ... The woman wanted to stop and tried to put her clothes back on, but he threw her down and sexually assaulted her."

This article makes my friend seem as though she instigated the attack, and in fact she did not. After talking to the DN staff we learned that the reporter simply assumed that this is what happened rather than reporting only the facts given by the police. This article has added much stress to the already existing stress and it would be much appreciated if something this serious is going to be reported that it states only the facts without the reporter's assumptions. Good reporters should never assume and should always have concrete evidence to back their information. Rape is a very serious and traumatic experience for anyone to go through, and mistakes like these only make it worse.

**Sara Fiedler**  
freshman  
psychology

## P.S. Write Back



Send letters to: Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 "R" St., Lincoln, NE 68588, or fax to (402) 472-1761, or e-mail <letters@unlinfo.unl.edu>. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification