



## SPORTS

### Running back

After sitting out last season with a pelvic injury, DeAngelo Evans will attempt to earn the No. 1 I-back position next fall. **PAGE 7**



## A & E

### To the rafters

Saturday night, Knickerbockers will bring a full package of rock 'n' roll with two concerts featuring four different bands. **PAGE 9**

## FRIDAY

April 17, 1998

**MACE SOL**

Mostly sunny, high 60. Partly cloudy tonight, low 34.

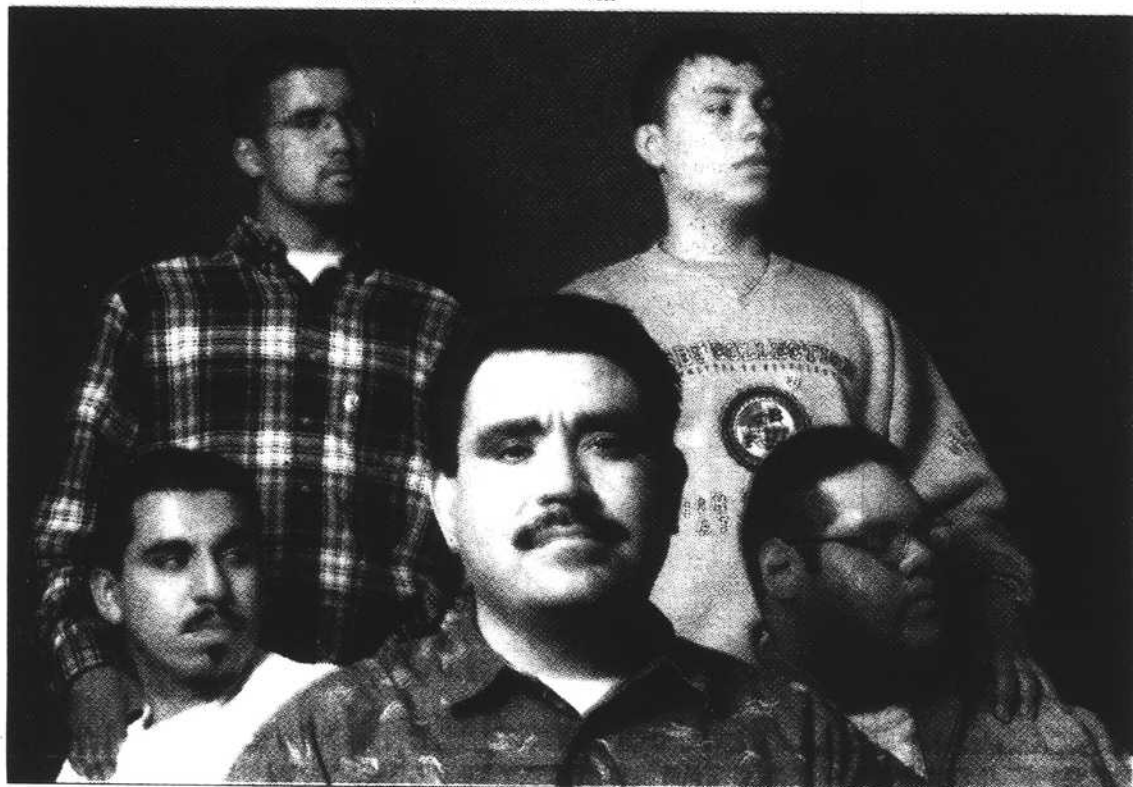
# Daily Nebraskan

VOL. 97

COVERING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN SINCE 1901

NO. 142

## Para La Gente Para El Futuro



LANE HICKENBOTTOM/DN

**TIM ALVAREZ, surrounded by four of the students he advises, has responsibilities that extend beyond his Teachers College academic advising duties. He is adviser to three groups: Mexican American Student Association, Future Educators of Color and Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity. He also helps with the college's equity committee and the Chancellor's Commission on the Status of People of Color.**

## Adviser overcomes odds

*Editor's note: In honor of Chicano Awareness Week, the Daily Nebraskan is profiling Chicano leaders at the university and in the community who want to make a difference for the people, for the future. Today is the last in a three-part series.*

**BY LINDSAY YOUNG**  
Assignment Reporter

Tim Alvarez is using his past to help students prepare for their futures.

Growing up in Minitare, he

said, he had little direction in his education. Though his parents were supportive, his mother finished only eighth grade, and his father, seventh.

The Teachers College academic adviser said that when parents don't go through the entire system, they can't help guide their children through things such as financial aid, housing and scheduling.

"Sometimes people of color don't have the advantage of having parents that have gone through the system," he said.

Because of this, Alvarez has focused his last three years on

advising students and creating support programs for minority students in the Teachers College. Before that, he worked with prospective students in Admissions at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and was the director of a grant program for underrepresented students at Eastern Wyoming Community College.

Although his official title is academic adviser and minority student coordinator in Teachers

Please see **ALVAREZ** on 3

## Republicans talk tax relief

■ The three candidates for governor contrast on the issue of hiring gays.

**BY BRIAN CARLSON**  
Senior Reporter

OMAHA — Republican candidates for governor squabbled over how best to control state spending and provide tax relief to Nebraska citizens during a televised forum Thursday night.

Most of the 60-minute forum centered around the growth in state spending, which Jon Christensen, John Breslow and Mike Johanns agreed was too high and had imposed a heavy burden on the state's taxpayers.

The forum also included a discussion of gay rights, with Breslow saying he would not discriminate against gays in filling state offices, Johanns saying sexual lifestyle was a private matter and a non-issue, and Christensen saying he would not appoint a gay person to a state office.

All three candidates said they would sign a petition, which began circulating this week, calling for a constitutional amendment to limit the growth of state spending to slightly more than 2 percent annually.

Christensen, the 2<sup>nd</sup> District U.S. representative, said he had successfully worked for tax relief in Congress and would continue his efforts as governor.

"We need some way to tie the hands of our elected officials so we don't continue to spend our children's inheritance," he said.

Breslow, the state auditor, said he supported the cap because it would control spending in the future. But "it will not affect me one bit," he said, because his plan calls for a 5 percent — or \$100 million — annual reduction in state spending.

Lincoln Mayor Johanns, who touted his four consecutive years of reduced property taxes in the Capital City, said spending lids could be man-

### Election '98

aged much as he had managed his budget — by prioritizing and improving government efficiency.

"Government is about priorities, and you have to decide what your priorities are," he said. "Where government gets into trouble is when it tries to be all things to all people."

All three candidates agreed Gov. Ben Nelson should veto LB1175, which was passed by the Legislature this week despite the attachment of a controversial amendment requiring the state to fill a \$70 million gap in school funding beginning in 2001.

Under 1996's LB1114, school levy limits will drop from \$1.10 per \$100 evaluation to \$1 in 2001.

If the state is expected to bear the costs of lower levies, the goal of property-tax relief can't be met, Christensen said.

"If we take the teeth out of 1114, what good is it?" Christensen said. "It's a tax shift."

Breslow, whose plan calls for a 25 percent reduction in property taxes and \$128 million to improve schools, said property-tax relief is far from reaching fruition.

"There are more loopholes in 1114 than you could believe," he said.

Johanns emphasized local control of schools. The people of individual school districts can hold special elections to override levy limits.

"Mandatory, forced consolidation won't work in Nebraska, and I won't support it," he said. "Give local people the opportunity to make this decision, and good things will happen. I have no doubt about it."

Johanns added that he was the only candidate whose ideas about tax relief had been implemented.

"One candidate on either aisle in this race has actually cut the property

Please see **FORUM** on 3

## McFarland faces state in call-in show

**BY SARAH BAKER**  
Senior Reporter

About 10 Nebraskans seized an opportunity Thursday to question a possible future governor during a television call-in show.

Callers asked questions on taxes, education, the future of Nebraska and gun control to Democratic gubernatorial candidate Jim McFarland Thursday night during "Nebraskans Ask," a statewide weekly call-in show on NETV.

McFarland, the first of the gubernatorial candidates to appear on the show, said one thing he planned on doing if elected in

November would be to veto LB1175, the recent bill concerning state aid to Nebraska schools.

"I would veto that right off the bat," McFarland told host Ed Howard. "It is necessary to have a fair system, not a blank check. I see that amendment as a blank check."

McFarland said he would go as far as calling the Legislature back into special session to fix the "mistake."

"I think it could jeopardize the state economic picture," he said. "Too often we pass bills that contain both good and bad, and then we are faced with the dilemma of going back to fix the mistake later."

### Election '98

Staying on the subject of education, McFarland also discussed keeping recent college graduates in the state after they receive their degrees.

Omaha Sen. Jon Bruning's "brain gain" bill died in the Legislature last week.

"This issue should be a big concern to us," McFarland said. "I would like to see (graduates) stay and work in Nebraska."

McFarland said he supported Gov. Ben Nelson's idea of "forgivable loans" — loans the state would pay for if students agreed to stay in the state.

"This positive approach is something I would consider reintroducing," he said.

He said he hopes students realize the assets Nebraska has before they make the choice to leave.

"We have a low crime rate, a good education system, and I can tell you I don't want to live anywhere else but here," he said.

During the 20-minute telecast, McFarland also discussed LB465, the legislative bill concerning concealed weapons.

He said he feels the bill and the idea of gun control are good ideas if approached in

Please see **McFARLAND** on 2