

Homecoming '98

Meet the candidates

Candidates answer mixed bag of questions

There were some common themes in the responses of 1998 Homecoming Royal Court candidates: a lack of diversity, a need for better greek non-greek relations and a desire to get more students involved.

There also was a sense of humor, as suggestions for a new UNL alma mater and solutions to speed up the construction of the Nebraska Union gathered replies that, while not feasible, certainly were entertaining.

With just seven questions, the Daily Nebraskan learned a little bit more (and perhaps even a little too much) about what this year's group of candidates likes, dislikes, wants to change, wants to leave the heck alone and what they think will gather a good laugh.

Now we pass a little of this information on to you.

The following questions were asked of the candidates, with selected responses printed below.

1. What do you see as the most pressing issue at UNL and why?
2. What has been your greatest contribution at UNL?
3. What can student leaders do to be more involved with UNL students and faculty members?
4. What aspect of the student body do you feel you represent?
5. What is the most important lesson you've learned from being an involved student?
6. What song would you pick as UNL's alma mater?
7. What would you do to ensure that the Nebraska Union expansion gets completed before hell freezes over?



Jess Sweley
Biological systems engineering major
Farmhouse Fraternity, Union Board

4. I like to think that I embody any student who is willing to challenge the status-quo - challenge the way things are done, the way people wear their clothes or hair and the way student leaders serve others.

6. "Fade to Black" by Metallica

Shawn Nichols
Advertising major
Interfraternity Council public relations chairman, Beta Theta Pi Fraternity



1. Parking! Six spots divided by 25,000 students equals a lot of people suddenly converting to Lutheran to get a spot.

5. You need to have a sense of humor and be able to laugh at yourself, otherwise you're just another somber person with a thick planner.



Molly Weichman
Biology/pre-medicine major
Gamma Phi Beta Sorority, Golden Key, NU Meds

1. I feel that a general feeling of apathy on the part of the majority of students is a major issue facing UNL.

7. Instead of paying parking tickets, students could choose to help work on the Nebraska Union for one hour.

Matt Boyd
Broadcasting major
ASUN Speaker of Senate, College of Journalism and Mass Communications student assistant



1. Tolerance. I feel the vast majority of students, faculty, and administrators are extremely tolerant of people and things that are different from them, but there are a few who should be more understanding.

7. Tell every whiner to go out and help the construction workers busting their asses doing the real work 99 percent of us are actually afraid to do.



James Bayer
Math and computer science major
Mortar Board, Delta Tau Delta Fraternity, College of Arts and Sciences Student Advisory Board

2. I think I've been able to spread dry humor and sarcasm across campus in a way that makes people appreciate them as valid and beneficial conversation tools.

4. I think I represent the proud computer dorks.



Andrew Mattox
Biological systems engineering major
Beta Theta Pi Fraternity president, Nebraska Human Resources counselor

1. Binge drinking and alcohol abuse. This affects the daily life of college students and often impairs them from getting an outstanding education.

5. The university is very diverse. By being exposed to different people on a daily basis, I have grown as an individual.

Patrick Fischer
Chemical engineering major
Innocents Society vice president, Delta Tau Delta Fraternity second vice president



1. Issues of equality - whether it be ethnic background or place of residence.

3. I think student leaders need to realize that although not all students and faculty want to be involved, they all have concerns. It's the student leaders' jobs to listen.



Erin Hamilton
Marketing, management and finance major
Student Foundation President, Alpha Xi Delta Sorority philanthropy chairwoman

3. Students and faculty have much to learn from one another. Interaction outside of class is therefore crucial to get to know each other.

4. Just the average student: stressed out, socializing, tired, socializing, over-committed, socializing, working, studying, and every once in a while I like a good party.

Ben Aken
Marketing major
Student Alumni Association president, Farmhouse Fraternity president



1. Responsibility for one's actions. Everyone makes mistakes, but you must be able to own up to them and move on.

7. Put Parking Services in charge of the project. If they can give you a \$25 ticket after being in an illegal spot for 10 minutes, I'm sure they can complete a union in under two years.



Jill Maaske
Biochemistry major
Innocents Society president, Alpha Phi Sorority, Golden Key

5. I've learned that failures are as important to experi-

ence in life as successes.

6. Seeing that we have a "dry" campus, I believe that the theme from "Cheers" would be wonderful!

Lisa Schkade
Mathematics major
Mortar Board, Golden Key, Pi Mu Epsilon honorary



5. I have learned that I cannot do everything. I need to determine what is most important to me and work to reach my goals.

7. I would build it myself.



Jeff Brakenhoff
Animal science/pre-vet major
Pre-Veterinarian Club, Theta Xi Fraternity, Alpha Zeta agriculture honors society

1. The first is the academic rigor of this university. The other is the division between the greeks and non-greeks.

4. I feel I represent the hard-working middle class sector of this university. I pay all my rent, tuition and books.

Laura Lessley
Biological science major
Gamma Phi Beta Sorority president, College of Arts and Sciences Student Advisory Board



1. I believe the most pressing issue at NU is the idea among students that college life is a "life without consequence."

3. Increased involvement with NU faculty requires initiative. Student leaders can be more available and receptive to student concerns and ideas.



Angie King
Human resources and family sciences major
Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority president, student ambassador for the College of Human Resources and Family Sciences

1. The lack of diversity among the student and faculty population - it is most pressing to me because life beyond UNL is so diverse.

4. I represent goal-oriented, driven, caring and young women.

Kristi Keetle
Nursing major
Student Nurses' Association, Golden Key, Innocents Society, Chi Omega Sorority



1. I believe the most pressing issue on campus is the lack of student involvement.

7. I would encourage Habitat for Humanity and other students together to help finish the union and then let the transients stay.



Michael Consbruck
Agronomy and horticulture major
Alpha Gamma Nu Fraternity president, UNL Theater, New Student Enrollment

1. The animosity between members of the greek system and non-greeks.

3. Student leaders should be involved in the "busy work" of an organization to be in contact more with students, rather than telling other people to do the work.

Kelly Pollard
Meteorology major
Mortar board, Delta Gamma Sorority president



1. A continual issue at UNL is the cost of tuition. These days more and more students are putting themselves through college

7. Being a meteorology major, I'll simply forecast an early freeze!



Courtney Johnson
Nursing major
Student Nurses' Association, Alpha Xi Delta Sorority president

5. Guilt is concerned with the past. Worry is concerned about the future. Contentment enjoys the present.

7. Limit the construction workers to just five coffee breaks per day.

Megan Wigert
Marketing and finance major
Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority, ASUN, Committee for Fees Allocation



2. The most direct contribution I've given to UNL was my involvement with the disbursement of student fees.

6. "Glory Days" by Bruce Springsteen



Matt Timm
Biological sciences major
Farmhouse Fraternity, Innocents Society, Golden Key

1. Initiative 413. If passed, this measure will severely cripple NU's ability to become a top tier land-grant university, and it will ensure tuition hikes for students.

4. I represent the typical student coming from small-town rural Nebraska who found UNL's environment very comfortable and conducive to learning.

Emily Millard
Environmental studies and geography major
1998 Big Red Welcome Coordinator, Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority



5. I believe the most important lesson I have learned is to always remember what is truly important in life - and to keep my priorities straight.

6. "If I Had a Hammer" by Peter, Paul & Mary



Sam Ushio
Finance and marketing major
University Judicial Board, Nebraska Human Resources Institute, Finance Club, Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity

3. Student leaders need to open the lines of communication to further involve themselves on campus. There are many student leaders who possess strong abilities and positive messages but fail to reach the students and faculty.

7. Light a fire.