

# Daily Nebraskan

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## Dotted line

The Huskers signed 21 players for the 2000 football recruiting class.  
SPORTS, PAGE 19

## Winner takes all

Predictions for the 1999 Oscar nominees include "American Beauty" and "Magnolia."

A&E, PAGE 11



# ASUN passes bill despite opposition

*"This is not an issue of academic freedom, it is a question of ethics."*

**James Andrews**

Senior mechanical engineering major

By Sara Salkeld

Staff writer

ASUN senators approved a bill Wednesday that drew about 100 students, alumni, faculty and community members to the meeting.

The ASUN bill, presented by President Andy Schuerman, directs the Government Liaison Committee to lobby against a legislative bill that would ban the use of aborted fetal tissue in research.

The arguments centered around the anti-abortion debate and academic freedom.

Senior mechanical engineering major James Andrews, speaking from an anti-abortion stance, linked the bill directly to abortions.

"This is not an issue of academic freedom, it is a question of ethics," Andrews said.

Some of those who were in opposition to the bill, such as Newman Center Club President Lindsay Niewald, said anti-abortion supporters are an underrepresented minority.

"On behalf of pro-life groups, I feel we are strongly misrepresented and offended by this," said Niewald, a senior sociology and nursing major.

Teachers College Sen. Jessica Steyer, who spoke against the bill, said she was speaking on behalf of her constituents.

"I don't want to see (ASUN) pass something without the support of the entire university," Steyer said.

The majority of the people who attended the meeting rallied against the bill.

GLC Chairman Andy Faltin saw the debate as an opportunity to raise awareness in the importance of participating in student government.

"Play a more active role in choosing people who will reflect your feel-

ings," Faltin said to those who felt underrepresented.

Most people, including senators, who spoke in favor of the bill said they were anti-abortion but still supported the bill.

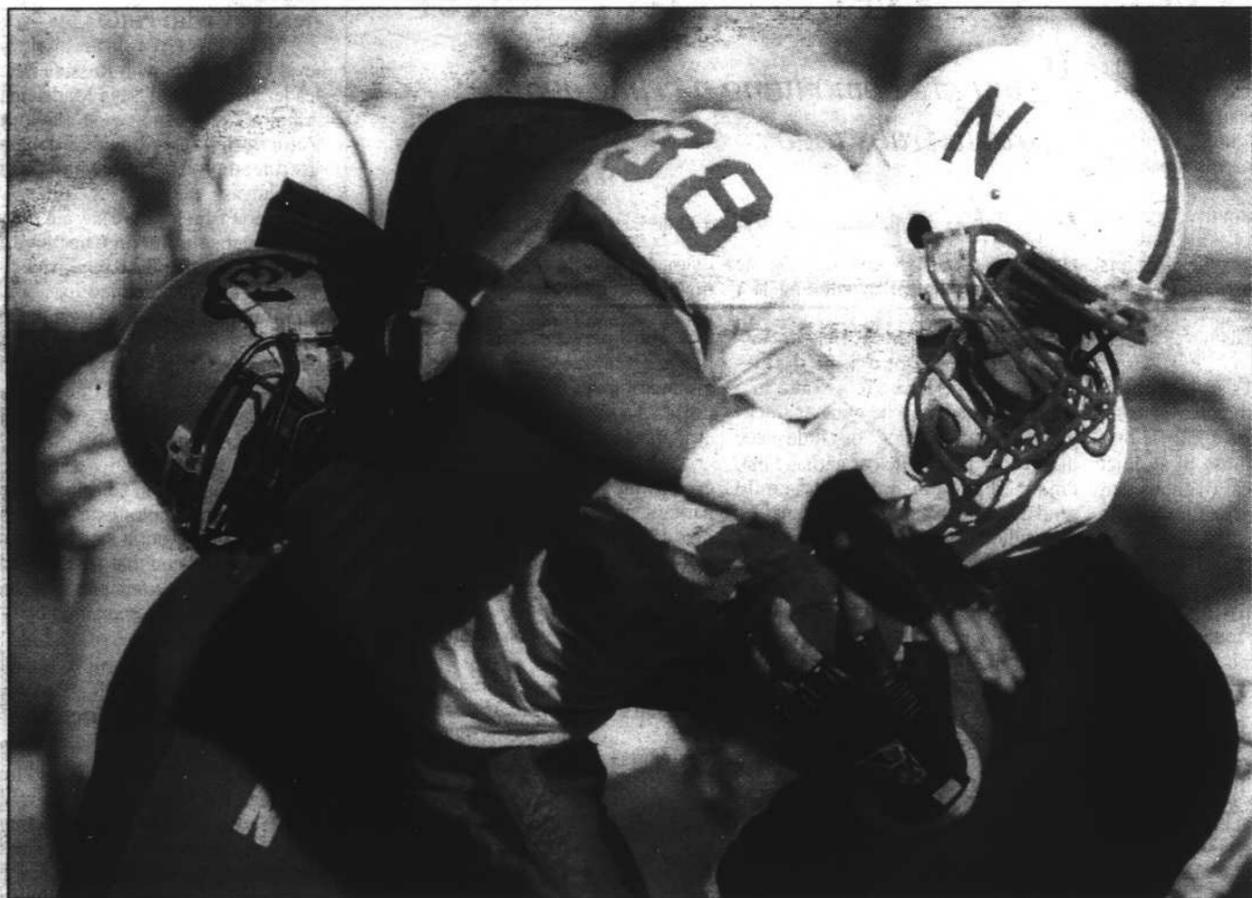
James McShane, an associate professor of English, was one of the few to speak in favor of the bill in open forum.

"The issue is what will it do for academic freedom?" McShane said.

"These people who are opposed to a legal practice aren't going to the

Please see ASUN on 3

IN NEBRASKA  
A LOOK AT THE  
CORNHUSKER  
EMPIRE



DAN ALEXANDER CHARGES his way into the end zone during the Colorado game. Alexander finished the game with 180 yards and three touchdowns.

DN File Photo

Story by Samuel McKewon

# The Sound and the Fury

*I know I'm no Olivier  
But if he fought Sugar Ray  
He would say  
That the thing  
Ain't the ring  
It's the play  
So gimme a stage  
Where this bull here can rage  
And though I can fight  
I'd much rather recite  
That's entertainment.  
That's entertainment.*

-Robert DeNiro, "Raging Bull"

The game is the thing at Nebraska. The action is the juice. And before, during and after everything else an athlete lives through, there is the game. Because without it, they aren't athletes. They're just like everyone else.

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There is this look in Frank Solich's eyes - like a toad - a look that says it's slipping away. This game, which should have been in hand so long ago, is slipping away. The Big 12 Championship, slipping away.

Please see GAME on 6

# Empower party candidates: Government should be inclusive



Heather Glenboski/DN

EMPOWER PRESIDENTIAL candidate Heath Mello and first vice-presidential candidate Cecily Rometo prepare to give their speeches Wednesday afternoon.

By Sara Salkeld

Staff writer

ASUN student government election group Empower announced its candidacy Wednesday in the Nebraska Union.

The three executive candidates spoke about their goals and ideas for next year's student government.

The party is among four groups trying to rally votes for the March 1 Association of Students of the University of Nebraska election.

Empower's second vice presidential candidate, Mike Butterfield, a junior civil engineering major, said the residence halls should be more involved in the student government.

"I would like a change to bring ideas and concerns of the residence halls to ASUN,"

Butterfield said.

Cecily Rometo, Empower's candidate for first vice president, said she wanted to further integrate international students into the campus community.

She proposed ideas such as an advising Web site and a student book exchange on the Web.

"We need to reach out to all students and reduce the dichotomy between them," said Rometo, a French and international studies major.

Presidential candidate Heath Mello outlined the goals and platform of Empower.

Mello said he would like to see the NU on Wheels program run seven days a week. He said the \$3,012 cut to the program's budget on Tuesday should not be a problem.

He also said two-thirds of the student pop-

*"We have a passion to make a difference."*

**Heath Mello**  
presidential candidate

ulation are off-campus commuter students.

"I want to reinvent the commuter student services," said Mello, a junior communications major.

He also said he would like to see a larger focus on freshmen and their concerns in student government.

"We have a passion to make a difference," Mello said. "We want to empower students to get involved and make an impact."