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Fab Five

The Daily Nebraskan explores the five key questions of the spring football season. SPORTS, PAGE 16

Ballet with Bite

Classical ballet and modern pop music meet tonight at the Lied. A&E, PAGE 9



Nate Wagner/DN

TYLER GEISBACHT, a freshman exercise science major and Delta Tau Delta member, helps David Nguyen, 6, create a paper bag doll during Family Literacy and Multicultural Night at Clinton Elementary on March 7. Delta Tau Delta fraternity members serve at Clinton Elementary once a week by working with the children and helping with fundraisers and book programs.

Fraternity helps school

By Lindsay Grieser

Staff writer

Amid the stacks of pancakes, books, paint, yarn and ongoing children's games, the students of Clinton Elementary School scampered up and down the school's crowded hallways.

Scattered in between sat volunteers from Delta Tau Delta Fraternity, helping children play games, paint pictures and draw.

Clinton held its annual Family Reading Night and Pancake Feed a couple of weeks ago, and as a VIP partner to the school, Delta Tau Delta helped prepare and run booths for the children.

"They always volunteer at all of our family nights," said Angee Frahm, VIP liaison for Clinton and Delta Tau Delta.

"They help us set up, volunteer to work the games — and they always stay and help with cleanup."

For the past five or six years, Delta Tau Delta has participated in Clinton's math and science nights, family nights and carnivals through the Adopt-a-School program.

All of the money raised from two of the fraternity's fall philanthropies, Mud Tug and Floats for Clinton, was donated to Clinton.

Mud Tug, the fraternity's annual tug of war in the mud, raised \$560, and Floats for Clinton, a root beer float sale, raised \$2,640. These events have brought the contributions to Clinton

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ELECTION 2000

Overlooked race drives candidates

By Kimberly Sweet

Staff writer

The race is on for Nebraskans who want to hold a place on the University of Nebraska Board of Regents.

Terms will be up for four of the eight regents currently on the board. Of those four, only one is opting out of running in the upcoming November election.

Robert Allen, the Hastings regent who represents the 5th district, is not running for reelection.

He has served on the board for two terms.

That leaves three incumbents who will have to fight for their seats: Chuck Hassebrook from Lyons, Drew Miller from Papillion and Rosemary Skrupa from Omaha.

A number of opponents have entered the race against the incumbents, hoping to challenge them once election night hits.

In the District 3 race, Jeff Johnson from Blair will challenge Hassebrook.

Former state auditor John Breslow decided against running for the Senate to challenge Drew Miller for the 4th District seat.

Gary Rogge from Auburn and Bob Whitehouse of Papillion are also running in that race.

With the 5th District wide open, three candidates have emerged. Jay Matzke of Seward, Paul Toms of York and Robert J. Prokop of Wilber are campaigning for the seat.

Randy Ferlic and Gary Thompson are challenging Skrupa in the 8th District race.

Both incumbents and newcomers to the race admit that campaigning for an office listed last on the election-day ballot is a challenge.

Despite the importance of the regent job, many Nebraskans seem to be ignorant about the weight of the duty before them, said Skrupa, the Omaha regent who is running for a third term.

The number of votes in the regents election proves it, she said.

"We're at the bottom of the ballot," she said. "They say that out of 100,000 votes cast, the regents might end up with 50."

"And we're responsible for spending \$1.2 billion every biennium," Skrupa said, referring to the university's state appropriation.

The reality that many citizens are indifferent about the job of the regent hasn't discouraged many candidates from campaigning as vigorously as any other candidate for any other office.

Ferlic said he has spent hours pounding in signs, handing out brochures and attending coffees with various groups around Omaha.

The retired heart surgeon said he is trying to raise awareness about the importance of the job.

"I think the job of a regent is a serious one that needs some attention," Ferlic said. "The University of Nebraska is the only hope for our area — particularly in our economic future."

Matzke, a Seward physician, decided more than a year ago he wanted to make a run for the Board of Regents position.

Now he is spending time and money campaigning and developing extensive goals he would pursue if elected.

"They say that out of 100,000 votes cast, the regents might end up with 50."

Rosemary Skrupa
Omaha regent

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UNMC researcher named Fulbright scholar

By Kimberly Sweet

Staff writer

A professor responsible for coordinating research on neurodegenerative diseases at UNMC will leave later this year to become a prestigious Fulbright researcher at one of the world's leading research centers.

Howard Gendelman, the director of the Center for Neurovirology and Neurodegenerative Diseases at UNMC, was selected by the Fulbright

Program to study nerve regeneration at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel.

When he leaves, Gendelman will leave behind months of controversy that have risen over the use of fetal tissue in the research of neurodegenerative disorders at UNMC.

Gendelman's research, which seeks to understand how brain cells are damaged in Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and other neuro-destructive diseases, involves the use of fetal brain cells.

His and others' work has led to the discovery of ways to reverse AIDS-related dementia — a neuro-

logical aspect of the deadly AIDS disease.

Gendelman said his selection as a Fulbright researcher says something positive about the research on neurodegenerative disorders going on at the medical center.

"It makes a very strong statement that Nebraska is on the map," he said. "A lot of universities are studying the brain. We're studying it in a unique way."

While many universities are researching the things that kill brain cells and spur disorders, UNMC is looking at ways to repair or prevent

damage to brain cells, he said.

In his research at the Weizmann Institute in Israel, Gendelman will study with Michal Schwartz, who is recognized as the world authority on spinal cord regeneration.

Schwartz uses immune cells from the spinal cord and brain on adult rats to regain motor function.

Gendelman uses the same cells in his research

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