

Daily Nebraskan

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It's in with the new at ASUN induction

BY MARGARET BEHM

An emotional night took place Wednesday in student government as newly elected members took office while others said their good-byes.

The Association of Students of the University of Nebraska met in the Wick Alumni Center to hold its final meeting and to induct the new members.

Looking back at his past year in office, former ASUN President Joel Schafer remembered being judged by people because he didn't have previous involvement in ASUN.

"I was that long-haired kid with the funny ads," he said. "People labeled me as apathetic."

"I have become someone who I never thought I could be. I have found talents inside myself that I never thought I had."

Schafer said his year in office changed him for the better.

"I have become someone who I never thought I could be," he said. "I have found talents inside myself that I never thought I had."

Schafer said his year in office has shown him the university is heading in a good direction.

"I really believe this is going to be a wonderful university," he said.

Nathan Fuerst, newly inducted ASUN president, complemented Schafer's leadership in office.

"Joel has been a great leader of ASUN this year," he said. "(Joel's) shoes are going to be very hard to fill," he said.

Riley Peterson, former first vice president, said he had made a lot of friends during his

year in office. He encouraged the senators to keep in touch with him.

"If there's ever anything that you need, just give me a call," he said. "Who loves yah? Riley loves yah!"

Schafer reminded the newly elected senators to remember they are here to represent the students.

The senators will face many challenges along with their new offices, he said.

But, Schafer said students across campus also face challenges every day without receiving the attention the senators will receive.

Please see ASUN on 7



Derek Lippincott/DN

ASUN President Nathan Fuerst gets sworn in by former President Joel Schafer on Wednesday night at the ASUN inauguration at the Wick Alumni Center. Fuerst won the ASUN presidential election in a March runoff. Schafer urged Fuerst not to forget the average student when passing the reins of student government. Fuerst pledged to get to work on passing bills that don't automatically carry over each year.

Napoliello takes RHA's top spot

BY LINDSEY BAKER

RHA presidential candidate Bill Napoliello, though "in a daze," let out a cry of joy when polls were tallied late Wednesday, revealing him as the new Residence Hall Association president.

"We're pleased," Napoliello said. "It's finally over."

Napoliello, along with vice presidential candidate Andrew Moeller, of the Vision Party captured the race with 302 votes; their opponents, Richard Brown and Gwen Tietgen of the 4U Party, received 250 votes.

RHA election commissioner Lindy Gustafson said of the 4,759 residents eligible to vote, 685 students - or 14 percent - participated in the elections.

Brown said he thought the turnout was low.

"I think it could have been a little bit better," he said. "There were not that many local government positions applied for, so that didn't bring any extra voters."

Napoliello and Brown said they thought the campaigns of both parties were fair.

"I think both parties did a very

good job of addressing the issues and informing the residents who live in the halls," Napoliello said.

Napoliello said when he takes office, he will begin work on the Vision Party's goals - to work with University Housing as a problem-solving vehicle; to strengthen local government, or individual hall governments; to increase minority and international student interaction in RHA; and to develop a stronger connection between RHA and ASUN student government.

Napoliello said he wants to investigate dormitory residents' concerns, then take issues to housing, with which he will meet once a month.

To strengthen local governments, Napoliello said he wants to hold workshops and training sessions for local government members.

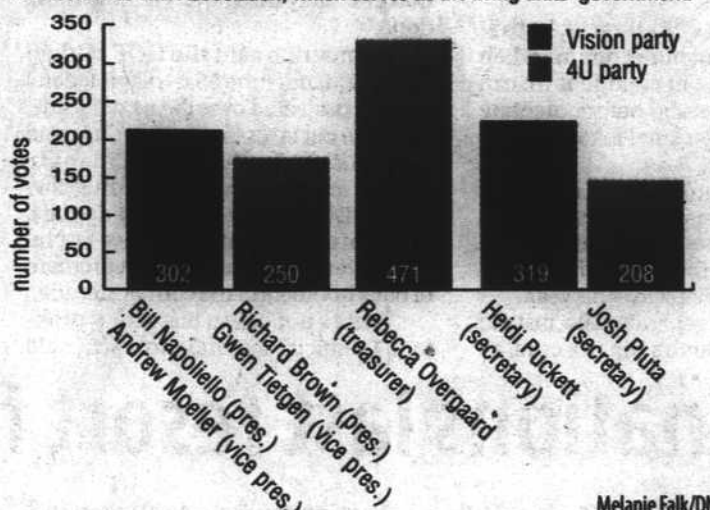
"We'll teach them how to write legislation," he said.

Napoliello said he will contact student leaders in student international and minority groups and dormitory residents to recruit diverse RHA members.

He said he is interested in hearing the concerns of minority

RHA elections

Residence hall students voted Wednesday to elect their representatives to the Residence Hall Association, which serves as the living units' government.



Melanie Falk/DN

and international students.

"There are different cultures ... out there that myself and others have not been introduced to," Napoliello said.

He also said he plans to have an RHA representative at every meeting of the Association of the

Students of the University of Nebraska to ensure communication between the groups.

Moeller said he and the Vision Party candidates did a lot of research to produce reasonable

Please see ELECTION on 7

Sales tax tapped in pay proposal

BY JILL ZEMAN

Nebraskans could fork over more money at the checkstand for the sake of higher teacher salaries if a proposed bill moves ahead in the Legislature.

State sales tax would jump from 5 percent to 5.25 percent if a plan passed by the Revenue Committee on Tuesday is approved by the full Legislature.

This means that for every \$100 that is spent, 25 cents of the \$5.25 in sales tax will go to the state's public school teacher salaries.

LB206 passed into the first round of floor debate without a lot of opposition or discussion, said Sen. Ron Raikes of Lincoln.

But according to a Wednesday Associated Press survey, the proposal doesn't have the support of the full Legislature, nor that of Gov. Mike Johanns.

The survey showed 18 senators supporting the measure, 19 opposing and eight undecided.

Legislature

To pass, the bill needs the support of 25 senators.

Although the committee approved the increase, Raikes, chairman of the Education Committee, said it's not the only option the Legislature can explore to raise teacher pay.

Raikes said raising sales tax is the simplest approach, though.

"We're not proposing to spend money we don't have," he said.

Sen. Bob Wickersham of Harrison said few people support a tax increase, but the least opposition comes from a sales-tax jump.

"If you're going to increase teacher pay, someone has to pay for it," Wickersham said.

Wickersham, chairman of the

Please see TAX on 7

A worldly feast: International bazaar serves diversity

Visitors to the Nebraska Union were able to sample delicacies from a number of student organizations.

BY LINDSEY BAKER

Eva Paris, a UNL graduate student in modern languages, sank her teeth into a curried pastry Wednesday and smiled.

"It's good," she said. The pastry, prepared by the Singapore Club at Nebraska, was just one of the international treats offered at Wednesday's annual International Food Bazaar in the Nebraska Union, where international organizations prepared and sold a myriad of foods.

Curtis Biggs, president of the International Student Organization and coordinator of the bazaar, said the goal of the event was to create international awareness among all University of Nebraska-Lincoln students.

"It's an opportunity for (international students) to share their culture and their foods with everyone here," Biggs said.

Biggs said the bazaar is unusual because most food-related events in the Nebraska Union are catered, but students prepared and sold food for the bazaar themselves.

Groups involved in the bazaar included the International Student Organization, Lincoln Friends of Foreign Students, the Muslim Student

Association, Singapore Club at Nebraska, Union 15 - a Russian student organization, the Latin American Student Organization, the African Student Organization, the Culture Center, the Indian Student Organization, the Intensive English Program, the Afro-Caribbean Students and an independent group of Japanese students.

The money garnered from sales, Biggs said, will go toward each club's food and preparation expenses. Any remaining money will go the clubs' personal funds.

Biggs said turnout for the anticipated event was high.

"We asked each group to prepare 100 servings," Biggs said. An hour before the

end of the bazaar, he said all the groups were running low on food.

"We've had about 700 people passing through," Biggs said.

Groups prepared both typical native dishes, like the Latin American Student Organization's empanados argentinas, and those suited more for American tastes, like the Singapore Club at Nebraska's vegetarian selections.

Irene Simonenko, vice president of Union 15, a club representing 15 former Soviet Union countries, said popular dishes at her booth included walnut rolls and stuffed grape leaves called dolma and pirogi, made of flour, eggs, yeast, cabbage and onions.

Junior philosophy and sociology

major Trish Wonch said she had visited the bazaar in previous years and came back to sample foods she doesn't usually have the chance to try.

"It's really unique," she said. Wonch said she had already tried the sushi on her plate, but the foods from Singapore, Arabia and Japan were new to her.

Paris, a native of Spain, said she attended the bazaar to broaden her food tastes as well.

"I like to try different varieties of food," she said. "I think it's boring to eat the same food every day."

Biggs said students interested in any of the international groups can contact International Affairs at (402) 472-5358, or Biggs at (402) 477-0446.