

# daily nebraskan

## Election is not Greek-independent race—candidates

By Shelley Smith

Accusations labeling the ASUN presidential runoff race as a Greek vs. independent contest have not done anything to improve the senate's credibility, candidates Bud Cuca and Joe Nigro told about 150 students Monday afternoon.

The presidential debate, sponsored by the University Program Council Talks and Topics committee, allowed the two candidates to give a five-minute introductory speech and then field questions from a three-member panel and the audience.

Both candidates said they strongly believe that the election held today is not a contest between the Greeks and the independents.

"Issues the senate faces are not Greek/independent issues," Nigro, an off-campus student, said.

"The issues that face us are education—where our dollars are going. We have to represent all the students," he said.

Cuca, a member of Alpha Tau Omega

fraternity, agreed and added that neither party was made up totally of people from one living area.

### Credibility vital

"But, these allegations haven't done anything for the credibility of ASUN. That's why I tried to stay above them (the allegations)," he said.

Cuca said student credibility also is vital to the function of ASUN, and added finding out and giving the students what they want will earn more respect for the senate.

However, Nigro argued that ASUN is not a program council.

"We have a program council," he said.

"Our job is to represent the students on political issues—this is our most important

job," he said.

Controversy also arose on the question of whether a senate-experienced candidate is more qualified to step into the role as president.

Nigro, an ASUN senator, contended that he is.

### Distant observer

However, Cuca said that by staying out of the senate and just being a "distant observer" he would have a rounded approach to governing the senate.

Nigro argued that the more information a person has about an organization, the better he is able to make rational decisions. "After one of us is elected, in three days

the regents will meet to discuss student fees. We need someone in there who knows what went on in the past year," he said.

Also, Nigro said because over two-thirds of the new senate and the other two executives are from his party (SOAR), he is more qualified to make the transition.

However, Cuca argued that because of his ability to work with people, he could also make the transition.

"I don't see our roles as president; first vice and second vice as a hierarchal structure. It's more of a horizontal structure. We come from three diverse backgrounds and have skills that would complement each other," he said.

## ASUN runoff election today

The runoff election for ASUN president will take place today.

Candidates are Bud Cuca with the Students of the University of Nebraska (SUN) party, and Joe Nigro with the Students Organized for Active Representation (SOAR) party.

Polling locations are:

—Love Library, both Nebraska Unions from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.,

—College of Business Administration and Andrews Hall from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.,

—Neihardt Hall, Abel/Sandoz, and Harper/Schramm/Smith from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.,

—Beta Theta Pi fraternity, 1515 R St., Gamma Phi Beta sorority, 415 N. 16th St., Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, 601 N. 16th St., from noon to 1 p.m.,

—The three above Greek houses and the Sigma Chi fraternity house, 1510 Vine St., from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.



Photo by Mark Billingsley

On a recent rainy afternoon, these Theta Xi fraternity members discovered a recipe for fun: Mudball. Mudball requires several students, a muddy field and a football. The finished product was several head colds, assorted bruises, and piles of dirty laundry.

## Court overrules bargaining, harassment decisions

By Val Swinton

The Nebraska Supreme Court has ruled that the University Police may not establish a bargaining unit separate from other university employees and that Director of Police Gail Gade did not threaten or harass police officers who were trying to unionize the department.

The opinion, written by Chief Justice Norman Krivosha, was handed down Tuesday.

Local 567 of the International Brotherhood of Police Officers went before the Nebraska Court of Industrial Relations in 1977 claiming certain officers on the force had been harassed by Gade. It also asked that all officers except Gade and his three immediate subordinates be allowed to join the union.

The Industrial Court ruled there was evidence of harassment and allowed a bargaining unit of all officers below the rank of sergeant. The NU Board of Regents then appealed the ruling to the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court overruled both findings, ruling that under Nebraska statutes, the Industrial Court had no authority to make such rulings.

### Authority

Although the Industrial Court did have the authority to conduct hearings and make findings, the court said it could not issue orders as that was the job of the courts.

According to the opinion, one of the

main reasons police officers gave for establishing a bargaining unit separate from the bargaining unit representing the other UNL employees was that certain officers were commissioned by the state and by the city. They also are the only employees allowed to carry weapons.

"The record does not indicate any great need for those commissions," the justices said in rejecting the argument. "The evidence indicates security personnel at UNO and at the Medical Center are not commissioned and do not carry arms, yet provide whatever necessary security is required.

"The record is totally devoid of evidence as to the need for officers at UNL to be so commissioned or to carry weapons," the opinion said.

### Same regulation

Therefore, the opinion read, there was no need for a bargaining unit separate from that of other UNL employees. All of the employees in question are subject to the same rules and regulations as other employees in the university.

Besides ruling that the Industrial Court did not have the authority to make findings of unfair labor practices, the Supreme Court said that, based on testimony, Gade did not threaten or harass officers.

Two officers had testified before the Industrial Court that they had been improperly reclassified, allegedly to punish them for union activities.

Officer Mary Fleming had sustained a knee injury while off-duty, officer Barb

McGill was pregnant and both were to be temporarily reclassified as civilian clerks.

The Court said it found that the transfers were intended to provide continued employment for the two officers at reduced salaries rather than have them discontinue employment and use up leave time. While the transfers were against policy, the court said, "such action hardly amounts to threats or harassment."

### Hat discrimination

The court also addressed itself to claims made that female employees on the force were discriminated against by being required to wear cowboy type hats, rather than the regular issue hats male officers wear. President of Local 567, Joy Citta, then had made the claims before the Industrial Court, but the Supreme Court said evidence did not agree with the statement.

"... the reading of the record discloses the request for the hats came from two of four female officers and was not instituted by Gade," the opinion stated.

Gade refused to comment on the Supreme Court ruling saying he hadn't seen the opinion yet. But the Local 567 President Paul Jacobsen, said the possibility of a separate bargaining unit for UNL police is not dead yet.

"I'm disappointed, yes," Jacobsen said. "But I don't think this is the end of the union."

Jacobsen added that many portions of the opinion were unclear and after talk-

ing to the Local 567 attorney, J. Murry Shaeffer, he felt the court may have left the door open for ironing out problems. He said Local 567 could go back to the Industrial Court or possibly work out an agreement with the university and bypass the court.

The union president said he was disappointed about the finding of no harassment against McGill or Fleming.

But, Jacobsen declared "a separate union for police would eventually become reality."

"We ain't dead yet," he said. "We'll get there one way or the other. It's inevitable."

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