

## ASUN candidates debate surcharge, vet college

By John Koopman

The Reach Party wants to create a mandatory training session for graduate teaching assistants.

The Action Party wants to create a budget study group that would work with the university administration and the Legislature and stay involved with the budget process.

The Spare Party feels that students need to start thinking of themselves as adults rather than students.

And Anarky wants to do a feasibility study to see if administrators are really needed at UNL.

These and other issues were discussed in an ASUN presidential debate Thursday night at the Neihardt TV lounge. The debate was sponsored by the Residence Hall Association.

Matt Wallace, presidential candidate for the Reach Party, said he would use presidential assistants to lighten the load of the president if he were elected. He said the assistants could relieve some of the work load so the president could work to become a more effective student regent.

Laura Meyer, presidential candidate for the Action Party, said she disagreed with the idea of using presidential assistants. She said she thought the present system allows the work load to be delegated in an appropriate way.

Wallace said he thought it was "humorous" that some one who has never been in ASUN would presume to know its inner workings.

"I've been within the system for a year now," he said. "I realize what the limitations are, and I also realize what the potential is."

Much discussion centered on lack of student response to the tuition surcharge instituted at the beginning of this semester.

Wallace said Reach was the only party to do anything against the surcharge. He said that now, after the surcharge has been used once, it will be an easy out in the future unless students are more vocal in their opposition.

Larry Weixelman, presidential candidate for the Spare Party, said students shouldn't begrudge of tuition increases as long as the money goes into visible improvements in faculty, equipment or services.

Meyer said the Action Party would propose a budget study group from within ASUN to ensure a tuition surcharge couldn't be enacted until students have had ample chance to respond.

Joni Jacobs, presidential candidate for the Anarky Party, said the students should control the budget. She said Anarky would disband ASUN and return the student fees used by ASUN back to the students.

All of the parties, except Anarky, support the construction of a veterinary college at UNL.

Weixelman said he supports the college for educational reasons, but added that interstate funds are needed to make the college successful and shouldn't be relied on support from the surrounding states.

Wallace said UNL needs a veterinary college to keep students in the state and to save the state money. He said the university currently pays any tuition above the in-state rate when a student goes to an out-of-state school.

Wallace said many Nebraska students who leave the state to study veterinary medicine don't return to Nebraska to practice.

Jacobs said Anarky is more worried about nuclear war than the veterinary college. She said Anarky is more worried about the welfare of humans than the welfare of animals.



Photo by Craig Andresen

Steven Hawley

## Hawley: Benefits of space program are enormous

By Jim Rasmussen

The benefits of America's space program far outweigh its costs, Steven Hawley, space shuttle astronaut, said Thursday afternoon at a forum in the Nebraska Union.

The 31-year-old astronaut was on the UNL campus to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Ralph Mueller Planetarium.

"When you look at the things we are doing in space," Hawley said, "the benefits of the space program are enormous."

He cited national prestige, advances in technology, research capabilities and possible military uses as benefits of the space program.

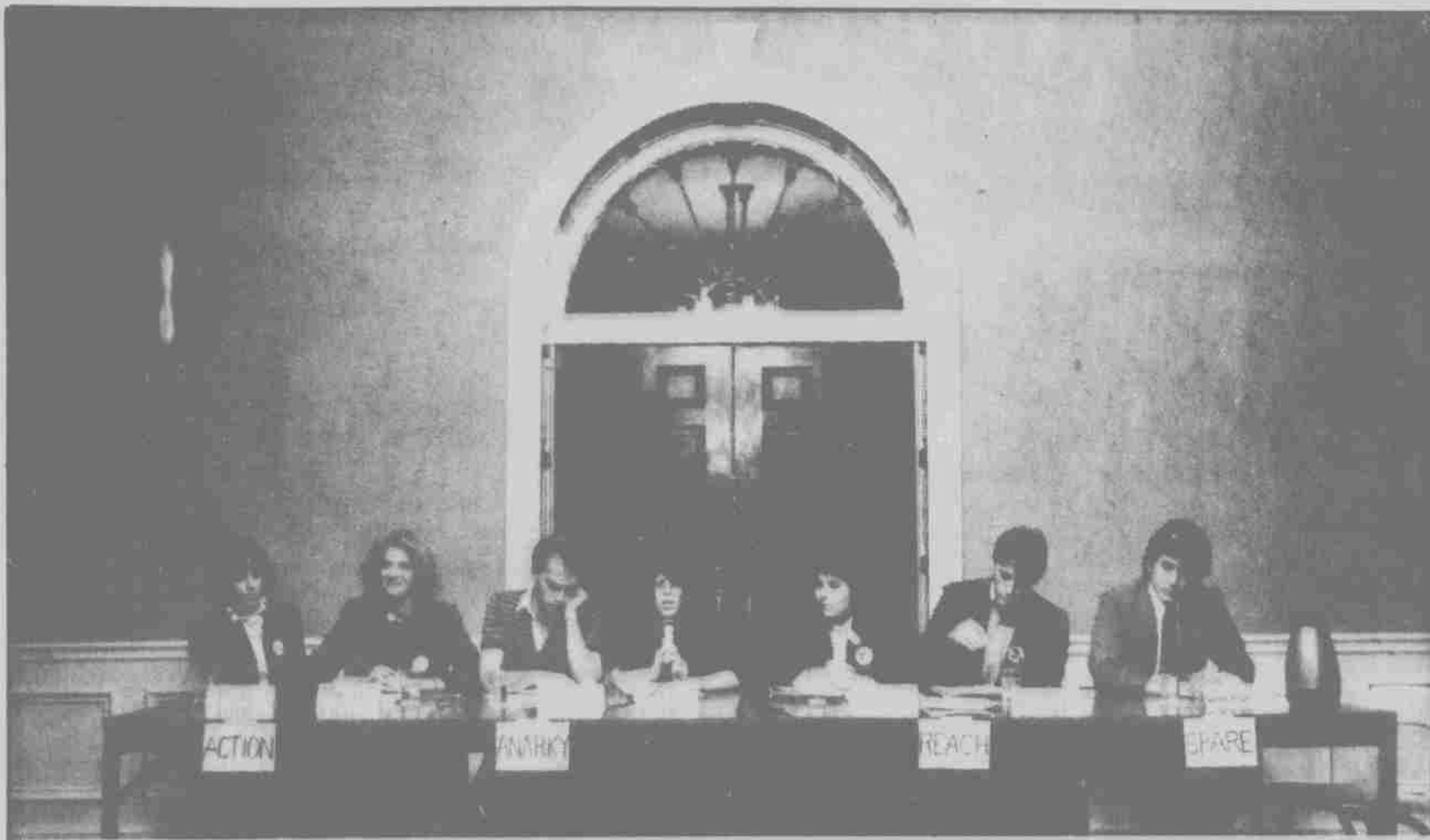
Many people believe that NASA spends too much money, he said. But NASA only receives one half of one percent of the national budget. This translates to about \$6.5 billion annually.

Hawley said he has mixed feelings about the Reagan administration's funding of the space program.

"We'd always like to get more money," Hawley said, "but we haven't been cut as much as other programs have. I think that's a good sign."

Hawley criticized the administration, however, for cutting funds for solar power research and refusing to fund a manned space station. He said these programs could be very beneficial in the future and said he thought cutting them now is shortsighted.

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Staff photo by Joel Sartore

ASUN presidential candidates debate Thursday night in Neihardt's TV lounge. From left are: Kay Hinn (Action), Laura Meyer (Action), Tom Mockler (Anarky), Joni Jacobs (Anarky), Regina Rogers (Reach), Matt Wallace (Reach), and Larry Weixelman (Spare).

# The purpose of ASUN:

## A way to vocalize student problems, concerns

By Mona Koppelman

Clarifying the purpose of ASUN is Larry King's primary concern. King is a junior political science major running independently for an Arts and Sciences college senatorial position.

"So many times it has been the case that ASUN's purpose has been misinterpreted," King said. "I think the Action Party, the Reach Party and other parties feel they have a wider jurisdiction span than what they actually have."

"They feel they can get action done

on the trains; they think they can get action done on the parking," he said. "They also think they can get computer funds raised. This is not the purpose of ASUN."

"It would be good if ASUN could actually do that, but ASUN doesn't have the jurisdiction there," he said.

"What ASUN is is a way of vocalizing ourselves. From ASUN out, we should make it known what the student body of the university . . . would actually like to have done," King said. "It (ASUN) doesn't actually have the power to do

anything.

"I think that the party systems, as they have been, continually saying that they can actually bring action . . . get parking things done, get computer problems situated . . . all they've done so far is explain that there is a problem and say they are going to attempt to get things done," King said. "The problem is, they can't do that from the ASUN position."

"The major purpose of ASUN is to get things on the agenda, the formal government agenda," he said. "For instance, you can bring it up to the regents that there is a computer problem.

"As an ASUN senator . . . what should be done is to seek agenda status for the problems of the students," he said.

Student apathy, King said, occurs because students are promised that action will be taken on any issue such as parking or computers.

"Apathy occurs because those promises are made and (ASUN) can't carry out those problems because it's outside its jurisdiction," he said.

King said he doesn't believe apathy would increase if ASUN were limited to an agenda-building organization.