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Party poll, Beerman explanation begin drive for new GOP votes

by H. J. Cummins

An explanation of voter registration regulations Monday night by Nebraska Secretary of State Allen Beerman was the first step in the Republican voter registration drive, according to Tom Spitsnogle, State chairman of the young Republican Voter Registration Committee.

Mary Cannon, campus chairwoman of the same drive, said the second step is a poll being conducted this week in University dormitories attempting to determine how many Republicans there would be to register on this campus. "And if the dorms are 99 per cent Democrat, we're going to give up," joked another Young Republican, John Vihstadt.

Spitsnogle said a publicity campaign soon will "encourage everyone to go home over Christmas and register." Many students are now confused or undecided, Spitsnogle said, so the Young Republicans (YR's) are encouraging them to go home and sort things out.

"Our first aim is to get a lot of registered Republicans," he said, although obviously, the group cannot control how people register, he added.

Vihstadt said this kind of drive is "based more on individual initiative than mass coercion." He was referring to the recent League of Young Voters registration drive.

"Very few people in the Republican party supported it," said Spitsnogle, and one of the reasons the YR's on campus did not endorse the League's drive was a directive from the State Young

Republican Central Committee not to do so.

Mary Cannon said another reason they didn't help was "there weren't very many Republicans" on campus at that time to work in a drive and "we wanted not to just register people but to register Republicans."

Spitsnogle said he doubted the League's "credibility."

"We feel it's most important to perpetuate the two-party system," he said. "If they had been so concerned, they would have become actively involved in drives of their respective parties."

Spitsnogle also charged the League's registrars discouraged people from registering as Independents (not in either of the major parties.)

One of the organizers of the League's drive, Michael (O.J.) Nelson, said registrars "encouraged people to register according to their consciences."

He said every person "who was preparing to register Independent was asked if they realized they could vote only on a nonpartisan ballot."

State Chairman of the Republican Party Milan Bish "endorsed our organization in principle," Nelson said, "And I am a past member of the College Republican National Committee."

"Our state governing board is composed of nine Democrats, nine Republicans and three Independents," he said. "We sought the aid and support of both parties—we received the aid and support of the Democratic party and of individuals within the Republican party."

Beerman said he knows at least some Republicans were

active in the League's registration drives in Kearney and Omaha.

He said that as of Sunday, only 15,000 of the state's 100,000 newly-enfranchised voters had registered.

"Your vote's very important. You only have one vote, but I don't know anyone who's got two," he told an audience of less than a dozen.

Beerman said the state legislature may, in its next session, lower the age of majority to 18, the age at which, since the 26th Amendment, anyone is eligible to run for all offices except U.S. President, Senator or Representative, and a few state offices.

Such a move would be good, Beerman said, since as the law now stands, an 18-year-old may be elected mayor of a city but cannot legally enter into contracts on behalf of the city and probably couldn't even take the oath of office (since a bonding company wouldn't sponsor him or her.)

The Republican secretary of state said he is pleased young people were given the vote because he believes they are old enough and well enough informed to be responsible voters.

Also, he said, 18 - to 21-year-olds "pay taxes at the same rate as any other citizen," and should have some control over political decisions that affect them.

Beerman said in states which have allowed young people to vote, "voter turn-out was just as miserable as the 'adult' turn-out."

"We've got a lot of work to do," he said.

Fowler: 'encouraged' by handbook support

by Carol Strasser

ASUN President Steve Fowler said Tuesday he "was encouraged that CSL made a statement of support for ASUN" in the controversy over distribution of the Birth Control Handbook.

About 20 people attended a special meeting of the Council on Student Life Monday where the Council affirmed the right of ASUN to disseminate birth control information.

The University Board of Regents is investigating a complaint that the handbook was forced upon students and has asked that a report on the issue be presented by student affairs at their meeting Saturday.

The resolution, passed by a 5-3-3 vote, states that "CSL feels that dissemination of birth control information is both valid and necessary to students on campus. ASUN may legitimately express its concern for this need and strive to disseminate birth control information."

Franklin Eldridge, CSL chairman, said he will notify the chancellor in writing of the Council's decision, and it will be the chancellor's decision whether to inform the Regents.

Fowler confirmed that no ASUN representatives were asked to appear at the Regents' meeting Saturday. Paul O'Hara, executive director of the Nebraska Catholic Council, who brought the complaint to the Regents, was asked to be present at the Regents' meeting, according to Ely Meyerson, interim dean of student affairs.

Meyerson told the Council that the Regents asked Student Affairs to research how the books were selected, funded and distributed.

At the Council meeting, Fowler read a report from former ASUN president Steve Tiwald which said that McGill University in Montreal sent a different edition of the birth control pamphlet than ASUN had ordered last year.

The edition received by ASUN contained more pictures, a section on sexual intercourse and an editorial which weren't included in the pamphlet the senate had reviewed, Tiwald said.

ASUN ordered 10,000 copies of the book for \$526. McGill University said the books couldn't be returned but ASUN felt the added material made the handbooks too controversial for ASUN to distribute Tiwald said.

The Association for Birth Control (ABC), was formed for the purpose of distributing the handbooks. It was decided that ABC should collect donations to pay ASUN for the handbooks.

The problem with the handbook is the first two pages, Fowler said. "Weighing overall, I would distribute the book. The important thing is the birth control information."

The best technique for distribution would have been to give them to the student assistants in the dorms, Fowler added.

Elaine Waggoner, president of ABC, said it was decided to give the handbooks to the student assistants and residence directors, rather than putting them in the mailboxes.

Last spring some of the pamphlets were distributed with a disclaimer stating that ABC doesn't support the political philosophy in the book. The organization didn't

have time to put in the disclaimer when they began distributing the books in bulk quantity to the dorms, according to Waggoner.

Before the mailbox controversy, she added, the organization distributed about 6,000 books with no complaints from students.

In Cather Hall and Women's Residence Hall the handbooks were requested by the hall government and, in cooperation with the residence hall staff, it was decided to put them in the mailboxes, said Wayne Kuncl, coordinator of residence halls.

This was in accord with University policy on distribution of material in mailboxes, Kuncl said. The policy allows materials "deemed important to the student by residence hall governments" to be placed in mailboxes, he said.

Paul Ochsner, president of Cather Hall, said it was a mistake to put the material in the mailboxes, although he didn't anticipate the issue would be raised.

In a survey conducted in Cather, Ochsner said, of 167 questionnaires returned, 126 said the handbook filled a need in the hall. Four students found the material highly objectionable and 11 objectionable in part.

The 437 hall residents who didn't reply to the questionnaire were felt to be indifferent to the issue, he said.

Cather Hall government voted to contribute \$25 to ABC for the books, Ochsner said. However, because of the controversy it was suggested to the hall treasurer that he withhold payment, he said.

Only five per cent of the hall registered any objection, Ochsner concluded. Only one person objected to student fees being spent for the book but this person's objection was to student fees in general, he said.

Some CSL members said it wasn't the function of ASUN to distribute birth control information since it is available at the Student Health Center.

Students at the meeting objected that, unless the information is readily available, students will not seek birth control information until a pregnancy occurs.

Harry Canon, interim assistant dean for student

Turn to page 12.

Pitinger gives lottery numbers

Less than 60 per cent of students who entered the Orange Bowl ticket lottery will receive tickets.

Those students with lottery numbers one through 3,046 will receive tickets. Students with those numbers must present their receipt and pay for the tickets before Friday, at 4 p.m. The tickets, which cost eight dollars, must also be paid for at the time they are received.

Any tickets not picked up by 4 p.m. Friday will be cancelled.

According to Nebraska ticket manager Jim Pitinger, 3,600 students registered for the ticket lottery and 2,000 received tickets.

Pitinger has now received more than 25,000 ticket requests from students and the public. Nebraska and Alabama were each given 12,500 tickets to sell.



Save trees: Use the barrels around campus to recycle your Nebraskans.

Nebraskan recycles

Beginning today copies of *The Daily Nebraskan* can be recycled.

The Daily Nebraskan, along with the help of the University, has obtained 12 barrels specially designed to accommodate newsprint for recycling.

Barrels have been placed in the following locations on the City Campus: the Nebraska Union, Love Library, Andrews Hall, Burnett Hall, Cather-Pound, Selleck Quadrangle, Abel-Sandoz and Harper-Smith-Schramm.

On East Campus, barrels have been placed in the following locations: the East Campus Union, C.Y. Thompson Library and Burr Hall.

The crucial thing to remember is that *The Daily Nebraskan* recycling barrels are for *Daily Nebraskans* and other newsprint. No other paper is acceptable. Trash barrels are for trash, the recycling barrels are for newsprint.

Gary Seacrest, *Daily Nebraskan* editor, encourages students and UNL staff to make wide use of the recycling barrels for *Daily Nebraskans* as well as other newspapers.

"We've talked a great deal about the environment," Seacrest said. "Now is the time to do something about it. We need your help in saving trees. *Daily Nebraskan* recycling barrels are available on both campuses; please use them."