

## Unaffiliated candidates challenge parties

by Duane Leibhart

If figures tell all, there seems to be less of everything in this spring's ASUN election than in last year's election.

Last spring there were a total of 84 ASUN candidates up for election—this year only 76. There were five presidential candidates last year and four this year; five parties last spring and four this year.

Eight students were trying for re-election as senators last year but this year only three incumbents are on the ballot. The biggest drop was in the number of candidates running independently. Nearly 37 per cent ran independently last year and this year the independents represent about 17 per cent of the total ASUN candidates.

One reason for the decrease in the number of independents running could probably be tied to the success of last year's very strong University Coalition Party. That party won all three executive positions and 20 of the 35 ASUN senatorial posts.

Many of the independent candidates were elected because there were only enough candidates running to fill the allotted seats in their colleges.

Presidential candidate Bill Schwartzkopf ran independently in the last two elections and was elected senator. This year he has formed the Concerned Students party.

Schwartzkopf said the general record of independent candidates at the polls shows an independent candidate usually doesn't win.

"Quite a lot of people will vote an all party ticket if they know one or two of the candidates in that party," he said.

All University Party presidential candidate Sen. Roy Baldwin said the ability of organized parties to elect their members has been proven in the last two years. Party members can work together to get elected, he said.

"We don't just speak for ourselves, but for all 16 people in the party whenever we go out," he added. Running in a party is the most honest for students, he stated, they know what the basic philosophy of each candidate is just by looking at the platform.

Independent second vice presidential candidate Doug Voegler is the only unaffiliated executive candidate running this year. He ran for the ASUN presidential slot last spring as an independent.



Voegler said the main purpose of parties running a second vice presidential candidate has been to use the \$50 he is allotted in campaign expenditures to absorb the excessive expenditures of the other executive candidates.

Each ASUN executive is allowed to spend \$50 on his personal campaign. However, the three executives of one party may pool their money. Senators and advisory board candidates can spend only \$35 on their individual campaigns and may not pool their funds.

## Poorhouse renews attack

Lincoln's Poorhouse Coalition took more verbal pokes at the University Wednesday contending NU officials had failed to fulfill promises made to low-income Lincoln tenants at a meeting a month ago.

In a letter addressed to NU President D.B. Varner, the coalition accused the University of mismanaging a low-income housing study. It also said the University had not complied with a coalition request for copies of its preliminary five-year development plan.

The letter also blasted the University for not activating a regents housing study committee, although it said two board meetings have passed since the promise to activate the committee was made.

A University spokesman said Wednesday that the study the letter referred to was not yet underway.

Harry Allen, of the institutional research office, said a federal grant to finance the study has been requested, but the Housing and Urban Development office has not yet answered the request.

Responding to charges against the housing study committee, Regent Ed Schwartzkopf, head of the committee, said there is little point in meeting before the study can be made and the results compiled.

Before the University can seek funds to remedy the housing situation, the exact nature of the problem must be known, he said.

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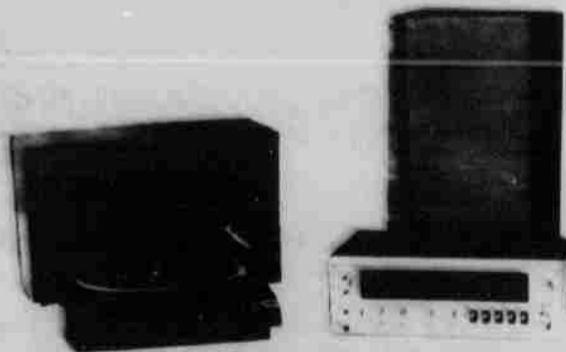
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## Unicameral advances construction bill

Nebraska senators rushing to get essential legislation passed before the session's end advanced from general file the state's capital construction bill Thursday afternoon.

After rejecting on a narrow 18-22 vote the addition of \$3.2 million for the construction of a new Law College building on the UNL campus, senators gave unanimous first round approval to LB 1513.

The Unicameral added \$300,000 to the Appropriations Committee's initial recommendation of just about \$13 million in total construction funds for the next fiscal year.

Of the \$4.9 million recommended for the UNL campus, \$3.3 million would go for an addition to Love Memorial Library. A new home economics building on East Campus would receive \$1.4 million in state funds.

The remaining \$190,000 UNL funds would be spent on remodeling Ferguson Hall.

Having finished 51 of their constitutional limit of 60 working days, state senators have begun starting work a half hour early in the mornings and cutting back on their noon recess.

Final adjournment could come by the end of March unless senators decide to take a long recess with one or two days left in an attempt to avert gubernatorial vetoes on any bills.