

ASUN faces the annual question of relevancy

Steve Strasser is a senior, majoring in journalism. As a former Daily Nebraskan staff writer and news editor he helped cover the 1971 and 1972 ASUN elections. For the last three weeks he has been on special assignment covering this year's election for the Daily Nebraskan.

by Steve Strasser

UNL students will flock to polling places by the tens today to elect a new student government.

Since ASUN's 1967 moment in the sun when more than 40 per cent of the student population voted in the spring elections, interest in even this most interesting of all ASUN institutions has flagged.

Last year 3,700 students, about 19 per cent of the student body, voted.

But even though the election usually excites only about one out of every five students enough to actually get out and vote, it's still the most exciting thing ASUN does.

There are debates and signs and platforms and promises. There is always the main issue: how to make ASUN a viable organization.

The durability of that issue infers a durable record



Ann Henry, presidential candidate for Get Off Your Apathy (GOYA) party . . . stresses services, experience and competence.

of the failure of ASUN leadership, failure so consistent that it can't be blamed on one leader or another.

Candidates try to answer the same question every year: How do we make student government relevant to most students? Then they are elected and fail, so that the question has to be asked again next year.

Perhaps a better question would be: Is it possible to make student government relevant to most students? Do most students regard the University as a community they should seriously help govern or as an institution they can use toward accomplishing their goals in a "real world" community?

Authors's analysis

Do students see themselves as fixed members of a community, or as transient purchasers of academic services?

To invoke the old "middle-of-the-road" principle, it probably is safe to say the student is neither a passive learner nor an active citizen. Most students probably take some interest in their community, or at least in their environment: witness the current visitation and alcohol rebellions in dormitories and the general student push for improved education.

But all the same, in the back of most students' minds is the realization that they're only at the University to learn: they'll go somewhere else to live. There's no "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death" zeal to any given student movement.

Perhaps the current ASUN president, Bruce Beecher, was the first candidate to see that students, as rather passive transients, are likely to respond to a service platform more readily than to a vigorous civil rights platform.

Beecher easily defeated a more experienced opponent at least partially by promising students conveniences such as cooperatives and general stores during their stay at the University.

His opponent promised to fight for more student power within the University community. Who needs that? Maybe if he had promised degrees in two years...

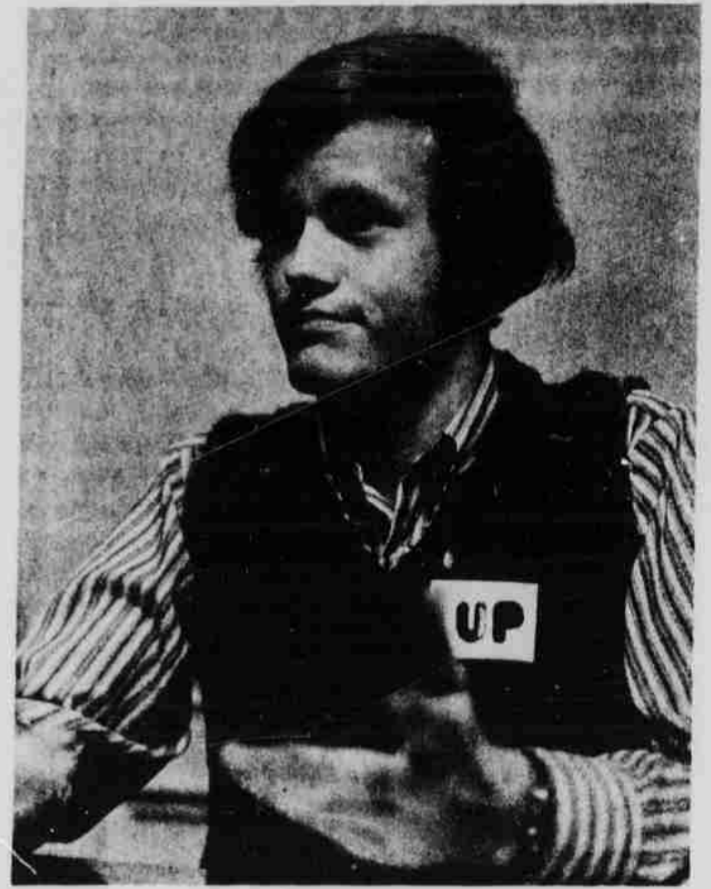
This year there are no civil rights activists on the ballot. Both serious parties see ASUN as a provider of services: educational services, legal services, economic services.

Unity and Progress (UP) party candidate Bill Freudenburg is the closer of the two candidates to being a zealot. To Freudenburg, ASUN is more than a student voice, it is a "student advocate." ASUN should take public stands against such administrative bastions as the UNL Housing Office, for instance, if housing office statistics run against dormitory students' financial interests.

On the other hand, Ann Henry, presidential candidate of the Get Off Your Apathy (GOYA) party, would take a cooler, more Beecher-like approach to situations such as the dormitory rate

increase. ASUN should give in to the inevitability of the price increase and lobby for corresponding increases in student liberties: alcohol and visitation.

Henry's approach to the campaign also is similar to Beecher's: analytical, a concentration on concrete services, a stress on the experience and competence of her running mates, the inference that her party has



Bill Freudenburg, Unity and Progress (UP) party . . . calls ASUN "the student's advocate."

already begun establishing its programs before the election.

Freudenburg talks in more libertarian terms: students not only would be inconvenienced by his programs, they have a right to them. He speaks of his running mates in terms of their humanity, their ability to get along with people.

This campaign has been fought on more concrete grounds than most. The student lawyer debate was as open and as intelligently fought as an election issue can be. The candidates came to work well-prepared and serious. Programs were argued, not philosophies.

ASUN may not be on solid grounds as a legitimate government with the power to affect people's lives or to demand universal respect from students and administrators alike. But as a student service organization, this year's candidates are saying intelligently that ASUN can be a viable organization.



UNL Chancellor James Zumberge . . . attended the opening of UNL's self-service postal station.

Zumberge plays 'post office'

UNL's self-service postal station "should prove to be a real labor-saving device and a service to the citizen," according to UNL Chancellor James Zumberge.

The chancellor attended Tuesday the opening ceremony for the outdoor postal station, located on the corner of 14th and U Streets, across from the State Museum.

"The post office will be a fine contribution to Lincoln's mail system because it's strategically located and offers 24-hour

service," Lincoln Postmaster Garl Moore said.

The postal station dispenses stamps and envelopes, provides scales and postage charts and contains a mail drop for letters and packages. Money orders and certified mail can not be handled at the postal station.

Mail is collected at the station twice daily on weekdays and once on Sundays.

Construction on the \$20,000 structure began in the summer of 1972.

Carly radiates on 'No Secrets'

Our entertainment staff is at it again. Here's two more installments to add to their famous mini record review catalogue.

No Secrets. Carly Simon. Elektra (75049).

With "You're So Vain" belting out of the speakers and Carly gazing at you from the back cover of the album, how can anyone help but like *No Secrets*.

Simon runs the gamut of soft and tender on "His Friends Are More Than Fond of Robin" and "It Was So Easy" to rough and rowdy on "Night Owl" and the popular "You're So Vain."

Simon radiates a charisma and confidence in *No Secrets* which she didn't have on her previous albums.

When she sings of love, it's a personal confession. Simon draws comparisons between a child's innocent love to an adult's complicated, confusing love. "The Carter Family" shows a woman realizing how much she wants something after she's given it up, while "Waited So Long" ends a girl's innocence as she sings "Daddy, I'm no virgin. And I've already waited too long."

If you've waited too long, end it and hop out to buy *No Secrets*. Larry Kubert

Split Ends. The Move. United Artists (UAS-5666)

Noisy nonsense. As the incredibly inane liner notes put it "Roy Wood, Jeff Lynne and Bev Bevan are among the chosen few who have been handed the secret key to the magic that is rock 'n' roll...that's what it's all about. Heavy makes you very happy. Oh yes, the Move is an unbelievably heavy, loud and powerful band..."

Noisy three-piece bands, unless a third of them is Jimi Hendrix, simply don't have the versatility (and often not the talent anyway) to play any interesting music. The Move is no exception.

The album is made up of some cuts from *Message From The County* which was released on Capitol in 1971 along with a bunch of singles released on UA and Capitol in the last year or so.

The only real reason I can imagine for this group being popular or successful is that they're better than a group called A Euphonious Wail. Bart Becker