

daily nebraskan

thursday, march 11, 1976 vol. 99 no. 95 lincoln, nebraska

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Faction admits picking Greek election slate

By Kim Shepherd

Many people are talking about it. Nobody knows who's on it. And only three people admit to having formed it. It is a slate for the March 17 ASUN election. But, unlike most slates, it is comprised of candidates from three of the four recognized parties in the election and represents only candidates from Greek Houses.

The Greek slate endorses Phi Delta Theta member Bill Mueller, a junior in pre-law and independent candidate for President; Alpha Omicron Pi member Paula Haeder, a junior in Integrated Studies and independent candidate for first vice-president; and Farmhouse member Dennis Martin, junior law student and New Student Coalition candidate for second vice-president, according to Al Eveland. Eveland said he formulated the idea of a Greek slate last year while president of the Interfraternity

Council (IFC).

Eveland, a senior art major from North Bend, refused to identify other candidates on the Greek slate.

Eveland said he, Barb Hengen, and a committee of select Greeks have been working on the slate since January. At that time, Eveland said he introduced the idea to some IFC representatives after one of their meetings. Hengen, a senior secondary education major from Wahoo, is the former president of Panhellenic and a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Another admitted member of the slating committee, John Kane, a senior speech and drama major from Kansas City, Mo., and president of Phi Delta Theta fraternity, said he presented the idea of a Greek slate at a sorority and fraternity presidents meeting Feb. 11. He said he asked the presidents to find members of their houses who would be willing to run on a Greek slate.

Eveland said Kane is a member of what Eveland referred to as The Faction. Currently, The Faction is comprised of Greek house presidents, Eveland said, adding that he considers himself The Faction coordinator although he is not president of Delta Tau Delta, the fraternity to which he belongs.

The group that did the slating does not include all the members of The Faction, Eveland said. He said there were about six or seven persons who had worked on the slating with Hengen and him. Eveland would not identify those people, but he referred to them as The Committee for The Faction.

Eveland said he first heard about The Faction from his father, a former university student and Farmhouse fraternity member. However, Eveland said, his father was not a member of The Faction, which he said was active on campus from the 1920s to the early 1960s.

Coffee shop site of budget shop talk

Several state senators and Gov. J. James Exon sat down in the capital's basement coffee shop Wednesday for what Newman Grove Sen. Thomas Kennedy had called a press conference. But it turned into a forum questioning the Nebraska Legislature Appropriations Committee's proposed \$94 million NU budget.

Kennedy, who began the meeting, said coffee shop conferences were needed to get the facts about the proposed university budget to the senators' constituents. "I asked him what he did when he wasn't lobbying," Kennedy said, "and he said he was an English professor."

Kennedy said John Robinson called him Monday night to inquire about his position on the university budget. "Couldn't answer"

Kennedy said he asked Robinson why he (Kennedy) should support a 23 per cent tax support increase in the university budget when cattle prices are down and there appears to be a drought.

"He could not answer my questions," Kennedy said.

Sidney Sen. Robert Clark, vice-chairman of the Appropriation's Committee, said he opposed all general fund additions to the committee's previous tentative \$87.9 million NU budget, except for an addition for a brain scanner at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Exon's proposed budget, scrapped earlier by the committee, presented a "more business like approach."

His constituents have told him to hold down the budget, he said.

Exon outlined his objections to the Appropriations Committee bill. He said the committee's budget includes a provision in cash fund ceilings for a tuition increase,

which he said he opposes.

Exon said maybe, although he didn't recommend it, tuition, which he said is a large amount of the university's cash income, should be set each year to cover 25 per cent of the university's costs. In that way, he said, some students, although not a majority, would stop being what he called pawns for the university system.

Professional fees

The governor said his 1202 Commission on University Funding could not get medical center figures on professional fees faculty members receive for treating patients.

Clark explained that if a patient is sent to the medical center, fees that a person pays go to medical center operations. But, he continued, if a patient is referred to a specific doctor, those fees are put in a professional fee fund distributed among doctors.

Exon called the medical center the "sacred cow of sacred cows" at the university.

Clark said he would sponsor a resolution for a committee study of professional fees and the way they are handled over the summer.

Over-lobbied

As the conversation turned to the NU budget in general, Kennedy said, "I don't think the public knows how much we've been over-lobbied."

Exon said, "We haven't begun to match the lobbying with unlimited funds, especially from the University (of Nebraska) Foundation," on these issues.

Pro-university lobbyists have done a much better job putting out facts, he said.

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Photo by Ted Kirk

Sidney State Sen. Robert Clark

Credibility, sincerity are USA campaign bywords

Editor's note: This is the fourth article in a series on the 1976 ASUN elections. Before the March 17 balloting, all parties and candidates will be interviewed.

By George Miller

Establishing ASUN Senate credibility is the first priority of the University Student Awareness (USA) party, according to party executive candidates.

"You achieve credibility by establishing that you have a sincere interest in the job, by doing adequate research into projects before you start them and by taking the time

to do the job," said Scott Cook, USA presidential candidate.

Cook, a junior political science major from Sidney, spoke about the goals of his party in a Tuesday night interview. Cook was joined by his running mates, first vice-presidential candidate Susie Reitz, a sophomore journalism major from North Platte and second vice-presidential candidate John Welch, a junior political science major from Curtis.

"We're done with toy politics (in Senate)," Cook said.

"We have people (in USA) who take seriously their relationship with the (NU Board of) Regents, the NU administration and the State Legislature."

"Not done overnight"

Welch said that after the senators and executives prove they can do substantive things for students, they will gain the students' respect.

"This is not done overnight," Welch said, "but with strong execs and senators, we can go a long way towards establishing credibility."

Noting that he and Welch currently are ASUN senators and that Reitz is a former senator, Cook said USA executives would understand Senate problems and would be able to provide better leadership than the current Senate administration.

Lack of leadership

"This year's Senate has done a lot and could have done more if it had had effective leadership," Cook said.

The current ASUN Senate administration "has no game plan," he said.

"Nobody knows where the Senate is going to go," Cook said. "It's become bogged down in trivia lots of the time."



Photo by Terry Ganshorn

University Student Awareness (USA) party candidates for ASUN are (left to right) John Welch, second vice-president, Susie Reitz, first vice-president and Scott Cook, president.



Cook said the Senate was led into and became bogged down in the dispute with its appointees on the Council on Student Life (CSL) because of a lack of leadership.

"We should have looked into it (the CSL controversy) more deeply before jumping into it," Reitz said.

Cook called attention to the "diversity of USA," saying it includes persons from "all walks of student life" such as members living off campus, in residence halls and Greek houses.

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