

# Reasons from A to E attract voters to ASUN polls

By Dawn Baxter and Mary Jo Pitzl

What does it take to get students to vote in an ASUN election?

- a) Desire to see a favorite candidate win;
- b) Student obligation to vote;
- c) Concern about an increase in student fees;
- d) Dissatisfaction with the present ASUN;
- e) All of the above.

A *Daily Nebraskan* straw poll taken at polling places indicated that e) all of the above drew students to vote in Wednesday's ASUN election.

Students were asked about the election after voting at polls in the Nebraska Union, Nebraska East Union and Nebraska Hall.

Roger Holscher, an agricultural economics major from McCook, said he knows first vice-presidential candidate Mike Stein and second vice-presidential candidate Harlan Milder.

"I want to see them get in. They're good people," Holscher said.

Julie Messenger of McCook said, "I voted for Greg Johnson because I agreed with his policies and he testified before the (Nebraska) Legislature about fees."

**Against slate**

The food science major added that she was against any sort of organized slate and she said Johnson was not affiliated with any slate.

Undeclared major Mark Vanicek of York said he voted for Eric Carstenson because the Interfraternity Council representative in his fraternity recommended the Greek candidates.

Michael Flynn, a business administration major from Omaha, said he voted for Carstenson because he knows him and "likes his style."



Paul Huebner, a history major from North Platte, said he knew Johnson and said he thought Johnson "wanted to do something important with ASUN."

Many of the students questioned said they did not know all the candidates they voted for.

A law student who wished to remain anonymous said that although he hardly knew any of the candidates running, he

voted because he wanted to see a friend elected as Law College senator. Besides that one candidate, he said, he did not know any of the other candidates he voted for.

Reasons other than personal interest in a candidate prompted some students to vote.

"I feel it's my duty as a student (to vote)," said Mark Reetz, an engineering

major from York. "It's kind of advised from the place I come from," he said, adding he is a member of Beta Sigma Psi fraternity.

**Recommendations**

Reetz said that although he did not know any of the candidates he voted for, he followed recommendations given by members in his fraternity. He said he trusted the opinion of his friends, and was sure the candidates they recommended would serve well.

"They'd just as soon you vote for them (the recommended candidates) or not for anybody," Reetz said.

Beta Sigma Psi president Steve Ebner said those recommendations were never made at a chapter meeting of his fraternity.

Ebner said he received a list of Greek ASUN candidates Tuesday afternoon which he posted with the advice that members should be free to vote for whom ever they want. He said he did not know who distributed the list or how he received it.

Psychology major Kendra Camp said she voted because she wanted to have input since senators are supposed to represent her.

Government reorganization and control over the Fees Allocation Board were the major campaign issues students cited.

"I'd like to see reform in the Senate," architecture major Sherwood Adams of Ralston said. Adams said he considered rising fees and student costs in tuition and housing as important campaign issues.

A need to put more authority in ASUN prompted agriculture major Bill Weston to vote, he said.

"Last year we got some people in there (ASUN) who didn't care," Weston said.

## Thone says political fate undecided

By John Minnick

The press is very influential in elections, First District Rep. Charles Thone told a Mass Media and Society class Tuesday night.

"Most politicians create their own problems with the press," he said. "A politician gets his image with the press."

Thone said he still is considering running for the U.S. Senate, Nebraska governor or reelection to the U.S. House in 1978. Or he may return to practice law in Lincoln, he told the class.

He said he has not yet made a decision and is looking at all the possibilities. It has been reported that several possible candidates for the offices Thone is considering

are waiting for his decision before running.

Thone said the press had great influence in the Republican presidential primary last year. Gerald Ford could not come across to the people well on television, he said. Ronald Reagan, however, came across well but lost because he was running against an incumbent.

"He (Reagan) ran a remarkable race, but he did not have very good press coverage," Thone said. "When Reagan would make an error, the press would jump on it."

Thone said a politician must run for office on his image and the issues, and it is important to be on the right side of the issues.

Nebraskans Edward Zorinsky and John Y. McCollister ran good races for the U.S. Senate last year, Thone said. "But the best thing Zorinsky has for him was his 'open door' image to government policy."

Thone said he did not feel as frustrated as Zorinsky said he felt during his first month of office, and said Zorinsky needs more patience with the office.

The House image was hurt with the recent congressional pay raises, Thone said. The House leadership pushed through the pay raises without a roll call vote.

Thone said he is against creating public works jobs to decrease unemployment.

"The answer to the jobs problem is in the private sector," he said. "Once the public money is spent for the jobs, you are back where you started from."

Thone also is against President Jimmy Carter's proposals to change the food stamp program because he said it is a good program and there are people who need the food stamps.

"The program is rank with abuse but only because of the small percentage of people who abuse it. The people with fancy cars and homes and food stamps destroy the program's credibility and should be kicked out of the program."

Abolishing the Electoral College to provide for direct election of the president is not a good idea, Thone said.

"If we ever have a direct election, we will never see another presidential candidate in the Midwest again," Thone said. "They will only campaign in the heavily populated areas where the votes are."

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