

Matzke, Boosalis and candidates debate city issues

By Tom Prentiss

Residents of northwest Lincoln were given a chance to meet candidates at a forum at Whittier Junior High School Friday night.

Mayoral candidates Helen Boosalis and Stan Matzke, along with Northwest district candidates Steve Cook and Eric Youngberg, answered questions at the forum organized by neighborhood associations in the Northwest district.

Each segment of the program allowed an opening and closing statement and a half an hour of questions from the audience.

In her opening statement Boosalis said she would not talk about what she has done as mayor, but about what areas need attention in the future.

She stressed proper handling of inflation because of its effect on government, conservation of resources and the continuation of the growth of neighborhoods.

Employment opportunities must be continued to be made available, she added.

Matzke experience

Matzke countered by saying he could "make a difference." He cited his service as director of administrative services under former Gov. J. J. Exon as part of his training for the job.

He again said he could bring a new attitude to the City Council, saying he could "disagree without being disagreeable."

Matzke was asked why he didn't sign a petition calling for a referendum on the Lincoln General Hospital lease.

After the Boosalis-Matzke debate on April 22, Matzke signed and then crossed his name off a petition. He said he didn't sign it because the sponsor of the petition, Charles Brown, had gone out to Southeast Community College and "gone through the files in an attempt to discredit me," Matzke said. He signed a petition at a League of Women voters meeting the next day.

Traffic problem

Boosalis reiterated her previous statements that releasing control of the hospital would be "bad for the future of this city."

Both candidates admitted the existence of a traffic problem in Lincoln but had different proposals for solutions.

Matzke said the city was in need of a total transportation plan. He said he did not have a specific plan in mind but said he would work with the department heads to formulate one.

Driver behavior, Boosalis said, is the cause of the traffic problems, not street design.

The relationship of the mayor and the City Council was brought up by Matzke, as he has done throughout the campaign.

Matzke said he could "bring the department heads together to solve problems" because of his leadership style and administrative ability.

Watchdog for the city

Boosalis also stressed cooperation between the mayor and the council. But she added, "Cooperation does not mean capitulation."

Calling herself a "watchdog for the city," she said it was her job to tell the council items that she thought were not in the best interests of Lincoln citizens.

In the session between incumbent Cook and challenger Youngberg, Cook said he was the "fiscally conservative" person the council needs.

Youngberg said the city has lost confidence in the council, primarily because of little public accountability.

Youngberg said that after the primary, Cook answered a question about the northwest district by saying, "They need help." He said this showed that Cook "does not think of himself as one of us."

Both candidates expressed displeasure at the city for not standing up to UNL more in areas of land acquisition.

Wiped out neighborhoods

Youngberg said the western neighborhoods have been "wiped out by the university's land gains."

Cook qualified his statement by saying that much give and take has gone on in the past between the city and UNL and he hoped it would continue.

The two agreed that with the university's power of eminent domain, buying private property for public good, cooperation is essential.

"We have to get the university to work with us, and not against us," said Youngberg.

The question of the tactics of the Lincoln Alliance were also raised.

Cook said he resented conduct of the Alliance on certain issues. He said they often bus in residents to hearings without the residents being totally informed about the issue at hand.

Continued on page 2

Mideast 'never same again'—Eban

By Shelley Smith

Former Israeli Prime Minister Abba Eban told an audience Sunday night that the key to peace after the Israeli-Egypt treaty is compromise. And compromise, he said, means accepting today what you swore last week you would never accept.

Eban addressed about 900 people in a speech sponsored by the Lincoln Jewish Community and the UNL Hillel Foundation.

He said he believes the treaty, signed last month by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and President Carter, is a marked turning point in the life of the Israeli nation, and that life in the Middle East will never be the same again.

He credited Carter's role as a third party in the Camp David talks, saying that because of Egypt's and Israeli's hostile background, they could never have reached an agreement on their own.

And, he said, while praising Egypt's and Israeli's ability to compromise enough to form a treaty, he argued that it is not an equal treaty in terms of implementation.

By forcing the Israeli's to give up territory on the West Bank and Gaza strip, it causes a pain and trauma that only Israeli will feel.

However, an important outcome of the treaty, according to Eban, is Egypt's acceptance of the Israeli nation.

"They've always said we would appreciate a Middle East without you. Now, they say because Israel's strength and tenacity, we can't have a Middle East without you," he said.

Signing the treaty proves the Arabs were unable to get their territory back by war, but are able to get it back by peace, he said.

He said while there is a common signing about the Gaza and the West Bank, there is not a common policy.

"In this case it was mobilizing language to hide disagreement," he said.

"However, we prefer the pains of co-existence rather than war," he added.

Eban said the treaty will create new tensions and new horizons that will challenge both Israel and Egypt, and there is a chance that the treaty could be revoked.

What could revoke it, he said, could be the Palestinian situation. He added he hopes both countries will join in bringing about the elections of a self-governing authority for the Palestinians in the Gaza and West Bank.

He said, although they will not have a self-governing state, they will have a self-governing institution, which creates a self-governing state.

Also, Eban commented on the economic stability of Egypt saying that after such a prolonged absence of peace, it is impossible ever to recover financially.

However, he said the peace will open up Egypt's options.

He also said he believes American financial backing of Israel is in America's best interest.

"The alternative to backing Israel is a weak Israel, which means war, which would lead to global confrontation with Soviet intervention," he said.

Eban also said that the two-month recess in treaty negotiations is a pause for celebration.

"This is a great, important and revolutionary event," he said.



Daily Nebraskan photo

Former Israeli foreign minister and NU delegate
Abba Eban.

Senators handle charges informally

By Randy Essex

A study of allegations made by Regent Robert Prokop is being handled in a "quiet fashion" by some state senator, as opposed to conducting the investigation through a legislative resolution, Pleasant Dale Sen. Harold Sieck said Sunday.

Sieck said that by initiating the study in a quiet way the senators will get more information than if they held formal interim study hearings.

In the case of an interim study, "then everyone is prepared," and people become defensive about what is being investigated, Sieck explained.

Prokop charged that outside consulting positions held by UNL Banking Professor L. Wayne Dobson have been excessive, may have created conflicts of interest and had not been approved by the regents.

Other accusations in a letter Prokop wrote to seven state senators concerned testing fees at the East Campus Veterinary and Diagnostic Testing Laboratory, financial operations of the NU Foundation and the legal fees paid for the Eppley Cancer Research Institute.

Quiet approach

Sieck said that the quiet approach is netting information for the senators now that they may not have had if an interim study resolution had been introduced.

For example, he said, that university officials have not been reporting their overall financial status, but that they are now. He said "other things are being done that were not being done before," and should have been.

"We don't want to belittle the university," Sieck said. "We're getting the information anyway." He added that he will continue to talk with university officials and others close to the university for quite some time. Sieck said he already has talked with many people concerning the allegations.

And, apparently, Dobson has talked to at least one person concerning the allegations made against him. The Lincoln Journal reported Friday that a letter from attorney Kile Johnson told Dobson that Prokop's allegat-

ions constituted a cause for a suit charging Prokop with defaming Dobson.

Grounds for suit

According to the Journal, the letter said that although Dobson was not specifically identified in the letter from Prokop, the substance of the allegations identified Dobson, giving him grounds for suit.

The Journal reported that Dobson would not comment as to whether a suit would actually be filed. The Journal also reported that the letter had been circulated to UNL faculty members and the senator who had received Prokop's letter.

But Sieck said he had not received the letter yet, as did Adams senator Bill Burrows. Faculty Senate President William Campbell had not received the letter either.

Campbell did say he has talked to several people concerning Prokop's allegations about Dobson, and has heard that the charges probably were false, apparently based on some misinformation.

Campbell said he thinks it would have been better for Prokop to bring his charges to the Professional Conduct Committee of the Faculty Senate than to go to the Legislature. He said the committee was established just to investigate such charges.

But Campbell said the committee is not investigating charges against Dobson because "no one has come to them" with the charges.

inside monday

Food for thought: Speaker warns that land-grant universities must maintain excellence in agriculture research. . . . page 6
C'est la vie: Reviewer says Same Time, Next Year is nothing special. . . . page 8
Defense still on top: Nebraska's scrimmage proves the offense still needs work. . . . page 10