

Council gets transfusion of new blood in all city districts

All three incumbent city council members up for election were defeated Tuesday in Lincoln's first district race.

According to Eric Youngberg, winner in the Northwest District which includes UNL City and East Campuses, the results were not an upset.

"My race wasn't an upset because he (Steve Cook) never attended rallies, knocked on doors, and didn't really want

to run," said Youngberg, 28. "People understood I would be their voice for the first time on the council since I projected an image as a boy from the northside."

Youngberg said he was happy that the other challengers won since they represented a position like his, one of neighborhood involvement and representation.

"The past council has done a lot of damage and has lost the public's confi-

dence," Youngberg said. "We are going to have to bend over backwards to restore that lost confidence."

Cook, an eight-year incumbent who beat Youngberg in the April primary by only 19 votes, said he wasn't bitter about the defeat and that he had almost decided not to run this year anyway.

"Youngberg can't match my record of 20 years (city government) experience," Cook said after the election. "Maybe I've been around too long and I can accept that."

Cook said that Youngberg's campaign played a large part in the results.

"I think the fact that he (Youngberg) was willing to say anything to get the vote won him the election," Cook said. "I can't do that."

Youngberg said he was happy that Helen Boosalis won and that "with a new strong majority council," there won't be any more fighting between the mayor and council.

Agreeing with Youngberg about better mayor-council relations with the defeat of three incumbents was councilman Bob Jeambey.

"It couldn't have happened to a nicer bunch," said Jeambey referring to incumbents Cook, Bob Sikyta, and Arlyss Brown.

"The council has been arrogant and has wasted their time on many issues," he added.

Councilman John Robinson agreed there would be less friction between the mayor and new council that will take office May 14.

"Instead of pouring cement, it will

mean the preservation of neighborhoods," Robinson said after the election.

Besides coming out for more neighborhood involvement and representation in city government, Youngberg said he would also like to improve student relations in the community.

His campaign was based on strong support of community schools and he is against the Northeast Radial while Cook favored it.

Youngberg also favors an open-ended policy on the number of liquor licenses in Lincoln, emphasizing instead the quality of the businesses allowed to serve liquor.

Cook has said that the council has tried to maintain the present level of liquor establishments, although the council has constantly been searching for "creative and innovative" measures for the license policy.

Besides the 3,288 to 2,438 vote victory by Youngberg in the Northwest District, other council results were:

Past Council Chairman Bob Sikyta was defeated by Donna Frohardt in the southeast district by 7,061 to 6,647. Frohardt, who received 51 percent of the vote, resigned recently as a customer service representative for the Lincoln Electric System.

In the Southwest District, incumbent Arlyss Brown was defeated by Mike Steinman by a 5,517 to 4,586 margin. Steinman is a political science professor at UNL.

Winner of the Northeast District was Margrethe Ahlschwede over Jim Barry by a 5,519 to 3,041 margin. Ahlschwede, who received the largest district victory with 64 percent of the votes, is a homemaker.

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