

# Councilmen debate Lincoln issues

By Holly Weiland

In a Lincoln Jaycee-sponsored debate Tuesday between Lincoln City Council member Leo Scherer and Mike Steinman, Steinman said he was leaning toward the 19th Street option on the Northeast Radial issue.

Scherer said he would vote for one of the two options to build, but was not sure which one. He said he would not support a road past 27th Street.

Also discussed at the debate was the downtown housing issue. Both City Council members supported downtown housing.

Steinman said that with energy conservation efforts, a downtown housing development would be advisable. He said there could be some zoning problems, but added that he thinks those can be solved. The major problem is an economic issue, Steinman said, adding that if one housing development is opened, the probable success will bring a surge of some more housing developments.

Scherer said more housing is needed to develop a strong downtown area.

The debate was moderated by Tom Krueger, from the Lincoln Jaycees, Ken Schraad from radiostation KLMS, and Larry Clark from radio station KFOR. Cablevision taped the debate.

Both council members said they are concerned with the nation's apathy toward the presidential election.

Scherer said he supported Reagan. Steinman said he is undecided but he will not vote for Reagan.

They agreed there is a problem with the Cornhusker development that caused the delay with the project's grant, but Steinman said he did not know exactly what the problem is.

Scherer, who said he will not seek re-election, said he would like to see someone with similar philosophies replace him, but gave no definite candidates.

Steinman offered no definite candidates for the council seat, but said he would like to see a person who could discuss business issues in a constructive manner.

Scherer also said that he would not run for the mayor of Lincoln. He said if Mayor Helen Boosalis does not run, Steinman would be a good candidate. He said, however, he would not support him.

Scherer claimed the criticism of his attendance at council meetings is unjust.

Steinman supported Scherer on this point, saying there are a lot of meetings at City Hall but not all are important.

Scherer said the Council often meets when they have nothing to talk about. He said he had not missed an official City Council meeting since he sold his business.

Both agreed the Council seems to work well on a voluntary basis and should continue to operate in this manner.

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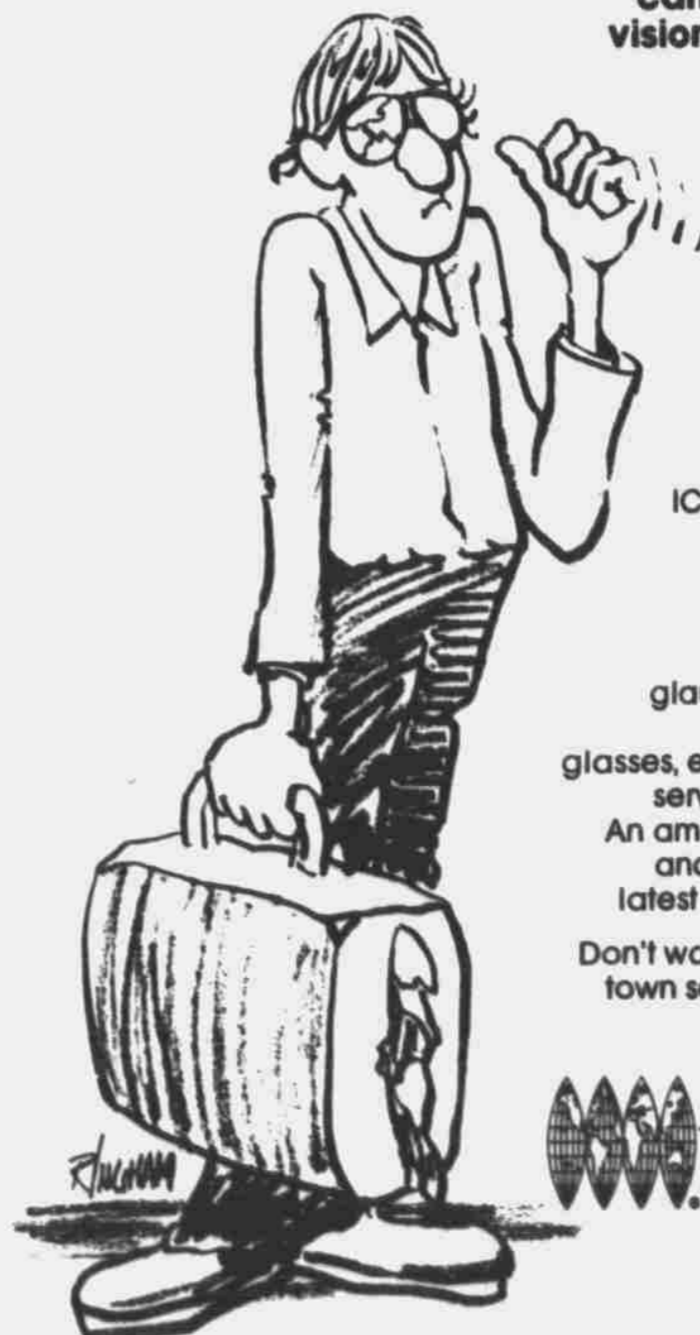
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