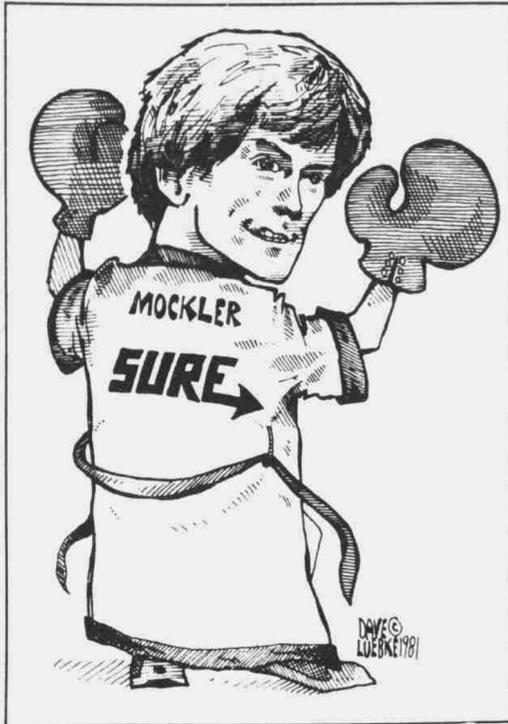


## opinion/editorial

# DN picks Mockler as best presidential candidate



University students in Nebraska, like all students of higher education, stand at a crossroads. The future of these learning institutions is hanging precariously because of threatened slashes in government aid to education.

Continual tuition hikes, endangered educational programs and services, and threats to impose minimum grade requirements at more UNL colleges present obstacles in the path students traverse to acquire a quality education.

Therefore, it is important the students on this campus be represented fairly and responsibly. Their concerns and needs must be realized and, in turn, presented to Nebraska lawmakers and university officials in a logical, responsible manner.

The Daily Nebraskan sees one candidate for ASUN president who can offer UNL students the representation they deserve. That candidate is Rick Mockler.

Mockler, like this newspaper, favors an 18 percent budget increase for the university. When finances are strapped, like during the current economic crisis, students must be frank with legislators and relate what the university's real needs are. An 18 percent budget increase is essential to keep NU alive and growing. Mockler realizes and is prepared to fight for that request.

A student foundation, which Mockler also supports, would be aimed at collecting money for student needs. His proposed foundation is an

exceptional idea that should be pursued in light of the realization students must continually seek new resources to be converted into educational support.

Affirmative action has been ignored too long at UNL. Mockler should be commended for his pledge to make a strong commitment toward purging sex and ethnic discrimination at the university.

The proposed State Student Association would offer students a chance to present their views in an organized and mature manner. Mockler, in a recent debate, said he personally favors forming an SSA in Nebraska to unite students. However, he stressed that to be effective, a statewide lobbying group must be independent.

But lobbying for legislative support and representing UNL on the NU Board of Regents is only a part of being student president. Perhaps the strongest leadership quality Mockler possesses is his devotion to the every day needs of ASUN's constituents.

His vow to promote student services such as open teacher evaluations, the book exchange, improved bus service and legal services—is evidence of his honest desire to serve students.

Combined with his experience in student government, these qualities prove Rick Mockler to be the ASUN presidential candidate best suited to represent the students of UNL.

## to the editor

### Biased coverage alleged

The ASUN campaign has gotten out of hand. The VOTE party, for whom I'm running for second vice president with, has been accused of many things in this campaign. However, not a bit of evidence exists to prove the accusations, as the Student Court proved when they unanimously decided in our favor concerning the controversy over our party name. The accusations have come primarily from the "old guard" in ASUN.

The Daily Nebraskan has aided the SURE party's cause too. We have submitted a platform for publication, but we were denied the opportunity to express our party views and proposals publicly. Only the SURE party's platform has been printed. This bias is evident when one considers that there are seven other platforms to print.

The article on my lobbying was excellent in some spots, but horrible in others. I was misquoted and misinterpreted on too many ideas. It said that it is illegal for me to register as a lobbyist, though this is untrue.

Students must realize that there is a "cozy triangle" that exists between the Daily Nebraskan, the present ASUN, and the SURE party. If you try to change their game to incorporate fresh ideas and efficiency, then you get ignored and/or attacked. It's true that those of the SURE party are the most experienced. But look at what their experience has led us to: a lack of respect and credibility while becoming grossly inefficient. Things have sure changed since Bud Cuca left. The excellent system of

this has been dismantled by the old guard and their "experienced" accomplices.

Michael B. Kratville  
Second Vice Presidential Candidate  
VOTE Party

**Editor's note:** The SURE Party platform was submitted to the Daily Nebraskan at a news conference. After the Daily Nebraskan received the SURE Party's platform, the VOTE Party said it would submit its platform. The Daily Nebraskan waited two publication days before printing SURE Party platform, in which time no platform was received from the VOTE party. No other party in the ASUN election submitted a platform to the Daily Nebraskan for publication. The Daily Nebraskan also ran a correction clarifying the original story concerning Kratville's lobbying. The original story said Kratville violated bylaws by registering as a student lobbyist. The clarification said Kratville did not violate bylaws because any student can register as a lobbyist. However, according to ASUN and NU Board of Regents' bylaws, only the Government Liaison Committee chairperson can officially lobby for UNL students.

### SSA opposed

As a concerned student of UNL, I find it my duty to speak out against the proposed State Student Association (SSA).

Much of the support for SSA stems from comparisons of existing SSAs in other states to our proposed SSA. If

these comparisons are so valid, then I wish to make a comparison of my own. The state of Kansas represents 81,000 students and has a yearly budget of \$35,000. The proposed Nebraska SSA has a yearly budget of over \$45,000, yet only represent less students? Is it really more expensive to lobby to our Unicameral than to the two house Kansas Legislature? Were the students told this comparison when they were persuaded to sign the petition?

If more extensive lobbying is needed, why not increase the activity of the Government Liaison Committee (GLC)? Surely the GLC can better represent the concerns of our own university without being committed to the desires of virtually unrelated campuses hundreds of miles away?

With the concern Regent Renee Wessels has shown for the rising cost of education, I find it interesting that she wishes to further increase the burden of the students by squandering our student fees on such an untested venture. Have her personal concerns taken precedence over the interests of the student body? Why is it that the "uninformed students" were welcomed to sign the pro-SSA petition, but are deemed unqualified by Wessels to make a binding decision in the March 4 election? Is it totally appalling to President Wessels to actually conform to the wishes of the students?

I urge all students to vote NO on SSA March 4.

Jeffrey A. Terp  
Business  
Senior

## daily nebraskan

# Apathy may be dark-horse winner

(The Scene: A thoroughbred race. It is the time immediately before the running or a major-stakes race, when the bettors are racing to the window to make their last-minute investments. The entries are out on the track, prancing around at random. The air fairly crackles with anticipation. The

clark

trumpets blare to call the entries to the post. They prance by the grandstand to the sound of "Dear Old Nebraska U." as the camera zooms in on our announcer, who is standing trackside.)

"Welcome to the Husker Downs Raceway, site of the annual ASUN Acronym Handicap. This 107th renewal of the Run for the Rose-Colored Glasses promises to be one of the most interesting in recent years, as one of the largest fields ever to enter this prestigious race seeks to trace the path to glory of last year's winner, Renee Wessels from the US Stables.

"The chief steward here at Husker Downs has informed me that the track will be classified as fast, but he doesn't expect the dry track conditions to decrease the mudslinging that has characterized this race in recent years.

"For those of you interested in such things, the tote board currently shows Rick Mockler, the entry from the SURE Stables, as the betting favorite, but informed sources here at Husker Downs tell me that several of the entries are capable of pulling off an upset. For a more detailed rundown of what to expect in the race, let's go to famous handicapper Wayne Cosgrove in the press box."

"Thank you. This is Wayne Cosgrove, and after thoroughly reviewing the records and form charts of the entries, I am putting my money on April May June from the SLUMBER Party Stables to win it all.

"I realize of course that the SLUMBER Party is not listed on the racing form, but this late and unofficial entry has looked as strong in the preliars as anything else I've seen this year. This new stable, a subsidiary of the growing Apathy conglomerate

draws its acronym from Students Lost Under Mountains of Befuddling Election Rhetoric.

"This business being the unpredictable affair that it is, I can't say that the SLUMBER entry will be there first at the finish, and to tell you the truth I hope it isn't, but this entry shines in these races where the favorites try to run each other off the track. The SLUMBER entry likes to lope along the outside rail, only coming to the head of the pack after all of the other entries have broken down from the incessant infighting.

"Because it is an unofficial entry, if April May June should bring home the victory for SLUMBER Stables, track officials have indicated they may move the annual race to Regents Park. Regents Park is a competing track near Husker Downs, and already is the site of the annual Tuition Handicap.

"Well, the entries are all in the starting gate now, so we should have a start at any moment. For the call on this year's ASUN Acronym Handicap, we now take you to the house announcer. This is Wayne Cosgrove, signing out."

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