



Staff photo by Craig Andresen

The race is off, as REACH party candidates Regina Rogers, left, Matt Wallace and Bill Buntain announce their candidacy for ASUN first vice president, president and second vice president positions respectively.

REACH party enters race

By Bill Allen

Matt Wallace of the newly formed REACH Party announced his candidacy for ASUN president Tuesday at a 2:30 p.m. press conference in the main lounge of the Nebraska Union.

Wallace, a junior political science major and member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, pledged to "reach out" to UNL students if elected to head the student government body.

Wallace is an ASUN senator, serving on the Budget Fees and Legal Services Ad-hoc Committees. He said his term in office has given him experience and showed him the "ins and outs" of ASUN.

Wallace said his administration will serve university students through representation and by providing services. He also said his party would strive for interaction with students to discuss issues and solve problems.

His REACH running mates are Regina Rogers and Bill Buntain, running for first vice president and second vice president respectively.

Rogers, a junior secondary education major, said her experience as a student assistant at Sandoz Hall and her work in the Residence Hall Association can offer a different perspective to ASUN.

She also is an ASUN senator, who serves on the Special Topics Committee.

Buntain, a junior business major and

member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, said he has experience from an "externalized position," having served on the Committee for Fees Allocation and as a chairperson on the University Program Council.

He said his involvement with CFA is especially valuable for the ASUN position, considering its concern for budget issues. "I know where the money is coming from," he said.

The REACH Party platform emphasizes representation, Wallace said.

The party wants to make the students more aware of the issues, he said, and this in turn would create a better attitude toward ASUN.

Wallace said that to increase representation his party would:

- require that officers and senators have regular office hours so they can be reached by students, as well as a phone number where they can be reached.

- continue the ASUN newsletter, containing summaries of the legislation already acted upon, as well as current issues, goals and progress of ASUN.

- set up "town hall type" meetings to get student input.

- start a weekly or biweekly column in the Daily Nebraskan, written by officers and senators on a rotating basis, to "get students thinking about certain issues."

- instigate a highly publicized "informational day" to inform freshmen and upperclassmen about ASUN's functions.

- set up information booths periodically in the union to inform students about ASUN and how to get involved.

Wallace said that providing services also would be an important focus of the REACH Party.

In addition to continuing services already provided through ASUN, including the book exchange and voter registration booths, Wallace said REACH candidates want to expand the legal services provided for students.

Wallace said another service that would benefit students would be the Landlord-Tenant Union. This union, run by students through legal services, would provide information about landlords to students looking for housing and also field any complaints they might have, he said.

Wallace said involvement in the budgetary process is an area in which ASUN could have one of its greatest impacts.

ASUN can be effective, he said, by making the students and their parents aware of budgetary issues and providing the means for them to voice their concerns.

Wallace said it is increasingly more important for the student regent to give more input to the NU Board of Regents about monetary issues.

The party platform also supports the consolidation of the Union Bookstore, which currently is located in three different locations.

Report submitted to Faculty Senate on computer plan

By Margaret Reist

At its Tuesday night meeting, the UNL Faculty Senate was the first to receive a report detailing a draft plan for updating NU's computer system.

The report, compiled by an eight-member task force appointed six months ago by Chancellor Massengale, will also be given to college deans and department heads for their input, said Larry Walkin, president of the senate.

The report details options and recommendations on organizational framework, physical resources, equipment needs and funding strategies necessary for the minimum computer needs of NU's academic programs.

These needs were first recognized in the spring of 1981 when President Ronald Rosken's approved a memorandum outlining policies for updating the system. The memorandum was revised in October 1982.

Senator Tom Sire, from the College of Technology and Engineering, and chairman of the computational facilities and services committee (a faculty senate committee) stressed the need for dividing the computer system into two parts: academic and administrative.

The big frame computers used by the administration do not fit academic needs, he said. The system used by NU now is outdated. Sire stressed the need for careful planning selecting the computers. Careful planning will bring Nebraska into the "real computer age," he said.

"The people who aren't computer users now will be major users in the future," he said. Because of the large expense, and since computer systems become obsolete so quickly, the wrong moves would "burn up a lot of time, money and resources," he said.

Updating and separating the computer system could cost up to \$15 million and could take up to several years to implement.

Earl Freise, vice chancellor of research, said the task force members want to make computers available to every staff member and all large facilities such as the Nebraska Union, residence halls and other major buildings.

The senate moved to add a surcharge to NU football tickets was passed, but then tabled the action to wait for more information about the legalities of adding a surcharge.

Beverly Mosher, chairperson of the intercollegiate athletic committee said they did not feel the surcharge would be appropriate because it could reduce the department's legislative funding.



Staff photo by Craig Andresen

Faculty Senate President Larry Walkin

State legal drinking age may rise to 21

By Terry Hyland

A trend to establish a national legal drinking age is developing in the United States and congressional action on the matter is possible this year, Sen. William Nichol of Scottsbluff said Monday.

Nichol is sponsoring LB56 in the current legislative session that would raise the legal drinking age in Nebraska from 20 to 21. If the measure passes, it would mark the second time in three years that Nebraska has raised its drinking age.

Nichol, who was voted speaker of the Legislature this month, said public outcry against drunken driving in Nebraska

and nationwide has created a climate of support for a national drinking age.

Groups like the California-based Mothers Against Drunken Drivers have drawn public attention to alcohol-related traffic deaths, he said. Support for more control of alcohol is growing, and this support could carry over to legislation of tougher drinking laws, he said.

Safety and saving lives are the main goals of his bill, Nichol said. More potential drunken drivers can be kept off the roads by raising the drinking age, he said.

Opposition to the bill is expected to come from some university students and some businesses that sell beer and liquor,

Nichol said. Nichol added that several bar and liquor store owners are working for the passage of the bill.

"The liquor business is starting to get a bad name," he said. "They would like to improve their image."

Nichol doesn't foresee any problems in the enforcement of the law if it passes. He said there are no plans to raise the penalties for minor in possession of alcohol or for buying alcohol for a minor to make the bill more effective.

A grandfather clause will be attached to the bill so that people who have turned 20 years old by a certain date will not be restricted by the law, he said.