

Candidates debate communication, computers

By John Koopman

Campus communication, trains and computer science problems were the three main issues discussed at an ASUN presidential debate Tuesday night at the Harper-Schramm-Smith snack bar.

Representatives from the four major parties involved in the ASUN campaign, Action, Reach, Spare and Anarky, presented their respective party platforms and answered questions about campaign

issues. The Health, Education and Culture Committee of Harper-Schramm-Smith sponsored the debate.

Matt Wallace, presidential candidate for the Reach party, said he wants to create a student liaison position for ASUN. He said the liaison would go to various UNL organizations to maintain open lines of communications.

Wallace said he would also like to see a regular column in the Daily Nebraskan

written by ASUN senators on a rotating basis. He said the column would discuss campus and individual college problems.

Glen Stuva, presidential candidate for Anarky, said his party has no need for communications, as they intend to abolish ASUN.

"If we need to talk to someone, we'll storm their offices," he said.

Greg Krieser, first vice presidential candidate for the Action party, said he

was glad to see such a positive reaction to the ASUN newsletter, which he initiated this year. He said the Action party has made an arrangement with a local pizza parlor to provide funding for the newsletter for next year.

Krieser said he rates the present ASUN senators and officers as "excellent," but he is setting a goal of "superior" for next year.

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Anarky vs. ASUN

Party platform declares student government 'dead'

By Mona Koppelman

The Anarky Party may attract new voters to the ASUN Senate polls, vice presidential candidate Beth Berigan, a junior life sciences major, said.

"Basically, I think we (Anarky) reach a different vein of students," Berigan said. "Students who have never been affected by a party or who never found a party that met their needs are showing an interest in us."

Berigan said this interest could result in greater voter turnout this year "other than the traditional Greek-block vote."

"Or, if people do as (Daily Nebraskan columnist) Mike Frost is encouraging and

not vote at all, Anarky will claim that as a moral victory," she said. "It will support the fact that they (students) are against government just as we are."

"But, if enough (students) do cast a vote for us, they'll never have to vote again."

Anarky's party platform states that: "ASUN is, for all legitimate purposes, dead . . . the vestiges of ASUN deserve to be disposed of properly and hastily. Anarky supports all activities which could hasten the inevitable course of this university toward its ultimate goal of entropy."

Berigan said the idea for the movement was "already on campus," and that she

and presidential candidate Joni Jacobs "just picked up on it."

"We thought the best way to get the idea across was to put us (Anarky) on the ballot," she said.

ASUN is an ineffective system that has outlived its usefulness, Berigan said. She said that being elected to office now is "just something to put on a resume."

"There are alternatives to ASUN that people aren't exploring," the candidate said. "We could organize a group of students . . . and require only that they have an interest and want to work on university problems."

"ASUN is stagnant," she said. "Look at the energy expended during elections

compared to what you get out of it. During the rest of the year you don't hear anything about it and no one really cares. It's absolutely ridiculous."

"Look at our posters," Berigan said. "We think ours show some creative intelligence."

"Their posters are generic," she said. "You can't tell the difference between one year and the next. We think that's a pretty clear indication that they can't do anything new or different. They're stagnant."

"The other parties are so predictable," Berigan said. "If voters want something different, why vote for Action or Reach? They're already ingrained in the system."

ROACHES

'A couple good stomps. . . it's all over'

By Martin Koster

High above the fresh lawns of East Campus, on the third floor of Plant Industry Hall, the morning sun shines upon a wall lined with garbage cans.

In each can, a dark, seething horde is breeding.

"As far as an estimate, all I can say is that we raise them by the thousands," said Jim Ballard, referring to the cockroach colonies he keeps for research.

Ballard, an urban entomologist, works as a research technician in UNL's environmental programs department.

The aim of his research is to help tenants and landlords control cockroaches by evaluating types of roach controls and registered products.

The five roaches that are common to Nebraska are the Oriental, American, brown-banded, wood and German roaches. But not all cockroaches are created equal.

"The German cockroach is the number-one urban pest worldwide," Ballard said.

That is why he devotes most of his energies to researching its control.

Ballard said that once German cockroaches are established at a location, they are extremely difficult to control.

He lists high resistance to insecticides, rapid reproductive rate and large variation in behavior as reasons the German roaches are more difficult to control than other types of roaches.

Also, people's perceptions play an important role in control.

"Oriental roaches are big, so people respond quickly to them," Ballard said. "A couple of good stomps and it's all over for the Orientals."

"They also have a slow reproductive rate and a low resistance to pesticides," Ballard said. "You can show them the can and they die."

Ballard said Oriental roaches usually live outdoors in foundations and driveways and sometimes find their way into basements in the spring and fall.

Wood roaches live outdoors near woods, he said, although "individual males might stumble inside at night because they like the light."

The brown-banded roach is rarely found indoors, although it loves heat, Ballard said.

American roaches are the large ones associated with the inner city, but are also rarely found in houses. However, they are found in the sewer systems and in the steam tunnels on East Campus, he said.

But German roaches like the indoors and have self-preserving advantages that other roaches lack.

"Portions of the German roach population aren't attracted to baits or sex pheromones (chemical substances produced by an animal that stimulate response by animals of same species)," Ballard said. "I could put some pheromones on a trap and every American roach in the building would crawl out of the woodwork."

Also, the German roaches do not respond to ultrasonic sounds as some manufacturers claim.

"This department is the only one in the nation to publish any research about ultrasonic effects on German cockroaches," Ballard said. "Texas A&M's research backs us up, but they haven't gotten around to publishing anything yet. There is no field data to support the manufacturers' claims."

In addition to these competitive advantages, Ballard said, people don't respond as quickly to them. (German roaches aren't as large as other roaches like the Orientals.)

Ballard said some of the roaches he uses in his research are called Orlando Normals.

"We ship Orlando Normals in from Florida because they have no resistance to insecticides," Ballard said.

The Orlando Normals provide a basis of comparison for pesticide resistance of cockroaches in the field, he said.

Ballard said his lab roaches have to be the same and his field sites equal in order for his research to be properly controlled.

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Staff photo by Craig Andresen

Top: Roaches selected for breeding. James Ballard collects German roaches from his breeding stock; he separates the males from the females since only the males are used in research.