

Mayoral hopefuls voice goals at forum



Staff photo by Dave Bentz

Lincoln mayoral candidates Roger Lott, left, Joe Hampton and Roland Luedtke.

By Bill Allen

Three leading mayoral candidates spoke Tuesday in the Rostrum of the Nebraska Union at a forum sponsored by the University Association for Administrative Development.

Joe Hampton, Roger Lott and Roland Luedtke answered questions posed by a UAAD representative.

Joe Hampton, who has served on the Lincoln City Council for six years and is currently council chairman, said he believes all citizens face an obligation to provide a positive and knowledgeable contribution to the community.

The 57-year-old businessman said he has been involved in the Lincoln business community for 36 years, and cited many examples of community participation, including service on the Council of Small Business, the Home Builders Association of Lincoln, the Airport Authority and city council.

He said the biggest problem facing Lincoln is the economy, especially the lack of jobs and incoming industry.

Hampton stated his five-point plan to help the Lincoln economy. The plan centers on analyzing Lincoln's resources and comparing them to other communities, then marketing these assets to attract prospective businesses.

Attorney Roger Lott, 38, said every city

in the country will be working hard to increase jobs and opportunities, and Lincoln will have to meet the challenge.

Lott said that he and his wife both have a strong stake in Lincoln, and that he wants to play a role in the city's future.

"I expect my administration to continue the good management we've had in past years," he said.

Lott said that although it will become increasingly difficult, he wants to continue the good service-tax relationship the city has now.

Roland Luedtke, 59, an attorney, former lieutenant governor and state senator, said that because of his past positions in state government, he has a "proven record of decisive leadership."

Luedtke said his strongest personal asset is his ability to bring different groups together. He described himself as a strong group leader.

Accessibility is an important asset of the mayor, Luedtke said. He said that as mayor, he would start a "listening and learning visitation program," in which he would visit various city and business organizations to get their views.

All three candidates said part of the reason they want to be mayor is to help provide their children with the kind of Lincoln community they have enjoyed.

'Good stomps'...

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"We choose people who live in identical housing," Ballard said. "But there's really not enough identical housing in Lincoln for our purposes."

Urban entomologists have to deal with people and their perceptions.

"In one place, there might be a roach or two around and the tenant is frantic, but another place could be overrun with roaches and the people will think nothing of it," Ballard said.

Ballard doesn't work with anyone unless they find at least 20 roaches in every trap every night. The leading traps are adhesives similar to flypaper and measure 3 by 6 inches.

"Lots of advertising implies that traps will eliminate roaches, but they don't," Ballard said. "Traps never offer better than 45 percent control."

Ballard said people should do three things to help control roaches. They should use decent sanitation methods, be conscious of roaches and not expect chemicals to do their housekeeping.

With a little care, you can keep your cockroaches sick, but as for Ballard's cockroach colonies, he keeps them healthy by feeding them dog food and keeping the lids off their cans. When the lids are on, heat and humidity build up inside producing an unhealthy environment for the roaches and of course, the roaches' health comes first.

The roaches are kept in the cans by two nine-volt batteries wired to the can and a strip of aluminum running around the circumference of the can. When roaches climbing up the side contact both the aluminum and the can, they complete the circuit and the shock makes them fall back into the can.

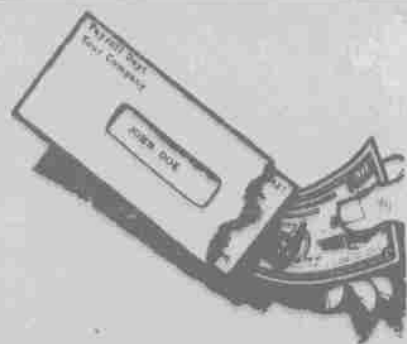
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