



JUSTIN FIRESTONE - OFFICE

What is the biggest issue in this campaign?

The true representation of all students. Everywhere I go everybody has felt underrepresented by student government in the past. That's why we decided to run. That's the biggest issue. We want full representation of all students. That's not just having a diversified slate that ACTION claims to have. It's how you govern. It's how you

make decisions. And everybody on the OFFICE party ticket has the right mind set to be truly representational. We don't have this one mentality like everybody on the ACTION party does. We each have our own individual opinions. We all want to do what's right.

How will you increase interaction between student organizations?

On our platform we wanted to create the campus community cabinet. And that will get members from all organizations together. Everybody will be at these meetings and get their views represented that

way. And I will take their advice on these issues. I will not make a decision based on my own personal agenda. I'm here to represent all the students.

What can you do about safety on campus?

Lighting was on our platform. I feel that campus is a pretty safe place to be right now, although it's pretty dark in some areas. I personally have not ever felt threatened or scared on campus. I think it's too bad that some people do. Those people will increase lighting and hopefully through some of the tools like some of the resi-

dence halls and greek houses, they have a working system where you can distribute information and that would be a good way to distribute information about safety and hopefully make sure people aren't walking alone at three in the morning across campus. Some good common sense things.

What message will the next ASUN president need to send to the Athletic Department?

Students will not idly sit by and let the Athletic Department push them aside. The Athletic Department needs the support of

the students. The students are the most important fans.

What should be done about the modem pool problem?

Saying that modems should be bought is too simple an answer. Now that Big Red is free, everybody is dialing up. I compared it to getting free taxi rides. There needs to be funding. I heard that there is a proposal to charge everybody \$10 a semester, which is way too much. That's more money than they would ever need. They need to upgrade the wiring in the residence halls, so they don't need to dial into the modem pool. If you get that relief, then people off campus will be able to dial in more easily

and people in greek houses will be able to dial in more easily. And the residence hall people would have better connections, so everybody would win by that. And what also needs to happen is upgrade HuskerNet so you can have the SLIP connection so you can do Netscape without having to do any emulators. There's no reason why the university and HuskerNet can't provide a connection like that, and the university is a proper setting to help subsidize that so students can receive that service.

UNL is the only Big 12 school without spending restrictions on campaigns. Do you favor spending limits?

Yeah we do. We favor spending limits, and we both agreed to limit our campaign spending to \$2,000 this year. They have decided not to release a supplementary financial statement to prove that they haven't spent that. We're going to release an additional report proving that we haven't spent more than \$2,000. I don't know if they're going to spend more than \$2,000 or not,

but it seems like they want to. I definitely will limit personal contributions. I think the University of Nebraska is the oddball in the Big 12 in that situation. I think it's important that we recognize that the University of Nebraska spends too much money on their campaigns. The elections are being bought.

Is your opponent part of a political machine?

Yes, obviously last Wednesday we proved that he is part of a political machine. He said that we were mudslinging, but we did nothing but tell the truth. The DN says we were being negative. I was a little disappointed with that editorial because it really wasn't representative of what happened at that debate. So I guess it con-

cerns me that the DN did not fully get across what happened Wednesday night at that debate. We proved that he is part of a political machine. We proved that he is the past. He is part of the present. The OFFICE party is here to prevent him from becoming the future. We proved it. There's no denying it.

Are there any other issues you want to address?

They refuse to release that extra financial report. There's no way that the students can be assured that they will abide by their \$2,000 spending limit unless they would provide this. They could full well spend \$4,000 and no one would know it until after they got elected. That's what concerns me. What concerns me is that on Thursday, the DN had some really bad press about what happened on Wednesday. That's a definite concern I've got. I'm concerned that if students do not elect OF-

FICE into office this year that they'll just have the same status quo government that they've always complained about. This is the year that they can change student government for the better. The OFFICE party is nothing but a positive movement to change student government for the better. We've said that from the beginning. We're going to say that until the end of the election, and when we're elected, that's all we'll do is change student government for the better.

ERIC MARINTZER - ACTION

What is the biggest issue in this campaign?

I think it differs among the parties. To narrow it down to one issue is tough. One of the biggest issues for our party within this campaign is money. Right now, we're facing a pretty significant tuition hike. In a few years we're going to be adding a pretty good chunk of money onto our student fees per semester. For the ACTION party, it is going to be very important when we're in office next year to make sure we do what we can to keep the prices for students down. That's going to be done a couple

ways. One way is that next year is a budget year in the Legislature, and so we've got to work really hard to lobby the Legislature so they know that the university is an investment in the state and in the future. Another thing on our platform that we have proposed is that we're going to make a booklet or at least a web page that lists all the scholarships for students. There is a lot of money out there to be had that students just don't know about.

How will you increase interaction between student organizations?

Well, I think that there is an asset within student government right now — the president's roundtable, the presidents of the various student organizations getting together on a bi-weekly basis. Our opposition has talked about forming something like that, but we already have it. With is-

such as getting money from the Legislature, we can use that group to make a more unified student voice. Next year, I would definitely like to strengthen the president's roundtable and make it more effective.

What can you do about safety on campus?

One of the things that we've been saying throughout this campaign is that we want to take a pro-active stance when it comes to safety. There has been a lot of talk lately about discipline and what we're going to do when people commit crimes — which is good. I think we should have strict disciplinary procedures. However, let's work on keeping those crimes from happening in the first place. I think a lot of that has to

do with awareness, making students know about things like campus escort. I would definitely like to see more lighting in a lot of the outer parking lots. The women on this campus are scared to walk alone at night, and that shouldn't be. We have on our slate approximately 35 women who understand what safety is like — they know.

What message will the next ASUN president need to send to the Athletic Department?

We're the students. We're the ones who are the athletes. We're the ones who create the hype for the athletics. We need to send a message that we're going to take a

firm stance to protect our rights, whether it's at basketball games, football games, wherever.

What should be done about the modem pool problem?

The university right now has proposed going to Navix. I really don't think that's the answer. I think they need to get more modems so that it's easier to dial up into the system. When you try and dial up between 5 and 11:00, you can't get in. One thing that I think goes hand-in-hand with that is increasing the hard wiring on cam-

pus — at the residence halls and greek houses. That will alleviate some of the problems within the modem pool. However, that costs money. I think student government officials, and also the university administration, need to look for the most cost-effective way to improve that.

UNL is the only Big 12 school without spending restrictions on campaigns. Do you favor spending limits?

No I don't. I talked to a number of people about this at a student government conference. Nebraska is very unique in that we are one of the few campuses that goes on a big party basis where we can have upwards of 75 to 80 candidates on one slate that we are trying to get elected through one party. I think for that reason it's important to get the word out about your candidates. I think it's fine, such as we did, for parties to get together and set a spending limit by themselves, but I don't think it is something that is set. I know our opposition has been very vocal about this issue. However, the ACTION party is working to get 72 different candidates

elected. You could look at how much you're spending per candidate. On the last financial report that was due on Feb. 23, we had spent \$7 per candidate, our opposition had spent approximately \$28 per candidate. I think that's the way to look at it because we're looking to get 72 different candidates elected. That's a lot of people. That takes money to do. It takes money to get the word out as well as to get the vote out. Many of the things we do is to increase voter turnout on campus. Everybody knows it's a very low rate here. That's one of the things we want to go against.

Are you part of a political machine?

No, I'm not part of a political machine. If I could expand on that, every year it seems like this mythical huge political establishment pops up within ASUN elections. If I was part of some political machine, I sure as hell wouldn't be working my butt off to

get elected on Wednesday. I don't see how you can say that about a party as big as ours, as diverse as our ticket has been. Again, that's something that comes up every year, and it's ridiculous is basically all I can say.

Are there any other issues you want to address?

Our opposition, the whole campaign, has done a lot of mudslinging, personal insulting. That's not the way to run a student government campaign. This is student government. This isn't big-time politics. We're running on issues. We've had the best turnouts in our election meetings this year. I think that's great. I think that it just shows that students are concerned about issues on this campus in student government. Our opposition comes back with the "political machine" all the time. I guess I

would simply ask where have they been. If we're such a political machine, where have they been? If they're concerned about student government, why haven't they been at GLC meetings? Why haven't they been involved within various aspects of student government? They say that they've been kept out, but I really don't think that's the case. I think every student that wants to be involved in student government can be. I think they can make the most out of it based on what they want to do.