

Luttich's One Party stunned by last-place finish

Presidential candidate Jaron Luttich blasts ASUN elections, saying they're not about issues, but about who you know.

BY JILL ZEMAN

For members of The One Party, it was agony waiting for the ASUN election results.

Presidential Candidate Jaron Luttich received a phone call on his cellular phone from Electoral Commission Director John D. Conley at 9:15 p.m. on Wednesday.

Luttich, whose party met at P.O. Pears, 322 S. 9th St., told Conley he didn't want to take the call in public — he told him to call back.

Luttich then gathered his First Vice Presidential Candidate, Melanie Mitzel, and his sister, Cheney Luttich, to take the call while sitting on some steps.

Luttich sat with his head buried in his knees, waiting for Conley to call back as the theme song from "Pee Wee's Playhouse" blared in the background.

At 9:40 p.m., Luttich gave in and called Conley back.

"Holy shit ... holy shit ... wow," Luttich said as he heard the results.

The One Party had come in last.

Luttich's party received 10.79 percent of the vote, falling behind top vote-getting Score! with 31.45 percent, No Bull with 29.92 percent, independent candidate John Matzen with 15.61 percent and NUForce with 11.57 percent.

Afterward, Luttich said he was disenchanted with the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska's election process.

In Luttich's eyes, the whole election boiled down to personal friendships and loyalties, not the most qualified candidates.

"People forget the votes they cast in the booths are secret," he said.

Luttich said he was proud of his campaign and he wouldn't have changed a thing.

His favorite part of the campaign were the debates, he said.

During the actual debates Luttich was nerv-



One Party Presidential Candidate Jaron Luttich reviews results at P.O. Pears Wednesday night after receiving the phone call that told him of his loss in the ASUN election. Melanie Mitzel, left, Luttich's first vice-presidential candidate and Cheney Luttich, Jaron's sister, looked on.

Steven Bender/DN

ous, but when he began speaking, he immediately relaxed, he said.

"That's why I know I was the best candidate," he said. "I was up-front and honest and told everyone what they'd get."

"But for some reason, that didn't work out."

Luttich said he wasn't comfortable supporting either Score! or No Bull in next week's runoff election.

"One reason you run is because you think the other choices are inadequate," he said.

Luttich said he may or may not change his

mind about endorsing a candidate later this week.

Mitzel said she was relieved the election was over, but was still disappointed with the results.

Even though things didn't turn out the way she hoped, Mitzel said the campaign was definitely worthwhile.

She made friends — like Luttich — and fought for issues she cared about, she said.

Mitzel, who's also involved in the Residence Hall Association, said when working with other student leaders, she hasn't met anyone like Luttich.

"With all the people I work with, many of them I enjoy working with, but very few do I respect," she said.

"Jaron is definitely one of those people (I respect)."

Luttich's sister, Cheney, a freshman art major, said she was disappointed and somewhat surprised with the results.

But the loss isn't the end of the world, she said. "Jaron's getting even stronger," she said. "He's not going to shrink back because he never has."

President touts plan in Omaha

PRESIDENT from page 1

Echoing the comments he made Tuesday night to Congress, Bush said the federal government has to increase its portion of educational funding.

"One of our priorities ... must be to make sure that every child — I mean every child — gets educated in the great land called America," he said.

But Bush cautioned that federal bucks don't equal federal control.

"Even though I have a Washington, D.C., temporary address, I want you to know I strongly believe in local control of schools," he said.

The president also pumped his new proposals to revamp and bolster funding for Social Security and Medicare.

Bush's plan would double the Medicare budget over the next 10 years and set aside \$2.6 trillion for Social Security.

Funding these proposals will take a hefty chunk of change out of

the government's pocket, but Bush said, "There's still money left over."

Bush proposed tossing some of the excess cash — to the tune of nearly a trillion dollars — into a special contingency fund for emergencies.

Farmers might see some of the money as his administration works to promote "trade freely around the world."

After expanding Medicare and education budgets and creating a contingency fund, Bush said his budget numbers still put the federal government far from the red.

The totals, Bush said, give him two choices: "Do we spend it? Or do we remember whose money it is in the first place?"

Proclaiming that the extra dollars are "not the government's," Bush called for a massive \$1.6 trillion dollar slash in taxes.

His tax plan would also consolidate the five tax codes into four, and lower the top tier's rate from 39.5 percent to 33.3 percent and the bottom tier's rate from 15

percent to 10.

Bush lauded the plan pointing to Tony and Cynthia Ojeda, a Lincoln couple who attended the talk, as a family who would benefit from his plan.

Bush said the Ojedas and their three children would save \$2,120 under his plan.

Critics say \$2,120 isn't much money, he said.

But, said Bush: "It means a lot when you are worried about the education of your three children."

A long line of Democrats have objected to the Bush tax plan claiming it unfairly aids the rich while leaving the tax burden on the poor virtually untouched.

Bush briefly addressed the criticism saying he was "going to reject class warfare."

Nelson congratulated Bush for steering clear of the class conflict, and said he wasn't concerned about that aspect of the cut.

Rather, he said he wanted to see a "safety valve" installed in the plan so Congress won't be bound to one spending plan.

The valve would let Congress change course midstream if the economy takes an unexpected turn, he said.

Traci Vanderlinden of Omaha took off work to bring her daughter, Kristine, to greet the president

"One of our priorities... must be to make sure that every child — I mean every child — gets educated in the great land called America"

George W. Bush
President

and Nelson on their stop in Omaha.

Vanderlinden said she wanted her daughter to get a look at a president working hard to improve the tax code so she can get a break.

Kristine said she was excited to see Bush because she has been a Bush fan since he announced his candidacy.

When her class divided up into Gore and Bush supporters during the election, Kristine said she anchored the Bush team.

But she said she wasn't alone then, just as she wasn't alone Wednesday.

"Everybody was for Bush; it was 15-5."

Nebraska may see more AIDS funds

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Nearly 50,000 people with AIDS in cities like Los Angeles and New York get government help paying their rent. Not so, for those in towns like Anchorage, Fargo and Omaha.

President Bush wants to expand the housing program started in 1992, when his father was president.

The recommendation was viewed by some as positive gesture to gay rights activists, who have been jittery of the new Republican president. Their pleasure was tempered with concern that the policy change was at odds with what they requested.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development is spending about \$258 million this year on the AIDS housing subsidies, which help poor people who have had trouble finding a place to live. The president had been asked to increase that to \$300 million, with most of the new money going to communities that already have programs.

Instead, Bush announced Wednesday that without cutting present programs, HUD should instead add new areas.

Thirteen states do not receive money from the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS program: Alaska, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia and Wyoming.

To qualify, cities or regions must have had at least 1,500 HIV cases.

In arguing for more money for existing programs, the president of the AIDS Housing Coalition said rising housing costs and longer life expectancies of the HIV-infected are burdening the programs.

"We welcome an expansion but it has to be an expansion with an increase in funding. Otherwise it will jeopardize current programs," said Gina Quattrochi, the group president who also oversees the Bailey House, a New York

center for homeless AIDS patients.

She said without more money for existing programs, the Bush proposal could have the opposite effect, causing evictions of people with AIDS.

The White House referred calls about the proposal to HUD, where no one would comment on the plan.

Quattrochi's group said in a recent report that more AIDS housing needs have been reported in the cities of Boston, Dallas, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Miami and New York and in communities in Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey and Texas.

They said there were waiting lists for assistance of about 5,000 in New York, 1,800 in Boston and about 500 each in Dallas, Los Angeles and Washington.

Bush's budget proposal did not specify how much money would be spent in the new areas or what the revised qualification formula would be.

"I don't think any area should be written off," said Eddie Sandifer, who helps people with AIDS find housing in Jackson, Miss., which does not qualify for the program now.

Gay rights activists have been closely watching Bush, particularly after a February report that Bush was abolishing the Office of National AIDS Policy. Bush said later that the office was not being closed and that "we're concerned about AIDS inside our White House, make no mistake about it."

Despite Bush's latest housing proposal, Sandifer said, "I'm leery of him. There's an unsettled feeling about where he's going."

"I think the administration is aware there is a great deal of apprehension," said David Smith, spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign, a gay rights advocacy group.

Smith said the proposed policy change shows Bush has taken note of the needs of people with AIDS.

It burns with a rare fire and passion.

Sound familiar?

Summer/Fall Advertising Positions

Applications are now being taken for advertising positions at the Daily Nebraskan for summer and/or fall, 2001.

Any major is eligible, your only requirement is the desire to learn and to be a part of the Daily Nebraskan staff.

Pick up your application in Room 16, advertising office, in the Nebraska Union and interviews will be scheduled in mid-March. Training begins in April.

DailyNebraskan Advertising



Sartor Hamann
JEWELERS

12th & O - Gateway Mall
www.sartorhamann.com