'PRAGMATISM' OR 'FEDERAL CONTROL'?

Eckhardt, Friloux Battle It Out
In Hanszen College Night Arena

By LAWRENCE ELLZYEY

For its first college night of the year, Hanszen College heard Anthony Friloux, former Republican candidate for congress, and Robert Eckhardt, Democratic state representative from Houston, deliver a preview of the Nixon-Kennedy debates Monday evening.

THE DEBATE was moderated by Mr. C. M. Hudspeth of the political science department of Rice. Mr. Friloux began with a ten minute speech comparing the planks of the Republican and Democratic platforms.

Speaking before an audience of considerable Republican tendencies, Mr. Friloux declared that the fundamental differences between the two parties stem from the Democrat's position that the Federal government is the proper vehicle for all government business, and the Republican's position that, "generally," as much governing as possible should be left to states and individuals.

MR. BECKHARDT then attacked the Republicans for meeting issues with "preconceived ideas," while the Democrats show "pragmatism" in their approach to problems. Contending that the platforms of the parties differ little in general, Mr. Eckhardt proposed that it is in the particulars where the Republicans drag their feet.

Both speakers put emphasis on the Federal government's role in education. Mr. Eckhardt replied to a question on national defense by stressing the need for "deeper" education, more scientists, and more engineers. This goal would be served by the Democrat's proposal to pay such things as teachers' salaries and other educational expenses through the federal government.

MR. FRILOUX, although he supported the Republican contention that national defense is adequate at present, agreed that current educational support is not enough, and disagreed with his own party's platform on this subject. The Republicans propose to pay only for school construction.

ATTEMPTING as well as possible to find areas of disagreement, both men attacked what they called the fundamental philosophies of the opposition party. Mr. Eckhardt accused the Republicans of catering to property interests while neglecting individual freedom.

Mr. Friloux denounced Democratic support of Big Government with its subsequent curtailment of individual freedom. The speakers could find very little to disagree upon in foreign policy particulars. Both of them supported the United Nations and denounced Castro.

MR. FRILOUX stated the need for effective and experienced leadership, and Mr. Eckhardt emphasized the need for something new and imaginative.

Both men pointed out that the candidates themselves have said very little on some of the issues.