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The charge statistic of Lascoux and Schutzenberger describes the exponents that appear in the Kostka-Foulkes polynomials of type A. It is a long standing open problem to find similar (positive) formulas for Kostka polynomials for other root systems. I will explain how this could be achieved. The statistic involved is the height of some special weights, called quasi-dominant weights. (Received February 01, 2009)