

Basketball tourney results in lawsuit

By Mike Patten

A dispute over who should pay for a residence hall's annual basketball tournament led a UNL law student to file suit Monday in the ASUN Student Court.

George Rhodes, a Bridgeport senior, filed the suit which seeks reapportionment of the Burr-Fedde Complex Coordinating Committee.

The committee consists of three representatives each from the Burr Association of Resident Men, Burr Association of Resident Women and the Fedde Hall Government.

Under the provisions of the lawsuit, the membership of the committee would be changed to include six men and six women instead of the present three men and six women.

Rhodes said the trouble began last week when the committee failed to appropriate money for the annual Burr Hall basketball tournament. He said the tournament has been funded in the past.

Rhodes said the tournament was held under the assumption that the committee would fund it, but because the committee did not, the organizers of the tournament are out \$80.

Beauty pageant

Further upsetting Rhodes is what the committee has appropriated money for. He said the committee has recently funded a Miss Burr-Fedde beauty pageant and bought cookware for the Fedde kitchen.

Rhodes said men make up half of Burr-Fedde's population, yet are only given one third of the positions on the committee.

In his suit, Rhodes said, "The numerical size of the population of Bar-M (Burr Association of Resident Men) is responsible for the receipt by the Complex Committee of 50 per cent of its funding from the housing office, yet the committee, due to its malapportionment, makes appropriations which primarily benefit Bar-W (Burr Association of Resident Women) and Fedde, while refusing to make appropriations which would primarily benefit Bar-M."

Rhodes said the UNL Housing Office appropriates \$1.50 per resident per semester to be paid at the beginning of the semester. He said the committee will carry over to next year a surplus of more than \$200.

"I am a senior," he said, "and unless they spend that

money this year its going to be no good to me."

Discrimination

Rhodes' suit, alleges a violation of the 14th Amendment guaranteeing equal protection under the law. The suit says the present makeup of the committee is "invidious discrimination."

To make up the \$80 that was spent on the tournament Rhodes said anyone who participated in the tournament is being asked to pay a dollar. He said this has angered a lot of people because they did not think they would have to pay anything to play in the tournament.

In addition, Rhodes said a petition asking the committee to pay the deficit has collected 36 signatures out of a possible 39.

"The whole thing mainly came to a front last week," he said. "We always went along with the committee when they gave the girls money because we assumed we would get money too."

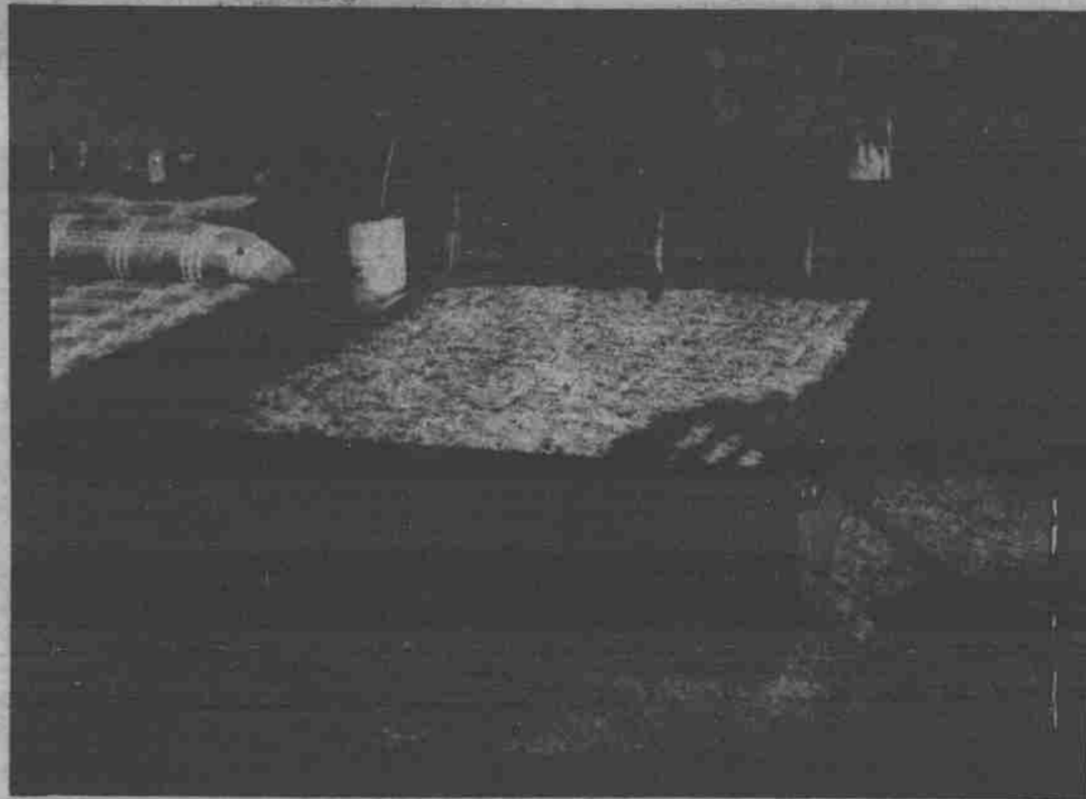
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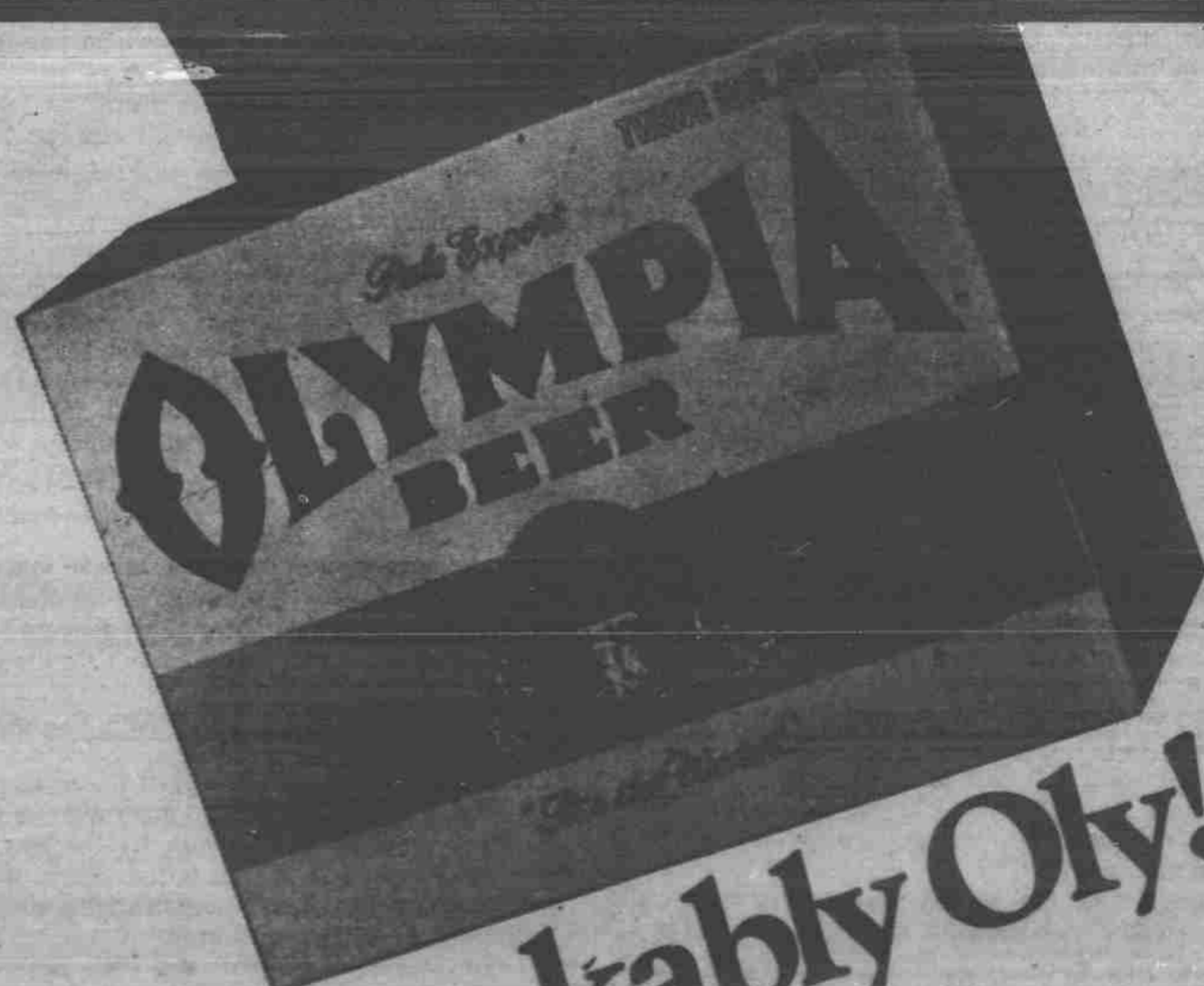
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