



As spring approaches, Union construction still continues as workmen and the ever-present crane struggle to remove a 50 ton air-conditioner from the building.

photo by Dan Ledely

NYFAS awaits outcome of drive to finance campaign

Nebraskans for Young Adult Suffrage (NYFAS) should know by Monday the success of the organization's first financial drive. Bob Beckman, NYFAS financial chairman, said Thursday.

Beckman, coordinating the efforts of a seven member staff which canvassed the University campus this week, said the campaign was the group's first personal solicitation effort.

Funds collected from the campus drive which ended Thursday night will hopefully be counted Saturday afternoon, he said.

In \$3,500 from the University's campaign drive, he said if the total falls within \$1,000 of the expected figure he would not be discouraged but if the funds slip much lower than \$2,500, he would be disappointed.

Further efforts to achieve the group's statewide goal of a \$7,000 minimum will revolve around all state colleges within a month.

He added that a fund drive would also be conducted in Nebraska's 20 major cities sometime during May.

In working for November passage of a constitutional amendment to reduce the state's voting age to 19, he said NYFAS was stressing youth's responsibility in its campaign.

"The basic principle of NYFAS is that 19 and 20 year-olds are responsible citizens," he said, "and we will do everything in our power to make certain the entire campaign is conducted in a responsible manner."

In terming the campaign to lower the state's voting age "a different campaign," he explained that although there is little vocal opposition to the issue, latent opposition is present.

He said if citizens are contacted before the election, they will probably approve the measure, but if they are not contacted on the issue before the election, they will reject the measure.

Beckman said it was difficult to correlate the results of the University fund raising efforts with that of the entire state.

"This won't be a reaction of how the general public reacts to the issue or how they will vote in November," he said.

The lone assumption that can be drawn from the campaign is that, if successful, the method of personal solicitation will be retained in upcoming financial campaigns.

He said the group would also contact interested persons in Nebraska as well as statewide organizations.

Funds will be used to support internal communication costs, additional fund raising materials, mass media advertising and campaign posters and other items.

Although the NYFAS currently only has a sketchy budget to work with, he said by the end of May the group will have a better idea of its budget.

No Negro history curriculum planned

A course in Negro history is not contemplated for the near future, according to Phillip Crowl, chairman of the history department. The main problem is money.

"We have no one capable of teaching the course or interested in teaching it," Crowl said.

"This department is presently understaffed in teachers of European history, so if we get an increase, the money will go there first."

Crowl emphasized that he does not have a free hand in instituting courses, nor the authority to hire new professors on his own.

Department is to offer such a course, it must propose the plan in the budget which is now being drawn up.

"Money must last!"

"The money allotted now must last for two years," Overbey said. "It's kind of a one-shot deal."

Overbey mentioned that at Howard University in Washington, D.C., has presently suspended its classes over this exact issue. At this predominantly Negro University students are required to take six hours of American history before they qualify for the course.

Dorothy Walker, another member of the Free University course, explained that this class was more interested in the sociological problems of the Lincoln area, rather than investigation of the history of the Negro problem.

"The present registered course in the sociology department concerning Negroes is 'Race Relations' and this course is not adequate in giving a background to this question," Miss Walker said.

Administration settles positions

"New positions are settled by the administration, the deans and the chancellor," he said.

If new courses are to be offered, they must first be approved by the Course of Studies Committee of Arts and Sciences College. This committee has no power to initiate study proposals, but rather reacts to any submitted by the departments.

Crowl said he had been approached by members of the Free University Black Power course, and that he planned to talk to the group sometime during April.

Norman Overbey, a member of the Free University course, noted that if the de-

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Durand charges firing due to political views

Bernard Durand, assistant professor of French who has been a critic of America's position in Vietnam, said in Thursday's Hyde Park that he has been denied renewal of his teaching contract for next year because of his political views.

Durand has voiced his opinions on the lack of academic freedom and encouragement of ignorance in the United States.

He stated that the recent action was proof of his contention that academic freedom did not exist in America.

Another professor in the department noted that the reasons given by Durand were not the only ones taken into consideration when the decision was made.

Quoting the text of the letter received, Durand said that his contract would not be renewed after a unanimous vote of the faculty members. Among reasons given were the fact that he was not a French major and because of his teaching methods.

No one would major in French in the United States unless he was denied admission to French universities, noted Durand. He added that he often left his classes alone for free discussions on French and found this very beneficial to them.

Durand stated that he was sure the department had been pressured by someone into not renewing his contract.

He added that he hopes to report in North Vietnam since he will not be at the University next year.

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