

Hobson wants to be fair

by John Dvorak
Nebraskan Staff Writer

Chancellors and presidents of colleges are usually maligned persons. They are often seen as oligarchs, political hacks or senile old men.

But NU's new acting chancellor, himself the father of two teenage sons, wants to be fair and to be understood. It is a difficult task indeed.

Dr. Merk Hobson takes his new office suddenly and at a critical time. Around the world student rebellion threatens to engulf not only universities but entire countries as well.

CHANCELLORS AND presidents of institutions seem to be special targets. The heads of Columbia, California and San Francisco State Universities have been forced by students to resign. The president of San Francisco State daily receives threats on his life. The president of a small college in the East recently died at his desk after several days of student rebellion nearly closed up his college.

"STUDENTS MUST realize that they can achieve far more by being responsible members of the academic community," said Hobson.

There are accepted and proper ways to bring about change, he stressed. Students should know and use them.

Student rioting—the angry marching students opposed by

angry marching policemen—has always seemed far away from NU. Just last semester, however, the University experienced several anti-ROTC demonstrations.

In two neighboring states, at Kansas State and Colorado Universities, there have been threats and much ill feeling among students.

"Conditions here aren't the same," Hobson went on. Students have had a voice in their university and have had for decades.

THEY HAVE membership on many Senate committees. They have a gradually increasing, workable student government. The SAF document, the so-called student bill of rights, was a cooperative and helpful effort. Students have long been a part of the organization, Hobson explained.

There have been demonstrations here, but they have been responsible ones, he said. Student leaders, who are themselves responsible, are to be credited for this.

Student demonstrations can be tolerated up to a point. "It's hard to draw the line," Hobson admitted.

As long as students do not break civil law or disrupt the regularly scheduled activities of the University, they are on "solid ground."

"WE JUST can't break the University's activities," Hobson explained. The students, faculty and the people of Nebraska have a sizeable stake in the institution.

They don't want it disrupted, he said.

"This is everybody's concern. If there is a disruption, everybody loses."

"Student demands must be realistic," Hobson emphasized.

"WE NOW have a course in black history taught by a combination of three departments. This has never been tried before and is highly experimental," he explained.

The impetus for new courses comes from the faculty, Hobson pointed out, but at this time he sees no need for a separate black studies department.

Hobson feels his administration makes a sincere effort to communicate with the students through Student Senate, student committees and the student press.

THE NEW chancellor sees one of his major duties while in the office as stimulating innovations and experiments.

The Centennial College or so-called residential college is a major experiment. Students, living together, will attend class and study right in their quarters.

There will be many benefits from this experiment, he said. He is anxious to see the Centennial College implemented and evaluated.

Hobson is also anxious to see the new teaching council become a working entity. Hobson helped design the body before he became chancellor.

Freshman basketballers face tough test with Missouri

Nebraska's 3-1 freshman basketball squad meets undefeated Missouri at 5:15 p.m. Saturday in a game that may prove the campaign's toughest test for the aspiring NU frosh, according to head freshman coach Bill Harrell.

Calling the Tigers a complete ball club, Harrell said Missouri has a well-balanced crew with each starter averaging double scoring figures. He added that despite the young Huskers' 79-60 average score, Nebraska must improve defensively.

"Most of our players are from high schools where zone defenses are stressed," he said, "and they have trouble adjusting to man to man defenses. But they handle the

ball well and move the ball well."

HARRELL SAID the trio of Chuck Jura, Al Nissen and Mike Peterson have played well for the Huskers, and Jim White, Donnie Wilson and Curt LeRossignol have shown considerable improvement since the start of the season in October.

Jura, a 6-9 high school All-American from Schuyler, is leading the squad with a 25.7 scoring average and has pulled down 45 rebounds, also a team-leading total. Nissen, a smooth-wielding guard from Miller, S.D., is hitting at a 17-point scoring pace while Peterson has tallied 36 rebounds, second behind Jura's totals.

"White has really come along well," the coach said. "He initiates our offense, and he is able to hit the open man in the fast break besides giving us some speed."

HE TERMED WILSON, a 6-6 forward, "great jumper and said Rossignol, a 6-7 center, has become a valuable team member.

Harrell has been pleased with the team's success this year, but he indicated two problems exist with all freshman teams. The young squads must play together as a team and forget that they have been individual all-stars in high school, he explained.

"We'll know better where we stand after Saturday," he said.

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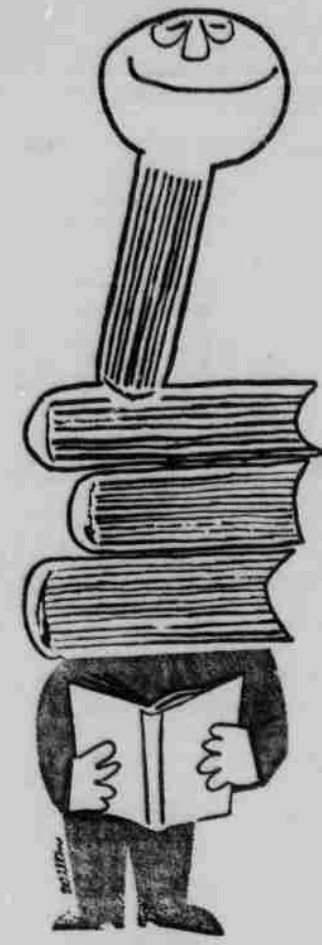
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Humlicek: More money, orientation needed for NFU

by John Dvorak
Nebraskan Staff Writer

The Nebraska Free University lacks sufficient money and manpower "to function as it should," according to Jim Humlicek, chairman of the NFU.

"With office space, two or three times more money than we now have and paid resource people, the NFU wouldn't be such a shotgun business," he commented Tuesday.

The free University was beset by its usual problems last semester, Humlicek said. Registration did not begin until late October. Following Thanksgiving vacation, attendance fell sharply or ceased altogether in most classes. Few classes met more than five or six times, Humlicek said.

INITIAL RESPONSE to the NFU was excellent, with more than 1,000 students signing up, he said. But, as in the previous three semesters of operating, attendance dropped sharply after the first week or two. Humlicek estimated that by Christmas less than half of the original enrollees were attending class.

"Immediately after registration, we had to do a lot of arranging, such as finding additional instructors and meeting places. The delay between registration and initial

class meetings hurt attendance," Humlicek said.

BY THE end of the semester, the NFU administrative staff had shrunk to only a few people. "We were pretty tired at the end," Humlicek said.

Despite the problems, Humlicek sees last semester's NFU as a necessary stage in the development of the free university concept.

"We must accomplish two things," he said. "Get more money and orient the University more towards the Lincoln community."

Currently, the NFU is allotted about \$400 from ASUN funds, Humlicek would like the NFU to have \$1,000 or more. There is little prospect that the ASUN allotment will increase.

With increased funds, the NFU could get some professional help and resource people to assist in course planning. Possibly, some students could be recruited on the work-study program, Humlicek suggested.

The ideal free university, according to Humlicek, would include both students and adults from the Lincoln area. The NFU would contribute not only to the University but to the community as well.

"WE COULD have groups working for worthy causes in the Malone

area," Humlicek said. There are so many things that need to be done. The NFU could sponsor constructive projects, he added.

Joseph L. Butler, an assistant in student affairs, taught a course last semester. He feels that the community often views the University as an enemy and vice versa. By tying the community in, he thinks the NFU could alleviate some of this feeling.

Butler, however, was cool to the idea of sending NFU groups into Malone or similar areas to perform projects. The inhabitants of those areas have been used as guinea pigs by enough groups already, he said.

The best free university courses are ones with a great deal of relevance to the community, according to Dr. Hugh P. Whitt, a former assistant professor of sociology.

He is now on the Vanderbilt University faculty, but taught a NFU course last semester on the supernatural. Initial attendance was high, but later except for a few people, dropped out.

Despite the attendance drop off, Whitt is sold on the free university idea.

"The free university has unlimited potential," Humlicek agreed. "But there is so much more we would like to do."

Committee to choose performer

The 1969 Greek Week executive committee will meet Thursday night, Jan. 30, to select guest artists for the Greek Week concert according to Gary Warren, IFC chairman.

He urged interested students to attend the meeting if they wish to express a preference for an artist.

Chessmen to resume

The Free University chess class will resume meetings Thursday at 3:30 p.m. in the Schramm Hall lounge, according to Robert Narveson of the English Department. Anyone may attend.

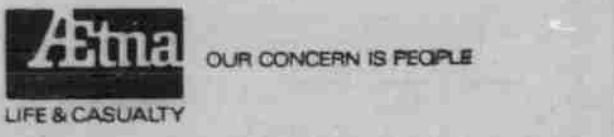
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