

Birch Bayh here Thursday

## Talks & Topics: speakers with impact

"Last year I had a hard time finding people to help decide how to blow all our money," remarked Bob Russell, chairman of the Nebraska Union Talks and Topics committee.

"But this year a real diverse group makes up the committee, freaks, dormies, and YAF people. It is an inspiration to see that students care where their money is going."

The Talks and Topics committee presents a speaker series throughout the school year.

"In the past the speaker series has been concentrated on big-name speakers who don't have that much to say," Russell said. There are a lot more speakers available who don't cost as much but may have more impact."

He said a survey conducted

last spring told the committee which speakers students preferred. The committee has encountered difficulty in getting the speakers listed because of complications in availability and cost, but a number have been scheduled for the coming months.

Senator Birch Bayh, Democrat from Indiana, will speak October 1. Bayh led senate opposition to the supreme court nominations of Clement C. Haynsworth and Harold Carswell.

Nebraska gubernatorial candidates Norbert Tiemann and J. J. Exon are scheduled to debate campaign issues on campus October 21.

In conjunction with Black History Week, Dr. Charles Hurst, president of Malcolm X College in Chicago, will visit the campus in February.

John Holt, author of *How Children Fail* is slated to speak on April 22 and the author of *Catch 22*, Joseph Heller has agreed to speak May 6.

The group is currently studying the possibility of contracting John Froines, a Chicago 7 defendant, Phillip Abbot Luce, former new left organizer now connected with the Young Americans For Freedom; Ken Kesey, author of

*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*; and Kate Millett, women's liberationist and author of *The Sexual Politics*.

"We are also working on some special projects, such as bringing in a poet to give readings and to rap with the students," said Russell. "We are trying to contact Richard Brautigan, Allen Ginsberg, Lawrence Ferlinghetti and Robert Bly, as well as a few others."

The State Department provides speakers to discuss foreign policy with students and the committee will try to take advantage of that too, he continued.

"We want this year's speakers to represent both the right and the left politically, because in previous years the series has concentrated on the left," he said. "The committee

intends to emphasize literary matters and the arts as well as politics."

Russell said there will be no sports speakers this year. "If students want to hear about sports, they can talk to Bob Devaney."

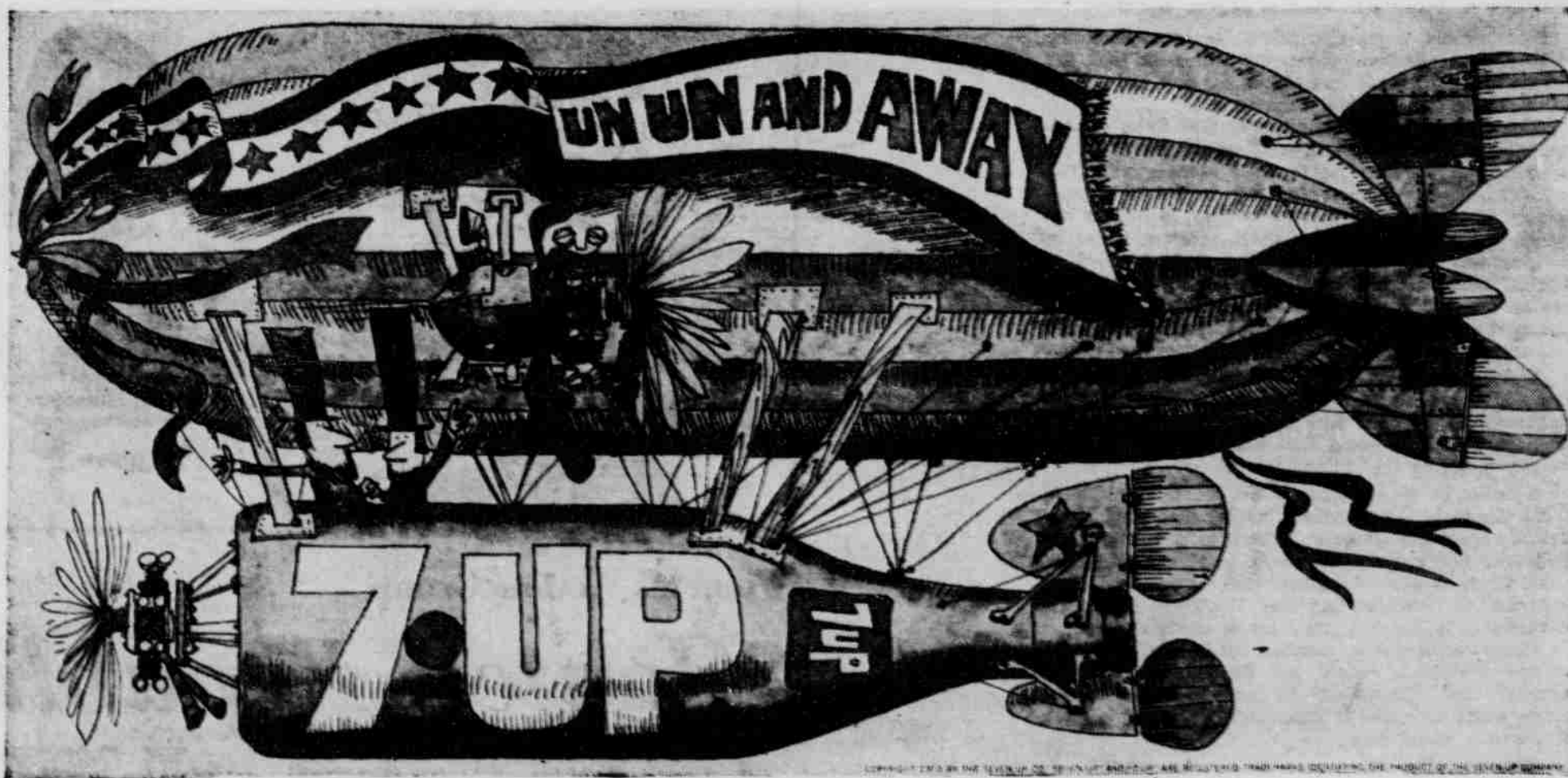
"It is not our aim to entertain students. We want to bring in speakers that will interest them in humanity rather than a good laugh," Russell added.

The program is worth the time and money involved if students are exposed to the speaker in an informal situation, he added.

Russell emphasized that the committee and its meetings are open to any student who wishes to participate in choosing the speakers. The Talks and Topics committee will meet next Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

### ASUN committee to meet Tuesday

A meeting of the ASUN education committee is planned for Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Nebraska Union, according to committee chairman Cheryl Long.



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