

## Nader followers organize campus consumer activists

"In all, the Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) idea offers a new alternative to student activism. It combines the concerns and frustrations on college campuses into effective arms for the general public interest."

According to a brochure put out by the Nebraska Public Interest Research Group (NEBPIRG), student activism can be focused and constant, and can, by coordination with the interests of various community groups be a major power that will work through "established political and legal channels."

The idea of a PIRG organization was set forth by Ralph Nader. The PIRG is to be set up on a state level, with no national affiliations. A number of PIRG's are to be set up on college campuses throughout a state and funded by student funds.

The statewide PIRG board of directors would hire professionals to work on the problems presented by local PIRG organizations. These professionals would work on the problems through four forums: public education, the Legislature, administrative and regulatory agencies and courts. In this way, public interests could be forcefully represented.

Funding for this project would be obtained through a voluntary increase in student fees (much like the PACE program at UNL).

The University of Washington at Seattle and the University of Vermont have already arranged this method of obtaining fees and various other groups, including NEBPIRG, are attempting to set up the funding now.

Dee Canar, statewide coordinator of NEBPIRG said, "We would like to come before the Board of Regents in May. This has been well planned by Nader and we hope for strong student support."

Mike Bradford, in charge of public relations for NEBPIRG, outlined plans for obtaining student support.

"It will be student fee funded, like PACE — except that PACE only involves a few people. This involves and will benefit everyone."

"We think it will work. Students are interested in these problems and we hope to get a massive show of student support when we begin a petition drive in March."

## Masters draws nine alumni

Nine N U alumni have accepted invitations to participate in the 1972 Masters Program Feb. 14-15.

The program is designed to give students an opportunity to meet with alumni who have achieved success in a variety of fields since graduation. Students will have a chance to meet the Masters in their classrooms and living units.

Participants in the 1972 Masters Program include:

- Lewis E. Harris, president of Harris Laboratories, Lincoln.
- Varro E. Tyler, dean of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.
- Maxine Munt, co-director with her husband of the "Changing Scene" theater in Denver, Colo.
- Margaret Spader, director of Consumer Affairs for the National Association of Manufacturers, New York City.
- David N. McCammon, assistant controller, Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, Mich.
- Charles Thone, U.S. Congressman from Nebraska's first district, Lincoln.
- Clayton Yeutter, director of agriculture for the national committee to re-elect President Nixon, Washington, D.C.
- Calista Cooper Hughes, director of Comprehensive Health Planning, State of Nebraska, Lincoln.
- Theodore D. Kratt, Fred Sanders Company, Highland Park, Mich.

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## UWAG discusses pill problems

The decision by the Student Health Center to discontinue prescribing birth control pills for unmarried coeds sparked discussion at last Thursday's meeting of the University Women's Action Group (UWAG). It was the first meeting of the semester.

The purpose of the meeting, which attracted about 30 women and four men, was "to gather a sense of direction and purpose for the group," said Judy Dowding, a discussion leader.

"The only way a woman can get birth control pills at the Student Health Center now is to lie," one woman said. "You have to go in and convince them that you're going to get married."

"This is discrimination," she said.

"Getting the pill is a women's right because women get pregnant."

Another agreed it was unfair that the Student Health Center stop dispensing pills to unmarried women.

"Women are students who pay student fees," she said. "We should not have to lie or be forced to pay extra money for extra facilities off campus."

But going to the Student Health Center and lying about marriage is not as big an issue as getting pregnant, a third woman said.

Another estimated that "at least 5,000 women use birth control pills" on the UNL campus. This is slightly more than half of all women on campus.

Marching on the Student Health Center "as

an attention getting device to show the problem" was discussed.

"One thing that has never happened on this campus is a mass gathering of women for a women's cause," one woman said. The plan to march was shelved, however, in favor of a campus-wide petition. The group decided they would get more names on a petition than people to march.

In other business, Dennis Berkheim told UWAG that Bella Abzug, U.S. Congresswoman from New York, would not appear at the World in Revolution Conference as planned. Berkheim, chairman of the conference, said he was trying to replace Abzug with Shirley Chisholm, a black presidential hopeful.

Speakers slated to attend the conference include Florynce Kennedy, New York feminist lawyer, and Caroline Bird, feminist author and campaigner for Presidential hopeful Ed Muskie.

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## Prof reads "emotional" poetry

Emotion is a basic element in every sport, according to La Fern Price of Indiana State University. The fun, she says, is at least as important as the technical skill for both the participant and the spectator.

Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the dance studio of the Women's P.E. Building, Price will read her own poetry and use her own drawings to explain the emotional experience of sports. There is no admission charge.

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