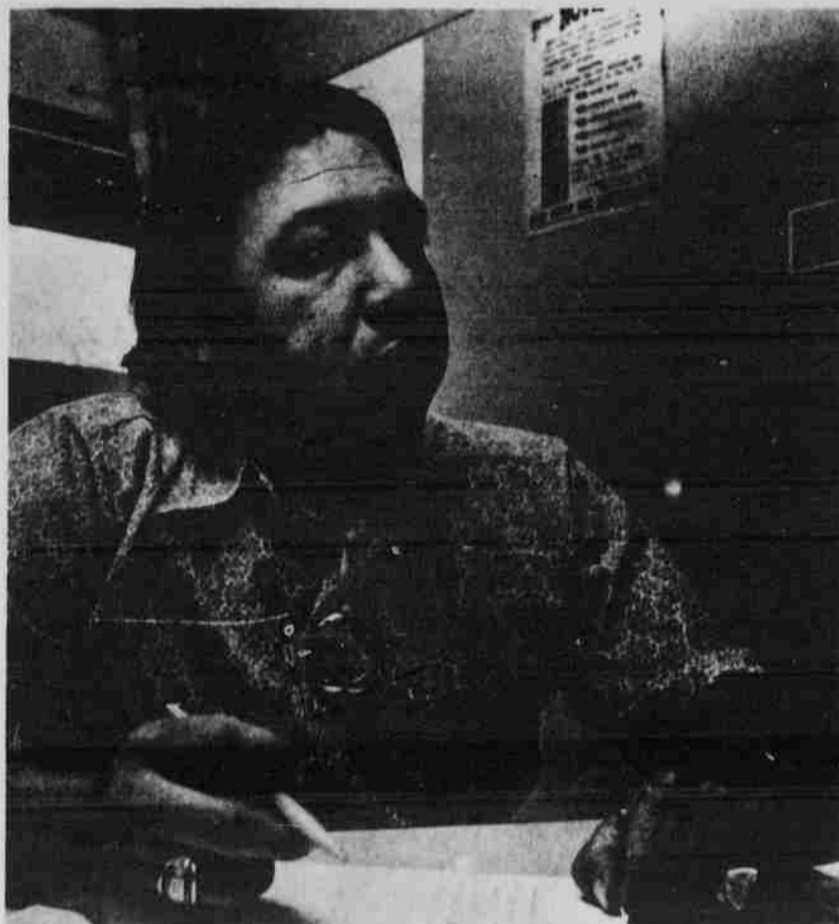


## Funding cutback threatens Indian students

by Sara Schwieder

A \$17 million cutback in funds to the Bureau of Indian Affairs that was announced last week may deprive 40 Indian students of their college education next semester, according to John Twobirds Arbuckle, Indian student advisor.

Of 47 full-time students on the UNL and UNO campuses,



only seven have enough money from other sources to stay in school. The other 40 will need a total of \$25,000 in supplemental funds or they may have to drop out after first semester, Arbuckle said.

In addition, 25 new students that have been admitted to the University may never get here because of the loss of funding.

"Right now students here are faced with a real crisis," Arbuckle said Thursday. "They won't be able to go to school next semester unless we can come up with \$25,000 soon."

Arbuckle said there were conflicting reports concerning who is responsible for the budget cut. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is part of the Health, Education and Welfare Department (HEW), and when HEW's budget was pared by Congress, the BIA also was pared. Cutbacks last year by President Nixon in the Aid to Higher Education program helped diminish financial resources of Indian students, Arbuckle said. In addition, the Bureau of Indian Affairs requested \$27 million but was allotted \$12 million for the fiscal year 1972-73—before the \$17 million cut last week.

University of Nebraska students were to receive \$21,000 of the BIA's \$12 million 1972-73 budget, but that sum will be greatly lessened by last week's cutback, Arbuckle said.

"Indian students were just beginning to gain a little more confidence in the school system. Indian enrollment was up 34 per cent this year, and now we'll have to back up," Arbuckle said.

Arbuckle said the tribal chairmen have been in Washington, D.C. to discuss the BIA's budget, but "being second-class citizens, we don't exactly get VIP treatment."

"The people in Washington mostly just wine and dine us, then put us back on the plane and forget about us," Arbuckle said.

The BIA helps many Indian students through college by offering \$550 grants each semester. That sum is matched by the University, totalling \$1100 per student each semester for room and board, tuition, books and personal spending money.

"We are receiving indications that the University and the community will help us meet our needs," Arbuckle said. "The University is trying to help by offering some funds that haven't yet been used."

A concentrated fund-raising effort is beginning to gather strength, too, Arbuckle said. Letters have been written to foundations and organizations for assistance.

The Council of American Indian Students has begun a petition drive to gather signatures to send to Washington protesting the budget cut, according to Council member Karen Buller. Signatures are being collected at a Nebraska Union booth through the week, Buller said. She said about 300 names already decorate the petition, but that she wasn't sure how many altogether had been collected.

Another Indian organization called the American Indian Movement (AIM) met Thursday night at the Milo Bail Student Center at UNO for a pow-wow and news conference on the budget cut. AIM plans a caravan to Washington D.C. next week to protest the BIA cutback, Arbuckle said.

A news conference about the caravan will be held Saturday at 10 a.m. at the UNO student center.

## GOP anticipates Nebraska win

by Michael (O.J.) Nelson

"There are only two sure things in life: death and taxes."

That adage might be true in other states, but in Nebraska it's almost necessary to list a third: Richard M. Nixon.

According to political observers, Nixon is a sure bet in Nebraska. According to all the polls, the President is leading his opponent, Sen. George McGovern, in the Cornhusker state.

His advantage is no surprise to at least one Republican office holder.

"Richard Nixon is personally popular here in Nebraska," U. S. Sen. Carl T. Curtis said Thursday. "I've found that both his personal popularity and support for his programs has grown tremendously."

Besides the President's personal popularity, Curtis said, Nebraska's fear of George McGovern's policies will help deliver a strong vote for Republican candidates.

"You'd have to say Nixon got started off on the right foot here in Nebraska," Congressman Charley Thone said.

The first district representative said Nixon had campaigned in Nebraska while still a U.S. senator.

"As I remember," Thone said, "he came out here to campaign with (then U.S. Sen. Kenneth) Wherry. Wherry was very popular at the time and that helped Nixon."

The President "hits the issues like Nebraskans want them hit," Thone said.

"Even the young people will support him. He offers the best hopes, long-range-wise, for peace and prosperity."

Nixon also must have "hit the issues the way Nebraskans want them hit" in 1960 and 1968. In 1960 the state gave him his highest percentage vote in the country, 62.1 per cent. While not as high, the totals eight years later continued to reflect the President's popularity. Nebraska once again gave him the highest percentage vote in the country—59.8 per cent.

"You've got to admit," Thone said, "in Nebraska, he's the man."

Beyond his historical popularity, there are other reasons for Nixon's popularity among Nebraska voters.

According to Lt. Gov. Frank Marsh, Nixon "embodies a lot of the common man." He said Nixon has a humble background and a desire to succeed. He said he believes Nebraskans find both appealing.

"I identify closely with Nixon," he said. "When he was campaigning for vice president with Eisenhower in 1952, I campaigned with him. That was my first year in state politics (Marsh was running for secretary of state, a race which he won) and it was his first year in national politics."

Marsh said Nixon has an appealing style. "When you talk to him, you know he's talking to you," he said.

Nebraskans are individualists and vote for candidates who believe in the same philosophy, said Milan Bish, GOP state chairman.

"Nebraskans believe in individual liberty, individual dignity and individual rights," Bish said. "I think the President believes in the same things."

Young people are individualists, he said. But, he added, they also are activists and will support an active President.

"At first we were almost writing off the young people," he said. "We thought the majority of them, especially the college kids, would support McGovern. But they have become disenchanted because of the Eagleton affair and the lack of credibility of their candidate."

He estimated that 55 to 60 per cent of Nebraska's young voters, those between 18 and 24 years of age, will support the Republican presidential ticket.



## University explores telephone change

by Bob Shanahan

A proposal for changing the UNL telephone system currently is being explored by the University.

For the past three years, according to Ron Wright, Assistant Director of Business and Finance, the University has been exploring a proposal from the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph Co. dealing with a possible change of the University to a Centrex telephone system.

The Centrex system is totally automated. It would include the entire University. Centrex would allow each dormitory room its own phone. All University phones would have the same prefix, as all phones except those in the dormitories do now.

A change to the Centrex system is also recommended by the Cresap Report, a management study of the University. The report stated: "In addition to the cost factor the present phone service is of marginal quality."

"The buzzer system for alerting residents that they have a call occasionally fails, causing disruption and inconvenience. There is also competition for available phones when phone use is at a peak."

Wright said that there are both advantages and disadvantages to the system. Since the Centrex system is completely automated, it doesn't have the same information capabilities as the present system which uses operators.

"When it snows, for instance," Wright said, "the University operator handles many calls that are just trying to find out if school is closed."

"There is no question that Centrex is the thing of the future" Wright said, "but even if we could get a contract tomorrow it still takes two years for installation of the system."

The high cost of the system is another prohibitive factor. Right now the University is looking at the present phone system, finding the problems and "shaking them out" Wright explained.