

Beecher: local issues take priority

by Jane Owens

"Students have started to find out they can't be very successful on the national scene," according to ASUN President Bruce Beecher.

Asked why this year's ASUN Senate has passed so few resolutions dealing with issues of national importance, Beecher said: "Nationally, this seems to be happening on a lot of campuses. Students are dealing more with local elections and things that affect them from day to day."

The current ASUN Senate has passed only two resolutions dealing with only one national issue—the boycott of non-union grown lettuce. One of the resolutions asked ASUN to pressure the University to stop buying non-union grown lettuce.

In the second resolution, ASUN sanctioned dormitory and housing units boycotting non-union grown lettuce and urged the purchase of only United Farm Workers lettuce.

Last year's senate passed resolutions on at least four national issues, including endorsement of student involvement in regional antiwar demonstrations and a march to the Nebraska State Capitol commemorating killings during student demonstrations at Jackson State and Kent State Universities.

The senate also passed a resolution supporting Nebraska Congressman John

McCollister's proposal to grant amnesty to draft evaders.

Another resolution introduced in the senate urged all University students to boycott the Lincoln Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Fraternal Order of Eagles because of what the resolution called racist memberships.

Five years ago, the 1967-68 ASUN Senate passed at least eight resolutions on national issues—four dealing with the Vietnam War and the selective service system.

One encouraged students to participate in a peace march honoring Martin Luther King Jr. Another urged Nebraska congressmen to work for immediate passage of the 1968 Civil Rights Act.

In contrast to the 1967-68 senate, the 1965-66 body passed only two resolutions pertaining to national concerns.

One resolution encouraged students to donate blood to the Red Cross for use by U.S. servicemen. A second urged student support for Air Force Week activities.

Noting a decline in student interest in national concerns, Beecher cited last year's proposed residence halls strike over the coed visitation policy.

"All of a sudden, students turned away from national issues and started trying to change the policies in the residence halls," Beecher said.

What did the resolutions on national issues accomplish?

"I really don't think they were effective at all," Beecher said. "We're still in the (Vietnam) war, and the lettuce boycott, at least in Nebraska, hasn't really helped migrant workers."

"I think students can be more influential by getting elected to city councils and county offices," Beecher noted.

Abortion groups sponsor law repeal conference

Two organizations concerned about abortion—the National Organization for Repeal of Abortion Laws (NORAL) and the Nebraska Right to Life (NRL) organization, a group against repealing current law—will sponsor a conference on abortion law repeal Saturday at the Villager Motel.

The Rev. Howard Moody of New York and Joseph Greer of Omaha will keynote the conference. Moody is founder of the National Clergy Consultation Service on Abortion. Greer is active in the NRL.

The conference starts at 10 a.m. and is free to students who do not attend the lunch. Registration for adults is \$5.

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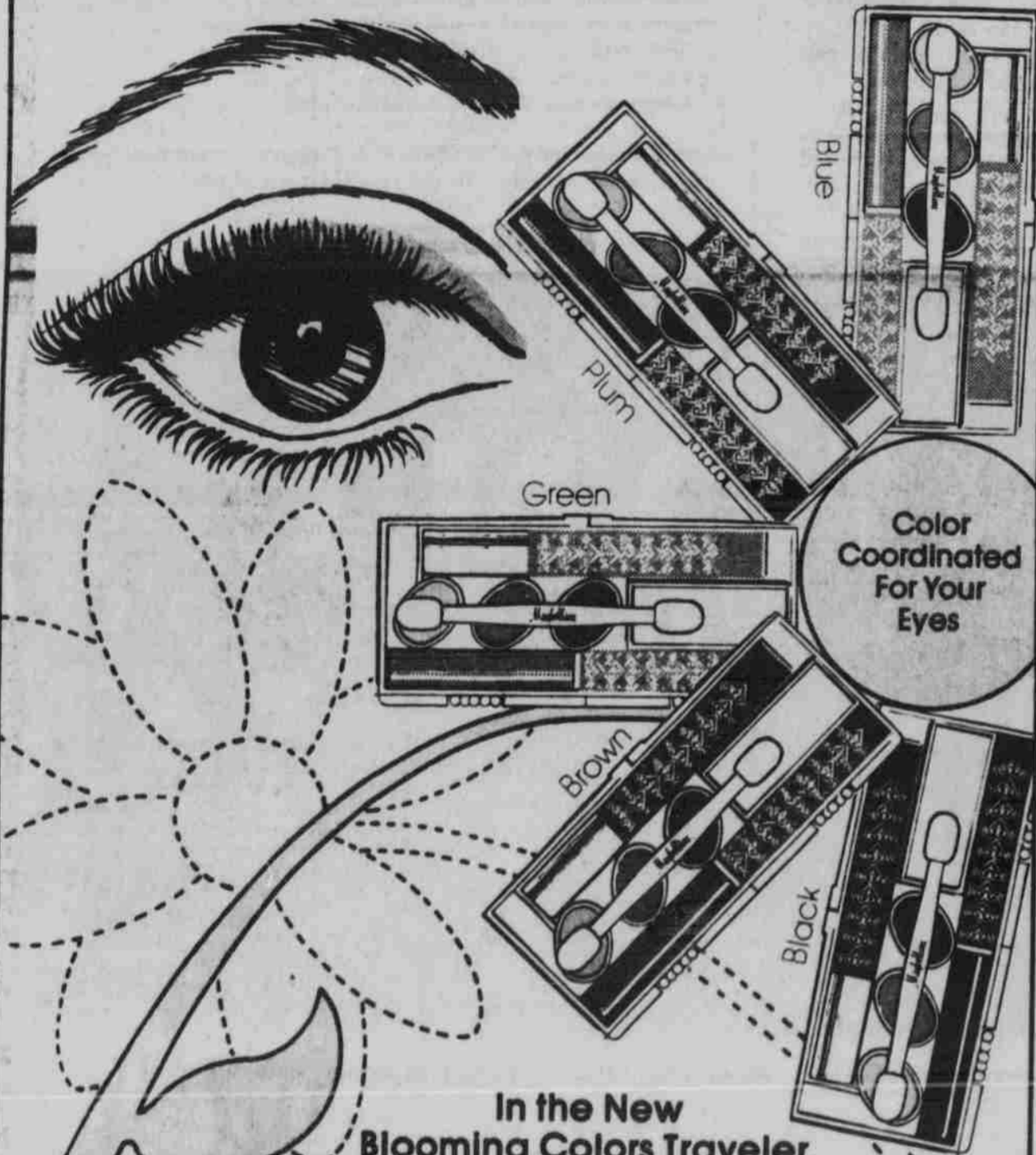
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