

Fees task force plans hearing

An open hearing has been scheduled for four task forces studying the use and management of student fees.

Mark Theisen, chairman of the programming task force, said the 11 a.m. hearing is to seek student opinion of fee-funded programs.

The programming task force is one of four appointed earlier this semester by UNL Chancellor James Zumberge. All of the task forces are to make recommendations to the Chancellor by Feb. 1.

Both representatives from organizations and individuals are invited to speak at the hearing, Theisen said. The testimony will be included in the report, he said, but will not necessarily be part of the recommendations.

The other three task forces are studying fee administration, student health funding and fee use for recreational facilities.

The administration task force is to make recommendations "regarding procedures by which the budget and program requests will be considered by the Board of Regents." The force also will recommend procedures by which "subsequent administration of approved programs can be achieved."

The facilities task force has not yet begun to formulate recommendations, according to its chairman, Dan Stellar. He said the force is interviewing persons interested in intramural and fine arts facilities.

The task force is studying the need for additional facilities, recreational opportunities, special programs and other projects.

The student health task force is studying the financing of UNL Health Center. The force's chairman, Dr. Frank Stone, was unavailable for comment Wednesday. Virginia Corgan, chairman of the administration task force, also could not be reached.

Budget cuts curtail faculty remission programs

by Michael (O.J.) Nelson

University faculty and staff members might not be able to take free courses next semester because of legislative budget cuts and a projected \$927,000 budget deficit at UNL.

According to Roy Loudon, director of the UNL personnel office, individual University departments must pay tuition for any employees who take advantage of either the employee's scholarship or the faculty fee remission programs.

Both programs are partially funded by the Legislature and pay for up to six credit hours a semester for academic personnel and up to five credit hours for nonacademic personnel who take classes while working for the University. Only three hours each session are allowed per person during the summer.

The University was given \$51,000 for the programs this fiscal year, Loudon said. About twice that amount was allotted last year.

"We know it will be a painful process," he said. "But if a department employe takes courses, the department will have to pay for it."

He said all departments have been told money for the programs must come out of their operating budget.

He said he didn't know if the change in the program would allow fewer people to use it.

According to UNL Bursar James Wickless, 455 UNL employes are using the program this semester. That number, he said, is about the same as last fall's. About 60 per cent of those enrolled are academic employes, he said. Academic employes includes all teaching and research personnel.

Probably the hardest hit is the English department. About 60 English department academic employes are in the program, according to John Robinson, department chairman. This is the highest number of any UNL department.

"I don't know what is going to happen now," he said. "We have about half of our teaching staff in the program and we just haven't got the money."

He said the department's operating funds were budgeted without money for the remission program. The scholarship funds, plus recommended cost cuts to help avoid this year's projected deficit, will strain the department's operating budget, he said.

The chemistry department also will be affected.

According to Robert C. Larson, department vice chairman, the chemistry department is "in a helluva strap." He said charging the tuition remission funds to the department's operating funds might cause the department to run out of money in that account by Jan. 21.

"We're at the point," he said, "where you throw up your hands and say Aieeeeeeeee!"

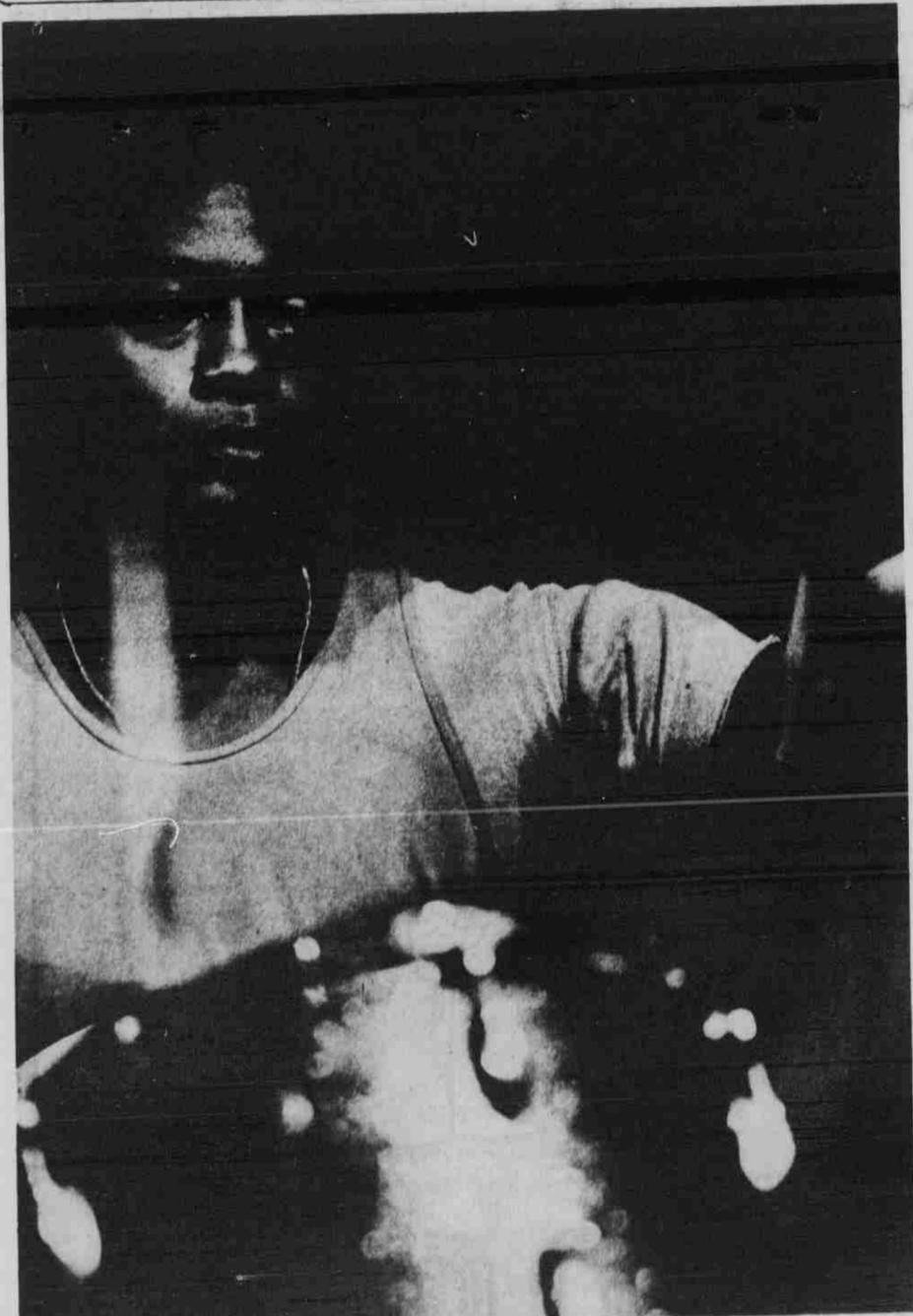


Photo by Gail Folds

Victor Lewis . . . has been called one of the best drummer ever to come out of the Midwest. He's part of a growing artists' revolution against Lincoln's 'cultural wasteland.' Read about it in today's special fine arts section and friday magazine.

Minority Affairs seeks counselor

The Department of Minority Affairs is seeking a new Indian counselor to replace former counselor John Two Birds Arbuckle, who resigned last week.

Arbuckle submitted his resignation to Al Grignon, director of special services, "while Arbuckle was on personal business". He gave no reason for resigning according to Leroy Ramsey, director of minority affairs.

"We had had complaints from Indian students that he (Arbuckle) was never available to counsel them" Ramsey said Wednesday. "Some Indian students met with Ken Bader (vice-chancellor for student affairs) and Ely Meyerson (dean of administration in student affairs) and myself to discuss the situation. They felt they weren't receiving adequate counseling," Ramsey said.

Ramsey said 12 of 21 Indian students at UNL were having academic difficulties. They are now being counseled by Ramsey personally until a new Indian counselor is hired.

Ramsey said some Indian students had considered submitting a petition to UNL Chancellor James Zumberge requesting that Arbuckle be replaced, but that alternative was unnecessary because Arbuckle resigned the next day.

Indian students drew up a document last week listing qualities that should be considered when a new Indian counselor is hired, he said.

The new Indian counselor's "main concern should be in the students on this campus," the document read, he should show "leadership in academic and cultural areas," and be "immediately available during school year."

The document also indicated that a new counselor "should not be politically involved, in that it is derogatory to his duties as a counselor."

Regents meeting

The Board of Regents is expected to take action on the projected 1972-73 budget deficit Saturday at its monthly meeting in Lincoln. The board also is scheduled to discuss the 1973-74 budget. The meeting will be at 2 p.m. at the University of Nebraska System Building across from East Campus.