

Bader recommends fees allocation board

by mary Voboril

The UNL student fees question, which since early last semester has run the gamut of biting scrutiny by such groups as the Legislature, four task forces, ASUN, the Council on Student Life (CSL) and student publications is approaching its final testing ground.

Ken Bader, vice chancellor for student affairs, has assimilated student fees data and made recommendations in the form of a preliminary report. Bader hopes a final report will be presented to UNL Chancellor James Zumberge and the Board of Regents in time for the regents' May meeting, he said.

The report says "every effort should be made to sustain the mandatory student fee," now set at \$51.50 per full time student each semester.

In one of five "specific recommendations," Bader proposes the establishment of an allocation board "responsible for evaluating requests for student fee money and actually distributing the funds." In another recommendation, the vice chancellor says the term "student fees" should be amended to the "UNL program and facilities fee."

Contrary to recommendations of the student fees administration task force, which said the allocations board should be composed of six faculty members or administrators and five students, Bader says board members should include eight students, two faculty and two staff members. ASUN, the Union Board, the Publications Board, the University Health Center and the Recreation Department each would appoint one student for a one-year term on the board. Three students-at-large also would be appointed by the CSL student organizations subcommittee.

"The appointing body will retain the authority to renew individual appointments for a maximum of one additional year," the report says.

The vice chancellor for student affairs would appoint the four non-students. He would select the two staff appointments and would choose two faculty members from a list of four submitted by the UNL Faculty Senate Committee on Committees.

The report specifies that the allocations board "will be accountable to the vice chancellor for

student affairs." Asked if this meant the vice chancellor could then veto any action the board might take, Bader said "anyone in my position would be putting his neck pretty far out" if such an attempt was made.

"I would be only the person accountable" for the board's actions, Bader said. "It would be foolhardy to think I would unilaterally veto an action by the board—unless it was illegal. And if that was the case, I would refer it back to the board for further consideration."

Part of the report says "all recognized student organizations and offices at UNL which utilize student fees to finance their programs will, in the spring of each year, present total budget requests to the allocations board."

The report continues: "During the first year of its operation, the allocations board, in order to recognize the transition period, will not increase or decrease any current fee users for continuing funds by more than 25 per cent. In the second year, and in years to follow, all budgets will be evaluated from a zero-base point."

The third recommendation says the zero-based budget "would not apply to fees earmarked for bond commitments and related reserve accounts. In effect, this means no student organization would be guaranteed funding—allocations would be re-evaluated yearly on the basis of budget proposals.

It also said student fees used to finance "actual student services, staff salaries and maintenance of facilities cannot be decided with a zero base pain. Such costs must be assured continuing support in order to fulfill their responsibilities."

Bader said "actual student services" in this case refers to those dependent on a fixed cost, such as the Daily Nebraskan.

Examples of groups not dependent on fixed costs include the Union Program Council, whose programs "would be subject to the board's scrutiny," Bader said. But he said he purposely left the area of which organizations should be funded from a zero based budget partially vague so that the board can determine the issue.

Bader's fourth recommendation says decisions of the allocation board may be directly appealed to CSL, which thus would serve as the board's appellate agency.

"Decisions from CSL may be appealed to the administrative officers of the University," the report said. Which administrative officers was not specified.

The final proposal states the allocation board will, during the next academic year, "establish its full program by September 1974." The first allocations board members would be appointed Sept. 1-Oct. 1.

Students file claim against Pedersen

Eleven UNL students brought a suit against Charles Pedersen and Pedersen Apartments, Inc., at the end of last week, according to John Stevens Berry, a Lincoln attorney representing the students. The students brought the suit on behalf of themselves and "all other persons similarly situated."

UNL Ombudsman James Suter and the ASUN Legal Rights Committee helped organize the students. Suter said he first received complaints at the beginning of the fall semester.

The suit charges that damage deposits were "wrongfully withheld." It said in part "that upon conclusion of the rental period, damage deposits were requested returned...the apartments were not damaged in any way...(the defendant) refused to refund the damage deposit to the plaintiffs."

It went on to say that this situation has existed for five years. A "full accounting" was asked for of all damage deposit money received by the defendants from the plaintiffs. In effect, the suit asks Pedersen Apartments to bring their books to court.

Berry said that the defendants can employ a number of stalling tactics, so he is not sure when the case will be brought to court.

"It might not be until next fall," he said.

All is but a beginning

by Bart Becker

A woman entering the Nebraska Union's west ramp entrance Thursday glanced into a State of Nebraska station wagon parked in the driveway and broke into a hesitant smile of recognition. From the back seat of the car a venerable face under a thick swirl of silver hair returned the smile and added a small wave of a hand.

A few minutes later John G. Neihardt, Nebraska's poet laureate, was helped out of the station wagon and took a few steps to a desk chair used as transportation to conserve his 92-year-old strength. Once in the chair he was wheeled up the ramp, into the Union elevator, and then to the Centennial Room where he recited from his writings for an hour to an appreciative full house.

Neihardt was born Jan. 8, 1881. He finished his first book, *The Divine Enchantment*, when he was 16 and published it when he was 19. In 1912, at 31, he began writing his major work, *A Cycle of the West*, to which he devoted 18 years. In 1921 he was named poet laureate of Nebraska. He was literary editor of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* from 1926 to 1938 and poet in residence and lecturer in English at the University of Missouri from 1949 to 1965.

Neihardt cautioned the audience to listen carefully to his recitation because of the weaving of words and sound patterns "so they sing when they say." He recited two spring poems, prefacing them by saying, "If there's anytime you should be able to write poetry, it's spring."

He said he had written "Hark the

Music" for his daughter when she was youngster in pre-school.

"She came home one day and said 'The teacher wants me to recite a poem and I don't know any good ones,'" he remembered. "I guess she thought I'd write a good one."

He also recited "April Theology" which "expresses my feeling for the cosmos and all living things...better than I can now because it's a young man's poem.

"I love to recite this," he said. "I believe in a spirit world. I believe some of it is true; it isn't all fantastic."

Neihardt explained that the lines "I am part of my God as a raindrop is a part of the sea" are based on a concept of prayer "when every sense of yourself is a part of the universe and, like when the raindrop falls into the ocean, it's not the raindrop which has lost, but the ocean which has gained."

He then recited "Prayer for Pain,"—written in a depression when I thought I couldn't fight anymore." He followed that by announcing he would recite "Death of Crazy Horse" which met with applause from the audience.

"I take it you said yes," he smiled. Neihardt, the author of 25 volumes of poetry, fiction and philosophy, also recited two short poems about death.

"I believe death will be a very beautiful adventure," he said. "I wrote these as a younger man and I speak of death as that 'grisly thing.' But as I get older I get kinder toward it."



John Neihardt... "I believe death will be a very beautiful adventure."