

NU medical pair vows to continue abortions

"Abortions should be a part of the total obstetrical and gynecological care provided for the people of Nebraska."

That is the philosophy of at least two doctors at the University Medical Center in Omaha. Dr. G. William Orr and Dr. Marvin L. Dietrich have been the center of a controversy involving the performing of abortions at the Medical Center.

Orr and Dietrich were granted part-time status on a 90-day trial basis at the Medical Center by the Board of Regents at its July meeting. The doctors then opened a private clinic for abortions, where they conduct about 30 operations a week.

At the regents' Oct. 12 meeting,

the two doctors were returned to full-time status and instructed to comply with University rules governing abortions. The rules state that no full-time faculty member may perform abortions outside of the Medical Center. The regents previously had limited the number of abortions that could be performed at the center to 15 a week.

According to Orr, he and Dietrich have until Nov. 9 to comply with the rules. He said because they do not plan to stop giving abortions at their clinic, the regents could legally fire them at that time. He added, however, that he "can't predict what those people (regents) will do."

A memo circulated to Medical Center department chairmen by Dr. Robert Messer, chairman of the department of obstetrics and gynecology, said the regents' actions concerning the doctors could lead to a "very dangerous precedent," an article in the *Omaha World Herald* reported.

Orr and Dietrich said they "wholeheartedly agree" with the memo.

"A basic principle is being violated by the Board of Regents," Orr said. "The individual departments should govern specific actions within that department. This action by the regents violates that concept."

Dietrich said he agreed with Orr.

"The question seems to be whether the Medical Center has the ability to make decisions regarding its operations," Dietrich said. "When a lay body takes over and attempts to make these decisions, that is a very serious problem."

"Not one regent has the qualifications, experience or expertise needed to run this Medical Center. We have a chancellor just like the other campuses. The system was designed so that each campus would run semi-autonomously under the direction of the president of the system."

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YD: Watergate shakes students

By Vince Boucher

"Bad news, zilch, zero, nil."

That's how the quality of Nebraska's representation in the U.S. Senate was described by UNL Young Democrats (YD) president Bob Petersen.

Petersen, a senior in the College of Agriculture, said, "I don't think they (Nebraska's senators) have ever thought for themselves." On the Watergate controversy, "Sen. Carl Curtis made an idiot of himself," he said.

Referring to President Richard Nixon's firing of independent Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox, he said the President placed himself in a precarious position.

If the public had not made such an outcry, Nixon would have proceeded on his own merry way," he said.

Petersen said despite Nixon's announcement that he would surrender the tapes to Federal District Judge John Sirica's court, he thought impeachment proceedings should continue.

"The Senate should have a trial, not for harassment of the President—but if he is guilty, fire him, and if he is innocent, then let's clear him," he said.

He said that he believed the President did know of at least the coverup of the Watergate incident.

Petersen said students have been shaken by the events of Watergate. Nevertheless, he said he thinks they now are taking a more active interest in politics, as shown by this year's increased YD membership.

"How to prevent another fiasco is now the concern of students. Many people say politics is a four letter word," but the democratic system is the best one for self-government, he said.

UNL YDs have about 25 members. Last year, only about 10 or 15 students were active members, he said.

"We're finding a lot of people changing parties, not only the young. I believe, for the first time in many years, the Democrats in Nebraska will offer a strong state ticket, stronger than ever before," he said.

If Democratic Party Central Committee Chairman Hess Dyas decides to oppose Rep. Charles Thone in the 1974 congressional election, Dyas would be a very desirable candidate, Petersen said.

"I think Thone has often forsaken his district to follow a very narrow Republican viewpoint. I think he has been a yesman to the President," Petersen said.

Petersen said Dyas is a "conservative liberal" who would have a good chance of defeating Thone.

Gov. J.J. Exon will also be a very strong candidate in the 1974 state election, he said.

"He may be a little more conservative than I like, but for the first time in several years, the people in outstate Nebraska have a governor they personally can identify with," he said.

"The problem with YD is that a lot of members are not too realistic. People tend to dismiss them as kids with ideas and nothing to go with them," he said.

He said, "If the members become more realistic, then YD will be a more credible organization."



Mark Cannon, campus YR chairman.



Bob Petersen, campus YD chairman.

YR leader fears big government

By Vince Boucher

"People think that Watergate is the result of only a few individuals. The government is simply too big. Big government leads to big corruption," said Mark Cannon, president of UNL Young Republicans (YR).

"We're tired of being screwed by big government. There is a good chance that future administrations—whatever party—will be corrupt too," he said.

Cannon, a junior in pre-dentistry, said his involvement in Young Republicans came after a growing awareness of actions of Democrats and the increasing strength of the federal government.

Contending "power has been perverted," Cannon said the surge of power in Washington could be traced to President Franklin Roosevelt.

"By the year 2000, politicians are liable to do anything to stay in," he said.

Cannon said he sees some progress, though. "I'm finally hearing people say that government doesn't do everything right."

According to Cannon, the Republican Party did not play a significant part in the Watergate incident. Rather the problem was the members of the independent Committee to Re-elect the President, he said.

Cannon said he is disgusted by the "hypocritical" viewpoint of most people who see the activities of politicians as distinctly black and white.

"A good example of this is that YR and YAF (Young Americans for Freedom) posters seem to last about 24 hours on this campus," he said.

In the 1974 state election, the Young Republicans will be looking for very conservative candidates, he said.

"We want a strong no vote to restrain power, rather than a yes vote to increase government, he said.

Cannon said he was proud of Nebraska's senators for providing negative votes which have helped keep government in line and have prevented it from becoming too powerful.

He also praised Governor J. James Exon, a Democrat, as "a pretty fair governor."

Cannon was critical of 1st District Congressman Charles Thone. "On this latest impeachment issue, he is recording every phone call he gets."

"Once in a while, politicians should stand on principles of morality and not on public opinion," he continued.

Cannon said impeachment has become a political tool because it is not well-defined constitutionally what are grounds for that action.

Cannon said the public suffers from a lack of knowledge of national officials' political activities and ultimately because power is not placed in their hands.

"Persons who do not vote in elections should be recorded as both voting against the candidates and against the whole government," he said.

Cannon estimated there are about 120 Young Republicans at UNL. Membership this year has been about the same as last year.

Most of them are against big government, he said. "There are tremendous differences in Republicans—some of them honestly don't belong in the organization," he said.