

March protests abortion ruling

By Lynn Silhasek

Spectators at the Kansas State-Nebraska basketball game never saw the small group of UNL students gathered outside the Coliseum, holding lighted candles.

Police directing game traffic thought the group was going to set the building on fire.

But the group, representing the newly-formed State Youth Coalition Against Abortion was holding a candlelight procession, in memory and in protest of the Supreme Court's Jan. 22, 1973, decision to liberalize abortion laws.

Other groups in Nebraska and throughout the nation marked the decision's first anniversary with similar ceremonies, according to Joan Kocina, executive president of the Nebraska Coalition for Life, Inc. in Omaha.

Recommendations for ways to protest the decision stemmed from the National Right to Life Committee and were adopted by state anti-abortion organizations, Kocina said. Protests staged in Nebraska included the tolling of church bells 22 times, lowering

flags to half staff, having baby caskets at church services, and people wearing and sending roses, according to Kocina.

The Nebraska coalition sent a rose to Governor Exon and to each state senator, Kocina said. The coalition also sent a rose to Omaha mayor Ed Zorinsky and Omaha City Council members, she said.

The National Right to Life Committee received \$40,000 in individual donations to buy roses to send to Congressmen to protest the decision.

Offices of Nebraska's congressmen received approximately 500 roses, according to office reports.

Both Exon and Zorinsky named Jan. 22 Respect for Human Life Day, said Kocina.

Other observances on Nebraska campuses included a group of Creighton University students marching to the Douglas County Courthouse in Omaha and along Dodge Street, Kocina said.

The State Youth Coalition against Abortion, a subcommittee of the Young Americans for Freedom (YAF), will recruit members at Nebraska Wesleyan, Wayne State College and Concordia Teachers College, said Terry Cannon, YAF state chairman. The coalition will distribute anti-abortion pamphlets on the college campuses, he said.

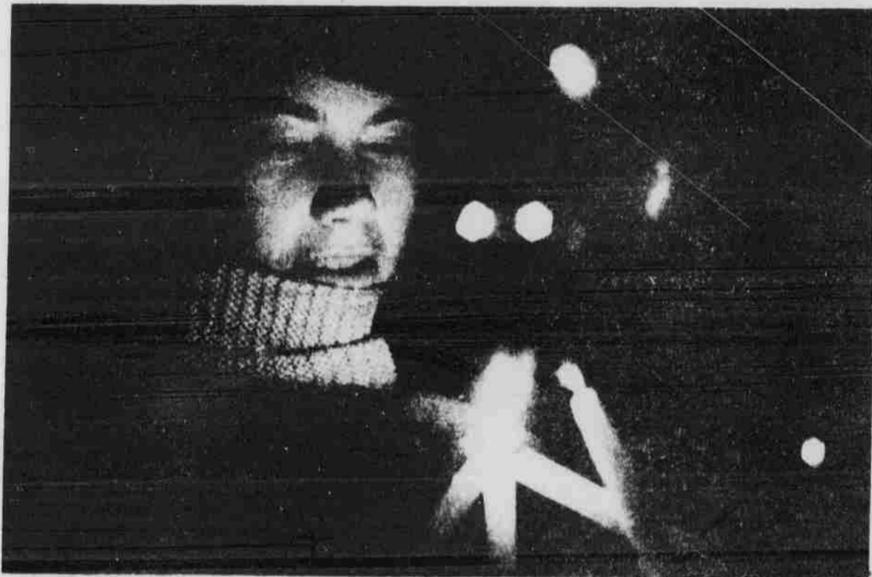


Photo by Gail Forua

A marcher in a candlelight procession Tuesday night protests liberalized abortion laws.

Harper Hall visitation suspended

A three-day suspension of RHA visitation hours began Tuesday at Harper Hall, but the move was not made without warning, according to Steve Heldt, residence director.

Heldt said residents were warned at a residence hall meeting last Monday that visitation hours would be suspended if they refused to observe official RHA visitation rules.

Heldt said the decision to suspend hours was made after reports from students and from student staff members said that residents' doors were closed during visitation hours while female guests were present. Some residents continued to close their doors, even after they were warned, he said.

RHA visitation rules state that residents must keep their doors open at all times during visitation hours when entertaining guests of the opposite sex.

Heldt said students told him many times they will not keep their doors open during visitation times "no matter what."

Heldt said he and Marie Hansen, Harper-Schramm-Smith Residence Complex Director, have observed visitation hours violations.

Heldt said he has heard voices in the halls after visitation hours are over. He also has heard voices that were "definitely female" from behind closed doors during visitation hours, Heldt said.

He said he thought RHA sponsors generally did not enforce the open door rule, but that Student Assistants believe they are obligated to help enforce the rule.

"We don't feel we're in a position to ignore this, and we're trying to use a method of enforcement that's fair and equitable under the existing policy," Heldt said.

If there is no change regarding students' observation of RHA hours, more hours will be taken away, he added.

"I can't measure how upset they really are," Heldt said, referring to Harper residents' reaction to the suspension.

Ken Noeker, Harper Hall judicial chairman, said he thinks students are opposed to the move.

"I personally feel that very few people back it, but I don't think they can help but see how it's just. I think a one-week warning was long enough, so I think we were given a fair chance," Noeker said.

Some Harper residents don't share his view.

"I think, for as much as we pay for a room here, we should be able to do what we want," student John Morey from Omaha, said.

"I pay too much money to go through all this," he added.

Ben Shomshor, a sophomore from Fremont, said he observes no change in student behavior patterns since the warning was given a week ago.

"I don't think it's fair that, being 19 years of age and independent, I should put up with the hassle of being told where and when I can have my visitors," he said.

GOYA victories alter priorities for Overing

This is the second of two stories examining the achievements of the 1973-74 ASUN Senate, in the light of campaign promises made last spring. Sue Overing, ASUN second vice president, and Bill Freudenburg, both UP candidates, offer their opinions.

Sue Overing, elected ASUN second vice president in 1973, was the lone UP (Unity and Progress Party) candidate placed in an executive slot. Being elected to work with another party's candidates, who had a different party platform, meant her "priorities had to be rearranged," Overing said.

"If the slate had been totally UP, we would have done things differently."

The main difference between the GOYA (Get Off Your Apathy Party) and the UP parties, Overing said, was in the "ways certain persons handled things."

"The same kind of questions would have come up, but some people would have been handled differently," she said.

Ann Henry, ASUN president and GOYA candidate, also pointed to personality problems as hindering the 1973-74 senate's work.

"Some senators dropped out without even being talked to. That should not have happened."

Overing said her party probably would have arranged the budget a lot

differently, and standing committees would have gotten more money.

The UP platform called for ASUN to assume a "student advocate" role. It suggested initiating an "academic bankruptcy" system, whereby students would receive "no credit," instead of a failing grade. It proposed that students evaluate all UNL teachers regularly and that the drop and add system be revised.

As second vice-president, Overing said she primarily has worked with the Free University and the Student Services Committee.

"Free University has gone well because its chairman Dave Howlett did a good job. We are trying to get it expanded, and to have some courses offered for credit.

"The book exchange, particularly on East Campus and in the dormitories also is working well," she said.

The main thrust of the UP platform, faculty evaluation, "still needs work" Overing said. "If we can get the Center for Educational Change strengthened, I hope something can happen with it (the evaluation) yet."

One of the year's disappointments has been the Consumer Aid Group, which "also needs more work. "It really needs a manager," Overing said.

"We tried to look at the drop and add system when we first got into

office, she said, "but the administration says most of the problems are related to budgeting."

She shrugged and laughed.

"We suggested that it be done in alphabetical order to get rid of the lines, but there seems to be no real benefit to trying that."

She said some senators are working on extending the free drop and add period.

"At UNO, a student can drop a class until the last day of the semester. There is no reason why such inconsistency should exist between campuses," she said.

"No progress" in achieving platform promises has been made by either party, according to Bill Freudenburg, defeated UP presidential candidate.

Freudenburg, a member of the Council on Student Life, the College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Board, Teaching Council and the College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee, said he is most critical of ASUN's lack of action in the educational reform area.

"Maybe some things are happening in ASUN that I can't see, but I'm on quite a number of committees, and I'm interested in it personally, and nothing has been done that I can see," he said.

"I have a good perception of what

was promised and what has come about," Freudenburg said.

He said he suggested several times to a few ASUN senators that they form a committee to write resolutions to establish and review registration, drop and add and advising in general. The senate committee was to have been made up of ASUN senators, students, faculty and staff. "No one reacted to my proposal in any way, shape or form," he said.

Freudenburg introduced his resolution to CSL, he said, and a CSL Task Force has been established to work on the same issues.

"Changes in the advising system have been less than magnificent. If anything is happening in ASUN," he said, "it is incredibly well hidden."

Freudenburg said this year's lack of changes in education "are especially unfortunate" because "that's one of the areas where ASUN could make a difference. In the past that's where it's made some significant changes."

Freudenburg said he thought a number of elected UP senators believed they "had to put up with a lot of mutual distrust and suspicion."

Rather than create disharmony, they "let a lot of their particular ideals go" that had been in the UP platform, "just to get things accomplished in the end," he said.