MASA demands equal votes on panel

The UNL Mexican American Student Assoc. (MASA) voted Thursday night to demand a meeting of the Mexican-American Advisory Committee April 4 and called for equal student representation on that committee.

The committee advises UNL Chancellor James Zumberge on Mexican-American students activities. The committee's structure calls for a minimum of 12 members—four from the community, four from the UNL faculty and staff and four students.

Only two student slots currently are filled, according to Marta Hernandez, MASA chairman.

MASA's action came in response to the refusal of three community members of that committee to resign. MASA demanded on March 14 the resignation of Sam Franco, Stanley Porras and Nick Garcia.

MASA charged that they failed to represent competently the Mexican-American community and were not involved with the activities of MASA.

Hernandez said Franco, Porras and Garcia verbally resigned but did not submit a written resignation to Ken Bader, UNL vice chancellor for student affairs, upon Bader's request.

About 10 MASA representatives plan to meet today with Ralph Vigil, the advisory committee chairman, and submit a list of four MASA representatives to serve on the committee, Hernandez said. They are: Tony Ramirez, Dave Rosas, Elena Sigler and Hernandez.

When students are represented equally on the committee, Hernandez said, they again will call for the resignations. The two students' previous motion for the resignation was overruled by other members.
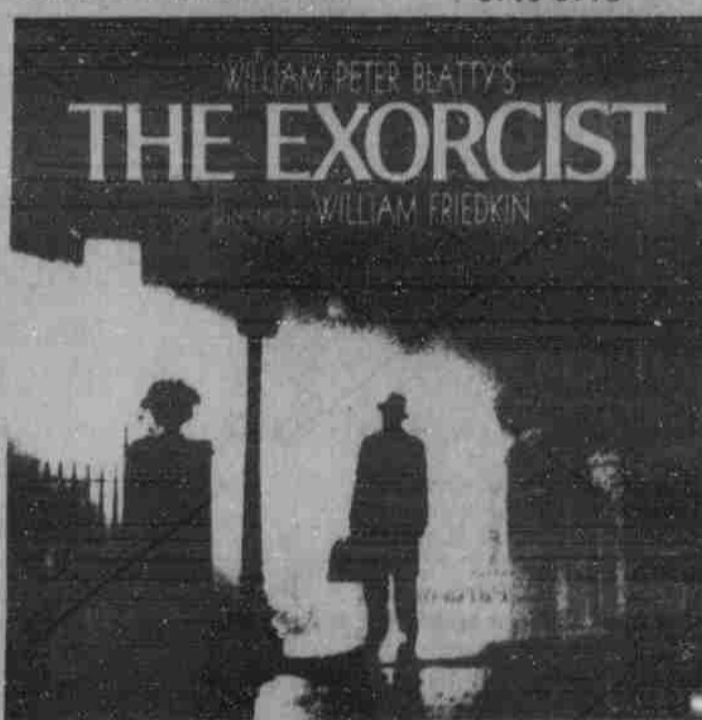
Consumer meeting in April

ABC News financial reporter Louis Rukeyser, and Henry Manne, a critic of consumer advocate Ralph Nadar, will confront Beverly Moore, one of Nadar's representatives, during an April conference on consumerism. It will be sponsored by Nebraska Free University (NFU) April 2-4.

Richard Harmon, head of the Industrial Areas Foundation, will speak on consumer groups and on taking an activist role in the organization of consumers.

"We've been working with the idea of the conference, trying to put it into effect since last fall," said NFU coordinator Dave Howlett.

Nominated for several Emmy and Peabody awards, Rukeyser received the first George M. Loeb Award for excellence in financial journalism and the George Washington Honor Medal for his commentary on ABC's "Wall Street Week."

Manne currently is a professor of law and political science at the University of Rochester in Rochester, N.Y.

Moore is the author of books and articles on consumerism. She was graduated from Harvard Law School and is a consultant for the Center for Study of Responsive Law. Moore, 28, is also a member of the Corporate Accountability Research Group and American Bar Assoc. ad hoc Committee on Consumer Class Actions.

"Our goals are to acquaint consumers in the community with the ways particular international incidents may affect them, and what sorts of things they can do about it," Howlett said.