

Bookstore . . .

Comparisons drawn by the committee included:

Storage space: The Nebraska Book Company has a warehousing system extending throughout the country. The University Bookstore has two storage rooms, shared by the main bookstore, the freshman bookstore and the convenience items store.

According to Behrends, the yet-to-be-constructed East Campus activities building will contain space for a University Bookstore branch at least the size of the main and freshman bookstores combined. The store will not be opened until fall of 1976, he said.

Books no longer required for courses: With its warehouse system, the Nebraska Book Company can place books UNL students are not required to buy in storage and sell them at another bookstore in another part of the country where books are required material at another school.

With limited storage space, the University Bookstore sells non-required books to the Nebraska Book Company for the same amount a student selling them would receive, according to the report.

Used books: In a price comparison of a random selection of books carried by both the University and Nebraska Bookstores, committee members reported a few price discrepancies. The comparison showed several used books were as much as \$4 cheaper at the Nebraska Bookstore. A greater volume of used books and more space to accommodate them resulted in lower prices on the same books at the Nebraska Bookstore, according to the report.

The University Bookstore has fewer used books available to sell, committee members reported, and must depend upon new book sales.

Convenience items: at the University Bookstore, all of these items are priced and stocked by a wholesaler. Certain items, such as T-shirts, can be bought cheaper when bought in larger quantities. The Nebraska Bookstore has the warehouse to store additional merchandise the University Bookstore doesn't.

The ASUN book exchange, begun several years ago to allow students to buy books from each other without having to pay the mark-up bookstores put on used books, actually boosted University Bookstore sales, according to information given committee members by Stafford.

Students bring books to the store for immediate cash instead of having them sit in the book exchange, possible for an entire semester, before being bought, the report said.

Lack of organization and publicity were other problems contained in the report as plaguing the book exchange operation.

Committee recommendations to restore competitive pricing at the Univ. Bookstore include establishing a student advisory board for University Bookstore operations. The seven-man board, according to the report, would oversee the operation of the bookstore in addition to other duties.

The committee also suggested establishing a program with the management and marketing programs in the College of Business Administration. The program would allow students to work in management positions along with bookstore staff for possible class credit.

Other suggestions included providing inventory space for the bookstore and encouraging faculty members not to order a surplus of books for which there would be no space at the bookstore.

No action was taken on the report, but it will be considered at a later ASUN meeting, Senator Kay said.

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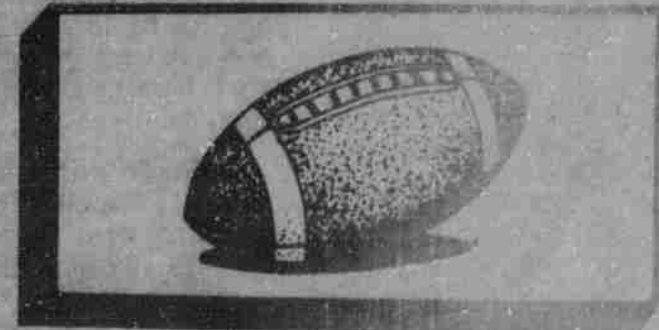
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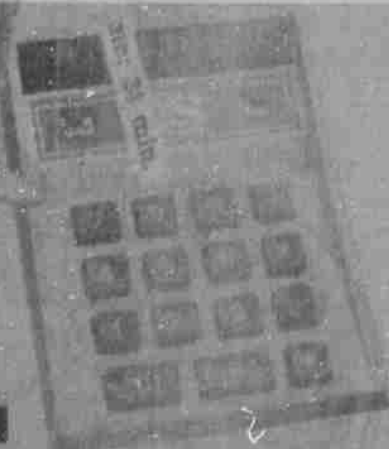


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