



RHA election committee rejects appeal by Walden, Whittaker

By Marian Lucas

The Residence Hall Association's (RHA) election committee Wednesday night unanimously rejected Ray Walden and Kathy Whittaker's appeal for an additional hour of polling time at the Cather-Pound-Neihardt Residence Center.

Walden, who lost the recent RHA presidential election by seven votes to Sue Ihne, asked for the addition because ballots were misplaced for one hour during the lunch time in the residence center.

He said the complex was given 38 per cent less voting time and, according to his calculations, he would have won by 4 votes with the additional hour.

But the three-man election committee voted against the appeal. Jim Burke, chairman of the committee, said that the extra time would give Cather-Pound-Neihardt an "unfair advantage over the other dorms."

"For the sake of fairness I think it should be open for an hour," Walden said.

Ihne said that the conditions would be so different that the election

wouldn't be feasible.

Kathy Lundquist, Ihne's running mate, asked Walden why he didn't challenge the election immediately after the loss of the hour.

Walden replied that he wasn't challenging the election because, in his estimation, the election wasn't over. He added that he did try to contact present RHA president Tim Evensen and vice-president Jim Burke, but that they could not be reached.

"Because of spring break a lot of people didn't know about the elections," Burke said. "The publicity since elections would give them (Walden and Whittaker) the advantage."

Burke added that many students were gone Monday, the day of the elections, and that if the extra hour were granted, there would be a greater percentage of voter turnout.

He said that there were a lot of people to blame for the incident and that the hour extension was ruled unfair because "two wrongs don't make a right."

The election committee said they had not been aware of

Walden's appeal when Ihne was proclaimed the winner. Burke said the only other solution would be another campus-wide vote, but he added that this would be highly improbable.



ASUN President Jim Say is sworn into office as a UNL regent by Secretary of State Allan Beermann.

ASUN senators, officers installed

By Rex Seline

A light-hearted atmosphere capped with a series of tongue-in-cheek awards prevailed Wednesday night at the last meeting of the 1974-75 ASUN Senate, along with the installation of the new administration.

Newly elected President Jim Say, First Vice President Mary Jenkins and Second Vice President Paul Morrison were sworn into office by the outgoing executives Ron Clingenpeel, Sharon Johnson and David Howlett.

Allan Beermann, Nebraska secretary of state, also administered an oath of office to Say for his position as student regent. First Vice President Johnson presided over the swearing in of the new senators.

Before expiration of their term of office, the outgoing executives and senators presented a number of awards, some of which "take a few potshots at some people," as Clingenpeel told the senate.

Serious awards for distinguished service were presented to former Senators Kent Bliss, Jane Erdenberger and Tim Evensen. John Dobitz was presented the John Lydick Outstanding Senator award for the past year.

Clingenpeel summarized the past year, terming the passage of the student regent amendment the "highlight of the year."

Jana Hills and Tim Evensen of the senate review committee presented a whimsical review of the resolutions brought forward during the year. They also presented their own series of humorous awards to the retiring executives and a few selected senators.

The new senate held its first meeting immediately following the swearing in ceremonies.

Elected for a three-week term to the agenda-setting executive committee were incumbent senators Brian Schellpeper, Jim Wefso and Vickie Brugman. Freshman Dan Roh was elected Speaker Pro-Tempore.

Newly elected Graduate College Representative Frank Thompson objected to consideration of the candidates until he could become familiar with them and the function of the executive committee. He walked out of the meeting after the senate voted to elect the committee for temporary terms.

The new senate also passed temporary rules of procedure. The first resolution will be in effect for one week before being reintroduced at the next meeting.

Nebraska's education spending in 'upper half'

Two reports released to state officials last week show Nebraska ranks in the upper half of area states comparing budget appropriations to higher education.

The reports were presented by the Governor's Commission on University Funding and the Legislature's Fiscal Analyst's Office.

The budgets of all states surveyed by the commission show education as the highest spending item. However, the report said education doesn't take as large a share of Nebraska's budget as in other regional states.

A Big Eight study for the Unicameral shows that Nebraska spends \$64 per student credit hour, placing it fifth among the states surveyed. Iowa State was highest with \$81 and Oklahoma was lowest at \$47 spent per student credit hour.

In state-level appropriations, Nebraska ranks third behind Iowa State and Missouri. UNL also ranks third in state support of operational expenses.

Slightly above average

A survey of tax effort or fiscal capacity to support education by the governor's commission shows Nebraska slightly above average. However, the local burden is greater. In this region, Nebraska ranks fifth in the total amount of tax for higher education.

NU should raise tuition because it is presently low in its tuition rates, according to Jon Oberg, gubernatorial budget aide. The governor's commission also considered large boosts in out-of-state student tuition.

The University of Nebraska generates only 17.6 per cent of its revenue from tuition and other student fees. Colorado receives 35.1 per cent of its expenses from tuition and fees.

Jim O'Hanlon, commission member, said the commission's proposal to make university funding recommendations one-half dependent on total per

capita expenditure and one-half on relative funding of programs between NU and other universities would require either an unrealistic tax level or elimination of necessary programs. The goal of the commission proposal is to place the university at the average funding level of the top-three Big Eight schools.

High income more

The commission report also showed that students from families with higher incomes receive proportionally more benefits than students from low-income families.

This is because the educational spending depends heavily on the state sales tax, requiring low-income families to pay a disproportionate share.

The legislative study showed Nebraska at the bottom of average faculty salaries among Big Eight schools. The average faculty salary at UNL is \$16,653 a year. Colorado has the highest average salary at \$18,858.