



Photo by Steve Boerner

Suzanne Brown, assistant director of Union Program Council

# Walpurgisnacht planning begins

By Marella Synovec

A project designed to better acquaint the university community with the Nebraska Union, show Union programming in action and bring faculty members, students and staff together is being planned by the Union Program Council (UPC).

The second annual Winter Walpurgisnacht is scheduled for Jan. 30 and 31. The Walpurgisnacht, an all-night event, runs from 8 p.m. until 4 a.m. and will provide a variety of entertainment and programs.

Suzanne Brown, assistant director of Union Program Council, said the idea for the Walpurgisnacht came from a regional convention of the Association of College Unions-International.

She said she and last year's UPC president Terry Mahlman attended the convention at Kearney and formulated the idea.

"Walpurgisnacht" originates from a myth that witches, goblins and devils meet one night each year at an annual convention for a night of revelry. Brown said Walpurgisnacht is found in several literary works.

One characteristic of the Union's Walpurgisnacht is diversity in program types, Brown said. Music, drama, recreation, dem-

onstrations, films, food and displays are scheduled to offer as much variety as possible, she said.

An estimated 7,000 to 8,000 persons attended the first Walpurgisnacht last January.

Walpurgisnacht was a greater success than the Union staff expected, Brown said. About 75 student volunteers, 50 to 60 who were not in UPC, and some Union staff members worked a 24-hour day, she said.

She said there was some concern from the Union staff about hours for the next Walpurgisnacht because of the work necessary to organize and operate an all-night event. She said, however, that they will be able to have an all-night event again.

This time, pending Union Board approval, more student volunteers will be assigned additional tasks, Brown said.

The Fees Allocation Board (FAB) provided some funds for the first Walpurgisnacht, Brown said. Entertainment cost \$1,730, with about \$900 spent on publicity. Income from the event was about \$1,700, Brown said.

Personnel costs for food service and operations were not included in the figures, Brown said. The departments paid

their own staff.

This year most of the funds will be allocated by the Union Special Events Committee, she said. The special events annual budget is \$1,980. Most of this will go to Walpurgisnacht, and some money will be provided by income from ticket sales, Brown said.

### Special groups

Special committees such as the Foreign Films Committee and the Contemporary Arts Committee will contribute by paying for entertainment.

The second Walpurgisnacht will follow the same format as the first, Brown said. Activities are planned to occupy the entire building except offices.

Brown said entertainment includes programs brought in from off-campus as well as on-campus talent.

Thus far the UPC has booked the Cabaret Theater, the comedy team of Edmonds and Curley and "A Condition of Shadow," a one-man show on Edgar Allan Poe.

Brown said she hopes program plans will be ready in another month. She said publicity probably will be sent out in December.

## Matlovich defense

# Gays request affidavits

By Betsie Ammons

Lt. Leonard Matlovich's fight to stay in the (United States) Air force has resulted in action among Lincoln homosexuals according to Dave, a spokesman for UNL's Gay Action Group.

Matlovich is threatened with discharge after publicly admitting his homosexuality because regulations prohibit homosexuals from serving in the armed forces. The Air Force first offered him a general, then an honorable discharge, but he has rejected both and has said he will continue to appeal his case.

Dave said the Gay Action Group has been contacting gay veterans in Lincoln, asking them to submit affidavits stating they were homosexual while in the service, and that it did not interfere with their duties. He said the group acted on request from the National Gay Task Force in New York, where all affidavits from Lincoln will be sent. The task force will submit them to Matlovich's defense lawyers.

### Affidavit information

The affidavits should include a description of the veteran's military service, such as awards, highest rank, type of performance, how many gay service people they knew while in the armed forces and how many gay service people they know now, Dave said.

Veterans of any age can submit affidavits, Dave said, adding that he expects most to be college students or younger people. He said older homosexual veterans may be more reluctant about disclosing that they were gay while in the service.

Dave said he has contacted one veteran who will definitely submit an affidavit, and has three other strong possibilities.

### Help defense

"I support him (Matlovich) as much as I can," said Ray Jones, an Army veteran who definitely will submit an affidavit. He served from 1967 to 1969 and earned both the silver and bronze stars. He said he

thinks if enough of the affidavits are submitted, it will help in Matlovich's defense and show that "being gay doesn't make any difference."

"It is important that people recognize the fact that we are not second-rate citizens," Jones said.

Dave called the appeal "the perfect case," saying there was "no way you could call it fair."

"Matlovich had the highest recommendation until he said 'I'm gay,'" Dave said. "Then the opinion of him did a complete flip-flop."

### Career on line

Dave commented that it was commendable that Matlovich is willing to lay his career on the line for the benefit of all gays.

Jones said Matlovich's declaration is an important step for homosexuals who want to be known as such.

Jones called the Air Force's contention that homosexual service people are susceptible to blackmail "bizarre and very funny."

Dave said he thinks that Matlovich's case eventually will be appealed to the United States Supreme court. He said he fears that the court "may not be ready now" to support Matlovich's remaining in the Air Force.

## PACE donations approach \$5,000

Donations to the Program for Active Commitment to Education (PACE) came to \$4,350, according to Assistant Bursar Gary Fouraker.

This figure is the contributions made by UNL students on tuition statements this semester.

Fouraker estimated that when late tuition payments are in the final total might be "close to \$5,000."



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