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NU budget set at \$94.4 million

By Dick Piersol

NU's \$94.4 million budget and construction of a Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER) Bldg. came one step closer to reality Tuesday.

The Nebraska Legislature passed LB690, the higher education budget bill, and LB1007, authorizing construction of the HPER bldg. at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), and sent them to Gov. J. James Exon for his signature.

The senators appropriated \$94.4 million for the university, an increase of 23 per cent over the last year's NU budget of \$76.9 million.

Exon has vowed to veto line items in the NU budget to bring it in accord with his own NU budget recommendations of about \$84 million. The senators would need 30 votes to override those vetoes. Although LB690 passed by a 36-8 vote, several senators said it is likely the Legislature will sustain the governor's position.

The Legislature's session ends today, but the senators will be meeting April 7, to consider any gubernatorial vetoes.

Exon, who vetoed a bill authorizing construction of the Omaha HPER bldg. last session, has said the state cannot afford it this year either.

The senators voted 34-11 to appropriate \$2 million to begin construction on the building, estimated to cost a total of \$6.7 million.

Since today is the last day the Legislature will vote on bills at the final stage, it is expected to consider all other capital construction, including several NU projects.

The Legislature's NU budget decision is contained in nine separate appropriations within LB690. Last year the senators specified 16 appropriations. NU administrators had asked for the appropriation in one sum, but the senators responded less than half-way.

The appropriations breakdown by campus with the 1975-76 appropriation in parenthesis is as follows: Central Administration—\$23.8 million (\$20.3 million); UNL (including the Institute for Agriculture and Natural



Photo by Ted Kirk

Omaha Sen. George Syas Monday described the current session of the Nebraska Legislature as the worst in his 20 years as a senator. He said about 200 bills still will be pending when the Legislature ends its session today.

Resources)—\$39.9 million (\$34.1 million); UNO—\$8.3 million (\$7.2 million); University of Nebraska Medical Center, (including the Nebraska Psychiatric Institute, research and clinics.)—\$22.3 million (\$14.6 million).

The budget includes a seven per cent merit pay increase pool for professional employees. Nonprofessionals will receive six per cent pay increases with a one per cent merit pay increase pool.

The vote on LB690: For: Anderson, Barnett, Bereuter, Burbach, Carsten, Cavanaugh, Chambers, Cope, Dickinson, Fitzgerald, Fowler, Goodrich, Johnson, Keyes, Koch, Kremer, Lewis, F., Luedtke, Mahoney, Marsh, Mills, Moylan, Rumery, Savage, Schmit, Simpson, Skarda, Stoney, Stull, Swigart, Syas, Warner, Wiltse.

Against: Clark, DeCamp, Duis, Dworak, Kelly, Kennedy, Kime, Marvel. Absent or not voting: Burrows, George, Hassbroock, Murphy, Nichol.

The vote authorizing the HPER bldg.: For: Anderson, Barnett, Bereuter, Burbach, Carsten, Cavanaugh, Chambers, Cope, DeCamp, Dickinson, Fitzgerald, Fowler, Goodrich, Johnson, Keyes, Koch, Kremer, Lewis, F., Luedtke, Mahoney, Marsh, Mills, Moylan, Rumery, Savage, Schmit, Simpson, Skarda, Stoney, Stull, Swigart, Syas, Warner, Wiltse.

Against: Clark, Dworak, George, Kelly, Kennedy, Kime, Lewis, R., Marsh, Marvel, Murphy, Rasmussen. Absent or not voting: Burrows, Duis, Hassbroock, Nichol.

ASUN Commission to hear complaints on election

By George Miller

An ASUN Electoral Commission hearing Thursday at 7 p.m. will concern alleged improprieties in voting and election procedures of the March 17 ASUN election.

Paul Morrison, defeated candidate for ASUN president, filed seven complaints with the commission, attempting to nullify the election.

Morrison charges that:

—Graduate students and professional students voted for both graduate and professional senatorial candidates when they should have voted only for candidates of their respective colleges.

—A graduate student voted in a Teachers College election. This, Morrison claims, is grounds for annulling the Teacher's College senate election.

—There was no class roster of professional students at the Nebraska Hall polls.

—Morrison said he heard of a student who voted five times and admitted it to a poll worker.

—A sample ballot was not posted at all of the polls.

—Section E6 of the Electoral Commission regulations states that Electoral Commission members must be sworn in by an ASUN Student Court justice, which was not done.

"The Faction"

—A group of students called "The Faction" sent various Greek houses a letter and a slate of candidates. The letter contains a sentence beginning, "We begin this campaign. . . ." which, Morrison said, identifies the letter and list as campaign material.

He said the slate was reported to have been posted in some Greek houses and was in the hands of some voters at the polls.

The Greek slate did not file a financial statement for printing costs of the material with the commission, Morrison said, which are grounds for disqualifying Greek slate candidates.

Twenty-one of the 27 candidates endorsed by the Greek slate were elected. There are a total of 35 Senate seats.

All three executive candidates endorsed by the slate also were elected. They are Bill Mueller, president; Paula Haeder, first vice-president, and Dennis Martin, second vice-president.

Morrison said the action was on his own initiative and

not as leader of his party, the Alliance of Concerned Students.

Chance of overturn

He said he thought the complaints concerning the Greek slate and swearing in of Electoral Commission members have the best chance of being upheld and overturning the election.

The Greek slate did not file a statement of intent as all parties must do, Morrison said. He added that he expects protests that elected Greek slate candidates did not know they were on the slate.

"It's the responsibility of the people who set up the Greek slate to put out a financial statement," Morrison said. "I don't think there's any question of people not knowing they were on the slate."

Ray Walden, ASUN Electoral Commissioner, said it is "very likely" that after all testimony has been heard

Thursday night, the commission will decide the validity of Morrison's arguments in executive session.

Appeal possible

Both Morrison and Walden said that if the commission rejects Morrison's arguments, an appeal will be made to the Student Court.

If this happens, Walden said, the Court must act quickly on whether to call a new election. New senators and executives are scheduled to take office April 7.

"I think I have a very legitimate case," Morrison said.

Walden said those unable to attend Thursday's hearing may file a notarized deposition in the ASUN office before Thursday night. In addition to the statement, they also must list the reasons why they cannot attend, their phone number, address and times they would be available for questioning by the commission.

Lottery for card section opened

By Dick Hovorka and Ron Ruggless

UNL living unit representatives will be lugging packets of student I.D.s and \$20 checks to the Athletic Dept. ticket office this week trying for seats in Memorial Stadium's card section.

To be eligible for the card section lottery, representatives must tell the ticket office they wish to be in the card section lottery and deposit \$100 at the School of Music, ticket officials said.

The lottery is this week and groups may go to the ticket office from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. until Friday. Last year letters announcing the lottery were sent to every living unit, but no living unit has received a letter this year, according to house presidents.

Fines for misconduct in the card section are taken out of the \$100 deposit, according to Marcia Goeller, card section coordinator.

Last fall, of the five sororities and 10 fraternities in the section, \$405 was collected in fines, said Goeller, a junior music major from Pilger. Every group was fined at least \$10 and some up to \$40, she added.

Wrong color

"The groups are fined if they have an absence (of a member), flash the wrong color or if nothing is flashed at all," Goeller said. She said she assesses fines by comparing

color slides, photographs and films of the card flashes with a seating chart.

Each organization is allowed two mistakes without fines. For three or four mistakes they are fined \$10 and for five or more they are fined \$20, she said.

All houses in the section were fined \$10 this fall for using the cards as umbrellas during the University of Miami of Florida game, Goeller said.

Persons fined can inspect the slides, photographs and films of the card section flashes if they believe they were wrongly fined, she said.

Two fraternities viewed the pictures and films after the football season last fall, Goeller said.

"After looking at the films, there were more mistakes than they were credited for," but additional fines were not assessed, she said.

\$405 in fines

The \$405 from the fines remains in a card section account with the Center for Students and Organizations Office, said Randy Jauken, treasurer of Gamma Lambda, the band honorary-service group, which sponsors the section.

Revenue from fines will be used to purchase new cards and repair old ones, said Jauken, a senior business major from Funk.

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