

daily nebraskan

wednesday, april 28, 1976 vol. 99 no. 118 lincoln, nebraska

inside today

So Sue Me: The state and a modeling school are trading law suits; one charges deceptive trade practices, the other charges an assistant attorney general with libel. p.11

Going, Going, Gone: An auction to raise money for Nebraska Public television ended Sunday p.11

Former Husker criticizes Sharpe

By Jim Zalewski

In a letter to head baseball coach Tony Sharpe, former Husker catcher Ron Miltenberger has listed reasons he quit the team shortly after its March southern road trip, criticizing Sharpe for lack of team discipline, and for creating a "haven of discouragement."

Although Sharpe said he thinks it is a case of a dissatisfied athlete blaming the coach, Miltenberger said his allegations are justified and worthy of investigation.

"I've given up my scholarship for next year, but I think it is worth it," said Miltenberger, a junior from Burlington, Iowa. "The program here definitely needs to be changed."

"The ballplayers felt the same way, but they are afraid to say anything and lose their money (scholarships)," he added. "It's been that way for three years. Every senior who goes out says he'd like to do something to get rid of him (Sharpe), but nobody ever does."

Sharpe said he didn't "want to make anything out of it (the incident)." "Ron always worked hard and gave 100 per cent. He quit, he wasn't dismissed or reprimanded."

No staff dedication

Miltenberger listed 11 reasons in the letter for leaving the team, among them:

-The coaching staff has "never been truly dedicated to producing a winning and respected ball team."

-The coach seldom has offered concrete batting advice.

-Players may stay out late at night, with the coaching staff's knowledge.

-Players may smoke cigarettes, drink alcohol and use drugs on the team bus, at times with the coaching staff's knowledge.

-The coaching staff has allowed players' parents to be members of the team traveling squad on road trips.

-Some players did not receive equal expense money on road trips, specifically during the 1975 spring season.

-Scholarships may have been awarded to some players that UNL coaches never saw play.



Photo by Ted Kirk

Baseball coach Tony Sharpe, visiting the pitcher's mound, has defended himself against criticisms in a letter written by catcher Ron Miltenberger, who recently quit the team. Also pictured are pitcher Larry Winum and catcher Jon Henne.

-There should be a more extensive fall training program, including weights.

No winning spirit

"This whole affair has caused me, as an individual to fall in self-respect," Miltenberger's letter said. "It has caused me to become very pessimistic in the real values of what athletics can do for a person."

He wrote that the UNL baseball program only offers

"the development of a losing attitude." "It provides a very poor program with weak coaching and a lack of organization and determination. There is no spirit and drive to become the best, the winner, the champions of the Big 8 Conference."

"It is only a haven of discouragement," the letter continued.

Continued on p. 3

Salaries, tuition among candidates' concerns

By Ann Owens and Susie Reitz

A proposed tuition increase, faculty member salaries and educational quality are three main issues in the May 11 NU Board of Regents primary election, according to regent candidates.

Fifteen candidates are running for the four board vacancies. Candidates from the third district are: Merle Hansen, 77, of Newman Grove, Charles Krig, 20, of South Sioux City and Kermit Wagner, 59, of Schuyler. Fourth District candidates are William Hood of Bellevue, Dr. Robert Prokop, 41, of Wilbur, Willard Waldo, 64, or DeWitt and James Winchell, 50, of Beatrice. Fifth district

candidates are: Kenlon Johannes, 27, of Leigh, Alton Kienker, 49, of Grand Island, Robert Koefoot, 54, of Grand Island and Mrs. Fred Seaton, 65, of Hastings. Running in the eighth district are Omahans Darrel Berg, 55, William Minnier, 30, Robert Moylan, 45, and Jackson Graham, 52.

Hansen, who said he is running to represent "plain people, not the corporate interests," said regents should be "worried about the quality of the faculty members, not building big buildings."

Standardized evaluations are one way to ensure fairness to all faculty members, he said.

"I hesitate to give too much power to people like department heads," he said. "I know some good faculty members who have been held back because they don't have political influence with the higher echelon in the university structure."

Student housing should not be under university administration, he said.

"I think the university should get out of the housing business," he said. "That would get entirely away from the question of babysitting legal-aged adults."

Maintain high standards

Krig, a UNL sophomore journalism and theatre major, and third district candidate, said he thinks educational quality is the main campaign issue.

"We have to maintain high standards and raise those that have slipped over the years," he said. "We also have to raise professors' salaries so we don't lose qualified instructors."

He said money would have to come from tuition or state tax increases.

The university also should determine whether it is appropriately allocating money, he said.

Incumbent third district Regent Wagner said he is running again because he is especially interested in implementing the Areas of Excellence as far as available funds will allow.

A tuition increase was inevitable, he said, because students "have to do their part, too," in paying for the university.

Merit salary needed

"If we can justify a program, then money should go to it," he said. "Some programs which aren't essential and have a minimum number of students should be eliminated for economy."

Quality improvement could result from adding teaching staff, cutting student-teacher ratios and raising faculty members salaries, he said.

Merit salary increases are needed to keep good faculty members, he said. Merit increases should be based primarily on evaluations by department heads and other faculty members, he said. Also, evaluation of a course's importance to students after finishing school could play a part in the evaluation of the instructor, Wagner said.

Fourth district

According to William Hood, fourth district candidate, money for university improvement has to come from the state.

"I think if there were leadership on the board that could work with the Nebraska Legislature, there wouldn't be that much of a problem getting money," Hood said.

Continued on p. 2



Photo by Ted Kirk

These muzzled elk belong to the university museum's collection stored in Nebraska Hall. For museum story see Third Dimension, p.7