

FAB fee report makes sense

University Programs and Facilities Fees.
That's the duded-up name of the every semester fact of financial life for students: student fees. Appropriations for next year are being reviewed, as well as increases contemplated to meet growing strains on the fee dollar—both in 1976-77 and 1977-78.

One Student Affairs committee has projected an increase in student fees from the current \$61.50 full-time student rate to \$65 for next year and \$70 the year after that. One wonders if rising costs will ever again permit a break in the near-constant escalation of student fees.

To meet the legitimate needs of student-fee users, who serve a real educational purpose within the university, the Fees Allocation Board (FAB) has sought to keep increases as low as possible.

In their report, they disagree with the need to make student fees total \$70 within two years: instead FAB suggested an increase of only a buck next year and \$4 the following year.

One cornerstone of their recommendation is the Regents Committee Report on student fees which was approved at the April 17 board meeting. The regents recommended that several programs no longer receive student fee support—Career Planning and Placement, Career Counseling, New Student Orientation, Environmental Health and Health Education. Those educational divisions should rightly be transferred to the university and its tax dollars for their support.

In addition to endorsing the regents' recommendations the FAB report recommends a little

belt tightening in the University Health Center, the Nebraska Union and the Recreation Dept. In the latter, the validity of purchasing a minute supply of expensive equipment, such as skis, that only can be used by a limited number of students, is rightly questioned. The intramurals program and recreation activities at UNL are well supported and popular—there are just a few too many frills.

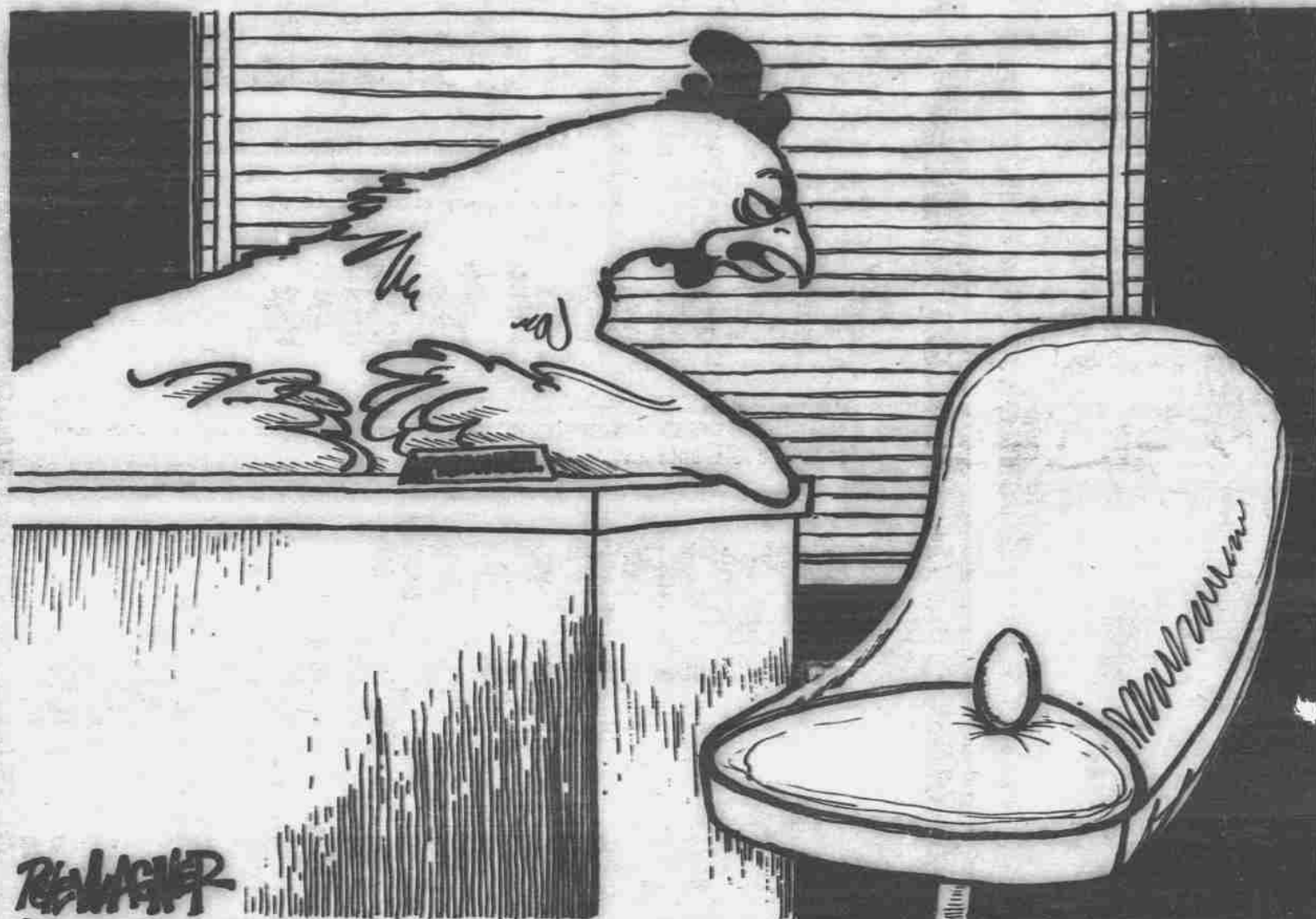
The FAB report makes sense, especially considering the tuition increase which is lingering on the horizon. The FAB report is a valuable contribution to UNL, just as the entire year's work by FAB has been, careful, complete and cognizant of student interest—and pocketbooks.

Vince Boucher

ralph by ron wheeler



d.n. soapbox



REMARKER
"I'M AFRAID OUR INCUBATOR IS FULL, BUT IF YOU COME BACK AFTER YOU'VE GOTTEN A FEW YEARS' EXPERIENCE..."

con | Time-worn economic ideas pro | can hasten job cataclysm

By Neil Klotz

(This is the second in a two-part series on how students can face the future job market.)

And you think things can't get worse...
It's 1980. You return to your old college for graduation. You meet six old friends and go out for a drink. But one person can't pay the tab because he's unemployed. The class-of-1980 graduates then get together to eat, drink and be merry. Tomorrow—and for awhile after—one out of four of them will be unemployed. You go home, passing through the nearest city that used to be the weekend hot spot. It still is. Ten thousand high-school students are looting the downtown. Every other one is unemployed. You get caught in the riot and can't get home. Your boss fires you for missing work.

To reach that ominous scene, we don't need a major national disaster. All we have to do is continue as we have for the past decade. By 1980, the economy must create 12 million new jobs to accommodate new workers and those still on the streets after the last recession. That's almost twice as many jobs as were created in the past five years, and as the usually controlled Business Week noted nervously, "the economy has never grown that fast for so long."

Meanwhile, it's 1976 and you only want to create one new job. As we learned last week, unleashing 500 resumes to the four winds or casting your fate to employment agencies will only work for one or two out of every hundred people.

A small group of job counselors have developed

a different formula for which they claim a 80 to 90 percent success rate. The most recent and fullest explanation of it is in the book *What Color is Your Parachute?* by Richard Nelson Bolles (\$4.20, Ten Speed Press, Box 4310, Berkeley, Calif. 94704). As Bolles describes it, the "creative minority's" prescription for joblessness comes down to this:

You must decide

1. "You must decide exactly what you want to do." Not forever, of course. But if you want more than "just-a-job," you must disregard the traditional advice to be as vague as possible about your ambitions to take advantage of any vacancies that might open up. Waiting for "openings" is just another form of the resume numbers game, says Bolles, and you probably wouldn't be satisfied with what you get anyway. "The paradoxical moral," he says, "is that the higher a skill level you can legitimately claim, the more likely you are to find a job." You may have skills that weren't even part of your formal education. Bolles provides a number of sophisticated exercises to help you determine what they are.

2. "You must decide exactly where you want to work through your own research and personal survey." This also violates the popular assumption that employers have all the initiative and that you should stand around like a wallflower while the dance passes by.

According to the "laser beam" approach, you pick an area of the country, go there, then target a few places where you'd like to work and research them

exhaustively to try to unearth their problems. The best skill you can present is not credentials or experience, but problem-solving.

Besides reading everything you can about your target organization, you should personally survey and interview their key employees. At this point, you're just gathering information and you should tell them this to remove any job candidate-interviewer pressure.

Low-key look

Giving prospective employers this low-key look at you is very important, says Bolles. Most people who make hiring decisions hate job interviews because it puts them through the stress-ringer, and letting an executive "window shop you" creates a good feeling about you.

3. "You must identify the man who has the power to hire you and show him how your skills can help him with his problems."

Once you've identified your target's problems, contact the person whose responsibility it is to solve them. Avoid the dead end of personnel departments.

Even if you didn't meet this person "with the power" during your research phase, you have one thing going for you. You set up the interview by saying you want to talk about his organization's problems and some ideas you have that might be helpful. You're offering him something free, instead of placing the burden on him to offer you something, as in most job interviews.

If all this sounds like a lot of work, says Bolles, it is. Getting a satisfying job may be the toughest job you'll ever have, and may take from three to nine months. But on that search may rest 10 to 15 years of your future.

But what if you want to create your own job and no existing organization can hold it? Then it might be time to start your own business.

"How-to" advice

Some practical "how-to" advice on the great leap is in the April Ms. magazine. You can find some equally important advice in *The Seven Laws of Money Making* by Michael Phillips, former banker and current financial adviser for the Whole Earth Catalog Foundation (\$4, Word Wheel/Random House).

Some of Phillips' best advice is that you should separate the project you're starting from the problem of your own survival. Otherwise the day-to-day anxiety over making ends meet may be channeled to your new business and kill it.

Phillips and friends have started a network of alternative businesses in the San Francisco area and published the Briar Patch Review to help others do the same. (\$5 a year from the Briar Patch, 330 Ellis St., San Francisco, Calif. 94102).

Briar Patch? Says Phillips, "the Briar Patch Society consists of people learning to live with joy on the cracks...willing to fail young, concerned with the sharing of resources and skills with members of an ongoing community and...more committed to 'learning how the world works' than to acquiring possessions and status."

Combining a sixties hippie rap with business sense, Phillips may have something. The economy won't avoid a job cataclysm in 1980 by relying on traditional strategies. Within an organization or not, we must begin to create our own alternative future. That might also mean for a while, the no-job job: subsistence work while sorting things out, traveling or switching projects to gain new insights and meet new people.

If a replay of the '30s does occur, it may be those who learn to "live with joy in the cracks" who will provide the model for a new society and who will be holding nets under the windows on Wall St.