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Inside today

The Big Debut:
Third Dimension goes
deep in the year's
first issue inside

Varner tries to clear fog from NU parity conflict

By George Miller

Hoping to devise a plan that "can be lived with," NU President D. B. Varner Wednesday described the procedures used in attempting to establish equity in the quality of education between the campuses of the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) and UNL.

The first step in the continuing effort occurred Sept. 8 when the NU Board of Regents agreed to ask the Nebraska Legislature to include \$500,000 for UNO in next year's NU budget.

Varner said a committee he appointed 18 months ago to study equity between the two campuses determined that UNO would need an operating budget of \$1,068,250 to achieve equity with UNL.

The committee, appointed by Varner, includes Henry Baumgarten, UNL Faculty Senate president; Adam Breckenridge, UNL vice chancellor for academic affairs; William Erskine, executive vice president for administration; Herbert Garfinkel, UNO vice chancellor and provost; Steven Sample, executive vice president for academic affairs; and Justin Stolen, UNO Faculty Senate president.

The committee was advised by John Millett, chancellor emeritus of the Ohio Board of Regents and senior vice president of the Academy for Educational Development.

Millet recommended that the committee use a formula approach to the parity problem based on the experiences of other universities similar to NU. Material used in Nebraska's formula to compare the two campuses was taken from the universities of Wisconsin and Illinois.

Based on the Wisconsin and Illinois data, the committee used credit hours offered by the undergraduate and graduate colleges at both UNL and UNO to determine how the two campuses compare. UNO, however, has no doctoral program.

The credit hours were "weighted" to take into consideration the academic level of the hours (freshman, sophomore, junior, senior, masters, doctorate) and also the discipline the hours were in.

The committee found that patterns emerge in studying the hours. Courses in low academic levels, for example, tended to require less financial support than upper level courses. Undergraduate courses needed less support than graduate courses and social science courses needed less than physical science courses. The hours were based on data for the 1974-75 school year.

The committee also included the functions of instruction research, public service and academic services in comparing the two campuses. Student services, operation and maintenance of the physical plant, and institutional

support were not included.

The committee pointed out that an annual computing of the parity of UNO and UNL was necessary. It also recommended that the calculations by which the credit hours were weighted be updated so that the two-year gap in the figures could be eliminated.

"Ultimately, you have to have something you can live with and something you can defend across the state and with the Legislature," Varner said. "I don't know of a better weighted formula than this one."

Varner said he was concerned about opinions among UNL personnel that UNO was receiving unfair advantages.

Varner stressed that money targeted for UNO parity would not go for faculty salaries, but for support services at the Omaha campus.

Varner also said no money would go for curriculum expansion at UNO. He said no doctoral degree programs are under consideration at UNO and none would be started with the extra money if it is appropriated by the Legislature.

Varner said the current procedure to bring UNO up to an equal level with UNL was not a permanent solution to the problem, but would be used "until we can think of something better."

Campus Police revamp program to reduce crime

By Rusty Cunningham

A renamed, revamped Campus Police program, designed to emphasize public relations and crime prevention, is "a necessity" in helping curb last year's nearly doubled crime rate at UNL, according to Campus Police Chief Gail Gade.

A new division, the Crime Prevention Bureau, has replaced the Special Services Division of Campus Police, although no personnel or budget increases have been made.

"The criminal was first and public relations was at the bottom last year, but now we're dealing more with prevention and less with after the fact," Officer Maureen Knott said.

According to Knott, more than 1,000 crimes were reported to Campus Police in 1975, compared with 660 in 1974.

Larceny theft was the largest category of reported

crimes last year with 508 reported, totaling \$40,718 in personal property loss.

Seven per cent recovered

She said only \$2,801, roughly seven per cent, was recovered.

"Larceny theft deals with personal belongings, such as bicycles, calculators and typewriters," she said.

Knott added that criminal problems are not caused solely by UNL students.

"In 1975, 183 persons were arrested, but only 50 per cent of them were students," she said. "One per cent of the arrests were made against UNL staff, while 49 per cent of those arrested were not connected with the university."

Supervised by Officer Joe Wehner, the Crime Prevention Bureau has four officers who give talks on campus dealing with preventive measures to reduce losses and the chance of injuries.

"Our goal is to work very closely with residence hall

directors and student assistants to help ensure the safety of all persons in the dorm—and their personal property," Knott said. "I hope you'll see a change."

"Great response"

The bureau has received "great response" after starting operation a month ago, according to Knott.

"We've had real good luck because we're not trying to push police, police, police anymore. Now it's more of a personal, public relations approach."

Gade said the Crime Prevention Bureau is "doing a real good job."

"These people can do a lot of good," he said. "Instead of waiting for people to come to us, we're going out to them."

"We're going to show students gimmicks and things they should know about crime prevention," Gade said. "We want to provide a service to them for a better way of life on campus."

Mueller takes jab at Union user fee

By Tobin Beck

The ASUN Senate Wednesday night confirmed 16 appointments, but the real action came during executive reports.

ASUN President Bill Mueller took some verbal pokes at a proposal made in Tuesday's Union Board meeting to require a special \$5 a week user fee for groups — such as ASUN — needing a conference setup for meetings.

"It's absurd for a student government to be charged a fee for holding meetings in its own Union," said Mueller careful to emphasize that the fee has not yet been passed.

"I have instructed the secretary not to pay out any money if they ask for it," he said. "This is asinine."

"Control lost"

"Our student segment seems to have lost control of its Union," graduate senator Ron Stephens said in response to Mueller's comments. "It seems that students are being nicked and dimed to death."

Mueller also suggested the Senate sponsor an open forum to enable the campus to discuss the Publications Report which recently was submitted to the NU Board of Regents.

The report, according to Stephens, proposes that the regents be made the sole body overseeing the Daily Nebraskan. Stephens said the report also suggests that the Council on Student Life, not ASUN, make student appointments to the Publications Board.

Proposal's effect

The effect of the second proposal, according to Stephens, would be that the CSL, composed of student, faculty and administration members, would make appointments instead of ASUN, which is composed only of students.

The senate also confirmed 16 committee nominations and heard ASUN executives discuss issues ranging from temporary dorm housing to R St. parking meters.

Mueller announced he will conduct interviews next week for the positions of electoral director and one seat on the Student Court. Interested students should apply at the ASUN office, he said.

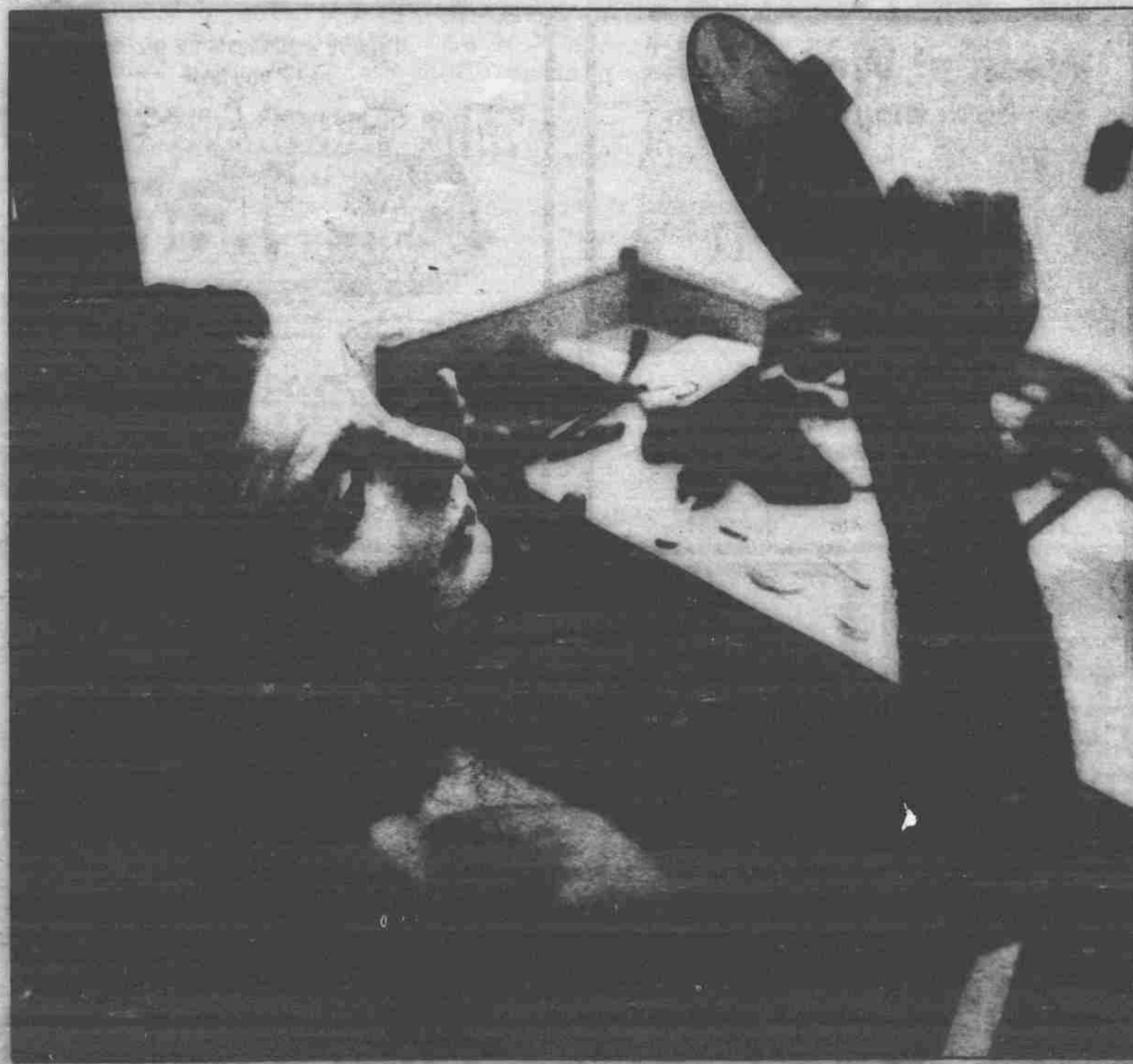


Photo by Ted Kirk

The smell of the greasepaint, the roar of the crowd . . . Michael Hennessy applies his makeup before his Wednesday night performance in the Nebraska Union Ballroom. Accompanied musically by Dan Blagen and Eric Sayer, Hennessy guided the small but enthusiastic audience through his private world of make-believe. Hennessy, who draws his style from Charlie Chaplin's tramp, the romanticism of Pinot, and his personal experiences, follows the classical school of mime that is prevalent in Europe. The program was sponsored by the Union Program Council.