

# ASUN resolutions call for Union policy changes

By Barbara Lutz

Three resolutions to stop the Nebraska Union advertising campaign, and delay bids for signs, and a parking garage, will come before the ASUN senate tonight.

Business College Sen. Charles Fellingham, a member of the ASUN executive committee, said, "Union policies could be determined by what the students want," not by Union director Al Bennett.

A resolution at last Wednesday's ASUN meeting asking Bennett to resign was dropped for the same reason, he said. ASUN was asking for the Union director's resignation without asking students, he said.

Sen. Frank Thompson, an economics graduate student, submitted the resolutions, Fellingham said.

Each resolution asks a letter be sent to UNL Chancellor Roy Young, Ron Gierhan, acting vice chancellor for student affairs, Bennett and the Union Advisory Board.

The letter, Fellingham said would request student input before further Union policies are made.

Resolution No. 45 asks that the proposed \$35,000 directional signs not be erected in the Union until a student survey is taken to determine student desire for signs.

Fellingham said the proposed resolution includes postponement of competitive bids until the survey is completed.

In addition, he said, the resolution wants to know how the bakery was approved and the bakery's financial status.

Fellingham said "students didn't know about it until plans were finalized and it was being built."

Resolution No. 46 concerns a parking garage. Fellingham said Bennett is asking for the garage, which Fellingham estimates will cost \$3,000 per stall, "will be paid by students one way or another," he said.

The resolution asks that the project be delayed until a report is made to students outlining the location and cost of the garage.

Fellingham said the resolution also asks for a survey of students to determine if there is a desire for such a garage.

Resolution No. 17 would halt further money spent on the Union advertising campaign. Fellingham said "no one sought to find out whether the students of the university

favor the advertising campaign."

The resolution says, "financial burden of this campaign must ultimately be born by students of Nebraska through fees."

The resolution also says further campaigning may "commercialize the Union and alter the communal environment," and asks that no more money be spent on advertising than has been budgeted.

In addition, advertising plans for succeeding years are asked to be delayed until a student election can determine whether students support commercialization of the Union, want to spend large amounts of money to bring people outside the university community into the Union, and favor existence of commercial establishments in the Union.

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## Business roles, challenges sounded in keynote speech

Nebraska Gov. J. James Exon Tuesday spoke of the role business plays in government, the importance of the free enterprise system, and the challenges of establishing one's own business.

Exon was keynote speaker at the opening ceremonies of Business Week in the Nebraska Union Ballroom. He addressed business representatives, students and faculty members.

"Being governor is a rewarding experience," Exon said, "but you have to enjoy it or it will frustrate you beyond belief."

He said it takes more than applying good business practices to make a sound government, because in government there is no profit motive.

Just as it is not profitable for a business to overprice its products, he said, similarly it is not profitable for a government to overtax the people.

Exon said that for too long the business community has stepped back and let others not familiar with business take over the key positions in government.

More big corporations are encouraging their employees to serve in some form of government, he said, and often grant temporary releases for them to do so.

Exon said he has alerted business people about a bill in the Nebraska Legislature intended to help reduce litter. It is a tax bill, not an environmental one, he said.

The bill would tax businesses that produce any kind of paper or bottles. The tax rate would be \$150 per year for every \$1 million in sales.

Exon said this would mean that companies would be taxed at the manufacturing and processing level, at the wholesale level and again at the retail level. He said of the businesses he alerted, all agreed with this bill.

He said that businesses always complain about the government "getting on their backs" yet they accept this kind of taxation.

"We are still looked up to as the leader of the free world. We must do what we can to export the free enterprise system."

The great portion of students coming from universities today have learned the principles of business, but the test is how to apply the knowledge, Exon said.

"There is no guarantee of success," he said. "The reason companies and corporations fail is the lack of management or the lack of ability to communicate within itself."

Exon said that deciding to go into business for oneself is the "hardest choice in business" and is the "most dangerous venture of all."

People always have the best intentions, but more than half of them are forced to close down after 10 years, he said.

The reasons for failure could be that market research has not been done in the area one is "invading," or that poor management decisions have been made.

"There is nothing automatic about success. It is hard work."



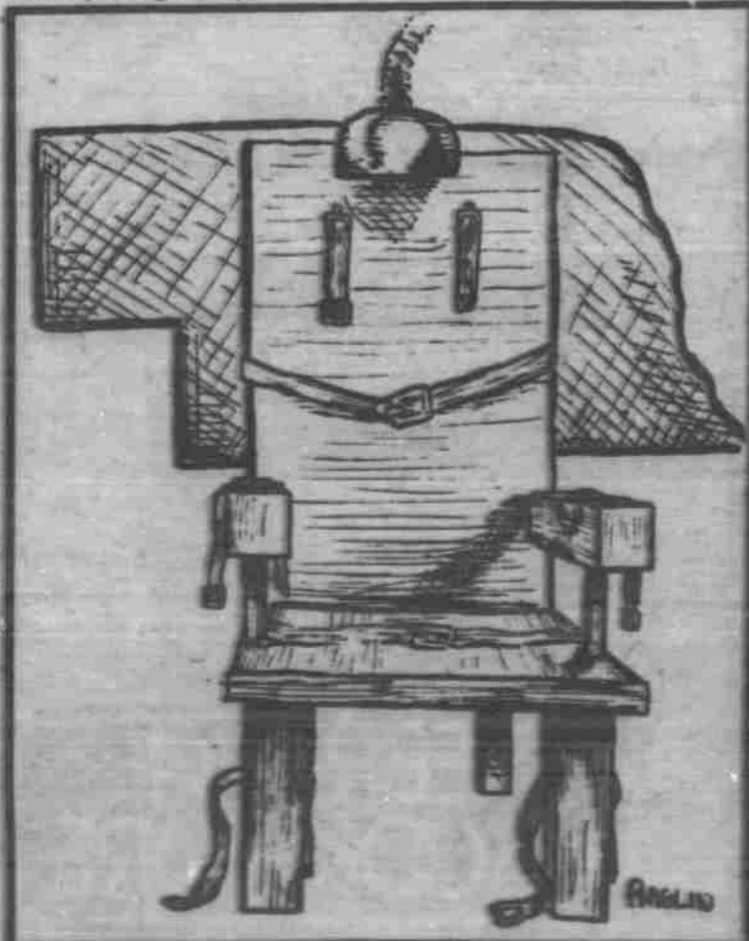
Photo by Kevin Higley

Gov. J. James Exon

## Hearing on death penalty bill draws religious debate

By Paula Dittrick

A Nebraska Legislature Judiciary Committee hearing drew a spattering of dissent amid a bombardment of arguments favoring LB 64, which would eliminate the state death penalty.



Application of the death penalty is "arbitrary, wanton and freakish" and "there is not rhyme nor reason" to the death sentence, said Omaha Sen. Ernest Chambers, who introduced LB64.

"The rich don't die," he said. "The county attorney selects those who will die by deciding whether to prosecute for an offense carrying the death penalty or for a lesser charge."

At the Monday afternoon hearing, Chambers said the death sentence is imposed only upon members of a minority, the uneducated and the poor.

The Rev. John McCaslin of Omaha said if society allows capital punishment, "we become part of the violence and add to the violence."

He called for a "new style" in the country and said the long-range goal needs to be "a whole new atmosphere."

He asked the legislature to "contribute with non-violence" by supporting the bill.

An opponent of the bill said he had good news because he said no one need ever fear the death penalty.

"All you have to do is don't commit a murder," said Willard Wurm of Lincoln. Wurm said he was speaking as a private citizen.

He claimed that capital punishment never would be abolished.

"The question is: Are we going to put it in the hands of the criminal or of government?" he added.

Wurm said that if the death penalty is eliminated because of an unfair system of justice, then all laws need to be eliminated.

Homer Brauning of Grafton spoke for the Nebraska Association for Christian Action.

"Man will never be allowed to pass off sin as a fault of his environment," he said.

Brauning said anyone who "deliberately destroys life must be called to account for his actions."

Longer sentences for life imprisonment were suggested by both sides.

Omaha Sen. Patrick Venditte said the average number of years spent in prison for a life sentence is about seven. In Nebraska, the average is about 14 years, he said.

The Rev. Edward Fleming of Omaha, who supports LB64, said he would support a 35-year minimum life sentence in place of capital punishment.

A life sentence without possibility of parole also was mentioned.

Other supporters of the bill included representatives of the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union, Nebraskans for Peace and the Nebraska Conference of United Methodist Churches.

Five men now are on Nebraska's death row.

## wednesday

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 Entertainment: Voices from the ghetto are heard at the Lincoln Community Playhouse this week . . . . . p. 8  
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