

ASUN will recommend \$10 more for campaigns

By Betsie Ammons

The ASUN Electoral Commission will recommend at Wednesday's ASUN Senate meeting that each candidate for the 1977 election be allowed to spend an additional \$10 for campaigning, commission member Joe Stavas said Tuesday.

At a meeting Monday night, the commission set April 13 as the date for spring elections, which were postponed by the UNL Student Court pending resolution of a court case against ASUN.

Stavas said commission members think the additional allowance will give candidates the opportunity to get their names known and revive student interest in the election.

The Senate will be asked to approve a constitutional amendment allowing the additional expense, Stavas said.

However, Sen. Libby Swanson, who is running for reelection, said she thinks giving more money to candidates may "complicate the election."

"From what I gather, most people don't want extra money," Swanson said. She said she will be campaigning by speaking with people "on a one-to-one basis" rather than using more posters.

Swanson is a member of the Students for University Need (SUN) Party.

Independent presidential candidate Eric Carstenson said he does not favor the additional allowance. He said he thinks it would be unfair to independent candidates.

"That means that a party which has 35 members can use an extra \$350," Carstenson said.

However, SUN party presidential candidate Greg Johnson said his party "probably won't spend any more money."

"We still have all our posters, and anyway, you could put up posters all over campus and it wouldn't make any difference," he said.

ASUN committee working to curb student fees hike

By Mary Jo Fitzl

An ASUN Senate ad hoc committee studying a possible student fee increase was told Monday night that "things are still very much in a state of flux," by Richard Armstrong, vice chancellor for student affairs.

The committee is working to curb student fee increases for 1977-78, and to represent student views on the fee increase issue at the April 16 NU Board of Regents meeting, according to committee member Charles Fellingham.

A \$3.50 student fee increase has been approved for 1977-78 but tentative figures indicate additional costs could boost that figure as high as \$11.

"We're upset with the fee increase and we'd like to see if it can be cut back if possible," Fellingham said. "Tentative figures are all we have to work with."

The committee of six ASUN senators was appointed by ASUN second vice president Joe Stavas at the Senate meeting last week.

At the meeting, the senators and Armstrong reviewed the current student fee situation, committee member Mike Herman said.

Legislature could fund

Herman said \$3.18 could be deducted from student fees next year if the Appropriations Committee of the Nebraska Legislature votes to give state funding to four student programs.

The career counseling, environmental health, new student orientation and career planning and placement programs currently are supported by student fees, Herman said.

A resolution passed last year by the Regents calls for state tax support for these four programs, he said.

Herman said UNL is the only college in the state that does not receive state tax support for student programs.

Fellingham said if the legislature refuses to finance the four programs, there is a possibility they could be financed with money from the regents discretionary fund. The four programs cost an estimated \$133,700, Herman said.

The committee has also called an emergency Senate meeting to attend the April 16 regent's meeting, Fellingham said.

Voting in May

Voting on student fees is scheduled for the May regents meeting. Since this date falls after students have been dismissed for the summer, Fellingham said the committee will use the April 16 meeting as an opportunity to tell the Regents students views on any fee increases.

The ad hoc committee will select the student speakers. "If we can get students apart from the senate to speak, I'd be happy," Fellingham said. He encouraged any student interested in speaking to the regents to attend the ASUN meeting tonight.

Armstrong and the committee also approved a task force to study all fee users, their programs and their funding base. Armstrong said the groundwork for the task force would hopefully be laid this spring, so the study could begin next semester.

The purpose of the task force would be "to determine which programs should be continued or started, against the backdrop of reasonable fees over the next five years," Armstrong said.

Task force members would be appointed by Armstrong and would represent a cross-section of campus constituents, he said.

Johnson concurred with Swanson, saying he will stress personal contact for the remainder of his campaign.

Carstenson also said he doesn't need to spend any more money. He said he has half of his posters left. He added that he will campaign using what he called "a grass roots strategy," speaking in residence halls and Greek houses.

Johnson said he thinks the additional campaign time will "create a positive effect and more students will vote." He said he thinks the election commission has done a good job handling the delays, and there is enough time to motivate students to vote.

Carstenson also said he agreed with the date set for the election.

"I can't see putting it off anymore but it couldn't have been any earlier, because we have to get students interested again," he said.

Presidential candidates Rick Hemphill and Randy Musselman could not be reached for comment.

Stavas said the new Senate will be sworn in April 20th, giving them three meetings until the end of the school year.

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University of Nebraska photo

Home on the range, Gov. J. James Exon signs a proclamation designating April 8 to 18 as Western Week at UNL. About 20 members of the University of Nebraska Rodeo Association made a three and one-half mile horseback ride from East Campus to the Capitol to greet Exon Monday.

Primary's voter turnout sparse

Precinct workers yawned during a calm morning at the polls Tuesday as predictions of sparse voter turnout for the city primary proved accurate.

Bill Davidson, Lancaster County election commissioner, estimated that some 20,000 of Lincoln's 83,000 registered voters would cast ballots during the primary contest for three City Council spots, four school board openings and two positions on the Airport Authority.

"People don't seem to get as excited about city primaries as they seem to about the other elections," Davidson said. He called his estimate "about normal for the city primary," which he claimed is "usually a slow vote."

Precinct clerk Rose Bingham agreed Tuesday's primary was a "slow one" as she waited for voters at a polling place in Wesley House, 640 N. 16th St.

Pointing to her name topping the short list of voter signatures, she said that she has been the first voter in that precinct for the last eight elections.

Bingham, a precinct worker for 30 years, said polls are not drawing the number of voters that they used to attract. She said long lines formed during the 1972 presidential election when a UNL campaign organization attempted to boost votes for South Dakota presidential candidate George McGovern.

A precinct worker at the poll in the State Capitol, who declined to give her name, lamented the sluggish turnout

and claimed city elections are more important than national elections.

She said City Council members make the laws which "really guide" the citizens. Many local politicians become state or national representatives, she said.

Another worker at the same poll attributed voter disinterest to publicized political scandals.

All four Airport Authority candidates and all eight school board candidates will advance to the general election while the primary cut the number of City Council candidates from 15 to six.

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