

Three fee system hearings scheduled

The university task force on student fees has taken the first step in its study of the NU fee system by scheduling three open hearings on the subject, said Dennis Martin, task force student representative.

Martin said the hearings are designed to get as much information and background about the fee controversy as possible before the task force makes any decisions.

He said the group will need the public's opinions, facts and beliefs before it can start drawing conclusions.

The elimination of all student fees except those needed for meeting contract obligations outlined by the NU Board of Regents, will be the subject discussed at the hearings, Martin said. The fees in question are those

'How to' book not exam success key

Books claiming to have the key to success on post-graduate entrance exams may not be worth the money, according to Frank Hallgren, Career Planning and Placement Center director.

Students planning to take the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT), Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) will not benefit from any "cram book," said Hallgren.

"It's not productive to use a cram book. People are going to be as well prepared (to take the exam) as they can be with their undergraduate education," the director said.

The exams, administered by the Educational Testing Service in Princeton, New Jersey, measure analytical ability as well as specialized skills, so those taking the tests must rely on their "total educational experience", he explained.

Reading a study guide a few weeks before the exam will not increase the student's knowledge enough to affect the score. Ruth Rosenberg, a staff assistant in the UNL Teaching and Learning Center and Examinations Service, called books which claim to raise money exam scores "valueless."

Material published by the Educational Testing Service, however, can be helpful in preparing for a post-graduate entrance exam, Hallgren noted.

The Educational Testing Service literature also explains the purpose of the exam and emphasizes the need to follow instructions carefully, said Hallgren. He said the information in the material "is more procedural than anything else."

However, Hallgren added that some commercial publications can help students prepare for foreign language sections of graduate school entrance exams.

designated as University Program and Facilities Fees (UPFF) by the regents, he said.

There will be open hearings at UNO Oct. 3, NU Medical Center on Oct. 4 and UNL Oct. 5.

Determining which groups should be funded by mandatory fees and which by voluntary fees, whether fees should be designated and to what extent the university should be a collection agency for these fees are to be considered, according to the task force's notice of public hearing.

These subtopics, stemming from the regents' main resolution, were presented for study by NU President Ronald Roskens, Martin said.

A three-member task force subcommittee will sit in on the hearings to ask and answer questions and take notes on the discussions, Martin said.

He said summaries of the three hearings will be compiled and presented at a task force meeting about two weeks after the hearings.

In addition, task force members of each campus are working on an impact study to outline the possible effects a change in the fee structure would cause.

The final report will include some background documents on the current fee structure and its history, Martin said.

He said hopefully the task force's completed report will be ready for the regents' December meeting.

Martin said he has given hearing notices to ASUN, student health, housing, union, and recreation offices, as well as distributing to all student organization mailboxes to make them aware of information concerning the hearings.

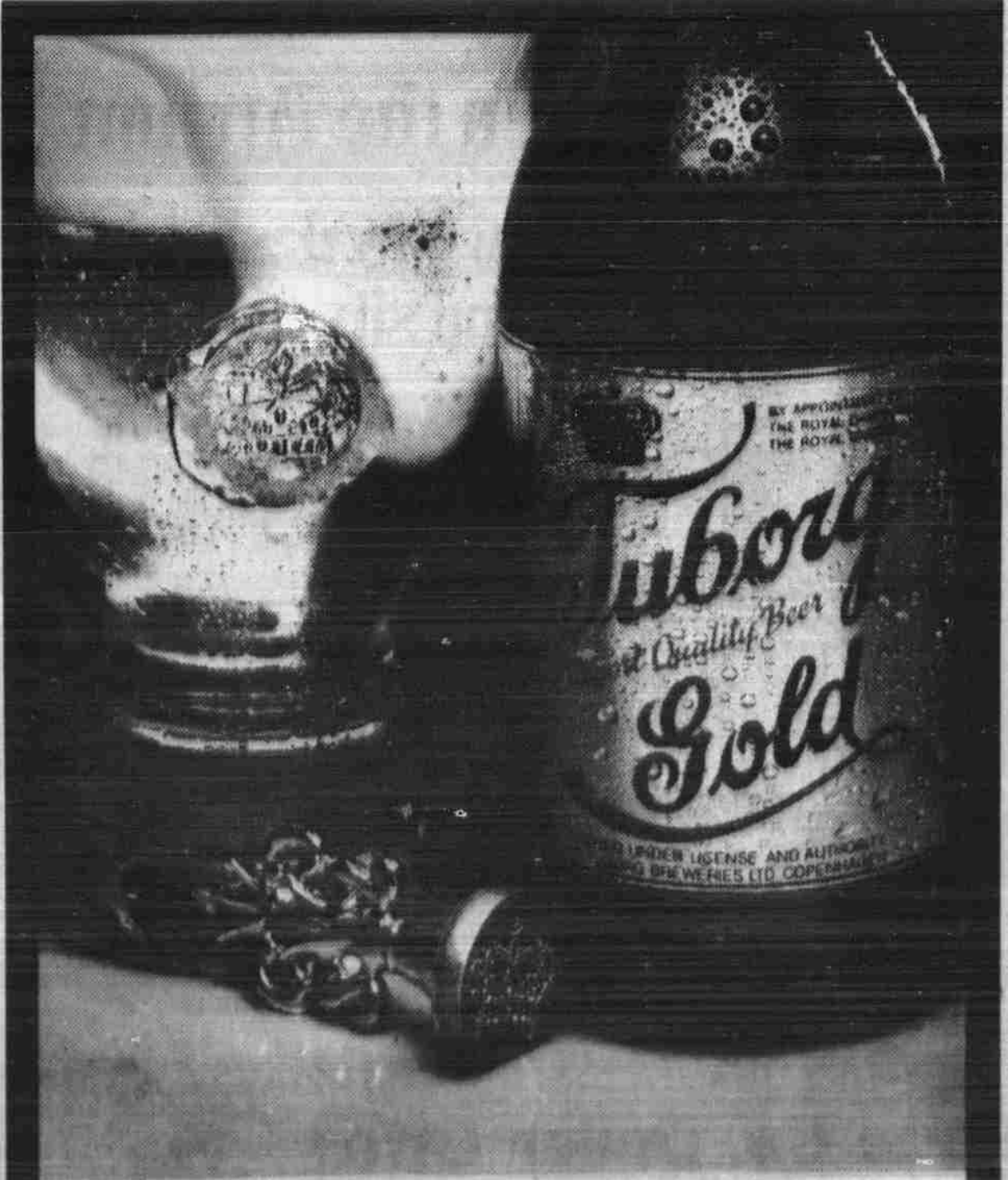
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