

STUDENTS ARISE!

The Board of Regents, in defense of their principles, would:

- seriously reduce YOUR campus educational opportunities.
- lower the value of YOUR NU degree in the regional and national competitive market for jobs, graduate and professional schools.
- take away what little control over the use of your student fees you have left.

You have been hearing much sound and fury about student fees and their uses; claims and counter claims. Most of all you have been hearing a few persons, on campus, in the community and on the Board of Regents, claiming to speak for your rights in the use of student fees.

YOU ARE NOT BEING OFFERED ANY SERIOUS REDUCTION IN STUDENT FEES.

The issue is clearly one of control and use, not of amount. 95% of your student fees are not at all involved in this controversy. If all the controversial fee uses were cut out, you might save as much as \$3.50 each semester—at the cost of nearly all Union services and

programs, campus cultural offerings, less opportunity for student government than now, and a campus newspaper with even less news space and more advertising than now. If just the "controversial" speakers' program were cut off, you might save about 75 cents.

YOU ARE BEING OFFERED THE CHANCE TO HAVE OUT-OF-CLASS OPPORTUNITIES DRASTICALLY REDUCED, OR AT LEAST TO HAVE TO PAY MUCH MORE FOR THEM.

Student programming through user's fees is essentially a fiction. Without a specific and guaranteed financial base, presently available only through your 75 cents, there would be no way to make the contract and schedule commitments with groups and speakers—often more than a year in advance—which the present market requires; and without schedules and contracts, there is no way or basis on which to sell tickets to "users". Even if possible, programming would be more limited to low-quality "freebies" or sensational lists than at present. Costs to users? An example—supposing that the 700 persons who heard conservative commentator William Buckley last fall had all

been willing to pay, it would still have cost them about \$4.50 each for the chance. Are you willing to pay that for one speaker rather than have a program with a number of possibilities and variety for 75 cents?

Your "friends" want to save you from the opportunity to hear persons and ideas which might challenge you, stretch your minds, even offend you. We happen to think that this is where real education starts! It may be that the programs offered do not have enough variety or depth—but the process of determining that is really up to you. Both the process and the programs are vital to your educational opportunity.

YOU ARE NOT BEING OFFERED MORE CONTROL OVER THE USE OF STUDENT FEES.

You control, or have the opportunity to have a voice in the control of, precious little anyway. The vast majority of student fees—95 percent—is pre-committed by actions of administration and previous generations for buildings and staff, and few suggest giving you recourse on this. At present you have some access to the uses of the other 5% through the processes of election, volunteering, and open hearings of student government,

Fee Allocation Board, and Union Program Council. Whether you use that access or not is your choice. But your "friends" have made it abundantly clear that they want to take even this small amount of control out of your hands. One might think they did not trust students or recognize that students grow and learn through directing their own affairs.

YOU ARE BEING OFFERED THE CHANCE TO HAVE THE VALUE OF YOUR DEGREE LESSENED.

In today's highly competitive market for jobs and for admission to both graduate and professional schools, it is more and more truer that not only grades and academic programs are evaluated, but also out-of-class activities, including the "image" of the general learning environment which a specific campus has. Evaluation and ranking of your applications does in fact include subjective opinion about the quality of educational opportunity represented by the Nebraska degree. This, of course, is

particularly true when employers and schools outside of Nebraska are involved, but also of significance within the state. If your "friends" succeed in creating a campus known abroad as a place where students have little or no opportunity to share in either the process of developing their own interests and skills in programming or in the challenging variety of ideas presented in such programs, you will be the true loser.

FOR THEIR PRINCIPLES, AND YOUR 75¢, THIS IS WHAT YOUR "FRIENDS" ARE OFFERING—AND NOT OFFERING—YOU.

WITH FRIENDS LIKE THIS—WHO NEEDS ENEMIES?

If you agree with this analysis - write or call your home district Regent before Saturday, February 18 (use your home address) and/or attend the Regents' meeting on February 18.

This message sponsored by the campus ministry program of Commonplace-UMHE, 333 N. 14th, Lincoln.