

Speaker fund removal could cut fees

Despite a projected \$5.52 student fee increase to cover inflationary costs within Fund B, the removal of speaker funding from mandatory student fees may cut student fees by less than \$1, according to Richard Armstrong, vice chancellor for student affairs.

Calling the projected figure a "planning tool only" Armstrong said the \$5.52 assumes no transfer of any savings from Fund A to Fund B.

He said money is interchangeable between the two funds and he said a saving in Fund A could be transferred to Fund B.

He said speaker funding is "such a minute point of the whole base of student fees that it simply cannot be a big factor in that regard."

The decision to discontinue speaker funding from fee support was reached during an NU Board of Regents meeting when regents considered recommendations from the task force on student fees and from NU President Ronald Roskens.

Task force member Armstrong said the task force was formed to investigate student fees after the regents became concerned over possible fee increases.

Their charge instructed Roskens to consider adding student fees directly to tuition payments on a per hour basis, instead of listing them separately, Armstrong said.

The task force discouraged including student fees within tuition costs because too many problems were involved, Armstrong said.

"For example, UNO student fees are \$36, as compared to our fee of \$66.50. If we were to convert those figures into a per hour tuition expression, that would mean that UNL and UNO students would pay different tuitions, which is contradictory to the objective of the regents to keep the tuition level the same," Armstrong explained.

He added that the switch would make

the allocation of tuition funds hard to distinguish, and would strip students of all fee control.

Regent Ed Schwartzkopf of Lincoln said, "The idea to change over to tuition was merely a way to change the negative image of student fees. There really were no economics involved."

Schwartzkopf added that most fees were not reducible since they pertain to necessary services. "Most of the items we talked about were not significant dollar-wise in reducing fees," he said.

However, task force chairman Hans Brisch said, "I think the potential to reduce costs is contained in the recommendation. When you compare inflation with these rates, we could maintain, if not lower, the fees."

Armstrong said fees for next year have

not been determined since campus organizations have not yet submitted their budgets to FAB. "The Fees Allocation Board will be hearing from the four organizations under Fund A in the next few days and it all depends on what they feel about their particular requests."

The four student-operated organizations include Cultural Affairs, the Union Program Council, ASUN and the Daily Nebraskan.

FAB adviser Jack Guthrie said all four organizations have been granted extensions to submit their budgets, ranging from March 2 to 13.

Students currently have some fee control through the Fees Allocation Board (FAB), which has the power to review and make recommendations to UNL Chancellor Roy Young on fees in Fund A.

Card section nixed by band directors

Because of alleged student apathy and general disorder, UNL officials have decided to eliminate the card section in Memorial Stadium.

But now another question has been raised. Who gets those seats?

Robert Fought, director of UNL's marching band, said he and Jack Snider, director of UNL bands, have discussed the matter with athletic director Bob Devaney but no decision has been made.

Fought said he requested that band seating be moved over one section to occupy part of the seating previously filled by the card section.

Moving the band into the different seats would help the band's unity by keeping them in a tight block, he said, and would make it easier to work with the cheerleaders.

"Our percussion section is now on a concrete slab in the front," he said

Fought said he assumes that the seats not occupied by the band would be included in overall lottery for student seating.



Photo by Ted Kirk

Cathy Allen gave up a career as a social worker at Planned Parenthood and now manages an all-woman staff at the Amazon Amoco service station, 1235 S. 11th St. Allen said her work isn't easy, but she says it is exciting.

Manager shifts gears, changes careers

By Gail Reid

Not everyone in today's society has the courage to march to a different drummer.

But, rolling up her sleeves, 25-year-old Cathy Allen marched out of her life in social work and into a career as manager of a service station.

At 5-foot-5, 110-pounds, Allen manages an all-woman staff at Amazon Amoco station, 1235 S. 11th St. One of her four em-

ployees is a mechanic who graduated from Southeast Community College. All of the women pump gas and work on cars.

Allen has had no formal training, but learned by observing at the station and by taking a class in foreign car tune-up.

"It is not easy to learn to repair cars, but it is exciting to fix one," she said. "I get immediate gratification from the work."

Allen said she is living proof that women can learn to work on cars. "I feel I can fairly accurately diagnose what is wrong with a car."

The drastic employment change resulted from her social work, which, she said required her to give until she could not give any more.

"I got burned out," she said. The two jobs correlate, she said. She now educates people about car systems. At Planned Parenthood, she educated people about birth control, she said.

Allen said she would like to train people about a car's system so they will not be "ripped off" by mechanics.

"Anyone who owns a machine should understand how it works and how to care for its upkeep," she said. Too many people do not take a car investment seriously.

Allen said she is pleased when she interests women in information about their cars.

Some men are surprised when they learn a woman will be working on their cars and often feel a woman cannot do the job, she said. However, most customers are good-natured, she said.

Besides friendly customers, Allen said the employees are easy to work with and the amount earned is directly related to the amount of work done. In social work, the pay did not always reflect the amount of work, she said.

Allen said she plans to buy the station and commit the next five years to it. Other plans include a "rent a heap" service, she said, where person can rent a cheap car for a day or a week.

"We'll buy 'em, fix 'em up, and rent 'em," she said.

Lobbyist works for elderly

By Gail Reid

His hair is white and his gaze intent. Sitting alone, the 79-year-old lobbyist monitors the activities on the floor of the Nebraska Legislature.

This is the 20th legislative session for Erwin Campbell, a lobbyist protesting what he calls Nebraska's "unfair social security laws."

Campbell said he is really "kicking about" the state's social security laws because they discriminate against the elderly poor.

The Homestead Act, which received first-round approval by the Legislature last week, is a social security bill to "help the rich man and has no respect for the little man," Campbell said.

Campbell said he became interested in lobbying and legislation dealing with security pensions in the 1930s and became in-

involved with a group working in 10 major cities to reform pension laws in the 1950s. He became a registered lobbyist in Nebraska in 1957 and has attended legislative sessions since.

His eyes are weary, his white hair is ruffled. He wears a baggy suit and carries his belongings in a paper bag. He said he does not think he has been very effective in persuading senators to reconstruct the social security laws.

"But it is important for me to continue lobbying for reform," he said.

Campbell said his lobbying gives him the opportunity to express his concerns for the elderly and has allowed him to learn about the legislative process first hand.

His role also keeps him active. "It is important to have some way to keep busy and to exercise when old age sets in and the Legislature provides that opportunity," he said.



Photo by Bob Pearson

Erwin Campbell, 79-year-old lobbyist, monitors the Nebraska Legislature and works for reform of social security laws.

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