page 2

friday, april 21, 1978



Legilature passes pot possession bill

A measure that would decriminalize possession of marijuana on first offense is awaiting the signature of Gov. J. James Exon.

The bill passed final reading in the Nebraska Legislature Tuesday, 36-9.

The final version of the bill is a compromise between two marijuana bills offered this session by Sen. John DeCamp of Neligh and Sen. Patrick Venditte of Omaha.

Venditte's measure would have stiffened penalties. DeCamp proposed complete decriminalization.

In the compromise bill, first conviction for possession of an ounce or less of marijuana is punishable by a maximum \$100 fine.

Second offense is punishable by a maximum \$200 fine and a possible five-day jail sentence. Subsequent offenses carry a maximum \$300 fine and a mandatory seven-day jail term.

CSL waits for report on future

The Council on Student Life adjourned their last scheduled meeting of the year last night, unsure if the council will exist next year.

The main topic of discussion was a scheduled report by Regent Robert Prokop of Wilber, at Saturday's Board of Regents meeting. Prokop will report on amending the section of the regents' by-laws dealing with the existence of CSL. Council members acknowledged that no one is sure of the content of the report and decided to adopt a "wait and see" attitude.

The Council also discussed its previous stand concerning the Parking Advisory Board. CSL has proposed that the parking board become a policy-making board, rather than an advisory board. They also have recommended that the number of of faculty members on the board be reduced from three to two. No further action was taken on the recommendations. In other business, the council decided to turn over previous suggestions on revising their by-laws to an appeals sub-committee. That committee will meet again this year to decide if further action on the by-laws should be taken. CSL also decided not to take a position on the student fees controversy until next year.

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