

Speakers differ on problems of Camp David accord

Speakers at a public forum Thursday night agreed that the Camp David accords have major snags, but identified the problems differently.

Michael Richmond of Omaha, regional director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, told 100 people at the Lincoln Center Building the biggest problem stalling Middle East Peace negotiations is the Egyptian proposal to link the Egypt-Israeli peace with Israel's peace negotiations with the rest of the Arab world.

He said neither Israel nor the U.S. should accept Egypt's proposal.

"The treaty of Egypt and Israel must take precedence over any other treaty," Richmond said.

Overall, however, Richmond said Camp David was "one of the greatest things to happen to the Mid-East in the last 30 years."

But to Palestinians, Camp David was "a tragedy," according to David Champagne, assistant director of the Center of Afghanistan Studies at UNO.

"There can be no peace in the Middle East until the heart of the matter is addressed," Champagne said. "And the heart of the matter is the legitimate rights of the Palestinians."

The Camp David negotiations didn't take Palestine into account, he said.

Champagne was originally scheduled to objectively comment on conflicting concerns on human rights in the Middle East, but was pressed into defending the Palestinian point of view to balance the forum when the scheduled speaker, Palestinian Bashir Nijim, was snow-bound in Iowa.

Champagne said although he was not a Palestinian, he felt the Palestinians were not treated justly.

Palestinians have a national cohesiveness, he said, and setting up an Israeli state at the expense of Palestine is "like taking over Belgium and saying to them, 'You speak French... Go live in France,'" Champagne said.

"To right the grievous wrong perpetrated on the Palestinians, Israel must acquiesce to the Palestinians a state in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank at the minimum," Champagne said.

Defending the Israeli claim to the land, Richmond said the modern state of Israel has retained ties to its historical homeland for 3,000 years.

Richmond said it is "probably prudent for the United States to support states that support stability. Israel is the only stable regime in the Mid-East."

He suggested the Arabs were the ones "seeking war" in the Mid-East.

The Office of International Educational Services at UNL sponsored the forum, and will sponsor similar forums every month through May on different world issues.

Regents should veto stadium plan—RHA

By Brenda Moskovits

The Resident Hall Association voted Thursday night to send copies of a resolution opposing the newly approved stadium addition to the NU Board of Regents, various university offices and to RHA member's hometown papers and citizens.

The resolution, drafted by Neihardt Hall representative Jay Curtiss, condemned the regents approval of the expansion and asked them to reconsider.

It also asked "that student input be given greater weight in future decisions" and that the board "direct their energies more toward academics"

The resolution asks that the stadium's student section remain in its present location rather than be moved to the new seats and that any surcharge exclude student tickets.

The original resolution was amended to include sending the resolution to Nebraska newspapers and constituents because "the regents concern is to please the parents and not the students," according to Emily Allan, Abel-Sandoz Resident Association representative.

ASUN president Ken Marienau, who attended the meeting as an observer, said the only way to change the regents' minds would be to prove that the addition is "barely financially solvent."

"If we can get enough parents from Western Nebraska and outside Lincoln writing in to say they'll come out to one game but I'm not going to buy a season ticket," the seats won't sell out for pre-season games, Marienau said, making the addition financially unsound.

In other action, the group asked interested members to meet and draft a statement opposing the housing office's decision not to raise student employees salaries to the new \$2.90 minimum wage until July. The new rate began January 1.

"The university can afford to expand its stadium, pay its coach \$8,000 a year more, yet it can't afford to pay its students minimum wage," Selleck Hall representative Deb Emery said.

President Bill Skoneki told the group he is working to have the housing office present their rate proposals to the regents earlier or later than their January meeting, which is held by law during the winter break.

RHA also appointed a committee to study cost-savings in light of next year's \$80 housing rate increase which was approved this month.

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