

daily nebraskan

Magazine not wanted by students—ASUN senator

By Shelley Smith

Calling *Fathom*, the magazine supplement to the *Daily Nebraskan*, a service that students don't want but get anyway, an ASUN senator Wednesday night questioned the student fee funding for the magazine.

Sen. Jim Davidson, during ASUN meeting debate about the Committee for Fees Allocation recommendations said he questions the validity and purpose of *Fathom* in a student newspaper.

"If this is a student newspaper, and students don't want it, why is it worth seven grand?" he asked.

Fathom costs the *Daily Nebraskan* \$7,280. Earlier this month CFA cut the same amount from students fees to be given to the *Daily Nebraskan*. However, the newspaper appealed that decision and the \$7,280 was returned to the budget and replaced with \$2,741 cut in staff benefits.

Davidson also criticized the Publications Board for supporting *Fathom*. He compared the board to "the people over there on Holdrege Street (the NU Board of Regents) who say 'it's good for students so let's do it' without really knowing what students want."

Daily Nebraskan Business Manager Jerri Haussler criticized Davidson's comparison of the Publications Board and the regents.

"I question if that's a valid statement," she said.

"There are five students on the board, and they can overrule the decision if they don't want it (*Fathom*). If you want to kill *Fathom* I suggest you do it through the right channels," she said.

Daily Nebraskan advisor and Publications Board representative C. David Kotok agreed with Haussler and added that the Publications Board does not expect all students to read *Fathom*.

"This is a public service too," he said.

"It seems to me if you're going to use student fees, the best way to use them is to provide a service to students for writing," he said.

Fathom accepts poetry, short stories and photographs from students outside the *Daily Nebraskan*.

Daily Nebraskan Editor-in-Chief Pete Mason said that *Fathom* fills a void on campus by appealing for input from other writers.

"And it needs to continue to exist on campus," he said.

ASUN President Ken Marienau also said he questioned the *Daily Nebraskan's* 85 percent increase in salaries since 1977.

However, Kotok justified the increase with the growth of the paper.

"It used to be in 1976 that there were a lot of eight-page papers," he said.

"As the paper has grown there has been

a demand on the editorial staff to produce more and more. We haven't run an eight-page paper in the last two years," he said.

Kotok added that salary levels may seem high, but they must be equitable in order to attract talented writers and to replace the income from other part-time jobs.

He also argued that a 25 percent increase in staff salaries was necessary because the *Daily Nebraskan* will become a five-day publication next fall. It currently publishes four times a week.

Extra staff will be hired to provide extra stories to fill the extra day's edition, Kotok said, adding that five-day publication will demand more time from the entire staff.

ASUN also questioned the budget proposal submitted by the University Program Council.

UPC representative Nathan Wesely said that the \$13,000 increase would allow for more programming and planning.

Included will be funds for speakers, the Women's Resource Center, and the formation of the UPC Culture Center.

Sen. Jim Davidson questioned the great amount of money being allotted for speakers.

Sen. Rocky Yapp clarified Davidson's questions by quoting several inflation figures in speaker fees.

"Last year we paid Jane Fonda around \$2,800. This year her fee has gone up to over \$4,000," he said.

Davidson said he also wondered about the \$3,000 increase budgeted for Cornstock, the spring concert sponsored by the East Campus Program Council.

Last year \$5,000 was budgeted, but Wesley said the actual price would be nearly \$7,000. However, EUPC had funds left over from several dances held this semester to supplement the extra cost.

Davidson said his intent in questioning the budget was not necessarily to cut anything, but rather to approach certain programs being planned.

He cited the \$1,000 allocation for a symposium on death and dying as a possible "excess" program, because only seven people attended a similar program in 1977.



Photo by Mark Billingsley

It might be an unusual way to make a living, but George "Jed" Smock said that preaching at universities is his life's work. Standing on Broyhill Fountain north of the Nebraska Union, Smock spent about 4 hours Wednesday afternoon telling the Gospel to university students. Smock said he probably would move on to the University of Missouri tomorrow "unless God makes other plans."

Amendment would exclude NU from labor bargaining bill

By Randy Essex

NU apparently will be amended out of a legislative bill that has caused faculty members to charge that the NU Board of Regents is trying to discourage collective bargaining by skirting court decisions.

Bellevue Sen. Frank Lewis said Wednesday he will offer an amendment to LB108

to remove the university from provisions in the bill. Lewis said he expects the amendment to pass.

The measure, without the amendment, would establish two system-wide bargaining units for labor negotiations with the regents. UNO, UNL and Medical Center faculty would make up one unit, and non-professional employees on the three campuses would comprise the other unit.

Under the Lewis amendment, state colleges and technical community colleges would be put in single units, but university employees would be allowed to establish their own units, in accord with past court rulings.

No business

Lincoln Sen. Dave Landis said the Lewis amendment is "greased," and if it passes will eliminate most opposition to the bill.

Lewis said the university had no business being included in the bill. The problem the bill aims to solve is fragmentation of interest that has surfaced at the state colleges, he said.

State college trustees recently appealed

a decision by the Court of Industrial Relations that allows employees of Chadron State College to form a bargaining unit separate from other state colleges.

But, Lewis said, the university's situation is different than that of state colleges, and the issue is cluttered by inclusion of NU.

University officials contend that there is just one community of interest in labor negotiations with faculty members, but the courts have ruled that interests and roles on three campuses are different.

Lewis agreed that interests are different within the NU system, but are the same at the state college and technical community colleges.

The regents have traditionally viewed all campuses as part of one unit, and supported inclusion of NU in the bill. The regents have gone to the Nebraska Supreme Court, challenging the right of UNO faculty members to form their own bargaining unit.

Separate units

The Court of Industrial Relations and the Supreme Court have ruled that each campus' faculty and non-professional

employees can form separate units. The colleges of dentistry and law and the University Police have also been given court approval to form their own units.

UNL Faculty Senate Chairman William Campbell last month said the regents' support of the bill was an attempt to discourage union organization. University officials denied that charge, saying they only want to avoid pitting campus groups against each other for money.

Although Lewis said he expects the amendment to pass, he will offer a motion to kill the bill if it doesn't.

Landis said his opposition to the bill will not end with passage of the Lewis amendment. If the university is excluded from the bill, Landis said most urban senators will no longer be opposed to it.

"Their underlying political motivations will change completely," he said.

But Landis still thinks the bill is management oriented, and is designed to inhibit collective bargaining. He said he will oppose the bill on the basis of court rulings on the subject.

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