

daily nebraskan

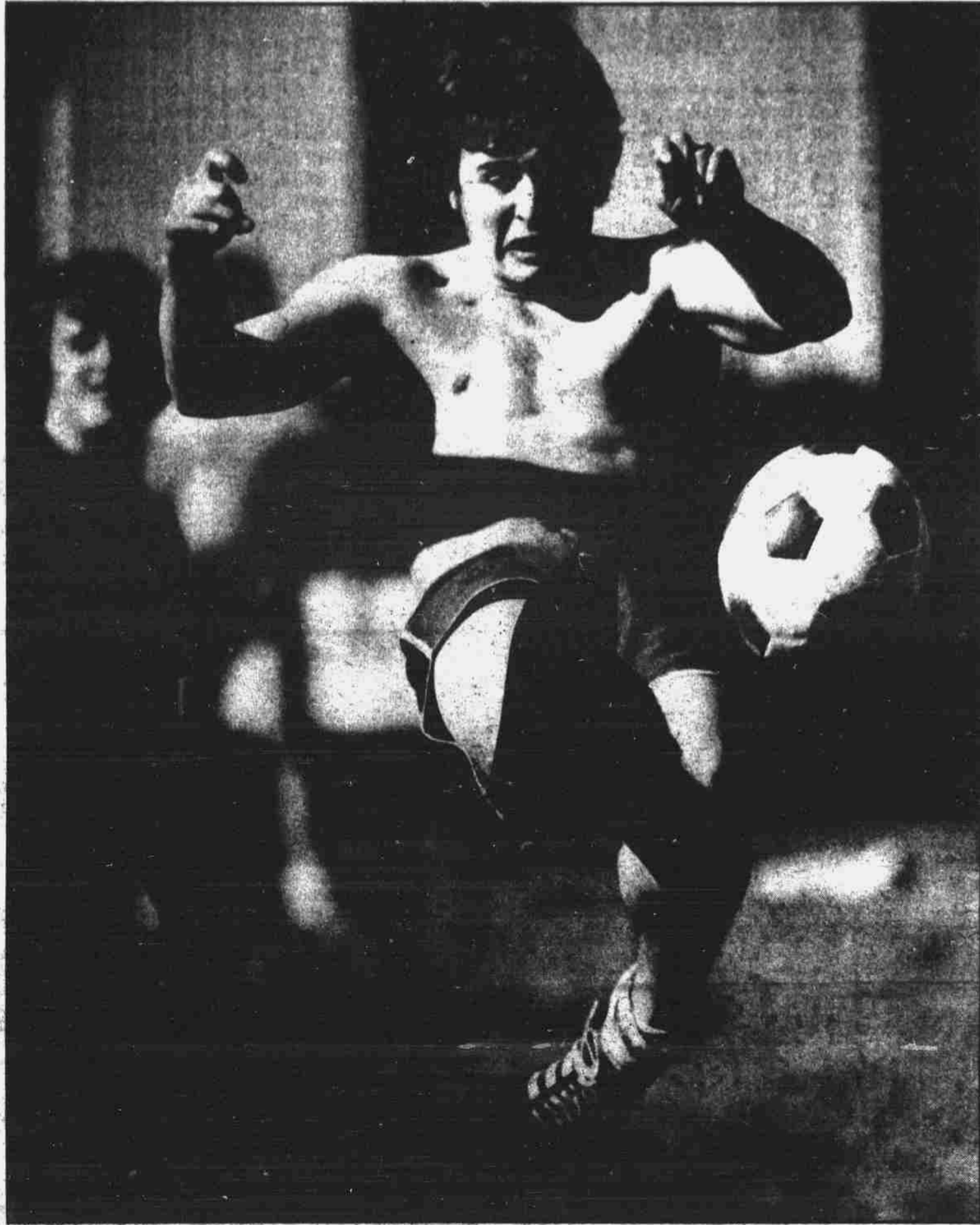


Photo by Bob Pearson

A UNL student takes advantage of the warm weather to play some soccer with his friends.

Greek letter starts rumor about slate

By Shelley Smith

A letter has been sent to Greek ASUN candidates by Theta Nu Epsilon (TNE), a secret fraternity, congratulating them for running in the ASUN election today and encouraging them to "always be thinking Greek when you're voting or implementing a program."

The letter, signed by Nuktographius, brother recorder, states: "it has been the Greeks, not the independents, that have given the vast majority of input in all facets of campus. Let's uphold this fine tradition by supporting ourselves."

The letter has several implications, according to the ASUN presidential candidates. The results of the letter on the election are unknown, they added.

However, each of the five candidates said they were upset with the letter, and four signed a rebuttal letter urging voters not to support attempts to elect representatives from just one segment of campus.

Henry (Bob) Winkler, with the SINK party, was not available Tuesday afternoon to sign the letter, according to ASUN President Ken Marienau. However, when contacted by the *Daily Nebraskan*, Winkler said he would have signed the letter and "fully backed what it said."

Bud Cuca, Students for the University of Nebraska (SUN) party presidential candidate said he was "very upset" about the TNE letter, and added that some people have asked him if his party will be included in a Greek slate.

While Cuca said he does not think there is a Greek slate, he said he felt the Students Organized for Active Representation (SOAR) party "is behind trying to associate us with a Greek slate."

"They know who their competition is. I think it was a

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Rank your choices in ASUN election

When students visit the polling booths today to vote in the ASUN election, they will vote on a ballot that has never been used at UNL.

The ballot is part of the Hare System of voting, and involves ranking the executive candidates in preferential order.

The Hare System is being used because of an NU Board of Regents rule, adopted last year, which requires the executive candidates to be elected by a majority of the students voting.

ASUN President Ken Marienau said it is important that each voter vote correctly in order to obtain a fair and balanced election.

First choice votes will be counted first, according to Marienau. If a candidate has not received a majority, then the trailing candidate's first place votes will be eliminated, and the second preference on those ballots will be counted.

Marienau said he hopes people will preference four candidates and added that by doing so, it will not hurt their first candidate's chances.

Polling booths will be located at:

-the Nebraska Unions, Nebraska Hall, Henzlik Hall, Love Library, Harper/Schramm/Smith from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

-Abel/Sandoz, Neihardt Hall; C.Y. Thompson Library; Gamma Phi Beta Sorority, 415 N. 16; Sigma Chi Fraternity, 1510 Vine St.; Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, 601 N. 16; Beta Theta Pi Fraternity, 1515 R St., and the Cornhusker Cooperative, 705 N. 23 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

-Wesley House, College of Business Administration, Andrews Hall, Oldfather Hall from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Students must bring their UNL student identification cards when they vote.

NU excluded from bargaining bill

By Randy Essex

Although NU was removed Monday from a bill criticized as anti-union, the Legislature did not advance the measure to final reading.

LB108, attacked by its opponents as an attempt to discourage collective bargaining by sidestepping court rulings, would establish systemwide bargaining units for employees of state and community colleges.

University employees on all three campuses would have been put into two units, through which they would carry out labor negotiations with the NU Board of Regents.

But Bellevue Sen. Frank Lewis was successful Monday in amending the bill so it does not include the university system. Lincoln Sen. Dave Landis failed Feb. 15 to remove NU from the bill. The Lewis amendment passed on a 25-6 vote.

The Lewis amendment reads, in part, "This section shall not be construed so as to require systemwide bargaining units at the University of Nebraska, or to require systemwide units for non-faculty employees of post-secondary institutions."

Opposition

Although the amendment excludes all those concerned except faculty members at state and community colleges, 19 senators opposed the bill.

Landis led the opposition, charging that the bill amounted to coercion of employees. Landis had earlier predicted that passage of the Lewis amendment would eliminate most opposition to the bill, but the vote Monday to advance the measure showed more opposition than any earlier vote.

"Now we've said (to NU employees), 'We won't let 108 touch you. We won't let decisions by the Court of Industrial Relations concerning you be violated,'" Landis said.

"But we will allow it to have an effect on other people."

Landis said that by removing the university from the bill, opposition to the bill had been limited to constituencies spread across the state. And those groups lack political power, he said.

Legal issues

Landis said LB108 amounts to the rewriting of a court decision, which he considers adequate. Such legal and factual issues should be left to the courts by the Legislature, Landis said.

Hemingford Sen. Sam Cullan also opposed bill advancement, saying that after passage of Lewis' amendment, the bill would cause "two sectors" of post-secondary education to be treated differently.

A motion to advance the bill failed on a 23-19 vote, with seven senators not voting or absent.

LB108 traveled a rocky road through the Legislature. The first attempt to advance it from the first stage of debate failed 24-13. A week later, the bill cleared its first hurdle 25-14. A unicameral majority is 25.

The regents are now awaiting a decision from the State Supreme Court concerning its appeal of a Court of Industrial Relations decision allowing faculty members at UNO to organize in a separate bargaining unit.

The regents contend that employees of each campus are a part of an overall system, and should not become fragmented.

No battles

Regent Ed Schwartzkopf said he does not want campuses or campus groups to battle each other for funds. He cited controversy between business administration, engineering and agriculture students over the NU Budget request as an example of what the regents want to avoid.

"Employees need to understand how they fit into the total picture," Schwartzkopf said.

If collective bargaining is what they want, that is fine, so long as they understand the situation, he added.

"There is nothing magic about getting more funds because you're organized," Schwartzkopf said.

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