

# Cuca promises more action on crucial issues this year

By Barb Richardson

When school resumes, ASUN President Bud Cuca said last week, he "must concentrate more on the (ASUN) senate and being an actor, not a reactor."

Cuca said during the summer he found himself reacting to the stadium expansion, selective admissions policy which was decreased and a new alumni center, rather than acting on the situations before they became problems.

"OVERALL, I think it's been a pretty successful summer," he said. "The stadium will not be expanded, the alumni center will be built at a better site, ASUN increased its input on the university budget and we're increasing our ties outside the university."

Cuca said not having a quorum during the three summer senate meetings "hurt" the senate because they could not pass legislation.

In summarizing the summer's activities,

Cuca said that in May, ASUN opposed a selective admissions policy which was defeated, 5-2-1, at the May regents' meeting.

"THE SELECTIVE policy discriminates against students, especially minority students," Cuca said.

Cuca said he thinks Regent Robert Simmons of Scottsbluff will probably bring up the selective admissions policy at a future meeting.

Cuca also said he thinks Simmons will bring up minimum GPA standards again this year. Under Simmons' proposal, any student with a GPA under 2.0 after one semester will be expelled from the university.

SIMMONS ALSO wants to eliminate what he calls "remedial classes," classes which are taken before college-level classes can be taken, Cuca said.

In June, a proposal to add 9,000 seats to Memorial Stadium was defeated, 4-4.

Cuca said ASUN Senator Renee Wessels did a lot of work against the expansion. He

added that past ASUN President Ken Marienau and Ken Havelka presented a 14-page report to the regents outlining reasons against expansion.

The energy crisis was a major factor in the report, Cuca said.

"WITH THE COST of gasoline increasing, and spot shortages developing, western Nebraskans who must travel long distances will find the energy crisis to be a greater economic factor. In recessionary periods, the costs could be sufficiently large as to discourage attendance and prevent a Saturday sellout," the report stated.

Cuca said energy was the reason Regent Robert Raun of Minden changed his vote against the expansion, which helped to defeat the addition.

ALTHOUGH ASUN opposed a tuition hike, the regents increased tuition 10 percent for UNL students, 25 percent for medical center students, and 20 percent for pharmacy students during their July meeting.

Cuca said ASUN may react two ways to the increase. It might move to reconsider the increase at the September regents meeting and ask for a 5 percent increase rather than the 10 percent raise already approved.

"The other way to go is if the 10 percent goes through, ask for quality," Cuca said. He said if students accept the 10 percent increase, ASUN will demand improvements in selected programs.

"THIS WAY WE'LL be assuring ourselves of getting what we pay for," he said.

ASUN will decide what to about the tuition increase when they meet in the fall, according to Cuca.

Plans for a new alumni center were started this summer. Although formal legislation against the center was not passed by ASUN, on the advice of the executives,

Cuca said he opposed the center.

HE SAID HE spoke out against the center because it is illogical to have a non-academic building on campus, there is no real need for the building on campus, there could be parking problems the center may create competition for the Union and the money could be better used in an academic program.

"We haven't really had a chance to start new ideas," Cuca said.

He said that ASUN is investigating the possibility of having political speakers on campus. In 1978, the Regents prohibited the use of student fee money for "political" speakers.

CUCA SAID HE HAS contacted an attorney on the political speakers issue.

Cuca said ASUN will also support an upward bound program. The University is asking HEW for a grant to conduct the program.

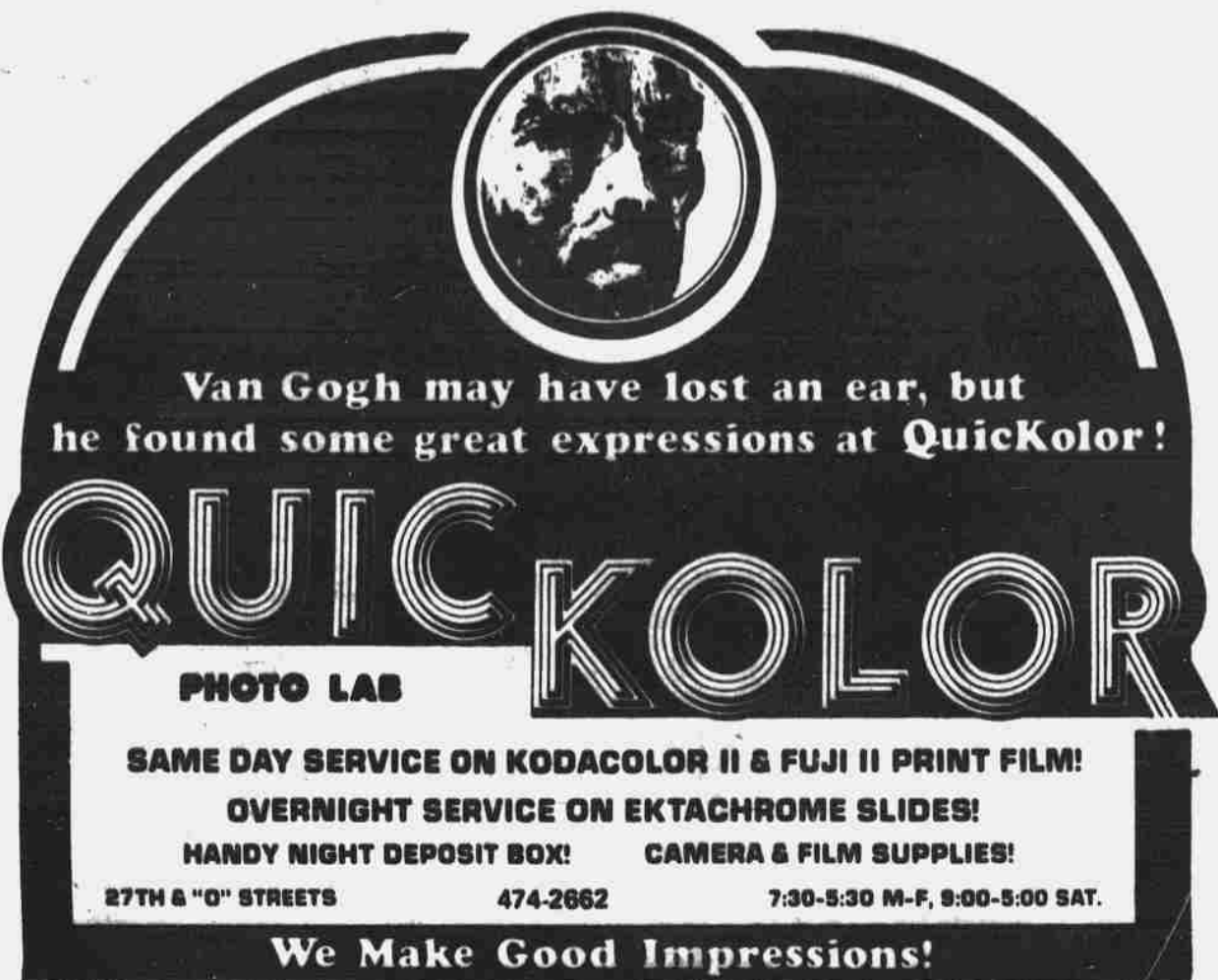
The upward bound program allows minority and disadvantaged students to earn high school and college credits during the summer at a University.

Cuca said first vice-president Hubert Brown has been working on the program.

WE'RE TRYING to develop ties with the city, state and federal governments," Cuca said.

He added he hopes the senate will be able to meet with Mayor Helen Boosalis, Governor Charles Thone and Reps. John Cavanaugh D-Neb., Doug Bereuter R-Neb., and Virginia Smith R-Neb., to exchange ideas.

ASUN will try to take part in planning the university's 1980-81 budget and Nebraska state senator Frank Lewis of Bellevue's financial investigation of the University, Cuca said.



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