

Union Board finds 'unexpected' savings

By Lynn Mongar

The Union Board voted unanimously Wednesday night to pay utility bills for East and City Campus Unions mainly through "unexpected savings" found in this year's budget.

A larger than expected enrollment provided more student fee money, which will cover \$30,000 of the \$40,000 utility deficit.

The Nebraska Legislature's decision last spring not to finance the utility budget is "this year's problem," Union Director Daryl Swanson said.

Finding the remaining \$10,000 is the hardest part of that problem, Union Board President John Kreuscher said.

The board also voted to make program cuts if necessary, and to take money from the Student Activity Fees (SAF) account of \$68,598 "as a last resort," Kreuscher said.

Swanson and Kreuscher said they did not want to use the SAF account because it is wise to retain a savings account.

"This may not be our darkest hour—even though it

looks pretty dark now," Swanson said.

The board's proposals will be presented by Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs Richard Armstrong Nov. 16 at the meeting of the NU Board of Regents.

Many Union Board members said they were concerned that arbitrary program cuts would be made by the regents.

The Union Board and students should decide on program cuts, "not the regents," Kreuscher said.

Kreuscher said the key purpose of the board has always been to review and evaluate programs.

"But we aren't committed to cutting (programs)," he said.

Board member Alissa Sandin said, "I can't think of a single program or service we should cut."

But, Board Member Tim Mommaerts said the Board may have to concede to economic facts and "give up some of the things we want."

Kreuscher said that program cuts will not be made without student input.

Kreuscher said that the Union Board's solution to the utility deficit problem is only temporary, because the "savings" won't be there next year. He said the only per-

manent solutions would be if the university or the Legislature voted to cover the deficit, or if the union generates more income.

In other action, the board voted to establish a new locker system on East Campus, and it also discussed shortened union hours during Thanksgiving vacation.

Director Swanson reported on his five-day meeting with Big Eight Union Directors. Swanson reported that the two most financially lucrative operations for unions were bookstores or selling alcohol on campus.

However, Swanson said there are problems with selling alcohol on campus in states like Wisconsin, where raising the legal age is being considered by the legislature.

Simants juror criticizes judge

By Val Swinton

A juror in the Erwin Charles Simants murder trial has demanded the resignation of the Lincoln County judge who presided over the trial, and has also hinted at a lawsuit against the judge.

In his newspaper, The Voice of Southern Lancaster County, Editor Scott Leigh of Hickman said in a front page editorial that remarks made by Lincoln County Judge Hugh Stuart reflect poorly on the judiciary.

"It is clear to me that Judge Stuart's comments put him in violation of several canons within the American Bar Association's 'Code of Professional Responsibility and Code of Judicial Conduct' which judges are supposed to abide by."

Stuart said in an interview this week that the "jury didn't decide the case according to the evidence and they didn't follow the law."

Stuart also said the jury shirked its responsibility in reaching a verdict of innocent by reason of insanity. The judge was also quoted as saying Simants was "sane and guilty."

The verdict was reached last week by the Lancaster County Court jury following 10 days of testimony.

"Far from shirking its responsibility," Leigh argued, "the jurors fully accepted the responsibility and fully exercised it."

Leigh labelled the charge that the jury didn't follow the law as "outrageous and possibly legally irresponsible."

Leigh said the jury spent several hours discussing evidence in the case. "But Judge Stuart apparently feels he is cloaked in a judicial omniscience and HE has reached a decision on the matter."

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Students' Day aim: educational quality

By Barb Richardson

ASUN asks everyone going to Saturday's game against Colorado to wear blue to support Students' Day.

The senate passed a resolution Aug. 29 proclaiming Oct. 27 as Students' Day to show the students' concern about the education quality at UNL.

ASUN lists several reasons for Students' Day on a fact sheet that will be distributed Saturday. Reasons include:

—Because of the 10 percent tuition hike, UNL will have the highest tuition in the Big Eight conference.

—The tuition increase will add less than one percent to UNL's operating budget.

—Although UNL will have the highest tuition in the Big Eight, faculty salaries are seventh among the conference schools and nationally are in the lower 20-30 percentile.

—While faculty are in the lower ranks of pay, administrators' salaries are competitive with those in the Big Eight and are above the national average.

—Faculty salaries increased eight percent last year, but tuition increased eight percent.

—Over the last three years the Engineering College has been unable to fill 11 faculty positions per year.

—The College of Business Administration refused 395 students last semester because of high GPA requirements. Higher GPA's were required because of recent budget restrictions.

—The library will be closing on Saturdays and an hour earlier Sunday through Thursday, according to notices given to faculty members.

"Besides the reasons listed on the fact sheet, every student is aware of the problems they've had in their own college," ASUN Sen. Gail Casteel said.

Casteel, who helped organize Students' Day, said that all students should be able to find reasons to support Students' Day and wear blue.

"The closing of the library is something all the students should be concerned about," Casteel said.

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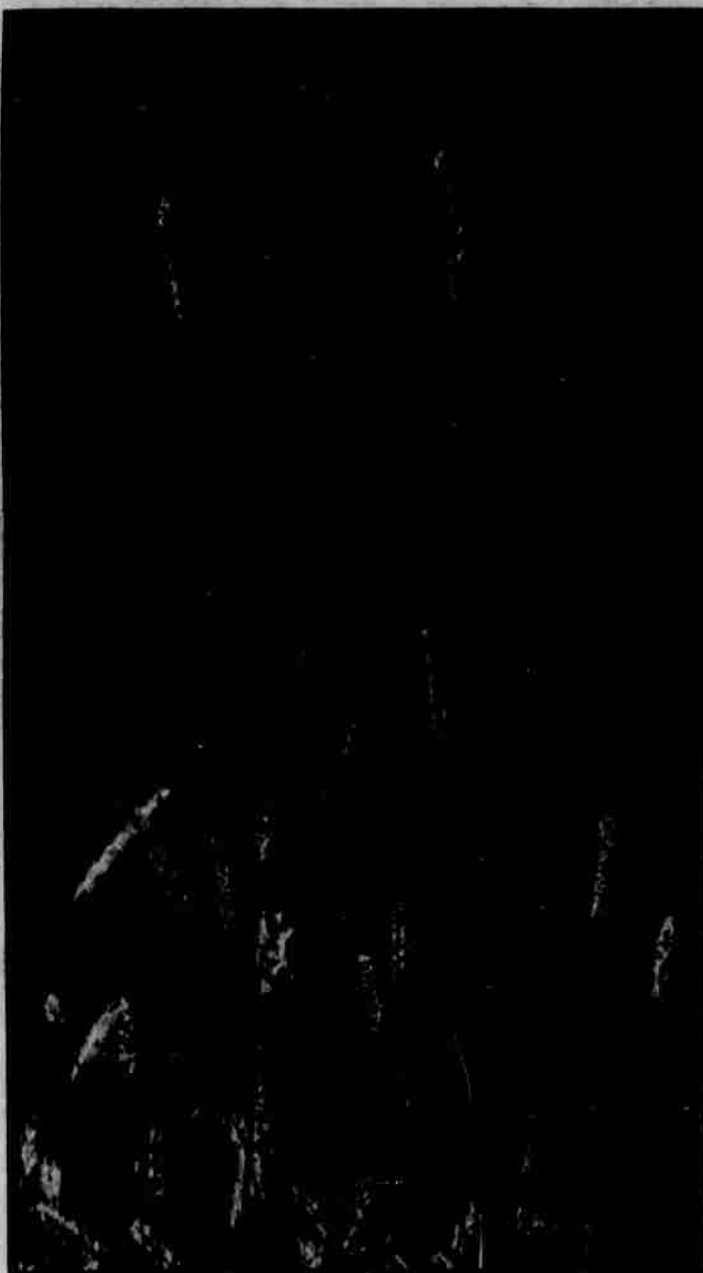


Photo by Mark Billingsley

Ticklegrass?

Thursday's warm temperatures were reminiscent of an old-fashioned Indian summer and these foxtail, ticklegrass, or just plain old weeds took advantage of the situation by sunning themselves outside the Administration Building.

University housing places radio operator on probation

By Michelle Carr

Scott Persson, one of the operators of the student-owned and operated radio station KCUF located in Abel Hall, has been placed on residence hall probation for one year.

The probation, which was decided Wednesday night at a Housing Hearing Board meeting, was based on a violation of a section of the UNL Code of Conduct, which states that students cannot encourage disturbances or interfere with the rights for peaceful possession of the premises and quiet hours.

The violation stemmed from incidents that occurred last spring. According to Ina Luhring, complex program director, on April 30 and May 1, the radio station solicited listeners to yell out windows, thus disrupting other students. She said that Persson should be responsible for the incidents because the radio was located in his room.

However, Persson argued that the radio station has no

power over the listeners' behavior and the station should not be held responsible for others' actions.

"We never forced anyone to listen," he said.

Persson said at several intervals during the program he warned listeners that some of the program might be offensive. According to Bob Belgrade, a student assistant at Schramm Hall, parts of the program were offensive to certain ethnic and minority groups. Belgrade said the program created "boisterous" activity on his floor and several residents complained about the noise.

Persson said the transmission in Schramm could not be controlled by the main transmitter in Abel. The radio waves of the Abel station travel via a phone patch to a translator in Schramm. At the time, Persson said he did not know that incidences were occurring in Schramm. He had no control of transmission to Schramm, but he would have turned off the Abel transmitter had he known the program was causing disturbances, he said.

"Since the university can't go and get everybody who yelled, it (the responsibility) is jumped on me," he said.

Persson was among several of the operators who spoke over the radio on the two nights. However Persson said he did not repeat calls to yell out the window at a designated time.

Luhring said that Persson was responsible because he could have requested that the other operators stop soliciting behavior or urging listeners to call in on a "bitch line." Persson did admit that he didn't like what was being said over the radio.

The board held that Persson should have shut off the station when he felt the programming was getting out of hand. Because of the probation rule, Persson said he formally assigned the station's responsibility to his roommate, Randy Lambrecht.

Persson said he protests to the probation ruling on principle, because he is not responsible, but he will accept the ruling.

He said he will also conform to a proposed broadcasting policy that is being developed by UNL officials.

inside friday

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