

Support for Fund A solicited at Cornstock booth

By Bill Graf

Because the NU Board of Regents failed to approve Fund A student fees allocations for UNL and UNO at its April meeting, a booth was set up at UNL's annual outdoor Cornstock concert Friday to urge students to sign form letters calling for the approval of Fund A and mail them to their regents.

Services financed by Fund A include Cornstock, the Daily Nebraskan, UNO's student paper The Gateway, ASUN Credit Union, Sheldon theater's foreign film series, the Kimball series and student legal services.

UNL student Dan Renn explained while manning the booth that he couldn't understand why the regents approved Student Fund B and not Student Fund A when the 1980-81 expense to students for Fund A is only \$3.35 and \$69.15 for Fund B.

Proposed aid cut may hurt students

If President Carter's proposal to cut student financial support is passed, loan money probably will be less readily available for UNL students, according to Don Aripoli, director of financial aids.

Carter has recommended that \$150 million in Basic Educational Opportunity Grant money and \$108 million from the National Direct Student Loan program be cut from the budget.

For Carter's recommendations to go into effect, Congress must change the current law which says these federal programs must be funded at certain levels, Aripoli said.

A Senate subcommittee on the proposal recommended a \$150 million cut, Aripoli said, while the House has not yet acted.

If Congress passes the law, Aripoli said, one of two things would happen. Congress would either cut the entire NDSL program from financial aids or allocate \$178 million of the NDSL money. This would represent a \$108 million cut from the \$286 million which has been appropriated for NDSL for the 1980-81 school year.

Aripoli said he wanted to warn students, not alarm them. He said work study programs would not be affected and BEOG money would be reduced. The cut in NDSL would be minimized because UNL students tend to pay back student loans better than the national average, he said.

"Our responsibility first is to fund those students who have applied and done everything they are supposed to do," Aripoli said.

"Students who filed by the deadline should have nothing to worry about, but those students who filed after would be able to get some aid, but not as much as in the past," Aripoli said.

Fund B allocations finance the Nebraska Union, the Health Center and the Recreation Department.

ASUN Treasurer Jim May said it is important to inform students about the fees situation.

Awareness questioned

May said that Regent Robert Simmons of Scottsbluff said he voted against Fund A because the students aren't aware of where the money goes.

"It's not only important that the students support this, but they should get their parents to write their regent in support of Fund A because parents carry more weight than students with the regents," May said.

"It's not that large an amount of money," he said.

If Fund A is not approved, the services that receive support would be discontinued or forced to seek funds on their own, explained Eric Torrison, ASUN senator and past chairman of the Committee for Fees Allocation.

"Suppose we had to charge students to go to Cornstock. Students don't always have money to go out. By

funding all of these services out of Fund A the students pay for the services all at once," Torrison said.

Legal advice

"Another thing is the free student legal services. I've used that. If I become involved in a landlord-tenant dispute, I can get legal advice for free. Otherwise I would have to pay a lawyer for advice, and I can't afford to do that," Torrison added.

The Daily Nebraskan reported last week that Regent Robert Prokop of Wilber said one reason he voted against Fund A was that regents cannot sue the Daily Nebraskan since the regents are the legal publishers.

"That's why I'd love to see it (the Daily Nebraskan) out of our control," Prokop said.

However, in the same article Regent Ed Schwartzkopf of Lincoln said the Daily Nebraskan isn't just "a journalism lab project." He said the paper is an "excellent publication" that has won national awards.

Schwartzkopf voted to approve Student Fund A.



Photo by Jerry McBride

For the first time since 1978, good weather greeted the crowd Friday at the annual Cornstock on East Campus.

Movie to feature UNL students Rush, Dahmke

By Pam George

UNL student Bill Rush, who has overcome seemingly insurmountable odds to earn his education, will join that elite group of people who have had movies made about their lives.

Rush, who lives in Selleck Quadrangle, is quadriplegic, unable to speak, and afflicted with cerebral palsy. Until last July, he could communicate only through use of a headstick and a language board mounted on his wheelchair.

But Mark Dahmke, a former Selleck resident, offered a scientific alternative—a sort of "bionic voice" for Rush.

The computerized system, which has type-

writer-like keys and small viewing screen, allows Rush to type messages with his headstick that will appear on the screen. Then with another push of a key, the message repeats audibly . . . intonation and pauses put where he pleases.

Complicated system

The computerized system, which has typewriter-like keys and a small viewing screen, allows Rush to type messages with his headstick that will appear on the screen.

Both were featured in the Life article, the instigator of more than \$3,100 in donations from readers.

The donations have allowed Dahmke to "do things I couldn't have before" with the voice synthesizer, he said.

Improvements in the system are expanded dictionary storage capabilities and advancements in the "word processor." Dahmke also plans to make the system more compact and portable so it can be fastened to Rush's wheelchair.

The Life article also generated three television movie offers. Together, Rush and Dahmke decided on an offer from Franklin Konigsberg of Konigsberg Company of Los Angeles, because they "trust the quality" of his work.

Konigsberg is associated with 20th Century Fox and has produced other TV movies including "The Dummy" and

"Pearl."

Konigsberg is buying the options on the rights to the "life and life story of Bill Rush and Mark Dahmke," according to a contract which their lawyers are currently studying.

Big options

Dahmke said the options are being purchased for about \$5,000, which the pair automatically receives whether a movie is actually filmed or not.

The rights will be bought at the time of production, Dahmke said. How much money they will receive is a matter both choose not to disclose.

"Let's say, five figures," Rush jibed through his bionic voice.

Both have agreed to split any profits evenly.

Rush said he is excited about the movie offer, but "it is a big responsibility."

He and Dahmke are "concerned about the quality of the work," and want accurate representation.

"When any movie is made the public sees it as the way it really is," Rush said.

"I am worried, because I want to paint an accurate picture of cerebral palsy for people."

Rush said he doesn't want the picture to be too glamorous, and yet not too gloomy causing other cerebral palsy victims to be discouraged.

Who would Rush want to play his part? The answer is in one of his favorite typed-in messages, "Aaaay" which is a fairly good imitation of TV's Happy Days character, "the Fonz," done by actor Henry Winkler.

Patricia O'Neal

When asked how his parents feel about the movie offer, Rush's only response was "Mom wants Patricia O'Neal to play her."

Dahmke and Rush also plan to release an autobiography to coincide with the movie's release.

"Bill already has his autobiography in the works, and we will just see where it leads," Dahmke said.

The movie will not be based on the book, he added.

"A scriptwriter will be sent out here for several weeks to spend time talking with us," Dahmke said. They will "work back and forth" so that important elements in the movie and the book will coincide, he said.

There is also the possibility that the movie will be filmed on location at UNL, "which we are hoping for," Dahmke said.

What the major point of the movie should be is clear to Rush, who is a journalism major, already a published author, and like so many of his neighbors in Selleck, a busy college student.

The major point of the movie? "That I am just like anybody else," he said.

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