

## Conference passes resolution condemning regents

By Jim Faddis

A resolution condemning the NU Board of Regents for harassment of UNL student Hubert Brown was passed unanimously last week by the Big Eight Conference of Black Student Organizations.

The resolution says the regents have been harassing Brown, a former member of the conference's council, because of his involvement in the James Coe letter incident.

Coe donated \$1,300 South African Krugerrands to the NU Foundation. His donation was objected to by some who said it represented racism in South Africa.

A letter from Coe to former Daily Nebraskan Editor-in-chief Rocky Strunk was received by current editor Randy Essex after Strunk had been fired for an unrelated act of plagiarism.

Essex gave the letter to Brown, a UNL Publications Board member, who then gave it to State Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha, who released it to the media.

The UNL Publications Board, which oversees the Daily Nebraskan, found that Essex and Brown used poor judgment in passing on the letter. The regents at their Sept. 12 meeting, passed a resolution saying that Essex's and Brown's actions "exceeded poor judgment" and asked the Publications Board to take further action in the matter.

The Publications Board later reaffirmed its original findings.

### Resolution supports actions

The Big Eight Conference of Black Student Organizations resolution supports the actions taken by Brown and Chambers in the Coe matter. Along with the regents, the resolution condemns the Publications Board for chastising Brown.

The resolution will be sent to the Publications Board, the regents and UNL Interim Chancellor Robert Rutherford, said Doreen Charles, president of the UNL African Peoples Union. The resolution was passed at the conference's meeting Sept. 20 at Columbia, Mo.

The conference consists of representatives of black student governments at Big Eight schools.

Charles said Coe made some derogatory statements about blacks in his letter. The letter also reveals some things about Coe that weren't getting publicized, Charles said.

She said the regents and those who had been defending Coe were embarrassed when the letter was disclosed. She said this revealed Coe not to be the kind of person they had defended him as being.

The regents have been harassing Brown because of this embarrassment, Charles said.

"The letter showed that by the regents supporting Coe, they must not have a very good view of blacks," Charles said.

Also, by the regents supporting Coe, it shows that "what black students think, doesn't matter to them," she said.

### Missing the real issue

Charles said the regents are missing the real issue in the Coe letter disclosure. The real issue, she said, is the kind of man the letter shows Coe to be, not the letter opening policy at the Daily Nebraskan.

The regents' resolution also says that if the Publications Board doesn't take further action in the matter, the regents may decide to change the by-laws concerning the membership, responsibilities and duties of the board.

This threatened action by the regents is making it hard for the APU to express its views through the Daily Nebraskan because of fear of upsetting the regents, Charles said.

"It kind of silences us," Charles said. "Everyone else can make a statement, but when we try to say something, it gets edited more closely for fear of upsetting the regents."

Charles said the regents will probably ignore the resolution from the Big Eight Conference of Black Student Organizations, "but it will let them know that others outside of Nebraska support what Brown and Chambers did," she added.

## Professor says war could trouble U.S.

By Kathy Sjulín

Although the United States imports no oil from Iran or Iraq, the war erupting between those two middle east countries will have a definite effect on the United States, a UNL political science professor said.

David Rapkin, who teaches international politics and international political economy, said western Europe and Japan will be hit hardest by the oil crunch resulting from the war.

The United States, which imports much of its oil from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, also will feel the pinch because the oil supply from the Middle East will tighten because of the war, Rapkin said.

This decreased supply will drive gas prices up and force countries that previously have relied on Iranian and Iraqi oil to seek oil from those nations that normally supply the United States.

The war's effect on the United States will depend on the length of the war and the degree of destruction to the oil fields and drilling equipment in the two countries, the professor said.

"If the war widens, we (the United States) could be in a lot of trouble," he said.

However, Rapkin said he doesn't believe the war will expand.

"I don't believe the entire area will spread to war," he said. "The Saudis will try to stay out, but it's hard to say about the Libyans."

"If the war continues much longer, the consumers of Iraqi and Iranian oil will turn to our suppliers and drive up the price of oil," he said.

Rapkin said the war between Iraq and Iran was predictable because of the history of skirmishes between the two countries.

"Underlying the war is a traditional dispute over the waterway that links Iraq with the gulf," he said.

"The full-scale war broke out because the Ayatollah actively advocated the overthrow of the Iraq government," he said. "The Ayatollah, via the clergy and radio broadcasts, has been advocating that the people of Iraq overthrow the regime in power in Iraq."

"The dispute has been simmering for many, many years," he said, adding that it is no surprise that it finally "boiled over."

The question of who started the war is meaningless, according to Rapkin, because the outbreak of war can't be isolated from the interactions of the last year.

Although Iraq's military objectives may be unclear, Rapkin said it is no surprise that Iraq picked now to escalate the war, since, "Iran is more weak militarily now than it ever was under the Shah."

Rapkin said there is no way to know how long the war will go on. He added that he doesn't think the war will spread because it is unique to Iran and Iraq.

The United States and the Soviet Union both will maintain a policy of "laying low in a quiet behind-the-scene fashion," according to Rapkin.

The United States won't apply too much pressure but will try to keep the gulf oil flow open, he said.

Rapkin said he believes U.S. involvement on Iran's be-

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Daily Nebraskan photo

Although a single, bare branch is not the only refuge for area birds, the approaching month of October signals that cooler weather is on its way. These two feathered friends will soon seek warmer climates south of here.

## Party's money problems not a first

By Bill Graf

Reports last week by the Associated Press suggesting the financially-troubled Nebraska Democratic Party might have to close its headquarters is "stretching it a bit," the state Democratic Party chairman said.

The report suggested that \$10,000 is needed in two weeks for the state party to keep its headquarters open.

"We're not talking about an insurmountable problem," DiAnna Schimek said. "It's not the first time (the state party has run short of money), but hopefully, it's the last."

Schimek said the state party may be forced to reduce its budget and, if necessary, borrow more money to stay in operation. However, she said she doesn't think the party will have to borrow more money.

The State Democratic Party's debt currently is \$18,500, the balance of a \$40,000 loan that was secured in 1978 to help Democratic candidates in that year's election.

To help the party pay the debt, party officials have asked the leaders in each legislative district to raise \$100 each, Schimek said.

Each of the 49 legislative districts in Nebraska has a chairman and a chairwoman. If each meets the \$100 goal, the contributions will equal \$9,800.

To help with operating costs, a \$500-a-plate money-raising dinner, featuring Nebraska Sen. J. James Exon is scheduled for Oct. 28 at a private resident in Lincoln.

Schimek said she doesn't know how much money the dinner will raise, but estimated the dinner should raise between \$5,000 and \$15,000.

The state central committee also is considering sponsoring bingo games to raise money.

Bingo has been used by other state democratic committees to raise money, Schimek said. The Colorado state committee sponsored bingo games beginning last year, she said.

The party chairman said one congressional district in Michigan raised \$50,000 with bingo games.

Schimek said the Nebraska Democratic Party previously relied on the annual "Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner" for most of its support. However, because of the increasing costs of running the campaigns, she said, the party now is looking at other means of raising money.