

Campus United Way meets its \$70,000 donation goal

By Maureen Costello

The UNL campus-wide United Way has met its first goal to raise \$70,000, according to Don Pursell, UNL director of business research and campus organizer.

"Most of the collecting was done by the end of October, but with the faculty as large as it is, there are still contributions coming in," Pursell said.

Pursell said UNL has surpassed its first goal, but won't know if its second goal to involve 60 percent of UNL faculty and staff has been met until the United Way office counts the collections.

"I think the 60 percent should be higher. We could be 90 to 100 percent if everyone gave one dollar," Pursell said.

UNL's goals were set by historical records, knowledge of what has happened to faculty and staff salaries, and the needs of the campaign, Pursell said.

The money collected for the United Way is distributed to a number of community agencies, he said. The money and time donated to the United Way "is based on the idea that the effort you put in will be returned to you because the community will be a better place and everyone will be better off," Pursell said.

In 1979 the United Way distributed

total of \$1,843, 937, according to the 1979 annual report of the United Way of Lincoln and Lancaster County. The five agencies receiving the most money in 1979 according to the annual report were American Red Cross, Family Service Association, YMCA, YWCA and the Child Guidance Center.

There were about 150 volunteers from UNL this year and one volunteer for each college. Volunteers recruit others from each department in the college, and that person contacts everyone in the department.

"Personal contacts were stressed. We didn't want packets simply being sent through the mail," Pursell said.

"We had really good volunteers. We made our first goal because they checked their lists and made their contacts," he said.

Pursell said he thought the weakness of the UNL program is getting students involved.

"I know students are on limited budgets, but they should at least be asked if they would like to contribute. Students may only live in Lincoln for four years but they are still part of the community," he said. "I would like to see student organizations work with us in the future."

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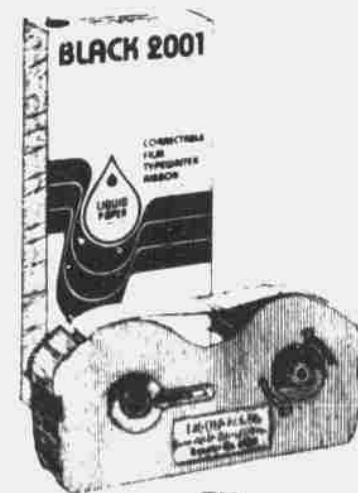
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