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Student Court: VOTE party not violating rules

By Mary Louise Knapp

A garty running in the ASUN election did not violate election rules by the use of its name according to a declatory judgement handed down in Student Court.

The judgment, unanimously approved by seven Student Court justices, said the VOTE (Viable Opportunities for Total Efficiency) party could not be prohibited from using the acronym under existing rules. It also said Student Court would take an "untavorable view" of the matter of the ASUN Electoral Commission were to attempt to make a rule prohibiting the use of the acronym

The judgment was in response to a petition filed in Student Court by the Electoral Commission which said the use of the acronym VOH might impair a fair elect-1011



The "instructive use" of the word "vote" in campagin Interature might be construed as an endorsement of the VOTF party, the petition stated.

Steve McMahon, the VOTE party's candidate for ASUN president, said he was pleased with the courtdecision and called it "our victory."

"The court's decision is extremely pleasing to us, the said, "not only because it reaffirmed what we had believed for the duration of the controversy, but also because it was a unanimous decision."

McMahon said the VOTE party felt the issue was "much ado about nothing."

"We have felt all along that there was no real conflict which needed to be resolved," he said.

Concern about VOTE

McMahon said he had been approached before his campaign announcement by ASUN president Renew Wessles and director Kim Weiland, director of the He r oral Commission, who informed him that several students had expressed concern about the use of the acronym VOTE

At that time, he said, he was aware a possible conflict could arise.

"However, we stuck by our gins and remianed fumly convinced that we were completely within the rules." he said.

McMahon said he heard from several students that the case was "so open and shut it wasn't really opened for debate."

The decision was handed down in a closed Student Court session, so the VOTE party did not hear discussion of the issue, he said.

"Our party name simply confirmed all that we stand for," he said, "We didn't choose it to create any sort of controversy. We chose it because it is totally consistent with what we stand for and what we believe."

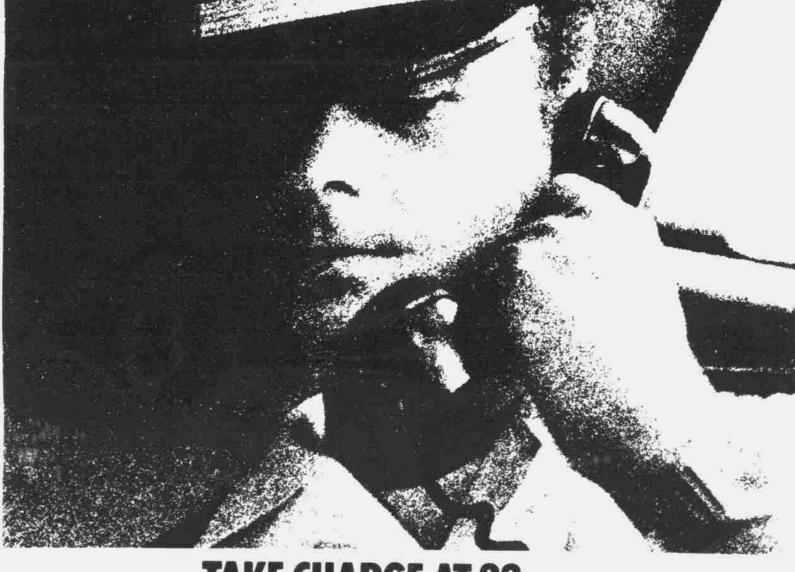
"We want students to vote in the ASUN election." he said. But "more importantly, we want them to vote for a totally efficient approach to student government, and by that I mean making the most of the resources that are available to ASUN.

"Those people who are opposed to the usage of VO11 as our aeronym are clearly opposed to our most basi and fundamental principles," McMahon said.

Formal apology requested

"Additionally, we feel that the instigators of the sequest for the declaratory judgement owe the students

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TAKE CHARGE AT 22.

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NAVY OFFICERS GET RESPONSIBILITY FAST.

of the campus a formal and public apology, for believing that students wouldn't be able to distinguish between our party name and instructions to vote," he said.

"If this is the way our elected representatives as. then a cleaning of house is in order," he said.

ASUN filing deadline nears for position on spring ballot

Students wishing to file for candidacy in the ASUN election have until Feb. 18 at 4 p.m. to do so, according to Kim Weiland, director of the Electoral Commission

The same goes for all student parties and all proposed amendments to the ASUN constitution or referendums to be placed on the ballot.

All candidates must file financial statements of campaign expenditures in the ASUN office by March 4 at 4 p.m. Write-in candidates must file financial statements by March 5 at 4 p.m.

Filme torms, copies of election rules, and copies of the ASUN constitution are available in the ASUN offset

stuff

weekly meeting tonight at 7 on the second floor of the Military and Naval Science Building.

have a meeting today at 4

There will be a Student

Education Association

meeting tonight at 7 in the

Nebraska Union, Room

number will be posted.

Room 117B

Angel Flight will hold its. ASUN office, Room 113 Nebraska Union.

Students wishing to be considered for nomination by the university for a UPC-Culture Center will Federal Summer Internship should contact the coordinin the Nebraska Union, aftor for Experimental Education, Room 1218 Oldfather. Positions are open for graduate students with degreees in business administration, political science. economics or other human services programs and undergraduates with backgrounds in chemistry, mathematics or life sciences. All applicants must be planning Only a few seats are to return to school in the lett for Spring Break Baha- fall. The application deadmas. Trip. Call UPC-East line is March 2

Letter-day Saint Student iation has class tonight H 1630 Q St in the ment

Filmy torms for ASUN

and details

elections are available to the

472-1780 for reservations