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A diamond is forever.

Black students' success keys discussed

By Ward W. Triplett III

Stressing personal agendas and motivation as keys to black success, Dr. Kermit McMurray, executive vice president of Grambling State University of Louisiana, addressed an audience at the Nebraska Union Wednesday night about how black colleges and students will survive in a country that has "ice water in its veins."

"We have simply forgotten what it took to get us this far, and I don't know what it will take to wake us up," McMurray said.

"I call it the evolution of a circle. Back in the sixties we were all concerned about political, social and economic problems facing blacks. Then it just stopped. Now, with something like Reaganomics to wake us up, we will have to fight again."

Although the major part of McMurray's speech was devoted to Grambling and the state of black colleges, McMurray also discussed problems he believes black students have at any school.

"I am of the opinion that the major problem facing this country right now is not economics, but the race-line, economically and educationally. It is a fatal cancer, that, if left unabated, will rot and destroy the fiber of this country," McMurray said.

McMurray added that blacks who want to succeed

will have to depend solely on themselves, unlike the trend of the past few years.

"Progress is not proportional to our presidents, it is proportional to the personal pressure we put on ourselves," McMurray said.

McMurray said he feels that as economic pressures continue, the elite will start to drift out more while poor persons will be even less capable of affording higher education. The widening gap between the haves and the havenots will make the personal battle to succeed tougher for blacks, he said.

"If you fail, you will have to say you failed on your own accord, no one else's," McMurray said. "If you succeed, then we can all be happy and proud for you."

Kenneth Gilreath of UPC, one of the organizations sponsoring McMurray's speech, termed the speech and the enthusiasm it generated a success, but termed the low turnout discouraging.

"I don't understand where the black student attendance is," Gilreath said. "If we were throwing a party, about 300 people will show up. If we give them something educational, something to take back with them to think about, nobody shows up. I guess my expectations might be a little too high."

Students file suit against commission

By Betsy Miller

Mike Frost, STUPID II presidential candidate and Kathy Mach filed a suit in UNL Student Court against the ASUN Electoral Commission Tuesday afternoon.

The suit alleges that five "unfair or ambiguous" practices were carried out by the commission and that because of these practices the March 3 ASUN election should be indefinitely suspended.

The Student Court will hear the complaint at 8:30 tonight.

On Feb. 10, Frost and Mach filed a complaint with the commission about seven of the commission's practices.

The complaint said if the commission did not act on the charges, then a suit would be filed in student court.

"The election is not fair or equal at this point," Frost said, explaining his reasons for filing the suit.

The suit alleges that:

-Jennifer Fager, Electoral Commission director, incorrectly interpreted the election rule that tells when campaign posters can be put up. The rule says posters can be displayed between Feb. 10 and March 3. The suit says Fager misinterpreted the rule to mean posters could

be displayed before the 10th, but janitors would be allowed to take them down before that date. One party (Real Party), following Fager's ruling, posted signs before Feb. 10 but other parties weren't aware of this and did not have signs up.

-the commission has "far too much discretionary power" in interpreting the rule that states how many posters a candidate may put on each campus bulletin board.

-a section of the commission rules that makes candidates responsible for all actions taken in their campaign is too ambiguous.

-two different times were given as the official filing deadline for candidates. Electoral rules said the deadline was Feb. 10 at 9 a.m. but petitions used by students to gather signatures said the deadline was 4 p.m. Candidates who did not contact the commission and could not meet the 9 p.m. deadline, were disadvantaged.

-the commission is not carrying out its duty to make sure the election is fair and equal for all parties.

Frost said his party was not aware of several rules affecting parties and that "the Electoral Commission's duty is to make sure all organizations are in sync."

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