

## Bill hearing invites vet school debate

By Terry Hyland

A bill that would change provisions for the construction of a proposed college of veterinary medicine in Nebraska was presented to the Legislature's Education Committee Monday. Supporters and opponents of the college presented the pros and cons of the veterinary school issue.

LB533 would amend certain sections of a bill passed in 1981 that outlined the requirements for planning and building the school. The new bill would allow the state to accept a congressional intent to appropriate funds as a commitment for future funding of the college. The 1981 bill required an actual appropriation of \$13 million by the federal government

before the project could proceed.

The bill also would eliminate Dec. 31, 1983, as the last day for accepting federal funds committed to the project.

Congress already has appropriated \$827,000 to cover half the planning and pre-construction costs of the project.

The bill, sponsored by the Legislature's Agriculture Committee, was presented to the Education Committee by Sen. Rex Haberman of Imperial. Haberman read a letter written by U.S. Sen. J. James Exon to veterinary school coordinator Dr. R. Gene White stating that the federal government had made a commitment to fund the school by appropriating the planning money. He also read from last October's Congressional Record, which quotes the chairman of an agriculture

appropriation subcommittee as saying the planning money does constitute a federal funding commitment.

Haberman said the veterinary school is important for the state's future.

"We must keep in mind that when we build this college . . . it will be one of the best things we can do for agriculture in the future," he said.

Sen. Martin Kahle of Kearney said the statements from the Congressional Record were the strongest commitments that Nebraska would get at this time. He said the federal government's commitment has given Nebraska an opportunity, and that it would be foolish for the state to turn down funding for the school.

Opposition to the veterinary college was expressed by Sen. James Pappas of

Hershey.

Pappas said hard economic times make the veterinary school impractical and that the state would benefit more if existing animal science facilities were improved.

Pappas also said he foresees no shortage of veterinarians, and that the vet school is unnecessary.

Dr. Bob Perry, an Omaha veterinarian, said the vet school would not be a wise investment for the state.

He said Nebraska veterinarians he has talked to have not given him a good argument for the school.

Perry said the state should upgrade its present programs in the livestock diagnostic field to benefit the livestock industry.

## Anti-freeze forum sparks heated debate

By Chris Burbach

A nuclear freeze is neither a viable nor a moral course for the United States to pursue, according to three speakers at a "Cool the Freeze" forum Tuesday in the Nebraska Union.

Jim Rogers, a senior philosophy student, Dan Ostdiek, a junior political science major and the Rev. Marlin Wismer, a Presbyterian minister, spoke against the freeze proposal.

The College Republicans sponsored the event, which drew about 20 people. Crowd questions inspired heated debate after the speeches.

Rogers said the United States needs a reasonable defense policy, "of which the advocacy of a nuclear freeze has no portion."

Rogers stressed four points, which he

said warrant a negative vote on the freeze resolution: methodological problems with the "freeze talk-about," the necessity for more than handy slogans to justify a change in defense policy, problems with verification and "the politics of guilt and pity."

Freeze proponents have made some illogical assumptions, Rogers said.

"More than merely slogans are necessary to justify a change (in U.S. Defense policy)," Rogers said. Freeze proponents must go beyond "pro-freeze rhetoric" and guarantee the absence of Soviet aggression in the future.

"Whether or not such can ever be provided is questionable," he said.

A freeze is not verifiable, according to Rogers, who said it would lead to the development of weapons that cannot be identified.

Ostdiek said, "By its very nature, the freeze proposal affects U.S. foreign policy."

"U.S. foreign policy is built on two pillars, those being deterrence and alliance," he said. "These two pillars converge into the notion of extended deterrence." That allows the United States to use the threat of nuclear weapons to deter challenges to nations other than our own.

Current NATO strategic policy is "flexible response," which is meant to deter attack by the threat of a response in kind and potential escalation of the conflict to theater nuclear warfare by NATO, Ostdiek said.

The freeze resolution would deny NATO the resources to carry out flexible response, he said.

"Yet the freeze advocates do not offer a workable alternative to flexible

response."

Wismer said opposition to the freeze is a morally justifiable position.

"Protection of the weak and defenseless is the only moral behavior," he said.

Wismer said he is opposed to nuclear war. However, he does not agree with the freeze as a means of avoiding such a war.

Problems with the freeze resolution include Soviet aggressive expansionism and the unverifiability of a freeze, Wismer said. Because of the Soviets' history of breaking treaties, any freeze treaty signed would be useless.

The moral issue of the nuclear arms question is the deterrence of attack against the weak by aggressors, Wismer said, and freeze proponents haven't addressed that issue.

"Self-defense has never been immoral," he said.



## 'Happy Singer of Sad Songs'

By Margaret Reist

She was called "Chicago's Sweetheart," the "Ziegfeld Star" and "The Happy Singer of Sad Songs."

It has been said that she ranks as the Judy Garland or Barbara Streisand of the 1920s and early '30s.

Born in David City, Ruth Etting grew up to become one of the most renowned popular singers and film stars of the Depression era. She then dropped out of the public eye after a scandalous affair in 1938.

Etting was one of the most imitated singers of all time, said John Moran, voice professor at UNL and acting assistant dean to the College of Arts and Sciences.

"She not only changed with the times, she changed the times," he said.

Today, five years after Etting's death, her importance in history is being

reassessed for the influence she had on the style and interpretation of popular music.

The UNL School of Music library in the Westbrook Music Building soon will become the center of information for anyone doing research about Etting. John M. Alderman, Etting's stepson, recently donated his personal collection of memorabilia of the singer to the library. It includes a scrapbook on her career, a discography of all her recordings and a collection of personal photographs.

"Whenever the school gets a collection like that, it is getting something that is priceless," said Raymond Hagg, director of the music school. The value of the collection is not something a person can put a price tag on, because it is irreplaceable, he said.

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