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## ASUN amendment would change appointments

By Victoria Ayotte  
Senior Reporter

An amendment to the Bylaws of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska would provide a more fair and representative system for appointments, said Sen. Stan Mommaerts, graduate student representative.

Mommaerts has submitted an amendment to ASUN's Special Topics Committee that would change how vacancies in the ASUN Senate and boards under its jurisdiction are filled.

Senators of a college with a vacant senate seat would become appointments board members for that senate seat under the proposed amendment to Bylaw #1. Under the amend-

ment, the appointments board would nominate instead of appoint students to positions.

Senators from the college are better qualified to determine the interests of the college more fairly than students who are not enrolled in the college (members of the appointments board), the bill states.

"It makes more sense this way," Mommaerts said. "There is a great potential for abuse in the present system."

Mommaerts said this system would be more democratic and more representative.

"No senator stands to lose anything by this and a lot of them stand to gain by this," he said.

Kim Beavers, second vice president of ASUN, said she thinks the proposed amend-

ment has some good points.

However, Beavers said she doesn't support nominations instead of appointments.

Appointments are more fair and more representative than nominations, Beavers said.

Beavers said she thinks the amendment will come out of committee with some revisions that will make it a good amendment.

"I'm the first person to say the appointments board last year wasn't perfect," she said. "But right now our appointments board is the most diversified it has ever been. We've got a lot more people involved."

Beavers said that although three people possibly shouldn't do the whole appointments process, that's really the only way to do it.

"I think people are overlooking the problem that we need a more representative, diversified body applying for the positions," Beavers said.

Beavers said she would support having one senator from the college with the vacant seat join the appointments board when filling that seat.

Mommaerts said one senator in the appointments board wouldn't really make a difference.

"It's like putting a dab of white frosting in the middle of a burnt cake," Mommaerts said.

Jeff Petersen, ASUN president, said he didn't want to comment on the amendment.

The amendment is scheduled for discussion by the committee Wednesday.

## Prof labels Gulf attacks 'predictable'

By Anne Mohri  
Senior Reporter

Attacks made by the United States against Iran in the Persian Gulf Monday morning were predictable, said David Forsythe, professor of political science at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Forsythe said the destruction of two Iranian oil platforms is predictable because the United States has previously attacked aggressors in reprisal.

Assuming the mine that hit the U.S. frigate last week was Iranian, the United States would be acting in accordance with international law, he said.

However, he said, it will be difficult to identify the mine since it was destroyed.

"One would assume that the U.S. has good intelligence that the mine that hit the American ship was Iranian," he said.

Considering the politics of the Persian Gulf, it can be assumed that the mine was Iranian because Iran is the only country known to be laying mines, Forsythe said, but that point can be argued.

He said it is possible Iraq laid the mine in hopes of having Iran blamed or in hopes of having Iran and the United States exchange fire.

The Reagan administration decided to bomb Libya in 1986 because they assumed Libya was behind the terrorism occurring around the world, Forsythe said, and now it appears Syria was behind it.

"And yet we were sure it was Libya, so we bombed Libya," he said. "Now we are sure this was an Iranian mine. Well, how are we so sure?"

Forsythe said he would be surprised if the Iranian report claiming the United States had joined military

## Reagan says Tehran to pay price

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Reagan said Monday he ordered military strikes against Iranian targets because of "irresponsible behavior" toward U.S. ships, and served notice that Tehran will "pay a price" for such aggression in the Persian Gulf.

Defending attacks on Iranian military platforms in the southern gulf, Reagan said, "we aim to deter further Iranian aggression, not provoke it." He renewed the U.S. call for Iran to accept a United Nations resolution demanding a cease-fire in the Iran-Iraq war.

Reagan used an appearance before a business audience to comment on U.S. reprisals for the mining of the frigate USS Samuel B. Roberts. His use of force won bipartisan support on Capitol Hill.

"I have something in the nature of a bulletin for you," he told representatives of the Associated General Contractors organization in the Old Executive Office Building auditorium.

"Earlier today, our Navy made a measured response to Iran's latest

use of military force against U.S. ships in international waters as well as its continued military and terrorist attacks against a number of nonbelligerents," Reagan said.

"We've taken this action to make certain the Iranians have no illusions about the cost of irresponsible behavior," Reagan said.

"They must know that we will protect our ships, and if they threaten us, they'll pay a price," Reagan said. The president told his audience that "a more normal relationship with Iran is desirable and we're prepared for it."

But Reagan said that "such a relationship is not possible so long as Iran attacks neutral ships, threatens its neighbors, supports terrorism and refuses to end the bloody war with Iraq."

Besides destroying the two offshore Iranian oil platforms used for military purposes, the U.S. Navy either sank or damaged four small Iranian gunboats and bombed two Iranian navy frigates that had fired missiles at U.S. planes. Iran attacked oil facilities off Sharjah and fired on at least two U.S. vessels.

forces with Iraq was true because Iraq initiated the war with Iran.

"Of course, the Reagan administration has surprised us in the past on various accounts," he said.

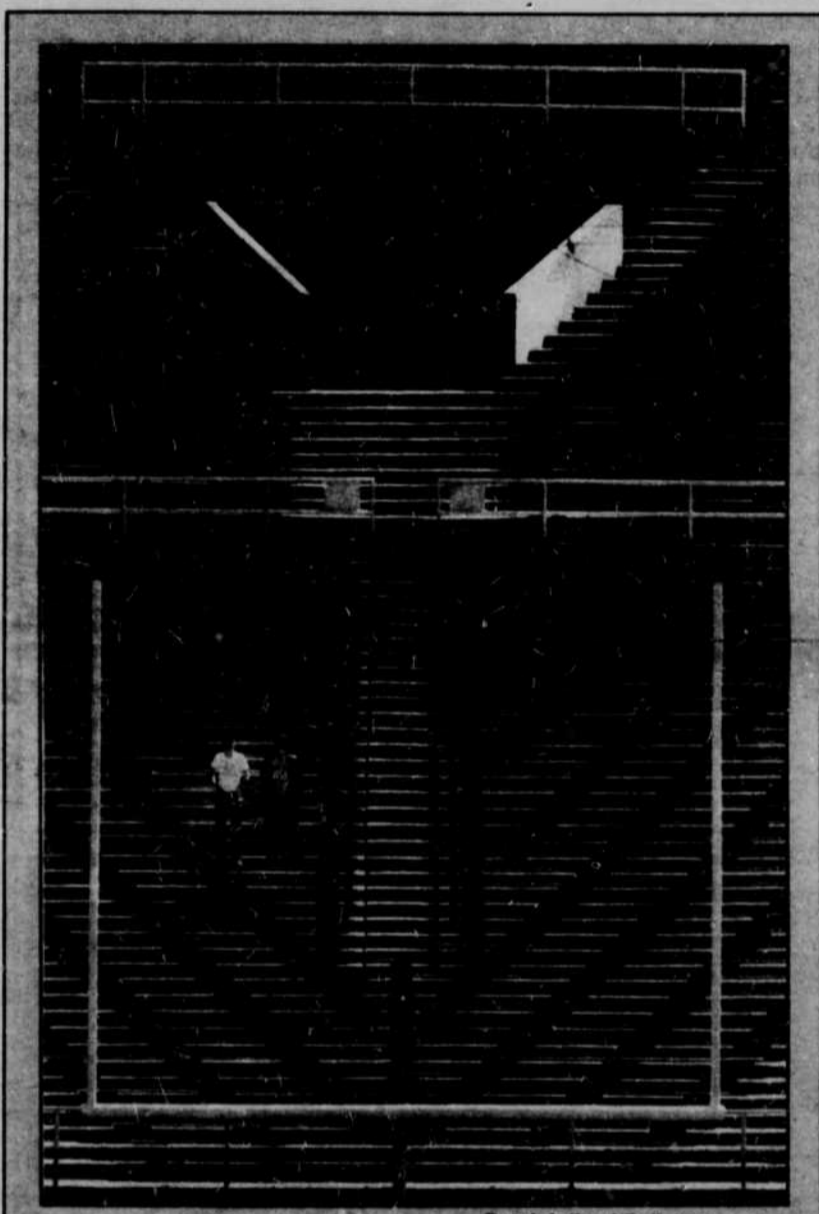
It is possible the Reagan administration used military force against Iran because of that country's role in the recent hijacking of a Kuwaiti airliner, Forsythe said.

He said there is no doubt Iran cooperated with the hijackers of the

Kuwaiti airliner while it briefly touched down in Tehran.

Phil Dyer, UNL professor of political science, said he questioned what the United States was doing in the Persian Gulf was the first place. Once the United States is in the Persian Gulf, it is inevitable confrontations will occur, he said.

"We're just showing our weight around against a country that can't retaliate," Dyer said.



Butch Ireland/Daily Nebraskan

### Preseason crowd

Bruce Begay, left, and Clarence Wells of Lincoln watch football warm-ups at Memorial Stadium Monday afternoon.

## Muslim students fast and pray during holy month

By Jerry Guenther  
Staff Reporter

For Ismail Mohamad and other Muslim students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Sunday marked the beginning of the holy month of Ramadhan.

During Ramadhan, Muslims throughout the world are required to fast in addition to regular Islamic practices, said Mohamad, a graduate chemistry student.

Muslims consume no food, water or other drinks from dawn until dusk during Ramadhan, Mohamad said.

Mohamad, from Malaysia, said people who are elderly or on medication don't have to fast. But Muslims who break the fast for other reasons must fast after Ramadhan to make up

for it.

During the month, Mohamad said, Muslims eat around 4 a.m. and fast until the sun sets.

"It is strongly suggested that you eat before the sun rises when you start your fast," Mohamad said. "But you eat the same amount that you would normally eat."

Although it would seem difficult to fast for so long, Mohamad said it isn't that tough.

"The first day of fasting is a bit rough, but then it comes naturally because we've been doing it since we were kids," Mohamad said.

Besides fasting, Mohamad said, married people are supposed to abstain from sexual activity during the fast time.

Aside from the physical abstin-

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— Mohamad

ences of fasting, Norhayati Mohd-