

Senators to ponder bar hours

By Andrea Kaser
Staff Reporter

Student senators will consider supporting a bill to extend bar hours, and will take a student vote on the prayer at commencement issue at tonight's ASUN meeting.

Members of the Government Liaison Committee could begin lobbying the Nebraska Legislature for LB287, which would allow Nebraska bars to stay open until 2 a.m., if the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska approves tonight's measure. LB287 would also encourage bar owners to incorporate aggressive designated driving programs.

Andrew Loudon, co-sponsor of the bill, said lobbying for LB287 was within ASUN's interests as a representative body.

"After talking to my constituents, it's clear that students want bars open one hour longer," he said.

Other reasons for lobbying for LB287, Loudon said, were increased state revenue and safer driving.

Extended hours, he said, would prevent students from traveling to bars in surrounding states that stay open longer, thereby keeping revenue within Nebraska and also keeping students from driving across the border after drinking.

Most students look down on drinking and driving, he said. This, along with increasing designated driving programs, could keep more students from drinking and driving.

The student government will also consider a resolution that would put a survey question on the March 10 University of Nebraska-Lincoln student election ballot asking voters if they favor the reinstatement of the invocation and benediction into the commencement ceremony.

Andrew Sigerson, ASUN president, said the best way to find out student opinion was through the student vote.

Putting the question on the ballot "would give students a greater opportunity to have their voices heard," he said.

Also on tonight's agenda is a bill laying out the Budget Reduction Review Committee's procedures. ASUN must approve the procedures before the committee can begin its review.

POLICE REPORT

Beginning midnight Monday

8:31 a.m. — Copier vandalized, C.Y. Thompson Library, \$100.

8:43 a.m. — Lock damaged, East Campus Union, \$3.

10:03 a.m. — Computer disk stolen, College of Business Administration, \$6.

11:45 a.m. — Purse stolen, College of Business Administration, \$91.

4:03 p.m. — Camera lens stolen, Dental College, \$399.

9:19 p.m. — Man hit with bottle, parking lot at Nebraska Educational Television building.

Union official requests CFA funding increase

By Matt Woody
Staff Reporter

Although a requested budget increase for the Nebraska Unions was not intended, only a decrease in services offered would have prevented the increase, the unions' director said Tuesday night at a CFA hearing.

Daryl Swanson, director of the Nebraska Unions, said that he accepted ASUN President Andrew Sigerson's challenge of submitting a budget without an increase in student fees, but he had to compromise in order to continue giving students what they expect from the unions.

A zero increase, Swanson said, is "very difficult to do unless you're willing to reduce your services or significantly decrease your services in order to absorb the inflationary pressures on all your costs."

Swanson requested \$1,641,114 in student fees from the Committee for Fees Allocation, an increase of \$34,619, or 2.1 percent, saying there were many costs that he could not control.

One of these uncontrollable costs, he said, is utilities.

A 6 percent increase in utility expenses was projected for the 1993-94 fiscal year, Swanson said. It is very difficult to budget for utilities, as severe summers and winters can have a dramatic effect on consumption of utilities, he said.

CFA Chair Shane Tucker said little about the unions' budget, explaining that it was so complex, more time was necessary to study the proposal.

However, Tucker and the other CFA members seemed to make up their minds about the Daily Nebraskan's budget, which was discussed once again at the meeting.

After hearing a short presentation by representatives from the newspaper, the committee unanimously voted to grant the Daily Nebraskan its requested budget of \$41,153.

Originally, CFA granted this amount to the newspaper, but last week reduced the student fees allocation by nearly \$2,000, pending evidence of projected cost increases.

COLAGE

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basically an inactive group on campus."

Fischer said the \$1,900 given to COLAGE was being saved by the group for an April film festival. The festival will still be held, using the \$1,900 allocated this year.

Shane Tucker, CFA chairman, said the elimination of COLAGE's funding was partly because the group hadn't consistently spent this year's allocation in the first six months.

"(COLAGE) is not doing any programming right now," Tucker said.

Tucker said CFA was set up on a committee-based allocation system. However, COLAGE does not have an official organizing committee.

"They exist only when there's an event," Tucker said.

Sigerson said he opposed the funding through student fees because he

saw COLAGE as a political group, not a protected minority group.

"I personally have a political objection to COLAGE," Sigerson said. "They're the only political group on campus that receives student monies."

"They're not a protected minority because, in my eyes, at least, being gay or lesbian is nothing more than a choice."



Fischer said that regardless of what Sigerson thought, COLAGE was recognized by the NU Board of Regents as a minority group.

"We're protected by the regents," she said.

Fischer also questioned the timing of CFA's decision, alluding to the recent national furor over gays in the military.

"It has been one hellish week for gays and lesbians," she said. "We can't even turn on the TV or the radio without hearing something about ourselves. It burns me to think that they picked this week to do this to us."

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