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doesn't follow that it had to be this date (June 30, 1989), and that's where there really is no justification," Lemert said.

"The rationale that the date needed to be at the end of a biennium really doesn't wash either; obviously they could have extended it another two years," Lemert added.

Lemert cited rumors of friction between Olum and State Board Chancellor William Davis, and offered guarded speculation this may have led to the State Board's decision to end Olum's presidency.

"We have a president here that's done a very good job, is very widely respected among the faculty, and I really don't see any reason why if he wishes to continue for a while longer the State Board should prevent him from having that chance," Lemert said.

Lemert, like Ulrich and Goldrich, added he also would support efforts to persuade the State Board to change its decision.

Barry Siegel, an economics professor and president of the campus chapter of the American Association of University Professors, chimed in the chorus of faculty disappointment with the State Board.

"He's (Olum) been a tremendous president, not only has he held this institution together but he's improved the place," Siegel said.

Siegel claimed major University projects — capital campaign, Riverfront Research Park and the search for a new provost — will be in jeopardy if Olum's departure comes prematurely.

"He's been an essential element in all of these projects, and I don't see how a new presi-

dent can come in and pick up those things very readily," Siegel said.

Olum spoke with the media on Friday regarding the State Board's decision, and although visibly distraught, he took the issue in stride.

"I told the executive committee that I was disappointed; I also told them I disagreed with their decision, but I'm not going to do any fighting," Olum said.

"I don't think I can support or not support (faculty efforts to reverse State Board's decision)... if faculty and students want to contact members of the board it's up to them — I'm certainly not going to tell them not to, but I'm not going to make speeches," Olum said.

"If the board could be persuaded that I should stay on until 1992, then I would stay on — I'd be delighted to," Olum added.

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"There was discussion, but there wasn't a final decision at all," she said.

The situation between two members of the same political party doesn't mean there are difficulties within the ranks of SPA, however.

"There has been conflict, and I'm not saying there hasn't been, but we still all have the same basic beliefs about how we want the student government to be," Teigen said. However, she qualified that statement by saying she couldn't speak for all SPA members.

According to both Hoyt and Teigen, SPA officially has stayed out of the case, both saying the student political party is letting the IFC members handle the situation.

"Bob is SPA and Steve is SPA. It's not something they're going to kick one of them out of the group for," she said.

"I think that anytime you have something like this, that it's going to cause a bit of a controversy. But I think everyone's resolved to move ahead and go forward," Hoyt said, adding he doesn't think this situation will cause problems within the committee in the future.

Baldwin said it was never his intention to make this a political issue. His concern was strictly procedural, he said.

"What I want as a result of this is the Constitution Court, members of the committee, peo-

ple in the student government in general to recognize that we're a functioning part of the state system of education, not a little social club that can do what it wants," Baldwin said. "We should hold ourselves to those standards, not have to be dragged into it by somebody else."

"I'm just a bit concerned that this is going to be blown way out of proportion in terms of the student body," Teigen said. "It is a very minor thing, at least that is the way I see it. And to be so concerned that there are huge divisions in the IFC or huge

divisions in SPA, that's simply not the case."

While the SPA members have said the case has caused no problems among committee members, Thompson said she has sensed a slight wariness.

"I think everybody's a little bit more distrustful, but I think that is slowly subsiding," she said. "I think at first until we had another meeting, we were wondering how people were going to react to each other. But everyone's made a real good effort at talking things out with each other so that things are out in the open."



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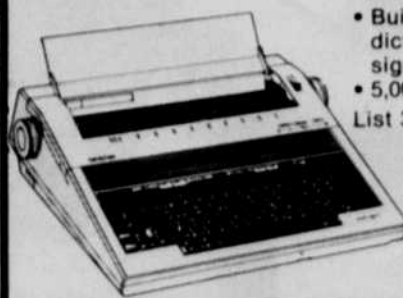
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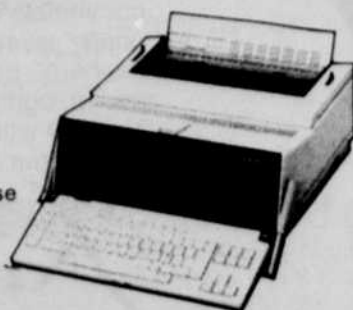
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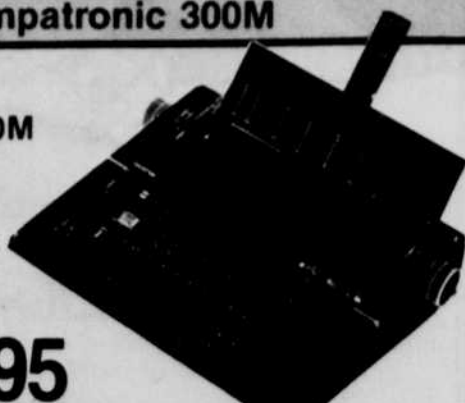
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