

Data systems for both state, NU said necessary

By Paula Dittrick

Both the Nebraska Employee Information System (NEIS) and an NU information system are needed, according to Glen Smith, NU assistant vice president and director of business and accounting.

The State Department of Administrative Services (DAS), which has been managing the payroll for state and university employes, will begin using the \$1.5 million NEIS in March.

NEIS replaces both a personnel and a payroll system, DAS Director Stan Matzke has said.

Jan. 1 was the proposed target date for NEIS to begin, but this date was postponed when university officials asked to use the separate NU system still being developed.

When NEIS begins operation, it will handle the university's payroll and record the data that the university gives it.

NEIS is to be used for all state agencies. However, the university won't submit the same account of information as other agencies. Matzke has said.

Smith said the state system asks for information which the university doesn't collect and which may infringe upon employes' privacy.

"We (the university) would collect things the state wouldn't use and the state collects things we're not interested with," he explained.

Smith said much of the problem has involved the classification of information. He said the state is interested in individual statistics while the university is more interested in group statistics.

For example, the university collects data about faculty members' degrees and the state asks for birth dates of employes' spouses, Smith said.

Smith said the university would transfer additional information to the state either in summary or detail form as it is needed. He added that NU isn't going to provide the state with any more information than the university collects for the routine use.

"We were in the process of developing a system before NEIS started," Smith said, adding that the university re-

ceived no additional money for its program as the DAS did to develop NEIS.

The target date for the university information system's completion is 1978, Smith said.

Smith said he hoped the Nebraska Supreme Court's decision concerning the lawsuit between the powers of the Nebraska Legislature and the NU Board of Regents would not change the university's arrangement with NEIS.

Matzke has said state senators would decide whether the university would comply fully with the NEIS system if the decision favors the Legislature.

State Accountant George Schute said that under the new system, every effort will be made to get the paychecks out on time just as the effort was made for the old payroll system.

He said he "couldn't understand why the university is spending money to duplicate a system to provide information which the state already provides other agencies."

Smith said the two systems should complement each other, and he added that duplications can't be eliminated given the differing needs of the university and the state.

Salvation Army bell-ringing drive behind last year's total



By Sharon Armstrong

The Salvation Army is currently running \$2,000 behind last year's total in its annual bell ringing fund drive, according to the Salvation Army commanding officer.

Capt. Peter VanderVliet said the group has set a goal of \$40,000 for 1976. Last year, \$40,738.88 was raised in the drive.

Volunteers started ringing bells the day after Thanksgiving at Gateway, downtown, Richman Gordman and Treasure City stores. VanderVliet said they will continue through Dec. 24.

"We can always use more volunteers," he said. The Salvation Army will place bell ringers anywhere they can get set up, VanderVliet said.

There usually are 500 to 600 volunteers ringing bells each year. VanderVliet said 57 clubs are participating this year. Those clubs include Boy Scouts and Navy ROTC, he said.

Towne Club and four UNL sororities helped in this year's drive.

Most groups volunteer

Most groups volunteer to ring bells every year. He said the Salvation Army writes letters to remind the people and to make sure they are going to help again, and then schedules them.

"It takes us from a month and a half to two months just to schedule the bell ringers," VanderVliet said. He estimated the Salvation Army has used the bell ringing campaign for 65 to 70 years.

VanderVliet said some of the money raised is spent for food, toys and other Christmas gifts for the underprivileged, prisoners and the elderly.

"Usually, about \$20,000 to \$25,000 is spent at Christmas time," he said. The rest of it goes into the next fiscal budget.

Army supports projects

VanderVliet said the Salvation Army supports projects year round, not just at Christmas. Those projects include:

- The League of Mercy, which is a program to help shut-ins.

- Religious services every Sunday.

- A community center, which is open every day at 2625 Potter St. The center has a nursery, clinic, full-size gym, adult education program, Weight-Watchers and a food stamp dispensary.

- Various prison programs to help those in the Nebraska Penal Complex and other reform institutions.

VanderVliet said the Salvation Army also is there to help in any disaster situation.

"About 48 per cent of the budget each year comes from the United Way," VanderVliet said. The United Way also screens all applicants who receive aid through the programs.

VanderVliet said people have to apply each year for aid so it can be determined that they actually do need help. He said the deadline for applications to receive help this Christmas is Dec. 20.

Council members may balk at decision on police board

By Larry Lutz

The status of the Lincoln Police Review Board may remain in limbo following Monday's City Council meeting. The Council has had two proposals before it this month to change the board, but members have indicated they may not be ready yet to decide the matter.

The Council already has delayed its decision one week, because some of the members were at a national city officials' meeting in Denver last week. It delayed final decision on the two proposals following public hearings earlier this month.

One proposal, submitted by Police Chief George Hansen, would abolish the board altogether. Hansen has said he doesn't think the board is necessary and exposes police problems to the public.

Although the board has only met once, Hansen said it is not serving its intended purpose and is only a public hearing on private matters.

Hansen said he thinks the Lincoln Police Dept. can handle its own internal problems, so the board is useless.

The original purpose of the board, according to sponsoring Council member Max Denny, was to settle disputes between citizens and the department and review police policy and procedures.

Hansen said the current process forces

police officers to discuss private matters in a public hearing and leaves both sides unhappy with the outcome.

Council member Sue Bailey has submitted a proposal to revise the board's procedure, which she says would solve the board's problems and help it serve its original function.

Bailey's proposal would insert an intermediary step in the board's procedure. After the complaint is filed and an investigation conducted, a board member would meet with both sides in closed session. In this meeting, the board would serve as an arbitrator between citizens and the police.

Then, under Bailey's proposal, if an agreement couldn't be reached, the board would meet as a group in a public session to make a final decision.

Although both proposals have been discussed at earlier Council meetings, members have indicated they are not ready to make a final decision. They will meet in weekly closed session Monday with the chairman of the civilian board, Jack Siegman.

Siegman said last week that board members think it should not be abolished, and Council members have indicated they may vote to table the proposals concerning the Police Review Board.

Photo by Scott Swaboda

Alexa Buefler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Buefler, 3533 Woods Ave., spent Saturday morning collecting donations in The Salvation Army's bell-ringing drive.