

Agriculture lessens impact *Researcher: state okay in recession*

By Kent Warneke

Nebraska's stable economy should lessen the impact of a national recession if one occurs, according to a research associate for the Bureau of Business Research.

Charles Bare said if there were a recession, the first places to suffer would be areas dependent on the manufacturing of durables, such as automobiles and clothing.

"Nebraska, however, depends largely on the agriculture industry, which every person in the nation needs in order to feed themselves," Bare said. "The first things to be sacrificed in a recession would be something like a new car, but it is hard to cut down on agriculture products."

"If you look back at past recessions, you will see that it is states that are heavily dependent on manufacturing of durables, such as Indiana and Ohio, that have been hit the hardest," Bare said.

Nevertheless, no one will be immune from a national recession, Bare indicated.

"It will take more time for the effects to filter down to Nebraska," Bare said. "A national recession would have to continue for three months to a quarter of a year before Nebraska would feel any major effects."

Bare explained how a recession would affect Nebraska. People would eventually start buying less food during a recession, he said, and grocery stores would cut their inventories and buy less from the shipping plants and the shipping plants would buy less from farmers.

According to Bare, a possibility could be an influx of people into the state as Nebraska's appeal grows during a recession.

"It all depends on the severity of the recession," Bare said. "There has been added interest and if a recession hits there could be an influx of people and manufacturing."

Nebraska's unemployment rate, however, is the lowest of any state, something manufacturers would have to consider before moving in.

"I believe the figure of 4 percent unemployment is considered to be almost full employment and Nebraska's rate was 3.1 percent in August," Bare said.

If manufacturers cannot find people to fill positions, the advantages of moving into Nebraska would obviously be less, Bare said.

Landscaping scheduled

Planting of shrubs and flowering trees in the islands along west Cornhusker Highway should begin sometime this spring, according to Elga Ronis of the Department of Roads. The project is designed to beautify the area from the I-80 interchange east to just west of I-180.

"Because this is an important entrance into Lincoln, the Department of Roads felt landscaping was needed," Ronis commented.

The landscaping will consist of small shrubs, not more than three feet in height, and flowering trees that will reach about 20 feet when mature. "The shrubs and trees will not impede traffic or cause any hazards to drivers," Ronis said.

The area is now being advertised to construction companies for bids to be let in November he said. Planting should start in April, weather permitting, and finish sometime in mid-June. When construction is finished, the landscaping will be maintained by the city.

Program initiated to prevent rape

An effort to organize the showing of a UNL Police Department presentation on rape prevention has been started by the Campus Life Committee of ASUN, said ASUN Sen. John Parsons.

Parsons said the UNL police are often given a bad image because they are most visible when writing tickets. However, he said, the police are concerned about students and therefore have devised rape prevention presentation.

After hearing many rumors about a large number of rapes on campus Parsons decided to go to the UNL police first to get the facts. Parsons said four rapes had been reported to them, with only one on campus. Parsons said the police chief felt the rumors started when it was assumed that all rapes occurring in Lincoln happen on the UNL campus.

In order to reach all female students, Parsons said he will attempt to have the police presentation shown in sororities, on dormitory floors and at both unions for those who live off-campus. To ensure that the presentations are given, Parsons said, it will be requested that the sororities and dormitory floors inform the committee when the showing will take place.

Parsons said information to the houses and residence halls should be out within the next week. Some student assistants, residence hall directors, complex program directors, and HEP students have already seen the presentation.

Schwartzkopf to speak

NU Regent Ed Schwartzkopf will speak on Open Admissions 2:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Nebraska Union Main Lounge.

Schwartzkopf's speech is part of the Afternoon Speaker's Forum sponsored by the Union Program Council's Talks and Topics Committee.

The speech is free to the public.

Committee...

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Finally, questions were raised regarding the NU Board of Regents priority list. The renovation of the Agricultural Engineering building, Bessey Hall, the Former Law College and Architectural Hall appear at the top of the list, in that order.

Dworak said he was concerned about the high priority of the Former Law College and Architectural Hall.

"Some of the needs we've seen seem more critical than the renovation of Former Law," he said.

It was explained that the renovation of those buildings is part of a consolidation effort of the College of Architecture. At the present, students in architecture attend class in four different buildings.

The renovation would help make the college more compact and free space in other buildings. It was also pointed out that without several structural improvements the buildings would not be fit for use within a few years.

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