

United Way and State Bar could ease budget cuts

By Tim Schaffert

Legal Services of Southeast Nebraska is facing financial trouble with the approach of federal budget cuts. But director Tim Sindelar said his office has been looking into potential funding from local sources.

Sindelar said he has had "fruitful" discussions with the State Bar Association. Adding a dollar to the filing fees already present in the state court system was one alternative discussed, he said. The dollar addition to filing fees could raise as much as \$500,000 for his office, he said.

Sindelar also said increased support from The United Way of Lincoln-Lancaster County and other local foundations could help offset decreased federal support.

Although legal aid in Lincoln had a modest beginning in the 1950s, Sindelar said his office now helps thousands of low income families every year, covering a large area of southeast Nebraska.

In the 1950s, legal aid in Lincoln consisted of one part-time man fielding calls from the University of Nebraska, Sindelar said. He referred those seeking legal aid to local attorneys who volunteered their time.

In 1967, Legal Services of Lincoln was established when federal grants became available. Legal services throughout the country got a boost in 1974 when the federally funded Legal Services Corporation was created. Legal Services of Lincoln expanded its aid across southeast Nebraska in 1974 and changed its name to Legal Services of Southeast Nebraska in 1978, Sindelar said.

In 1980, according to an annual report, the legal group helped more than 14,000 low-income families, which included 2,661 court cases. Sindelar said his office serves 17 counties and has 30 full-time employees, including 12 lawyers.

Legal services are available to people whose income does not exceed 125 percent of the federal poverty level. Of cases handled by the office, about one-third are family related, such as divorce and child custody. Another one-third involves consumer and employment matters. The remaining cases include income maintenance, landlord-tenant disputes, and individual rights.

With federal budget cuts of at least 50 percent pending, Sindelar said the future of his office is still uncertain.

Study grants for overseas still accepted

The 1982-1983 competition for grants for graduate study abroad offered under the Fulbright Program and by foreign governments, universities and private donors will close Oct. 31.

Roberto Esquenazi-Mayo, UNL's Fulbright program adviser, said the deadline for filing applications at UNL is Sept. 28. Application forms and information are available from Esquenazi-Mayo at Oldfather Hall 1033.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens at the time of application and generally must hold a bachelor's degree before the beginning of the grant. They should also be proficient in the language of the host country.

Except for specific awards, candidates may not hold a Ph.D. at the time of application. Candidates for 1982-1983 are ineligible for a grant to a country if they have been doing graduate work or conducting research in the country for six months or more during the 1981-1982 academic year.

Most of the grants offered provide round-trip transportation, tuition and maintenance for one academic year.

Creative and performing artists are not required to have a bachelor's degree, but must have four years of professional study or equivalent experience. Social work applicants must have at least two years of professional experience after the master of social work degree. Candidates in medicine must have an M.D. at the time of application.

Mini-marathon set in Omaha

The Midwest's only 10-kilometer run for health professionals will be in Omaha Oct. 4 at 3 p.m. at the NU Medical Center.

The fourth annual Oktoberfest Mini-marathon is open to health science personnel and hospital employees in Nebraska and the surrounding states of Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

The race will be in conjunction with the university's annual Oktoberfest, a public health fair. Richard Simmons, star of a daily exercise program on NBC television, will be featured at Oktoberfest.

The Collegiate Money Quiz...



Problem: You are suddenly starving to death after studying all night. You want to go to the grocery store to pick up some lifesaving junk food. You are broke. What do you do?

___a. Starve to death. ___b. Eat your books. ___c. Wake up someone to loan you the money (and hope they don't hit you first). ___d. Use your Bank-In-The-Box card from NBC in the machine at the grocery store.

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Answer: The healthiest answer, in light of the alternatives, is d. Use your Bank-In-The-Box card from NBC. NBC has Bank-In-The-Box machines all over town, so you can get cash, make deposits, transfer funds, and avoid starving to death. Stop by the NBC Campus Money Center in the Nebraska Union and apply for a checking account and Bank-In-The-Box card. It could be a lifesaver this semester.