

More students are on time with tuition payment

By Joe Kreizinger

Payment of the balance of UNL student tuition accounts must be made no later than 4 p.m. Wednesday, according to Robert Clark, UNL director of student accounts.

Tuition fees, which must now include a \$20 late service charge, can be brought to the Bursar's Office, Administration Building 204.

The UNL Business Finance Office indicated more students have paid their tuition as compared to this time last year, Clark said.

"One reason is the increase in partial financial aid," Clark said.

Partial aid means that more students have a balance to pay, Clark said.

The other explanation Clark gave was the increase in the late service charge from \$10 to \$20 this year. Tuition paid in full on or before last Wednesday did not require this additional fee. Clark said the \$20 fee provides incentive for many students to pay their tuition on time.

Clark said the "large, large majority" of UNL students did get their tuition payments made on time.

"With the size of our student body and the complexities of the system, there will always be some problems," he said. "But the majority of students are quite good when it comes to tuition payment."

If a student's payment is not received by the Sept. 30 deadline, that student could be dismissed from the university, Clark said.

"This is not a clear-cut situation," Clark said. "If the student does not pay by the deadline, and the university is in some way responsible, we will give it our consideration."

Clark added the university does not normally make extensions for late payment. He said the Office Scholarships and Financial Aids works with students who ask for extensions, and attempt to find the best possible solution to their individual financial problems.

a short-term loan is one of the most popular solutions, Clark said.

"The short-term loan, available through the financial aids office, is one of the best sources of money for students in need," Clark said. "Many students choose to go that route."

Clark said higher tuition rates figure into a student's

ability to pay tuition but said it is impossible to say how much.

Clark said surveys in past years show only about 0.5 percent of total tuition is never collected. He said the percentage of students who pay tuition on time has fluctuated little in the last few years.

Any of a number of reasons could result in a student's failure to pay tuition, Clark said.

"Some students have their financial situation all figured out," he said. "Others live day to day. It's natural that some things will come up and cause financial problems to some students, whether its trouble with a vehicle or anything else that can cause an unexpected burden."

Clark said his biggest disappointment was not with the students but with the financial payment system, which itself may cause some difficulties.

"Hopefully down the road, all the financial aid difficulties will be resolved," Clark said. "But solving all the problems will probably be a long time coming."

Plaintiffs unsure about bypass plea

By William Graf

The Citizens to Preserve Wilderness Park have until Oct. 24 to appeal Judge Warren Urbom's decision to lift the injunction on construction of the West Bypass.

But the plaintiffs say they haven't decided whether to appeal.

Marge Schlitt, a member of the group, and a named plaintiff in the May 1979 suit that halted construction of the roadway, said all the plaintiffs need to be contacted, at which time a decision will be made.

Besides Schlitt and the Citizens to Preserve Wilderness Park, Doug McCallum, a Lincoln teacher; the Citizens for Environmental Improvement and the Sierra Club are named as plaintiffs.

"We are considering the pros and cons of the appeal," Schlitt said. "And by no means is the decision being taken lightly."

She said the cost of the appeal is a concern. If an appeal is filed, she said, they are going to have to raise more money.

On the other hand, Charles Nutter, of the Nebraska State Department of Roads, said it is hard to say when construction of the bypass will begin. He said much of the right-of-way has yet to be purchased.

The West Bypass is a roadway that will connect Interstate 80 with U.S. Highway 77 south of Lincoln decreasing traffic on 9th and 10th streets and encouraging the growth of west Lincoln.

The roadway will require six acres of Wilderness Park and will parallel the park for five miles.

The plaintiffs argue the noise from the highway will disrupt the park. Also, they cite a federal law that states public park land cannot be used for any other purpose unless there is no "feasible and prudent alternative to the use of such land."

Last Tuesday Judge Urbom ruled there are no reasonable alternative routes to the roadway. Plaintiffs argued in court the alternative routes would have a lesser impact on the community than using a portion of Wilderness Park, which is the site of a day camp.

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Photo by Mark Billingsley

Abel resident Ken Curran displays his laundry on the intramural football field east of Cather/Pound Residence Halls. Curran says he prefers air drying his clothes because it is faster and cheaper than using a drying machine.

Regents want increased non-resident recruitment

By Laure Perlinger

Looking ahead to the possibility of declining enrollment at NU, the NU Board of Regents approved at the September meeting Omaha Regent Kermit Hansen's proposal for stepping up recruitment of out-of-state students.

"It's amazing that we're doing as well as we are," said Jim Raglin, public affairs director at UNL, referring to this year's 25,000 plus enrollment, the highest ever at UNL.

Raglin said Hansen is looking at the potential for declining enrollment, a factor avoided the last few years despite declines elsewhere.

The idea is to recruit more out-of-state students through intensified contact with NU alumni, by promoting educational quality and by seeking to enroll the children of the NU graduates who no longer live in Nebraska, he said.

The number of Nebraskans enrolling at UNL and UNO is relatively high, Raglin said, adding these figures are out of line with other universities.

Raglin said 94 percent of UNO students are state residents. He estimated 91 to 93 percent of UNL's students are from Nebraska.

"We have by far the largest proportion of our own students attending UNL," said Harry Allen, director of institutional research at UNL.

About 90 percent of UNL students are Nebraskans, Allen said. By comparison, the closest Big Eight school probably has about 20 percent non-residents.

Allen said the University of Colorado at Boulder has about 35 percent non-Coloradoans enrolled. Raglin said he thinks the social atmosphere and climate in Colorado draw an increasing number of non-residents to the slopes and colleges in Colorado, rather than strictly academics.

Allen said UNL enrolls about 15 percent of Nebraska high school graduates. Although he has not scanned this fall's enrollment categories, he said this is probably slightly higher than last year.

"By significant proportions, UNL has the smallest number of non-resident students," Allen said.

But Raglin said "vigorous recruitment" does not necessarily mean NU will put on a "dog and pony show" at career days, or events where contact with high school students is high.

"I'm not saying that the private and independent colleges don't put on a more visual show," Raglin said.

He said legislation also comes into play because Nebraska colleges and universities are governed by LB756,

which defines the role of higher educational institutions.

In effect, LB756 outlines practices for avoiding a competitive recruiting battle with other private and state colleges in Nebraska, Raglin said.

Raglin said he does not believe Hansen's resolution was intended to increase revenue for NU from out-of-state tuition fees although resident tuition per credit hour is currently \$29.25 at UNL and non-resident tuition is \$79.25 per credit hour.

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