Daily Nebraskan

Tougher penalties . . .

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need.

"I have learned more from nine months of probation than I would have in two days in jail," McGrath said.

The student said he had a better chance to learn that he was abusing alcohol by enrolling in the alcohol classes required in his probation.

Brenda Wiseman, executive director of the Alcoholism Council of Nebraska, said that LB568 was dangerous because prison would not help alcoholics.

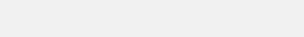
"I'm concerned that we don't lose any tools for identifying alcoholism and getting treatment," Wiseman said.

Lincoln attorney John R. Doyle, who said he once had a drinking problem, said mandatory revocation of the

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Thursday, January 21, 1982

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driver's license would be the single most effective deterrent to DWI offenses.

Ron Brown, executive director of the Nebraska County Attorneys Association, agreed.

"I would bet you that in 95 percent of the cases, the defendants would rather spend two days in jail than lose their licenses," Brown said.

Dr. Eric Pierson, a Lincoln neurosurgeon, supported jail sentences as a deterrent. Prevention of drunk driving is a key because many of the accidents are caused by firsttime offenders, he said.

"If you don't prevent the first offense, you won't prevent a substantial number of deaths," Pierson said. "If this bill is not a deterrent, I think you really should find one. It's a scandal that this is allowed to go on."

Firm studying expense of employee insurance

A consulting firm has been hired to determine whether UNL employees will be able to lower their health insurance premiums next semester.

John Russell, director of personnel and services, told members of the Faculty Senate Tuesday that the Peat, Marwick, Mitchel and Co., consulting firm in Kansas City, Kan, will study a difference in health insurance costs between Omaha and Lincoln which may affect premiums.

Because health care in Lincoln is cheaper than in Omaha, some faculty senators have proposed a new insurance program which would allow UNL employees to pay lower premiums than UNO employees. But, Russell said, other things must be considered which might "balance out" the premium payments.

For instance, if the insurance benefit program favors UNL, there would be no reason to adjust insurance premiums, he said.

Raymond Walcott, the consultant studying the case, is scheduled to give his recommendations to the senate Feb. 8.

In other action, senate members elected Larry Walklin and Maruice Baker as this year's president and secretary, respectively.



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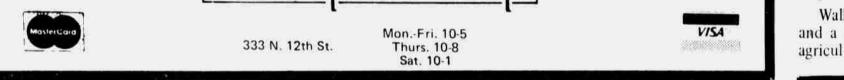
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Walklin is chairman of the broadcasting department and a professor in the School of Journalism. Baker is an agricultural economics professor.



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