

Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

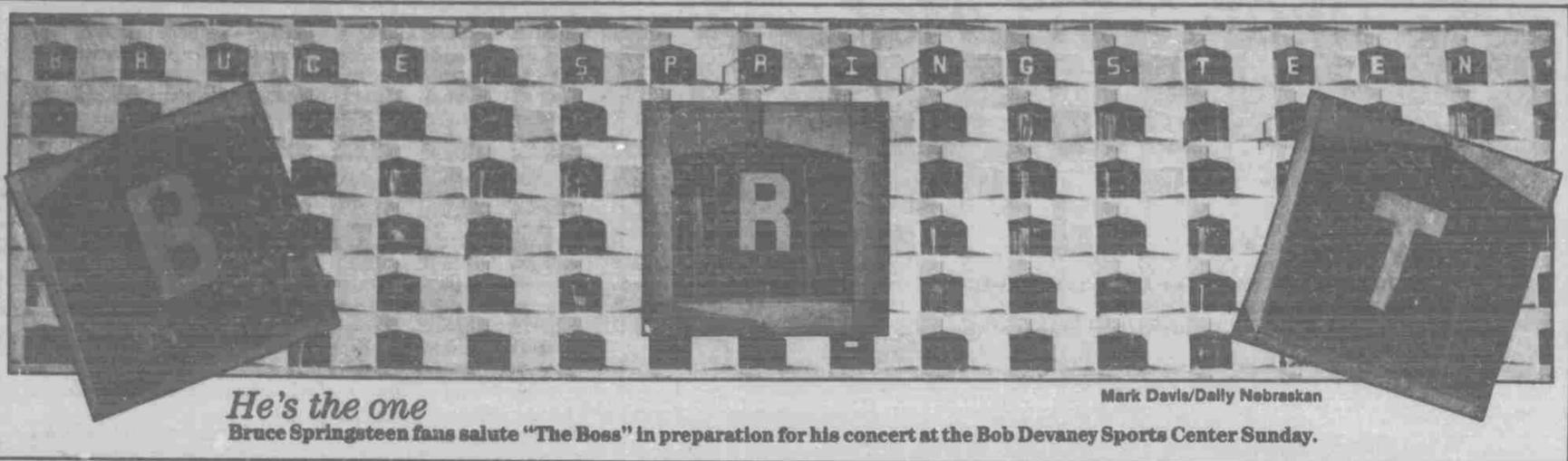
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Weather: Mostly cloudy, windy and cooler today with a high of 47 (8C). Thursday night, clearing and much colder with a low of 22 (-6C). Friday, mostly sunny and warmer with a high in the upper 40s to the lower 50s (10C).

Bob Brubacher/Daily Nebraskan

Ranking Roger plots a return visit...Page 7

UNL rasslers tackle UNO Mavs...Page 12



He's the one

Bruce Springsteen fans salute "The Boss" in preparation for his concert at the Bob Devaney Sports Center Sunday.

Mark Davis/Daily Nebraskan

Officials criticize tight admissions proposal Kerrey's commission studies improvements for higher education

By Brad Gifford

Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

Although a commission studying ways to improve higher education in Nebraska has made no formal recommendations to Gov. Bob Kerrey, the college and university community is reacting unfavorably to three proposals under consideration.

The Citizens Commission for the Study of Higher Education, a 66-member group created by Kerrey, has just begun to consider information it has gathered since July. Assistant Director Andrew Cunningham said Tuesday the commission will enter virtual seclusion for the policy-making process. The group will reveal no decisions until Kerrey receives the full report Dec. 18. But indications that the commission may adopt proposals to tighten UNL's admissions standards, delete its remedial or "catch-up" courses and merge it with Nebraska's state colleges have drawn fire from college and university officials.

• Admissions Standards:

"Admissions standards are not so much to deny anyone admission to the university, but to better prepare students to experience academic success," said Al Papik, director of admissions.

Commission member Paula Wells of Omaha earlier this week said the group probably would recommend tougher entrance standards, possibly tests, to make access to UNL and UNO more restrictive. UNL and UNO currently offer open admission to any graduate of an accredited Nebraska high school. In 1986, however, students will have to meet one of four specific requirements to enter.

Those guidelines are:

- four years of language arts; two years each of math (excluding general math) science and social studies.
- OR an ACT test score of 18, SAT score of 850.
- OR upper-half class standing after junior year.
- OR three years of language arts and one year math (conditional admittance). Students entering the university under this

provision must upgrade their academic base to meet the first requirement level in their freshman year to continue.

A UNL task force developed the new standards in 1982 after a year-long study.

"I'd like to give this plan a chance before we start looking at a different one," Papik said.

Minority group leaders have said stricter standards discriminate against minorities.

Deb Chapelle, director of the Nebraska State Student Association, said tougher standards also would discriminate against students from small, rural high schools, which don't have extensive college preparatory programs. She advocates improvements on the elementary, junior and senior high school levels rather than stricter entrance requirements.

• Remedial Courses:
Wells said the commission also is likely to suggest that the university stop offering remedial or "catch-up" courses.

These courses currently are offered through the Division of Continuing Studies, Papik said,

and are vital to the 1986 admission plan, which would allow students with deficiencies to upgrade their basics during the freshman year.

The university can help students from high schools which can't provide a variety of courses by offering classes that "start at the beginning," Papik said.

"I don't call those persons deficient students," Papik said.

• Merger:
NU Regent Robert Koefoot said he favors a merger of the NU system with the state colleges at a hearing Tuesday in Lincoln. He favors the single, multicampus institution because Nebraska has only about 40,000 students in four-year institutions; state and university resources need to be used more efficiently; and duplication of graduate and upper-level courses should be avoided. The bottom line, he said, is that a merger would save money.

William Fuller, director of the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, said quality might be exchanged for the savings.

"It depends on the goals the commission has for education," Fuller said. "I'm not sure that a change of governance would reduce costs or improve quality."

Carrol Thompson, chairwoman of the State College Board of Trustees, said at the hearing that space between the state's four-year institutions must be maintained.

"Centralization stifles early response to need," Thompson said. "Early response to need is important in a state as vast as Nebraska."

Koefoot said the commission must "have teeth" if it is going to be effective. Neither the governor nor the Legislature is bound to the group's recommendations, and Koefoot said that past educational commissions have had little impact on policy.

Fuller said the commission's opinion "will be respected and will be listened to" because of the national trend toward educational reform and Kerrey's responses to his other task forces.

"I've always honored the commitment of time and the recommendations these people make," Kerrey said.

Save a life today — adopt a smoker

Smokeout helps would-be quitters kick habit

By Gene Gentrup

Daily Nebraskan Senior Reporter

Today is the Great American Smokeout. The goal of this year's Great American Smokeout is to get at least one in every five smokers to give up cigarettes today from midnight to midnight.

The Great American Smokeout

Barb Schumacher, chairwoman for this year's Lancaster County smokeout, said smokers will be adopted by non-smokers for one day and monitored to see if they can refrain from "lighting-up."

According to the American Cancer Society, last year nearly 36 percent of all American smokers attempted to give up cigarettes on Smokeout Day and 8 percent succeeded for the full 24 hours. One to 11 days later, more than 4 percent

were reported still not smoking.

For the fourth consecutive year, Larry Hagman will be National Chairman for the 1984 Smokeout. During the day a national hotline will be available for would-be quitters by dialing 900-210-KWIT. A caller can receive friendly advice and encouragement based on personal experience.

TV newsman Mel Mains, celebrity spokesperson for Lancaster County, will join Schumacher and appear on the KOLN Morning Show with host Leta Powell Drake. The three will discuss details of the Smokeout while Drake and Mains plan to "adopt" each other for the day and quit smoking for at least 24 hours.

Schumacher said another goal is to create a public awareness of how smoking effects a person's health. She said packets about quitting smoking have been sent to schools and businesses. A "Grimm Reaper," whom Schumacher described as "the symbol of death," will be handing out "quit-smoking" paraphernalia on the Nebraska Wesleyan Campus.

Information booths on how to quit smoking will be set up in the Nebraska

Union, Centrum and Gateway Shopping centers.

This is the eighth year for the nationwide smokeout. The idea originated from Lynn R. Smith, editor of the Monticello, Minn., Times in 1974. His idea of smokers

Society's clinic to help smokers make a fresh start

giving up cigarettes, called "D-day," quickly spread through Minnesota and by 1976 went west to California where it became known as the Great American Smokeout. In 1977, the Smokeout was observed for the first time nationwide.

Smokers will have the chance to help themselves and others break the habit at a stop-smoking clinic hosted by the American Cancer Society.

The "Freshstart" clinic will consist of four one-hour sessions scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. Nov. 27, Nov. 29, Dec. 3 and Dec. 5. The meetings will be at the Lincoln Center Building, Room 327, 15th and N streets.

The clinic will be given by Marty Maseman, a registered nurse, a member of the American Cancer Society and a former smoker. Maseman said she will stress group support and sharing of thoughts

and experiences.

Anyone interested in attending the sessions should call the American Cancer Society at 489-0330. A \$5 fee will be charged to cover the cost of renting the room.

Maseman said smokers have to really want to quit smoking before they can put out their last cigarette. At the clinic, she said, the group members will discuss why they want to quit and help others stick to their decision to stop.

Tips for quitting smoking, provided by the American Cancer Society, are on Page 6.