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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Weather: Partly sunny and warmer today with a high of 36 (2C). Tonight, cloudy and cold with a low of 17 (-8C). Friday, windy and very cold with flurries and a high only in the teens (-7C). Friday night, very cold with a low around 0 (-17C).

Bob Brubacher/Daily Nebraskan

The Mag sings for 'The King'...Page 7

The BelAirs do it all for you...Page 13

The best laid plans of mice and men...

State Sen. Calvin Carstens of Avoca contemplates how he will vote Wednesday on the floor of the Legislature.



Joel Sartore/Daily Nebraskan

Parent asks for more time

Union Board to decide fate of University Child Care Project

By Gene Gentrup
Senior Reporter

The Nebraska Union Board will decide at its Tuesday meeting whether the University Child Care Project will be allowed to stay in the recently purchased Commonplace Building until May 1986 — one year longer than a previous agreement.

Bridget Nifoussi, a parent whose daughter attends the child care program, asked the board for extended use of the building from May 1985 until May 1986. She said this would give parents enough time to find another child-care program, and UCCP could find a place to relocate.

The UCCP has been a tenant of the Commonplace Building since 1960. NU bought the building from the United

Ministries in Higher Education with plans to oust the UCCP this May. The board plans to use the building for new office space for campus organizations.

Nifoussi said the program usually uses only the downstairs for activities but also needs part of the upstairs for the children's afternoon nap. Licensing regulations will not allow the children to sleep below ground level, she said.

Nifoussi said the governing board of UCCP needs an extra year to find a new location for the program and funding, if buying and renovation are necessary.

Nifoussi asked that a decision be made soon because if the child-care program is not allowed to stay, parents would need time to find another care program by the end of May.

She described the program as a

"non-traditional child-care program where children are able to grow around both men and women in a 'non-sexist' atmosphere."

ASUN president Mark Scudder told the board that student response is "mixed" over a move last week by university officials to remove the Union's bowling alley and RecRoom for construction of a new university bookstore.

"I'm getting a positive response from the older students who have said 'it's nice and it's about time it was accomplished' and I've got a response from people who are frequent users of the bowling alley and their opinions are against it," Scudder said.

Construction of the university bookstore is awaiting approval from the NU Board of Regents in February.

Legislature should remember Lied arts center, official says

By Brad Gifford
Senior Reporter

The state Legislature should remember the Lied Center for the Performing Arts, although Gov. Kerrey proposed delaying the project's first appropriation until next year, said an official of the Lied Center Fund Campaign.

Jack Thompson, co-chairman of the campaign, said the group hopes the Legislature will appropriate \$250,000 "as a token that they are still pledged to the project."

Kerrey announced Tuesday that he had deleted \$1.35 million scheduled for

the center from his 1985-86 budget. The Lied Center cut was one of several changes Kerrey made to cut \$10 million from his original spending plan. Kerrey said the cut will have little effect on the center's construction.

"In a recent discussion with (D. B.) Woody Varner, I discovered that most if not all of the \$1.35 million recommended for Lied will not be needed until 1988," Kerrey said.

Varner, Thompson's Lied fund counterpart and president of the NU Foundation, is in California and could not be reached for comment. But Thompson said that since land acquisition for the building had not been completed, no

"real" delay would result from Kerrey's action.

Ray Coffey, UNL business manager, said negotiations are "underway" with the Knights of Pythius, which owns the corner lot at 11th and O streets. Three other lots, now occupied by Nebraska Bookstore, will not be bought until the store has moved to its new building, now under construction at 13th and Q streets.

Thompson said the fund drive is progressing "very well."

"We're getting a very encouraging response from outside Nebraska," he said.

Regent proposal is tough dilemma for Ed Commission

By Brad Gifford
Senior Reporter

Members of the citizens' group that compiled a study of higher education in Nebraska on Wednesday told the Legislature's Education Committee they agreed on all but one of their 30 recommendations — governance of college and universities.

James C. Olson, director of the Citizens Commission for the Study of Higher Education, said the group agreed state colleges and the NU system should be governed by the NU Board of Regents. The commission's points of disagreement, he said, were the structure of the "superboard" and whether the members of the body should be appointed or elected.

The members concluded in recommendation number 29 that the "new" board of regents would consist of nine members, three from each congressional district. The regents would be appointed by the governor and serve six-year terms, which would be staggered so three members' terms would expire every two years.

Student input would come from three student members appointed for one-year terms by the governor. No campus under the board could have more than one student representative.

Debra Chapelle, executive director of the Nebraska State Student Association, said more student representation would be needed for effective representation from all campuses.

"Changing the governing system, if there's proof that it will improve higher education in Nebraska, is

fine with us," Chapelle said. "But students have to have adequate input into the governing process. A system that allows only three student representatives would erode the ability of each campus to make its needs known to the board."

Olson said the "superboard" concept has been enacted in many states because of demographic and economic conditions.

"This seems to be the trend in the country," Olson said. "As costs go up and enrollments go down, there just has to be consolidation."

The reports show Nebraska's college-age enrollment declined 8.5 percent from 1970 to 1983. College-age population increased 2.7 percent during the same period, but Olson said that that age group will decline.

Total enrollment increased during that period, mainly because record numbers of older students have either returned to college for retraining or have enrolled for the first time. This age group cannot be counted on to maintain total enrollment, Olson warned, because their number is not predicted to increase much more.

To increase accessibility to Nebraska's colleges and universities, the commission proposed the Legislature appropriate funds to all public and private schools so each can match the federal State Student Incentive Grant funds. The report also calls for the lawmakers to vote funds into the State Scholarship Fund. The fund was established by the Legislature in 1978, but senators have failed to finance it. The measure for funding fell two votes short last year.

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