

**Weather:** Mostly sunny and warm today with a high of 45. Winds should be out of the southwest from 5 to 10 mph. Tonight, increasing clouds with a low of 22. A chance of showers Thursday.

**Nebraska agriculture promoted by steak-out**

Arts and Entertainment, page 11

**Ivy-less Husker women lose 84-64 to Kansas**

Sports, page 8



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## Glut of bills may sink amendment giving vote to NU student regents

By Todd von Kampen  
Senior Reporter

ASUN President Gerard Keating said Sunday he has had "nothing but positive response so far" from senators to a constitutional amendment that would give NU's three student regents one combined vote on the university's governing board.

But several senators said a crowded agenda and the short 60-day session probably would prevent the amendment, LR306CA, from reaching the floor of the Legislature. If the amendment clears committee, 30 senators would have to approve it on final reading to place it on the general-election ballot in November.

The amendment has a chance if it clears committee within two or three weeks, said Scottsbluff Sen. William Nichol, speaker of the Legislature.

"If they wait until the middle of March, it wouldn't have any chance unless someone takes it as a priority bill," he said.

Student regents now may speak at NU Board of Regent's meetings and vote on parliamentary matters, but can't vote on policy questions. The amendment, sponsored by Neligh Sen. John DeCamp, would count the vote of a majority of the student regents as one vote on policy questions.

Keating said the Legislature has not considered giving student regents a vote since 1974, when former Hastings Sen. Richard Marvel introduced a constitutional amendment with the same goal as DeCamp's plan. Senators killed Marvel's amendment in favor of one that made NU's student body presi-

dents non-voting regents. Voters narrowly approved the amendment that November.

Keating said that giving student regents a vote has been one of the more important goals of his administration. More than half of NU's peer institutions have voting student regents, he said.

"We have the same rights and privileges as any regent — we research issues, we work with faculty and administration to develop policies, we attend meetings," he said. "But we don't have the ultimate privilege to vote."

**'We have the same rights and privileges as any regent...but we don't have the ultimate privilege to vote.'**

— Keating

At least three senators besides DeCamp have indicated they may co-sponsor the amendment, Keating said. Two of them, Lincoln Sen. Don Wesely and Omaha Sen. Tim Hall, are members of the Legislature's Constitutional Revision and Recreation Committee, which will hear the bill. Ord Sen. Carson Rogers is the third supporter.

Imperial Sen. Rex Haberman said it will be a struggle to keep the amendment alive because of the enormous backlog of bills. As of Monday, senators had introduced 251 new bills and eight constitutional amendments besides

the 332 bills and one amendment left over from the 1985 regular session.

Two of the leftover bills were killed Monday.

Haberman said he would oppose the amendment because it gives voting power to a minority constituency. The student vote "would have to be a special-interest or biased vote," he said.

"It's the students that make up the university system," Keating said. "We are the system; we should have the right to vote on something that affects our future."

Lincoln Sen. David Landis voiced another problem with the amendment: It would violate the federal principle of "one man, one vote." Although each of the eight voting regents represents about 200,000 people, the student regent vote would represent about 40,000 students, he said. NU students also can vote for regents in their home districts, he said.

"All citizens should have an equal share in the governance of political subdivisions," Landis said. "The voting student regent would violate that principle."

Keating said DeCamp has asked Attorney General Robert Spire for an opinion on whether the amendment can be considered under the "one man, one vote" principle. The Legislature often uses the attorney general's opinions, which do not have the force of law, in deciding which bills it may consider.

Keating said Monroe Sen. Lee Rupp, chairman of the Constitutional Revision and Recreation Committee, has tentatively scheduled a public hearing on the amendment for late next week.



Mark Davis/Daily Nebraskan

Miles Sullivan, manager of the Holiday Express service station at 2745 O St., takes time out for a smile as business comes and goes quickly with lowered gas prices.

## Surplus, competition spur gasoline war, local retailers say

By Kelly Harre  
Staff Reporter

The war is on. Lincoln service stations are battling over pennies to attract more customers. Gasoline prices began to drop late last week with station owners setting prices below \$1 a gallon for regular fuel in Lincoln for the

first time in more than a year. Station owners said the cause of the initial price decrease has them baffled. But a few speculated that prices fell because of a crude oil surplus on the supplier's end.

Mark Whitehead, a local gas

See **GAS WAR** on 6

## Protest over class conflict receives response

### 23 appeal to Vice Chancellor

By Kelly Harre  
Staff Reporter

Business students used the power of numbers when they protested a class conflict Tuesday at the office of the vice chancellor for academic affairs.

The third floor of the Administration Building was filled with 23 students who decided to appeal their problem to authorities in mass. It worked.

The conflict over an Economics 212 class started when a computer listing at drop/add failed to list the course as only for students in the Teachers College.

Tuesday, the course professor told many of the students that they didn't belong in the class. When 23 of the 30 enrolled students got up to leave, the students realized that maybe the problem wasn't all their fault.

One student called the business economics office and talked to Roger F. Riefler, economics department chairman. Riefler referred the students to the office of the vice chancellor for

academic affairs.

Vice Chancellor Robert Furgason said he would do everything he could to create a new class section. He made this promise after many students complained about schedule conflicts and difficulties in meeting prerequisites for other classes.

Furgason told the group that "the biggest thing will be whether or not we can get a qualified instructor."

After consulting Riefler, James Griesen, an associate to Furgason, walked into the stuffy, crowded hall to meet with students, who waited for more than a half-hour for a response.

Griesen told students that he believed the problem was resolved.

"I promised I'd find the money if he'd (Riefler) find the instructor," Griesen said.

Griesen said he and Riefler tentatively have secured an instructor to teach the new class. The class should meet at the same time as originally

See **PROTEST** on 6



Andrea Hoy/Daily Nebraskan

James Griesen, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, speaks with students Greta Ritchie, left, and Gina Udell about reopening the Economics 212 class.