

WEATHER: Cloudy and cool Thursday with a 30 percent chance of showers. High around 55. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph. Mostly cloudy Thursday night. Low around 45. Mostly cloudy Friday but with some sunshine by afternoon. High 55 to 60.

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Big Eight schools split over alcohol on campus

By Jeanne Bourne
Staff Reporter

Editors note: The following story was done in conjunction with National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, Oct. 20 through 26.

The consensus of Big Eight universities on allowing alcohol on campus is split.

UNL and three other Big Eight schools — the University of Missouri, the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University — where alcohol cannot be stored or consumed in residence halls, fraternities or sororities.

Three of the four schools with "wet" campuses — the University of Colorado, Iowa State University and the University of Kansas — allow the sale of 3.2 beer in their student unions. ISU also allows students of legal drinking age to consume any type of alcohol in its residence halls. At CU, students ages 18 and above may consume 3.2 beer in the residence halls. Those 21 and above may have any type of alcohol in the residence halls.

Students of legal age at KSU can have 3.2 beer in the residence halls, but alcohol is not sold in the student union.

State drinking-age laws seem to have a direct bearing on university alcohol policies. Two of the four schools with wet campuses are in states that allow 18-year-olds and some 19-year-olds to drink: Colorado, where 18-year-olds may drink 3.2 beer, and Iowa, where a grandfather clause in the new law setting the legal drinking age at 21 allows anyone 19 years or older last July 1 to consume alcohol.

Spokesmen from both wet and dry campuses agreed that the behavior stemming from alcohol use, not the alcohol itself, causes problems.

Bill Schafer, director of student conduct at CU, said 40 to 60 percent of behavioral incidents are alcohol-related.

William Sutton of the Educational and Student Services department at KSU said alcohol is

not a serious problem on campus. Kansas law allows minors to enter bars but not to drink.

"Underage people don't have a problem getting it," he said, but behavioral incidents are not a problem.

At UNL, Bill Welsh, coordinator of residence hall administration, said behavior problems force student assistants to investigate for alcohol.

"We don't go out of our way to look for trouble," he said, but when it's obvious there's a party going on, the student assistant will confront it.

Punishment at most Big Eight universities for alcohol violations are neither swift nor severe.

Norman Moore, vice chancellor for student, personnel and auxiliary services at the University of Missouri, said enforcement is good in residence halls, but minor in possession violations still are common. Missouri laws allow minors in bars but do not allow them to consume alcohol. Moore said the bars are raided frequently for enforcement.

Only after repeated violations at UNL residence halls will a student be asked to move out, Welsh said. If a resident has a party, is put on academic probation and has another party, he or she may be asked to leave the hall, he said.

The high cost of liability insurance is scaring some Oklahoma fraternities and sororities into obeying the rules, said Elaine Kumin, administrative assistant to the vice chancellor of student affairs at Oklahoma. The fear of being held liable for a minor's alcohol-related accident forces fraternities to remain dry, she said.

Alcohol is allowed only in KU's student union because it can be controlled there, said David Ambler, vice-chancellor for student affairs at KU. Since the majority of residence hall students are under the legal drinking age, he said, alcohol could not be controlled in the halls.

Ambler said he thinks society sends mixed signals to young people. They are expected to act like adults but are denied some adult privileges, he said.



Andrea Hoy/Daily Nebraskan

Rain, rain go away

A rain puddle reflects the image of a passerby Wednesday afternoon. Rain came to Lincoln Wednesday, ending our pleasant summer weather. For more on the weather see the forecast above.

Counsel speaks on laws

Refers to present antitrust policies as "anti-competitive"

By Jim Rogers
Editorial Page Editor

"Antitrust laws are anti-competitive and anti-consumer," according to Douglas Riggs, General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Riggs preached the benefits of the market system before a standing-room-only crowd Wednesday at the UNL College of Law. In a presentation sponsored by the Federalist Society (a group of conservative law students), Riggs defended the Reagan administration's wide-ranging proposals to significantly alter U.S. anti-merger laws.

Currently, the law allows the federal government to prevent corporations from merging when the effect, "may be substantially to lessen competition, or to tend to create a monopoly." The Reagan proposal will change this language to a more lax standard of prohibiting only those mergers that, "will increase the ability to exercise market power."

In an interview before the speech, Riggs said the productive ability of U.S. firms is constrained because of the

current law.

In contrast to the early days of antitrust enforcement, Riggs said, the United States "has the luxury of being overregulated."

He said that the current wording of the anti-merger law has had the effect "of chilling pro-competitive activity at the margin." In today's world of strong international competition, "the margin's important," Riggs said.

The ultimate question is "what is the appropriate role of government," he said. On one side are "those that believe the government ought to make all resource allocation decisions," but "this administration believes that is not a correct proposition."

There is a value in relying on the market, Riggs said. Winners and losers should be chosen by the market, "instead of by the government."

Riggs said that support for the administration's proposal to amend the antitrust laws — particularly Section 7 of the Clayton anti-merger law — is widespread. "People across the political spectrum are challenging antitrust laws," Riggs added.

Instead of looking at the efficiency of an industry or firm, the law should look out for the consumer and "the consumer gets screwed only if the

(merged) entity can raise prices," he said.

Riggs rejected economic evidence criticizing the administration's proposals as, "imprecise at best."

He added that professional economists are beginning to "look at the empirical work," and "question the validity of the work."

He termed economists that raised doubts about the proposals as "maintaining faith in the old gospel." They are "dinosaurs... equivalent of those who believe the world is flat," Riggs said.

Commenting in an interview after the speech, UNL economics professor Craig MacPhee disputed several of Riggs' claims. MacPhee said that mergers were inefficient because they resulted simply in monetary transfers when firms could be investing in new productive capacity.

He also disputed the viability of the amendment's phrasing. He said that firms would be able to hide market power because, "there are lots of ways to hide profit."

MacPhee added that the administration "sounds like it's backing off" on antitrust exemptions for those companies threatened by foreign competition.

Police require waiver for unlocking cars

By Kevin Freadhoff
Staff Reporter

The UNL Police Department will soon require a person to sign waiver-release forms before an officer will attempt to unlock a person's car.

Cpl. Bill Manning said the department should be using waiver forms within 30 days. The department is going to use the waivers to protect itself from paying damage charges resulting from unlocking a car, he said.

Manning said the biggest problem they have is with cars equipped with anti-theft locks. Some 1982 and newer model cars have the lock which make opening the car without a key about a one-in-10 shot, he said.

Manning explained that anti-theft doors work by using plastic or soft metal parts in the locking device. When they try to open the doors using special tools to spring the locks, the inner door parts break, making entry impossible even with a key.

Manning said once the door parts are broken, the owner must take the car to a body shop or locksmith to get the car repaired, and that becomes costly, he said.

Manning said that most of the time the only way to get into a car with anti-theft locks is to break out a window.

Manning said the day shift of the department gets about 12 calls a week to unlock cars, which amounts to 500 to 600 cars a year.

National defense topic of panel

"Security at Risk — How Effective is our Defense?" is the topic of a panel discussion that includes retired Lt. Col. David Evans, Marines, a member of Business Executives for National Secur-

ity. The discussion will be Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union main lounge. The program is free and open to the public.