

WEATHER: Wednesday, partly cloudy. High 35 to 40. East wind 5 to 15 mph. Wednesday night, mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of light snow. Low 20 to 25. Thursday, mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of light snow. High 35 to 40.

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Work-study bill lauded in hearing

By Michael Hooper
 Senior Reporter

A bill to start a state-funded work-study program providing financial assistance and educational experience to college students received strong support and no opposition at a Nebraska legislative committee hearing Monday.

Five proponents argued for LB371, sponsored by Wayne Sen. Jerry Conway, that since federal aid to college students is declining, Nebraska needs to pick up the tab.

Pell Grants, and funds for federal work-study programs have been reduced recently, said Jon Oberg, president of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Nebraska. And many states are supplying financial aid to students through state-funded work-study programs, he said.

The need for more financial aid is no joke, said Tim Kremer, president of Wayne State College Student Senate.

"There are students who took last semester off just to make enough money to go back to school this semester," Kremer said.

In addition, proponents said the bill would create job opportunities for college students that would not only help them out financially, but would give them educational experiences in their career choices.

LB371 would provide career-oriented jobs for both public and private colleges and universities in the state.

Currently, there are only federally supported work-study programs in Nebraska. Under Conway's bill, state agencies and private non-profit charitable or service agencies would hire students

and the state would pay 70 percent of their salaries. Conway said between \$1 million and \$2 million is needed to get the program started.

Since students would work mostly in the public sector, the students' work would benefit "all of us," Conway said.

Steve Linenberger, executive director of the Nebraska State Student Association, said that while LB371 would not make up for the federal cuts in financial aid, it is one way that Nebraska could implement a cost efficient program to help college students.

"Work-study is not a handout," Linenberger said. "It is a program that embodies the philosophy of the work ethic." Students will have to work for their pay, he said.

Oberg said that in terms of providing need-based undergraduate state aid, Nebraska ranks low in comparison to other states. Most states have state-funded work study programs, he said, and some, like Minnesota, provide an average of more than \$300 to a full-time student in grant and work-study.

Linenberger said the measure also would encourage college students to stay in the state after graduation, since they would be working in their fields through the work-study program.

The many states who have state-funded work-study programs have found that many of the students enrolled in the program stay in the state after they graduate, he said.

The Education Committee Monday or Tuesday will vote on whether or not to forward LB371 to the floor of the Legislature, said Omaha Sen. Vard Johnson, temporary Education Committee chairman.



Richard Wright/Daily Nebraskan

Over our heads

Construction workers work high above the site of the Lied Center for the Performing Arts Tuesday.

UNL gets supercomputer

By Kip Fry
 Staff Reporter

Computing at UNL is definitely coming of age.

A new supercomputer network, now being installed, will allow UNL re-

searchers to conduct joint research with counterparts at other universities, said Doug Gale, director of UNL computing.

"This is like going from telegraph to long-distance telephone," Gale said.

Gale said the current system has some problems. People must use telephone lines for a computer link with another location, which is not always practical, Gale said. The system also is error-prone, slow and expensive, he said.

The new system, with its direct computer links to other Midwestern and Southern universities should alleviate those problems.

UNL's new system, called HUSKERnet, will be linked with MIDnet, a regional system that will be located at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. Other universities in the system are Iowa State University, the University of Iowa, Kansas State University, the University of Kansas, Oklahoma State University, the University of Oklahoma, the University of Arkansas, the University of Tulsa, the University of Missouri at Columbia and Washington University in St. Louis. MIDnet will be connected

to other regional networks across the country in a national system set up by the National Science Foundation.

"No one has ever built a network of this size," Gale said. The only comparable system is one maintained by the Department of Defense called ARPAnet, he said. Gale contends, however, that the system UNL will be connected to is more sophisticated.

MIDnet may obtain a connection with ARPAnet, which would enhance the chances for local contractors to compete for military contracts, Gale said.

"The new system makes UNL a center of expertise and enhances the economic viability of the area," Gale said.

UNL received a \$1 million grant from the National Science Foundation for the system. Gale said the grant will cover the costs for the hardware, but will not compensate UNL faculty members and researchers for the time they are putting in to develop the system.

Installing MIDnet is a time-consuming "piece meal" process, Gale said. He said he expects it to be completely assembled by next summer.

UMHE seeks nominees for Sue Tidball Award

By Lynne Bomberger
 Staff Reporter

Nominations are now being taken for the Sue Tidball Award for Creative Humanity.

The program, sponsored by the United Ministries in Higher Education, honors UNL students, faculty and staff members who have made significant impact on the people around them, said the Rev. Larry Doerr of UMHE.

The award is offered in memory of the late Sue Tidball, who served as a counselor and resource consultant with UMHE from 1966-76, often helping other people and organizations through volunteer work. She died of lupus erythematosus in 1976.

A committee of 15 will look for three

qualities in all nominees: creatively improving the quality of life on campus, promoting a sense of unity and having a caring attitude that leaves a lasting effect on individual lives.

"We look for someone who has gone beyond the call of duty," Doerr said.

Anyone who recognizes these attributes in someone should return a nomination sheet by Feb. 27.

Nomination sheets are available at most department offices, residence-hall desks, the student-affairs office and UMHE, 640 N. 16th St.

All nominees will be given public recognition and a framed certificate at an award ceremony April 5.

Award recipients will receive a bonus of up to \$200, Doerr said.

New tow policy eliminates final shot at paying tickets

By Libby York
 Staff Reporter

Jay Mulligan, a senior journalism major, got to his car Monday just in time to see it being towed. Despite his offer to pay his outstanding tickets, his car was impounded.

Mulligan is just one of many students at UNL who may be unaware of the new policy regarding campus towing.

Until Nov. 13, students could pay their overdue tickets just in time to prevent their cars from being towed. Because it was "time consuming,"

however, the unofficial policy was discontinued, said Lt. John Burke, UNL parking administrator.

Under this former "rule of thumb," students whose cars were being impounded were allowed 15 minutes to get cash to pay their parking fines, thus preventing the tow. The rule was later changed to allow mercy only to those students who had the cash with them. But UNL police finally decided to discontinue this practice because it placed a burden on police to collect the money, wasted time, and caused Whitney's Towing Company to respond to too many false alarms.

Burke said that by the time cars are towed, owners had "ample time to clear their tickets." He said the policy of paying to prevent towing will not be re-adopted.

"During the period of time we used it, it was OK," he said. "It helped the students out. But now it isn't worth it. They know they have an obligation to pay those tickets."

Police figures show that an average of 2,000 cars a year are impounded on campus. Since the policy change, the number of towings and the volume of outstanding tickets have increased. Burke said that in early December, before the holiday break, 244 cars were impounded at UNL. Since the beginning of the spring semester, 160 cars have been towed on campus.



Tom Lauder/Daily Nebraskan