

# Daily Nebraskan

Monday

**WEATHER:** Monday, increasing cloudiness with temperatures climbing into the 30s with a slight chance of light snow or rain. Low Monday night will be in the upper teens. Tuesday, highs in the upper teens with temperatures rising throughout the week.

**A&E:** The Daily Nebraskan decides which of the Christmas movies are naughty and which are nice — page 12

**SPORTS:** Sports editor Jeff Apel reviews the top sports stories of 1987 — page 9

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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## Orr proposes wage hike for NU employees

By Amy Edwards  
Senior Reporter

Gov. Kay Orr has proposed an additional 5 percent salary increase for Nebraska University employees for Fiscal Year 1989.

In a budget briefing Sunday night in the governor's mansion, State Budget Administrator John Rochford said an additional \$9.09 million has been proposed for university employee salaries.

Rochford said the proposal, in addition to \$5.38 million approved by the 1987 Nebraska Legislature, could mean a \$14.47 million increase — or an average 8.1 percent pay increase per NU employee.

The percentage includes all university employees and appropriation of the money would be left to university officials, Rochford said.

State colleges would have an average 6 percent employee salary increase, Rochford said.

Although Fiscal Year 1989 would normally be an "off-budget" year, Rochford said initiatives in education were possible because of an unexpected revenue for Fiscal Year 1988.

Jim Lewis, Faculty staff president at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said Orr's proposal, in addition to increased tuition, could come close to the NU Board of Regents' proposal for faculty salaries.

"If it is close, we'll work quickly to come up with a meeting of the minds," Lewis said. "If not, we'll continue to urge all of Nebraska to recognize the seriousness of the problem at the university."

ASUN president Andy Pollock said Orr's salary proposal is "a lot better than I expected," but that ASUN will not lower its original goal

of a 3-to-1 ratio between the state and the student body to raise faculty salaries.

ASUN proposed a tuition hike during the fall semester to help raise faculty salaries. The

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—Pollock

proposal included matching state funds for the salaries.

"The proposal brings a touch of optimism

about what our possibilities might be," Pollock said. "The next step for (ASUN) is to hit the senators and appropriations committee hard and to enforce our side of the issue. It is most important that we stick to our proposal of a 3-to-1 ratio so students don't have to pull an unfair amount."

Orr also has proposed an additional \$4 million for university research. Lewis said Orr's research proposal in Fiscal Year 1989 would not conflict with the need for salary increases. Lewis said the two issues are not separate, and that increased research money could eventually mean salary increases.

Orr's budget proposal includes a restoration of state aid to public schools. Rochford said the proposal will return the amount of state aid to schools to \$133 million in Fiscal Year 1989.

The proposal adds \$11 million to the \$122 million in Fiscal Year 1988.



Butch Ireland/Daily Nebraskan

### Long lines for learning

Students line up for the final checkout of general registration, which was Thursday and Friday in the Nebraska Union.

## New computer will aid students, faculty members

By David Holloway  
Staff Reporter

University of Nebraska-Lincoln engineering students and faculty members will be computing quicker this semester.

A new \$776,153 computer from Digital Equipment Corporation has about 12 times the power and memory of the Engineering College's previous computer, which was bought in 1982.

Stan Liberty, dean of the College of Engineering and Technology, said maintenance costs on the old computer were high.

"We have had the engineering computer for about five years and that's usually the lifetime of any given technology," he said.

"The computer was behind in many ways," Liberty said. "It had over 2,000 users on it, but was only a one million-instruction-per-second machine, which made the response time for students extremely low. Using the computer was a very frustrating experience."

Installation of the computer in Walter Scott Engineering Center 124 is scheduled for completion today.

The new computer will be fully integrated into the HuskerNet, linking all computing resources on campus and the college's existing computing network.

The computer will be used for re-

See **COMPUTER** on 7

## Rupp comfortable with new lobbyist

By Marge Gasnick  
Staff Reporter

Lee Rupp began working at the State Capitol again as he has for the past five years, but this year will be different.

The former state senator from Monroe resigned his position effective Dec. 31 to be vice president for university relations at the University of Nebraska.

Among his responsibilities, Rupp will lobby for the university when the Nebraska Legislature is in session. Although he works with senators from a different angle now, Rupp said he felt at home when this year's session began Jan. 6.

"I'm not one of them, but we're still good friends," he said.

Rupp said being a senator gave him

a "distinct advantage" in performing his job at the university. Because he has friends at the Legislature, it will not be a new experience to work with them, he said.

Rupp said he knows senators are bombarded with information from special-interest groups. Timing is important when the university wants to present an effective message to the Legislature, he said. Senators want relevant information, he said, but they don't have time to sift through details.

The university meets obstacles in the Legislature, Rupp said. Many out-state senators perceive the university as either "the University of Omaha" or "the University of Lincoln" instead of a state institution, he said.

"We have to overcome that mindset," he said.

To overcome this, Rupp said, stu-

dents must talk to people from their hometowns about the university and write letters to their state senators.

"The best lobbying device is a courteous, brief letter," he said.

Since taking the position at the university, Rupp said he has often been called a lobbyist. His job, however, entails more than lobbying during the yearly legislative sessions, he said.

His responsibilities, he said, are "to be the primary liaison with all government levels and to coordinate public-affairs programs on and outside the three university campuses."

Rupp said he wants to establish teamwork among university officials from the three NU campuses. In the past, a "lack of appreciation" or "misunderstanding" existed among officials, he said.

"I would like to see the mind-set of a team rather than a small number of cogs in a large machine," he said.

Rupp said he will spend part of his time speaking to community groups about the university.

"My job is to get citizens to understand that the university is an investment," he said.

To accomplish this, Rupp said, he will devote half of his time to government relations and half to public relations.

The university's goals for this legislative session are to fulfill the Board of Regents' request for faculty and non-faculty salary increases and to improve the university's research capabilities, he said.

The Board of Regents has proposed a three-year salary increase plan for university employees. The plan in-

cludes \$20.9 million for faculty and non-faculty salary increases for fiscal year 1988-1989. Part of the funds for these increases would come from \$12.9 million in requested appropriations from the state.

Rupp said Sen. David Landis of Lincoln will introduce a bill that parallels the Regents' proposals. The public hearing for the bill will be Feb. 2.

During his service in the Legislature, Rupp was also a public relations official for the LeDioyt Land Company in Omaha. Previously, he was a fisheries biologist for the Game and Parks Commission.

Rupp has a bachelor's degree in agriculture and a master's degree in biology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Welcome Back Issue