

# Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Wednesday

**Weather:** Mostly sunny and warmer Wednesday. Highs ranging from around 20 in the northeast to the mid-30s in the panhandle. Scattered snow flurries in the west Wednesday night and increasing clouds in the east. Lows 5 to 10 above.

**A&E:** Columnist gets smart about wisdom teeth--Page 8

**Sports:** Nebraska Women's basketball coach Angela Beck prepares to face Iowa State--Page 6

## Aid office gains space; solution only temporary

### Administration makes \$90,000 commitment

By Randy Lyons  
Staff Reporter

The Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid will gain more office space following a semester of controversy about cramped working space and effectiveness.

John Benson, interim director of institutional research and planning, said the office acquired 2,260 usable square feet of space in the basement of the former Teachers College.

"The additional space will increase the financial aid office space over 70 percent," Benson said.

Last fall a petition drive, circulated by first-year law student Dave Reagan, called for "more timely and effective delivery of services to students."

After the petition was filed, administration officials set up a timetable for office improvements.

Benson said that although office space has increased a great deal, the solution is only temporary and a study is being conducted for a more permanent solution to the office space problem.

Officials will study all department functions in the Administration Building to find the best use of the space, Benson said. He said most of the departments probably wouldn't be moved, but it is difficult to say what the final outcome will be.

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, said the university is working on a 21-point checklist in the

office.

"We've made commitments of about \$90,000 and hope to find additional money to complete the list," Griesen said.

He said the \$90,000 will be spent by the end of the fiscal year.

Griesen said the additional funds used for office improvements came mainly from vacancy savings. These savings become available when a university position is left unfilled for a period of time while a replacement is found. Additional funds were redirected from the chancellor's budget to assist in the improvements.

**'Putting up the new system, and working with the old one at the same time is still very difficult.'**

— McFarland

The majority of the money will be used to cover additional work by computer consultants, additional graduate assistants, anticipated operating funds and call-in staff during busy times.

William McFarland, director of the financial aid office, said the computer purchased last year should also be in full operation early enough to get out award letters to students before they leave for the summer.

"Putting up the new system and working with the old one at the same time is still very difficult," he said.

Griesen said the office move was expected to go smoothly. At this time furniture and phone lines are being installed in the new area, he said.

McFarland said a significant portion of the additional funds would be spent on increasing staff. Five temporary clerical workers and one temporary professional have been hired so far, he said.

"We've added an additional person on the telephone to answer incoming calls. We also have a person in the hallway for students who just need to drop off forms or have questions answered," McFarland said.

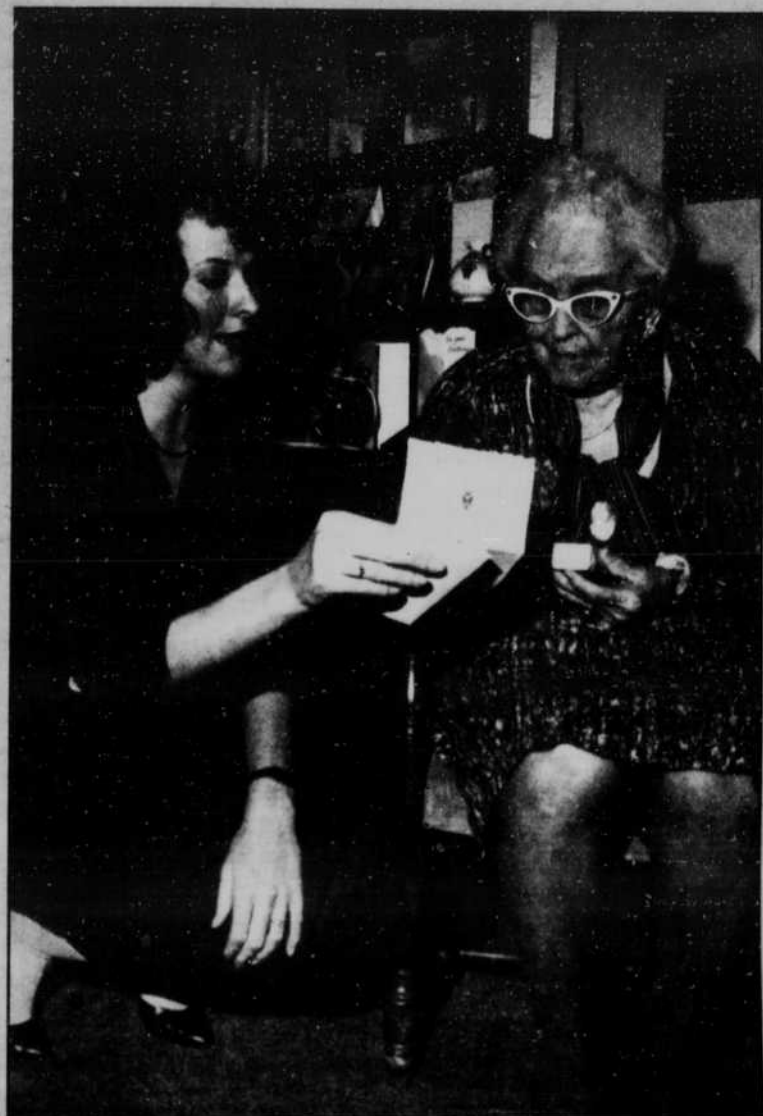
He said Administration Building 51 will also be used to answer Financial Aid Form questions students may have.

In addition to increased space and workers, more phone lines will be installed.

McFarland said as many as six phone lines may be added when the office moves. Three of the lines would be for incoming calls and three for outgoing calls.

The Guaranteed Student Loan, short-term loan and student employment departments will move into the new offices, and additional improvements are planned for the existing offices.

A wall will be removed and more seating will be added, McFarland said.



Connie Sheehan/Daily Nebraskan

Lucy Van Horne Sawyer of Pawnee City is honored in her home by her Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority sister, Heather Hughes, during Sawyer's 102nd birthday celebration Tuesday afternoon.

## Oldest alum shares memories from UNL

By Victoria Ayotte  
Staff Reporter

The tuition was lower, the campus population was smaller, and residence halls were a figment of the imagination when Lucy Van Horne Sawyer, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's oldest living alumna, attended college.

Surrounded by colored balloons, about 80 cards and two cakes, Sawyer celebrated her 102nd birthday Tuesday with family, friends and a few special guests at her home in Pawnee City.

Bryan Van Deun, executive vice president of the UNL Alumni Association, and Heather Hughes, social chairman for Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority and member of the Student Alumni Association, helped Sawyer celebrate.

Van Deun presented her with a plaque to honor her for being the oldest alumna and a letter from UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale.

Hughes gave Sawyer, an alumna of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, a fleur-de-lis brooch and a letter from the national organization.

"I had no idea anyone would pay any attention. I think I'm getting too much attention for growing old," she said.

Van Deun said the celebration is a "golden opportunity to give a little special attention to a special lady."

"One of the reasons we're doing this is to emphasize that the association with the university is a life-long experience," he said.

Sawyer said the university was much smaller when she attended from 1903 to 1905. She lived in an apartment at 1011 10th St. her freshman year before moving into the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority house as a sophomore.

Sawyer said she remembers sitting in a classroom one day when she was "kidnapped" by some members of her sorority to go to the freshman prom.

Louise Pound, a Nebraska author, was a member of the sorority and lent Sawyer a long black dress for the prom, she said.

Sawyer withdrew from college in 1905 when she got a job as a teacher in Pawnee City. She married her husband George in 1908 and had four children.

Sawyer's daughter Jane also went to UNL and was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. Her sons Ted and Hugh and grandchildren Ann and Jay also attended the university.

Sawyer said she has visited UNL often. The last time was in 1984 when she and her daughter Jane attended the 100th anniversary of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

Football is more popular today than when she attended UNL, she said.

## Liquor legislation

# First-round approval for bill regulating minor liquor sales

By Amy Edwards  
Senior Reporter

People under age 21 who work in Nebraska bars or liquor stores may not sell alcohol without adult supervision under a bill given first round approval Tuesday by the Nebraska Legislature.

LB395 was introduced by the General Affairs committee and

**legislature**  
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amended by Sen. Marge Higgins of Omaha in an attempt to prevent minors selling alcohol to other minors.

Sen. Patricia Morehead, chairperson of the committee, said the bill would reduce the temptation and peer pressure on minors to sell alcohol to other minors.

Morehead of Beatrice said the problem was brought to the attention of the committee by an Omaha lobbyist who was concerned about a large number of "late night infractions" when there was no adult supervision.

Sen. James McFarland of Lincoln opposed the bill because he said it assumes that employees under the age of 21 are more likely to sell alcohol to other minors.

McFarland said he thinks these employees are less likely to sell to minors because they can easily recognize other minors.

McFarland said the bill might cause problems for students working their way through college waiting tables in bars or restaurants.

Sen. Timothy Hall of Omaha said employers will be less likely to hire people under 21 if they had to supply constant supervision.

Both Hall and McFarland said this would result in fewer jobs for college students.

Legislators also gave first round approval on a bill that would change the method of determining penalties for people driving under the influence of alcohol.

LB377, introduced Tuesday by the Transportation Committee, would change the period of license revocation of people who refuse to submit to a breath test.

The committee amendment to the bill, proposed by Sen. Don Wesely of Lincoln, automatically revokes the person's license for one year if they refuse to take a breath test. Under current legislation, those who refuse the test have their license suspended for six months.

Wesely said the object of the bill is

to get people to take a breath test so that police can keep track of repeat offenders.

Sen. Hall proposed an amendment to LB377 to give those who don't submit to a breath test the chance to later plead guilty.

Under Hall's amendment, people who plead guilty to drunk driving after refusing a breath test are subjected to

**'In terms of fairness it was the right thing to do.'**  
—Wesely

the same penalties as people who are found guilty right away.

Hall said this amendment protects people who don't know the severity of refusing to submit to a breath test.

First-offender charges with drunk driving can receive a seven day jail sentence, a \$200 fine and a six month revocation of their driver's license.

Wesely said he doesn't know if Sen. Hall's amendment would work, but "in terms of fairness, it was the right thing to do."