

# Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Friday

**Weather:** Friday, a few morning flurries, partly sunny and warmer, high near 30. Friday night, mostly clear, low in the upper teens. Saturday, mostly sunny and warmer, high in the 40s.

**A&E:** Norwegian director proud of 'Miss Julie'. —Page 5.

**Sports:** Nebraska will face Texas A&M in the 1988 Kickoff Classic. —Page 6.

## Legislators urged to approve LB 1042

By Anne Mohri  
Senior Reporter

Thirteen supporters spoke before the Appropriations Committee Thursday, urging legislators to approve LB1042, which would finance the Nebraska School of Technical Agriculture at Curtis.

If LB1042 is passed, Curtis will operate as a separate program under the University of Nebraska Board of Regents, said Sen. William Barrett, representative of the 39th district and sponsor of the bill.

The bill calls for an additional \$350,000 to be appropriated for the fiscal year 1987-88 and \$1.4 for 1988-89. No one testified against the bill.

A scholarship fund is also established in the

bill with \$80,000 collected in sales tax from the Farm Aid III concert tickets.

Barrett said the money appropriated for Curtis may not be transferred to other university programs. Also, if the school is not given enough money, the regents would be prohibited from transferring money from other programs. The regents would be authorized to reduce or discontinue any college programs they consider unnecessary.

Gary Rex, director of policy research of the state of Nebraska, supported the bill on behalf of Gov. Kay Orr.

"It is the administration's position that sufficient funding is being included within the bill," he said.

Irvin Omtvedt, vice chancellor for the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

asked senators to appropriate the money saying "the \$1.4 million appropriated for fiscal year 1988-89 will only maintain programs and facilities at their previous levels of existence."

Omtvedt said surveys have shown Curtis to be an effective program.

Sen. Owen Elmer of Indianola said he wanted to remind the Appropriations Committee of the nationwide support for Curtis.

Two of three Nebraskans interviewed for a statewide Omaha-World Herald poll approved Orr's plan that would allow Curtis to remain open, Elmer said.

Rob Raun, chairman of Orr's Curtis task force, said Curtis offers a curriculum that specializes in agriculture and responds to the needs of agriculture more effectively than technical schools.

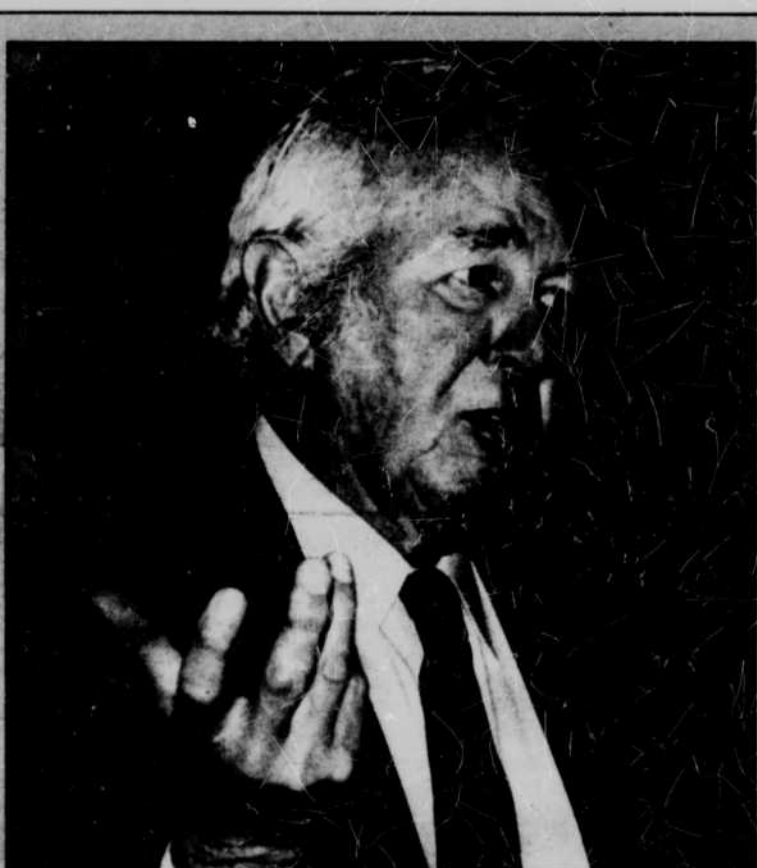
Gayle Muller, a representative of SRI-Gallup of Lincoln, said 70 percent of 198 employees polled had hired agricultural technical skilled employees in the last five years.

He said 38 percent of the employees got their education from Curtis, 34 percent from the UNL's College of Agriculture.

Those surveyed rated Curtis 3.4 on a scale of four, "and the vast majority indicated that they seriously considered Curtis graduates whenever they made hiring decisions," Muller said.

Committee members also heard testimony in favor of LB822.

The bill would appropriate more than \$1 million, which would be used to wire residence hall rooms to enable students to log onto the UNL computer system. The money would also be used to purchase 66 microcomputers.



Mark Davis/Daily Nebraskan

Toon

## Past ambassador to Russia says he's wary of glasnost

By Brandon Loomis  
Staff Reporter

Because Mikhail Gorbachev is more popular among Westerners than past Soviet leaders, he is twice as dangerous, said Malcolm Toon, former U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union.

Toon, who was appointed by former President Gerald Ford in 1976 and retired in 1979, told reporters Thursday that Gorbachev only intends for his policy of glasnost, or openness, to create good public relations with western Europe, not to democratize Russia.

Gorbachev's policy is unpopular among Russian blue-collar workers because it calls for longer production hours without increased pay, Toon said at his press conference in the Cornhusker Hotel.

"It may be that he'll fall flat on his face one of these days," Toon said. "And if that happens, I couldn't be happier."

Gorbachev is smarter, more educated and has a better sense of public relations than past Soviet leaders, Toon said. His intelligence allows him to spot points of friction between the United States and other

Western countries and capitalize on them, Toon said.

"This means we have to be sharper in Washington," he said.

Toon said President Ronald Reagan was accurate in labeling the Soviet Union as the "evil empire," because of the way it installs and regulates Eastern European regimes.

Vice President George Bush and Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan., have more experience in foreign relations than Reagan or the rest of the presidential candidates and could probably do a better job of dealing with the Soviets, he said.

"They're (Bush and Dole) prepared to do their homework," he said, "which Reagan is not prepared to do."

Toon said he retired from his ambassador position partly because he could not convince former President Jimmy Carter that the Soviet Union, then led by Leonid Brezhnev, was not peace-minded.

Toon said it was not wise for Carter to embrace Brezhnev after signing the SALT II Treaty.

"You don't embrace or be chummy with a man who is against everything you stand for," he said.

## Regents to vote on higher hall rates

By Bob Nelson  
Senior Editor

The University of Nebraska Board of Regents will vote Saturday on a \$140 increase in residence hall room and board rates for the 1988-89 school year.

Doug Zatechka, housing director, said the rate change, a 6.5 percent increase from 1987-88, is necessary because of projected staff salary increases. If university pay increases are approved by the Nebraska Legislature, 62 percent of the rate increase would go for salaries of full-time residence hall employees, Zatechka said.

He said the pay raises are long overdue.

"I don't apologize for the proposal," Zatechka said. "I have some

employees that are brushing the federal poverty line."

Zatechka said the new rates also must cover a 5 percent phone charge increase and a possible rise in the minimum wage.

By the time those three factors are considered, the actual increase for inflation is about 1.5 percent, Zatechka said.

Room and board rates increased 1.9 percent during 1983-84. Rates increased 3.5 percent and 4.4 percent the next two years. The rate increase was 1.7 percent for the 1986-87 fiscal year and 6.1 percent in 1987-88.

Zatechka said if the proposed salary increases are not passed, the extra money would be used for improvement projects in the residence halls.

Russ Johnson, Residence Hall Association president, said it was

easy to see the higher salaries were needed, but he wished the rate increase could be spread over several years.

Although RHA approved the increase, Johnson did not sign the proposal, "because a lot of residents are unhappy about the increase," he said.

"A lot of people said I should have vetoed it," he said.

Johnson said if the 6.5 percent increase is passed, the residents should receive something in exchange.

Better food or relaxed rules would help, Johnson said.

Zatechka said \$100,000 of the revenue increase would go to food service improvements.

"I don't know exactly what enhancements will be done," he said, "but they will be done."

## 'Postmark' holiday for Nebraska town

By Adam T. Branting  
Staff Reporter

For some, Valentine's Day is just another Hallmark holiday.



But for the people of one Nebraska town, the Feb. 14 holiday is their postmark.

Postman Rick Bordeaux said about 10,000 to 20,000 extra letters come through the Valentine post office for its distinctive postmark. Bordeaux, who has worked for the post office for 18 years, said the "Valentine's Rush" has happened ever since he's worked there.

He said letters have been coming in since the beginning of the year from across the country, and even from outside the United States.

"People hear about (it) from just word of mouth, and the media does some stuff on it," he said.

Although the rush in this final week has the post office putting out

about 4,000 letters per day, Bordeaux said it wasn't a big deal to his office.

"We've got it to the point where it takes about two hours' extra work each day," he said.

Judy Roosa, secretary of the Valentine Chamber of Commerce, said every organization in town does something for the annual celebration, which includes a Valentine's Eve dance.

"I think it has a little more special meaning to us," she said. "Friendship, caring, that's what it's all about. We try to be real friends here, because we are known as the Heart City."

## Model U.N. in session at union

### Delegates discuss rain forest, refugees at 21st annual event

By Mick Dyer  
Staff Reporter

The chairman's voice can be heard down the hallway: "The committee is now in a vote. All caucusing will stop. Pages, will you please secure the doors..."

The 21st annual Nebraska Model United Nations has arrived.

Until 5 p.m. Saturday, delegates will consider resolutions on topics ranging from stopping the destruction of tropical rain forests to compensation for refugees.

This year's model, being enacted in five conference rooms on the second floor of the Nebraska Union, consists of 56 high school and college student delegations, representing countries throughout the world.

Lu Ann Krab, senior secondary-

education student and conference services director, said this year's delegates are well-prepared and have researched their countries' policies thoroughly.

"Everybody's really working hard and getting a lot of good caucusing done," she said. "We're (the conference staff) really pleased with delegate performance."

Janet Roberts, international affairs senior, represents Jordan at her first conference. She said she heard the conference was fun.

"But the real reason I'm doing it is that I'm doing an internship with the United Nations Association," she said. "I'm really getting to know how the U.N. works."

Scott Smith, senior at Lincoln Southeast High School, is a first-year

delegate representing Belize.

"It's a bit too intellectual. I'm not up on world affairs enough to make a contribution," he said. "I would call it a learning experience, definitely."

"I mainly did it to get out of school," he said.

Mark Siedband, a ninth-grader in Lincoln East Junior High, is a page and first-year participant in the conference. He said his involvement with the conference is his contribution to breaking down stereotypes commonly believed about other countries.

"Another reason I decided to be a page was to get a chance to see how the model works, so that I can be a more effective delegate next year," he said.

The conference is open to the public.