

Daily Nebraskan

Wednesday

Weather: Wednesday, mostly sunny and cooler, high 40-45, winds from the NW at 10-15 mph. Wednesday night, increasing high level cloudiness, low in the mid 20s. Thursday, variable cloudiness with brisk northerly winds, high in the mid to upper 40s.

A&E: Happy New Year —Page 6.

Sports: Jayhawks gain revenge against Husker men's basketball team —Page 5.

February 17, 1988

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 87 No. 105

Grads who stay in state could get break

By Mary Nell Westbrook
Senior Reporter

Legislators working on loan repayment plan

Members of the Nebraska Legislature's Appropriations Committee said Tuesday in a hearing that a bill to help students repay their loans is still in the skeletal stage.

legislature NEBRASKA

Under LB1204, students graduating from Nebraska colleges and remaining in the state could have up to half of their student loans repaid by the state.

LB1204 was introduced by Papi- lion Sen. Ron Withem, chairman of the Education Committee. It would establish a fund called the Higher Education Loan Forgiveness Fund.

The money would be administered through the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsec-

ondary Education. The commission would define which students would be eligible for the loan repayment.

Many questions remain unanswered as to which students should receive the money from the fund, said Withem.

As the bill exists now, Withem said, it isn't ready to be a law.

"It's just a skeleton of an idea," Withem said.

Certain fields of study that are vital to the state would have to be targeted by a commission or the Legislature itself, Withem said.

Sen. Chris Abboud, a member of the Appropriations Committee, said he thought the bill was a great idea. He had introduced similar legislation in the past in the areas of computer science and engineering.

Abboud, of Omaha, also proposed legislation for the University of

Nebraska Medical Center which would have paid medical students' tuition if they remained in the state. The medical center opposed the idea, Abboud said.

Withem said the idea for this bill came from debate over LB775, which involved tax incentives for businesses to come to and stay in Nebraska.

Withem said he thought the same idea could be directed to students through either tax credits or partial loan repayment.

The bill is modeled after the National Education Defense Act, which paid about 10 percent of a military student's loan each year if the student remained in the state.

Withem said Nebraska lags behind neighboring states in aid to its students. The state needs more ideas on student support, he said.

Sen. Sandra Scofield, a member of the Appropriations Committee from Chadron, asked Withem where he would like to see the appropriated money go.

'I don't want this committee to assume the responsibility of parents.'

—Lienemann

Withem said he would like education dollars to go to established programs at this time because his idea needs a lot of work.

"It's such a nebulous concept, but

a valuable one," he said.

Jon Oberg, president of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Nebraska, favored the bill at the hearing.

He presented a graph that showed the percentage of college graduates leaving Nebraska by the size of their monthly student loan repayment.

Forty-seven percent of students who pay more than \$200 in loan repayment left the state in 1986. Nineteen percent of Nebraska students left the state if their loan repayment was less than \$50 a month.

Don Lienemann, a constituent of Withem's, said he opposed the bill and resented that his senator introduced it.

"I don't want this committee to assume the responsibility of parents," he said.

Lienemann said he has always advocated students' paying their own way through college or at least paying a higher percentage than the state.

Terminally Ill Act advanced Tuesday; Sens. Ashford, Hall add amendments

By Dan Dwinell
Staff Reporter

After several days of floor debate this session senators gave first-round

legislature NEBRASKA

approval Tuesday to the Rights of the Terminally Ill Act.

Rights of the Terminally Ill Act, LB88, was kept alive when a motion to postpone the bill indefinitely was defeated by a 25-21 vote.

The bill, which would give terminally ill patients being kept alive by artificial means the right to die, survived a motion to bracket the bill until

March 1.

Anselmo Sen. Howard Lamb's motion was denied with a 13-13 tie vote.

Two amendments were added to the bill Tuesday. The first amendment, introduced by Sen. Brad Ashford of Omaha, changed a wording of the bill's wording.

The second amendment, introduced by Sen. Tim Hall of Omaha, asked to raise the penalty for violating conditions of the bill. Penalties were raised for situations including doctors failing to follow the request, concealing a will or coercing someone to sign a will.

Lamb said there were more important things to do on the floor than correct the bill. He said it should be

done in private.

After Lamb's motion to bracket the bill failed, debate on the bill continued.

Sen. Bernice Labeledz of Omaha asked for the definition of "terminal condition," adding that the bill eventually will legalize mercy killing.

Labeledz said the bill was the worst piece of law produced by the Legislature.

Sen. Shirley Marsh of Lincoln said the bill had a strong following around the state, but Sen. James McFarland, also of Lincoln, said the bill should have been completed in committee instead on the floor.

"(The bill) is very poorly drafted and very poorly worded," he said.

UNL student finds body

Girl dies in Gunny's; apparent suicide

By Victoria Ayotte
Staff Reporter

A 16-year-old girl's body was found Tuesday in the Gunny's complex parking garage, said Mike Heavican, Lancaster County attorney.

Lt. Lyle Roberts of the Lincoln Police Department said the body was identified as Heather Quinn, a Lincoln High School student.

Quinn apparently committed sui-

cide with a .22 caliber gun, Heavican said.

The body was found by Ron Ritenour, a 21-year-old University of Nebraska-Lincoln student. Ritenour found the body at about 7:55 a.m. Tuesday, Heavican said.

The body was found in the staircase of the Gunny's complex, 245 N. 13th St.

The gun was found under Quinn's

body, Roberts said.

The autopsy report showed Quinn died of a contact wound to the right temple, Heavican said. The bullet passed through the left temple, he said.

Heavican said Quinn's death is being investigated.

"If that information is consistent, it will be closed as a suicide," Heavican said.

University press regains Neihardt book

By Amy Edwards
Senior Reporter

Hilda Neihardt Petri returned the paperback publishing rights for John G. Neihardt's "Black Elk Speaks" to the University of Nebraska Press Tuesday.

The rights were acquired from the John G. Neihardt Trust.

A cake with the words "Welcome back Flaming Rainbow" represented the homecoming of Neihardt's book. Flaming Rainbow was the name Black Elk gave Neihardt.

Petri, Neihardt's daughter, said she was concerned that the book wasn't reaching

enough people.

"When you hear from people that you can't get the book, it's upsetting," Petri said.

Simon & Schuster Inc., the book's most recent publisher, was granted the paperback rights to the book in 1972. "Black Elk Speaks" was first published in 1932. The book tells the story of Sioux Indian life and religion in the eyes of Black Elk, an Indian holy man who participated in the ghost dance religion.

Petri said Neihardt's books were not well-received when he wrote them because "he wasn't a racist in a time when people were either racist or sentimental."

Petri said her father appreciated Black Elk as a person, not as a curiosity.

"Black Elk told Neihardt he would save the Sioux Indians with his books," she said.

Petri quoted Black Elk speaking about her father: "You are a word sender. This world is like a garden, and over it go your words like rain. Where they go, they leave everything a little greener, and when your words have passed, the memory of them will stand long in the west like a flaming rainbow."

University Press republished "Black Elk Speaks" in 1961. At that time, the book had been out of print for 20 years, Petri said. When the paperback rights were given to Simon &

Schuster, the company decided it did not want University Press to have any publishing rights.

"I had to be the hatchet man and tell University Press they couldn't publish it," Petri said.

Several weeks ago, Petri visited Bill Regier, editor in chief and director of University Press, and decided to return paperback rights to them shortly after.

Petri said the decision to let Simon & Schuster Inc. continue publishing "Black Elk Speaks" will be up to University Press.

Regier said owning the publishing rights to "Black Elk Speaks" is important to University

See NEIHARDT on 3