

Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Thursday

Weather: Thursday, mostly sunny and mild, high in the low 50s, winds out of the SW at 5-10 mph. Thursday night, partly cloudy, low in the upper 20s. Friday, partly cloudy and breezy, high in the mid to upper 40s.

A&E: The Games of Winter —Diversions Page 5.

Sports: A new center allows Nebraskans to practice golf year-round — Page 13.

ASUN votes against joining the NSIC

By Lee Rood
Staff Reporter

After much debate Wednesday night, senators in the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska voted against joining the recently renamed organization, the Nebraska Student Interest Coalition.

Senators argued for more than an hour on legislation that would have approved the NSIC constitution and allowed four representatives from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to attend its monthly meetings.

The legislation fell two votes short with a vote of 16-9 with two abstentions. Eighteen votes were needed to pass the bylaw.

NSIC, a group designed to open up communication between the state colleges and univer-

sities consists of students from Wayne State, Chadron State, Kearney State colleges and the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

The group, once called the Nebraska State Student Association, fell apart last spring after ASUN withdrew from the organization, saying it cost too much money.

UNO student Paul Hays, chairman of NSIC, said there are currently no membership fees, because the group has \$20,000 left over from NSSA.

Hays said the group needs ASUN to join because it represents the state's largest university and is close to the state capitol for lobbying purposes.

Hays said he could offer no ways in which the organization would benefit ASUN.

"What can NSIC do for you? Nothing, abso-

lutely nothing," he said. "It's what you can do for us."

But, Hays said, other schools need to hear information that comes from the capitol.

Hays said he could not come to the Legislature every day to lobby because it wasn't time efficient. Neither could student representatives from other schools, he said.

Some senators said it sounded like NSIC wanted to use UNL students to lobby for them.

Sen. Andy Jacobitz, called NSIC a bureaucracy that would take too much of ASUN's time. That time, he said, would do nothing productive and would be better spent elsewhere.

Jeff Petersen, chairman of the Government Liaison Committee, said the members of NSIC need UNL members to add strength to the organization.

Petersen said UNL could benefit from joining because it would open communication and present a stronger voice to the Legislature.

By not joining, Petersen said, ASUN was leading the organization on because senators have been making NSIC members "bend over backwards" all semester.

Sen. Pete Castellano said ASUN senators should not join the organization now, because its constitution doesn't make provisions for possible costs later on.

Because there is money in the NSIC budget—Hays estimated \$4,000 to \$5,000—that originally came from UNL student fees, some senators and Petersen said ASUN should rejoin to make sure the money is spent properly.

"Right now we have no control over that money that our students put in," Petersen said.

Legislature passes helmet bill; still needs governor's signature

From Staff Reports

Motorcyclists will strap on helmets in January if Gov. Kay Orr approves a bill the Nebraska Legislature passed through final reading Wednesday.

LB428, approved 25-20, was introduced by Sen. Dan Lynch of Omaha in January.

Sen. Scott Moore of Stromsburg made a motion to return the bill to select file for an amendment that would require only motorcyclists age 19 and under to wear helmets and show proof of motorcycle safety education. The motion to return the bill failed 22-23.

Sen. Jacklyn Smith of Hastings, who proposed the amendment with Moore, said the amendment would

be a good compromise because motorcyclists who oppose the bill requiring all motorcyclists to wear helmets would support this amendment.

The amendment would save lives, Smith said, because people who are educated on motorcycle safety and have to wear helmets until they are 20 years old, will continue to wear helmets.

Sen. Chris Abboud of Omaha opposed limiting the law to motorcyclists 19 and under because all motorcyclists who do not wear helmets on the highway cause problems for motorists, he said.

"I'm in favor of personal freedom as long as that freedom doesn't infringe upon another person's rights," Abboud said.

Amendment posed to drop voting age

By Amy Edwards
Senior Reporter

Teen-agers who turn 18 before the general elections in November could be given the right to vote in the primary elections under a proposed state constitutional amendment discussed at a legislative hearing Wednesday.

The Nebraska Legislature's Military and Veterans Affairs Committee advanced the resolution that pro-

posed the amendment. Richard Siteig, 70, of Lincoln, said it is important to let these 17-year-olds vote in the primaries because voters choose who will represent their party in the general elections in the primaries.

Vogel said it is not fair that people who pay the same taxes as those over 18 are not allowed to vote for government officials. If the resolution is passed, Vogel said, more young people will get involved in government issues.

Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha said people who cannot vote in the primaries are not as likely to register for the general election.

Chambers, who introduced the resolution with Sen. Carol Pirsch of Omaha, said many high school students know more about government than people in other age groups.

"If they don't register and don't vote the first time, the next time it's easier not to," Chambers said.

Seniors from Norfolk and Auburn high schools sent petitions to the committee in support of the resolution. No one spoke in opposition.

The committee went into executive session to vote on the resolution so the students could see the proposal advance.

The committee advanced the resolution to the floor of the Nebraska Legislature with a 5-1 vote.

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—Chambers

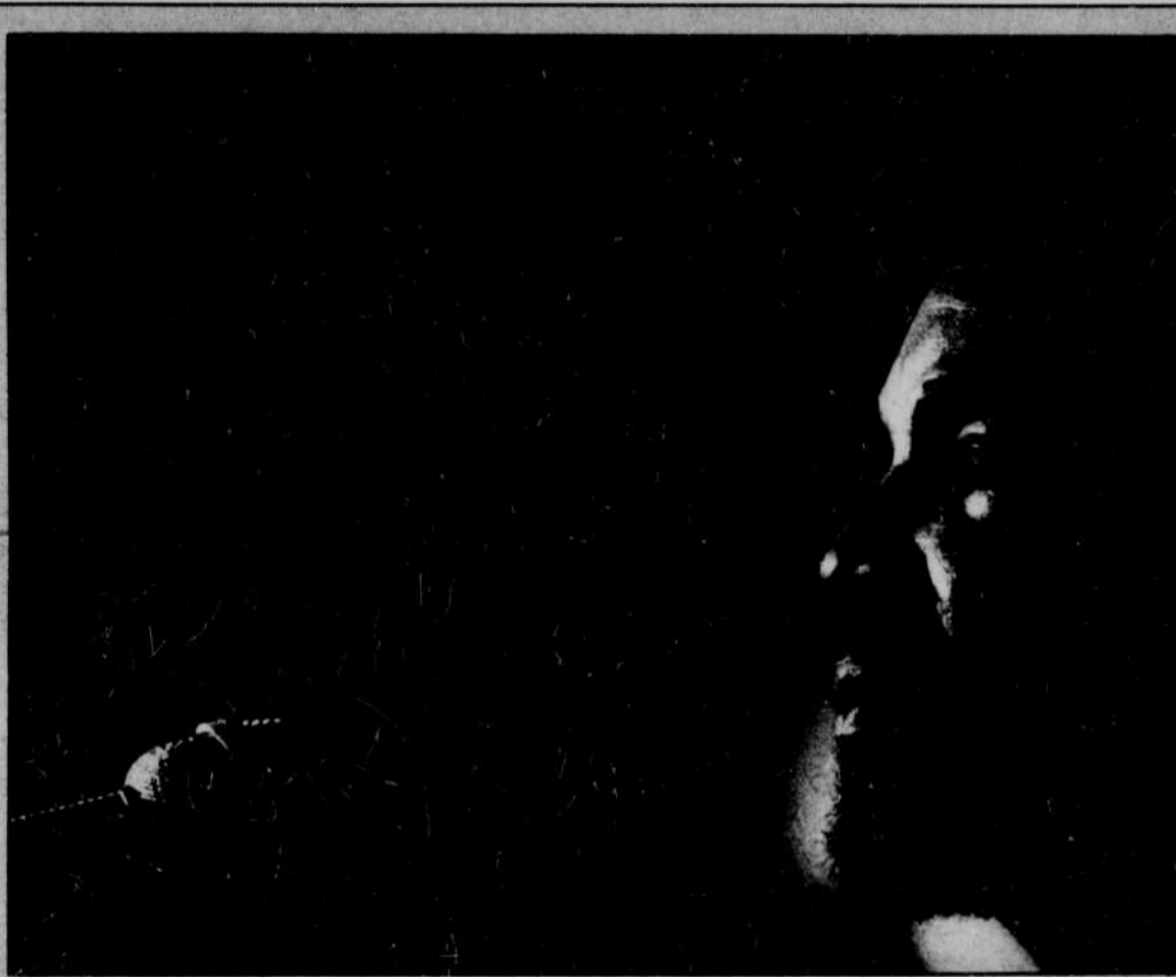
posed the amendment.

LR253 proposes an amendment to Article VI, Section 1, of the Nebraska Constitution.

The U.S. Constitution says no state can deny anyone over the age of 18 the right to vote, but leaves the possibility of younger voters to state legislatures.

Six people spoke and about 30 Omaha Central High School students attended the committee hearing in support of the resolution.

Wesley Vogel, an Omaha Central



Butch Ireland/Daily Nebraskan

Chambers

Compensation for athletes

Chambers says football players deserve monetary restitution

By Amy Edwards
Senior Reporter

James O'Hanlon, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln representative to the Big Eight Conference and the NCAA, testified at a legislative hearing Wednesday against a bill that would pay Nebraska football players.

legislature NEBRASKA

Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha introduced his bill before the Government Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, saying athletes should be compensated for their time and commitment.

Chambers said athletes should be paid because they are the only students who cannot get a career-related job while attending college.

The NCAA prevents schools from giving student-athletes compensation beyond tuition, books, room and board. If athletes accept

money from anyone besides their parents, the school's team can be put on probation and will not be allowed to participate in NCAA-sponsored events.

O'Hanlon said although the bill identifies many of the problems with intercollegiate athletics, UNL would not be able to participate in the NCAA if the bill passed.

Two criteria must be followed if athletes are to be paid for intercollegiate athletics, O'Hanlon said. First, he said, if the university paid all students, they would be allowed to pay student-athletes as well. Also, if there is some condition for pay, such as a certain number of years at the university, pay for athletes would not be a breach of NCAA rules.

Chambers said because Nebraska football is contracted like any big business and money is "the generating force" behind football, the athletes who generate that money should be compensated for it.

"We are dealing with a highly competitive, multi-million-dollar corporation and the men are forgotten," Chambers said.

The bill would eliminate problems with athletes taking money under the table to support themselves, Chambers said.

O'Hanlon said the passage of the bill would hurt other sports programs. Football revenue helps support other sports that aren't self-sufficient, he said. If the revenue was used to pay football players, O'Hanlon said, sports dependent on football revenue would have to be eliminated.

Chambers said this is "all the more reason" for football players to be paid. He said sports that don't bring in money could be treated as intramural activities.

If passed, the bill would not go into effect until April 15, 1989. Chambers said this would give senators the opportunity to repeal the law if the NCAA decides to take action against the university.