

# Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Wednesday

**Weather:** Wednesday, partly sunny, high in the upper 50s with winds out of the SE 10-15 mph. Wednesday night, cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thundershowers, low in the upper 30s. Thursday, cloudy and breezy with a 50 percent chance of thundershowers, high in the mid 50s.

**A&E:** Silent Partners back in town —Page 5.

**Sports:** Taylor hurt in spring practice —Page 6.

## Nursing bill surpasses 2nd vote in Legislature

*Amendment addresses programs, credit*

By Amy Edwards  
Senior Reporter

The Nebraska Legislature gave the select file approval Tuesday night to a bill that would grant community colleges associate degree programs in nursing.

Sen. Arlene Nelson of Grand Island, who has made LB890 her priority bill, offered an amendment with Sen. Ron Withem of Papillion that would address concerns of coordinating programs and transferring credit.

Withem said colleges would be reviewed by an advisory board that would identify the needs for nursing programs, coordination of programs and credit transfer.

The amendment does not mandate that course credit be transferable at this time, Nelson said.

The colleges would then document their plans for programs to the post-secondary education commission and the commission would advise the colleges on their programs, Withem said.

Withem said the colleges would not be required to follow the advice of the commission.

Withem said the amendment also expands the joint advisory board to include private colleges and the Nebraska Department of Health.

Sen. Jacklyn Smith of Hastings, who co-signed LB890, said the request for planning between colleges came from community college authorities.

Withem said colleges need to discuss programs before new programs are implemented to ensure they start where they are most needed.

Nelson said reviewing the programs would ensure that no programs are duplicated. Nelson said that if nursing educators find that a program is not justified, they would not begin an unnecessary program.

The amendment passed with a 25-8 vote.

The bill would amend sections of the Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, to relieve the University of Nebraska from sole responsibility for associate degree programs in nursing.

In 1984, the NU Board of Regents voted to begin phasing out the university's associate degree program in nursing. The program ended in 1986, leaving no public programs for nursing associate degrees in Nebraska.

The university can continue to offer advanced certificates in nursing, Nelson said.

Nelson said the bill was introduced to alleviate a shortage of nurses in both rural and urban areas of the state.

## Extension service to air first video conference

By Anne Mohri  
Senior Reporter

The University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension Service will move into the space age with its first video conference via satellite Thursday.

The video conference will be broadcast from 1 to 3 p.m., said Gary Vacin, director of the UNL department of agricultural communications.

Vacin said Barry Flinchbaugh, a Kansas State University agricultural policy specialist, and Dick Clark, a UNL extension farm management specialist who is stationed in North Platte, will discuss the present condition of the 1985 Food Security Act and propose changes.

In the first hour and a half, Clark and Flinchbaugh will discuss their opinions on the Farm Bill and use video clips to support their arguments, Vacin said. In the last half hour, viewers will be able to call in

with questions.

Vacin said the conference will air from the Lancaster County Extension Office in Lincoln and will be shown throughout the United States and Canada.

Nebraskans and extension agents will watch the video conference from 23 Nebraska counties, he said.

Vacin said anyone with a satellite will be able to pick up the video conference on Westar IV, channel 23 or Transponder 12D. He said it will also air on UNL Campus Cable, channel 9.

The video conference "is a significant first step," Vacin said. He said the agricultural communications department would like to use satellite video conferences for educational purposes in the future. The department is committed to buying 16 satellite dishes that will be placed in selected counties. He said the satellites that will be used for Thursday's program are borrowed or rented.



Mark Davis/Daily Nebraskan

Reneé Farritor meditates in the convent chapel with other nuns of the Lincoln convent.

## Some classroom views differ from nuns' traditional habits

By James M. Lillis  
Staff Reporter

While age is generally used in determining non-traditional students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, some students stand out because of their traditional habits.

Sister Mary Kansier, 28, of the Marian Sisters of Waverly said some people are too shy to talk to her. Students are not sure what to say, or think they have to be serious and well-behaved around her.

Sister Mary James of the School Sisters of Christ the King, 4141 S. 56th St., also said stereotypes sometimes get in the way of communication.

"Someone once told me that she didn't think nuns were allowed to laugh," Sister Mary James said. "That's ridiculous."

Sister Mary James, 28, a graduate student in elementary education at UNL, said for the most part people are not threatened by nuns and talk freely with them.

In fact, she said, since she took the nun's vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, she's had more conversations with classmates and instructors than she did before joining the convent. She said this could

be because she and other nuns wear their habits, which shows their religious convictions.

But sometimes class material, instructors and classmates conflict with their convictions, said Sister Mary Bernadette, 23, also a School Sister of Christ the King and an elementary education major.

**'Someone once told me that she didn't think nuns were allowed to laugh, that's ridiculous.'**  
—Sister James

Sister Mary Bernadette said she's had modern education and educational psychology classes where the class material and the instructors' beliefs were at odds with hers. She said that while she respected the instructors' right to their own beliefs, the "truth cannot change."

Sister Mary Kansier, a secondary education major in math, said

she had a similar experience.

"We respected each other, and even though we didn't see eye to eye, we still got along," she said.

When these nuns graduate they will teach, probably in Lincoln-area Catholic schools, they said.

Not all nuns go to college, Sister Mary Kansier said. Others work in convents and aren't required to go to college.

"It's pretty much up to the individual whether she attends college," she said.

Sister Mary Michael, also of School Sisters of Christ the King and a graduate elementary education major, said most nuns do not participate in extracurricular university activities because of their involvement in their prayers and community activities.

"We do a lot together," she said. "We prepare and eat meals together, pray, take care of the convent and recreate together like a family."

Sister Mary Kansier said she was too busy with classes and work at the convent for extracurricular university activities.

She said she dedicates most of her time to the 34-woman community.

## UNL prof joins CBS 'Sunday Morning'

By Lee Rood  
Senior Reporter

A former University of Nebraska-Lincoln instructor will join CBS' "Sunday Morning" to write and host humorous segments about Nebraska.

Roger Welsch, a columnist for six Nebraska newspapers, recently resigned his position as a UNL instructor of folklore in the departments of English and anthropology after "Sunday Morning" host Charles Kuralt offered him a job.

Welsch said he has known Kuralt for more

than 15 years and has appeared several times on his "On the Road" series.

Welsch said he has filmed four pilots for "Sunday Morning" and signed a one-year contract.

Welsch said he enjoyed teaching at UNL, but the CBS offer was too good to pass up.

"It's not like I didn't enjoy talking to 30 students at 8 o'clock in the morning, but this just seemed to offer just a little bit more," he said.

Welsch, from Dannebrog, said segments for the show will be filmed mostly in Howard County until he finds topics in other counties.

Most of the segments will be humorous, Welsch said, including pieces about bullet holes in highway signs, how to wear bib overalls and "what farmers talk about at the big table."

Welsch said that in one segment for the show, he plans to poke fun at New York Mayor Ed Koch for refusing to answer a letter asking the city to co-sponsor a World's Fair with Nebraska.

"After all, they've got the name, but we've got the parking," he said.

Welsch is co-founder of the National Liars Hall of Fame at the back of Eric's Bar in

Dannebrog and is well-known to many Nebraska newspaper and agricultural publication readers for his humorous and sometimes cynical look at life in Nebraska.

Welsch first appeared on "On The Road" with Kuralt when he ran for the Lancaster County Weed Control Authority on a proweed ticket.

After that first show, Welsch said, Kuralt kept coming back to the state because he liked Nebraska and its people.

Welsch said he would be very excited to work for "Sunday Morning" because "it's a classy show and Kuralt is a classy guy."