

Daily Nebraskan

March 31, 1988

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 87 No. 132

Thursday

Weather: Thursday, mostly cloudy, not as warm with a 20 percent chance of showers, high near 50. Thursday night, cloudy, breezy and cooler, low of 30 with a 50 percent chance of showers. Friday, cloudy and breezy, high in the mid 40s with a 40 percent chance of showers.

A&E: Eggshilarating customs —Page 10.

Sports: Husker gymnasts prepare for NCAA meet —Page 13.

Legislature passes faculty pay increase

By Victoria Ayotte
Staff Reporter

University of Nebraska-Lincoln administration officials and student leaders said they were excited with the passage of the Nebraska Legislature's mainline budget bill Wednesday.

legislature NEBRASKA

The bill received final approval in a 40-0 vote without discussion or any additional amendments.

The bill appropriates \$9.3 million to increase University of Nebraska faculty salaries for 1988-89. Nebraska state colleges will get \$1 million for increased salaries.

NU research activities will also get a \$4 million boost under the bill.

UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale said he was pleased the bill passed with as much support as it had.

"I think it's an excellent start," Massengale

said.

Massengale said more work needs to be done to improve the salary situation and research capabilities, though.

"It won't solve the problem but it will go a long way toward it," Massengale said.

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, said the increased money for salaries will boost morale for faculty and staff members.

"It means a great deal," he said.

Griesen was also pleased by the amount of support given to the bill.

"I think it's very important in getting everyone to thinking more positively about this university," Griesen said.

**'This is a great first step
in the right direction.'**

—Petersen

Jeff Petersen, new president of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska,

said he was delighted the bill passed.

Petersen said he thinks UNL's students had a great deal to do with getting the salary increases.

"Everyone can be so proud," he said.

Petersen said the research money will help UNL get better quality faculty.

Andy Pollock, former ASUN president, said he thinks the passage of the bill has made his efforts in the past year worthwhile.

The research money will also be of tremendous benefit to the university, Pollock said.

"The two together can only enhance education here," he said.

Griesen also said the research money will help UNL's education.

"The research initiative is not just geared toward enhancing facilities, but strengthening the academic environment, which will attract more and better students," Griesen said.

Massengale said the research money will provide a good start in improving UNL's capabilities.

Massengale said specific areas are targeted for the research money: biotechnology, engineering and computer science, water quality,

and decision sciences.

The bill is now in the hands of Gov. Kay Orr. Orr may use a line item veto to reduce expenditures.

'I think it's very important in getting everyone to thinking more positively about this university.'

—Griesen

Massengale said he hopes Orr will not reduce UNL's appropriation, but added that he thinks she will sign the bill without cutting from UNL.

Petersen said he thinks UNL needs more help from the Legislature, and said he is optimistic about working toward it next year.

"This is a great first step in the right direction," he said.

Legislative debate on death penalty ends in a bill-killing

By Amy Edwards
Senior Reporter

One hour and four motions after debate began Tuesday, Nebraska senators voted 21-25 against passing a bill that would eliminate the death penalty.

LB675, Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers' 1987 priority bill, would have provided parole and discharge limitations for convicted murderers.

Chambers said instead of the death penalty, people convicted of murder would be sentenced to 30 years in prison without parole.

Someone could be wrongly accused of a murder and sentenced to death, Chambers said. Innocent people do get executed, he said.

If a person were accused and later found innocent, he or she could be released if LB675 were implemented, Chambers said. But, he said, you can't release someone who has been executed.

"The mistake, if there is one, should be on the side of life," Chambers said.

He argued that when the state tries to "strike back" at criminals, the role of the government is degraded.

"Carrying out the death penalty brutalizes a society," he said.

Sens. Elroy Hefner of Coleridge and Chris Abboud of Omaha offered a motion to indefinitely postpone the bill. Hefner said the punishment must fit the crime.

He said capital punishment is a fair punishment for a person who has taken another person's life.

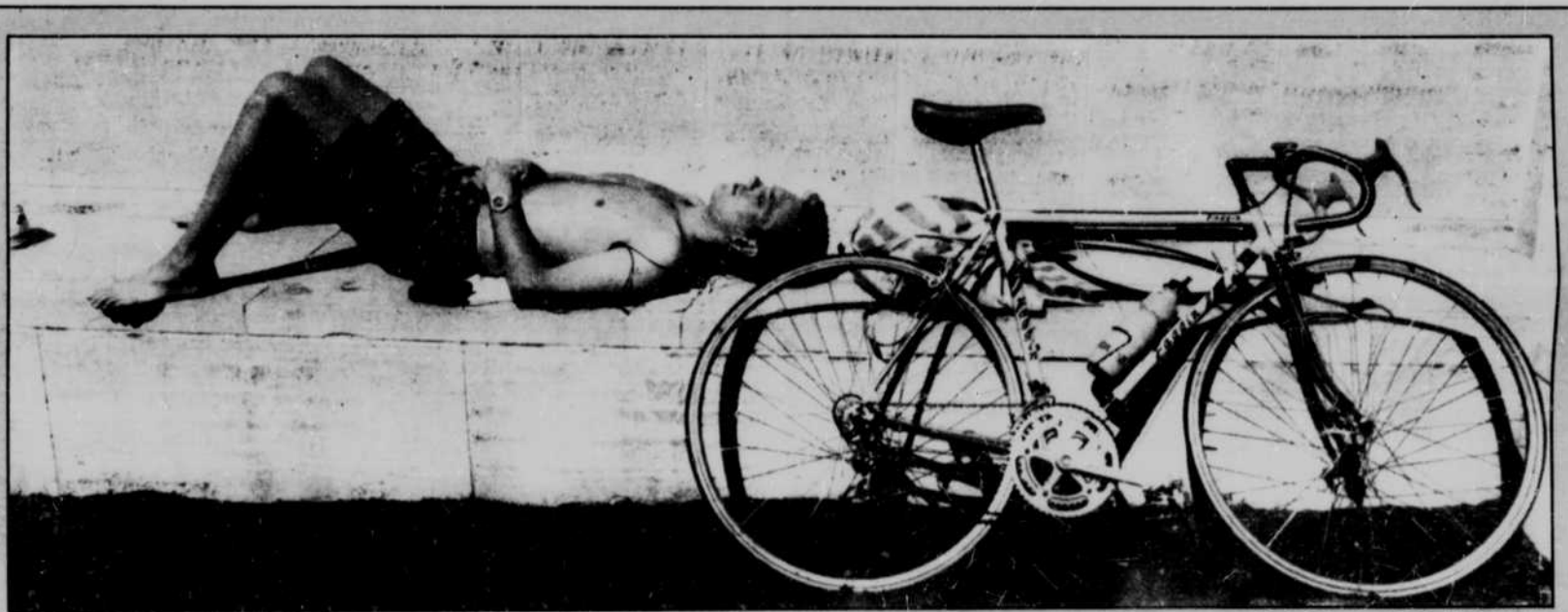
Sen. Tim Hall of Omaha offered a motion to bracket the bill until April 8, the last day of the legislative session.

The motion failed 8-22.

Sen. Marge Higgins of Omaha then proposed to have the speaker's agenda overruled to give senators more time to discuss LB675. Higgins said the 30-minute limit did not allow for enough discussion when the topic was life and death.

Higgins' motion passed 30-11.

Sen. Brad Ashford of Omaha then proposed to suspend the rules for a vote without further debate. The proposal passed 30-4, and the motion to indefinitely postpone the bill failed 20-24.



Butch Ireland/Daily Nebraskan

Bike 'n' bathe

Bob Yager, a fifth-year architecture student, and his bicycle rest outside Sheldon Art Gallery Wednesday afternoon.

Reunion businesses will open doors April 13

By Anne Mohri
Senior Reporter

Students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln can go to a student reunion beginning April 13.

The Reunion is an alternative to UNL student unions. Located at 16th and W streets, the Reunion has a food court and retail businesses, said David Hunter, president of Hardy Building Corp.

Hunter said the food court, containing six fast-food businesses, Astro Copy Service, Union Bank Student Loan Center and a game room will be in operation on opening day. Astro Copy service will have a one-day photo development service, he said.

A hair salon, candy store and screen-printing store are expected to open by June 1, he said, and a bike shop and card shop will probably be open by July 1.

The screen-printing store is in negotiation to incorporate a dry-cleaning pickup and delivery service, Hunter said.

Hunter said 17,000 of the 20,000 square feet available in the Reunion for retail businesses has been leased. The businesses that rent the remaining 3,000 square feet will be announced May 1, he said.

The building interior is finished except for 3,000 square feet yet to be leased, and that will probably be finished in about a month, Hunter said.

The awning and lights would be added to the outside of the building by opening day, he said.

Reunion coupons will be on the back of next year's Nebraska football tickets, he said. Students will have a different ticket for each game next year and a coupon for the food court will enable students to buy something and get a second item for half price, Hunter said.

Petersen sworn into office at 'perfect time'

By Lee Rood
Senior Reporter

Inauguration of new members of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska came at what both incoming and outgoing leaders said was perfect timing.

Andy Pollock, former ASUN president, swore in Jeff Petersen, former president of the Government Liaison Committee, hours after the Nebraska Legislature approved a \$9.3 million pay increase for university faculty and staff members.

Petersen and Pollock, two students

who several university officials say were largely responsible for finding support for the increases, celebrated the victory, but warned new senators that there was still much work to be done next year.

Continued pay increases for the following year would be an even bigger challenge, they said, but so would reaching out to the student body and working toward a more representative student government.

Many of the speeches given by the new and old executive officers; James Griesen, vice chancellor of student affairs; and Martin Massengale, UNL

chancellor, commended Pollock and Petersen for their hard work toward the pay hike, but also asked new senators to search out a representative body of students interested in student government.

Pete Castellano, elected senator-of-the-year by the 1987-88 senate, said while ASUN is a powerful group, it still has problems with equal representation.

"Until ASUN looks more like the campus . . . ASUN will not be truly representative," Castellano said.

Massengale told new senators they would face many difficult issues in

the year to come and that this year's senate would be "a hard act to follow."

Before the new senate was sworn in, old senators argued for more than an hour about a measure changing the language in a bylaw that defines and regulates student organizations.

Some newly-elected members joked the debate was a last chance at glory.

The bylaw was postponed indefinitely after some senators said that they weren't given enough time to review the legislation.