

# Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Wednesday

Weather: Wednesday, partly sunny and a little warmer, high in the mid 60s with winds from the NW at 15-25 mph. Wednesday night, mostly clear, low around 40. Thursday, mostly sunny and warm, high near 80.

A&E: Dear John . . .  
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Sports: Nebraska will still get crack at Texas A&M in Kickoff Classic  
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## Orr signs education-oriented state budget

By Victoria Ayotte  
Senior Reporter

Gov. Kay Orr signed Nebraska's mainline budget bill Tuesday, keeping intact a \$9.3

### Legislature NEBRASKA

million University of Nebraska salary increase and \$4 million research initiative.

"What pleases me most about this budget is that a vast majority of the new money is targeted for education, as I had originally recommended in my state of the state address last January," Orr said in a news release.

Orr complimented the Legislature for their support of education and for being "willing to make this investment in the future of Nebraska."

"Salary improvements for higher education and research funds for the university emphasize my belief in the central role of education in this

quest," Orr said.

Orr sliced \$2.5 million off the budget bill in line-item vetoes.

Her vetoes cut \$160,000 from the University of Nebraska at Omaha appropriations for fiscal year 1989. Originally, the \$160,000 was appropriated for the preliminary planning and design development of a Fine Arts Education Building.

Nebraska State Colleges also lost \$70,300 for both fiscal year 1988 and 1989. The money was intended for directors' and officers' liabil-

ity insurance coverage.

A \$200,000 cut eliminated an adult education program for 1988-89.

Eleven other agencies also received cuts in their appropriations.

The policy research department was cut \$50,000 for fiscal year 1989; Legislature was cut about \$85,000; Health was cut \$392,000; Public Institutions were cut nearly \$406,000; and Corrections was cut \$5,000.

See **ORR** on 3

## Pickle card amendments defeated

By Victoria Ayotte  
Senior Reporter

Nebraska legislators defeated two amendments to the pickle card bill Tuesday that would have abolished pickle cards and made it mandatory for pickles to be distributed from machines.

The bill, LB1232, seeks to regulate and tax the pickle card industry.

Sens. Richard Peterson of Norfolk, Jerry Miller of Davenport, Shirley Marsh of Lincoln, and Wiley Remmers of Auburn proposed that the pickle industry be abolished.

Miller said the Legislature was being led down the path by the pickle industry.

"We cannot regulate that industry," Miller said.

Sen. Chris Abboud of Omaha also supported the amendment, saying there needs to be even more regulation than exists under the present bill.

"The only way you're really going to get control of this pickle problem is to do away with them," he said. "Pickle card distribution is just not working."

Sen. Loran Schmit of Bellwood agreed with Abboud.

"Unless you're willing to regulate strictly, you have no other recourse than to vote to outlaw," Schmit said.

Two senators spoke in opposition to the amendment during the three hours of pickle card debate.

Omaha Sen. Tim Hall said many charities rely on the revenue the pickle cards generate.

"It would wreak havoc on charitable organizations," Hall said.

Sen. Carson Rogers of Ord said charities that rely on pickle card revenue could get the money other ways.

"I wonder how we survived before (pickle cards)?" Rogers asked.

The amendment was defeated 19-17. An amendment needs 25 votes to

be adopted.

Schmit proposed another amendment which would have made machine use mandatory in the pickle industry.

The pickles would go into the machines, get counted, go out of the machines, and then back into the machines after the pickle was identified as a winner or loser.

This method would better regulate the pickles, Schmit said. Each pickle would have a specific code which would make it impossible to duplicate the pickles, he said.

"There is no way to control the distribution of pickles unless you do it with some device. Unless we provide for some kind of accurate record keeping, we have not done anything in control of pickles," Schmit said.

Schmit's amendment also required that pickles only be produced

See **CARD** on 3

## Journalism College welcomes change

Broad range of courses is not mandatory, but helps in future

By Ryan Johnson  
Staff Reporter

Although the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's College of Journalism is satisfied with its curriculum, it



is open to change, said Thomas Spann, chairman of the college's curriculum committee.

Spann, associate professor of broadcasting, said most journalism students take about 75 percent of their classes outside of the college. Such classes include foreign language,

political science, Western civilization and economics.

The college requires students to have three 12-hour concentrations or a 24- and a 12-hour concentration in departments outside the college.

Under the proposed curriculum change, general/liberal education classes would constitute about 25 percent of a student's workload.

The journalism curriculum is a "demanding curriculum to begin with," he said, which turns out liberally educated students.

The college is open to curriculum changes only if there is a good reason for change, Spann said.

For example, he said, about five years ago, the college started requiring students to take courses in Western civilization and the American political system. He said teachers thought many students didn't know

enough about their culture and government.

The college curriculum will change, he said, if the faculty sees deficiencies in its students.

"We are always looking at how we can be better," he said.

The proposed curriculum change would require more emphasis on non-Western cultures, an area in which the journalism college does not require classes.

Spann said that while the journalism college "will be the last college to say we should be isolated," the students should understand the Western system before others. Students have the option of taking classes emphasizing outside cultures, but the college does not require them.

The college does not want to turn

See **SPANN** on 3



Ward Williams/Daily Nebraskan

### Upholding the cross

Reminding students of the Easter spirit, Dave Cain of Lincoln spent part of his Tuesday near the Nebraska Union holding a symbolic cross. Cain said he will be on campus for the next two weeks.

## Ex-Husker football player killed in hometown

By Mark Derowitsch  
Senior Reporter  
and Mike Kluck  
Staff Reporter

A former University of Nebraska-Lincoln football player was shot and killed on March 31 about a block away from his home in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Michael Becton, a wingback on last season's 2-3 freshman squad, was shot while walking away from an argument. He died instantly from the blast to his head.

New York City Police Sgt. Norris Hollomon said Becton was found dead at the scene.

"There were words exchanged between two groups," Hollomon said.

"The groups split, and the victim was shot as he was walking away from the group. Shots were fired from a distance and struck Becton at the right temple in his head."

Becton's mother, Verna Dauway, said her son was returning from playing basketball with friends when they heard shots that sounded like firecrackers. The group ducked down, and after six or seven shots were fired, the only person who didn't get up was Becton.

Hollomon said the incident wasn't gang-related, but no arrests have been made. He said there are no suspects yet, but the investigation is continuing.

Services for Becton, 17, were Tuesday at Mount Calvary Unified

Freewill Baptist Church in Brooklyn. Several hundred people attended the funeral, including New York City Schools Chancellor Nathan Quinones.

Dauway said Becton was buried in his Nebraska football jogging suit and his Husker football helmet was put in the casket with him.

"Michael loved football," Dauway said. "He often talked about winning the Heisman Trophy under Coach (Tom) Osborne and working behind quarterback Steve Taylor."

Becton, a 6-foot, 210-pound walk-on from John Jay High School in Brooklyn, started as a linebacker his junior and senior year.

He left Nebraska in late January for academic and personal reasons,

Dauway said.

"He started the second semester but was having trouble with his grades," Dauway said. "He was having trouble keeping up with football and school, and his grades were suffering. So we decided it was best for him to come home."

Nebraska freshman coach Shane Thorell said Becton was improving and he was enjoyable to be around.

"He was a very good person and a nice kid," Thorell said. "He was a good player to work with and very coachable."

Thorell said he didn't think Becton was planning to return to Nebraska, but Hollomon said Becton was planning to return to Lincoln in August. Dauway said Becton was planning on

returning in August and making the Husker team.

"We had a talk and we decided that academics came first," Dauway said. "He was a good, smart boy."

Alfred Becton, Mike's father, also said his son was planning on returning to Nebraska, although he received some scholarship offers from a few teams on the East Coast.

"He was hopeful of getting a scholarship," Becton said. "He was either going back there to play football or go back there to go to school."

Osborne said Becton was never promised a scholarship, but was invited to walk-on.

"It's really tragic," Osborne said.

See **BECTON** on 3