

# SUMMER

## Daily

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## Chambers vows to fight Spire's decision

By Victoria Ayotte  
Staff Reporter

State Sen. Ernie Chambers said Wednesday that he plans to file charges against the secretary of state for accepting Attorney General Robert Spire's decision that Chambers cannot legally run for both the Nebraska Legislature and the U.S. Senate.

"This is really just the beginning" of the fight, Chambers said.

In his decision to Secretary of State Allen Beermann, Spire cited a Nebraska statute which says "no individual shall be eligible to file for two or more elected public offices to be filled at the same election."

Chambers said Spire's decision reflects

"pretty poor research." Chambers said he has traced the statute in question back to 1925, where it is clear that the statute refers to primaries and to incumbents. "None of which applies to me," he said.

"He evaded the issue," Chambers said. "He wants to avoid my being able to get into court quickly, but I intend to get into court anyway."

Chambers said this legal action would probably be taken against the secretary of state and possibly other state officials if Beermann accepts the decision.

Beermann said he accepted the decision the "minute it was laid in my hands" and said he will obey it "to the letter."

Spire said Wednesday at a press conference that Chambers will remain a candidate for the

Nebraska State Legislature.

"Sen. Chambers' New Alliance Party nomination is legally defective," Spire said, since Chambers would have had to change his party affiliation to the New Alliance Party 90 days before being eligible to be a nominee of that party.

Chambers changed his party on June 15, rendering him ineligible to become a candidate of the party until Sept. 15, Spire wrote in his decision. Chambers would have to file for the senate 60 days before the general election to get on the ballot under Nebraska law.

"This prevents Sen. Chambers from being eligible to be the party's nominee in time to meet the filing deadline for the general election," Spire said.

"In my judgment, these are not technicalities. This is the law," Spire said.

Chambers said this part of the decision is also defective, since it only applies to incumbents and that he was never affiliated with a party in the first place.

Spire said he would not press charges against Chambers since there "simply isn't evidence of criminal intent."

Chambers said the attorney general should have filed criminal charges because the statute Spire cited is a criminal statute.

Chambers said Spire, who was appointed by former Gov. Bob Kerrey, favors Kerrey for the senate seat and is protecting him by raising the legal question.

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### Eyes right

Lincoln Mayor Bill Harris, Nebraska Gov. Kay Orr and other members of the Cornhusker State Games Committee view the opening ceremonies of the games last weekend. See photo story on Page 8.

Connie Sheehan/Daily Nebraskan

## House considers new student loan bill

By Larry Peirce  
Staff Reporter

A bill which would allow defaulted and delinquent student loans to be repaid without penalty is "moving rapidly" through the U.S. House of Representatives, according to a spokesman for the bill's sponsor.

The bill, HR4986, is aimed at reducing the climbing rate of student loan defaults, as well as increasing the amount of money for Pell Grants to low-income students.

David Roach, press secretary to Rep. Patrick Williams, D-Mont., said the bill was approved July 12 by the House Education and Labor Committee, just five days after it was introduced. Williams and 11 other senators sponsored the bill.

The bill has two "amnesty provisions" which would allow students who are delinquent or default on loans to begin repaying them without penalty, Roach said.

Students could repay the entire balance of the loan in six months, or set up 12 timely installments with their financial institution.

Roach said that under the installment method, students would not pay the entire loan in 12 payments, but would get back in "good graces" with their banks.

The bill's sponsors are also trying to restore the balance between Pell Grants and Guaranteed Student Loans that existed before 1981, when President Ronald Reagan began cutting Pell Grant funds, Roach said.

Before the cuts, Pell Grants were intended for low-income students and GSLs were intended for middle class students. When Pell Grant funds were cut low-income students turned to GSLs. This increased the burden on low-income students and led to the rise in the default rate, Roach said.

The House will give full consideration to the bill in late July or early August.

## New General Studies division expected

By Victoria Ayotte  
Staff Reporter

The University of Nebraska Board of Regents is expected to establish a new Division of General Studies Saturday, formalizing the academic nature of general studies, two UNL administrators said.

With the board's approval, general studies will be recognized as its own division, and not just an advising office, said James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs.

The university already provides a general studies section in the undergraduate bulletin and a dean's list for

general studies students, Griesen said.

After the division is approved, responsibility for general studies will be transferred to the vice chancellor for academic affairs from student affairs, Griesen said, which is its rightful place as an academic department.

Robert Furgason, vice chancellor for academic affairs, agreed that academic affairs is the right place for general studies.

"There are some students who are in the College of Arts and Sciences but don't know whether they want to major in chemistry or biology," Fur-

gason said. "There are other students who are less certain than that, and this provides them an academic home."

Griesen said events of the past two years have led to the establishment of the Division of General Studies.

Undeclared students were advised by the Office of Admissions and Advising before the creation of a General Studies Advising Office.

"We didn't like the undeclared label," he said. "We'd like to make life for the student in general studies the same as life for any other student."

Last fall, when the General Studies Advising Office was created, Don Gregory, an associate professor of

English, was selected to head up the office.

Two advisers besides Gregory were hired for the office, as well as a graduate assistant and undergraduate advisors. The office was also moved to the basement of Administration North.

Griesen said the change from an office to a division will not change anything in general studies, except that a 75-hour credit limit was imposed for the amount of time students are allowed to be in General Studies.

The regents are also expected to approve an international business major to be offered by the College of

Business Administration.

Furgason said CBA has been working on developing the new major for a several years, "recognizing the very strong trend in business and commerce on the international scale."

CBA also developed other international requirements, such as requiring a course in international affairs and developing a minor in international business.

The international business major will give special training in language, international politics and international management, Furgason said.