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Tuesday

WEATHER: Tuesday, cloudy and colder with a 30 percent chance of snow, high around 35 with NW winds at 20-25 mph. Tuesday night, mostly cloudy and colder, low around 20. Wednesday, partly cloudy, high 30-35.

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All-university test file is yet to be a reality

By Jerry Guenther
Staff Reporter

A new bill co-sponsored by Sens. Stan Mommaerts and Geoff McDonald of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska would enable UNL students to look up their professor's old tests.

The bill, which has yet to be addressed by ASUN, states that a file would be set up within the UNL libraries and would contain UNL professors' past tests. The bill also states that the file would be accessible to all UNL students.

Mommaerts, a graduate student, said he sponsored the bill after one of his constituents approached him with the idea.

"On the surface, it looks like a bad idea," Mommaerts said. "But if you look a little deeper, it might help to promote academics because it will encourage professors to rewrite their tests."

Mommaerts said the bill has the potential to be unacademic if students just memorize the old exams.

The bill also would make taking tests more fair to students because everyone would have access to old tests, not just members of certain

organizations, he said.

Donald Taylor, associate professor of physics and astronomy, said some professors might not be willing to turn in any tests for the file.

Some professors like to keep the same test year after year as a way to evaluate how current classes compare with previous ones, he said.

Taylor said the astronomy department already has a system where 30 to 50 pages of old tests are available on microfiche for students taking astronomy classes. The microfiche sells for 25 cents, he said, and the department does not make a profit on the sales.

"Not as many take part in it as they

should," Taylor said.

Though some of the old questions appear on current tests, Taylor said, he doesn't think it is unacademic because students can't memorize that many questions, and new questions are added to current exams.

"The purpose is just to give students some idea of what to study for," Taylor said.

Taylor said old tests provide another way for students to learn the subject and can be a good review also.

Arthur Winter, associate professor of history, said he thinks the test filing system would work if professors were required to submit old tests on a vol-

untary basis.

"If you rubbed our noses in it," Taylor said, "we'd probably turn it down."

Taylor said he uses both old and new questions on his exams, and provides students with copies of old tests during dead week.

But, Taylor said, students still have to look up answers to the questions.

"The professors can only point out where the material is located," Taylor said. "The student has to be motivated to look it up."

"That's one of the reasons why higher education is not viewed as a form of recreation," he said.

Recall petition of executives lacked interest of students

By David Holloway
Senior Reporter

A petition to recall two members of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln was cancelled last Tuesday, according to ASUN Senate Speaker Matt Gotschall.

Gotschall said he met with two of the petitioners, Peter Barufkin, a freshman psychology major, and James Finley, a freshman musical education major, last Tuesday. Barufkin and Finley told Gotschall they were going to drop the petition due to lack of student interest.

Barufkin and Finley are two of the alleged six petitioners who started a drive to recall ASUN President Jeff Petersen and Gotschall.

Gotschall said Barufkin and Finley wanted to drop the petition and work together with Gotschall on a new group they are forming called SEASUNS (Students' Eye on the ASUN Senate).

Finley said they had signatures for the recall, but said he and Barufkin decided it was better "to build then to tear down."

"It was never anything personal against Gotschall or Petersen," Finley said. "After talking to Gotschall, he saw where we were coming from."

Finley said the petition was started because he and others wanted students to be more aware of the senators' actions.

"I was a little weary of what happened, but there were no hard feelings," Gotschall said. "Something good came out of it."

Finley said he would like the help of several ASUN senators in the organization of the SEASUNS.

Gotschall said he plans to help Barufkin and Finley organize their ideas for the group so they can write a constitution.

"I have no regrets about what we did," Gotschall said. "I would change the wording around in the letter (to Gov. Kay Orr and Chancellor Martin Massengale) so it wouldn't be so controversial, but I don't regret writing the letter."

Petersen said he didn't think the petition was the best way to make a change, and said he hopes the students get the change they need through another means.

Finley said right now he is trying to make a plan of action, set goals and see where SEASUNS is going.

Sorority house looted over Thanksgiving

From Staff Reports

Looters reportedly broke into the Gamma Phi Beta sorority, 415 N. 16th St., over the Thanksgiving Holiday, according to Cpl. Linda McEntarffer of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Police Department.

A maintenance man reported the illegal entry on Friday, McEntarffer said. She said the kitchen window may have been used to enter the sorority.

At this time no estimates of reported property losses are available, McEntarffer said.

Ann Gotch, Gamma Phi Beta president, said a bicycle and jewelry were the most common things reported missing. Once all members have documented their losses the information will be presented to the UNL police, Gotch said.



Connie Sheehan/Daily Nebraskan

Here's to Yule

It may be November, but Richard Eikmeier, a junior agronomy student, waters Christmas Poinsettias. Eikmeier is inside the heated biological hothouse by Oldfather Hall.

Professors study cheap agriculture methods

UNL assisting under developed countries

By Tom Koenig
Staff Reporter

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is helping to curb agricultural problems for Third World farmers, according to agricultural experts.

Chuck Francis, an agronomy professor and crops specialist at UNL, is studying a low-input system of farming that could reduce starvation for people in Third World countries.

Francis said sustainable agriculture is a management strategy that helps producers develop a system to curb external costs, reduce harmful environmental effects and increase food production.

The system involves choosing prime crop hybrids, a soil fertility package, better pest management, a tillage system and crop rotation.

"Third World farmers cannot afford the

farming methods that farmers in Nebraska have," Francis said. "We use expensive fossil fuels to power big tractors and produce chemical fertilizers and pest control measures."

Glen Vollmar, UNL professor of agricultural economics and dean and director of International Programs, said the university participates in other Third World projects located in Morocco, the Caribbean, Niger and Costa Rica.

"We are helping with the construction of colleges, assist in the production of dry-land crops and help with the improvement of management skills," Vollmar said.

The United States benefits by helping Third World countries because those countries buy more products from the United States in return, he said.

Francis agreed that stronger rural economies in Third World countries could benefit trade opportunities here. Much of Nebraska's feed grain is targeted for overseas markets, he

said. Francis said an improved domestic agriculture program has aided Brazil's ability to import grains.

Although Brazil has competed with American production of soybeans, it has steadily increased its imports of soybeans and corn from the United States.

The same trend has occurred in South Korea, too. Throughout the 1970s, South Korea increased agricultural production by 27 percent per capita. But U.S. food exports to Korea increased from \$368 million to \$1.172 billion and by 1983 Korea started paying 100 percent for U.S. exports.

"They increase their imports," Francis said, "because diets change and more meat and feed grains are imported."

"When food supplies are imported here and in Third World countries, there is less of a threat of starvation and that contributes to greater global social and economic stability."