

Daily Nebraskan

Wednesday

WEATHER:

Wednesday, cloudy with highs in 30s, NE winds 5-15 mph. Wednesday night, partly cloudy, low about 10. Thursday, partly cloudy, high 25-30.

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Representatives of public schools oppose bill

By Eve Nations
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska Legislature's Education Committee heard testimony Tuesday on a bill that would change priorities for the awarding of State Student Incentive Grants and state overmatch for the SSIG funds.

If passed, LB651 would alter funding for private and public postsecondary schools by considering the cost of the institution instead of the personal resources and needs of a student.

Representatives from private institutions favored the bill because it would provide greater financial assistance to private schools.

John Ober, a representative for private colleges, told the committee that the passage of LB651 will "ensure students attending independent colleges a fair and acceptable share of funds."

Two other representatives from private institutions, Union College President John Wagner and Doane College President Fred Brown, also urged support for the bill.

Representatives from public colleges and universities told the committee that the passage of the bill would greatly deplete funding for students who attend lower-cost public schools.

Tom Johnston, a representative for community and technical colleges, told the committee that if the bill passed, it would shift \$350,000 to \$450,000 from public sector schools to private, four-year institutions.

"This bill favors full-time private institution students," he said. "It

would take funding away from the people who really need it.

"If you take funds out of community colleges, we will have students who won't be able to afford any postsecondary education."

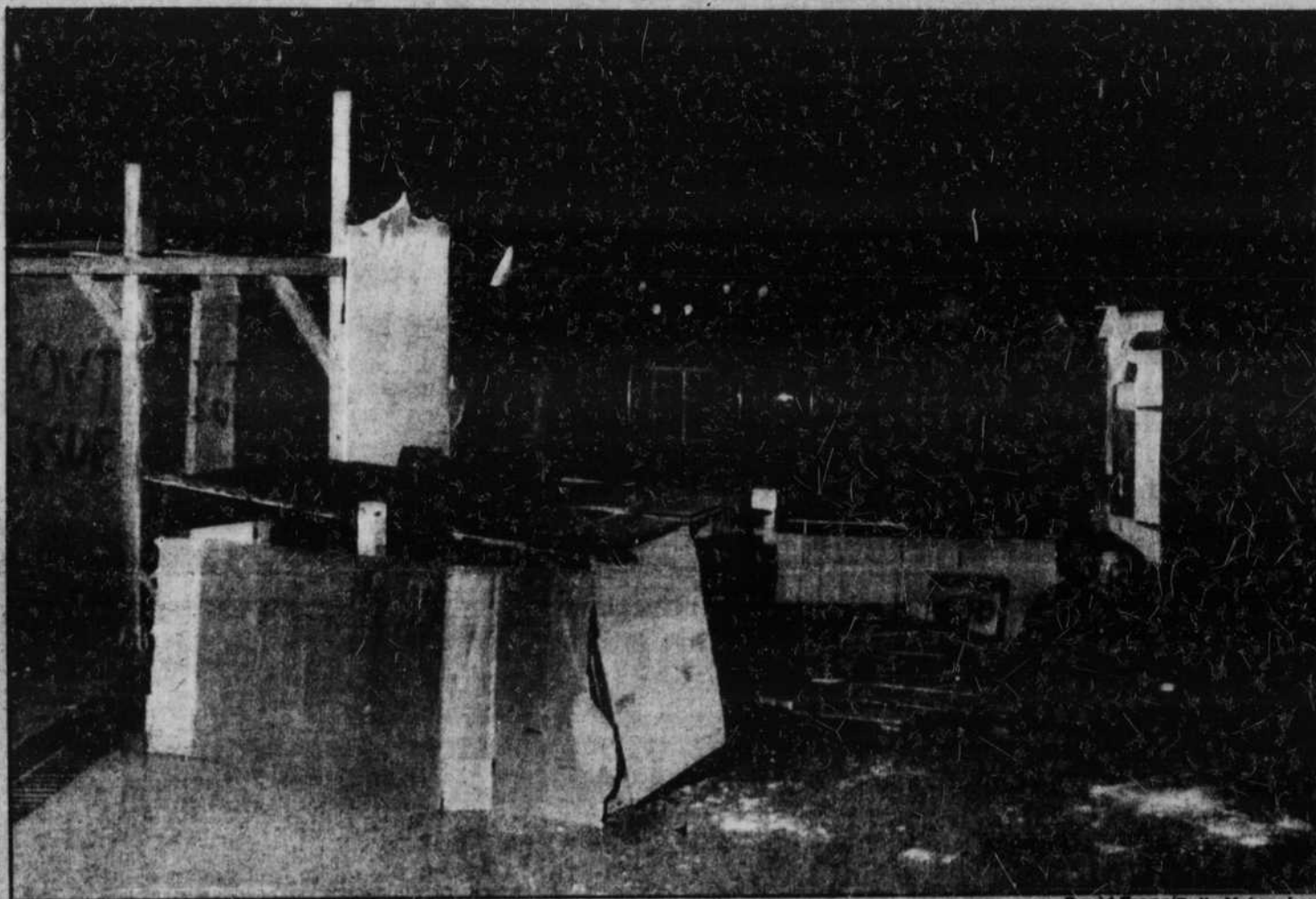
Richard Hoover, vice chancellor for educational student services at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, expressed his opposition to the bill.

"We had \$5.6 million of unmet need at UNO last year," Hoover said. "Any change in funding would be detrimental to students who need financial aid."

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, also stressed the importance of continuing funding for public schools.

Public institutions have large numbers of students who need financial aid but there are not enough funds available, Griesen said.

In a written statement presented to the committee, Debbie Fiddelke, UNL's student lobbyist, stated that she opposed the bill because state funds would not be received by students who have the greatest need.



Carl Klarner sits outside the shanty town built in the plaza north of the Nebraska union by Early Warning! Klarner is a sophomore political science major from the Netherlands.

David Frana/Daily Nebraskan

Students start work on plaza shantytown

By Roger Price
Staff Reporter

With Bob Marley's "One Love" playing in the background, about 15 members of Early Warning! and other concerned students started work on their shantytown Tuesday night on the plaza north of the Nebraska Union.

The shantytown, constructed of old door frames, bicycle boxes and other donated materials, was being built to raise people's awareness about the problems the homeless face, said Joe Bowman, the facilitator for the group.

"This project is to create an awareness

... living in Lincoln you get so sheltered," said Michele Emo Syvert, a freshman women's studies major.

Mike Sorrell, one of the students working on the project, said there are more than 700,000 people living in similar shantytowns in Peru and more than two million homeless in the United States.

He said that one fifth of these people are employed, but still can't afford housing.

Katie Tobler, a freshman engineering major, said: "The point is that other people are out there in the cold without even these materials, and this is to show our solidarity with these people."

Amy Frederick said that the group has

been planning this for months and everyone was "psyched" even though "it would be nice if it was warmer."

Ginger Dzerk, Early Warning! secretary, said the group was planning to work late into the night and some were planning on sleeping in the shanties either Tuesday or Wednesday night.

"It makes me realize when people have to live in these things, how awful it must be, especially when it's this cold," Dzerk said.

The temperature was around 25 degrees while the group was constructing the shantytown.

Dzerk said the group plans to tear down the shantytown Thursday.

ASUN introduces bills opposing LB160

By Larry Peirce
Senior Reporter

Two bills opposing the merger of Kearney State College into the University of Nebraska system will be introduced at tonight's Association of Students of the University of Nebraska meeting.

ASUN President Jeff Petersen, who sponsored the bills along with Sen. Jill Durbin of the College of Arts and Sciences, said the bills oppose KSC's merger and call for a task force to study higher education prior to any reorganization.

Petersen said the bills are in response to LB160, a bill in the Nebraska Legislature that would make KSC part of the NU system.

He said their bills show stronger opposition than a resolution passed at last Saturday's NU Board of Regents meeting. That resolution, like the ASUN bills, calls for a task force to study reorganization of Nebraska's educational systems.

See ASUN on 3

Alcohol, Valium consumed in apparent suicide attempt

From Staff Reports

A University of Nebraska-Lincoln graduate student was reported in fair condition Tuesday at Lincoln General Hospital after apparently attempting to commit suicide earlier in the day.

Lt. Albert Maxey of the Lincoln Police Department said police went to the student's home, 134 S. 17th St., after receiving a phone call from a Crete resident at about 11:20 a.m. The man had allegedly taken four Valiums and drank an undetermined amount of alcohol.

Maxey said he did not believe the suicide attempt had been life-threatening.

Lt. Ken Cauble of the UNL Police Department said a UNL professor called Monday at about 11 a.m. to warn police about the student. The professor received a note from the student earlier in the morning saying the student was going to commit suicide. The note later was given to the Lincoln police.

The student is enrolled in the Department of Theatre Arts and Dance.

Maxey said it appeared that the student had been receiving treatment at the University Health Center. Cauble said a health center counselor reportedly went to Lincoln General following the student's admittance.

Craig: Doctoral shortage limits home-ec labs

By Roger Price
Staff Reporter

A nationwide shortage of people with doctorates in home economics is causing the number of lab sections in some home-ec courses to be limited at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, according to Karen Craig, dean of Home Economics.

One factor responsible for the shortage of available professors is the small number of universities that offer doctorates in these disciplines, Craig said.

Another factor is that many who do earn their doctorate in home economics go on to work for government and industry because the salaries are higher, Craig said.

Currently, UNL has about 55 faculty members in home economics, 40 of whom are involved in teaching, but, Craig said, she would like to add about five more doctoral positions.

Craig said each faculty member usually teaches three three-hour courses each semester.

She said faculty had expressed concerns that this was an unusually heavy load to expect of them. Ac-

cording to the Institutional Research and Planning office, the average hours each full-time equivalent professor spends in the classroom is 9.5 credit hours per semester. This figure represents the average amount of time faculty would spend in the classroom if their sole responsibility was teaching.

One of the effects of this shortage, Craig said, is that the college has had to cut around 10 lab sections in undergraduate courses forcing some students to be turned away, and other sections are offered only once every other year.

One solution to this problem was

introduced to the NU Board of Regents Saturday. Craig said the regents will vote next month on whether the college will offer a doctoral program to complement their masters program that is the second largest in the nation.

The proposed doctoral program would involve restructuring current staff allocations by having some advanced graduate students teach undergraduate courses and having professors teach graduate courses, Craig said.

Craig said she doesn't plan to hire doctoral graduates from UNL because "it is not academically good

policy to hire your own people." Craig said hiring people from other institutions promotes the interaction of ideas.

She said that by increasing the number of people with doctorates in home economics, the number of people available to work at UNL also would rise.

While most openings for faculty positions in other colleges at UNL are sought by around 30 applicants, Craig said openings in home economics currently get about six applicants because of the shortage of people with doctorates.