

Daily Nebraskan

Monday

WEATHER:

Monday, mostly sunny, high in 20s with N winds less than 10 mph. Monday night, clear and colder with low of 10. Tuesday, highs 30-40. Wednesday through Friday, dry weather with high in mid 40s Wednesday warming to 60s on Friday.

INDEX

News Digest 2
Editorial 4
Sports 7
Arts & Entertainment 9
Classifieds 11

March 6, 1989

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 88 No. 114

NCAA due process bill fails to advance any further

By Jerry Guenther
Staff Reporter

Saying he does not wish to "slap the wrist of the only entity" that regulates college athletics, Sen. Lorán Schmit of Bellwood led opposition to a bill Friday that would have required the NCAA to use due process when disciplining Nebraska colleges and universities.

Legislature

LB397, which received unanimous first-round approval in the Nebraska Legislature, failed to advance from select file when only 21 of the needed 25 senators voted in favor of the measure. The final vote was 21-8-8.

If LB397 would have become law, Ne-

braska would have been the first state in the nation requiring the NCAA to use due process when disciplining member colleges and universities in the state.

Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha, co-sponsor of the bill, said he drafted the bill because of sanctions against a coach who had his constitutional rights of due process violated during an NCAA investigation.

In that case, a Nevada state court ruled the NCAA had an investigator who showed bias against University of Nevada-Las Vegas coach Jerry Tarkanian. UNLV was placed on two years probation in 1977 for 38 rules violations, including 10 involving Tarkanian.

The NCAA appealed the Nevada state court decision, and the U.S. Supreme Court ruled last Dec. 12 that the NCAA is not bound by federal due process laws because it is a private institu-

"The only way you can make them comply with due process is through state law," Chambers said.

Chambers said he has been contacted by people from other states who want to pass similar legislation.

During debate on the bill, Chambers said LB397 would give colleges and universities in the state a cause of action to recover damages if the NCAA did not act fairly.

Chambers said the University of Nebraska-Lincoln was dealt with unfairly in 1986 when the NCAA tried to suspend a large number of football players for the mishandling of football tickets.

But, Chambers said, "the NCAA backed down," because of media coverage and strong public pressure from the fans.

Chambers also said the NCAA has been working to promote itself while not always

considering the best interests of the athletes.

Schmit said he admits he doesn't know how "brutal" the NCAA can be, but said he didn't want to hamper the only association that regulates college athletics.

"Someone has to have some oversight," Schmit said.

Schmit said that college athletics now supersede academic programs in importance, and that the time has come to put college athletics back into their "proper place."

Before the bill was voted down, Sen. Doug Kristensen of Minden moved to postpone debate until the Legislature could get an attorney general's opinion to determine if the bill could be unconstitutional.

Kristensen later withdrew his motion after Chambers said he would agree to add any amendments that the attorney general would suggest before the bill's final reading.

Mock COLAGE newsletters distributed throughout campus

By Brandon Loomis
Senior Reporter

A university official said the fact that someone placed stacks of mock newsletters about the Committee Offering Lesbian and Gay Events next to Daily Nebraskan stacks last week proves there is a need on campus for education in the rights of individuals.

"It frankly is an indication that people on the campus aren't respectful of the rights of gays," said James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs. "I certainly hate to see attempts at humor that are at the expense of others."

The letter proposes the creation of "COLAGE College," offering students fictional courses in sodomy, androgyny and speech communication which "shows how anyone can learn to talk like a homosexual."

In a brief, satirical history of gays on campus, the letter says students persecuted gays in the past, forcing them to "retreat to the safety of their closet, the Sheldon Art Gallery."

This "sad state of affairs" continued until February, 1989, the letter says, when Chancellor Martin Massengale and Griesen granted funding to COLAGE.

Griesen and Massengale have not made a decision on whether to fund COLAGE yet. Griesen said he will consider the question and come to a decision some time after Wednesday.

Griesen said he has not yet carefully weighed the evidence, but if the letter has any effect on his decision, it probably will be on the side of COLAGE and the educational programs it has proposed.

In the letter, the group claiming to have envisioned the COLAGE College is the "Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Avacados (sic)."

Brad Munn, University of Ne-

braska-Lincoln Affirmative Action officer, said that because avocados are fruits, the group is probably using a play on words.

Also included in the list of courses to be offered by the college:

- "Creative Thinking, covering methods used in making up words like 'homophobia' and defining them to your advantage."

- An economics course, teaching "How to turn your particular sexual practices into money-making minority status."

- An evolution course "nails down exactly where gays are on the evolutionary ladder."

- "Spin Doctoring" teaches how to "blame the spread of AIDS on drug addicts and heterosexuals."

The letter says anyone interested in enrolling in the college should pick up a registration form from a Daily Nebraskan editorial writer.

Griesen said a student brought a copy of the letter to his office last week. After reading it, Griesen said he found several of the letters next to the stack of Daily Nebraskans in the Administration Building and threw the letters away.

Whoever wrote the letter has First Amendment free speech rights, Griesen said, and there is nothing legally wrong with the letter.

But if the group includes faculty members, Griesen said, some action could be taken because an employer has the right to demand equal treatment for all employees.

Munn said the affirmative action office cannot prosecute groups for discrimination against homosexuals because such discrimination is not against state or university regulations.

But Munn said if he finds out who distributed the letter he will try to make them understand that such actions have only negative results.

NU backs bill aiding students from lower-income families

By Brandon Loomis
Senior Reporter

University officials and students testified Friday in favor of a bill that would make income the major determining factor in state financial aid, instead of making the cost of a chosen school a major consideration.

About 65 people listened as the Legislature's Appropriations Committee held a public hearing on LB468.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs James Griesen said NU supports LB468 because of the bill's apparent intent to help students from low-income families.

He said more students currently are going to lower cost schools in the state than to private schools because low-income students can't afford private schools.

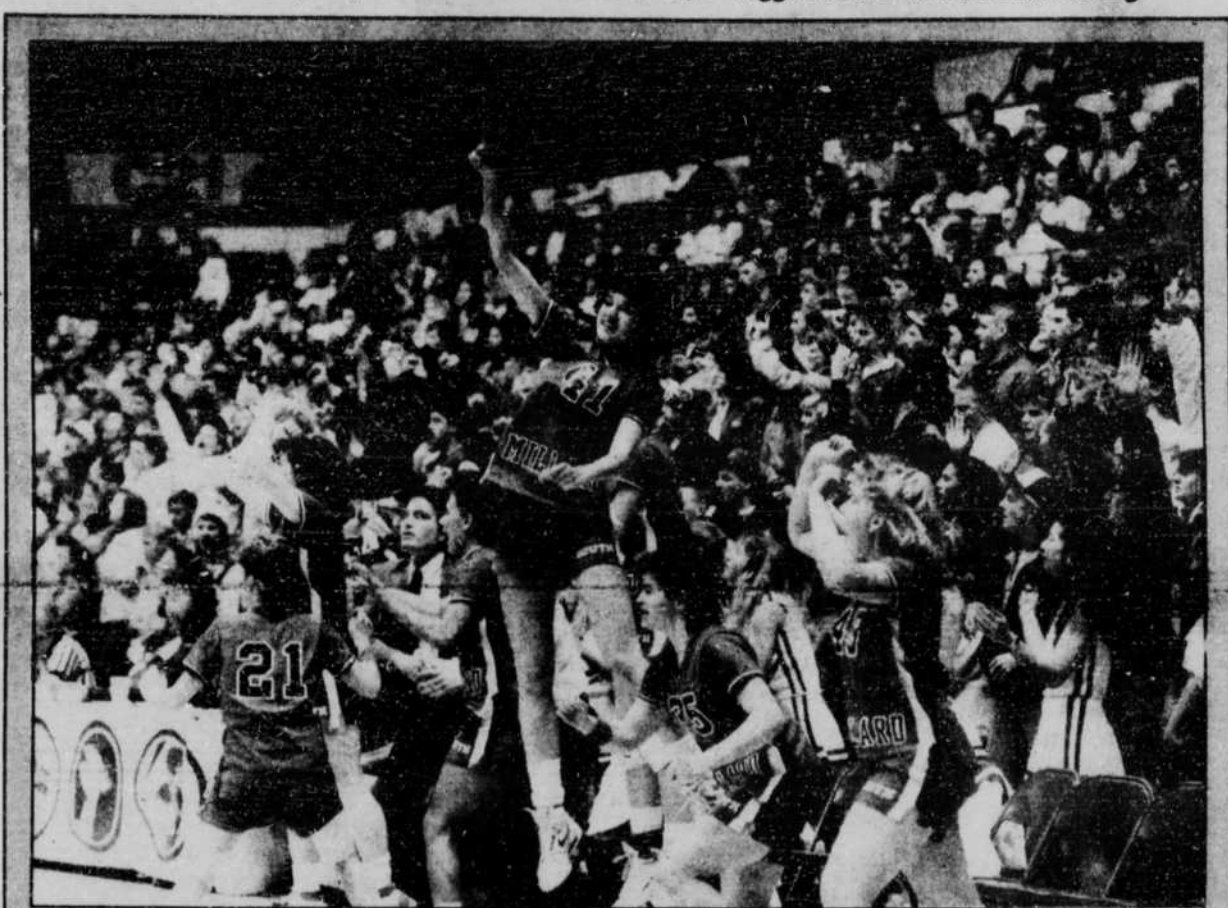
For that reason, he said, more financial aid should go to lower cost schools, so more low-income students can afford college.

"I certainly favor channelling those dollars along the lines of where the needy students go," Griesen said.

Deb Fiddelke, UNL student lobbyist, said the bill allows actual need to be the determining factor.

"I stand in full support of providing aid to those students who are truly needy," Fiddelke said.

See AID on 6



Shaun Bertin/Daily Nebraskan

Shannon Struby (41), a high school junior, celebrates as the final seconds tick off the clock during Millard South's 57-29 win over Kearney in the Nebraska Girl's High School Basketball Class A championship game Saturday night at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Prof: Few pursue advanced degrees

By Lisa Twiestmeyer
Staff Reporter

The perception that there are few faculty job openings in biology may be one reason why fewer students are pursuing advanced degrees in the field, according to one University of Nebraska-Lincoln biology professor.



Royce Ballinger, director of the School of Biological Sciences, said he thinks the number of students entering graduate programs in biology has decreased nationwide, but the opportunity for available jobs is a major factor in this decrease.

Ballinger said many biology students are aware that there have been plenty of candidates to fill available faculty positions in the past.

"Faculty positions have generally been so tight that this may be a reason that students have shied away," Ballinger said. "When they start to loosen up, the number of graduate students will increase."

Low salaries and stipends for graduate students may be another reason for the decrease at many uni-

versities, including UNL, Ballinger said. The salary for a biology teaching assistant at UNL is \$7,500, he said, which is "no longer competitive" with salaries at other universities.

Other schools like Texas A&M are offering \$10,000 to \$12,000 to teaching assistants in molecular plant biology, Ballinger said. If that salary is converted to full-time hours, "that's almost like hiring a faculty member," he said.

"We need to raise stipends (to) \$9-10,000 in order to be competitive," Ballinger said, "and we are not able to do that right now."

Ballinger said that although more science students pursue degrees in biology than any other science nationwide, many of these students are attracted to jobs in fields such as industry and medicine because of higher salaries.

The department has tried to raise the budget for teaching assistant salaries, he said, but this reduces the number of TAs the department can support. There are so many sections of biology labs to be taught, he said, that TAs cannot cover all of the department's teaching needs.

UNL's biology department must employ undergraduate biology students to teach some of the freshman biology courses, Ballinger said. Each year the department selects 40 to 50

junior or senior undergraduates to teach the beginning classes, he said.

"They do a very good job," Ballinger said. "We haven't suffered in quality. It's the only way we are able to survive as far as covering all our needs."

Ballinger said he doesn't think UNL's biology department will face a severe faculty shortage in the 1990s like some are predicting for other departments.

He said he doubts there will be a glut of retirements then, and that the department has been able to maintain a competitive starting salary to attract new professors.

"We haven't noticed an inability to find and attract good candidates," he said. "I'm not sure that it will ever be a problem."

Ballinger said starting salaries are a "function of the market place -- if you want a good one, you have to pay the going rate."

The concern at UNL lies in keeping the salaries competitive once the faculty is hired, he said.

The biology department has lost four faculty members in the last two to three years, Ballinger said. One left to take a job in industry, and three went to teach at other universities.

Ballinger said he doesn't know if the professors left because of low salaries, inadequate research support or for personal reasons.