

Daily Nebraskan

Tuesday

WEATHER:

Tuesday, mostly cloudy, 30 percent chance of snow, becoming partly sunny in afternoon, high 40-43. Tuesday night, partly cloudy and colder, low 20. Wednesday, partly sunny, high 35.

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March 14, 1989

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 88 No. 120

Legislature votes against education bill

By Jerry Guenther
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska Legislature Monday voted 17-19 against a bill that would have provided tax credits for Nebraska residents who place money in a savings account used to pay for a student's college education.

Legislature NEBRASKA

LB140, sponsored by Sens. Jerry Chizek of Omaha and Gerald Conway of Wayne, would have established the Nebraska College Savings Plan Act to allow families to save up to \$2,000 annually in a tax-exempt account if the student attended a Nebraska college or technical school full-time.

The vote to advance the bill was originally 18-18, but Chizek switched his vote to the prevailing side so that, according to parliamen-

tary procedure, he later can move to have the bill reconsidered.

During discussion, Chizek said the bill would help address the problem of rising college education costs.

At least eight other states have passed similar legislation, he said.

The bill was amended by Chizek to limit the number of people who could qualify under the act.

Under the amendment, married couples with an annual income of \$60,000 or less could save up to \$2,000 per year for a student's education, while married couples with an annual income between \$60,000 and \$70,000 could save up to \$1,000 per year.

Single-parent families with an annual income of \$40,000 or less could save the maximum \$2,000 per year, while single parent-families earning between \$40,000 and \$55,000 per year could save up to \$1,000 annually.

Chizek said he offered the amendment because of concern that the bill was designed to

help only the wealthy who already could afford to pay for their children's college education.

The amendment passed unanimously.

Sen. Arlene Nelson of Grand Island said the amendment made the bill more "palatable," but questioned whether the bill would reach the families who couldn't afford to save \$2,000 for their children's education.

Chizek said the \$2,000 was a maximum that could be saved under the act, and families could put away whatever they could afford.

Another option for people saving for a student's college education, Nelson said, would be to purchase zero-coupon bonds. Nelson said the bonds would allow parents to defer up to \$1,000 of the income from the interest on those bonds as long as their child was under 14 years of age.

Sen. Roger Wehrbein of Plattsmouth offered an amendment that would have added LB535 and LB629 to the bill.

The amendment mandates that Nebraska residents who purchased tax-exempt bonds

from other states would not be charged state income tax on the bonds.

Sen. Tim Hall of Omaha criticized the amendment, saying it would encourage people to buy bonds outside of Nebraska.

Hall said 46 states have laws that charge a state income tax on the interest of tax-exempt bonds from outside of their own state.

"For Nebraska to go back and say we're not going to tax them would be a mistake," Hall said.

Sen. Elroy Hefner of Coleridge then asked the Speaker of the Legislature, William Barrett of Lexington, to dismiss the amendment because it was not "germane to the issue at hand."

Barrett declared the issue non-germane and Wehrbein moved for an override that failed.

During debate on the bill, Chizek blasted an editorial in a Lincoln paper which opposed LB140. Chizek said the editorial claimed mechanical short-comings and loopholes in the bill that were "unfounded."

Candidates tout more off-campus involvement

By Roger Price
Staff Reporter

The Association of Students of the University of Nebraska needs to involve more of the nearly 16,000 students who live off campus, said ASUN candidates for the PRIDE and SLUMBR parties in an open discussion Monday night.

Dan Rock, presidential candidate for PRIDE, said the current ASUN administration and the IMPACT party don't look at the needs of students outside their own social groups.

Regents approve dean's nomination for ag college

By Sara Bauder
Staff Reporter

With the NU Board of Regents approving his nomination Saturday to become dean of the College of Agriculture at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Donald Edwards said his main goal for the college will be strategic planning.

Edwards, who currently is the chairman and a professor of the Department of Agricultural Engineering at Michigan State University and director of the MSU/Michigan Department of Agriculture Meteorological Program, will assume the duties of dean July 1.

"We'll try to get some vision of where we are going," Edwards said. "I plan to work with the students and faculty to see what kind of programs we should be developing."

"Farming is a sophisticated, competitive business, and only those with appropriate education will survive," he said.

Edwards said he will make changes in the College of Agriculture, but isn't certain what those changes will be.

"We'll need to see what the needs will be and then move accordingly," he said.

Edwards received his bachelors and masters degrees from South Dakota State University and his Ph.D. from Purdue University. Before taking his position at MSU in 1980, Edwards had been employed by UNL since 1966.

While at UNL, he was the director and associate dean of the Engineering Research Center and director of the Energy Research and Development Center, which was operated from the Chancellor's office. He was also an assistant dean and professor with the

Trevor McArthur, SLUMBR's presidential candidate, said, "Greeks foster their own. The greek system could be so good, but it's so close minded."

Monika Jegeris, first vice-presidential candidate for PRIDE and a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, said, "It is really important to be balanced in ASUN representation."

The main problem with greek members, Jegeris said, is that "they need to think about the university, not the greek system."

McArthur also encouraged minority involvement in ASUN. He said even though the Culture Center, 333 N. 14th, is less than two blocks from the ASUN offices, most people in ASUN do not realize that it even exists.

McArthur said he would like to call SLUMBR "the party of minorities."

"Minorities should get together and fight each other's battles," McArthur said.

PRIDE candidates said they feel ASUN should make an effort to in-

volve all students.

"We have to go to the students. They shouldn't have to come to us," Rock said.

Jegeris said it is important to keep all UNL students informed. She said it is important to go to new places to reach these students, such as the Culture Center, laundromats, bars and anywhere else off campus students "hang out."

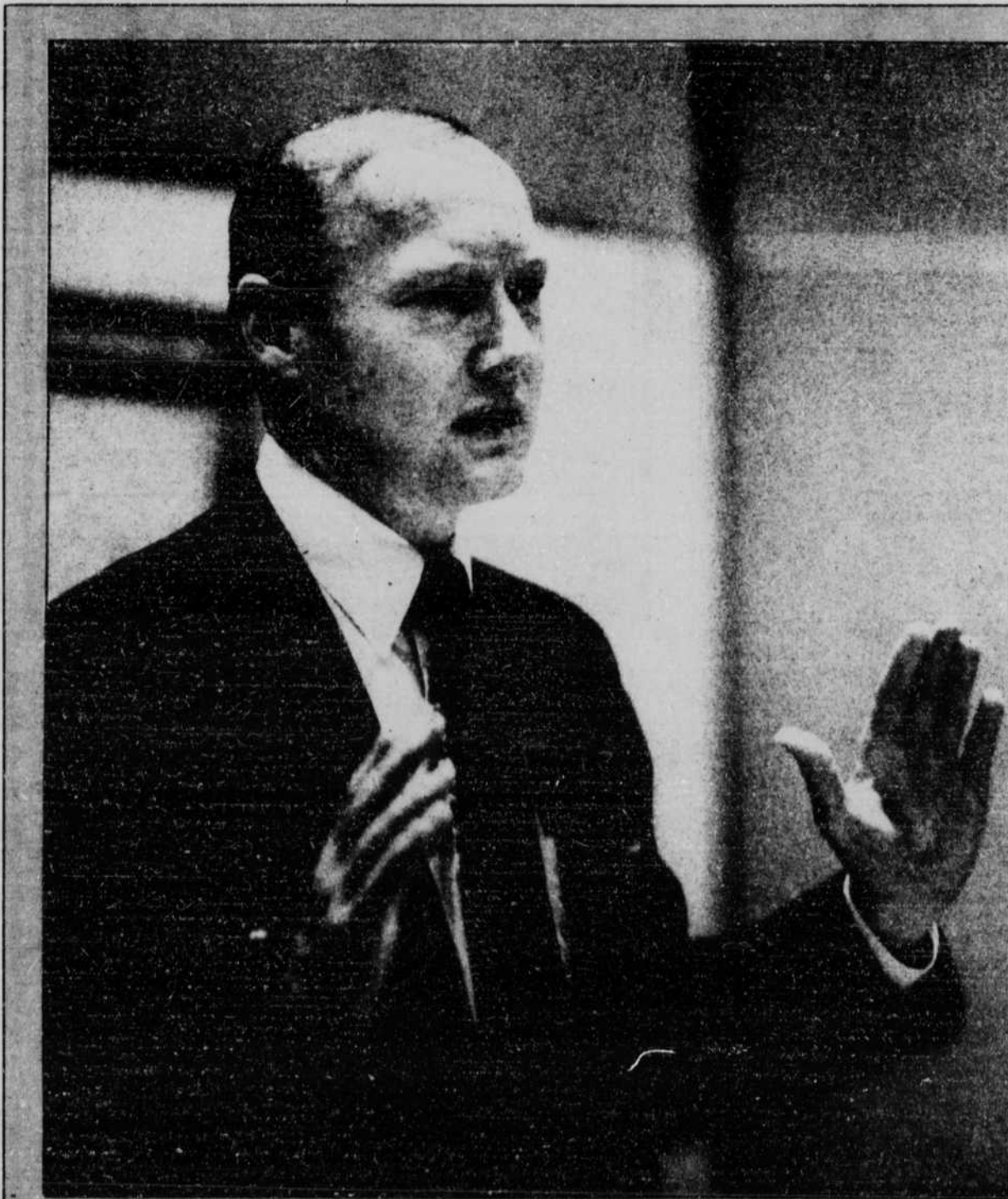
Rock said by involving more students in ASUN and reducing apathy among students, ASUN would gain more credibility on campus.

An official vote for the student regents also would increase ASUN's credibility, Rock said.

A constitutional amendment might be necessary for student regents to gain an official vote, but, Rock said, he thinks "the voters of Nebraska would back us up on this."

Rock said the people of Nebraska already show an overwhelming support for the football team. Because of this, Rock said, Nebraskans also would support other quality aspects

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Manion

David Fahsion/Daily Nebraskan

Judge: Courts shouldn't have to make laws

By Victoria Ayotte
Senior Editor

Law-making should be done by legislators and not left to the courts, said Daniel Manion, an appellate judge on the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Manion, speaking to students Monday at the law college, said legislators often write unclear laws, leaving them to be interpreted by the courts.

Courts have "unlimited leeway" in interpreting such laws, he said. Judges are supposed to determine legislative intent, which is the lawmakers intended goal. This is often found in legislators' speeches and statements about the law, he said.

However, Manion said, legislators' words will support "almost any position" the court wants to take because the intent of legislators is unclear.

The Supreme Court often interprets laws widely, he said, as with freedom of speech cases and school integration.

Judicial restraint, a narrow interpretation of the law, versus judicial activism, a broad interpretation of the law, is a main determinant of how a court will act, Manion said.

A fear of court activism has brought the courts into the public eye, he said. Since the 1950s, the Supreme Court has been brought "more and more to the forefront of political issues," because of its activism, he said.

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