

Daily Nebraskan

Wednesday

WEATHER:

Wednesday, partly sunny and warmer, high 50-55 with S winds at 10-20 mph. Wednesday night, partly cloudy and mild, low in the lower 30s. Thursday, cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thundershowers, high in the low to mid 50s.

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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LB160 is unconstitutional, opinion states

By Victoria Ayotte
Senior Editor

Officials had mixed reactions Tuesday to the opinion by the state attorney general that adding Kearney State College to the University of Nebraska system would be unconstitutional.

The opinion was given Monday by Deputy Attorney General A. Eugene Crump and Attorney General Robert Spire in response to a December request by state Sen. Jerome Warner of Waverly. Warner is a co-sponsor of LB160, which would add KSC to the university system.

The opinion states that making KSC part of the university system would be a violation of legislative history, which states that the principle mission of the state colleges is to train teachers.

The change also would be unconstitutional because the Board of Trustees is charged with governing the state colleges, the opinion says,

and previous court history states that none of that responsibility can be taken away.

A constitutional amendment would be needed to make KSC part of the NU system, the opinion states.

Warner said he originally requested the opinion because he had heard concerns that the bill might be unconstitutional. In his request for the attorney general's opinion, Warner said he thought the bill was constitutional since the Nebraska constitution makes no mention of the specific campuses to be governed by the university.

Warner said the constitution provides that state colleges be governed by the Board of Trustees. If a college is changed to a university, it would be governed by the NU Board of Regents, he said.

Warner said Tuesday that the attorney general's opinion is inconsistent with the current role and mission of KSC.

The opinion "suggests a very narrow scope for the state colleges," he said.

It declares that the role and mission is to train teachers, he said, but "that certainly is not the practice."

"It raises the whole question of what the role and mission is of the state colleges," Warner said.

Jean Lovell, chairperson of the Board of Trustees, said the trustees have felt the change of KSC to university status was unconstitutional.

The attorney general's opinion is "pretty much in line with what our position was," she said.

However, Lovell said, the role and mission of the state colleges is "a lot more comprehensive than teachers colleges."

The reason the trustees think the change would be unconstitutional, she said, is because the trustees are granted governing power of the

four state colleges by the constitution. To take one college away from the trustees' governance would be unconstitutional, she said.

NU Regent Don Fricke of Lincoln said he has not supported the change of KSC to the university system all along.

Fricke said he had not considered that the change might be unconstitutional, but the opinion has no effect on his position.

Warner said he is not sure what his next step will be on the bill to change KSC's status. The bill currently is being considered by the Legislature's Education Committee.

The Legislature could make a "test case" by passing the bill, he said, or a constitutional amendment may be considered, although it could not happen this year.

Warner said the ruling in this case could affect another bill in the Legislature to change the names of Nebraska's state colleges to universities.

Judge: South Africans' lives haunted by police actions

By Lisa Twiestmeyer
Staff Reporter

The 16 South Africans whose treason trial Nathaniel Jones observed were guilty of no more than the basic freedoms protected by America's Bill of Rights, the former general counsel for the NAACP said Tuesday to a group of 30 in the Nebraska Union.

Jones, a federal appellate judge for the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, was sent to South Africa in 1985 to observe the trial of 16 South Africans

accused of forming a "revolutionary alliance" with organizations the government had banned.

Other charges against the 16 were based on second-hand statements and songs and slogans the defendants had shouted at illegal meetings.

The defendants, Jones said, were members of South Africa's United Democratic Front and were merely practicing "peaceful and open tactics" in protest of elections which would have given the white minority in South Africa a monopoly over the black majority.

Their membership in the UDF, he said, violated South Africa's National Security Act. That act gives the police the right to act as "licensed executioners" in order to control dissent against the government.

Townships throughout South Africa are under "states of emergency" so the National Security Act can be enforced, he said, which grants "sweeping powers" to the police.

During his stay, Jones said, he visited various townships to observe the conditions under the state of emergency. He and his colleagues

were arrested for violating the state of emergency because they entered one township without a permit.

"Unlimited police powers intrude into the lives of South Africans day and night," Jones said. "It is a cruel system enforced by whips, police dogs, arson, torture and even death."

For example, Jones said, one of the defense attorneys who invited Jones to observe the trial was hacked with machetes and shot with pistols in the presence of her children on the morning that Jones was to leave South Africa.

Innocent people and children are often detained by police and tortured, Jones said. A 15-year-old boy he talked to had been walking down a street in his neighborhood and had part of his leg blown off by police for no reason, he said.

Jones said there is a "war being waged against South African children."

More than 10,000 children under 18 have been detained and charged for crimes without trial, he said, and

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New general requirement program to be implemented

By Eric Pfanner
Staff Reporter

In order to obtain a "more coherent curriculum" at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, general education requirements for all students will change over the next few years, according to UNL officials.

Ellen Baird, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, said the changes will not involve "the number of hours per se," that students would be required to take. Instead, she said, students will be required to take a program of broad, liberal education courses.

About two years ago, Baird said, a chancellor's commission on general liberal education proposed a "Program for the Advancement of General Education" at UNL.

Raymond Haggh, chairman of the implementation committee for the program, said the UNL program is part of a national trend to improve the general education of college students.

"The idea of general education is

what one expects of an educated person," he said.

The program, when implemented, will require students in all UNL colleges to take about 30 hours of courses in five basic knowledge areas, Haggh said.

The plan calls for required courses in "culture and society," "the arts and humanities," "basic and applied science," "mathematics" and "written and oral communications." All students also will have to take an "integrative senior seminar" before they graduate.

Haggh said the courses in these areas will encourage students to be more open-minded and flexible in their education.

There will be about five to eight courses to choose from in each of the five areas of study, in order to give students some flexibility, he said.

Baird, who also is chairman of the implementation subcommittee for arts and humanities, said some pilot courses for the program, in communications, math and chemistry, already

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ASUN Electoral Commission makes election results official

By Eve Nations
Staff Reporter

The ASUN Electoral Commission officially certified last week's student government elections and announced the results of the tied races Tuesday.

Bryan Hill, Devi Bohling and Jon Bruning were certified as president, first vice president and second vice president of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska.

Some senatorial and student advisory board positions, which were not announced previously because of ties, were chosen by the commission by picking numbers out of a cup Tuesday. In many cases, the ties were

caused by numerous write-in votes.

The winners of advisory board positions were Andy Hahn of the vocational and adult education department; Jill Douglas from the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation; Kaleen Micck of the special education and communication disorders department; Lisa Boohar from speech pathology; and John Campbell from pre-veterinary science.

The winner of the fifth graduate college senator position was Jay Ovsioivich.

Mark Fahleson, the director of the Electoral Commission, said the certi-

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Allon Schaben/Daily Nebraskan

Spring chicken?

Michael Elwood, a junior physical education major, serves a slice of ham to his pet chicken "Earwax" Tuesday afternoon at Broyhill Fountain. "I believe that all chickens deserve to be kept as pets and not to be eaten," Elwood said.