

# Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Monday

## WEATHER

Monday, considerably cloudy and breezy with highs 55-60, NW winds 15-25, 20 percent chance of showers. Monday night, colder with lows in low to mid 30s. Tuesday, high 50. Wednesday through Friday, cool with scattered showers, high in 50s.

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## South Dakota educators argue college definitions

By Roger Price  
Staff Reporter

Last month South Dakota Gov. George Mickelson sparked controversy by signing into law a bill that will change the name of the three state colleges in South Dakota to universities.

The South Dakota law, which will take effect in July, is similar to Nebraska's LB760, which is currently being considered by the Nebraska Legislature. LB760 would change the names of the four state colleges in Nebraska to universities.

If passed, LB760 would change Chadron State College into Western Nebraska State University, Kearney State College into Central Nebraska University, Peru State College into Southeastern Nebraska State University and Wayne State College into Northeastern Nebraska State University.

South Dakota State Sen. Jerry Lammers said that the University of South Dakota have started a petition drive to place the name change issue on a 1990 state-wide election ballot.

The petition drive was started as a campaign promise by Dave Hosmer, student body president at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion. By putting the issue on the ballot,

Hosmer said, he hopes to reverse the name changes.

Hosmer said he will need 14,700 signatures on the petitions in order for the name change to appear on the next ballot.

Hosmer said student apathy is the main obstacle he faces trying to get the issue on the ballot.

"Only about 1 percent of the student body doesn't support the petition drive, but only about 1 percent actively support it," Hosmer said. "They'll sign the petitions, but they won't get active."

Hosmer said he also has encountered problems dealing with the South Dakota administration. He said administrators have told him privately that they are opposed to the name change, but will not take a stand publicly because they are "team players."

Hosmer said most of his support comes from both undergraduate and law school alumni.

He said the alumni are helping to make the name change a statewide issue instead of just a local one. He said statewide support will be necessary for the petition drive to succeed.

Hosmer said University of Nebraska students opposed to LB760 should show their opposition to any name changes now, before they are forced to take retroactive measures like those in South Dakota.

It will be harder for Nebraska students to start a similar petition drive because if the Nebraska Legislature passes LB760, it is likely to do so during the summer, Hosmer said.

Lammers said the controversy over the South Dakota bill deals mostly with resentment among students at the two state universities -- South Dakota and South Dakota State University.

"It's an ego problem with the two existing universities," Lammers said. "I can understand that students might feel the change decreases the status of their institutions, but the arguments for making the change far outweigh those against."

The colleges would benefit from the name change because several grants are available only to universities and not colleges, Lammers said.

Lammers said the name change also helps make the South Dakota colleges more competitive with colleges in North Dakota and Minnesota who already have changed their names to universities.

Twenty-six other states have already renamed their state colleges and another seven or eight are considering it, Lammers said.

Kay Albright, director of public affairs for Northern State College, one college affected by the name change, said, "This measure puts

us in line with the rest of the nation. Today, college refers mainly to two-year institutions."

Albright said Northern State has to fight a perception problem because smaller institutions in neighboring states are called universities instead of colleges.

Lammers agreed. "The old university definition is going by the wayside," Lammers said. "Times are changing and we need to change too."

Sen. Roland Chicoine of Vermillion said he is opposed to the name change because "there is more to being a university than a name."

"I definitely support the petition drive and would sign a petition as soon as I see one," Chicoine said.

Chicoine said he is disappointed that the petition drive was necessary.

"The board of regents should show that type of leadership -- not the people," he said.

Chicoine said that changing the name of the state colleges is "camouflaging the whole process of getting an education."

"Our state with 700,000 people does not need six universities, he said. We have two and that's all the state can support.

"Instead of bringing the colleges up to the university level, we brought the universities down to the college level," he said.

## Attention given to stress subject of a UNL survey

By Scott Cook  
Staff Reporter

A survey is being conducted by a University of Nebraska-Lincoln psychiatrist to determine if more attention should be devoted to problems associated with stress among UNL students.

Victoria Weisz, a clinical psychiatrist at the University Health Center, is in charge of the effort to determine students' problems.

The survey consists of three sections and includes questions ranging from school-related stress to drug and alcohol abuse. It is designed to assess the most common and most serious problems.

Weisz said she hopes the survey will enable her to determine whether students have excessive stress and how they deal with it.

Weisz said she hopes to establish

areas on campus where students can go for help if she finds students need to relieve stress. She said the Counseling Center, International Education Services, the health center and other places on campus also would be used.

Weisz said the university occasionally seems insensitive to students. She said she hopes the survey results will help improve the scope and effectiveness of available help.

The survey, which was conducted through the mail, involved sending questionnaires to 896 students picked at random. An additional 105 surveys were sent to hand-picked faculty members who have dealt with student problems.

"We wanted faculty members who had talked to students who have had these problems," Weisz said.

The results will be available this summer, she said.

## American Indian organization earns substance abuse grant

By Jerry Guenther  
Staff Reporter

A Lincoln American Indian organization received a three-year, \$159,926 grant last week that will be used to support alcohol and drug prevention programs for Lincoln and Omaha American Indian families.

Syd Beane, executive director of the Indian Center Inc., said the prevention programs will be targeted at families that have a history of alcohol and drug abuse.

Beane said the programs will help American Indians with substance abuse problems develop bicultural competency skills.

American Indians moving to urban areas have to adjust from a circular world view that emphasizes spirituality, to a linear world view that stresses time and economics, he said.

Because of the rural to urban migration, some American Indians often feel empty, Beane said.

Bicultural competency training helps American Indians retain the spirituality from their circular world view while developing the skills needed to survive in a linear view, he said.

"It's not meant to be seen as one versus the other," he said.

Cultural differences are just one cause of substance abuse among American Indians, Beane said.

American Indians suffer from extremely high unemployment rates and the lack of economic development on reservations, he said.

Also, American Indians were never taught about the evils of alcohol abuse by the early American settlers who introduced liquor to them.

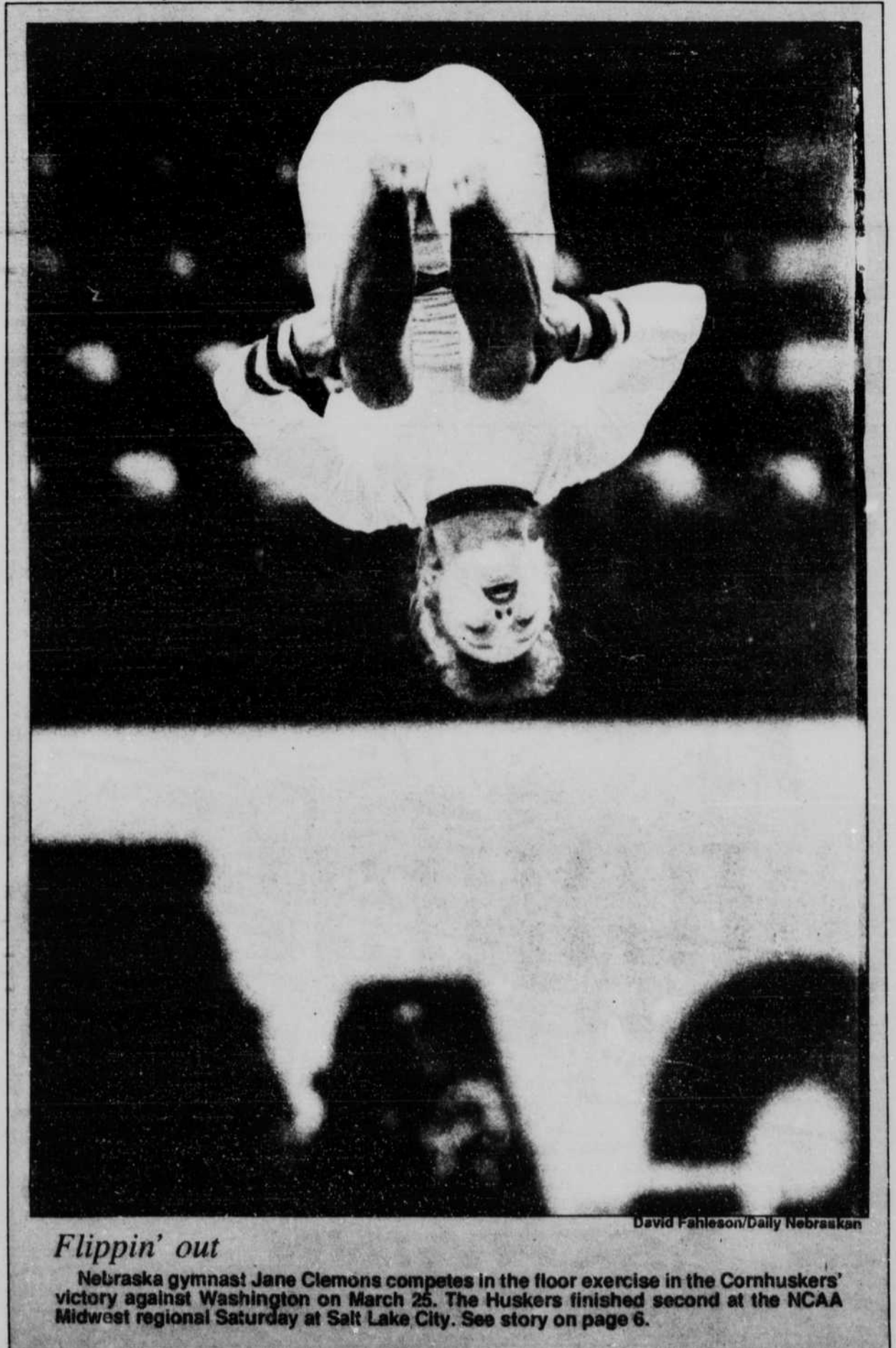
"Alcohol was used historically as a weapon to dislodge Indian people from land, and to destroy their religious values," Beane said.

"They have been trying to get out from under that for a long time," he said.

Beane said he hopes the grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will be used to reach more families. The program plans to help 25 families in the first year, 50 in the second and 100 in the third, he said.

The programs will use guest speakers and traditional American Indian activities such as games, dinners and native arts and crafts to talk about alcohol prevention, Beane said.

Traditional activities provide a relaxed setting to talk about alcohol and drug prevention, he said.



### Flippin' out

Nebraska gymnast Jane Clemons competes in the floor exercise in the Cornhuskers' victory against Washington on March 25. The Huskers finished second at the NCAA Midwest regional Saturday at Salt Lake City. See story on page 6.

David Fahleson/Daily Nebraskan