

# Legislature funds minority scholarships

LEGISLATURE From Page 1

a disservice to appoint just one specialist to handle aquaculture questions.

Haberman and other senators said they weren't aware, or didn't think, that the Games and Park Commission can provide aquaculture assistance.

Sen. William Barrett, speaker of the Legislature, said widespread interest for aquaculture exists in the state.

At an economic development meeting a couple of years ago, people from 62 of Nebraska's 93 counties came to examine ways for economic diversification, he said.

Barrett said he thinks aquaculture is a feasible industry for the state to pursue because fish consumption has increased in recent years.

"I think aquaculture can be a major industry in the state," he said.

The amendment passed 27-11.

Earlier in the morning, the Legislature voted unanimously to adopt an amendment that provides a one-time \$800,000 appropriation for minority undergraduate scholarships at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and

the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha, sponsor of the amendment, said the money will be combined with \$200,000 that has been raised privately to create an endowment. The interest off the endowment will then be used to provide need-based scholarships for minority students.

**'...aquaculture can be a major industry...'**

**--Barrett**

Chambers said the scholarships will be targeted toward those who, but for the lack of money, are able to handle college work.

According to a University of Nebraska study, Chambers said, blacks, American Indians and Hispanics are statistically under-represented at UNO and UNL.

Though Chambers said the scholarships won't solve all the financial needs of minorities, it "is a step in the right direction."

"Never have I come to the Legislature in my 19 years asking for this kind of money," he said.

Approximately half of the \$200,000 that has been raised in private donations is due to the efforts of a family in Omaha, Chambers said.

Rick Davis, a former student who attended UNO on an athletic scholarship, left \$50,000 in his estate to endow a fund for minority undergraduate students, Chambers said.

After Davis' death in 1988, his family wanted to set up a scholarship fund in his memory and raised an additional \$50,000 for such an endowment, he said.

The NU Foundation has pledged to match the Davis' \$100,000 with another \$100,000, he said.

In addition to the money that already has been raised, Chambers said, he hopes many other individuals will contribute to the endowment.

The number of scholarships that will be available and when they will be offered is not known yet. Chambers said he expects the amendment will advance and be signed by Gov. Kay Orr.

# Senators consider amendment to reduce Kearney State funds

AMEND From Page 1

issue.

Moore said some senators have moved so quickly to try and add Kearney State to the NU system that they haven't considered all the consequences.

Some senators, including Sen. Lorraine Langford of Kearney, didn't like the amendment. Langford called Moore's amendment "preposterous."

Sen. Doug Kristensen of Minden said the amendment was premature. Kearney State's tuition shouldn't be raised higher than it is at other state colleges until it becomes part of the NU system, he said.

Moore disagreed. "There's no reason to wait," Moore said. "We haven't waited for the study."

Moore was referring to a provision of LB247 that calls for a study

of higher education in the state. One goal of the study would be to determine the effects of adding Kearney State to the NU system. Moore predicted Kearney State

**'It's going to happen. Look at Ernie's shirt.'**

**--Moore**

will be added to the NU system, pointing to a T-shirt worn by Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha that read "N State University of Kearney."

"It's a done deal," Moore said. "It's going to happen. Look at Ernie's shirt."

After Moore withdrew his amendment, he said he plans to offer another one after discussing it with Kristensen and Langford.

# ASUN to reconsider condom distribution bill

By Ryan Steeves  
Staff Reporter

Some ASUN senators want to make condoms more accessible to students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

But after passing a bill Wednesday night that creates a committee charged to do just that, senators voted to reconsider it and sent the bill back to committee for revision.

The bill would have created a committee charged with implementing a plan allowing student health aides to distribute condoms on an experimental basis.

The bill passed with three amendments the first time senators considered it.

But senators voted to reconsider the bill after Tom Mallisee, former chairman of the University Health Center's student advisory board, told them health aides cannot distribute condoms in their official role.

Health aides are UNL students who give medical attention to ill or hurt students who live in fraternities, sororities and residence halls.

Mallisee told senators that a health aide's role is to respond to emergencies. Distributing condoms wouldn't be an appropriate part of that role, he said.

After Mallisee's statements, Sen. Patrick Wyatt of the Teachers College introduced an amendment that would have given student peer sex educators the right to distribute condoms, if individual sex educators volunteered to do so.

Margaret Nellis, head of the health center's Community Health Department, said the health center has started a program to have peer sex educators teach other students about sex and sexually transmitted diseases.

Nellis said the health center has appointed eight to 10 students as peer sex educators.

But senators voted down Wyatt's amendment. Sen. Marc Shkolnick of the Teachers College said he thinks there are too few peer sex educators to significantly increase condom distribution at UNL.

After debating the bill's reconsideration for over an hour, senators voted to send it back to the Campus Life Committee for further revision.

In other action, senators urged state senators to pass a bill that would, among other things, direct the university to allocate money to Morrill Hall.

Trixi Schmidt, co-chairperson of the Friends of the Museum's Legislative Committee, said museum officials need the money to ensure that Morrill Hall gets re-accredited.

Officials at the American Association of museums have threatened to deny the museum's accreditation if some operation and maintenance procedures are not upgraded, Schmidt said.

State Sen. Sandra Scofield of Chadron, who sponsored LB525, told ASUN senators that she is confident university officials will help Morrill Hall receive accreditation.

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