

SUMMER

Daily

NEBRASKAN

THURSDAY
JULY 6, 1989
VOL. 88
NO. 160
UNIVERSITY OF
NEBRASKA-
LINCOLN

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Local abortion activists prepare to battle

By Jana Pedersen
Staff reporter

Both pro-choice and pro-life activists are preparing for a lengthy battle during next year's session of the Nebraska Legislature.

The recent Supreme Court ruling on a Missouri abortion law has created an opening for new restrictions in Nebraska abortion statutes, and at least one pro-life senator plans to pursue the issue.

"I'm very pleased with the ruling," Sen. Bernice Labeledz of Omaha said. "I think it was a victory for the unborn child."

Currently, Nebraska state law allows a woman to have an abortion in either the first or second trimester of her pregnancy.

The recent Supreme Court ruling could limit second trimester abortions by allowing states to require certain tests after 20 weeks of pregnancy. Doctors would give the tests before

an abortion is performed to determine if the fetus could survive outside the mother's womb.

Labeledz said she was encouraged by the Supreme Court decision but thought its impact won't be felt in Nebraska for some time.

Christine Font, director of Planned Parenthood of Lincoln, agreed that the issue will not be resolved quickly.

Font said she was angered and disappointed with the Supreme Court decision because it conflicted with the 1973 Roe vs. Wade case, which legalized abortion.

Sen. Dave Landis of Lincoln, who said he is pro-choice in his political outlook, said he wasn't surprised by the decision and expects to see a lot of legislative time devoted to the issue next year.

"I'd expect that the anti-choice force will have a bill pushing to the limits state regulations over abortions," he said.

But Font said a newly organized Nebraska

pro-choice coalition could make changing the Nebraska abortion statute difficult.

Labeledz said she already is working with volunteer attorneys to develop some type of restrictive legislation that she will introduce in January.

Another abortion-related bill, LB769, which Labeledz sponsored this year, will be brought up again early in next year's session, she said.

The bill, which failed to pass before the end of this year's session, would require parental notification before an abortion could be performed on a minor.

Labeledz said one of three abortion cases the Supreme Court is scheduled to look at in October deals with the parental notification issue.

Labeledz said she hopes a decision on that case will relieve some senators' concerns about its constitutionality and allow the legislature to pass LB769 next year.

Policy changes

The UNL Athletic Department announced Wednesday a new student football ticket policy.

Under the new policy, student season tickets will be transferable among full-time students at no additional charge. Previously, tickets were not transferable.

Students using a ticket other than their own will enter a special gate where full-time student status will be verified.

Students can allow non-students to use their tickets under the new policy. The non-student must pay the \$11.50 difference between the discounted student price and the general admission price.

Athletic Ticket Manager Joe Selig said the new policy was a response to student concerns about the new UNL photo ID card system and student football tickets. Student leaders, the Athletic Department and Vice Chancellor James Griesen forged the policy.

Spire challenges legitimacy of KSC transfer

By Cindy Wostrel
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska Supreme Court will decide if the already-passed LB247 would legally add Kearney State College to the University of Nebraska system.

Nebraska Attorney General Robert Spire petitioned the court June 30 to consider whether the transfer of KSC's governance to the NU Board of Regents from the Nebraska State Colleges Board of Trustees would require a constitutional amendment.

Spire said the issue is strictly a legal one, not a matter of fact. Spire said he believes KSC eventually will become part of NU, but said the integration must be done legally.

Spire maintains that since the state constitution says that KSC is to be governed by the Board of Trustees, it would require a constitutional amendment, not simply an act of the legislature, to strip KSC's governance from the board.

On the other side of the issue, he said, are those who contend that this is too literal an interpretation of the law, and that a legislative act would be sufficient to transfer KSC's governance to the NU regents.

Kearney State College will become a part of the University system by July 1, 1991, as provided for in LB247, if the court decides an amendment is not required or if a constitutional amendment is approved by that time.

If the Nebraska Supreme Court decides that the transfer requires a

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William Lauer/Daily Nebraskan

Arlen Heider appears to be surrounded by a galaxy of lights as he sands the racquetball courts in the student recreation center. Heider said the courts should be finished in two or three weeks.

UNL salary increases split by administration

B-line employee says expectations not met

By Emily Rosenbaum
Staff Reporter

Some managerial/professional staff members at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will receive lower than expected salary increases, said Marlon "Buster" Griffing, editor on the curriculum development staff within the Department of Independent Study.

"I have a problem with the way the increase is being presented to the public," Griffing said.

Salary guidelines presented to the NU Board of Regents included an 8.22 percent increase for all managerial/professional employees.

The administration conducted a study of managerial/professional employees to assign classifications to various jobs. Salary deficiencies were determined by assigning minimum and maximum salaries for these jobs.

Griffing said all managerial/professional staff members with satisfactory job ratings will receive at least a 4 percent increase. Those determined to have salary deficiencies will receive more.

According to a letter sent to staff members by Chancellor Martin Massengale, 2.81 percent of the 8.22 percent increase will be used to correct

deficiencies in managerial and professional staff members' salaries.

Deans and directors will distribute the remainder based on a staff member's performance.

The average increase for managerial/professional employees is actually 5.41 percent, Griffing said.

Griffing said that not much attention has been given to the raise for B-line (managerial/professional) employees because their jobs often are overlooked.

B-line employees do not have the high visibility of A-line employees (faculty and administration), he said. As a result, Griffing said, many people might assume all B-line employees are receiving a 8.22 percent pay increase.

"The adjustment (2.81 percent) is being made at the expense of all B-line (managerial/professional) employees," he said.

If the legislature had approved a larger salary increase for UNL employees, then the UNL administration would not have had to cut the expected salary to 5.41 percent, Griffing said.

He added that the UNL administration is not to be blamed for the lower-than-expected raise.

Attempts to reach Chancellor Martin Massengale by phone for comment were unsuccessful.