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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Monday

WEATHER

Monday, partly sunny and cooler, high around 45, northwest wind 10-15 miles per hour. Monday night, cloudy, 20 percent chance of snow after midnight, low in the mid-20s. Tuesday, cloudy, 30 percent chance of snow, high near 40.

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Housing rate hike receives RHA approval

By Sara Bauder
Staff Reporter

Raise to cover salaries, utilities, food, housekeeping supplies

The Residence Hall Association voted Sunday to approve the 1989-90 rate study of University of Nebraska-Lincoln's housing division, which will raise housing rates \$195 for next year.

The 8 percent increase will bring the price of a double-occupancy, 20-meal-a-week housing contract to \$2,675 a year, said Doug Zatechka, director of UNL's housing office.

RHA voted 22 to 0 with one abstention to approve the rate study.

Despite the increase, UNL still will rank sixth in the Big Eight in housing costs, Zatechka said.

An expected 9.3 percent average

pay raise for personnel is one reason housing costs will rise, he said.

"I don't apologize for the salary increase, but for the way it hits," he said.

According to the rate study, the housing division's spending on payroll will increase by \$448,675. This includes salary and benefit increases for professional housing staff, office and service workers. The increases were mandated by the Nebraska Legislature and the NU Board of Regents.

The higher minimum wage mandated by the federal government also will increase the housing division's costs, by \$93,768, as will a 10 percent

increase in the price of all utilities, Zatechka said.

Utility rates had not gone up for several years, he said, but will in-

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Zatechka
housing director

crease housing costs by \$81,577 next year.

Purchasing food for the residence hall cafeterias will mean an increase of \$199,062, the rate study shows.

Zatechka said this 4.3 percent increase is caused by inflation and the large amounts of food students eat under the unlimited food policy.

In the past, the housing division used year-end budget surpluses to purchase cleaning supplies for the next year, he said. But there probably will not be a surplus this year, so the projected budget reflects a \$73,275 increase in the area of housekeeping supplies, Zatechka said.

The initial rate study found a \$306 room and board increase. To lower that figure, the division of housing made cuts and revenue enhancers, lowering the room and board increase to \$195, Zatechka said.

Some cuts include reducing the elevator repair budget from \$100,000 to \$75,000 and reducing student labor in maintenance and food service, saving \$35,000.

Revenue enhancers listed by Zatechka include increasing the prices for loft rentals, raising the laundry rates in the residence halls and increasing the charges for contract cancellation.

In other business, RHA passed a resolution to support legislative proposals to restructure state colleges and the University of Nebraska. The resolution also supports giving an official vote to a student on Nebraska's post-secondary governing boards. The resolution passed 21 to 0, with one abstention.



William Lauer/Daily Nebraskan

Through the eyes of one man, one super hero . . .

Is the Dark Knight just a character of fiction or is he alive, prowling the streets in search of evil? One UNL student says he believes Batman delivers a message of goodness and virtue, and has acted on his belief. See story page 6.

UNL report indicates minority enrollment stayed steady in '80s

By Kara Wells
Staff Reporter

Minority undergraduate enrollment at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has remained steady in the 1980s, despite decreases nationwide, according to UNL's Fall Enrollment and Compliance Report.

A report from the American Council on Education showed a decrease in the percentage of low- and middle-income minority students attending U.S. colleges and universities in the 1980s.

"The report came as a surprise," said Lisa Schmidt, director of High School and College Relations at UNL. "The demographics indicated there were more minority students attending college."

Jimmi Smith, director of Multi-Cultural Affairs, said that although there has been a slight decrease in minority enrollment at other Nebraska colleges and universities, UNL has maintained its enrollment.

The number of undergraduate black students enrolled at UNL has increased by about 5 percent, from 324 to 341, since the 1980-81 school year, according to the Enrollment and Compliance Report. American Indian enrollment declined by about 9 percent, from 57 to 52, while Hispanic enrollment increased by about 55 percent, from 140 to 217, according to the report.

Nationally, undergraduate enrollment for low-income black high school

graduates dropped from 39.8 percent in 1977 to 30.3 percent in 1988. Middle-income black enrollment decreased from 52.7 percent to 36.2 percent. Enrollment for Hispanic high school graduates dropped from 53.4 percent to 46.4 percent.

Smith said the national decline is due partially to Reaganomics, which cut back the number of student loans available to minority and low-income students.

Most minority students at UNL are first-generation students, Smith said. There have been rapid changes for minority students at UNL since they first came to campus in significant numbers 15 years ago, he said.

Smith credited such organizations as the Minority Student Recruitment and Retention Council, headed by Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs James Griesen. This council, composed of UNL faculty members, is aimed at creating a comfortable environment for minority students.

He also credits the vice chancellor's office with initiating the cultural diversity campaign on campus. It has helped break through racial barriers and has helped higher education become more tolerant and accepting of minority students, he said.

DREAM (Developing Realistic Educational Activities for Minorities) is another organization that has helped to create cultural diversity on campus, Smith said.

Smith said these organizations have

See MINORITY on 5

Devaney: Bill could result in penalties

By Emily Rosenbaum
Senior Reporter

Bob Devaney, UNL athletic director, said he "sees problems" in state Sen. Ernie Chambers' bill to prohibit the NCAA from restricting the amount of federal financial aid student-athletes can receive.

Devaney said that if LB708 were passed, it would put UNL in conflict with NCAA rules, which could result

in penalties against University of Nebraska-Lincoln athletics.

Such penalties could include probation, which could prohibit the football team from appearing in bowl games, and loss of scholarships.

Under the proposals of the bill, currently in the first round of debate, colleges and universities could not withhold federal financial aid from student-athletes as a condition of their participation in varsity sports.

In addition to an athletic scholarship -- which pays for tuition, books, fees, room and board -- student-athletes can receive \$1,700 out of a possible \$2,300 in federal aid.

If the bill passes, the \$600 that the athletes are denied could not be withheld from scholarship athletes on the basis of their athletic participation.

Under NCAA rules, a recruited

See PELL GRANT on 5

Hill voices opinion on board's action

Regents disagree on basis for bill opposition

By Victoria Ayotte
Senior Reporter

UNL Student Regent Bryan Hill said Friday the NU Board of Regents opposes a higher education restructuring proposal and a student regent vote because of a "highly vested interest in maintaining the status quo."

The regents voted Friday in an emergency teleconference to oppose LR239CA and LB1141 in Tuesday's hearing before the Legislature's Education Committee, saying they don't give enough power to the proposed board of regents.

"Unless a restructuring proposal were to give all the governing and coordinating authority to the University of Nebraska Board of Regents, it

is highly unlikely that there will ever be a proposal that the members of the board will support," Hill said.

LR239CA and LB1141 would abolish the NU Board of Regents and the Nebraska State College Board of Trustees and replace them with a Board of Regents for Nebraska Higher Education and seven boards of trustees, one for each university and state college.

Hill said the vote "is a reflection of their lack of desire or their inability to realize significant problems in the present governance structure."

The regents, in their statement opposing the proposal, said they do support improved coordination among Nebraska's higher education institutions.

But the current proposal is "not

necessary or conducive to effective governance and coordination," according to the statement.

The regents said the higher education resolution and bill would make the regents an advisory board because they could not control the budget. There also would be too many boards created and too many of the members would be appointed, not elected, the regents said.

The regents also unanimously voted to oppose LR240CA, which would give one of the three student regents a vote on the board.

Hill said the board's position focuses on "minor technicalities" with the proposal.

The board cited a 1986 attorney

See REGENTS on 5

Trustees support LB1141

From Staff Reports

The State College Board of Trustees voted unanimously Friday to support LB1141, which would restructure Nebraska's state college and university governance system.

Representatives of both the trustees and the NU Board of Regents will testify on LB1141 before the Legislature's Education Committee on Tuesday.

LB1141 would dissolve both of the current boards and form a Board of Regents for Nebraska Higher

Education, which would oversee all the state colleges and universities. Each institution's operation would be overseen by its own board of trustees.

The trustees' decision to support LB1141 followed recommendations of their legislative committee and the State College Council of Presidents.

Donald Mash, chairman of the council and president of Peru State College, told the board that the bill provides "the possibility to make significant improvements in higher education."