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Wednesday

WEATHER

Wednesday, cloudy and cold, 30 percent chance of light snow, high in the upper-teens, northeast wind 10-20 miles per hour. Wednesday night, 60 percent chance of snow, low 10. Thursday, 60 percent chance of snow, high 15-20.

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Against the elements . . .
 Accounting major Devendran Nadesan braves 30 mph winds Tuesday after the temperature dropped 45 degrees from Monday.
 Melissa McReynolds/Daily Nebraskan

Discrimination questions raised Education Committee rejects drug-related financial aid bill

By Robin Trimarchi
 Staff Reporter

The proposed Higher Education Drug-Free Environment Act was killed Tuesday by the Legislature's Education Committee despite overwhelming support from law enforcement, University of Nebraska and state government officials.

The legislation would have required students enrolled in state colleges and universities to participate in a rehabilitation program if convicted of first-offense, drug-related crimes.

Failure to complete the program would have resulted in withdrawal of government financial aid or suspension from classes.

A second drug-related offense would have resulted in withdrawal of state or federal financial aid and suspension from school until an approved program was completed.

The bill also proposed requiring all students enrolling in Nebraska public colleges or universities to sign an "acknowledgement" stating that they understood those penalties.

Sen. David Bernard-Stevens of North Platte questioned supporters if the bill would affect all student drug-offenders equally or primarily would punish those students with the greatest financial-aid need, while others "go about their merry way."

Sen. Arlene Nelson of Grand Island said she was concerned that the bill "says a lot, but doesn't really do anything" because it does not get to the "front of the problem."

After two convictions, she asked, "do these students even try to come back to school?"

Students on financial aid are less likely to be able to afford rehabilitation programs than those who don't need financial aid, senators said, and also are unlikely to have the money to

return to school.

Senators expressed concern that students who can afford to enroll in private colleges without financial aid would not be affected by the bill.

Supporters said the bill would focus on drug prevention, intervention and treatment.

Malcolm Heard, director of the Department of Public Institutions, said the bill would have a "positive impact" on a "high-risk population" by placing students in rehabilitation "at the earliest point possible."

Those students would have access to state-supported drug rehabilitation programs, Heard said.

Regent Kermit Hansen of Elkhorn supported the bill but said the university already has sanctions for drug offenders under the student code of conduct.

Bryan Hill, president of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska, presented the only testimony against the bill.

Hill said the bill singled out college and university students, and he urged the committee to amend the proposal to include "an individual assessment and drug education requirement" that applied to all Nebraskans.

The bill's guidelines did not consider the needs of all those convicted of drug offenses, he said.

"Not every person convicted of a drug-related offense is a drug addict and needs to be enrolled in a costly rehabilitation program," he said.

Hill said drug use and abuse sometimes results from low self-esteem.

"Kicking someone out of school," he said, would "significantly narrow the most likely opportunity of improving" a student's self-esteem.

CFA recommends budget cut for student referee training

By Roger Price
 Staff Reporter

The Committee for Fees Allocation voted Tuesday to recommend cutting \$13,500 for training of student referees from the intramural sports budget request.

Stan Campbell, director of the Office of Campus Recreation, told the committee that cutting out paid training could make it very difficult to hire qualified personnel.

Several committee members said they thought referees should not be paid to gain a skill they can use else-

where.

"To be paid for training, I think, is kind of ridiculous," CFA member Sheila Christensen said.

CFA also recommended that campus recreation print only one newsletter a year, instead of the two requested by the office. OCR currently distributes one a year.

The reduction is reflected in the committee's recommendation to cut \$3,800 from the campus recreation administrative budget.

The committee left campus recreation the option of printing two smaller newsletters by leaving \$1,400 in the budget in postage for a second newsletter.

CFA member Julie Jorgensen said the new Sapp Recreation Facility "pretty much sells

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12 universities involved

GLC lobbying for changes in financial aid

By Jannette Bush
 Staff Reporter

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Government Liaison Committee has joined a national coalition to lobby for changes in the federal Higher Education Act of 1965.

GLC Chairman Deb Fiddelke said UNL, along with 11 other schools, is working on policy recommendations for Title IV of the act, which deals with financial aid.

Since last summer, Fiddelke said, UNL student representatives have attended three conferences dealing with possible changes in the act.

After a November conference in Kansas City, Mo., the University of Minnesota student lobbying group drafted a "working policy" for changes in the act. The recommendations were presented in January at a conference in St. Louis.

Fiddelke said the lobbying coalition wants

to make these changes in the act:

- Redefining need.
- Changing the requirements for becoming an independent student.
- Eliminating the cost of applying.
- Simplifying financial aid applications.
- Exempting students and families from filling out financial aid forms if their incomes are at a certain level.

"We would like to see a more simplified method for applying for federal financial aid," Fiddelke said. "We thought they were restrictive and need to be changed."

Fiddelke said each school will receive a copy of the working policy draft and will be responsible for adding amendments.

Although Fiddelke has not yet received a copy of the recommendations, she said she expects to get it soon.

Once the working policy is received, Fiddelke said, she will present it to James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, and John

Beacon, director of the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid, for suggestions.

The working policy then will be presented to the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska and the student body.

Coalition members will draw up the final draft in June at the University of Minnesota. The final draft will be presented to Congress in 1991.

"Strategies for the presentation haven't been decided yet," she said.

ASUN passed a resolution earlier this month assuring GLC of its support for the coalition.

Clark Sackschewsky, the ASUN senator who introduced the resolution, said the resolution gives GLC "extra backing."

GLC will need the full support of UNL students when the policy is presented to ASUN, said Sackschewsky, a graduate college representative.

"We are pushing past the state," he said. "We're going to Congress."

Lincolnite's idea leads to aluminum recycling program

By Ann Manchester
 Staff Reporter

Cather and Pound Residence Halls are installing bins to collect aluminum cans for recycling, but they won't be sharing the profits with "Can Man" Kermit Keeshan.

The executive board of the halls will keep 90 percent of the profit from recycling cans and allot 10 percent to a general fund that will be used to maintain the collection bins.

Keeshan, a Lincolnite who collects aluminum cans on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus, proposed a plan to the Residence Hall Association to

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