

# Daily Nebraskan

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Friday

## WEATHER

Friday, cloudy and colder, 60 percent chance of light snow by afternoon, high in the upper-20s, northeast wind 10-20 miles per hour. Friday night, 70 percent chance of snow, low 15-20. Saturday, cloudy, 50 percent chance of snow, high 25-30.

## INDEX

News ..... 2  
Editorial ..... 4  
Sports ..... 5  
Arts & Entertainment ..... 6  
Classifieds ..... 7

Proposal for agriculture research approved

## Senators agree complex needed

By Jerry Guenther  
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska Legislature gave second-round approval Thursday to a proposal that would allocate \$190,000 for planning of an agricultural research complex at Mead.

The proposal was approved after Sen. Loran Schmit of Bellwood offered it in an amendment to LB898, which appropriates \$100,000 for the design of the Trailside Complex at Fort Robinson State Park in northwest Nebraska.

Senators advanced LB898 by voice vote after lengthy discussion of Schmit's amendment.

Sen. Sandra Scofield of Chadron, co-sponsor of LB898, said she is against the amendment because the additional funding for the Mead complex might jeopardize approval of the Trailside Complex.

Although Scofield said she isn't against the research complex at Mead, she said it should be treated separately from LB898.

The Trailside Complex needs to be started because it would house historical artifacts that could be destroyed, as evidenced by a fire around the area last summer, she said.

Schmit said the Mead complex is needed to help keep the agricultural industry up to date with new advancements.

The appearance of existing facilities at Mead "does an injustice" to the importance of research the University of Nebraska conducts, he said.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I have told you before on this floor," Schmit said, "Agriculture is the only basic industry in Nebraska which contributes to the new wealth of this state."

Senators have approved all kinds of proposals this legislative session, Schmit said, but if the agricultural industry is not healthy, that won't be possible in the future.

Sen. Owen Elmer of Indianola also said the foundation of industry in the state is agriculture.

The Mead complex would keep the state on the "cutting edge" of technical advances in biotechnology and other related fields.

Sen. George Coordsen of Hebron said the Mead complex is needed so that agriculture in the state can keep up with the latest international technology.

Political change in Central European countries, Coordsen said, will lead them to increase agricultural output as they move away from their current governments.

Poland, Czechoslovakia, parts of Germany and the U.S.S.R. have some of the most fertile lands in the world, he said.

If the United States doesn't keep up with technology, Coordsen said, some day it will have to import agricultural products.

Sen. John Weihing of Gering said he thinks the Mead complex is needed, but he doesn't want to jeopardize approval of the Trailside Complex.

Weihing said the existing research building at Mead was built during World War II and only was supposed to be temporary. But he said the Mead complex isn't as urgently needed as the Trailside Complex.

If members of the NU Board of Regents thought the Mead Complex was so important, Weihing said, they would have listed it high on their list of priorities. The Mead complex is listed 13th on the list.

Scofield also said she thinks the regents should have listed the Mead complex higher.

"It seems to be that it's awfully difficult sometimes to get agriculturally related projects high enough on the priority list to do any good," Scofield said.

Sen. Rod Johnson of Sutton said he thinks both complexes should be financed.

Johnson said about \$500 million of the 1990 federal farm bill will go toward research, and he thinks the state could get some of that money to build the Mead complex.

Schmit's amendment was adopted 27-13.

## Recount adds one vote for VISION

From Staff Reports

VISION presidential and first vice presidential candidates Phil Gosch and Stacy Mohling picked up one more vote in Thursday's recount of the ASUN runoff election.

The Association of Students of the University of Nebraska Electoral Commission recounted at the request of TODAY's campaign manager.

Wednesday's count showed five votes between the two parties' candidates.

Jim Langenberg, electoral commissioner, said that after the recount VISION received 1,350 votes to TODAY's 1,344.

Marlene Beyke, ASUN director of development, said the results still are unofficial.

That's because Electoral Commission rules require parties to file their financial statements today and campaign complaints by April 2.

If the parties comply with those rules, the commission will vote to validate the results.

If there are complaints, the commission must hear them and decide accordingly, Beyke said.



Butch Ireland/Daily Nebraskan

### Casanova . . .

Dodge High School freshman Mike Emanuel watches as fellow students perform a Spanish version of "Who's on first?" during Thursday's University of Nebraska-Lincoln Language Fair held on campus.

## 'Person living with AIDS' condemns denial mentality

By Emily Rosenbaum  
Senior Reporter

"AIDS. It's a word." Richard Carper, who describes himself as a "person living with AIDS," told about 30 people Thursday in the Nebraska Union that "we need to start talking about AIDS in a normal manner."

Carper said the lack of communication about acquired immune deficiency syndrome is one of the reasons the disease has spread so quickly.

"This is what we call denial," he said. "We don't want to talk about it."

Carper said the media help to create a picture of the disease -- a picture that says "AIDS equals death."

Carper was diagnosed as HIV-positive in 1986 and then developed AIDS in 1988.

At the time of the HIV diagnosis, he said, he was happily married, had his own business as an electrical contractor and was seven months into recovery from heroin addiction.

In 1988, doctors told him he was going to die, he said. He was running a 105-degree temperature, weighed 117 pounds and said he "bought into" accepting death.

Standing in the Harvest Room on Thursday night, Carper told the audience that 19 months ago, "I was supposed to be dead."

Carper said he tells his story -- a story of discrimination by friends and strangers who won't shake his hand -- not to gain sympathy, but to get the

message out about what is happening.

"I refuse to lay down and die," Carper said.

Part of that refusal included a walk across the United States, from Portland, Ore. to Washington D.C., to show that people with AIDS are not "victims," he said.

Carper left May 1, 1988 and walked 3,300 miles.

Current statistics indicate that

**I refuse to lay down and die.**

Carper

120,000 Americans now have AIDS. By 1992 that number will reach 480,000, he said. Six million Americans are HIV-positive.

At that rate, in five years, AIDS will personally affect every American, "in some way or another."

Carper describes AIDS as a "test." AIDS will determine whether people act as Christians or treat other human beings with criticism, he said.

"Rather than throwing blame, we need to educate," he said.

While the federal government has spent billions of dollars on AIDS research, it has allocated nothing toward caring for people with AIDS, he said.

A national health-care system is needed to provide for those who cannot afford health care, Carper said.

Drunk driving bill advances to final reading

## Proposal complies with Supreme Court ruling

By Victoria Ayotte  
Senior Reporter

Nebraska legislators on Thursday gutted one bill to get tough on drunk driving as they amended another bill into it which tightens up drunk driving laws.

LB799 was advanced to final reading on a voice vote.

The bill, sponsored by State Sen. Emil Beyer of Gretna, originally would have authorized the Department of Motor Vehicles to automatically revoke drivers' licenses within 30 days after arrest if a hearing was not held to

decide if the alleged drunk driver was guilty.

With only nine days left in the session and about 13 amendments pending to the bill, Sen. Doug Kristensen of Minden proposed ridding the bill of its original provisions and including the provisions of his bill, LB1020.

Kristensen said that instead of wasting more time in the waning days of the session with the probability that many priority bills will not get passed, the Legislature needs to pass LB1020.

This need is based on the fact that the Nebraska Supreme Court recently ruled it unconstitutional to use only a urine test to prove drunk driving, Kristensen said. Some Nebraska counties do not have breath tests and instead must use blood or urine samples to prove a person drunk when driving, he said.

The person under current law can choose which test they want the law enforcement officer to give, Kristensen said. Since the Supreme Court ruling, a drunk driver could not be convicted if they were "lucky enough" to chose

the urine test, he said.

LB1020 specifies that a person may be required to submit to more than one test to show if they are under the influence of alcohol or drugs. The bill also states that the court may require those convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs to attend a treatment program.

Beyer and Sen. Jerome Warner of Waverly, supporters of the original provisions of LB799, supported gutting that bill to include Kristensen's bill.

"At least let's save what we have,"

Warner said, and make sure that those arrested for drunk driving can get caught instead of allowing the urine test loophole.

"As important as I think 799 is," Beyer added, "I will acquiesce and support this . . ."

Kristensen said senators must act quickly so as not to "condone the behavior of letting them (drunk drivers) go scot-free."

Kristensen's proposal was adopted 29-1 after an emergency clause was added to make the bill effective upon the governor's signature.