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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Tuesday, sunny and warmer, high around 60, south wind 5-15 miles per hour. Tuesday night, low around 35. Wednesday, mostly sunny, high 60-65.		News	2
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Legislature amends higher education bill

By Victoria Ayotte
Senior Reporter

Student trustee vote added to proposed constitutional amendment

The Nebraska Legislature on Monday reversed itself and decided to make the question of a student trustee vote part of the proposed constitutional amendment to restructure higher education.

On a 32-7 vote, senators adopted an amendment to LR239CA which puts a student vote in the same package with the restructuring of higher education.

On March 8, senators had voted to adopt an amendment by Sen. Jerome Warner of Waverly which made a student vote a separate question on the November ballot.

LR239CA would abolish the current NU Board of Regents and Nebraska State College Board of Trustees and establish a Board of Regents

for Nebraska Higher Education and one board of trustees for each university and state college.

Senators adjourned before voting whether to advance LR239CA, which is now in the second round of debate.

Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha offered the amendment, which reversed the effect of the Warner amendment. Chambers said the student vote should not be "treated differently" than the other issues presented in LR239CA.

Having a student on the board of trustees without a vote would be a "hollow activity," Chambers said.

"Now we have to make that participation substantive," he said. Students now are given an unofficial vote on the NU Board of Regents.

Although Chambers said many times young people "get on our nerves," they should not be brushed aside.

Sen. Scott Moore of Seward supported the vote, saying the student vote should not be a separate issue from LR239CA. Students have votes on university boards nationwide, Moore said, and those aren't "Podunk" universities, citing the University of Florida as an example.

A student vote is a "tried and true" concept, he said. Moore told senators that students are concerned about government and cited the higher percentage of students voting in recent elections at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"I think it's time we give the students their due," Moore said. "Without a vote, everything seems to be like playing house," Chambers said, with students playacting at participating in the governing process. "That can be somewhat demeaning."

If students are the "hope for tomorrow," he said, they need the opportunity to participate today. Omaha Sen. Tim Hall also supported the student vote and said senators cannot continue to segregate students and make them "second-class" to other citizens.

UNL Student Regent Bryan Hill said he was "happily surprised" at the 32-7 vote and that senators must have realized the merits of the student vote.

The Legislature considered several other amendments. One was a proposal by Sen. Dianna Schimek of Lincoln to elect all the members of the Board of Regents for Nebraska Higher Education instead of a system of election and appointment.

One regent would be elected from each of the nine districts. Schimek said an elected system would be more democratic.

"People do need to have that responsibility and that opportunity to judge for themselves the issues of the day," Schimek said, especially in Nebraska with its Populist history of independence.

Sen. Jim McFarland of Lincoln opposed the amendment, however, and said such a system would further the problem of "parochialism and provincialism" that exists with the present system.

Schimek withdrew the amendment before it was voted upon.

McFarland proposed an amendment to put a faculty member on each institutions' board of trustees. He said this would make "even more sense" than having a student member since a faculty person would have knowledge of credit transfers and degree requirements.

Moore said a faculty member is very different from a student member since a faculty member is employed by the Board of Regents. It would be a conflict of interest, he said.

McFarland withdrew this amendment and then failed in an attempt to delay consideration on the bill until April 9, 1990, when the legislature is adjourned for the year.



Joe Heinzie/Daily Nebraskan

Library boogie

Julie Adamson, 19, studies while listening to music in the Love Library stacks Monday afternoon. Adamson is a freshman business administration major.

Parking committee considers new rates

Pat Dinslage
Staff Reporter

a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The UNL Parking Advisory Committee delayed voting on parking rates for the 1990-91 academic year because it didn't have a quorum at Monday's meeting.

But Lt. John Burke, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Parking Division administrator, proposed new parking rates at the meeting in the East Campus Union.

The committee suggested two different types of reserved parking permits, beginning next year. They would be for 24-hour and 10-hour parking. The 10-hour permits would be effective in specified parking lots from 7

Rates suggested by the committee at its March meeting for the 1990-91 school year were \$360 for 24-hour faculty and staff parking and \$180 for the new 10-hour parking permits.

Burke's 1990-91 budget proposal specified \$300 for 24-hour faculty and staff permits and \$240 for 10-hour permits.

He said John Goebel, vice chancellor for business and finance, and college deans and directors, were concerned the \$360 price tag was too expensive.

Committee member Gordon Karels,

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Orr signs bill to reimburse depositors of Commonwealth

From staff reports

Gov. Kay Orr on Monday signed a bill to reimburse depositors of Commonwealth Savings Company and other failed financial institutions in Nebraska.

Depositors of the failed Commonwealth, which closed Nov. 1, 1983, eventually would be paid up to \$30,000, the amount guaranteed by the Nebraska Depository Institution Guaranty Corporation.

The bill passed by the Nebraska Legislature, LB272A, appropriates \$16.9 million in 1989-90 and \$16.9 million in 1990-91 to the Department of Banking and Finance to pay the depositors' claims.

"The closing of Commonwealth, State Security Savings and American

Savings was a dark chapter in Nebraska's history," Orr said in a press release. "While we cannot eliminate the pain and suffering that the closings caused depositors, LB272A can help in the restoration of faith in state government."

Orr added that the Legislature's decision to pay depositors was one of the spending priorities of the session, but has left little money for other programs.

"It is time that state lawmakers begin showing spending restraint and say 'no' to additional spending. They have to remember you can only spend a dollar once. Nebraskans will accept nothing less than a balanced budget. If lawmakers fail to halt this spending spree, I will make a tough decision for them through my vetoes."

Late fee waived for classroom accidents

From Staff Reports

The University Health Center will waive its \$10 after-hours fee for students who are injured in classroom accidents, according to Dr. Gerald Fleischli, UHC medical director.

Students will be required to present notes from their instructors attesting to the accident, he said.

The policy began recently after a student was injured in a chemistry lab last semester, he said. The student was upset at being charged the late

fee because his professor sent him to the health center.

Fleischli said he received a letter in January from a concerned dean saying the after-hours fee might deter students injured in classrooms from coming to the health center. That would raise liability concerns for the university, he said.

The health center gets about two or three patients a year who are injured in the classroom, he said.

The policy will remain on a trial basis for a year and then will be reviewed, he said.

Studies show students are undereducated

By Carri Koetter
Staff Reporter

Although two corporate studies indicate students entering the work force generally are unprepared and undereducated, several local businesses that recruit at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln say its graduates are competent.

According to a survey by the Institute of Industrial Engineers, based in Atlanta, Ga., 75 percent of the 2,700 members active in the engineering profession said the nation's productivity is being killed by generations of minimally educated students.

The survey, released in March, also showed that about one-third of those surveyed thought education would be the biggest cause of economic weakness in the 1990s.

Janie Meeks, communications specialist for the institute, said today's students are not getting a solid elementary and high school education in math, science and writing. That, she said, contributes to the problem.

Today's students, especially those with only high school education, are not keeping up with technological changes, she said.

Joan Jennings, director of career development for Northwestern Mutual Life in Lincoln, said many students lack basic grammar skills. Sometimes the writing skills of those with four-year degrees is "almost frightening," she said.

Laurie Kortum, management recruiter for the Lincoln Telephone Co., said she sometimes is surprised at the

sloppiness and errors on college graduates' applications.

Meeks said businesses have begun training to compensate for the lack of skills.

And they are seeing improvements, Meeks said. Seventy-three percent of survey respondents said they recently began training programs, and all said they have seen positive results.

Along with Northwestern and Lincoln Telephone, State Farm Insurance, which also recruits UNL students, also has a training program for new employees. Most of the programs emphasize product knowledge, understanding sales and case preparation.

A survey by another recruiting

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