

Daily Nebraskan

Wednesday

WEATHER

Wednesday, mostly cloudy, windy and warmer, high 55-60, south wind 20-30 miles per hour. Wednesday night, 50 percent chance of thundershowers, low around 50. Thursday, cloudy, still a 50 percent chance of thundershowers, high in the low-60s.

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April 18, 1990

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 89 No. 146

Students denounce new 'fighting words' plan

By Emily Rosenbaum
Senior Reporter

Most members of a committee established to review the "fighting words" proposal denounced the new plan Tuesday, saying, among other things, it would inhibit free speech and is vague.

The Proposed Student Code of Conduct Review Committee, made up of four ASUN senators and five student-at-large members, met for the first time Tuesday to begin work on an analysis of the proposed code of conduct.

The fighting words policy would fall under the misconduct section of the code and would prohibit harassment by fighting words.

Marsha Babcock, committee member and a second-year UNL law

student, said the partial definition of fighting words as a "matter of common knowledge" could cause problems because students bring diverse backgrounds and experiences to UNL.

"I would hate to see a whole population of students walking around afraid to say anything," he said. "I don't believe the university is any place to hinder free speech."

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Sackschewsky
committee member

"What is common knowledge to one group may not be common knowledge to another group," Babcock said.

Clark Sackschewsky, committee member and a second-year law student, said he is concerned the policy would restrict free speech on campus.

Chris Potter, ASUN arts and sciences senator and committee member, said the policy is an attempt at "stamping out bigotry and prejudice," which is of "paramount importance at UNL."

"I don't think this (policy) is the

way to do it," he said.

"It's just too vague."

The code defines fighting words as "those personally abusive epithets of a lewd, obscene, vulgar, profane, defamatory, insulting or fighting nature which, when directly addressed to a person, are by their very utterance in the context used and as a matter of common knowledge likely to incite an immediate breach of the peace, whether or not they actually do so."

Babcock, who has been studying the constitutionality of the policy, said she thinks it probably would pass First Amendment scrutiny.

She said she feels Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs James Griesen had "noble reasons" for creating the proposed policy. But "down the road," she said, other administrators may

not handle the policy and its enforcement the same way Griesen says he would.

Sackschewsky agreed, saying the "implementation (of the policy) could be hazardous."

Julie Jorgensen, committee member, said the policy could cover many areas, including the recent ban of T-shirts sold by Students for Choice. The T-shirts read, "The Incredible Shrinking Woman's Right to Choose" and "Rated PG, papal guidance suggested."

Although university officials reinstated the right to sell the shirt, Jorgensen said the shirt's message could be taken as "fighting words" under the proposed policy by pro-life supporters or Catholics.

See FIGHT on 3

Residence hall students slow to complete census

By Roger Price
Staff Reporter

The Bureau of the Census is having some difficulty getting students living in University of Nebraska-Lincoln residence halls to complete their census forms, an official said.

Ken Dermann, special place operations supervisor for the Lincoln office of the census, said there is "some lack of concern among students about the importance of completing the information" on the forms.

Because the bureau has no way of forcing students to turn in their forms, Dermann said, all he can do is hope students realize the significance of the census.

"We had hoped that our student population would have considered this an important thing to do," he said.

Doug Zatechka, director of university housing, said his office is encouraging students to complete the forms.

Zatechka said fliers have been placed in the residence halls, and announcements have been made at student government meetings.

Although people normally aren't allowed to go door-to-door in the residence halls, Zatechka said, an exception is being made for census workers.

Despite those efforts, Zatechka said, "it ultimately comes down to the student."

Dermann said response from sororities was "generally excellent" while response from fraternities was mixed.

The bureau is having similar problems getting forms returned at Kearney State College, he said.

At smaller institutions, such as Concordia College, Union College and Nebraska Wesleyan University, compliance has been much better, he said.

Census employees will contact those who have not filled out the forms by the end of this week, Dermann said.

Follow-up interviews will begin May 1, he said.

Although there are federal penalties for failing to complete census forms, Dermann said, students should realize that completing the forms is "just an obligation of being a citizen of the United States."

Regents candidate stresses improved higher education

By Matt Herek
Staff Reporter

A candidate for the NU Board of Regents said higher education in Nebraska should be the key to the long-term future of the state.

Charles Wilson, a Lincoln cardiologist running in District 1, said the main emphasis of Nebraska's economy is going to have to switch from agriculture to service.

And higher education will have to change to reflect that switch, he said.

Nebraska was not chosen to be the site of a U S West research center in 1987 because it didn't have the higher education research programs the company required, he said.

Nebraska survived that blow, he said, "but over the long haul we're going to have to recruit the U S Wests to Nebraska."

The board has to be more committed to the goals of higher education and less to day-to-day management of the University of Nebraska, Wilson said.

"In a lot of ways the future of this state hinges on what the board does," he said.

The important issue is not parking, the student-regent vote or the cost of tuition, he said, but the quality of programs offered at colleges and universities.

The board has to know what excellence in higher education is and how to achieve it, he said.

He cited an Omaha World-Herald poll of top Omaha area high school students that showed 74 percent of them were going away to college because of their perception of the University of Nebraska.

See REGENT on 3

Official says epidemic still possible

From Staff Reports

Although the single reported measles case in Lincoln is not a UNL student, a UNL official said the university still has chances of an epidemic on campus.

Kunle Ojikutu, health center administrator, said the chances have been reduced since the mass immunization last spring at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

But new students and students who haven't complied with the immunization requirement increase the chances of a measles epidemic

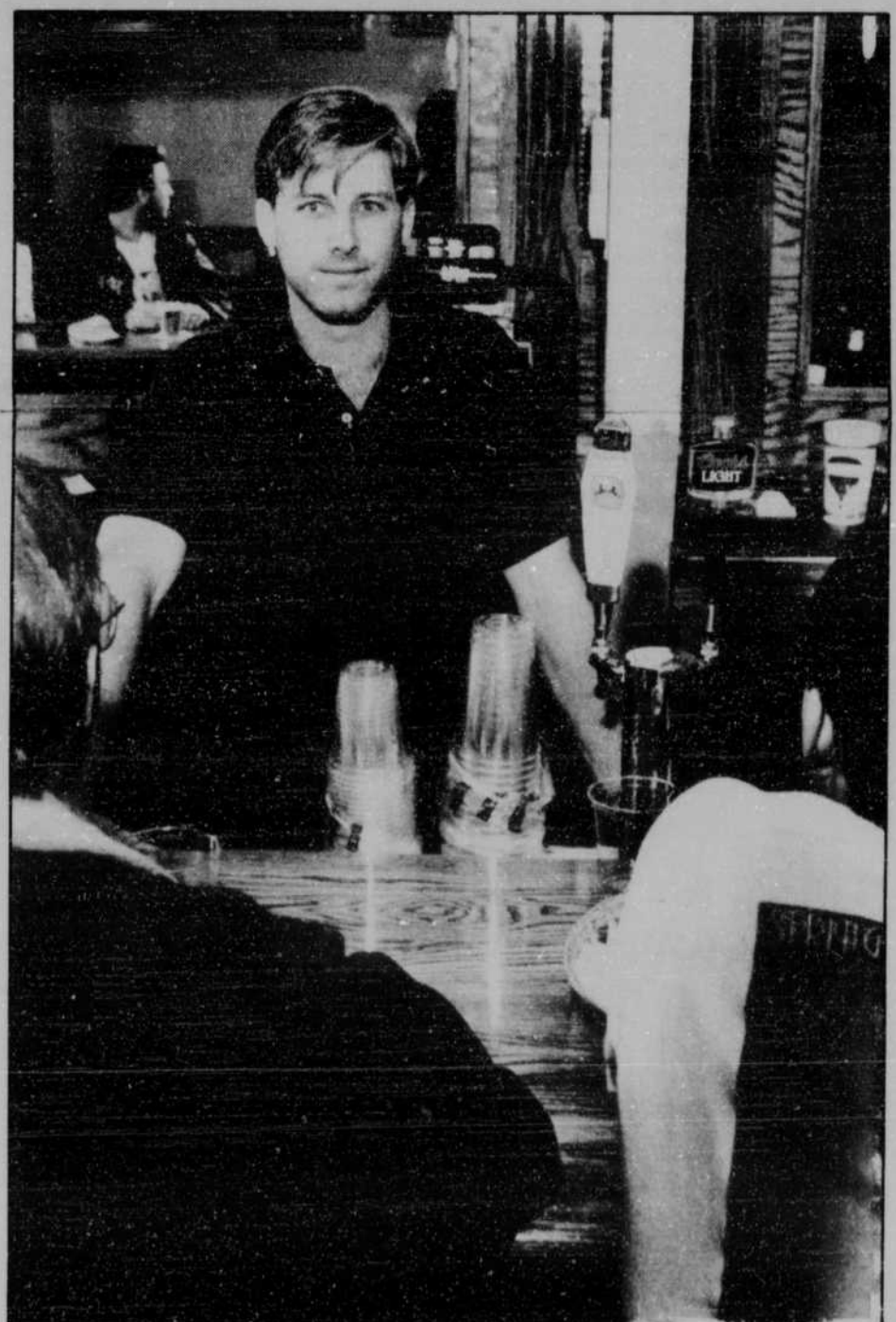
like in spring 1989, he said.

Currently, there are 26 reported measles cases at Creighton University in Omaha.

It is recommended that a person be immunized two times, once in early childhood and a second time during adolescence, he said.

Ojikutu said he doesn't foresee any mass immunization for measles like last spring because the university has an immunization program.

The university is "in far better position now than before when we had the crisis last year," he said.



William Lauer/Daily Nebraskan

Pub manager Scott Parish, a senior in the Teachers College, says response to the bar has been positive. Business has fluctuated the first two weeks because of Easter, Parish said, but already a regular clientele has developed.

Pub opens in Reunion food court

Business booms at new bar

By Kara Wells
Staff Reporter

Although Lincoln's newest bar, The Pub, did not advertise before opening, the first week of business was "really good," according to Scott Parish, manager and bartender.

"We even had our first drunk Thursday night," he said.

Parish said the bar, which opened in the Reunion food court April 11, will be adver-

tised in the future. So far, he said, it has mainly attracted college students.

"A lot of the business comes from the engineering building," Parish said.

Kip Look, who said he is already a "regular" of The Pub, said he enjoys the atmosphere of the bar.

"They have good beer," he said, "... and darts, too."

Parish said he hopes the bar will attract

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